

## Compilation Document - Rio+20 - United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

At its Second Preparatory Meeting in March 2011, the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) requested the Bureau to initiate an open, transparent and inclusive process, led by member States, to prepare in a timely manner a draft text, based upon all preparatory inputs, to serve as the basis for an outcome document for the Conference.

The second Preparatory Committee Meeting invited all member States, relevant United Nations system organizations, and relevant stakeholders to provide inputs and contributions to the Secretariat in writing by 1 November 2011, for inclusion in a compilation text to be presented by the Bureau to member States and other stakeholders for their comments and further guidance at the second Intersessional Meeting on 15-16 December 2011. This compilation document is to serve as basis for the preparation of a zero-draft of the outcome document, to be presented for consideration by member States and other stakeholders by January 2012.

Inputs received by the Secretariat are contained in a web-based Compilation Document, available at [www.uncsd2012.org/compilationdocument](http://www.uncsd2012.org/compilationdocument), in their unedited versions, preceded by an index of terms to facilitate analysis of material submitted.

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[Centre Ressource du Développement Durable \(CERDD\)](#)

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[Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas - CADPI and Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas - FIMI](#)

[China National Working Committee for UNESCO Project on Education for Sustainable Development \(CNWCESD\)](#)

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[Earth Summit 2012 Japan](#)  
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[Environmental Pillar of Social Partnership](#)  
[Environmental Research Center, Khazar University](#)  
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[Euromontana](#)  
[European Association of Elected Representatives from Mountain Regions](#)  
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[European Committee of the Regions \(CoR\)](#)  
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[FDI World Dental Federation](#)  
[Federal Institute for Less-Favoured and Mountainous Areas](#)  
[FEED BRAZIL 2012](#)  
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[Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei \(FEEM\)](#)  
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[Ford Foundation](#)  
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[Fórum Empresarial RIO+20 \(Brazilian Forum Empresarial\)](#)  
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[Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung](#)  
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[Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales \(FARN\)](#)  
[Fundación Compromiso](#)  
[Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo \(ECODES\) - Ecology and Development Foundation](#)  
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[Fundacion Santa Lola](#)  
[GDF SUEZ](#)  
[Gender and Education Office \(GEO\) of the International Council for Adult Education \(ICAE\)](#)  
[Generalitat de Catalonia](#)  
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[Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives \(GAIA\)](#)  
[Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature](#)  
[Global Campaign for Climate Action \(GCCA\)](#)  
[Global e-Sustainability Initiative \(GeSI\)](#)  
[Global Ecovillage Network \(GEN\); US Citizens Network for Sustainable Development; and the Association of World Citizens](#)  
[Global Footprint Network](#)  
[Global Issues Division of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs \(SWP\)](#)  
[Global Kids](#)  
[Global Policy Forum Europe](#)  
[Global Research Forum on Sustainable Production and Consumption \(GRF-SPC\)](#)  
[Global Universities Partnership for Environment and Sustainability \(GUPES\)](#)  
[Global University Network for Innovation \(GUNI\)](#)  
[Gray Panthers](#)  
[Green Budget Europe](#)  
[Green Cross International](#)  
[Green Economy Coalition](#)  
[Greenpeace](#)  
[Grupo de Trabajo Intersectorial de Educación Ambiental \(GTIEA\)](#)  
[Guiana Shield Facility \(GSF\)](#)  
[Health and Environment Alliance \(HEAL\)](#)  
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[IANA - IVLP Alumni Network of the Americas](#)  
[Ibero-American Network of Life Cycle Assessment](#)  
[Ibon International](#)  
[ICEF-International Court of the Environment Foundation](#)



[Iceland Nature Conservation Association](#)  
[Icelandic Cyclists' Federation](#)  
[ICENECDEV](#)  
[ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability](#)  
[Iguassu Iterei Centro de Referência do Movimento da Cidadania pelas Águas Florestas e Montanhas \(ITEREI\)](#)  
[Independent Accountability Mechanisms \(IAM\)](#)  
[Indian Himalaya Mountain Partnership](#)  
[Indraprastha Public Affairs Centre](#)  
[Information Habitat: Where information Lives](#)  
[Initiative pour le Développement Durable \(I.D.D\)](#)  
[Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement \(IRD\)](#)  
[Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales \(IDDR\)](#)  
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[International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions \(INTOSAI\)](#)  
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[International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development \(ICTSD\)](#)  
[International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law \(C.I.D.C.E.\)](#)  
[International Chamber of Commerce \(ICC\)](#)  
[International Coalition for Sustainable Production and Consumption \(ICSPAC\)](#)  
[International Coastal and Ocean Organization, Secretariat of the Global Ocean Forum](#)  
[International Collective in Support of Fishworkers \(ICSF\)](#)  
[International collective of researchers in early childhood education for sustainability](#)  
[International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage \(ICID\)](#)  
[International Cooperative Alliance \(ICA\)](#)  
[International Council for Science \(ICSU\)](#)  
[International Council of Chemical Associations \(ICCA\)](#)  
[International Council of Environmental Law](#)  
[International Council of Forest and Paper Associations \(ICFPA\)](#)  
[International Council on Mining and Metals \(ICMM\)](#)  
[International Diabetes Federation](#)  
[International Disability Alliance \(IDA\)](#)  
[International Environment Forum](#)  
[International Environmental Governance Architecture Research Group](#)  
[International Federation of Landscape Architects \(IFLA\)](#)  
[International Federation of Medical Students Associations \(IFMSA\)](#)  
[International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements \(IFOAM\)](#)  
[International Forum for Rural Transport and Development \(IFRTD\)](#)  
[International Human Rights Consortium, Worldwide Creative Solutions, LLC and the Spalding International BrainTrust](#)  
[International Hydropower Association](#)  
[International Indian Treaty Council](#)  
[International Institute for Environment and Development \(IIED\)](#)  
[International Institute for Sustainable Development \(IISD\)](#)  
[International Institute of Monetary Transformation \(IIMT\)](#)  
[INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE-ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS](#)  
[International Movement ATD Fourth World](#)  
[International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement \(INECE\).](#)  
[International Network for Sustainable Energy \(INFORSE\)](#)  
[International Organisation of Employers \(IOE\)](#)  
[International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture \(IPSA\)](#)

[International Planned Parenthood Federation](#)  
[International POPs Elimination Network \(IPEN\)](#)  
[International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation](#)  
[International Rivers](#)  
[International Road Assessment Programme \(iRAP\)](#)  
[International Union of Railways \(UIC\)](#)  
[Internationale Touaregue](#)  
[Interregional Public Movement of Aborigines - The Innovative Ecocity System - New World](#)  
[INTOSAI Working Group](#)  
[Investigadora Instituto Latinoamericano para una Sociedad y un Derecho Alternativos \(ILSA\)](#)  
[Irish Civil Society Response](#)  
[Irish Doctors' Environmental Association \(IDEA\)](#)  
[ISEAL Alliance](#)  
[Italian National Council of Economy and Labour \(CNEL\)](#)  
[Jacob Soetendorp Institute for Human Values](#)  
[Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society \(JACSES\)](#)  
[Japan Civil Network for the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity](#)  
[Japan Women's Watch \(JAWWW\)](#)  
[Japanese Stakeholders for the Promotion of Sustainable Development](#)  
[Joint Action and Learning Initiative for National and Global Responsibilities for Health \(JALI\)](#)  
[Kehitysyhteistyön palvelukeskus Keva ry](#)  
[La Prévention Routière Internationale \(PRI\)](#)  
[La Sociedad Civil Cubana](#)  
[La Vida en Bici](#)  
[Latin American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and their Families \(RIADIS\) and the Global Partnership for Disability and Development \(GPDD\)](#)  
[Law School of Getulio Vargas Foundation – FGV Direito Rio](#)  
[Major Group for Children and Youth](#)  
[Marine Conservation Institute](#)  
[Marine Sciences For Society](#)  
[Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic](#)  
[Mesoamerican Society for Conservation and Biology \(MSBC\)](#)  
[Metadesigners Open Network](#)  
[METIS Global Awareness Network](#)  
[Millennium Consumption Goals Initiaive \(MCGI\)](#)  
[Mont-Blanc Meeting association](#)  
[Mountain Agenda, University of Bern, Switzerland](#)  
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[Movement Nova Friburgo in Transition](#)  
[National Confederation of Engineering, Architecture and Agronomy \(CONFEA\) - Brazil](#)  
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[One Earth Initiative Society](#)  
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[ONG Colombiana Corporacion Jovenes De Ambiente](#)

[Oregon State Bar Sustainable Future Section](#)

[Oxfam](#)

[Pachamama Alliance, Four Years.Go and 4YG Media](#)

[Park City](#)

[Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport](#)

[People and Ecosystems Program - World Resources Institute](#)

[People for Solidarity, Ecology and Lifestyle \(SOL\)](#)

[People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty](#)

[People's Movement for Climate Change \(PMCC\)](#)

[Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific \(PAN AP\)](#)

[Pew Environment Group](#)

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[Planetary Boundaries Initiative](#)

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[Plataforma Montañas Vales Vida](#)

[Population and Climate Change Alliance \(PCCA\)](#)

[Population Matters \(UK\)](#)

[Programme for South-South Cooperation between Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica](#)

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[Réseau des Agences Régionales de l'Energie et de l'Environnement \(RARE\)](#)

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[The Arab Anti-Corruption Organization](#)  
[The Euro-Mediterranean Center for Climate Change](#)  
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[The Feminist Task Force \(FTF\) from the Global Action Against Poverty\(GCAP\)](#)  
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[The UN CSD Education Working Group](#)  
[The Universal Esperanto Association \(UEA\) and The World Esperanto Youth Organization \(TEJO\)](#)  
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[Transformative Education Forum](#)  
[Transparency International](#)  
[Transport Research Foundation \(TRF\)](#)  
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[U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development](#)  
[Ugandan Farmers Federation \(UNFFE\)](#)  
[UK Environmental Law Association \(UKELA\)](#)  
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[World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows \(WAFUNIF\)](#)  
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[Ye Ethiopia Wiyen Mahber Be Alem](#)

[Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network](#)

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## 1st UNESCAP Subregional Forum for Youth Participation in Policy-Making for East and North-East Asia

Youth Statement for the Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for Rio+20

1. We, the youth in Member States of East and North-East Asia, had the privilege to participate in the 1st UNESCAP Subregional Forum for Youth Participation in Policy-Making for East and North-East Asia held on 15-17 August, 2011 in Gyeonggi Province, Republic of Korea.

The Forum provided opportunity for the youth to discuss pressing socio-economic issues of the subregion: 1) gross national happiness; 2) sustainable development; and 3) youth unemployment.

2. Seventy youth from China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, and Russian Federation shared a good practice of collaboration among youth organizations and policy-making bodies, and introduced their own method of approaching main problems facing the subregion.

3. The youth participants, who were in the group addressing the issue of sustainable development, touched upon very insightful and influencing discussions on three main pillars of sustainable development, namely economic, social and environmental.

4. In order to produce specific plans and propose concrete policy measures, group members narrowed down various topics into three main areas-climate change and sustainable energy, sustainable infrastructure, and social dimension of sustainable development. An action plan focusing on increased youth participation and contribution on the three key areas of sustainable development was formulated.

5. The participants came to the conclusion that to achieve tangible results in North-East Asia more coordinated action should be accomplished at the subregional level.

6. As universities have been recognized as entities that emit high levels of greenhouse gases (GHGs), making a negative impact on sustainable development, following key suggestions were made to respective policy makers in order to address this issue:

(a) Implementation of universal education in sustainable development, which includes the promotion of youth participation in environmental activities by introducing "environmental service hours" as part of the course requirement;

(b) Establishment of subregional ranking of "green universities" to raise public awareness and prestige of universities, which have made efforts to reduce the level of greenhouse gas (GHGs) and the application of "green ranking" to the general ranking of colleges.

7. To ensure our ideas and objectives from the forum are met even after its conclusion, we request:

(a) The UN to create a "North-East Asian Green University Award" to recognize universities that have made exceptional efforts in reducing GHGs in their respective countries;

(b) National governments to provide grants and/or subsidies to students from environment related majors to provide incentives for more students to pursue education in the field;

(c) Governments to provide easier access to information related to sustainable development;

8. In addition, the youth will take the following actions in order to address issues, concerning sustainable development in our respective countries:

(a) Plan and implement peer-to-peer education through organizing and holding educational youth camps, leadership workshops and so on;

(b) Become the bridge between policy makers and society by monitoring advancements made in the field of sustainable development and informing the public;

(c) Connect with policy makers of our respective countries and create partnerships and forums where a frequent exchange of ideas on sustainable development issues would be achieved;

(d) Create both local and international university networks to share information, adopt common agendas and standards and transfer cross-border knowledge and technology amongst students;

(e) Promote and support the achievement of "green campuses" by creating youth groups on university campuses, maximize the usage of ICT in informing students of university status and their activities toward environment;

(f) Create "green tourism" on university campuses supporting sustainable development for the education of the general public;

(g) Hosting "eco-fairs" not only at local university and community level, but also internationally;

9. As youths hold the key to a brighter future, we can play a vital role in advocating various messages to the community through our active participation to address common issues for the benefit of the present and future generations. Thus, we commit to follow up on the actions that have been proposed during the forum and adopt an eco-friendly lifestyle in our respective countries.

10. We are aware of the importance of sustainable networking to update ourselves on new activities that we committed to implement during the forum in the places we live in. For this, we will be using social networking tools, such as Facebook, Twitter and Youtube.

11. We are confident that our active participation and effort to contribute in the field of sustainable development will bring positive outcomes and will be sustained to engage and empower more youth in the future.

We are one big family, holding a common goal and willingness to address main issues in the region, particularly sustainable development!

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## 2011 Youth Delegates to the United Nations

Outcome of the panel on Sustainable Development in the Rio+20 processes.

Hosted by the 2011 Youth Delegates to the United Nations

Sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations.

On 12 October 2011, youth delegates to the United Nations convened a panel discussion and consultation session held at the German Permanent Mission to the United Nations to discuss and elaborate on the vital role of education for sustainable development in the Rio+20 process and related outcomes. This event attracted participants from various United Nations Missions, Youth representative, NGOs, Youth Organisations, various diplomats, stakeholders and interested young people.

The interactive panel discussion touched on a number of key challenges and opportunities that face the sustainable development agenda including education systems and schools; being one of the most important catalysts for change but slow moving when updating or amending current curriculums. The discussions were followed closely by youth delegates from the Permanent Missions of Germany and Finland, with outcomes of the discussions produced and presented. These were:

Green economies are born in the school yard

In order to transform societies and economies into a more sustainable direction, it is necessary that educational systems respond to the demands for sustainability.

- Curriculums must reflect a strong, sustainable social focus.
- Education for sustainable development must be integrated in teacher training.
- There must be cross-sector collaboration between private, government, and civic society to support education for sustainable development; teachers, schools and organizations.

Young people must be given the tools to build a sustainable society

Establishing green economies and sustainable societies will to a large extent be the responsibility of the current young generation. Young people must be provided with the civic skills and participation opportunities.

- Civic skills are an important component of education for sustainable development.
- Educational systems must provide young people with the information on how their societies work and skills to overcome problems.
- The opportunities of ICT and social media should be utilized.

Implementation of education for sustainable development must be relevant to regional and local circumstances

Sustainable education has a strong social dimension and this should also be reflected in education for sustainable development. Youth in developing economies play a big part in creating sustainable societies.

- Focus must be put on education for sustainable development also in the educational systems of the developing world. As different young people have different access to education it is important to make sure that all have access to education for sustainable development.
- There is an important link between non formal education and education for sustainable development, supporting volunteering and youth-led organizations is an important way to promote education for sustainable development.

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## 21st Century Clusters

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

Rio +20 Inputs for Compilation Document

21st Century clusters with transformative solutions contributing to a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Below is the input from the 21st Century Clusters. For more details, background and cases please see: <http://transformative-solutions.net/>

#### Background

Rio+20 present a unique opportunity to shift perspective from problems to opportunities and from incremental improvements in existing systems to transformative solutions (i.e. solutions that provide the services society needs in totally new ways). Structures, legislations and methodologies to identify, encourage and measure incremental improvements among polluting industries already exist. Rio+20 could be the global turning point where structures, legislations and methodologies are introduced and encouraged to identify, encourage and measure transformative solutions. A clear solution agenda would encourage new clusters and networks as well as a new generation of entrepreneurs to step forward and be part of the sustainability agenda.

With a solution agenda future generations might refer back to the conference as Rio2.0 rather than +20. A new approach in a new millennium led by networks that see opportunities instead of problems.

It is imperative that two decades on from the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro the discussions on sustainable development take into account today's societal and technology contexts. The

agenda of the last summit as well its outcome were shaped by individuals who had never seen a webpage, sent an SMS message or used a smart phone. Back then few had anticipated the unprecedented uptake of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and the related socioeconomic benefits. Whereas, at the time of the Earth Summit, there were less than 100 million mobile subscribers around the world, today the number is above 5 billion. This represents nearly four fifths of the world's population. Around 8 trillion SMS messages will have been sent by the end of this year.

With the emergence of the internet of things (IoT) we can expect further breakthroughs. Eight years after Rio+20 there will most likely be around 20 billion connected devices. Society will experience connectivity and access to information that are historically unique. Smart buildings will become net producers of renewable energy, mobile banking will leapfrog the need for a banking infrastructure, and e-commerce will dramatically reduce the need for physical products and services supporting dematerialisation.

Against this technological backdrop, the world's economy will continue to develop at a rapid pace. China might become the world's largest economy during the next 10 years and India home to most people on the planet. In 2050 China will probably have more old people than the entire population of the US. In this situation business as usual is not an option. These developments will bring along new challenges for sustainability, calling for the need to look beyond incremental changes in existing systems to finding new solutions.

The Earth Summit in 1992 focused a lot on end-of-pipe technologies and how companies can reduce their own impact and improve their sustainability performance. Today we still tend to see frameworks that address sustainability from a risk perspective. The methodologies that have been developed predominantly focus on measuring the "negative" impact of industry on sustainability.

#### 1. Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20

The following policy proposals should be reflected in the outcome documents and decisions as they would help accelerate the uptake of transformative solutions and allow businesses to become innovative solutions providers:

##### 1.1 Support for exponential growth of low-carbon/resource efficient solutions

Policy makers should set acceleration targets for low-carbon/resource efficient solutions, not technology-based in order to avoid picking winners, in order to allow exponential growth of such solutions. Too often the exponential growth of low-carbon/resource efficient solutions is seen as a problem as it disturbs old business solutions. Instead, we must recognize highcarbon/resource intensive business solutions as a problem. The need for job creation and innovation should be linked to companies with accelerated sales of low-carbon solutions.

##### 1.2 System solutions

Policy makers should encourage integrated solutions that provide the services we need. Often, converging trends allow for new system solutions that current regulations are undermining. For example, improved insulation, smart lighting, and better solar PV solutions allow for buildings that are net producers of electricity, but only if the policy framework focuses on an ambitious use of system solutions instead of allowing small isolated improvements. As an example, the focus in most countries is on reducing emissions instead of turning buildings into solutions. A Global Feed-In Tariff Programme for system solutions should be considered as a market-based mechanism to help the uptake of system solutions.

##### 1.3 Tipping points for transformative solutions

Policy makers must identify when different incremental improvements reach the point when they can be transformative. E.g., when a building reduces its energy use by 80% it can often meet its energy demand from local renewable energy sources. Further reductions allow a net positive contribution that allows for charging cars or other extra functions. Such thresholds, e.g. 80 percent energy efficiency for buildings, should be identified as they require significant changes in current regulations.

Increased public RD&D, in particular demonstration support, is needed to allow companies to work in new clusters that deliver innovative service solutions when tipping points are reached. This is key for many solar and wind applications as well as many other solutions. In particular there is a big lack of investments in innovative solutions in the developing world since there is so much focus on short-term cost efficiency and easy ways to measure carbon reductions in the current system.

##### 1.4 Supporting low-carbon/resource efficient feedback and avoiding highcarbon/resource intensive feedback/rebound

One of the major challenges today is that most efforts for increased resource efficiency sooner or later result in a situation in which the resources (time, natural resources and money) that are initially saved are re-invested in ways that increase emissions and use of natural resources.

There is an urgent need to develop systems for low-carbon/resource efficient feedback, i.e., a situation in which the savings are used for re-investments in more resource-saving solutions. The massive current and historic subsidies that are making the current unsustainable solutions cheaper than they should be are a major challenge that needs to be addressed. More than 500 billion dollars are used annually to directly support a high-carbon infrastructure, more than twelve times the support for renewables. This is making it hard for transformative solution

providers to compete. The subsidies also result in a situation in which many stakeholders — including policy makers, academics, and media—think that low-carbon solutions are not competitive.

#### 1.5 Rewarding trendsetting for supply of sustainable solutions

Today companies that are leaders are not rewarded. Policy makers must create economic incentives for low-carbon leadership and develop methodologies that allow for measurement of such leadership. Companies helping to accelerate uptake of new technologies should be acknowledged and rewarded in a variety of ways.<sup>1</sup>

#### 1.6 Global collaboration for a 21st century low-carbon infrastructure

Many of the new networking solutions, such as a global network for high definition virtual meetings, require global collaboration to overcome different standards and regulations. Very few such initiatives exist and they are needed to accelerate the uptake of a new generation of services that depends on information and communication technology, the most energy efficient infrastructure humans ever have created. International action programmes must be agreed upon for certain already identified and demonstrated solutions that are ready to roll out large scale, e.g., energy plus housing, smart grid solutions, solar PV solutions, global infrastructure/standards for smart meetings, etc.

#### 1.7 Measure the use of underlying infrastructure and resource demand for different services

Very few policies today measure or support the transformation of the underlying infrastructure. Part of this is probably due to the fact that most emissions assessments do not include the underlying infrastructure; or, when they do, it is separate from the solutions that depend on them. It is time to ensure that assessments include the underlying infrastructure whenever relevant in order to understand the difference between transformative solutions and incremental improvements.

#### 1.8 Carbon distance/How to transport and “moving the sun”/ What to transport

Policy makers should not approach transport as something that should be reduced; focus should be on zero emissions, sustainable use of natural resources and poverty reductions.

First, modal shifts should be prioritized in order to ensure that goods move with the least amount of carbon emitted as a stepping stone toward zero emission goods transport. Second, transport should be approached as an integrated way to ensure optimal production and consumption systems, not as a separate sector.

#### 1.9 From product to service

Policies should focus on the service being provided, not the old technology or old sectors that so far have provided the service.

Transformative solutions require a shift from product to service where everything from airplanes, cars, and books are seen for what they are, i.e., ways of providing services such as business meetings, commuting and, reading. Today many services can be provided in fundamentally different, and magnitudes more efficient, ways. But in order for solutions such as video-conferencing, teleworking, and e-readers to take off, rules and regulations must be based on services.

Public procurement could become one of the most important instruments in supporting transformative solutions. Technology neutral policy making is one key part of this, but policy makers also must really start with the actual service that is needed and not a sub-service that the existing system needs. For lighting, it is important not just to ask for a better light source (i.e., move from incandescent to CFL and then to LED), but to ask how light can be provided in different ways, from architectural solutions to light-emitting fabric.

#### 1.10 Multiple gains with low-carbon results

Many areas in society, health, education, art, sports, marketing, etc., have so far been almost totally left out of the climate/environmental discussions. These sectors have a fundamental impact on how society is structured and are significant drivers of innovation. It is important to support initiatives in such areas that also include a climate/natural resource perspective but also to link smart initiatives to other areas to ensure synergies.

#### 1.11. Nanotechnology and biomimicry for the 21st Century

Instead of brute force we now have the possibility to turn a page and work with nature instead of against it. High-Throughput Atomically Precise Manufacturing is a nanotechnology-based tool that is in front of us and we are the first generation that can simulate this future technology at a physical level, and use our knowledge to guide this upcoming industrial and technical revolution in the direction we want.

In a time of growing tensions, the potential to gather the world around a common challenge should not be ignored. So much of the focus today is on short-term gains (political and economic) that nanotechnology will be difficult to fit into existing structures, but this could also turn out to be a strength. New clusters could be established and new ways of collaboration could be developed. History is the only ultimate judge, but for anyone claiming global leadership in the 21st century, regardless of whether the focus is on poverty, environmental challenges, climate change, innovation or economic development, the prospects for transformative, nanotechnology-based developments must have a central role. The conference in Rio could be the starting point for a new conversation, and for the generation of new clusters and collaboration. At the center of this new conversation about the future will be scenarios of unprecedented, disruptive technological change. It is up to us to focus on what we think is most important, and hopefully this report can inspire action in one



of the most important areas of our time.

The outcome document should ensure that a global task force is created that can help with two things. First, to facilitate increased collaboration between different groups of nanotechnology researchers (even if they do not call them that themselves). Second, identify gaps in current research that needs to be addressed in order to enable sustainable implementation of High-Throughput Atomically Precise Manufacturing.

## 2. Possible structure of the Outcome document

### 2.1 Ensure a sector/service approach in the outcome document

In the 21st century is an urgent need to focus on clusters and companies as solution providers.

A shift beyond the sector approach is called for, where the focus is on the services needed in society. Wherever possible any approach based on sectors, investment guidelines, policy frameworks, rankings, etc., should add a service perspective. While a sector perspective can be helpful for incremental improvements it seldom helps develop or encourage transformative solutions. For most sustainable solutions collaboration is needed between companies from different sectors in order to challenge the way services are provided today.

Introducing a sector/service matrix as the standard approach could help support a shift toward companies as solution providers and ensure that transformative solutions can be identified

**[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this table]**

A sector perspective can encourage incremental improvements in existing systems (doing things right) instead of encouraging a sustainable way of providing the things we need (doing the right things). By introducing a sector/service matrix, tensions within and between sectors become easier to understand.

Inviting airline companies to discuss strategies will work fine if improvements in airplanes are the expected outcome, but inviting stakeholders to discuss sustainable meetings would require travel/ meeting agencies, video conference providers, and the airline industry to discuss the best way to provide users with services.

Using a sector/service matrix can also help identify different clusters that may depend on each other and may not always be interested in change. Coal and oil companies can discuss marginal improvements with construction and car companies, but if the focus shifts to sustainable commuting or smart buildings all of a sudden new clusters can emerge and some companies can become less important (or even irrelevant).

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Based on a sector/service matrix it is possible to develop what could be called a "carbon performance of services." This carbon performance could be used to compare different ways of providing light, of moving goods one km, of having a comfortable indoor temperature, etc. This could at a later stage be used to provide Energy/Carbon Service Performance Standards, i.e., standards on carbon emissions for providing a service. Such a standard could spur technology development and create space for new policy instruments.

### 2.2 Establish guidelines for calculations that allow companies to report positive contributions when they provide transformative solutions

The differences in calculating the positive contributions are significant and clearly demonstrate the need for an agreed upon framework for measuring and reporting positive contributions. Two aspects are particularly important to address.

First, the underlying infrastructure. When transformative solutions are introduced, they very often depend on a totally different underlying infrastructure compared with the old way of providing the service. Comparing virtual meetings with air travel requires us to not only understand the difference between video conference equipment and a plane, it also requires us to understand the difference between fiber optic cables and base stations on the one hand and airports, hotels, and roads connecting airplanes with cities, on the other. Similarly, ships and planes are not only very different in terms of the carbon needed by the different vessels to travel a certain distance, a port with renewable energy production is part of one kind of infrastructure and an airport contributing to increased car travel and urban sprawl is part of another.

Second, the dynamic effects, the way consumption of different solutions results in investments that accelerate further reductions of emissions or investments that result in increased emissions.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

These proposals are good in their own way, but they approach the challenges almost exactly in the same way as 20 years ago. This is also necessary, but in addition to that focus needs to be on transformative solutions. They also approach partnerships as collaborations between existing stakeholders rather than new networks.

Looking at the input so much of it is influenced by the same groups that shaped the Rio agenda and with the same kind of tools. This is valuable input and important documents, but it

is unlikely to generate any new energy, networks or initiatives beyond what current institutions are already working on. If nothing else the Rio+20 conference should allow 5% of the resources to be spent on new ideas and areas, and these should be decided through new tools and networks that are not linked to existing business groups, UN bodies, NGOs, etc. The world is changing fast and new ideas should be promoted.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

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## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference:** To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication:** views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development:** Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes.** Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".

## 21st CENTURY CLUSTERS

Transformative solutions for Rio 2.0: Inputs for Compilation Document

A Framework for Action at Rio+20 and Beyond: October 2011

## LOW CARBON LEADERS

## BEYOND CARBON

Rio +20 Inputs for Compilation Document

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The Earth Summit in 1992 focused a lot on end-of-pipe technologies and how companies can reduce their own impact and improve their sustainability performance. Today we still tend to see frameworks that address sustainability from a risk perspective. The methodologies that have been developed predominantly focus on measuring the 'negative' impact of industry on sustainability.

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The following policy proposals should be reflected in the outcome documents and decisions as they would help accelerate the uptake of transformative solutions and allow businesses to become innovative solutions providers:

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Policy makers must identify when different incremental improvements reach the point when they can be transformative. E.g., when a building reduces its energy use by 80% it can often meet its energy demand from local renewable energy sources. Further reductions allow a net positive contribution that allows for charging cars or other extra functions. Such thresholds, e.g. 80 percent energy efficiency for buildings, should be identified as they require significant changes in current regulations.

Increased public RD&D, in particular demonstration support, is needed to allow companies to work in new clusters that deliver innovative service solutions when tipping points are reached. This is key for many solar and wind applications as well as many other solutions. In particular there is a big lack of investments in innovative solutions in the developing world since there is so much focus on short-term cost efficiency and easy ways to measure carbon reductions in the current system.

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One of the major challenges today is that most efforts for increased resource efficiency sooner or later result in a situation in which the resources (time, natural resources and money) that are initially saved are re-invested in ways that increase emissions and use of natural resources. There is an urgent need to develop systems for low-carbon/resource efficient feedback, i.e., a situation in which the savings are used for re-investments in more resource-saving solutions.

The massive current and historic subsidies that are making the current unsustainable solutions cheaper than they should be are a major challenge that needs to be addressed. More than 500 billion dollars are used annually to directly support a high-carbon infrastructure, more than twelve times the support for renewables. This is making it hard for transformative solution providers to compete. The subsidies also result in a situation in which many stakeholders — including policy makers, academics, and media—think that low-carbon solutions are not competitive.

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In a time of growing tensions, the potential to gather the world around a common challenge should not be ignored. So much of the focus today is on short-term gains (political and economic) that nanotechnology will be difficult to fit into existing structures, but this could also turn out to be a strength. New clusters could be established and new ways of collaboration could be developed. History is the only ultimate judge, but for anyone claiming global leadership in the 21st century, regardless of whether the focus is on poverty, environmental challenges, climate change, innovation or economic development, the prospects for transformative, nanotechnology-based developments must have a central role.

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The outcome document should ensure that a global task force is created that can help with two things. First, to facilitate increased collaboration between different groups of nanotechnology researchers (even if they do not call them that themselves). Second, identify gaps in current research that needs to be addressed in order to enable sustainable implementation of High- Throughput Atomically Precise Manufacturing.

## 2. Possible structure of the Outcome document

### 2.1 Ensure a sector/service approach in the outcome document

In the 21st century is an urgent need to focus on clusters and companies as solution providers. A shift beyond the sector approach is called for, where the focus is on the services needed in society. Wherever possible any approach based on sectors, investment guidelines, policy frameworks, rankings, etc., should add a service perspective. While a sector perspective can be helpful for incremental improvements it seldom helps develop or encourage transformative solutions. For most sustainable solutions collaboration is needed between companies from different sectors in order to challenge the way services are provided today.

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[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image\]](#)

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Inviting airline companies to discuss strategies will work fine if improvements in airplanes are the expected outcome, but inviting stakeholders to discuss sustainable meetings would require travel/ meeting agencies, video conference providers, and the airline industry to discuss the best way to provide users with services.

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Based on a sector/service matrix it is possible to develop what could be called a "carbon performance of services." This carbon performance could be used to compare different ways of providing light, of moving goods one km, of having a comfortable indoor temperature, etc. This could at a later stage be used to provide Energy/Carbon Service Performance Standards, i.e., standards on carbon emissions for providing a service. Such a standard could spur technology development and create space for new policy instruments.

### 2.2 Establish guidelines for calculations that allow companies to report positive contributions when they provide transformative solutions

The differences in calculating the positive contributions are significant and clearly demonstrate the need for an agreed upon framework for measuring and reporting positive contributions. Two aspects are particularly important to address.

First, the underlying infrastructure. When transformative solutions are introduced, they very often depend on a totally different underlying infrastructure compared with the old way of providing the service. Comparing virtual meetings with air travel requires us to not only understand the difference between video conference equipment and a plane, it also requires us to understand the difference between fiber optic cables and base stations on the one hand and airports, hotels, and roads connecting airplanes with cities, on the other. Similarly, ships and planes are not only very different in terms of the carbon needed by the different vessels to travel a certain distance, a port with renewable energy production is part of one kind of infrastructure and an airport contributing to increased car travel and urban sprawl is part of another.

Second, the dynamic effects, the way consumption of different solutions results in investments that accelerate further reductions of emissions or investments that result in increased emissions.

### 2.3 What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

These proposals are good in their own way, but they approach the challenges almost exactly in the same way as 20 years ago. This is also necessary, but in addition to that focus needs to be on transformative solutions. They also approach partnerships as collaborations between existing stakeholders rather than new networks.

Looking at the input so much of it is influenced by the same groups that shaped the Rio agenda and with the same kind of tools. This is valuable input and important documents, but it is unlikely to generate any new energy, networks or initiatives beyond what current institutions are already working on. If nothing else the Rio+20 conference should allow 5% of the resources to be spent on new ideas and areas, and these should be decided through new tools and networks that are not linked to existing

business groups, UN bodies, NGOs, etc. The world is changing fast and new ideas should be promoted.

## 350.org

350.org in partnership with the Center for Biological Diversity

UNCSD RIO+20: 350.org Inputs for the Draft Zero process

### Introduction

To ensure a successful Rio+20 Summit, governments and all sectors of society must come together to restore confidence within the international community with ambitious action to address implementation gaps and take further action on the core principles and goals set forth in the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21, and Rio Conventions. From the perspective of the 350 movement—a civil society movement of young people, artists, civil society organizations, faith communities, and citizens of all kinds in nearly every country of the planet—Hone of the most important aspects defining the success or failure of the summit will be whether it advances international commitment and ambitious action to fight climate change.

The number 350 is the bottom line to define ambitious action to stop the climate crisis. 350 parts per million (ppm) of CO<sub>2</sub> is what many scientists, climate experts, and over 112 national governments say is the safe upper limit for CO<sub>2</sub> in our atmosphere.

Accelerating Arctic warming and other early impacts related to climate change have led scientists to conclude that we are already above the safe zone at our current 392 ppm, and that unless we are able to rapidly return to below 350 ppm this century, we risk reaching tipping points and irreversible impacts such as the melting of the Greenland ice sheet, savanization of the Amazon and major methane releases from increased permafrost melt.

In order to ensure the possibility of a sustainable, equitable future for all, the outcomes of the Rio Summit must include concrete action to mitigate climate change that ensures a stable climate at 350 ppm. Concrete proposals for action from Rio to achieve this include:

### Moving to 100% Renewables

Countries should use the UNCSD2012 to take clear action on moving economies towards 100% renewable energy. This is fundamental to the concept of green economy. It will not be sustainable for economies to continue on their current path burning through nonH renewable resources such as fossil fuels and nuclear energy. Countries must agree upon a vision that ensures clean and renewable energy sources and energy efficiency, developed with involvement and prior consent of local communities.

This vision will need to be coupled with initial concrete actions to trigger incentives for this type of shift within economies and to promote growth of innovation and advancement in the renewable technology sector.

Specifically countries should use Rio+20 to:

- Make a clear commitment to clean energy, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, that includes:
  - o 30% of energy use from renewable sources globally by 2020
  - o 40% overall improvement in energy efficiency globally by 2020, and
  - o Universal access to modern energy services and ending energy poverty:

clean, reliable and affordable energy services for cooking and heating, lighting, communications and productive uses.

### Eliminating fossil fuel subsidies

- Eliminate fossil fuel subsidies and perverse incentives by 2020, including aid, loans or other subsidies that encourage further development of fossil fuels. This should be in line with the phase out of subsidies agreed upon in the G20 commitment, and revenues should be redirected to support renewable energy and energy efficiency programs, as well as technology innovation in the renewable sector.
- We should also end subsidies to false energy solutions such as “clean coal,” nuclear, and large hydro or any projects where environmental and social impacts outweigh their perceived climate benefits.

### Defining a green and just economy

Green economy is a new concept to be discussed at the Rio+20 summit, and therefore requires definition. In developing a vision for a just, green economy and taking the first steps globally on the concept, countries should commit to action on the following points:

- Equity must be at the heart of the green economy, ensuring the right and access through funding and technological support to clean, sustainable development for developing countries and frontline communities in the Global South and North. We must remember that one size does not fit all and that there are common but differentiated responsibilities on the path to a global sustainable future.
- Providing access to green job opportunities through policies such as setting targets and resources for capacity building, investment in green technologies, and job training for low income individuals.
- The green economy framework must break down barriers to current Intellectual Property Rights issues that impede sharing important renewable and sustainable development technologies, including technologies for adaptation. This could be achieved through varied incentives, such as creating new innovation hubs and ensuring new technologies remain in the global commons to speed the deployment of clean renewable energy around the world.
- A green economy vision should support cities as innovation hubs for best practices in sustainable policy development and implementation. Cities have become leaders of sustainable development design and implementation. Where countries have floundered cities have provided leadership. Countries should explore increased partnerships with city governments and also share best practices at the international level as well.
- Address change in productionHconsumption patterns as the current patterns lead to unsustainable use of natural resources and increasing greenhouse gases emissions. • Establish an international financial transaction tax (FTT). According to The Tobin Tax

– A Review of the Evidence, this could raise as much as 400 billion annually. These funds would be essential to making a real impact on combating climate change and eliminating poverty.

Supporting and empowering civil society to be a partner in implementing sustainable policies

As youth and civil society declared in Copenhagen, "you can't make decisions about us, without us". 350.org works with civil society organizations and in almost every country on earth to build a powerful movement to fight climate change, and through that work we see the powerful local knowledge and organizing capacity that citizens everywhere are utilizing to achieve a sustainable society. Agenda 21 paved the way for substantial and positive changes in the government and nonHstate actor relationship, and has allowed many diverse sectors to begin to work together to ensure a sustainable future. In order for Rio+20 to be a success, civil society involvement must be prioritized, and countries should undertake the following:

- Continue to provide more capacity building opportunities across sectors of civil society and communities in order to empower citizens to have an active part in the implementation process. Where possible, governments should forge specific partnerships with civil society and communities to help implement sound sustainable policies.
- Make public funds available to NGOs that have the ability to help ensure implementation and compliance monitoring where needed.
- Ensure that cooperation mechanisms and government-public partnerships center around best practices and sustainable development in the local context rather than putting a market approach first.

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## 77 civil society organisations on the Importance of Access to Information and a Free Media to Sustainable Development

31 October 2011

Submission from 77 civil society organisations on the Importance of Access to Information and a Free Media to Sustainable Development

We, the undersigned 77 civil society organisations representing freedom of expression, transparency, journalists, and the media interests around the world, are providing this submission on issues we strongly believe need to be included in the Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

The Outcome Document will represent an important milestone in the global efforts to realise sustainable development. We urge the UNCSD and member states to put free media, transparency and the free flow of information as central pillars in their efforts to promote sustainable development and the protection of the environment at the upcoming Rio+20 Summit in June 2012. We believe that transparency and the free flow of information, including the right of all to seek, receive and impart information and ideas related to development and the environment, are fundamental to ensuring sustainable development and environmental protection.

In particular, we recommend that the Outcome Document includes a general principle recognising that a free media and an independent civil society, transparency and the free flow of information are central pillars in global efforts to promote sustainable development and the protection of the environment.

The Outcome Document should also include:

1. An agreement for the creation of a new international treaty on access to environmental information, public participation and access to justice, based on Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention).
2. Clear and specific targets and deadlines for the adoption and implementation by member states of national legislation on access to information, public participation and access to justice, based on the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Bali Guidelines.
3. Clear and specific targets and deadlines for member states to adopt necessary laws and policies to protect freedom of expression, including freedom of the media, freedom of association and freedom of assembly as well as to repeal those legal provisions that hamper the realisation of these rights, which are fundamental to sustainable development.
4. Clear and specific targets towards the adoption and implementation by all UN agencies, organisations, commissions, programmes, and other UN bodies, of access to information and public participation policies, including effective mechanisms to ensure appeal and compliance.

We fully support the adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which will integrate the above recommendations.

We thank you for this opportunity and offer our further assistance and commitment to the success of the Rio+20 process and conference and the full achievement of sustainable development.

Yours sincerely,

IFEX MEMBERS:

ARTICLE 19

Association for Civil Rights (ADC), Argentina

Association of Caribbean Media Workers (ACM)

Association of Independent Electronic Media (ANEM), Serbia

Bahrain Center for Human Rights (BCHR)

Canadian Journalists for Free Expression (CJFE)

Cartoonists Rights Network International (CRNI)

Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility (CMFR), Philippines

Center for Media Studies & Peace Building (CEMESP), Liberia

Centre for Independent Journalism (CIJ), Malaysia

Freedom Forum, Nepal

Globe International, Mongolia Human Rights Network for Journalists - Uganda

Initiative for Freedom of Expression (Antenna-Tr), Turkey

Institute for the Studies on Free Flow of Information (ISAI), Indonesia

Institute of Mass Information (IMI), Ukraine

Instituto Prensa y Sociedad (IPYS), Peru

International Press Institute (IPI), Austria

Media, Entertainment and Arts Alliance (MEAA), Australia

Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA)

Media Institute for Southern Africa (MISA)

Media Rights Agenda (MRA), Nigeria

Media Watch , Bangladesh

Pacific Freedom Forum (PFF), American Samoa

Pacific Islands News Association (PINA), Fiji

Pakistan Press Foundation (PPF)

Palestinian Center for Development and Media Freedoms (MADA)

PEN Canada

Privacy International

Reporters Without Borders (RSF)

West African Journalists Association (WAJA), Senegal

World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC)

NON-IFEX MEMBERS:

Access Info Europe, Spain

Access Initiative, USA

Access to Information Programme, Bulgaria

Advocacy Academy, Romania

Africa Freedom of Information Centre, Uganda

African Network of Constitutional Lawyers, ATI Committee

Alianza Regional por la Libre Expresión e Información

African Women's Development and Communication Network, Kenya

Arab Freedom of Information Network

Association for Progressive Communications, South Africa

Australian Privacy Foundation

Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication

Bytes for All, Pakistan

Center for Independent Journalism, Romania

Centre for Law and Democracy, Canada

Centre for Media Freedom Mena region

Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives, Pakistan

Citizens' Campaign for Right to Information, Nepal

Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, India

Electronic Privacy Information Center, USA

Fundación Ciudadano Inteligente, Chile

Fundar: Centro de Analisis e Investigación, Mexico

Green Alternative, Georgia

Grupo FARO, Ecuador

HELIO International, France

Humanistische Union e.V./German Civil Liberties Union, Germany

Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, Hungary

Indonesian Center for Environmental Law, Indonesia

Institute for Development of Freedom of Information, Georgia

Institute for Information Freedom Development, Russia

Instituto de Derecho y Economía Ambiental, Paraguay

International Federation of Journalists Asia-Pacific office

Jamaicans For Justice, Jamaica

K-Monitor Watchdog for Public Funds, Hungary

Moroccan Right to Information Network

National Security Archive, USA

Network for Affirmation of NGO Sector-MANS, Montenegro

Network for Reporting on Eastern Europe (n-ost), Germany

Panos London, UK

PRO ACCESO, Chile

PRO MEDIA, Macedonia

Proetica Peru

PROVIDUS, Latvia

Publish What You Fund, UK

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A Seed Japan



Proposal by the Japanese Youth in order to achieve the sustainable development

We, Japanese youth, regard ourselves as to be responsible to the future generations, and with that responsibility, we are proposing the followings to all the stakeholders at Rio +20.

1. Declare to make all the efforts to implement the treaties and initiatives in the UN frame, in which frame the environment, human rights, peace, gender indigenous people and bio-diversity are higher

2. State the followings:

- Demise the finance-centered economic policy, and Promote the Civil-Finance and Social Responsible Investment;
- Reduce the budget on military affairs, and Increase on the education for poverty problem; and
- Withdraw from technology relied on nuclear power and genetic modification, and Promote the technology of renewable energy and organic farming.

A SEED JAPAN (Action for Solidarity, Equality, and Environment and Development) is a Japan based, international youth environmental organisation. The ASEED international campaign was founded in October, 1991 in order to give youth a voice at the Earth Summit (United Nations Conference on Environment and Development), held in Brazil in June 1992. This campaign drew participation from 70 organizations from 50 nations. Following the Earth Summit, ASEED Japan was established as an organisation based on a membership system. A SEED JAPAN strives for a sustainable and fair society and focuses on cross border environmental problems and the social injustices found within these. We aim to change the present pattern of mass production, mass consumption and mass waste, and eliminate the gaps between north and south, different regions, and between different generations. In order to make these changes, the youth of today, who bear the generations of the future, have taken action.

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## Abu Dhabi Global Data Initiative (AGEDI)

### Eye on Earth Submission

#### 1. Introduction

This preliminary proposal has been prepared on behalf of the Eye on Earth community by the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi (EAD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). This joint input to the UNCSD Compilation Document is submitted by the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative (AGEDI).

AGEDI are currently facilitating the Eye on Earth Summit & Exhibition that will be held in Abu Dhabi from the 12th-15th December 2011. Representing the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Government, Environment Agency Abu Dhabi (EAD) will host Eye on Earth in partnership with United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The Summit will focus on the critical nature of environmental data and information to ensure robust policy and decision-making. The premise is the need to ensure readily accessible, accurate and relevant data from which to inform sound environmental management, monitoring and performance. Preparations for the Summit have been on-going for over 12 months and outcomes aim to pave the way for future needs with regards to environmental data access, sharing and availability including infrastructure, finance, capability and capacity building and institutional and informal networks.

As an outcome of the Summit and as a Science and Technical focused body, we intend, as AGEDI, and on behalf of the Eye on Earth community, to submit an Eye on Earth Declaration to the UNCSD which addresses the issues, and propose solutions for, access to the necessary environmental and societal data and information by all those who need it. All afore-mentioned participating sectors will be represented at the Summit and provided the opportunity to further collaborate on and contribute to the Eye on Earth submission to the UNCSD.

As this proposal is being submitted prior to the Eye on Earth Summit it will be necessary to re-submit an amended version of this document in December 2011. At this time the outcome of the Summit will be articulated with further contributions from Eye on Earth Summit attendees as representatives and members of the community of stakeholders.

#### 2. Background on AGEDI

The lack of quality, quantifiable environmental data has proven a major hindrance to the global process of achieving sustainable development. The result is that throughout the world socio- economic and environmental decision makers are being challenged to make vital decisions without the necessary data and information being available to them.

Initially contributing to the development and launch of AGEDI was UAE's concern regarding the approach and criteria used for the results of the Environmental Sustainability Index (ESI), produced by the World Economic Forum in February 2002. The UAE in this Index was ranked 141 out of 142 countries, with an ESI of 25.7. It was recognised that the application of non-Region specific measures and associated indicators presented skewed results. The need to ensure readily accessible, accurate and relevant data from which to inform sound environmental management, monitoring and performance was emphasised.

In this spirit, the Abu Dhabi Global Environmental Data Initiative (AGEDI) was launched on 2 September 2002, at the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as a Type II Initiative.

Under the guidance of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan a Steering Panel was formed and entrusted with the responsibility of preparing the proposal to establish AGEDI. Made public on May 2, 2002, international dialogue then took place which initially promoted the Initiative in the United States and to the United Nations.



Today Environment Agency Abu Dhabi (EAD) champions AGEDI locally, whilst the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) champions it regionally and globally. AGEDI works with Partners, Members and stakeholders throughout the world to achieve a more sustainable future through 'best-impact' access to environmental and societal data. AGEDI's focus is on the support of developing countries and emerging economies. Amongst others, Partners include UNEP, UAE Ministry of Water and Environment, Conservation International, European Environment Agency, and the World Wildlife Fund with Emirates Wildlife Society.

#### 3. Eye on Earth Summit

Under the patronage of His Highness, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Ruler of Abu Dhabi and President of the United Arab Emirates, Eye on Earth is a global Summit devoted to the issue of greater access to environmental and societal data by all those who need it.

The objective of the Summit is to promote the international agenda for improved access to environmental information, and the ability to use and leverage environmental data and information for the benefit of all communities.

The overall structure of the Summit is as follows:

- (a) a Summit involving multi-stakeholder consultation (with plenary, technical and high-level segments), and;
- (b) a major Exhibition with various side events including   ZGeneration eYe' youth programme. It will also present the One UN Pavilion to reinforce the theme delivering as One.

Further, the Summit will be preceded by the UN Major Groups, Civil Society & Stakeholders Forum which will take place on Sunday 11 December 2011, held by UN Major Groups. This Forum is aligned with the Summit and focused on "Great Access to Environmental and Societal Information" and as such will ensure the inclusion of, and participation by Civil Society in Eye on Earth and its outcomes.

#### 4. General Content

4.1. What are the expectations for the outcomes of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document

UNCSD is expected to produce a revitalised global partnership for sustainable development which, inter alia, will lead to the development of new political structures such as the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD).

AGED I wish to emphasise that a revitalised global partnership for sustainable development must pay due attention to the underlying knowledge base for environment and sustainable development including and emphasizing environmental and societal data and information which must, necessarily underpin the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD). It is essential that economic, environmental and societal data and information be integrated into the IFSD in order to support decision-making. Collaboration among the relevant data and information providers through network building and strengthening is vital towards achieving this goal. Capacity building is necessary in order to mobilise all countries in this collective effort.

This will require a wide array of coordinated actions by the relevant actors (Government, Major Groups, UN system, international finance institutions, etc). The forthcoming Eye on Earth (EoE) Summit presents a unique opportunity to bring these actors together and focus their attention on defining a set of transformative actions to strengthen the knowledge base for environment and sustainable development.

It is proposed that the actions defined at Eye on Earth be included in the Rio +20 outcome document with specific regard to those actions that address and support the Rio +20 themes of:

- (a) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;
- (b) Institutional framework for Sustainable Development.

4.2. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalised global partnership for sustainable development, or others

It is submitted that there is an overwhelming and collective need by all existing proposals for environmental data and information. Further that such data and information be accessible as a common knowledge base for decision-making. Finally that it be available to all those who need it.

4.3. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc).

The Eye on Earth (EoE) Summit aims to contribute to UNSCD, with regards to closing the implementation gap in that it will:

- Convene the worlds thought and action leaders to celebrate "best impact" data initiatives from around the globe;
- Converge on key issues to reach consensus on solutions to greater data accessibility;
- Collaborate to strengthen existing initiatives and, where necessary, to launch new ones.

The Summit audience includes:

- (a) United Nations Environment Programmes Major Groups & Stakeholders" Civil Society Individuals representing nine Major Working Groups as Identified in Agenda 21, Chapter 23;
- (b) Government Authorities  Heads of State, Ministers, elected officials, Heads of Environment protection agencies, multi-lateral government institutions, central statistical offices and national mapping agencies;
- (c) Development Assistance and Finance  Executive Directors of development banks, financial and donor organisations, private foundations and Sovereign Wealth Funds as well as individual philanthropists;
- (d) Environmental organisations  Key members of non-governmental organisations, advocacy groups;
- (e) Private Sector  Managing Directors of communications, technology, software and utility based companies and representatives of industry organisations;
- (f) Scientific and Technical Institutes  Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) representatives, scientists, researchers, technologists and standards committees;
- (g) Education  Higher education administration, academia, scholars, students, youth
- (h) Media - Key influencers in print, electronic and social media

These relevant actors will be engaged in determining how access to environmental data and information will further implementation, define additional implementation requirements and close the implementation gap.

By creating and facilitating the growth of networks and identifying means for implementation of environmental and societal data initiatives the Summit is expected to achieve the following transformative actions:

- Focus global attention on the importance of data and information for sustainability - thus revitalising commitment to current implementation(s);

- Build collaboration through networking among the institutions that can provide economic, environmental and social information underpinning the knowledge necessary for sustainable development - establishing an informal information infrastructure;
- Re-focus global attention on access to environmental data and information for decision- making - by, inter alia, re-defining and emphasising Chapter 40 of Agenda 21;
- Increase capacity building and technology support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition - initiating models for adoption under the theme of "Green Economy";
- Support the delivery of the UNCSD commitments to be made at Rio +20.

It is proposed that these actions be formalized by Rio + 20.

These will be achieved through the specific outcomes of Eye on Earth which include: · The agreement of and submission to UNCSD of the Eye on Earth agreeing ways and means to strengthen existing environmental information networking initiatives and fill gaps towards informed policy and decision making in support of sustainable development. The Declaration will include but not be limited to a set of defined principles for data and information collaboration.

- A set of White Papers which identify existing issues and barriers to implementation with regard to access to environmental data and information, providing clear direction and leadership in terms of closing the implementation gap in the areas of:

(1) Policy, Governance and Networking;

(2) Content and User Needs;

(3) Technical Infrastructure; and

(4) Capacity building, Education and Awareness-raising

- Actor commitment to a programme of Special Initiatives across:

o Water Security

o Access to Information - Principle 10 (of 1992 Rio Declaration)

o Blue Carbon

o Disaster Resilience, Reduction, Response and Recovery

o The role of financial institutions, aid agencies and sovereign wealth funds in bridging the information gap




o Community Sustainability, Resiliency and Innovation by Design

- A set of recommendations on the future knowledge framework for sustainable development, central to closing the implementation gap will be brought forward to UNCSD at the closing of the Summit: 15th December 2011.

4.4. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant timeframe for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions implemented

Eye on Earth proposes that Rio + 20 define the conceptual framework for a future knowledge base to support sustainable development underpinned by environmental data and information and that this is implemented as a key component of the IFSD.

We envisage that an environmental data and information entity will emerge or will need to evolve. Such an entity would seek to inform and/or provide:

1. Agenda (a data and information driven, knowledge-focused global programme on environment and sustainable development)
2. Secretariat (distributed staff and experts  coordinating centre + nodes)
3. Network (a data  network of networks  at multiple levels and spanning the three pillars)

The Summit preparatory process has already made significant progress on two of these components:

(1) Eye on Earth Agenda

The agenda will comprise of a set of thematic and cross-cutting knowledge based special initiatives. Proposed initiative themes include:

- Eye on Food Security
- Eye on Water Scarcity
- Eye on Principle 10 (of 1992 Rio Declaration)
- Eye on Carbon Mitigation
- Eye on Disaster Resilience, Response and Recovery
- Eye on Earth information system/portal

Concept papers exist on each of the above special initiatives and various teams are working on developing the concepts into larger project proposals to be presented for further contribution and collaboration at the Summit.

(2) Eye on Earth Network

The convening power of the Summit will be used to catalyse collaboration between decision makers from local to global levels.

The key cooperation mechanism is a  network of networks  that brokers collaboration within and between countries involving those institutions that can provide economic,

environmental and social information to underpin sustainable development.

It is proposed that the Secretariat would take the form of a distributed secretariat with staff based at a hub augmented by experts located in participating regions yet to be defined, but potentially available within existing and regional institutions and/or programmes.

## 5. Specific Elements

Summit collaboration and subsequent Eye on Earth Submission to UNCED.

It is proposed that if supported, such an environmental data and information centric network be established within the Rio + 20 Institutional Framework and be defined for sustainable development and in support of the requirements of developing Green Economies.

UNCSD can build upon the outcomes of the Eye on Earth Summit by focusing attention on the requirement for an environmental knowledge base and allocating agenda time to discuss this issue from a policy and institutional level perspective.

It is anticipated that the Eye on Earth Declaration document will be brought forward to UNCSD along with the set of recommendations adopted at the Summit. The current Draft Declaration is included below.

### Draft Eye on Earth Summit Declaration

We the ministers, and high-level representatives of government, having consulted business, academia and civil society present at the first Eye on Earth Summit in Abu Dhabi from 12 to 15 December 2011,

Deeply concerned over the evidence of unprecedented environmental changes at all levels, including possible irreversible changes with potentially negative implications for economic and social development, especially for the poor and vulnerable groups in society.<sup>1</sup>

Conscious that cooperation on exchange of, and access to, timely, credible and relevant information among a wide array of actors is a critical part of the science-policy interface needed for advancing the development and implementation of goals, targets and indicators for sustainable development,

Recalling principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which amongst others recognizes that each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, and that States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available,

<sup>1</sup>From OP 10 UNGA res 63/220 19 December 2008

Convinced that a strengthening of the capacity for managing, exchanging and facilitating access to information in developing countries and countries with economies in transition will help advance the development and implementation of goals, targets and indicators for sustainable development,

Conscious of the opportunities offered by the rapid advancement of information and communications technologies for enhancing information access, exchange and management,

Acknowledging the critical role of existing thematic and geographic networks and systems for exchange of and access to information, including the role of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and its land, sea, atmosphere and space-based Global Earth Systems of Systems (GEOSS), and also the role and activities of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI) in delivering of spatial data platform to facilitate data and service discovery, access and integration,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio in 2012 represents an opportunity to renew the political commitment to the role of information in advancing sustainable development, including as it relates to the consideration by the Conference of the themes: green economy within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and institutional framework for sustainable development,

Expressing our deep appreciation to the Government of Abu Dhabi for organizing and hosting the first Eye on Earth Summit in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme.

Declare that we:

1. Aspire to a vision whereby decision-making for sustainable development, is empowered by the availability and equitable accessibility of credible, relevant and timely information;
2. Decide that the objectives of our collaboration are to foster collaboration among relevant networks, systems, institutions and technology providers on the integration of economic, environmental and social information in a shared information system for the advancement of sustainable development by taking advantage of the rapid development of information and communication technologies and by strengthening capacity building and technology support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;
3. Agree to advance our collaboration based on the following principles:
  - (a) The agenda for cooperation should be flexible, balanced, purpose-driven, issue-focused, and time-bound yet durable and be developed in respect for the diverse range of stakeholders and their governance structures so as to build trust among partners;
  - (b) The modalities for cooperation should be inspired by the subsidiarity principle so that functions are performed in a distributed manner by those best placed to do so and information is kept close to the source in order not to lose knowledge about its use and limitations;
  - (c) That effective mechanisms for the collection, management and dissemination of environmental information are needed and the responsibility for quality assurance of the information lies with those who collect or originate data;
  - (d) Information should be made available in such a way that it avoids unnecessary duplication in data collection, underpins reporting obligations, and supports decision-making;
  - (e) Environmental information should be available to the public, with any exemptions being defined in law and interpreted narrowly having regard to the public interest in disclosure so that access to information is timely, effective and affordable for all interested users;
4. Agree to work with the United Nations in establishing a forum for cooperation among sub- global and thematic environmental information networks with a view to further enhancing their connectivity and effectiveness in supporting assessments, information exchange and decision-making for sustainable development;

5. Decide to work with the Group on Earth Observation and other interested partners in supporting the further development and expansion of the existing interoperability standards for data and information exchange and a system-wide approach to the provision of web- based platforms in support of information exchange;
6. Resolve to support the development of adequate institutional and legislative enabling conditions for furthering the implementation of principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, inter alia based on the Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters;<sup>2</sup>
7. Commit to engage in, and to strengthen existing initiatives already involved in, technical cooperation for capacity building and technology support for access to and exchange of information in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including by supporting development of networks, regional cooperation, data collection, research, analysis, monitoring and integrated environmental assessment and legislative and institutional frameworks for access to information;
8. Urge the further development of private-public partnerships for use of information and communication technologies and encourage the private sector to use their research and development capacities to enhance the implementation of national and internationally agreed goals and targets for sustainable development; 9. Welcome the Eye on Earth Exhibition, the special initiatives identified and the technical work by the Summit on policy, governance and institutional networking for information exchange; content and user needs; technical infrastructure; capacity building, education and awareness-raising and showcasing applications;

<sup>2</sup>Adopted at the 11th Special Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Forum of UNEP in Indonesia, February 25, 2010

10. Agree to establish the Eye on Earth Facility comprised of the Trust Fund, the Toolkit containing pledges of technology applications, methodologies, and training resources and the distributed Secretariat based on time and resource commitments by partners;
11. Call on United Nations bodies, other international organizations, multilateral and bilateral donor agencies and the private sector to further contribute to the implementation of the special initiatives agreed by the Summit and the actions set out above;
12. Call on UNEP to assist developing countries and countries in transition through targeted capacity building programs in their efforts to develop adequate national legislation that support public access to information in line with the UNEP Guidelines on Principle 10;
13. Resolve to meet before the end of 2013 to review the progress of implementation of the current declaration and consider the directions for further work.

We make these commitments with a view to strengthening the knowledge infrastructure needed to advance human well-being and sustainable development.

#### Draft Eye on Earth Summit Declaration

We the ministers, and high-level representatives of government, having consulted business, academia and civil society present at the first Eye on Earth Summit in Abu Dhabi from 12 to 15 December 2011,

Deeply concerned over the evidence of unprecedented environmental changes at all levels, including possible irreversible changes with potentially negative implications for economic and social development, especially for the poor and vulnerable groups in society.<sup>1</sup>

Conscious that cooperation on exchange of, and access to, timely, credible and relevant information among a wide array of actors is a critical part of the science-policy interface needed for advancing the development and implementation of goals, targets and indicators for sustainable development,

Recalling principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which amongst others recognizes that each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, and that States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available,

Convinced that a strengthening of the capacity for managing, exchanging and facilitating access to information in developing countries and countries with economies in transition will help advance the development and implementation of goals, targets and indicators for sustainable development,

Conscious of the opportunities offered by the rapid advancement of information and communications technologies for enhancing information access, exchange and management,

Acknowledging the critical role of existing thematic and geographic networks and systems for exchange of and access to information, including the role of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) and its land, sea, atmosphere and space-based Global Earth Systems of Systems (GEOSS), and also the role and activities of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure Association (GSDI) in delivering of spatial data platform to facilitate data and service discovery, access and integration,

Bearing in mind that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio in 2012 represents an opportunity to renew the political commitment to the role of information in advancing sustainable development, including as it relates to the consideration by the Conference of the themes: green economy within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and institutional framework for sustainable development,

Expressing our deep appreciation to the Government of Abu Dhabi for organizing and hosting the first

Eye on Earth Summit in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme.

Declare that we:

1. Aspire to a vision whereby decision-making for sustainable development, is empowered by the availability and equitable accessibility of credible, relevant and timely information;

<sup>1</sup>From OP 10 UNGA res 63/220 19 December 2008

2. Decide that the objectives of our collaboration are to foster collaboration among relevant networks, systems, institutions and technology providers on the integration of economic, environmental and social information in a shared information system for the advancement of sustainable development by taking advantage of the rapid development of information and communication technologies and by strengthening capacity building and technology support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. Agree to advance our collaboration based on the following principles: V (a) The agenda for cooperation should be flexible, balanced, purpose-driven, issue-focused, and time-bound yet durable and be developed in respect for the diverse range of stakeholders and their governance structures so as to build trust among partners;

- (b) The modalities for cooperation should be inspired by the subsidiarity principle so that functions are performed in a distributed manner by those best placed to do so and

information is kept close to the source in order not to lose knowledge about its use and limitations;

(c) That effective mechanisms for the collection, management and dissemination of environmental information are needed and the responsibility for quality assurance of the information lies with those who collect or originate data;

(d) Information should be made available in such a way that it avoids unnecessary duplication in data collection, underpins reporting obligations, and supports decision-making;

(e) Environmental information should be available to the public, with any exemptions being defined in law and interpreted narrowly having regard to the public interest in disclosure so that access to information is timely, effective and affordable for all interested users;

4. Agree to work with the United Nations in establishing a forum for cooperation among sub-global and thematic environmental information networks with a view to further enhancing their connectivity and effectiveness in supporting assessments, information exchange and decision- making for sustainable development;

5. Decide to work with the Group on Earth Observation and other interested partners in supporting the further development and expansion of the existing interoperability standards for data and information exchange and a system-wide approach to the provision of web-based platforms in support of information exchange;

6. Resolve to support the development of adequate institutional and legislative enabling conditions for furthering the implementation of principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, inter alia based on the Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters;<sup>2</sup>

7. Commit to engage in, and to strengthen existing initiatives already involved in, technical cooperation for capacity building and technology support for access to and exchange of information in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, including by supporting development of networks, regional cooperation, data collection, research, analysis, monitoring and integrated environmental assessment and legislative and institutional frameworks for access to information;

8. Urge the further development of private-public partnerships for use of information and communication technologies and encourage the private sector to use their research and development capacities to enhance the implementation of national and internationally agreed goals and targets for sustainable development;

9. Welcome the Eye on Earth Exhibition, the special initiatives identified and the technical work by the Summit on policy, governance and institutional networking for information exchange; content and user needs; technical infrastructure; capacity building, education and awareness- raising and showcasing applications;

10. Agree to establish the Eye on Earth Facility comprised of the Trust Fund, the Toolkit containing pledges of technology applications, methodologies, and training resources and the distributed Secretariat based on time and resource commitments by partners;

11. Call on United Nations bodies, other international organizations, multilateral and bilateral donor agencies and the private sector to further contribute to the implementation of the special initiatives agreed by the Summit and the actions set out above;

12. Call on UNEP to assist developing countries and countries in transition through targeted capacity building programs in their efforts to develop adequate national legislation that support public access to information in line with the UNEP Guidelines on Principle 10;

13. Resolve to meet before the end of 2013 to review the progress of implementation of the current declaration and consider the directions for further work.

We make these commitments with a view to strengthening the knowledge infrastructure needed to advance human well-being and sustainable development.

<sup>2</sup>Adopted at the 11th Special Session of the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Forum of UNEP in Indonesia,

February 25, 2010

## Access Initiative

Submission by The Access Initiative (TAI)

for UNCSD 2012 (Rio+20)

I –Introduction

The Access Initiative (TAI): TAI is the world's largest network of civil society organizations working to ensure that people have the right and ability to influence decisions about the natural resources that sustain their communities. TAI is 12 years old and represents over 250 civil society organizations in over 50 countries. This is our formal input to the Rio+20 compilation document and it is based on rigorous and robust assessments we have done on Principle 10 related laws, institutions and implementation in each of our countries, our three demands (3D) campaign in the run up to Rio+20, and our active participation in preparatory meetings, regional meetings and high level meetings leading to Rio+20. This submission is also supported by 180 individuals from all over the world who have signed a petition to UNDESA supporting the proposals contained here. The petition and individuals are set out in Annex 1.

Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration:

The right to obtain information, right to participate in decision-making and the right to seek justice are a bundle of valuable rights which we call 'access rights'. The access rights have their origins and roots in human rights recognized by a number of international instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These rights were recognized in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration and are fundamental to good environmental governance. Progress has been made in many countries through "access delivery mechanisms" such as environmental impact assessment procedures, pollution release and transfer registers, freedom of information laws, public comment and hearing procedures, zoning and planning procedures and environmental courts and tribunals.

But many gaps remain and need to be filled. Weak implementation of access rights has come about because governments have failed to provide the political will, necessary institutional and legal infrastructure and resources necessary for their full realization. Deliberate obstruction by vested interests that have inequitably benefited from closed and unaccountable governance regimes has contributed to the failure. Even where access rights are supported by national laws, secretive bureaucratic cultures have thwarted their full enjoyment by citizens. The lack of capacity building for government and civil society and the absence of basic information systems are two other factors that have prevented the wider enjoyments of the benefits of Principle 10.

**[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image]**

We believe that the accountability and implementation gap needs to be addressed through the setting up of a binding legal framework for Principle 10. The lack of adequate

commitment and progress even after twenty years since the Rio Declaration of 1992 is a telling sign that Principle 10 will remain unimplemented unless a time bound legally binding international or regional mechanism is put in place to make it happen. Further and fuller reasons supporting our proposals are to be found in the paper we issued with Article XIX titled "Moving from principles to Rights".

**[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image]**

The full implementation of Principle 10 (letter and spirit) nationally, regionally and globally will provide the necessary enabling environment for sustainable development and good governance. There are numerous documented benefits that flow both to government and citizens when access rights are implemented, respected and enjoyed in full. Good governance will ensure that developmental decisions are responsive to citizen needs and demands, that sustainability and social equity considerations are given due consideration by decision-makers, that corruption is eliminated or minimized, that the voice of the poor and marginalized are heard and that government is accountable to citizens.

## II - What We Want from Rio+20

The two main themes for Rio+20 are (a) the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD) and (b) green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty alleviation. Principle 10 is fundamental to both of these themes and provides the underlying and enabling conditions for the success of Rio+20 outcomes. In 2011 we launched the Three Demands Campaign (3D Campaign) because we were concerned that the Rio+20 preparatory meetings were only focusing on international environmental governance (IEG) when the UN mandate for Rio+20 set a much wider agenda in IFSD and we wanted to ensure that national environmental governance (NEG) was included in the discussions (see below for results of the campaign). In the context of NEG, Principle 10 has received supportive mention in the submission of governments, civil society organisations as well as in the outcome documents of international gathering leading up to Rio+20 (See Annex 2). In this context, here are our suggestions for Rio+20:

1. Structure of the Outcome Document: We expect the political document adopted at Rio+20 to be (a) visionary (b) build on the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of implementation, (c) identify the gaps in achieving the goals set by these decisions and (d) spell out concrete steps that will be taken by governments in the next decade to fill these gaps. With regard to NEG and Principle 10 we outline below the key gaps that need to be filled and the priority measures that need to be taken.

2.2. Concrete Proposals – Moving from Principles to Rights: For the reasons stated below, we propose that the outcome document acknowledge in unequivocal terms, the importance of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration for solving environmental issues and advancing sustainable development. We propose that the document contain:

<sup>[6]</sup> A clear mandate to the UN secretariat to commence negotiations on a UN framework convention on Principle 10. A framework convention will set out the basic standards and goals for state parties under Principle 10, require regional bodies to initiate negotiations on regional conventions containing binding obligations including compliance and monitoring mechanisms and establish a timeline for the negotiation of the regional conventions. A framework convention could incentivize national and regional Principle 10 reforms with added privileges, benefits and recognition for nations that pursue them.

<sup>[6]</sup> Alternatively, a mandate to UNEP regional offices or UN Regional Economic Commissions and encouragement to other regional inter- governmental organizations to negotiate regional or sub-regional conventions on Principle 10. This proposal is also reflected in the 3D campaign results below.

<sup>[6]</sup> A clear mandate to UNEP (as an interim priority measure) to develop a robust program for promoting the Bali Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (2010) adopted by the UNEP Governing Council and for building the capacity of governments and civil society to implement the said guidelines.

<sup>[6]</sup> The constitution of a task force comprised of civil society representatives, governments and UN Agencies to develop, within one year, a universal set of guidelines, procedures and institutional reforms applicable to UNEP and other UN Agencies implementing Principle 10 in UN agency decision-making to be applied in their day to day work and deliberations.

<sup>[6]</sup> We expect the outcome document to set out a time frame for the completion of these commitments and mandates. We also highlight below, four other initiatives that will further the goals of principle 10 which may be featured in the informal space at Rio+20.

3.3. Further Concrete Proposals – 3D Campaign: As part of the 3D Campaign, civil society coalitions and partners all over the world (currently in over 30 countries) collectively developed and made three top national environmental governance demands from each of their governments. A number of demands stood out, either called for by a number of countries, or urgent in nature. These demands ranged from legal reforms to practice changes and are listed in our interim report. All of these demands should find a place within the Rio+20 outcome document and should be included in the zero draft.

<sup>[6]</sup> Regional Conventions on Principle 10: Many countries have regulations requiring access in major areas of environmental concern. Yet much of the time, these laws remain unenforced and accountability mechanisms are weak. Civil society organizations in many countries feel that an international mechanism to mutually raise one another to a higher level of performance would improve access at the national level. This proposal is also reflected in those set out above.

<sup>[6]</sup> Improving Environmental Assessment Practice: A common request in many countries was expansion and improvement of access to information and public participation in environmental impact assessments (EIA). While EIA procedures useful for decision-making they are by no means sufficient means for ensuring sustainable development. However, when EIA processes are used they need to be transparent and participatory and accountable. This is often seen as one of the most important means of improving decision-making and environmental quality of new development.

<sup>[6]</sup> Broad Legal Reforms for Access: In some countries, coalitions felt that all three access rights could be addressed in an overarching legal reform, rather than in piecemeal legislation, as has been the practice in many countries.

<sup>[6]</sup> Environmental Databases: In a number of participating countries, regulations call for the regular publication of environmental data and related information. However, many of these regulations have gone unimplemented with tremendous gaps in data collection, analysis, and publication.

<sup>[6]</sup> Environmental Courts: Environmental courts provide what can be an effective and cheaper means of dispute resolution than regular courts. Specialized attention to environmental laws and increased scientific expertise can mean that victims of pollution may be able to have their environmental complaints addressed in a faster, cheaper, more predictable manner.

<sup>[6]</sup> Citizen Enforcement: In many countries, law enforcement officers are spread thin, with little ability to prioritize among serious environmental issues. For that reason, a number of countries felt the need for citizen enforcement of environmental laws and rights. We request that governments establish citizen suit provisions allowing for citizen enforcement of laws.

4. Reasons for our Proposals - Implementation Gaps & How to Fill Them: National environmental governance (NEG) improvements should include better coordination among government agencies, clear environmental laws and more efficient bureaucratic procedures. At the heart of good NEG is Principle 10 – which requires more open, inclusive

and accountable decision-making.

In our first submission to the Rio+20 processes in response to UNDESA's 2010 questionnaire, we identified a number of gaps in Principle 10 implementation. Foremost among the gaps in implementing Principle 10 are:

- weak implementation across all three pillars of Principle 10 (information access, public participation and access to justice);
- weak laws on public participation and access to justice; and
- the lack of affirmative legal rights for empowering the poor and marginalized groups to have a voice and say in decisions that affect them.
- 

We also provided good examples of Principle 10 implementation and practice including examples of progressive access to information laws from Mexico and India and good practice examples from countries that have signed the Aarhus Convention. Philippines and Indonesia have recently established environmental courts to provide greater access to justice on environmental matters, while Chile is reforming its environmental impact assessment laws to ensure that poor and marginalized people have more voice and access to the decision-making process. Thailand is revising its public participation laws to improve public engagement spaces. While there is progress in some countries, in others access rights are being curtailed.

There are plenty of examples of good practice and guidelines and tools to help governments and civil society implement Principle 10 – what is needed is political commitments, a framework convention, serious and urgent law and institutional reforms at the national and regional levels and funding for governments and civil society to work on improving laws, administrative capabilities, and building the capacity of civil society to use the access rights more effectively.

5. Comments on Existing Proposals: A number of governments, civil society organisations and international organizations have acknowledged the importance of improving transparency, citizen engagement and accountability (Principle 10) as part of the Rio +20 Agenda. These include several governments, the European Union, the Declaration from the 4th Meeting of the parties of the UN European Economic Commission's Aarhus Convention (Chisinau Declaration) and the resolution from the European Union Parliament. Additionally, several UN documents acknowledge the importance of Principle 10 and the need to fully implement it. In particular the Synthesis Report of the Secretary General, the UNEP Report on the Green Economy, UNECLAC Report for the Regional Consultation, the Beijing High Level Consultation texts, the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Meeting Statement, and The Chair's text from the UNESCAP Asia Pacific regional meeting in Seoul. For a summary of these statements see Annex 1.

6. Statements have also been made in support for full implementation by civil society groups including the Stakeholder Forum, Article XIX, ourselves, and the NGO, Women's and Youth Major Groups. Many call for a global Principle 10 convention. Others support regional Principle 10 conventions. These proposals and submission together signify broad based support for moving from principles to rights enshrined in national laws and practiced by government institutions and civil society – rights that enable people to obtain environmental information held by governments and corporations, rights that enable people to engage in government decision-making on the environment and rights that enable people to hold decision-makers accountable for their decisions.

#### III - IFSD: Formal and Informal Initiatives on Principle 10

There are formal and informal initiatives that will improve national environmental governance and move Principle 10 to concrete enforceable rights. These are:

1. As part of the 3D Campaign, civil society coalitions and partners all over the world (currently in over 30 countries) collectively developed and made three top national environmental governance demands from each of their governments. Several Governments, including South Africa, Jamaica and Hungary have agreed in writing to implement at least one of these governance demands. These demands form a framework for action across countries and in regions. A formal mechanism to share experiences, capacity building, training etc can be built from these demands and government commitments.
2. Co-led by USA and Brazil, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) consisting of eight founding governments and civil society issued a declaration of principles on open government in September 2011 on the margins of the UNGA. Dozens of other government are expected to join the partnership in March 2012 when they meet in Rio for their second meeting. Each partner government has developed a set of time bound commitments to improve open government, including commitments on environmental governance. This specific cooperation mechanisms could allow for an environmental caucus to be developed that will look specifically at improvements in the passage of freedom of information laws and implementation efforts; discuss the use of technology to improve transparency and citizen participation as well as provide a framework for collaboration which is subject to accountability peer review mechanisms
3. The USA and some other governments are considering the establishment of an International Partnership for Environmental Governance (I-PEG) either as a caucus within OGP or as a free standing partnership. The purpose of this partnership will be to improve national environmental governance by improving the clarity and effectiveness of environmental laws, improving the coordination and efficiency, of institutions responsible for promoting sustainable development, increasing transparency, citizen engagement and accountability of sustainable development decision-making and reducing corruption.
4. It is likely that Eye on the Earth Summit (Abu Dhabi Dec-2011 multi-stakeholder meeting) will affirm the need for full implementation of Principle 10 and launch a special initiative to implement Principle 10 globally. The initiative will include sharing of good practices, capacity building, monitoring and assessment of Principle 10 implementation.

#### IV - The link between the Green Economy and IFSD

If a green economy is to be a tool for achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication we need to highlight the importance of improving national environmental governance. Achieving sustainable development will require making policy decisions that involve balancing competing interests and reaching environmentally sustainable, economically sound and socially equitable outcomes. If decision making processes are secret, non-participatory and unaccountable, a few selected and powerful interests will influence policy and developmental decisions. Principle 10 and good national environmental governance which recognizes coordination, efficiency, transparency, engagement and accountability becomes a foundational and enabling requirement for the success of a green economy and sustainable development.

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

For the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication to succeed, we believe that sustainable development goals (SDGs) that eventually become part of the Millennium Development Goals in a post 2015 world would help set global targets that nations can strive for. But these goals cannot be confined to thematic goals covering water, oceans, pollutants etc. SDGs must include clear good governance goals as well. If such goals cannot be negotiated in time for the Rio+20 meeting, at the very least, a process should be established to negotiate such goals in the lead up to the review of the Millennium Development Goals in 2015. This will ensure that we have real targets that the international community and national governments can work towards. Governance goals are currently not reflected in the MDG framework. In this regard we recommend that the Rio+20 examine carefully the proposals submitted by Colombia and the goals enunciated in the Bonn Declaration from the 64th UN-DPI Conference of over 1200 civil society organisations. We propose the following four good governance SDGs be included in the Rio+20 outcomes or a process for their negotiation be put in place at Rio+20:

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## ACCESS TO INFORMATION

By 2022, governments will enact and implement Freedom of Information laws giving people the right to obtain accurate and truthful information held by their government, especially on the environment. Governments will actively make available to all stakeholders useful, accurate and truthful well publicized data and information in appropriate formats and languages, including on the internet. These laws should include whistleblower protection and should extend to information disclosure by corporations.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

By 2022, governments need to ensure that voluntarism and citizen engagement are incorporated in all global, national and local action plans for implementation of sustainable development and human well-being, to commit to the creation of an enabling environment for citizen engagement and voluntary action, and will include mandatory public participation in

- (a) major development project approvals and environmental impact assessment procedures,
- (b) drafting of national level sustainable development policies, laws and regulations and
- (c) administrative decisions such as pollution permitting.

## ACCESS TO REDRESS AND REMEDY

By 2022, governments will adopt and implement laws ensuring effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings concerning sustainable development, including redress and remedy. In particular, they will ensure that the costs of such proceedings are reasonable and affordable to affected people and that access to such proceedings is available through expansion of legal standing and other means to interested people and organizations.

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED** By 2022, governments will adopt laws that obligate government agencies to take appropriate measures to provide information and engage affected people living in poverty, women and other disadvantaged groups when making sustainable development decisions.

## Annex 1

Worldwide Open Public Petition to UNDESA and the Rio+20 Bureau

## WHAT WE WANT FROM RIO+20

## Sustainable Development Governance Goals &amp; Commitments

For the reasons set out in this open public petition, we the undersigned individuals and organizations support the three demands (3D) campaign facilitated by The Access Initiative and joined by scores of civil society organizations from around the world and request UNDESA and the Rio+20 Bureau to include the following five sustainable development governance goals and commitments in the compilation document and zero draft of the Rio+20 outcome documents: Sustainable Development Governance Goals & Commitments

1. A clear mandate to regional UN Economic Commissions and UNEP regional offices and a request to other regional bodies to negotiate Regional (or sub-regional) Conventions on Principle 10 by 2022: Many countries have regulations requiring access to information, participation and justice in major areas of environmental concern – the substantive rights enshrined in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration (1992). Yet much of the time, these laws remain unenforced and accountability mechanisms are weak. Civil society organizations and citizens in many countries feel that an international mechanism to mutually raise one another to a higher level of performance would improve access at the national level. Civil society in six Latin American countries (Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico) called for their governments to begin the process of negotiating a regional convention for Principle 10, something with a similar form and function to the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (The Aarhus Convention). Similar calls have also come for the development of a regional convention in Southeast Asia. UN ECLAC in a recent report has listed such a convention as an important step to improving the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio declaration.
2. A commitment by governments to enact broad and comprehensive legal reforms for access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters by 2022: As part of these reforms, government commitment to adopt laws obliging agencies to take appropriate measures to provide information and engage affected people living in poverty when making sustainable development decisions. In some countries, civil society and citizens feel that all three access rights could be addressed in an overarching legal reform, rather than in piecemeal legislation, as has been the practice in many countries. For example in Thailand there are calls for the updating of the legal code to more accurately reflect its “access-friendly” 2007 Constitution. In Costa Rica there are calls for a wholesale “access law” which would close many of the gaps and loopholes in prior environmental laws. Finally, in Indonesia there are calls by civil society for complete implementation of the Environmental Protection and Management Act No. 32 of 2009 which holds the promise of greatly improving transparency, participation, and accountability but remains, in large part, a paper tiger.
3. A commitment by governments and the UN to Improve Environmental Assessment Practice by 2022: A common request by civil society and citizens in many countries is the expansion and improvement of access to information and public participation in environmental assessment. This is often seen as one of the most important means of improving decision-making and environmental quality of new development. However, in many countries, this development is carried out in secret or important decisions are hidden from the public.
4. A recognition of the importance of environmental databases and the commitment to establish by 2022, international standards and protocols for collection, analysis, dissemination and uptake of environmental information: In a number of countries, regulations call for the regular publication of environmental data and related information. However, many of these regulations have gone unimplemented with tremendous gaps in data collection, analysis, and publication. Civil society and citizens have called for central national databases of environmental information in Benin, Brazil, Chile, South Africa, and Trinidad and Tobago. The Eye on the Earth Conference December 2011 will address this issue.
5. A commitment by governments to establish low or no cost, efficient and effective environmental dispute resolution citizen enforcement mechanisms (e.g. Environmental Courts and citizen suit): Environmental courts and tribunals provide what can be a cheaper means of dispute resolution than regular courts. Specialized attention to environmental laws and increased scientific expertise can mean that victims of pollution may be able to have their environmental complaints addressed in a faster, cheaper, more predictable manner. In many countries, law enforcement officers are spread thin, with little ability to prioritize among serious environmental issues. For that reason, a number of progressive governments have created citizen suit provisions allowing for citizen enforcement of laws. Citizen enforcement supplements government enforcement of environmental laws. Annex 1: Petition Signatory List <http://www.change.org/petitions/what-we-want-from-rio20>

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## ActionAid International

ActionAid International

Submission to UNCSD 2012 (Rio+20)

### Introduction

Many developing countries suffer from increasingly unstable environments with severe consequences for their people. Loss of biological diversity, natural resources and areas fit for human habitation would be huge challenges for even the most developed countries. But challenges are even greater when countries are confronted with the simultaneous tasks of climate change, improving governance, strengthening national application of human rights, ensuring growth and reducing inequality.

Almost 20 years after the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio (ECO 92), the world is facing an unprecedented intersection of crisis in: energy, climate, food and finance. The crises are interlinked and caused by the current and dominating model of development. From production to consumption, populations are using more natural resources and consuming more, at an exponential rate. At the same time, climate change is putting additional strain on natural resources such as water and arable land. The rush to increase biofuels production has further linked food and fuel crises, putting increased pressure on land and agricultural resources without realizing the promised environmental gain. And the continuous rise of the world's population, which has reached 7 billion, will increase the strain on our natural resources.

Within this context, the United Nations has decided to host another UNCSD, in 2012, to rethink the model of development and to propose new ways to transform our economy into a more sustainable and environmentally friendly. Some have called this the "green economy". UNCSD also searches for a new and better institutional framework, in which countries can continue the debate how best ensure a just and equitable transition to this green economy.

ActionAid believes that the UNCSD presents a new opportunity to evaluate the actions and policies that have led to the intersecting crisis. Through its work on the ground with local communities around the world, and particularly in Africa, Asia and Latin America, ActionAid has seen how the increasing promotion of export-oriented industrial agriculture, the use of agrochemicals inputs, new technologies without proper impact analysis, human induced climate change, and the use of large amounts of land and natural resources have contributed to inequality, poverty and hunger and has increased soil degradation and harmed our environment. Moreover, the lack of investment in smallholder farming, in particular, women smallholder farmers together with weak social protection policies, diminishes countries' possibility to develop a sustainable and equitable model of production.

Women pay a high price in our current model of 'development.' Women farmers have little or no access to land, credit, agricultural research or extension and are often excluded from cooperatives. Access to financial services including social transfers in the case of marginal farmers and loans and credit for smallholder farmers is essential so that they can pay for inputs, improve farming and develop small business enterprises to empower themselves economically.

8 out of 10 of the world's smallholder farmers are women and it is these farmers who produce half the world's food. In Africa, this rises to as much as 80%. Women smallholder farmers play a key role in feeding 2 billion people. Also sustainable agriculture based on smallholder farming not only provides more employment it also increases productivity, without degrading the natural resources it is based on.

Climate change, as mentioned above, is creating further stresses on food and water supply while degrading our environment. According to the IPCC, in some countries in Africa, yields from rain-fed agriculture could be reduced by up to 50% by 2020 as a result of climate change; scientists estimate that already global production of key staples, such as wheat and corn, has fallen by 3.8 per cent and 5.5 per cent respectively over the last three decades, as a result of climate change; and 75-250 million people across Africa could face more severe water shortages by 2020. Tragically, while industrialized nations are largely responsible for the current human induced climate change, it is poor countries and communities who are suffering the most from its impacts. A transition to a green economy will require, in part, a transition away from fossil fuels to truly clean and renewable energy, and a just transition is only possibly by providing adequate financial and technical support to developing nations and communities to help make this transition in a sustainable manner.

ActionAid sees Rio+20 as an opportunity to demand real national actions and international commitments that actually does eradicate hunger and poverty, and saves the environment.

The Rio+20 Conference will focus on two themes: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the institutional framework for sustainable development.

### Green Economy

According to the UN, the Green Economy can be defined as one that results in improved well-being due to a greater concern for social equity, environmental risks and scarcity of natural resources. However, the concept is still in discussion within the different Parties. There are four aspects of the green economy:

- one addresses this issue through the analysis of market failures,
- another has a systemic view of the economic structure and its impact on the relevant aspects of sustainable development,
- a third is focused on social goal (employment, for instance) and examines policies necessary to reconcile social objectives with other objectives of economic policy,
- and fourth with respect to macroeconomic and development strategy with the aim of identifying dynamic path to sustainable development.

There have been discussions and proposals for a Green New Deal or a new set of sustainable goals, in order to increase countries' wealth by reducing environmental risks and to drive growth with new forms of eco-efficiency and new clean technologies, directing the flow of capital to low carbon sectors. Instead of tackling the real causes of unsustainability, this debate may lead to false solutions.

For example, a rush towards large scale use of biofuels without adequate research into their social and environmental impacts has led to increased food prices and in many cases failed to deliver the promised reduction in greenhouse gases.

A transition to a green economy must include the transition to truly clean and renewable energy, but must also be based on a more sustainable model of production and consumption. Sustainable agriculture, especially agroecology, must take a central role in the discussions.

### Institutional Framework

The Institutional framework relates to a system of international governance for sustainable development, for example, global institutions responsible for developing, monitoring and implementing policies on sustainable development around the three pillars: social, environmental and economic. A deep analysis shows that the current system has some

flaws, such as the lack of a legally binding mandate on the institutions that deal with the matter. UNEP (United Nations Environment) has the status of the program, has no authority within the UN system, and the mandate of the Commission on Sustainable Development overrides the UNEP, which culminates in a competition between instances instead of collaboration.

This issue must be addressed taking into account the profound changes in the international system, where different interests besides governments, such as corporate are in place. This is essential to stop the privatization of these processes to enlarge the debate and to include the interests and rights of ordinary citizens.

ActionAid recommendations for the outcome document

Rio+20 will be an important opportunity for:

- Transforming the current hegemonic production model into a climate resilient sustainable agriculture model. In other words this means a transition to a new model;
- Ensure that technologically driven approaches are rigorously tested before implementation. The use of genetically modified organisms, geo-engineering and other technologies should be delayed until we have a full analysis of their social and environmental impacts
- Ending the commodification of natural resources, such as water, soil and biomass.
- Better soils and a more fair distribution of lands and wealth.
- Ending mandates for unsustainable biofuels.

#### 1. Transforming the current hegemonic production model into a climate resilient sustainable agriculture model

ActionAid believes that climate resilient sustainable agriculture offers an efficient and real solution to combat poverty while at the same producing few greenhouse gas emissions (as compared to conventional agriculture, which contributes roughly a third of all GHG emissions) serving as a power tool for adaptation to climate variability.

Climate resilient sustainable agriculture integrates several goals including environmental management, farm profitability, and the prosperity of communities. It refers to the ability of farms to produce food indefinitely, without damaging soils and ecosystems, or human and social capital.

Climate resilient sustainable agriculture encompasses approaches such as agro-ecology, low external input, agroforestry, organic agriculture, integrated crop and water harvesting in dry land areas. It also can mitigate climate change through carbon sequestration and offers a genuinely low GHG emission alternative.

Conclusions from the UN agricultural panel, IAASTD, are very clear. The problems facing the global food supply are enormous; therefore "business as usual is not an option." In a world heading towards 9 billion people the solution for the enormous challenges lies in, what the IAASTD calls, "agro-ecological multifunctional agriculture", i.e. agriculture based on organic methods (though without necessarily being subject to organic certification). Unlike industrial agriculture, climate resilient sustainable agriculture can simultaneously reduce agricultural GHG, make food supplies more resistant to climate change, improve soil and water resources, and feed a world in 2050 of 9 billion people without agriculture occupying even more land.

UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier De Schutter, concludes in a new report that "...agroecology, if sufficiently supported, can double food production in entire regions within 10 years while mitigating climate change and alleviating rural poverty. The report therefore calls States for a fundamental shift towards agro-ecology as a way for countries to feed themselves while addressing climate- and poverty challenges. "

A fundamental shift to climate resilient sustainable agricultural practices, according to De Schutter, would help to eradicate poverty and hunger, and to stimulate inclusive and broad based economic growth, since growth in agriculture is known to be more effective to generate growth in other sectors as well as providing increased yields per hectare, because climate resilient sustainable agricultural practices are based on local seed corn and traditional farming methods, which provide ample opportunities for local communities to grow themselves out of hunger. Additionally, it is essential to find ways to link smallholder farmers with the growing urban population so that they can gain access to healthy, nutritious food.

Bearing this in mind, ActionAid calls for:

- Public investment to strengthen sustainable agriculture and to facilitate this transition process through exchange of experiences between smallholder farmers, for example, especially women and youth.
- Building and strengthening public policies and laws to support sustainable agriculture.
- Securing poor women farmers' access to and control over land.
- Appropriate extension services and training, building staff capacity on climate resilient sustainable agricultural methods and technologies.
- Additional public finance, through innovative mechanisms, to help smallholders build resilience in the face of climate change.

#### 2. Interrupting the use of new technologies, such as GMO's , until we have an analysis of their social and environmental impacts

During the end of the last century and the beginning of this XXI century, a massive concentration of corporate power has taken place. Unprepared, the UN has lost its capacity to track technologies and to monitor the transnational corporations who own and/or control them. Just after the first Rio Earth Summit, governments abandoned the ability to advice on the cost, safety, and utility of different technology options, with failure or surrendering of both UN Centre for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), and the UN Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC). So, there was no intergovernmental capacity to identify trends among the world's largest private enterprises (although UNFCCC is discussing the creation of technology Centre and Network, but without taking this issue too much into account). In other words, on the eve of the biotechnology and genomic revolutions the international community is still very far to start this debate and it has been pushed away from the process.

There is no certain knowledge on how GMO's, specially terminator seeds, and other new technologies produced by geo-engineering can affect the environment and the health of populations.

ActionAid believes the world should adopt a precautionary approach and have a moratorium on this kind of technology until there is enough scientific proof that there is no negative impact of using GMO seeds, or using geo-engineering and nanotechnologies.

By doing this the international community would live up to one of the central principles they agreed to at the last Rio conference in 1992. Principle 15 states the precautionary approach in order to protect the environment: "where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation."

### 3. Ending the commodification of natural resources, such as water and soil

Commodification of water and soil has been presented as a solution to climate issues; but it is a false solution. This mechanism diverts attention from the real problem, which is the need to build a new development model.

ActionAid believes that the Rio+20 should resist the commodification and commercialization of nature and all offset markets that would include agriculture and soil carbon sequestration in the carbon market. Such market-based mechanisms do not address the root causes of greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture but tend to provide perverse incentives to polluters and benefit the emitters.

Instead of market-based financing mechanism, developed countries must commit to new and innovative sources of public finance (via the UNFCCC), such as a tiny tax on the financial speculation, tax on shipping fuel or airline tickets, redirection of fossil fuel subsidies, or use of Special Drawing Rights.

### 4. Better soil and a more fair distribution of land and wealth

The current productive model contributes to land and wealth concentration. There is growing international recognition that public or private domestic or cross-boundary land grabs are destructive of the environment and food security. The estimated 80 million hectares involved in land deals transactions could be made available to peasants and family farmers.

Today, the industrial food chain leads to an annual loss of topsoil amounting to 75 billion tonnes and costs the world \$400 billion. Peasant soil conservation systems utilizing naturally occurring soil microorganisms are responsible for fixing 140-170 million tonnes of nitrogen W equivalent to \$90 billion in chemical fertilizers.

Policies must support these conservation strategies. Improved land management, especially using sustainable land management, could increase agricultural GDP between 3% and 7%.

In this context, ActionAid believes that in Rio+20 it is necessary to discuss a fairer distribution of land and a productive model that promotes the inclusion of smallholder farmers, income distribution and access to education and health, among other basic rights. Once more, governments must show a clear commitment to improve poor people's lives.

### 5. Ending mandates for unsustainable biofuels

Rio+20 has an important role to play in ensuring that biofuels production and consumption globally does not encourage land grabs, threaten food security, escalate food price volatility and contribute to greenhouse gas emissions (GHG). The report on food price volatility prepared by the FAO, the World Bank and other international organizations at the request of the G20 takes a firm position against increases in biofuel production, and the use of mandates and financial incentives that encourage growth of the industry.

Biofuels overall now account for a significant part of global use of a number of crops. On average, in the 2007-09 period that share was 20% in the case of sugar cane, 16% for vegetable oils, 15% for corn, and 4% for sugar beet. As food supply is diverted to biofuels while world demand for food continues to rise, it is clear that biofuels contribute to increasingly volatile food prices and pressure on land.

While biofuels can potentially be produced and consumed in a sustainable way for local use, current biofuel policies in several G20 member states and regional blocs to which G20 states belong are not sustainable.

For example, implementation of the European Union's Renewable Energy Directive will require that around 9 per cent of transport fuel come from biofuels by 2020. This will mean a tripling of today's levels of consumption. Much of this will be imported from other regions, and the EU has not put in place robust safeguards to ensure that such imports do not adversely affect food security or provoke increased land-grabbing. In addition, EU policy does not ensure that this biofuel use will actually deliver a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

The United States biofuels policy is also unsustainable. Corn ethanol is the dominant biofuel produced and consumed in the US. Due to a triple incentive structure including a mandate for production and blending targets, subsidies and a protective tariff, almost 40% of the US corn crop is diverted from food and feed to fuel. Although farmers have increased corn yields, the combination of the rising demand for corn and weather shocks has depleted corn stocks and resulted in record breaking corn prices. Since many countries are heavily dependent on corn imports from the US for food and feed, the rising price of corn paid at the global level has had a devastating impact on local markets. US biofuel policy is also leading to increased greenhouse gas emissions.

Better protection for agricultural land and biodiversity areas are also needed globally. In Brazil, the government has approved Agro-ecological Zoning (ZAE) for sugarcane to certify that ethanol doesn't cause deforestation. The zoning project has identified approximately 64.7 million hectares of land suitable for sugarcane cultivation. However, the expansion of sugarcane in these designated areas may displace food production activities and push cattle- raising into the Amazon region. There are no guarantees that cultivation in these more sensitive environmental regions will not result in negative impacts such as indirect deforestation or contamination by pesticides.

Eliminate targets, mandates and financial incentives (such as subsidies and tax exemptions) that encourage the expansion of unsustainable industrial biofuels production.

- Accelerate scientific research on alternative paths to reduced carbon emissions and improved sustainability and energy security, including improved energy efficiency.
- Implement proven solutions including increasing fuel efficiency of cars and investing in public transport.
- Ensure that all biofuels, whether domestically produced or imported, meet strict social and environmental sustainability criteria that ensures that their production and consumption does not compromise food, land and workers' rights and that they result in lower net greenhouse gas emissions than fossil fuels when considering the full life-cycle of the biofuel production process. This must include realistic analysis of the impact of indirect land use change on greenhouse gas emissions. The analysis of biofuels must be specific to both the type of crop grown and the location where it is produced.

Ensure that any further study on the relations between biofuel production and food, agriculture and the environment or proposals for "flexible mandates" which would adjust existing mandates during times of food price stress should be done with the active engagement of civil society. The FAO's Committee on Food Security would be the ideal venue for further exploration on these issues, and recent studies by its High Level Panel of Experts offer insights on biofuel policies.

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## Active Remedy Ltd

The role of mountains in regulating Earth's climate and fresh water systems is vital for the sustenance of all life, as all of Earth's rivers originate in them. Healthy mountain ecosystems are the foundation for global health and stability. Therefore when considering sustainable development and green economies the health and balance of the global fresh water system is the most important issue that needs to be imminently addressed and raised to a level of paramount importance. All life on Earth and all economies are dependent upon this. Glaciers form the water towers of Earth. Over the last century, mountain glaciers worldwide have, on average, been seriously decreasing in length and volume. Glaciers worldwide have been retreating so rapidly that they may almost completely disappear within fifty years. In mountain regions high altitude forests, through the action of precipitation and transpiration, play a key role in the creation of snow. Certain indigenous mountain plants such as the Oak play a major role in cloud seeding. Without this process, functioning, the amount of snow is massively reduced and glaciers cannot be fully replenished. These glaciers and snows are also important because they act like a mirror reflecting solar radiation. As they melt, the mirror thins and more solar rays penetrate through to the Earth, increasing Earth's temperature. As this ice melts, it also increases the quantity of water vapor in the atmosphere. Water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O) is a very powerful greenhouse gas, which normally stays in the atmosphere for no more than nine days. However if it is not brought to Earth through precipitation, it remains in the upper atmosphere and increases the problems of the greenhouse effect. Earth's hydrological system, unlike coal, uranium and oil, is a fast regenerating system. Given the right ingredients, of mixed indigenous mountain forests, it can be rebalanced and maintained indefinitely. The stability of Earth's rivers and water tables depends upon maintaining the integrity of watersheds. These, in turn, depend upon the healthy biodiversity of high altitude forests. It has been recognized that the protective function of stable forest cover is vital for safeguarding them. It is recorded that only 25% of mixed indigenous mountain forests are still intact worldwide. This implies that 75% of the world's indigenous mountain forests have been removed. These forests are the natural mechanism, which would normally be involved in making the mountain snows and replenishing the glaciers. The global fresh water system and hence all of life on Earth is utterly dependent upon them.

Therefore, to save the glaciers from melting all together and Earth's rivers from drying up, it is a matter of great urgency to protect, conserve and restore indigenous mountain forests worldwide. However mass deforestation along with monoculture pine programs have left these regions seriously eroded, denuded and polluted. As rains wash away the scanty remaining soils, the task becomes more difficult and in some places impossible. Nevertheless there are techniques which could be used and prove to be successful if implemented swiftly. Utilizing the knowledge of mountain people and working together with them is essential for success. Using a combination of methods ranging from traditional conservation knowledge, companion planting, green corridors and Permaculture techniques, the regeneration of these forests could conceivably be accomplished. Local mountain communities could be organized into collectives using cooperative methods for replanting, managing and maintaining these forests. Regenerating and protecting indigenous mountain forests would increase employment and create green economies within mountain regions. 'Payment for Environmental Services' schemes could be used to support mountainous countries and communities to establish and protect indigenous mountain forests as this assures the protection of the global fresh water system. In the light of this, the detrimental effects of hydro-dams on the environment in these regions should also be reconsidered. Along with all life on Earth, hydro-dams are dependent upon healthy glacial flow. With melting glaciers they are no longer as reliable as when they were first conceived. Some that have been built in the Andes are already proving to be ineffective as glaciers have decreased. Given the quantity of high quality free solar energy in mountain regions, it would be beneficial to replace hydro-dam electrical projects with solar power projects. There is no greater urgency today, than to protect, regenerate and conserve biodiversity in mountain regions.

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## Advisory Group on International Environmental Governance (The UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders)

Submission to the UNCSD Bureau as input to the Zero Draft

Outcome Document for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

from the

UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders

Advisory Group on International Environmental Governance

31 October 2011

The UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Advisory Group on International Environmental Governance (<http://www.agieg.net>) consists of 9 experts and their alternates named by the Major Groups and 6 experts and their alternates from the regions, working in their personal capacities. It was created by the UNEP Major Groups Facilitating Committee with UNEP support to be a body through which input from major groups and stakeholders could be channelled into the International Environmental Governance (IEG) processes leading to Rio+20. It prepared an information document for the UNEP Governing Council (UNEP/GC.26/INF/19\*, January 2011), and now offers these proposals for the draft outcome document for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. These proposals are a compilation of submissions from a range of major group and regional perspectives, and do not represent a consensus of all members of the Advisory Group. Rather they reflect the diversity and sometimes contradictory nature of the perspectives of major groups and stakeholders. Contributors to this paper who support its submission include Neth Dano (NGO - Action Group on Erosion Technology and Conservation ETC), Sascha Gabizon (Women - Women in Europe for a Common Future WECF), Laura Martin Murillo (Trade Unions and Workers - SustainLabour), Sébastien Duyck (Youth - Service Civil International), Satishkumar Belliethathan (Farmers - Horn of Africa Regional Environment Centre), Lucy Mullenkei (Indigenous People and their communities - Indigenous Information Network), Maria Ivanova (Local Authorities - Environmental Governance Project), Mehdi Ahmed Jaaffar (West Asia - Environment Society of Oman EDO), Robert Bakiika (Africa - Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility), John McDonald (North America - Institute For Multi-Track Diplomacy) and Philip Vergragt (North America - Tellus Institute) and Arthur Dahl (Europe - International Environment Forum). The Business & Industry Major Group (Thomas Jacob) contributed to the drafting but disassociated itself from the final document.

Objective of the Conference

RENEWED POLITICAL COMMITMENT

There is a huge tension between the nation-state and the forces of globalization, with the nation-state as the dominant organizing institution of governance and decision-making, while being limited by its own sovereign bounds from impacting directly on global forces. Efforts at global regulation must necessarily reflect compromise among the varying sovereign interests, and therefore often fall short of what any given state or interest would wish. One result is that the UN has failed to meet Agenda 21's objectives

for environment and sustainability, demonstrating that governance by State action, and a private sector regulated only at the national level and dominated by financial and trade institutions, are inadequate in a world of global markets and environmental problems. To deliver more consistently and globally against those objectives requires a more inclusive approach to governance that more effectively harnesses the variety of actors and rights holders. Renewed political commitment to multilateral action by governments is essential, but must be supported by measures to build trust among governments that their engagements will be respected. Peer review and accountability mechanisms should be complemented by a clear role for civil society and rights holders, including all the major groups.

To address the integration of issues across sectors, the existing structure of nation states and intergovernmental organizations needs serious rethinking and restructuring, with new cross-linkages reflecting interconnected problems, and bottom-up as well as top-down modes of functioning. Single-issue approaches are no longer effective when all problems are reflections of complex systems interactions. States and intergovernmental organizations should open up to wider partnerships and collaborations with all non-state actors, especially rights holders and civil society in all its diversity, to enable practical solutions to emerge. Only through such collaborations will it be possible to mobilize greater resources, reach the public more widely and deeply with information and educational programmes, build capacity and empowerment at multiple levels, and observe, analyze and report on the complex interlinked processes of natural and human systems as a basis for collective reflection on the further actions required. Each Rio+20 decision, partnership and initiative needs to incorporate explicitly the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

## GOVERNANCE FOR INNOVATION IN A GREEN ECONOMY

### Basis for Action

Achieving sustainability through a green economy implies both top-down and bottom-up governance processes. Institutional innovation needs to begin with the basics and systematically build up a sequence of actions to create confidence in the new institutions. Governance reform has to be fundamental as it needs to change core structural elements, but reform has to be incremental as only sequential steps can lead to systematic change. Systematic and well thought-out incremental reform at multiple points and levels in the overall system can do much to advance effective, fundamental reform. Global businesses need consistency in sustainable practices and standards to function in global markets, which should be encouraged by intergovernmental institutions. Governance for a green economy is also relevant at the local level, where green economic activities should be characterized by ecologically sound, socially equitable, transparent and democratic business and consumption practices. Contributing to these are not only the evolving practices within business and industry, but also local policies, multi-stakeholder grassroots experiments, local entrepreneurs and social enterprises. Such experiments and practices should be endorsed by national and state policies, as well as through international frameworks and mechanisms. Public policies should contribute to voluntary business sustainability and responsibility, stimulating and rewarding innovation in this direction.

### Objectives

To create governance mechanisms that provide an enabling framework for a green and equitable economy, thus stimulating and rewarding business and community innovation and local experimentation.

### Activities/Proposals

1. Governments should provide a clear framework of incentives and regulations to encourage more sustainable economic activity, while removing distorting and unsustainable subsidies as determined by the World Trade Organization.
2. Adopt the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production as negotiated to closure during CSD-19, supported by a global research programme to develop means of implementation.
3. Intergovernmental organizations should deliver norms, models and guidance and catalyze workable and predictable state-level regulatory governance with reasonable international consistency, to facilitate and reward evolution of economic activities in private, public and social enterprises toward a more level global framework for sustainability.
4. Establish a global centre or policy bank of expertise and technical assistance to help governments adopt public policies to stimulate non-statutory above-compliance standards of social and environmental performance, so that governments can adopt more such policies and learn from them.

## GOVERNANCE FOR A SOCIAL DIMENSION IN A GREEN ECONOMY

### Basis for Action

To address concerns that the green economy might ignore the social dimension of sustainability, governance mechanisms for the green economy should insure that it includes not only green technologies, infrastructure, investments and jobs, but also a more equitable and nurturing rights-based and inclusive society with chances for everyone to earn a living wage in decent working conditions, partake freely in democratic political activities, and increase their own well-being, as well as the well-being of their communities and of the entire planet. The participation of young people, women, poor and low-skilled workers is important.

The operative economic models have demonstrated fundamental flaws in repeated financial and economic crises, vulnerability to speculation, and excessive debt. In many traditional cultures there was no concept of private property, but alternatives based on shared rights and responsibilities, community decision-making and reciprocity. As part of institutional arrangements, an international process is needed to explore alternative value systems and indigenous economic models and ask what they may have to offer to a more equitable and sustainable global to local economy that goes beyond the present economic paradigm. Global financial governance needs restructuring based on principles of equity, transparency, accountability and democracy.

### Objectives

To ensure that governance for economic reform addresses social issues founded on principles of justice, equity, transparency and accountability.

### Activities/Proposals

1. Launch an international consultation on alternative economic models, cross-cultural and indigenous perspectives, including a review of the underlying purposes of the economy and the values by which it operates.
2. Accelerate the consideration of the necessary international regulation of the financial system to control excessive speculation, ensure just taxation including socially-progressive and environmentally friendly tax reforms, and provide a stable framework for international banking, investment and commerce.
3. Create institutional rules to support the expansion of mutual credit systems and complementary currencies at the community level.

### Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

## ETHICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

## Basis for Action

While States through the United Nations have made a major effort to define moral standards and ethical principles in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and many other instruments and declarations, these too often remain abstract ideals when faced with political expediency. Moral and ethical paradigms remain challenged in providing sufficient direction for society in times of rapid change and growing inequities, resulting in increasing difficulties with law enforcement, security and governance. Globally, there is a generalized lack of accountability, posing a challenge in building consensus on governance mechanisms. Civil society can play an important supporting role to governance in this area by contributing to an ethical framework for decision-making and drawing attention to the ethical implications of policy proposals. The UN needs mechanisms to express the fundamental interests of all humanity, assisting its member states to see that global sustainability is in their national interest, and raising the level of debate. Decisions that are justified by reference to ethical principles like justice and equity will also have a better chance of receiving the adherence of the peoples of the world in their implementation. In the context of Rio+20, there is a risk that the issue of green economy merely displaces the main questions, failing to acknowledge problems of poor governance, corruption and human and environmental exploitation, rather than going back to core human values of respect for biodiversity, a moral obligation to ensure inter- generational sustainability, and a faith, belief, or rights-based reverence for the relationship between nature, local territories, and the individual's own sense of identity and culture.

## Objectives

To keep ethical principles at the heart of UN governance, and to ensure that decision- makers have available the relevant principles and ethical implications when taking decisions and approving proposals and programmes.

## Activities/Proposals

1. Establish a UN Permanent Forum on Ethics, patterned after the Permanent Forum of Indigenous Peoples, to provide a space for systematic consultation on the ethical implications of issues, proposals and projects before the Security Council, the General Assembly, and other UN organs. Membership would be open to faith-based, spiritual and other organizations of civil society with an ethical focus, that accept the principles of the UN Charter and other instruments, including freedom of conscience for all peoples, and that renounce prejudice, bigotry and violence. Their involvement in UN processes would implicate them more directly in finding constructive solutions.
2. Create a UN Office of Ethical Assessment in the Secretariat, similar in function to the Offices of Technology Assessment that have operated effectively at the national level, to be staffed by experts knowledgeable in the major religious and ethical perspectives, and to draw on outside consultants as necessary. The office would assemble and codify all the ethical principles adopted by intergovernmental processes as the framework for its work. It would prepare reports on the ethical implications of policy-relevant issues at the request of the organs of the UN system, the secretariat, and member governments. It could also provide ethical input to scientific advisory processes. It must be able to operate with complete independence from any political pressure or interference in its work.

## THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

## Basis for Action

The rise of civil society is among the most significant developments of institutional evolution since UNCED. Civil society has developed its engagement on all fronts and at different levels, providing leading forums, pioneering in implementing, advocating for a shift in paradigms, and actively pushing to introduce reforms globally and regionally. Civil society organizations are effective in program design, implementation and monitoring. They have proven experience and success in fundraising for diverse projects, and possess strong advocacy skills. Most manage well and harness local expertise and skills. Indigenous peoples in particular are holders of valuable traditional ecological knowledge which can make an important contribution to sustainable environmental, social and economic policy making. On the monitoring side, civil society organizations have effectively played a watchdog role, worked with and pressured governments, and advocated for more progressive agendas. Civil society reaches from the local to the global level, and is able to leverage linkages and information, and to mobilize ideas and resources across sovereign boundaries. Indeed, it is this adaptation of civil society to leverage the forces of globalization that represents the major opportunity for advancing sustainability globally. The Major Groups defined in Agenda 21, ranging from business and industry to labour to indigenous peoples, have provided a working mechanism for inputs to the Commission on Sustainable Development and other UN processes. It is time to acknowledge their constructive role, and to increase civil society participation in UN processes with greater responsibility and direct engagement in discussion forums. Institutional arrangements for sustainability should capitalize on the unique global capabilities of all the major groups and civil society. The reformed Committee on World Food Security (CFS) under the auspices of the Rome-based UN agencies provides an existing innovative model for civil society participation in decision-making, as do the various industry-specific initiatives to advance sustainability practices throughout entire value-chains within global markets. The UNEP Major Groups and Stakeholders Advisory Group on International Environmental Governance is an example of civil society expert input to intergovernmental processes.

## Objectives

Civil society, including the spectrum of interests represented as UN Major Groups, should be enabled and supported to provide input in its various forms: data collection and analysis, improving management and decision-making processes, reflecting on the role of the various actors, and agenda-setting and policy development. It should advocate for environmental justice, provide expertise and analysis, intellectually challenge government counterparts, mobilize public opinion, and legitimize decision-making mechanisms.

## Activities/Proposals

1. Allow substantive involvement of civil society in discussion and policy-making processes, including granting major group representatives full access and active participation (not only observer status) in international/regional/national conferences and forums, and establishing processes to engage them in negotiations.
2. Develop inclusive and transparent guidelines/standards for civil society engagement in these forums and processes across the UN system and intergovernmental institutions, including special sessions for presentations by civil society.
3. Set up expert advisory groups from civil society at the highest level of UN bodies to participate in policy development.
4. Recognize the major role of civil society in scientific advisory processes, giving weight to scientific expertise (including the social sciences) as well as indigenous and local knowledge with relevance to sustainability.
5. Include civil society representatives regularly in national delegations to intergovernmental deliberations.
6. Implement the principles of transparency and access to information, meaningful opportunities for public participation, especially by parties at interest, and accountability as fundamental elements of institutional arrangements for sustainability, and provide access for civil society parties at interest to effective legal remedies, mediation and dispute settlement mechanisms at the international level, such as a complaint procedure (like at the Human Rights Council) and a dispute resolution mechanism (like at the World

Trade Organization).

7. Support knowledge generation and sharing among key players, civil society and social movements within and across countries.

8. Empower indigenous peoples as stewards of nature, particularly ensuring land rights and using the international system and instruments to constrain behaviour by nation-states and the private sector that is undermining indigenous governance, value systems and sustainability.

9. Create a viable and stable financial mechanism to assist and support the participation in international governance of civil society organizations from the global south and of those constituencies that are most directly affected and might not have the means to participate without encouragement and support.

10. Link the institutional arrangements for sustainability to the educational processes, media and institutions of civil society that play an important role both in building the human and institutional capacity to implement sustainability and in preparing public opinion to support the necessary actions to ensure equity and protect environmental systems and resources.

## LOCAL AND SUB-NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS

### Basis for Action

Local authorities were included as a Major Group of civil society in Agenda 21, but they are governments and have a legitimacy similar to national governments. Since sustainability requires multilevel governance at the local through global levels, the institutional arrangements for sustainability should include a place at the table for all levels of government and not just nation-states. Many cities today have populations and economies larger than most nation-states, and local governments are critical to implementing sustainability. Sub-national governments (regions, provinces, states, cantons, etc.) also have important responsibilities and are closer to their citizens.

### Objectives

To base institutional arrangements for sustainability on a multilevel concept of governance.

### Activities/Proposals

1. Acknowledge that local and sub-national (regional) governments have a democratic legitimacy comparable to national governments and an important role in implementing sustainability. Institutional arrangements for sustainability should include representation of multiple levels of governance including local, sub-national, national, regional and ultimately global levels.

2. Provide concrete mechanisms in local and sub-national governments for civil society and rights holders to participate actively in the development, implementation and monitoring of sustainable development strategies.

## ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND INSTITUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY

### Basis for Action

UNEP was created in 1972 to catalyze the integration of environment into all parts of the UN system. In this it largely succeeded. Today there is a need to integrate sustainability into all parts of the UN system so that they all see sustainable development as part of their fundamental mandate. This will only happen if there is an entity with this catalytic responsibility across the economic, social and environmental dimensions. UNEP success was due in part to the use of the Environment Fund to support other agencies in implementing environmental activities within their areas of responsibility. A similar financial mechanism would facilitate the transition to sustainability today. UNEP would continue to be the environmental voice in the UN system. Also, a new more inclusive approach to national sustainable development strategies is needed, since few countries complied with the recommendations in Agenda 21, and implementation was poor.

### Objectives

To create an entity or process in the UN responsible to advance the pace and coordinate the integration of sustainability into all activities under UN auspices, with a funding mechanism to support this action.

### Activities/Proposals

1. Establish an office, programme or council at a high enough level in the UN structure to influence all parts of the UN system, charged with integrating sustainability into all UN activities through expert advice, review and evaluation, and policy-making.

2. Create a Sustainable Investment Fund supported by innovative financial mechanisms, to provide investment capital for environmentally-responsible and equitable projects of international organizations, regional and national governments and the private sector.

3. Encourage the adoption of global, regional, national and local Sustainability Strategies constructed with input from multistakeholder dialogues, including a comprehensive sustainability and equity vision, and a strategy and pathways how to get there. The strategy could include an analysis of local strengths and weaknesses, external threats and opportunities, as well as local assets. Such a mechanism would foster trust among stakeholders, create a long term perspective, and inspire a positive outlook towards change.

4. Increase the efficiency of multilateral governance by synchronizing and streamlining the number of intergovernmental meetings needed to oversee treaties and agreements, and rationalizing treaty secretariats to improve coherence and optimize financial management.

5. Secure collective commitment for the establishment, at the national level, of offices for Ombudspersons for Future Generations. These independent institutions would be mandated to take part to the assessment of long-term impacts of policies, to seize the justice system in case of projects undermining the position and resources of future generations, and to respond to citizen petitions.

6. Establish an independent office for a High Commissioner for Future Generations within the UN system with both an advisory role with respect to long terms impacts of UN policies and decisions, and a mechanism to respond to citizens' petitions on transboundary and international environmental issues. The office could be assisted by an Intergenerational Assembly to facilitate a global foresight process. It could also enable the establishment of Ombudspersons for Future Generations at the national level, including supporting the capacity of developing countries to implement this proposal and providing a forum for the exchange of best practices.

## INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

### Basis for Action



Institutional arrangements must ensure fair multilateral negotiations, taking into account financial, economic and power asymmetries, moving toward a more coherent principle- and rule-based institutional structure with universal participation. Developing countries' priorities <sup>(a)</sup> meaning an integrated approach to poverty eradication, development and environment <sup>(b)</sup> should figure more prominently and be embedded within sustainability policies, supported by more effective governance. A set of clear and enforceable rules would also ensure that fairness and equity in terms of benefit and burden sharing, guided by the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, are built in and that decision making is based on democratic principles. The obligations of industrialized countries to advance more sustainable production and consumption patterns should also be negotiated, decided and complied with.

Resource consumption, biodiversity loss and climate change are aggravating poverty and instability and reducing options and opportunities for developing countries in the future. The vulnerable, poor, and disempowered peoples cannot rely on market mechanisms, because they cannot invest or discount the future. They need rights to protect their lives and livelihoods. In the present global market economy, the poor will lose out to the rich in the distribution of increasingly scarce resources. Mechanisms for international management of trade in resources for the collective benefit of all peoples and the planet will be the best means to protect the interests of the weak against exploitation by the powerful, and ultimately to ensure the equitable distribution of resources in the common interest. Such management must aim both to reserve adequate resources for poverty reduction and to ensure sustainability for future generations.

Institutions and actions at the regional level can respond more effectively to the specificities and needs of developing countries within their regions. Some regions have organized effectively, as with the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) and some of the Regional Seas Programmes. Africa has struggled to go beyond policy prescriptions to actions by governments for implementation.

#### Activities/Proposals

1. Ensure that the rules of procedure for intergovernmental processes in the institutional arrangements for sustainability protect the rights and clarify the responsibilities of all nations as an expression of global solidarity, while ensuring that planetary requirements for sustainability take precedence over limited national interests.
2. Strengthen the capacity of countries of the South to implement effective sustainability policies, in particular with regards to the rule of law, through technical assistance and advocacy of justice and rights, and ensure integration of environmental considerations therein.
3. Integrate global environmental objectives in national sustainable development and poverty eradication strategies, with assistance from the UN to developing countries to move effectively towards a sustainable development path that integrates economic progress, social progress and equity, and environmental protection.
4. Launch a process to consider the implications of essential resource (including food and energy) shortages and price volatility on the poor, and to explore mechanisms to ensure access to the requirements for life regardless of ability to pay, while stimulating local subsistence activities and job creation.
5. Provide a supportive international framework for regional programmes, conventions and intergovernmental organizations, and ensure that they have a place alongside nation- states in the institutional arrangements for sustainability.

### SCIENCE AND DECISION-MAKING

#### Basis for Action

The deep gap between scientific rationality and political expediency is often perceived to be great. Yet the best available scientific understanding of the planet and its environmental and socio-political processes is an essential foundation for decision-making at all levels of governance. The scientific questions need to be developed in cooperation with developing countries, and with as much input and involvement as possible of their scientists, including social scientists and holders of traditional knowledge. A responsive scientific assessment component in institutional arrangements for sustainability will help improve the capacity of developing countries to understand, manage, conserve and sustainably utilize their human resources and environmental systems, especially their natural ecosystems, the impacts of climate change, and the poverty/environment nexus. Committed North-South cooperation in a global research network and scientific assessment can both compensate for the often- weak scientific infrastructure in developing countries by providing collective access to scientific information, and assist in reducing the knowledge gap by building capacity for environmental assessment and reporting in all regions. It should facilitate access of developing countries to appropriate scientific knowledge, technologies and policy responses that respond to their specific needs and situations, and be supported by stable financial and technical components.

#### Objectives

To ensure that action for sustainability is supported by the best scientific advice available, at all levels of governance.

#### Activities/Proposals

1. Establish a UN Office of Technology Assessment advisory to the UN General Assembly, with independent status and funding, to conduct research, investigate trends and make future studies, to trace present and future consequences of technological innovations like geoengineering, biotechnology, new materials, information and communication technology, etc., and to translate these studies into policy recommendations.
2. In all international scientific assessments, implement transparent selection processes for the best natural and social scientists, ethicists, and holders of environmental and human dimensions knowledge, with disclosure of any affiliations, and apply procedures to arrive at the best consensus or peer-reviewed scientific information.
3. Create a UN mechanism similar to the UN Statistical Commission to establish criteria for all international scientific review and assessment processes, to verify their methodologies, and to build national capacity to participate in such assessments.
4. Ensure that scientific assessments build to a fully integrated assessment of planetary sustainability, including systematic reporting on the main environmental and human dimensions challenges and constraints, incorporating existing assessments but also considering the interactions among all environmental systems and human impacts.

### GOVERNANCE BEYOND NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY

#### Basis for Action

Areas beyond national sovereignty, including the high seas and the atmosphere, are subject to some of the most extreme forms of unsustainable use, including overfishing and atmospheric pollution. Global trade and wide-ranging fishing fleets have rendered regional fishing agreements inadequate. Discussions of individual moratoria on technologies posing grave threats to the planet and the people (such as geoengineering), without sufficient technology assessment or global agreement on their implementation, demonstrate the need for an institutional framework for assessment and governance of these areas. The development of mechanisms for collective international responsibility and governance of the global commons, with due respect to the precautionary principle, would not infringe on national sovereignty and could begin to build confidence in operational management of resources by global institutions in the common interest.

## Objectives

To establish an international mechanism for governance of global commons issues not already subject to global processes, to complement the present governance by nation-states and to fill the gaps in existing international arrangements.

## Activities/Proposals

1. Building on the Law of the Sea, establish a coherent global mechanism for the regulation of ocean fisheries mandated to reduce fishing pressure to the capacity of the resource, and ultimately to restoring the productivity of the seas. The mechanism should include provisions for high seas marine protected areas, and for environmental impact assessment and regulation of activities such as seabed mineral extraction beyond national jurisdictions.
2. Build on the moratoria on geoengineering, ocean fertilization and Terminator technology agreed at the CBD by establishing an objective international procedure for technology assessment for proposals with potential planetary impact, coupled with a mechanism within the UN for collective approval of the testing and implementation of such technologies, and a requirement for international insurance of the risks of adverse consequences. The mechanism could be an Office of Technology Assessment advisory to the General Assembly, or a rejuvenated UN Centre on Science and Technology for Development.
3. Seek the opinion of the International Court of Justice on whether manipulating the environment through geoengineering could be in violation of the Environmental Modification Treaty of 1978, or whether a new legal framework is required.
4. Complement the scientific and technological assessment of new technologies with social and economic assessments of winners and losers from the application of such technologies, and wide public consultation with affected groups and civil society.

## Advocates for Youth

The world population reached 7 billion this year and forty-three percent of those 7 billion are under the age of 25. Today's generation of young people is the largest in history and as a result they have a critical role to play in adapting to climate change, helping mitigate the impact, and engaging governments, the private sector, civil society, and other stakeholders to set targets for a sustainable future.

Climate change has a disproportionate impact on women, particularly young women. In low and middle income countries, adolescent girls and women account for more than half the agricultural labor force and are also the primary stewards for collecting water and fuel. This heavy involvement in resource management greatly increases the risks for women and girls when their environmental stability is threatened. For example, women must walk farther to collect water, work harder to produce crops from dry soil, and cope with various natural disasters such as drought and flooding in addition to disease. Access to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) education, information and services is an effective mechanism to mitigate the impacts of climate change in the context of ensuring sustainable development.

Worldwide there are about 215 million women with an unmet need for contraception. In some areas, young women between the ages of 15 and 19 are twice as unlikely to have access to contraception. Lack of access to family planning and reproductive health services and information can have severe negative outcomes. Annually, there are about 53 million unintended pregnancies and for young women aged 15 to 19, pregnancy is the leading cause of death with complications of childbirth and unsafe abortion being the major factors. When women and young girls are empowered to manage the timing of their childbearing, they will be able to invest in more resources and in their children. As such, investing in young people and their reproductive health and gender equality can help put countries on a path to accelerated economic growth and equitable development.

Using recent data on emission, program effectiveness, and program costs, climate change economists found that responding to the unmet need for family planning and supporting girls' education was much less costly than low-carbon energy development options, including solar, wind, and nuclear power, second-generation biofuels, and carbon capture and storage. Family planning and girls' education programs were found to be cost-competitive with forest conservation and other improvements in forestry and agricultural practices. In addition, empowering women would reduce carbon emission significantly, providing eight to fifteen percent of the reductions needed to avert climate change. Furthermore, for every \$1 (USD) spent on international family planning efforts, governments save up to \$31 in health care, water, education, housing and other costs because women who are in good health are better able to get the education and resources they need to provide for themselves and their families.

Meeting the SRHR needs of young people around the world can contribute to comprehensive strategies to combat the effects of climate change as well as ensure sustainable development for a greener future.

As such, we strongly recommend the following:

- Make sexual and reproductive health and rights, particularly among youth, a sectoral priority to renew commitments from governments, the private sector, and civil societies.
- Invest in rights and evidence-based comprehensive sexuality education and youth-friendly sexual and reproductive health services to support young people's ability to make informed responsible decisions about their sexual and reproductive health.
- Challenge the global architecture of climate change, and its technology focus, and shift the discussion to a more human rights-based adaptation approach. Such a strategy would better serve the range of issues pivotal to improving the health of women worldwide and thus helping lead to a sustainable future.
- Ensure meaningful youth participation in the planning, design, and implementation of program and policies, especially those relevant to SRHR, climate change, and sustainable development.

The following organizations, in partnership with Advocates for Youth, support this document:

Abibimman Foundation, Ghana

Animal Concerns and Awareness Club, Philippines

Brotherhood of Destiny, Inc., Philippines

Jamaica Youth Advocacy Network

Noble Missions for Change Initiative (NMI), Nigeria

Youth Against Debt Eastern Visayas, Philippines

## African Council of Touring and Automobile

The African Council for Touring and Automobile (ACTA) is a regional body under the auspices of the FIA that represents members of automobile, touring and motoring organizations within the continent. One of the main objectives is road safety, which affects all member countries with devastating effects in varying degrees.

Road safety is a serious concern globally, a major public health problem, a leading cause of disability with an estimated 1.5 million people dying every year and 50 million injuries. The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) will be reversed by the predictable and avoidable violent deaths on our roads, which is more pronounced in low and middle income countries where political will to recognize and address the problem, lack of resources retards any meaningful progress. As an essential component of sustainable development, developing countries must begin to recognize the need to prioritize road safety in the interest of a sustainable transport system.

The Rio+20 conference can play a significant role in laying the ground work for continued support and incorporation in all international meetings in future, as there is now a wide recognition that road traffic injuries are a public health issue and a development challenge that needs to be addressed. In doing so there will be benefits not only of addressing the road carnage but also tackling climate change and working towards the Millennium Development Goals.

Until road safety is integrated into the mainstream of sustainability policy, millions of people will be condemned to unnecessary and preventable violent, painful deaths. This is why it is so important that action to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport is included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference.

The urgency of the interventions is demonstrated by the UN Secretary General in his address to the UN General Assembly, when he stated as follows, "Recognition is growing about the critical development and public health challenge posed by road traffic deaths and injuries. I call all member states, international agencies, civil society organization, businesses and community leaders to ensure that the Decade of Action for Road Safety leads to real improvements."

## African Wildlife Foundation (AWF)

### A. Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20

The African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) recognizes the stated objective of the Conference - to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, and assess the progress to date and implementation gaps of targets from WSSD, and the underpinning themes for the conference - (i) green economy in the context of sustainable development and (ii) institutional frameworks for sustainable development. In order for a meaningful roadmap to be achieved at Rio+20, AWF expects the following outcomes:

- Recognition of the accelerating scale of threat to global sustainability and the urgent need for all actors to commit to changing patterns of consumption, resource use, income inequality, population growth and other key drivers of unsustainability.
- Member States and Major Group commitment to recognize the need to replicate, scale up and speed up implementation of the multiple successful sustainable development initiatives that have been tried and tested since WSSD, for which lessons will be shared at Rio+20.
- All constituencies of WSSD continue to build global experience of pathways to sustainable development by identifying and disseminating tested and working implementation models and toolkits that can be rolled out to address the three pillars of sustainable development in priority sectors, notably land use, agriculture, water, forests, energy, protected areas and climate change.
- Member States, the UN, IGOs and Major Groups ensure their actions and investments deliver standards and practices required to achieve sustainable development, and penalize actions which do not deliver such standards and practices.
- All constituencies work together in implementation partnerships that build on clearly defined roles for local, national, international and non-State actors in ways that create synergies for financing, skills development and technology transfer. The frameworks should enhance north-north (N-N), north-south (N-S), south-south (S-S), transatlantic, developed-developing world, SIDS and LDCs collaboration.
- Member States, Major Groups and IGOs ensure that the issue of equitable benefit sharing is addressed holistically to encourage the developed world to offer green growth technologies and fairer access to markets, and give real incentives to developing countries to safeguard the ecosystem services that benefit the global community.
- Member States agree to a definition of the term 'green economy' which encompasses more than a 'low carbon economy', and is instead framed in terms of an economic system which maintains and restores ecosystem services, human well-being and social equity.

### B. Comments on existing proposals and views on implementation approaches

The documented lessons learned from actions implemented since WSSD in Johannesburg point to challenges to achievement of set targets. AWF notes the good, though somewhat ad hoc, achievements of specific initiatives, particularly those focusing on the advancement of energy efficient technologies and reduction of fossil fuel consumption, as well as those to promote sustainable agriculture. The implementation arrangements – of policy, financing and institutional partnerships - that drive documented successes need to be disseminated and replicated in order to speed and scale up achievement of the three pillars of sustainable development in an integrated manner. Recognizing the integrated nature of the challenges we face, and the value of bringing diverse views to the table when creating solutions, AWF supports the establishment of 'smart partnerships' that combine a conducive policy regime, appropriate financing mechanisms and the right skills and technology set as key to the achievement of the thematic goals of Rio+20. It is imperative that the public, private and local community sectors come together in partnerships for joint initiatives with costs and benefits for such interventions being equitably shared. Furthermore, the N-S, S-S, and other partnerships that bring developing & developed working partners together will help with technology transfer and breaking the digital divide.

More importantly, the role of developed economies (USA, Europe, Japan), emerging and fast growing economies (China, India, Brazil, South Korea, South Africa, etc), and developing economies (Africa, SIDS, etc) should be clearly defined and each 'partner' should be accountable for deliverables commensurate to their capacity to provide financial, natural capital or both. The threats to sustainability are global and the entire global community needs to take action in order to curb the unintended negative consequences through coordinated sustainable development approaches to green economic development. Another critical tier for partnerships is the multilateral international financial institutions (IFIs) that fund sustainable development programs. IFIs should ensure their investments are enabling the transition to an economy which maintains and restores ecological systems, human well being and social equity.

### C. Partnership arrangements and implementation tools for successful sustainable development actions

AWF emphasizes and recommends the need for strategic partnerships that bring together actors that have complementary (not competing) competencies re: conservation and development agencies; public and private sector actors; local, national and international actors. The past has been characterized by poorly coordinated actions, and by unbalanced participation among national versus international actors. As such, it has been difficult to systematically measure the cumulative impact of these dispersed

sustainable development initiatives on the environment or on poverty reduction.

AWF believes that there are now many examples of how to address the key issues of the priority green economy sectors of sustainable energy, food security and sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, climate change mitigation & adaptation, and biodiversity conservation. But existing success stories remain the exception, rather than the rule. For a complete transition to a green economy, the post- Rio+20 period must usher in an era of better coordinated and targeted financing, smart partnerships for implementation, transparent benefit sharing mechanisms.

## Agora Partnerships

Overview: Agora Partnerships

At Agora Partnerships, we envision a future that harnesses the latent power of the world's best early stage entrepreneurs to grow businesses that can fight humanity's most intractable problems: Poverty, inequality and degradation to our ecosystem.

Our mission is to create a dynamic, global community of impact investors, volunteers, supporters, and exceptional small business entrepreneurs united around one goal – to accelerate the growth of small businesses in poor countries that have the most potential to create positive change for their communities and the world.

We believe in human potential for good. We believe the world needs more innovation and more companies focused on people, profit, and planet. We believe that people with optimism and purpose are the world's most important resource.

We identify and support these people – regardless of background or connections – who represent society's greatest chance of converting opportunity into economic and social progress. We help them at the most critical time when they need it most – at the early stages of their careers when they are poised for growth.

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image\]](#)

Our approach to development is different from traditional project-based, centrally planned approaches. We use technology, social and professional networks, and market signaling to connect entrepreneurs with the social, human, and financial capital they need to create a more sustainable world.

"Human Potential + Capital = Impact" is the equation that guides our work.

We look at impact in terms of social value generation (jobs, products or services that make lives better, economic growth, power of role models) and environmental impact (low carbon footprint, taking into account future generations in business decisions.)

Human potential means focusing our efforts on people with the vision, leadership and execution ability to make a positive difference in their communities. Capital is the fuel that unleashes potential.

There are three important kinds of capital all entrepreneurs' need. First, growth capital from private investment – this is key and there is very little of it in the developing world for early-stage businesses. Second, social capital –the relationships that support an individual or community, including the cultural norms and values that inform these relationships. Third, human capital – the knowledge, skills and understanding leaders and teams use to make the day-to-day decisions that lead to success. When capital is brought to entrepreneurs who can use it to attack social problems it creates tremendous impact at very little cost to the public.

At our core (and in our name) we recognize the most effective and efficient way to create long-term, scalable impact is through "partnerships". In our history, Agora has incorporated hundreds of partners in the field of entrepreneurship development, social entrepreneurship promotion, impact investing, and social and economic development. Agora is a proud founding member of the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE), whose 120+ membership body has been instrumental in shaping an agenda for Impact Investors and technical assistance providers of Small and Growing Businesses (Sibs). We have consulted and worked with other organizations at the cutting edge of thinking about entrepreneurship and development, including the Clinton Global Initiative; the Draper Richards Kaplan Network; Ashoka; the Aspen Global Leaders Network; the Yale World Fellows Program; the BMW Young Leaders network; the Latin American Angel Association network; and the Young Global Leaders network of the World Economic Forum. Literally thousands of organizations, entrepreneurs, students, investors, and policy makers have contributed to building Agora Partnerships' thinking, culture, and scope of work.

For Rio we propose the Agora Accelerator Program.

### Agora Accelerator Program

The Agora Accelerator is an intensive, 6-month program designed to give outstanding small businesses poised for expansion access to the social, human, and financial capital needed to accelerate their growth. It includes workshops, seminars, consulting, and mentoring in a variety of areas ranging from leadership development, to marketing, to investor pitch development, and culminates in an Impact Investor Conference giving participating entrepreneurs the opportunity to pitch to impact investors.

Agora's Accelerator program builds on our work in ecosystem development and impact investment. The program's mission is to help small companies in extremely poor, risky, not particularly entrepreneurial environments – the kinds of places that scare away traditional investors or would-be entrepreneurs – but that desperately need more innovative businesses.

We find the best, early stage impact entrepreneurs in Central America and Mexico and work to help them grow their business, attract growth capital, and maximize their positive impact on the world.

The Accelerator Program is designed to execute with these specific strategies:

- 1) Enhance impact entrepreneurs' opportunities for growth success by
  - a. Serving as a sustainable business leadership platform through coaching them on measuring social impact
  - b. Customizing the program to meet their development needs
  - c. Rigorously preparing them to meet investor expectations for due diligence
- 2) Build a self-sustaining community of impact entrepreneurs, mentors, partners, and impact investors by
  - a. Actively recruiting and engaging community members in mentoring, knowledge-sharing, coaching, and networking

b. Facilitating the development of long-term relationships between community members

3) Create a strong bridge between impact entrepreneurs and impact investors by

a. Serving as a capital-raising platform for entrepreneurs and as a pipeline for investors

b. Effectively matching entrepreneurs with investors

c. Remaining engaged post-investment through monitoring social impact and the investment relationship

4) Through the Agora Venture Fund (AVF), the first early-stage impact investment fund in Latin America and through our partnership with Thrive Capital, provide direct access to financing to the best Impact Entrepreneurs. Through these Capital initiatives, we are committed to growing the field of early stage impact investing and using our investor network to constantly improve the Accelerator Program.

Agora Accelerator Companies and Impact Entrepreneur Examples

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image\]](#)

Agora Entrepreneurs have the vision, leadership, and execution skills to lead fast-growing, competitive companies in some of the poorest regions of the Western Hemisphere. What makes them different from mom and pop businesses, or even regular high growth companies, is their commitment to impact. Agora Entrepreneurs run companies that solve social problems. Their hope is to create something much bigger than themselves – something that can materially make people's lives better. They are bringing light to those without electricity and sustainable housing to those whose homes have been destroyed, or developing organic pesticide solutions that hold the promise of revolutionizing the region's agricultural sector and supply chains that preserve and enhance the region's resources. They do these things because they're the right things to do and because it's also good business. We support them because they represent a more efficient method to combat the scourges of poverty, inequality, and climate change than any other method we have seen.

Agora Entrepreneurs participate in the Accelerator program, measure IRIS-based social and/or environmental metrics, publicly report on them, and will be among the first entrepreneurs to be rated by the Global Impact Investing Reporting Standards (GIIRS).

Companies in the Agora Accelerator generate social impact with a productivity and efficiency rarely seen in traditional development programs. That's because Accelerator companies use the power of business to align market forces in ways that deliver impact – helping customers buy products that help local communities, creating jobs and opportunities for people struggling to feed their families, delivering products and services – like housing or solar power – that dramatically improve people's lives.

One such company is CO2 Bambu. For marginalized populations living in Nicaragua's most remote areas, living conditions are poor and stable housing is difficult to come by. To fill this void of adequate shelter, CO2 Bambu constructs sustainable housing using bamboo as the primary raw material. Maintaining bamboo farms as a means of capturing carbon is an integral part of their operations. In doing so, the organization creates a triple-bottom line model, creating economic, social and environmental good. In addition to addressing a greater portion of the base-of-the-pyramid housing market in Latin America, CO2 Bambu are also demonstrating themselves to be a reliable partner in post-disaster reconstruction efforts, most specifically now by securing contracts in Haiti.

What keeps Agora, and the Accelerator program going, are the powerful mission-driven entrepreneurs, such as Ben Sandzer-Bell, founder of CO2Bambu, that bring business and social good together to create positive change. Another example of such entrepreneurs are Manuel and Juan, founders of Quetsol, who are motivated by the implication access to power has in terms of safety, business productivity and education, for those who, until now, have lacked it.

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image\]](#)

Quetsol is providing renewable energy solutions (primarily solar-based) to the poorest, most remote regions of Guatemala – communities that would otherwise lack access to electricity. Through innovative products and the latest technology, Quetsol satisfies energy needs in a sustainable manner at a lower economic, environmental, and social cost. Quetsol aims to bring light to the massive number of Guatemalan homes still without and then expand into other Latin American countries, where market and distribution dynamics are fairly similar.

At Agora Partnerships we believe that the single best way to fight poverty and inequality is to invest in such companies as the two introduced here – companies with good business practices that are deliberately addressing social and environmental problems, and to support such entrepreneurs who have the vision, leadership, and execution skills to lead fast-growing, competitive companies in some of the poorest regions of the Western Hemisphere.

By providing holistic and integrated support, including using technology and social networking, Agora works to promote investment and education, and provide visibility and support to businesses that can drive sustainable development in their communities. Through programs such as the Accelerator, Agora is changing how people access opportunity in the world's poorest countries and is accelerating the emergence of a strong community of successful impact entrepreneurs in Central America.

Areas where governments could help move the needle

There has been extensive research done around the world by such prestigious organizations such as the Kaufmann Foundation, ANDE, Technoserve, the Rockefeller Foundation, and others around the role governments can play to help promote a Culture of Entrepreneurship, and stimulate a dynamic entrepreneurial environment where financing and technical assistance are available. This is usually through a combination of public-private partnerships, business and industry group liaisons with public policy makers, and larger private sector groups, both foreign and domestic, that incorporate SGBs into their supply chains. Agora Partnerships has extensive networks of these organizations that have participated in this dialogue around the world and looks forward to making them an active part of this dialogue.

We are prepared to propose a group of people whose involvement can shape a dialogue focused on concrete actions to be suggested to a group of policy-makers and governments.

Some macro areas of support may include:

Promoting a Culture of Entrepreneurship

Small and growing businesses in developing countries are crucial for providing employment, building supply chains, and spurring local consumption. However, a variety of factors, including closed business and social networks, and limited resources, often make it difficult to launch new ventures in the communities that most need them.

Problems of scale and risk have prevented the SGB sector from growing and created the "missing middle" – composed of small businesses that are too large for microfinance and too small for commercial bank loans. Agora Partnerships has worked tirelessly to understand the scale and risk problems, and has proposed concrete solutions like the Accelerator program, to attack these issues head-on. Much more work is needed, however, to scale these solutions to target markets across the SGB spectrum, as well as

geographically. Governments need to understand that initiatives promoting the growth of start-up and early stage enterprises require more than just good policies at promoting exports, promoting macro-economic stability, or promoting foreign direct investment. One key issue to accept is the fact that some of these policies themselves are inherently risky, and do not always meet success themselves; creating a tolerance and positive feedback loop where failure happens is a systemic change that needs to occur. Israel, Colombia, Uruguay, and Chile are fantastic examples where government led initiatives have been key in stimulating early-stage business development.

In creating an environment where entrepreneurship can flourish, it is also important to celebrate entrepreneurial role models, particularly for women and under represented groups, and to create more support networks for entrepreneurs.<sup>1</sup> An example of such a form of celebration is The Sustainable Business Leadership Prize – LIDERES – that was launched in Nicaragua by Agora and various key partners to inspire a new generation of local impact entrepreneurs and investors. LiderEs celebrates impact entrepreneurs who, through their businesses, create social or environmental value for their community. Winners receive capital, media exposure, and free strategy consulting to increase their impact. Similar initiatives to celebrate entrepreneurship could be developed all over the world and could greatly benefit from government support and involvement.

Lastly, developing programs to teach children and adults of all ages about enterprise also plays a key role in fostering an entrepreneurial spirit.<sup>2</sup> In Latin America, where the majority of the students attend public universities, policy-makers need to ensure that state-run universities are committed to a strategy to foster entrepreneurship.<sup>3</sup> Other institutions including technical training institutes, private foundations, business chambers, and civil society organizations must also become engaged in activities that nurture entrepreneurship.<sup>4</sup>

There are various ways in which governments could help support the advancement of small and growing businesses. Initiatives might be most effective in focusing on helping generate, and provide access to capital for growth both in terms of financial, as well as human and social capital.

#### Financial Capital

One approach to addressing the existing lack of access to financial capital is the development of new early-stage sources of capital, and more alternatives to the traditional commercial banks, offering both loan finance and support.<sup>5</sup>

A successful example of one such government initiative is the K (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau), a German development bank with a long experience in financing SMEs in Germany. 80 percent of its capital is owned by the German national and regional governments. It is one of the biggest providers of capital to MFIs and runs two key initiatives that indirectly help bring affordable capital to SMEs in the developing world.<sup>6</sup>

Another important component of this area is ensuring that the fiscal system is both stable and predictable, and that it does not disadvantage small companies, but aims

<sup>1</sup> “Encouraging social and commercial entrepreneurship: What can governments do?. Proceedings of the second World Entrepreneurship Forum Lyon, November 2009

<sup>2</sup> “Encouraging social and commercial entrepreneurship: What can governments do?. Proceedings of the second World Entrepreneurship Forum Lyon, November 2009

<sup>3</sup> Kantis, Hugo., Masahiko Ishida, and Masahiko Komori. “Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies: The Creation and Development of New Firms in Latin America and East Asia”. Inter-American Development Bank. March 2002

<sup>4</sup> Kantis, Hugo., Masahiko Ishida, and Masahiko Komori. “Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies: The Creation and Development of New Firms in Latin America and East Asia”. Inter-American Development Bank. March 2002

<sup>5</sup> “Encouraging social and commercial entrepreneurship: What can governments do?. Proceedings of the second World Entrepreneurship Forum Lyon, November 2009

<sup>6</sup> White, Jonathan M., Glenn Yago, and Daniela Roveda. “Transatlantic Innovations in Affordable Capital for Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises: Prospects for Market-Based Development Finance”. The German Marshall Fund of the United States. October 2007.

to use tax incentives to encourage them instead.<sup>7</sup> New businesses can have easier access to working capital through deferrals or exemptions from tax payments during the early years of operations.<sup>8</sup> Tax incentives can also be effective in encouraging venture capital to invest in new firms and to encourage the creation of networks of informal private investors.<sup>9</sup>

The Inter-American Development Bank also identifies the following “instruments that can be used to reduce the financing difficulties that entrepreneurs face when starting a new business:

- Reforms can be made in the capital markets to make it easier for venture capitalists to recover their investments.
- Systems to reduce the imbalances in the information available to investors are needed.
- The costs of bankruptcy can be reduced by means of guaranteed loans and restructuring opportunities for new businesses.”<sup>10</sup>

#### Human and Social Capital

While restricted access to financial capital has been widely acknowledged as one of the major barriers to growth for SGBs, there is still another major challenge, which may be less obvious but just as problematic: access to talent.

Finding great talent is an enormous challenge in poor countries where the workforce has not had the opportunity to get an advanced education. As an early-stage entrepreneur, assembling a team that will be able to help you accomplish your mission and drive your business can be a major constraint to growth. Even finding the right professional talent can be difficult – lawyers, accountants, bankers, mentors, entrepreneur peers, (affordable) strategy consultants – all of whom are key players in early stage entrepreneurship.

This area of developing, and enabling access to human and social capital covers a wide range of potential government action, including the formal education system<sup>11</sup>, networks of advice centers designed to encourage the growth of small businesses<sup>12</sup> and the acquisition and development of talent to drive entrepreneurship.

One part of the solution could be creating talent funds where governments would subsidize a third party to bring talent to an organization as capital for growth, as

<sup>7</sup> “Encouraging social and commercial entrepreneurship: What can governments do?. Proceedings of the second World Entrepreneurship Forum Lyon, November 2009

<sup>8</sup> Kantis, Hugo., Masahiko Ishida, and Masahiko Komori. “Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies: The Creation and Development of New Firms in Latin America and East Asia”. Inter-American Development Bank. March 2002

<sup>9</sup> Kantis, Hugo., Masahiko Ishida, and Masahiko Komori. "Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies: The Creation and Development of New Firms in Latin America and East Asia". Inter-American Development Bank. March 2002

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<sup>11</sup> "Encouraging social and commercial entrepreneurship: What can governments do?". Proceedings of the second World Entrepreneurship Forum Lyon, November 2009

<sup>12</sup> "Encouraging social and commercial entrepreneurship: What can governments do?". Proceedings of the second World Entrepreneurship Forum Lyon, November 2009

opposed to investing financial capital. This third party actor takes on a risk by bringing top talent to a company that could not afford such talent on their own. However, in this proposed scenario, if the talent performs, the talent investor realizes a payback based on the achievement of previously agreed upon performance milestones. Meanwhile, the company has the benefit of working with top talent at an early stage of the business, and thereby has more of a chance to grow to a point where they are able to attract the right talent without a third party actor.

Labor laws also play a key role in the development of local talent and potential entrepreneurs. Laws should be designed to allow for efficient hiring and firing to enable optimization of talent acquisition, retention and development. They should also grant motivated individuals access to quality part-time employment and even volunteering opportunities to start developing their skill set at an early age and despite time constraints such as simultaneously pursuing an education, raising a family, etc

#### Building the field of Impact Investing

Agora Partnerships has been committed from day one to building the field of Impact Entrepreneurship promotion and Impact Investing as key parts of an economic and social development strategy. With our support of over 4000 SGBs and millions of dollars of capital attracted to the sector, we have a wide range of experiences to contribute. More importantly, we are blessed to have built the global partnerships to propose action-oriented policies, and help local partners execute those policies.

Examples include the Agora Venture Fund (AVF); the Agora Accelerator Program; the founding of the Aspen Network of Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE); and the ecosystem development undertaken with USAID and Technoserve in Nicaragua to help launch and grow new and early stage ventures with social impact.

Programs such as AVF and Thrive have made significant contributions. AVF has made perhaps the smallest equity investments of any fund in Latin America – as small as \$25,000. Average annual sales for AVF companies at the time of investment are less than \$200,000 with an average entrepreneur salary of about \$12,000. The AVF has made a total of 11 investments in companies ranging from foot clinics to vegetable processing to shoe manufacturing.

Thrive is a unique and innovative program that makes interest-free loans to small businesses in the "missing middle" – too large for microfinance and too small for commercial bank loans. These loans are strictly allocated toward the purchase of machinery and equipment. Recipient businesses repay Thrive loans not in cash, but rather by donating in-kind products, services, and vocational training to the poor in their communities. The average loan disbursed is slightly less than \$10,00, but the effect of the loan is enormous: on average, entrepreneurs hire 95% more employees after the loan is made.

The Thrive program is overseen and funded by the Arthur B. Schultz Foundation, who enlists field partners to disburse and monitor the loans. The partnership with Agora was formed in 2010, and in the last 12 months, Agora disbursed funds to five companies, and is anticipating extending funds to 10-12 new small businesses in the near future.

#### Recent Agora Accomplishments

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this Graph\]](#)

#### Accelerator Program Results

The first Accelerator in 2010 saw 9 companies as participants with total sales of over \$2.5M in 2010 (averaging at \$276,000). While in 2010, their companies were totaling 250 employees; the projected number of total employees for 2013 is 600 or more. The entrepreneurs were seeking a total investment of more than \$4.2M. Within 48 hours of the first annual Accelerator Investor Conference, the Accelerator had helped catalyze over \$3.5M in potential impact investments, and every investor who participated in the investor conference began performing due diligence on at least one of the companies presented.

The inaugural class of the Accelerator was composed of companies from four Central American countries, with the majority being located in Nicaragua. While their background and industry focuses varied, their intentions to grow their bottom lines while having a social impact in their communities are consistent.

Social metrics for the Accelerator 2010 captured salary increases, trees planted, KW/hrs produced with renewable energy, women and children impacted, low-income populations served, bank accounts opened, environmentally-friendly homes built, water saved and waste recycled.

#### Enterprise Development: Strategy, Networks, and Capital

- Business Consulting, Coaching, and Advice: Over 60 businesses received indepth, professional consulting, including 30 ventures matched to 213 volunteer business consultants, and over 300 entrepreneurs received coaching and advice. Over 30% of all entrepreneurs receiving support are female.
- Business Creation: 8 new businesses launched after consulting.
- Access to Growth Capital: 18 Agora-supported companies received financing, 8 directly from AVF and 10 from third party sources. Agora has attracted over \$700,000 in growth capital to small businesses in Nicaragua.
- Sustainable Business Growth: 83% of start-ups resulting from Agora's process were still functioning one year after launch and 91% of firms that received consulting from Agora increased sales in the last year. 64% of firms saw their sales increase by over 20%.
- Job Creation: An estimated 500 full-time jobs have been directly created or sustained by Agora-supported businesses (52% women, 48% men). Overall, over 1,000 indirect jobs have been created or sustained by suppliers and distributors of Agora- supported companies.
- Wealth creation: 51% average increase in profits in firms receiving consulting from Agora and a 36% increase in average wages in Agora portfolio firms.

#### Education: Creating a Culture of Entrepreneurship

- MBA Support: Over 200 MBA consultants have logged more than 10,000 consulting hours with Agora entrepreneurs. Additionally, Agora has hosted 18 summer associates and fellows in Nicaragua and 35 summer associates, interns, and volunteers in D.C.

- Seminars: Provided 53 entrepreneurship promotion and education events on topics such as corporate social responsibility, “how to position your brand”, “venture capital as an alternative source of finance”. Over 2,800 entrepreneurs have attended these events.

- Media Outreach: Developed Spanish language website and videos to educate entrepreneurs. Locally, Agora has promoted a culture of entrepreneurship through 70+ local, Spanish language media appearances and news articles. Internationally, Agora promoted entrepreneurship in Nicaragua through media coverage in publications such as Business Week and the Miami Herald.

- Business Competitions: Partnered with Citi Foundation, SNV, AVINA, TechnoServe and others to sponsor the LiderES business contest, the first prize for sustainable business leadership in Nicaragua. Agora has also been a key partner of Idea Tu Empresa, a TechnoServe-run business plan competition with over 400 participants in 5 years. Additionally, Agora staff members have served as judges and mentors in 8 business plan competitions for small and growing businesses.

#### Building the Field

- Partnerships: Globally, Agora has played a central role in advancing the burgeoning community of organizations committed to development through entrepreneurship: Agora is represented on the Executive Committee of the Aspen Network for Development Entrepreneurs (ANDE); and with its colleagues, has participated in and presented a commitment to the Clinton Global Initiative. Agora is a proud partner of USAID, TechnoServe, the Rockefeller Foundation, and the Draper Richards Foundation, and has collaborated extensively with the Argidius Foundation.

- Network Building: Agora has also worked to develop networks and support systems among entrepreneurs within Central America. With support from ANDE’s Capacity Development Fund, Agora helped design and execute the first annual ANDE Latin America Conference to build the movement for small and growing businesses. Co-founder Ricardo Terán is a fellow in the Central America Leadership Initiative (CALI), giving Agora very strong connections to business and non-profit leaders in the region. Agora has also collaborated with Link Angel Investor Network in Costa Rica and “First Tuesday’s”, an entrepreneur network in El Salvador. Agora recently founded the Women’s Entrepreneur Experience Exchange, which is working to create a strong network of female entrepreneurs. Agora is also an active leader in Nicaraguan Young Entrepreneurs Association and Empeñe Nicaragua, a network of universities, non-profits and government institutions promoting entrepreneurship in Nicaragua. Agora participated on the planning committee of the Pathways to Prosperity Women’s Entrepreneurship Conference, hosted by the US State Department in Washington, DC, and organized and moderated the “access to finance” panel. With City’s support, Agora will also be able to collaborate with Centro Empresarial Pellas on entrepreneur initiatives that promote business development in Nicaragua and strengthen entrepreneurship locally, particularly in the Tourism sector.

- B-Lab Sponsorship: Agora is a founding B Corporation. B Lab created a comprehensive assessment tool to evaluate a firm’s social and environmental impact on each of its stakeholders. Agora teamed up with the Rockefeller Foundation to adapt B-Lab’s method to small firms in developing countries.

Raising Awareness: Since its inception, Agora co-founder Ben Powell has been awarded the Dalberg I-Qube Award for innovation, impact, and inspiration in the development field; testified before the U.S. Congress on Poverty and Inequality in the Americas; and been profiled as an innovator in Milken Institute report “Transatlantic Innovations in Affordable Capital for Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises: Prospects for Market-Based Development Finance;” Co-founder Ricardo Terán has been selected as a finalist for the John P. McNulty Prize, which awards young leaders making lasting change in their communities.

#### Annex 1: Entrepreneur Spotlight:

##### Examples of Successful Impact Entrepreneurs – Agora Accelerator Program

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image\]](#)

#### Annex II Works Cited

Kantis, Hugo., Masahiko Ishida, and Masahiko Komori. “Entrepreneurship in Emerging Economies: The Creation and Development of New Firms in Latin America and East Asia”. Inter-American Development Bank. March 2002

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## AIIESEC International

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

The Rio+20 Outcome Document should include special paragraph related to “Education for Sustainable Development”. Especially, it should be focused on Higher Professional Education - University’s mission and activity.

The Outcome Document should highlight the necessity of substantial institutional transformation of university’s business toward sustainable development imperative.

It should present the conception of “The University of the Future” as the university of new type - a model and a laboratory for drawing up educational guidelines for future generations in terms of sustainable development paradigm.

The Outcome Document should highlight the road map for further development and implementation of “The University of the Future”.

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#### **b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

The importance of education and universities is already highlighted in the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and it became a part of proposals of several groups (for example, German National Committee for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development report and Draft Opinion of the Committee of the Regions of European Commission, etc).

The proposal of Committee of the Regions states: “There is a substantial demand for the exchange of experience and a transfer of knowledge... education, training and information are all areas in which there is a significant need for the exchange of experience and transfer of knowledge between cities and regions on a global scale.”

But we call attention to the necessity of deep reformation of the university’s curriculum on the base of sustainable development paradigm and new types of knowledge. As we stress the “deep education in frames of certain domain of knowledge, without proper understanding of how a specific field of study can mutually benefit from cooperation with



other domains of knowledge results in “blind spots” and causes “collisions” with human life, society and biosphere.”

In order to fully engage potential of education in overcoming global sustainable development problems we need to build a new type of knowledge infrastructure. This can be achieved by creation of the university of new type – “The University of the Future”.

The functioning of “The University of the Future”, its’ new type of interdisciplinary curriculum and new forms of activity, will not only facilitate the dissemination of sustainable development paradigm through tertiary education of university level, but also create cumulative effect and significantly support the integration of all other activities and pillars of global sustainable development agenda.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

All kinds of “implementation gaps” are first of all caused by knowledge gap, intellectual division of labor and vision deficit.

In order to promote global educational sustainable development agenda it is necessary to improve its’ institutional framework and first of all the status of education.

Universities mission should be reassessed and raised up.

All possible sectoral priorities (e.g., energy, food security and sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, water, oceans, sustainable urbanization, sustainable consumption and production, natural disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, biodiversity, etc.) should be rightly reintroduced into university practices in integrated globally concerted way.

As soon as key players will get the deep understanding of sustainable development issues, as soon as they will be equipped by relevant knowledge and action tools – all plans and activities will be realized more easily and successfully. The new type of education will implicate collaboration of efforts of relevant actors and establishment partnerships focused on global sustainable development, etc.

Among other implementation tools, the activity under framework of “The University of the Future” will be the most important and serve to close the “implementation gaps”.

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

The promotion and implementation of the conception of “The University of the Future” (as the university of a new type and model - a laboratory for drawing up guidelines aimed to educate future generations in the sustainable development paradigm) comprise the following basic steps:

1. The conception of “The University of the Future” and the idea to build it should be highlighted in the Outcome Document (June, 2012);
2. The Basic Laboratory for the further exploration and development of conception of “The University of the Future” and its institutional design should be established (November, 2012);
3. The consortia of knowledge communities and university’s communities under framework of “The University of the Future” should be created. It will develop pilot projects, regional and global implementation plans, etc. (January, 2013);
4. Scholars from leading universities of the USA, Ukraine, Russia, and Canada will network and create a core group for “The University of the Future” activity development and further promotion. (May, 2013).

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**Specific Elements**

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: “The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development”.**

AIIESEC International

The University of the Future - as Education for Sustainable Development Hub

Initiated by

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Rio+20 Preparation Events Coordinator

AIIESEC Ukraine

Juiz de Fora, Brazil – October 31, 2011

Summary

This report is related to the third pillar “The institutional framework for sustainable development”. Its’ task is to show how the creation of such an institutional framework as “The University of the Future” can strengthen individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as facilitate the integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels – local, national, regional and international.

AIIESEC prepares leaders to make a positive impact in societies all around the globe. Even though it is the world’s largest student-run organization the impact it does on world’s scale is very little.

AIIESEC leaders make positive changes in societies due to knowledge and experience they receive. Unfortunately, AIIESEC can not educate enough people and overcome

social, economical and environmental crises, because its' institutional framework was not supposed to work in the institutional framework of a real university and to deal with substantial issues such as university's curriculum.

This project and report is based on the assumption that True Sustainable Development of the Planet can be achieved only by educating future generations in a new – Sustainable Development Paradigm and in terms of collaboration of globally interconnected universities.

AIIESEC International, the main instance in the management hierarchy of our organization, gives sustainable directions for our organization worldwide and acting sustainable we achieve tremendous synergetic effect that ensure success of our development.

This practical experience may suggest how to built new institutional framework activities worldwide - "Sustainable Universities".

The idea of such an institutional framework was found in Ukraine. The conception of "The University of the Future" was developed from idea of Noösphere of great Ukrainian/Russian Academician Vladimir Vernadsky.

AIIESEC International assigned one of its' leaders, Denys Shpotia, to report this concept in order to be considered as a key part of final Rio+20 resolution.

#### Rationale

Nowadays, the deep education in frames of certain domain of knowledge, without proper understanding of how it can interact with other domains results in "blind spots" and causes "collisions" with human life, society and biosphere. Improvements in certain institutional frameworks that deal with specific sectoral priorities are no longer appropriate for societies in order to be developed in a sustainable way.

Universities are complex and multi-modal institutions. Only they posses all tools and characteristics to work out a new (sustainable) world view, knowledge-base and implement successfully these components into a new sustainable development paradigm.

We need to look not in depth but in width in order to find the ways for sustainable development of every area of human life.

Dealing with global problems in the "end-of pipe" way, instead of working in a preventive way, we face countless problems. Countries throw out resources in expense of potential social, economic and environmental development. This also proves that existing paradigms of education can't prepare professionals capable to deal with existing world's challenges.

Exactly 10 years passed since The Lüneburg Declaration on Higher Education for Sustainable Development was adopted. The educational paradigm has not being changed. That is why we need to conduct an assessment on declaration's results and keep on moving forward.

As it was emphasized in the Framework for the International Implementation Scheme: "Universities must function as places of research and learning for sustainable development, and as initiators and poles of activity in their communities and nationally. ... Sustainable development needs to become a central preoccupation in determining areas of educational research and development". The efforts of Global Higher Education for Sustainability Partnership "to change strategies for reorienting higher education toward sustainable development" should be strengthened by innovative initiatives on further university's mission and education paradigm.

The world needs to reevaluate its' "higher education standing order" and to develop new type of university – which will be more relevant to global sustainable development challenges – "The University of the Future".

#### The University of the Future

The real implementation of sustainable development approaches depends on how future generations will think and act.

"The University of the Future" concept is aimed to ensure the renovation of higher education that will prepare new generations of humanity according to the sustainable development paradigm.

To become a basic and globally followed paradigm - sustainable development approach should become a core of higher education that will train new specialists - "sustainable developers".

"The University of the Future" should be developed as a global network movement that involves collaboration of Think Tanks, university's research centers, universities, NGOs, media organizations and other related structures. It should be built on the following principles:

- All subjects (of curriculum) must be formed in support of sustainable development world view and paradigm;
- Curriculum should be built on interdisciplinary approach and be constructed around Research & Development (R&D) projects related to common global sustainable development issues;
- R&D agenda (its topic and issues) should be framed by sustainable development paradigm;
- Should be used all new types of educational advanced approaches and technologies (including Web-based and Web 2.0 opportunities, etc.);
- Project-based approach and collaborative Research & Learning. The collaborative teamwork with sustainable development objectives within "The University of the Future" is aimed to solve common global problems.

Acting as a vehicle – "The University of the Future" will build up new theoretical and methodological frameworks and implement interdisciplinary approaches to all kinds of sustainable development issues. This mission assumes that:

- Research & Learning agenda should be orientated on creation of new knowledge and technologies according to the sustainable development paradigm;
- It should work as a center of excellence and as the main source of new approaches on how to educate new generations according to the sustainable development world view and its' paradigm of actions;
- "The University of the Future" should produce new active life styles focused on sustainable development paradigm of actions;
- "The University of the Future" must implicate new socio-cultural functions for successful establishment of sustainable development ideology;
- "The University of the Future" must lead a start for a creation of interactive web-based expertise platform that will analyze, accumulate, structure and integrate knowledge required for sustainable development of the whole world.

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**Albanian Center for Population and Development, CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality, Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Justice (RESURJ), Star Star Macedonia, Y-PEER, YouAct, Youth Action Nepal, Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights**

THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (UNCSD) 2012 INPUTS OF THE UNDERSIGNED ORGANIZATIONS TO THE COMPILATION DOCUMENT

Population dynamics and sustainable development are linked. The linkages between population dynamics and sustainable development has been recognized by many internationally agreed goals and principles, including the Rio Declaration 1992, Agenda 21, International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) Programme of Action (PoA), the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Millennium Declaration. In the context of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD)

2012, it is important to reaffirm role of sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality in achieving sustainable development. This means ensuring that policies and programmes that aim to achieve sustainable development should also promote the human rights of all people to the highest attainable standard of sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing, particularly for women, young people and those living in poverty.

Young people are the present and the future. There are over 1.8 billion people aged 10-24 years in the world today, the majority of whom live in developing countries. In most developing countries, this generation of young people comprises more than a third of their country's population. In 67 developing countries, young people aged 10-24 constitute more than 40% of the adult population above 10 years of age. Young people are the most significant demographic group today and will remain so for the coming decades.

Policies should take into account the drivers of population growth. As the world reaches 7 billion, it is projected to grow to 9.3 billion by 2050. Most of the growth will take place in the developing world, as a result of the combined effects from the large number of women of childbearing age due to the high fertility of the past (so-called population momentum), declining mortality and remaining high fertility in some parts of the world (due to high desired fertility and high unmet need for contraceptives). In the least developed countries, which are marked by the highest fertility rates, the population is expected to nearly double by 2050, increasing the working age population by about 15 million per year. In the context of a green economy, there is an urgent need for countries to incorporate policies and programmes that take these dynamics into account and effectively respond to the shifting sources of population growth.

Access to sexual and reproductive health and rights addresses high fertility. Addressing high fertility where it prevails continues to be a viable strategy, provided that programme interventions are human-rights based and give people the opportunity to influence the number of children and the spacing between births that they desire. High fertility is partly due to high rates of unwanted pregnancies, especially in adolescents. Young women and couples of reproductive age are increasingly choosing to have fewer children than the previous generation, but they will be unable to fulfill these desires if they lack access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and contraceptives. Globally, an estimated 215 million women want to use family planning methods and services, but do not have access to them. Family planning services are essential for the prevention of unintended and unwanted pregnancies and enable women and couples to choose the number and spacing of pregnancies. There is a need to ensure that national development plans support age-appropriate sexuality education, including information with gender equality perspective, in and out of school as well as young people's access to contraceptives. Special efforts are required to ensure that health systems respond to the needs of young people, and that adolescent sexual and reproductive health programmes are able to reach those who are most in need.

Gender equality and access to health will slow down population momentum. Where population growth is already due almost exclusively due to population momentum, i.e. the large number of women of childbearing age due to the high fertility of the past, putting in place approaches to increase the age at marriage, to empower girls and young women with information for acquiring accurate contraceptive methods, and enhancing adolescents' sexual and reproductive health, educational levels, and income-generating potential can have significant effects on population growth rates. Where girls are able to stay in school until secondary school and are empowered to decide on matters related to their sexuality and reproduction, there is a significant observed effect in delaying child birth and increasing spacing.

Promoting sexual and reproductive health services advances environmental sustainability. Many experts agree that slowing down population growth including through ensuring access to sexual and reproductive health including family planning would reduce pressure on scarce natural resource within communities, including fuel for cooking and warmth, drinking water, and land for subsistence farming. Universal access to sexual and reproductive health including family planning should be one the key interventions needed to achieve sustainable, low-carbon development. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) estimates that demand for family planning will increase by about 50 to 75 per cent from 2005-2020 in many developing countries. If governments and other donors fund sexual and reproductive health services and supplies, we can advance environmental sustainability while also promoting social justice, development and human rights.

HIV prevention amongst young people ensures a sustainable workforce. Governments must recognize that the response to HIV is both a human rights issue and also an economic necessity crucial to eradicating poverty. On one hand, disproportionately high levels of poverty and unemployment make young people more vulnerable to HIV infection. On the other, with close to four out of ten new HIV infections occurring amongst young people, this has serious implications for productivity today and the workforce of tomorrow, particularly in countries in Sub-Saharan Africa where HIV prevalence is as high as 25% of the population.

Access to sexual and reproductive health services promotes adaptation. Young women's health and well-being, their ability to choose if or when to have children and their risk or early pregnancy is affected by their lack of access to safe and stigma free sexual and reproductive health services, contraception and comprehensive sexuality education. Such access helps build resistance among individuals and communities and should be incorporated as a part of policies to promote sustainable development and adaptation strategies for climate change.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

In the context of the Green Economy, member states should:

- Recognize that sustainable development entails empowering young people, particularly the most marginalized, by investing in their education, health including sexual and reproductive health, employment and leadership.
- Reaffirm commitments to the ICPD Programme of Action, the Beijing Platform for Action and the World Programme of Action for Youth
- Prioritize their full and effective implementation of these commitments through multisectoral programmes that link social justice, access to health, gender equality and environmental sustainability.
- Take into account population dynamics in policies and expand rights-based programmes that effectively respond to the shifting sources of population growth through promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- Commit to build the capacities of young people and women in the production and marketing of green technologies should be prioritized in the transition to a green economy.
- Promote gender equality and the empowerment of young women and support programmes as a cross-cutting issue and a priority for sustainable development including through addressing the gendered impacts of climate change as a part of strategies to promote adaptation.
- Support gender-sensitive, age-appropriate, life-skills-based comprehensive sexuality education for young people both in and out of school based on international standards as a way to empower young people, promote gender equality, human rights, prevent HIV and increase use of sexual and reproductive health services.
- Expand and support young people's choices and opportunities by ensuring and investing in access to youth friendly sexual and reproductive health services including family planning, particularly for marginalized adolescent girls and young women, those living with disabilities and in humanitarian situations.
- Reaffirm the goal of universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support, in line with the Declaration of Commitment on HIV (2001) and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (2006).

- Embrace the vision of Zero New Infections, Zero AIDS Related Death and Zero Discrimination and support efforts to achieve the three Bold Results on HIV and Young People under the UNAIDS Strategy 2011-2015, namely, (1) Raising comprehensive knowledge to 80%, (2) Doubling condom use amongst young people and (3) Doubling HIV testing among young people - in order to reduce new HIV infections among young people by 30% by 2015.

- Support integrated approaches to sustainable development that build on people's expressed needs, and strengthen community-based strategies, including through the meaningful participation of young people.

In the context of the Institutional Framework, member states should:

- Ensure the meaningful participation of young people in decision making processes, by putting in place enabling structures and supportive policies and through building the capacities of youth-led organizations.

- National development plans, poverty reduction strategies, sustainable development strategies, policies and programmes should be planned, implemented, monitored and evaluated in equal partnership with young people through a participatory approach.

- Young people and youth-led organizations should be empowered to hold their governments accountable for their commitments including through monitoring budgets and participation in appropriate institutional mechanisms.

SIGNATORY ORGANIZATIONS:

1. Albanian Center for Population and Development
2. CHOICE for Youth and Sexuality
3. Realizing Sexual and Reproductive Justice (RESURJ)
4. Star Star Macedonia
5. Y-PEER
6. YouAct
7. Youth Action Nepal
8. Youth Coalition for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

## ALCALA and ECO GLOBAL S.A.

PROPUESTA PARA QUE LOS ESTADOS APLIQUEN INSTRUMENTOS HACIA UNA GESTION INTEGRAL EN EL SECTOR PRIORITARIO DE LA INFRAESTRUCTURA

La "industria de la construcción" es considerada como una de las que genera mayor impacto al ambiente, especialmente en cuanto a consumo de recursos y en relación con las emisiones de Carbono (CO2). Se estima que únicamente para construcción de "edificios", el consumo de los recursos abarca un rango del orden de un 20 hasta un 50% del consumo total mundial, dependiendo de si se trata de consumo de agua dulce, tala de árboles, uso de combustibles para aclimatación por ejemplo. En relación con las emisiones de CO2, al "sector transporte", directamente ligado también al uso de la "construcción de infraestructura vial" se le atribuye aproximadamente un 13% del total de Gases Efecto Invernadero. Por otra parte, se estima que al llegar el año 2030 cerca del 60% de la población mundial vivirá en zonas urbanas, las mega ciudades no son ya solamente tema de ciencia ficción. Para el 2015, según Naciones Unidas, se identifican 22 mega ciudades y se espera que 12 de éstas alberguen poblaciones de más de 15 millones de personas. No todos los retos asociados con esta vida urbana masificada, de la que los países en vías de desarrollo no se escapan, han logrado ser atendidos oportuna y acertadamente. Por otra parte, esta industria también es asociada con altos índices de corrupción en la gestión de obras de gran escala, con consecuencias directas en el desarrollo de las comunidades a nivel mundial por las implicaciones económicas y sociales que se suman a los aspectos ambientales mencionados. Los Estados, incluyendo en forma amplia Gobiernos Centrales y Locales así como también la Empresa privada (incluyendo el sector de construcción a lo largo de toda su cadena de valor), la Academia y otras Organizaciones de la sociedad, están llamados a proponer y gestionar alternativas innovadoras inspiradas en políticas integrales que apoyen el desarrollo sostenible.

Se entiende en el contexto de este documento el término "infraestructura" según lo manifiesta en su libro Hayes (2005), a saber grandes conjuntos de obras que van desde: carreteras, ferrocarriles, puentes y túneles, hasta aquellas hidráulicas y las correspondientes a los sectores de alimentos agricultura, petróleo y gas -plantas de energía, redes energéticas etc.; aviación, marítimas, comunicaciones, residuos y reciclaje. Muchas de estas infraestructuras son emprendidas y gestionadas por la empresa privada, otras por los gobiernos y algunas mediante mecanismos de Participación Público Privada (PPP). Hay un movimiento desde el concepto de obra pública hacia el de infraestructura permitiendo este último concepto que se integren elementos intangibles como servicios y el contenido finalista o teleológico de dar sustento a toda una organización, con lo que se conserva, pero ampliado, el viejo concepto de "obra pública".

El Proceso de Marruecos, resultado de Rio +10, orienta a considerar que el gobierno de un país generalmente es un comprador mayor y que por tanto, tiene gran capacidad para estimular por medio de las compras públicas sustentables (CPS) un cambio con efecto cascada hacia la producción y consumo de bienes y productos sustentables. Las compras de los Estados pueden considerarse, en forma general, del orden del 20% del PIB y también en forma general, uno de los rubros más importantes en cuanto a inversión monetaria de las adquisiciones de la Administración de Gobiernos Centrales y Locales, corresponde a "infraestructura" en el sentido amplio arriba descrito, especialmente para países en vías de desarrollo. Al respecto, la metodología desarrollada por y en proceso de evaluación de parte del Grupo de Trabajo de Marrakech GTM a través de Proyectos Piloto en varios países a nivel mundial provee insumos para orientar sobre la relevancia de la infraestructura en las compras públicas de los gobiernos.

Adicionalmente, el otro Grupo de Trabajo del Proceso de Marruecos, específicamente el de Construcción Sostenible ofrece también oportunidad para impulsar los instrumentos en los ejes estratégicos que a continuación se proponen para un desarrollo más sostenible de nuestras sociedades.

Se propone que los Estados apliquen instrumentos hacia una gestión integral, más transparente, con enfoque de Ciclo de vida y de Prevención de la Corrupción en áreas prioritarias de la inversión en infraestructura. En este sentido, se considera la necesidad de incorporar instrumentos normados en relación con aspectos:

- Técnicos: Distintos instrumentos propios del diseño (técnicas empleadas en las ingenierías y la arquitectura), junto con los de sostenibilidad llevarán a un enfoque integrado. El apoyo de laboratorios con pruebas acreditadas de conformidad con normas internacionales homologadas localmente es indispensable para el sustento técnico. La ingeniería y la arquitectura, deben hacer uso de su instrumental técnico, en evolución, para pasar de pensamiento a cosa construida esta vez para satisfacer además, los

nuevos retos de las compras públicas sostenibles CPS. La capacidad de diseño y procesos constructivos innovadores requerirán creatividad renovada.

- Económicos: El marco de referencia son las CPS por lo que los aspectos económicos de la construcción sostenible (CS) desbordan los conceptos tradicionales, incorporando nuevos aspectos con impacto en la forma en que se estiman, contabilizan y evalúan los ingresos así como los costos y gastos. Las preferencias temporales son modificadas con nuevos criterios, que afectan decisiones acerca de las compras públicas.
- Jurídicos: Para poner en operación los principios de las CPS, son necesarios cambios normativos tanto en el ámbito legal como reglamentario. Igualmente, los agentes, tanto jurisdiccionales como administrativos tendrán que modificar, en consecuencia, las conductas típicas, los contenidos y las motivaciones de sus actos.
- Éticos: Las intersecciones entre lo público y lo privado plantean aspectos éticos de gran importancia. El advenimiento de las CPS, hace necesario replantearse viejos problemas aún no resueltos y otros nuevos. La respuesta a la corrupción de funcionarios públicos, a la negligencia en el cumplimiento de deberes, a la desviación y el abuso de poder debe venir signada con nueva fuerza ahora también por la inserción de las CPS. En este sentido varias entidades a nivel internacional, regional y nacional han realizado esfuerzos que pueden ser recogidos para un avance más armonizado y de mayor impacto..
- Académicos y Educativos: La formación de profesionales es un proceso dinámico que demanda continuamente remozamiento, ahora además, con modificaciones más profundas, de índole estructural hacia lo integral y trans-disciplinario. Cada vez es más necesario contar con profesionales que sean líderes y con líderes que entiendan el camino del desarrollo sostenible.

El papel de los profesionales de la ingeniería y la arquitectura se destaca con relevancia por cuanto la labor que realizan es esencialmente un servicio intermedio que aporta valor agregado a la sociedad y que nunca puede estar separado del resto de la vida social. La ingeniería civil tiene que ver con la calidad de vida de los usuarios o beneficiarios de las obras que produce, desde la más pequeña a la más grande y está inserta en la vida civil que ha venido incorporando los criterios de sostenibilidad.

Agradecemos la consideración a esta propuesta y quedamos atentos para ampliar o aclarar sobre el contenido de la nota, no sin omitir que ALCALA junto con ECO GLOBAL ha venido tratando el tema de infraestructura, construcción sostenible, compras públicas sustentables con enfoque integral, incluyendo ciclo de vida y prevención de la corrupción, con la participación, aportes y colaboración de individuos y organizaciones que comparten nuestra visión, a nivel nacional e internacional.

Por ALCALA y ECO GLOBAL

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## Alianza Nicaragüense ante el Cambio Climático (ANACC)

Valoraciones y aportes de la Alianza Nicaragüense ante el Cambio Climático (ANACC) a la propuesta del Informe de Nicaragua 0 Previo a la Conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sostenible, Rio +20,

Del 04 al 06 de junio de 2012, Río Janeiro, Brasil.

La Alianza Nicaragüense ante el Cambio Climático (ANACC), es un espacio de diálogo intersectorial permanente entre organizaciones de la sociedad civil. Trabaja en la búsqueda de alternativas concertadas que mejoren la capacidad del país para enfrentar el cambio climático. Así mismo dedica esfuerzos para incidir constructivamente en la elaboración de políticas públicas, estrategias y planes nacionales de desarrollo.

La ANACC es un espacio abierto, auto convocado, con fines propositivos y constructivos para discutir, analizar, incidir y construir colectivamente propuestas de los diferentes actores de sociedad civil. Se propone incidir en las políticas públicas que coadyuven a la reducción de los efectos adversos del cambio climático. Trabaja a favor del reconocimiento oficial de Centroamérica como región altamente vulnerable.

En el marco de este esfuerzo la ANACC ha organizado una sesión para el intercambio de ideas sobre el proceso previo a la Conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sostenible y los compromisos de país derivados del mismo. En este contexto se ha preparado un conjunto de ideas con relación al compromiso del Informe 0 de Nicaragua. Las valoraciones y aportes son los siguientes:

### CO-CHAIRS' GUIDANCE NOTE INPUTS FOR COMPILATION DOCUMENT

### CO-PRESIDENTES NOTA DE ORIENTACIÓN ENTRADAS PARA LA ELABORACIÓN DEL DOCUMENTO

3. General Content: Contributions should endeavour to address the following questions:

3. Contenido General: Las contribuciones deben tratar de responder las siguientes preguntas:

a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

a. ¿Cuáles son las expectativas para el resultado de Rio +20, y cuáles son las propuestas concretas en este sentido, incluyendo puntos de vista sobre una posible estructura del documento final?

1. El informe final debe reconocer que el modelo económico sigue en crisis, los sectores mas empobrecido siguen pagando en gran medida los costos y en consecuencia el sector social sigue en franco deterioro y la crisis medioambiental se profundiza y particularmente las condiciones climáticas.

2. Incremento de los compromisos de los diferentes actores sociales.

3. Establecer metas claras para el desarrollo sostenible y diseñar e implementar un mecanismo de monitoreo, seguimiento y evaluación periódica de los compromisos asumidos.

4. Este debe reflejar las lecciones aprendidas y no aprendidas, con relación a lograr el desarrollo sostenible.

5. En la Cumbre debe revisarse, valorar y retomar compromisos adquiridos, tales como los establecidos en la Convención sobre la Diversidad Biológica y Convenio sobre la Lucha contra la Desertificación y la Sequía.
  6. En materia de la Convención Marco de Naciones Unidas sobre Cambio Climático, debe pronunciarse a favor de un segundo periodo de compromisos del Protocolo de Kyoto, debe fijar las fuentes de financiamiento seguras y sostenibles para hacer frente a los efectos adversos del cambio climático, deben haber metas cuantificables y en la fuente sobre la emisión de gases de efecto invernadero y para los países menos desarrollados deben haber fondos para los Planes de Acción Nacionales de Adaptación (PANA).
  7. Debe lograrse mayor nivel de convergencia y asignación de recursos presupuestarios destinados a los pilares social, ambiental y económico; medidas y acciones concretas en esos tres pilares. El pilar ambiental debe buscar convergencia de las tres convenciones.
  8. Establecimiento de compromisos legalmente vinculantes a corto plazo, que impacten positivamente en el desarrollo sostenible de los pueblos.
  9. Debe trabajarse una reclasificación de los países mas vulnerables ante los efectos adversos del cambio climático.
- b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?
- b. ¿Cuáles son las observaciones, si las hubiere, acerca de las propuestas existentes: por ejemplo, una economía verde hoja de ruta, marco de acción, objetivos de desarrollo sostenible, la revitalización asociación mundial para el desarrollo sostenible, o para otros?
1. Se esta sustituyendo el pilar económico de la conceptualización de desarrollo sostenible por economía verde (agrocombustibles, OGM, patentes, uso de biomasa), favoreciendo a ciertos sectores de actividad económica que no necesariamente se enfocan en el mejoramiento de la calidad de vida de las poblaciones de los países menos desarrollados y en desarrollo.
  2. La economía verde debe flexibilizar los mecanismos de mercados, para los países menos desarrollados y en desarrollo, por ejemplo en materia de derecho de propiedad intelectual, privilegiar la soberanía y seguridad alimentaria y nutricional y la preservación de la diversidad biológica.
  3. Tal como esta planteado el concepto de economía verde, no propicia un cambio significativo en el actual modelo, que beneficie a los países menos desarrollados y en desarrollo.
  4. El modelo actual no ha sido capaz de conjugar adecuadamente los pilares (económico, social y ambiental) para lograr el desarrollo sostenible, en detrimento de la calidad de vida de las poblaciones de los países menos desarrollados y en desarrollo.
  5. La economía verde debe favorecer los intereses de los países menos desarrollados y en desarrollo, dada la urgencia que impone la crisis, debe establecerse un mapa de ruta al mas breve plazo posible.
- c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);
- c. ¿Cuáles son los puntos de vista sobre la aplicación y sobre la manera de cerrar la brecha de implementación, que los actores relevantes se han previsto como involucrados
- (Gobiernos, las específicas de los Grupos Principales, el sistema de las Naciones Unidas, las instituciones financieras internacionales, etc);
1. Los países desarrollados deben asumir su responsabilidad histórica, compensando los perjuicios causados y actuando en lo sucesivo de manera consecuente con la actual crisis económica, social y ambiental; frenando el deterioro causado por la extracción de recursos naturales y contribuyendo a evitar la profundización de la crisis ambiental global y la disminución de las desigualdades sociales.
  2. Las poblaciones locales de los países menos desarrollados, y en desarrollo, deben avanzar y fortalecer los mecanismos de fiscalización y de auditorías sociales, que vigilen el cumplimiento de los compromisos internacionales y nacionales concebidos para la construcción del desarrollo sostenible.
  3. Se debe trabajar en una nueva arquitectura financiera que establezca mecanismos que garanticen una forma equitativa en la distribución de los recursos financieros, dirigida a los países y sectores con menor nivel de desarrollo relativo.
- d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?
- d. ¿Qué mecanismos específicos de cooperación, acuerdos de asociación o de otro tipo instrumentos de ejecución se prevé y lo que es el marco de tiempo relevante para el las decisiones que se propone alcanzar y las acciones que deben realizarse?
1. Deben cumplirse los acuerdos de la cooperación para el desarrollo (Consenso de Monterrey), que establece que la Ayuda Oficial al Desarrollo debe ser del 0.7% del PIB de los países desarrollados.
  2. Deben destinarse fondos adicionales (suficientes, predecibles) para enfrentar la crisis climática global.
  3. Debe realizarse una revisión, valoración y ajuste de los acuerdos comerciales, de tal manera que se identifiquen los puntos que perjudican a los países menos desarrollados y en desarrollo, a fin de disminuir esas inequidades.
  4. No aceptamos que se busquen salidas a las crisis desde la lógica militar.

Alianza Nicaragüense ante el Cambio Climático (ANACC).

01 noviembre 2011.

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## Allgemeiner Deutscher Automobil-Club (ADAC)

Safer Roads at Rio +20

## A Submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development by ADAC

Road safety is a key driver for sustainability. To date an estimated 1.3 million people per year are killed due to road traffic accidents. 20 to 50 million more are injured. For these reasons the United Nations have launched the 'Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020', describing road injury as "major public health problem with a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect the sustainable development of countries and hinder progress towards the Millennium Development Goals". It is of high relevance not only for road safety associations but for the broad public to position "road safety" on the agenda of international meetings such as Rio +20. Issues that are absent from these agendas are subsequently neglected and under-funded. This is why it is essential that actions to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport are included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio +20 Conference.

1. ADAC (Allgemeiner Deutscher Automobil-Club e.V.) is Europe's largest automobile club, with more than 17 million members to date. The club represents the interests of its members regarding transport and mobility aspects in the political arena – on national and international level. Furthermore ADAC operates a large fleet of mobile mechanics that assist motorists in trouble (Yellow Angels) and provides 44 helicopters for urgent medical rescue services in Germany. ADAC publishes a members' magazine with the largest distribution in Germany, the "ADAC Motorwelt".

2. ADAC fully supports Rio +20 as an essential opportunity to define the major sustainability challenges facing the world and to contribute to the design of a post-Millennium Development Goals framework that will meet the needs of developing nations in the next decades. The club strongly believes that global road traffic death and injury as well as the wider but related issues of safe and sustainable transportation policy, must be recognised as challenges for sustainability at the Rio +20 conference.

3. For some, road safety is perhaps not the first issue that crosses the mind thinking about sustainable development. Yet, it is a key factor and the growing number of death and disability on the world's roads is a consequence of the continuous disregard of this issue, e.g. at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. Pursuant to the Global Status Report on Road Safety (WHO, 2009), road crashes kill an estimated 1,300,000 people each year and injure between 20 to 50 million more. Actually, this means, that road crashes kill more people than malaria. More than ninety per cent of these casualties occur in middle- and low-income countries where road safety awareness and the capacity to tackle the problem is low, and where both - traffic levels and road casualties - are rising. Road deaths and injuries place immense burdens on hospitals and health systems. These tragic deaths and the misery and grief they cause are not inevitable. They can be prevented, if measures are taken by governments, police and all road users to improve safety.

4. The UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 is based on the General Assembly Resolution A/RES/64/255. It aims at reducing global road traffic injuries. According to expert groups, achieving this ambitious goal can save up to 5 million lives over the course of the decade. 50 million serious injuries could be prevented within the same timeframe ('Make Roads Safe: A Decade of Action for Road Safety', Commission for Global Road Safety, 2009). This would mean a fundamental reduction of economic cost to developing countries.

5. In its resolution proclaiming the Decade of Action for Road Safety, the United Nations General Assembly defines road traffic injuries as: A "major public health problem with a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect the sustainable development of countries and hinder progress towards the Millennium Development Goals". According to leading development experts and international agencies, the impacts of failure to address road safety can go beyond the immediate toll of death and disability, undermine policies on poverty alleviation, child survival and development as well as endanger defined goals regarding climate change.

6. Until road safety will be integrated into the mainstream of sustainability policy, millions of people will be condemned to unnecessary and preventable deaths, or lives blighted by severe disability. This is why it is so important that action to improve road safety and the promotion of sustainable modes of transport are included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio +20 conference.

7. Therefore, ADAC encourages the secretariat to include a reference to safe and sustainable road mobility in the 'Outcomes Document' of the conference. This would mean a huge step to make our roads safer – worldwide.

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## Alliance for Future Generations

The Alliance for Future Generations

Rio+20 working group  
Rio+20: Open Challenge Paper

The Alliance for Future Generations

The Alliance for Future Generations is a group of individuals and organisations who have agreed to work to ensure that long-termism and the needs of future generations are brought into the heart of UK democracy and policy processes, in order to safeguard the earth and secure intergenerational justice.

This Open Challenge Paper has been developed by members of the Alliance's Rio +20 working group for further discussion within the Alliance and as a basis for the possible development of an overall Alliance position on the process leading to the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD; also referred to as „Rio + 20“) in Rio de Janeiro. Signatories are also pleased to submit this paper to the official preparatory process for the UNCSD.

### Overview

Sustainable development, as defined by the Brundtland Commission (1987) is "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."<sup>1</sup> This Open Challenge Paper suggests that the needs of future generations have been, in recent years, greatly overlooked. These needs must be brought into the heart of the UNCSD, also known as Rio+20, in order to safeguard the earth and secure intergenerational justice. We propose the establishment of a UN High Commissioner for Future Generations as a mechanism to safeguard long-termism and the needs of future generations at the global level. We also support the urgent appointment of an Assistant Secretary General (ASG) on Youth and Future Generations within the UN as an interim measure until the position of the UN High Commissioner for Future Generations and an associated Commission for Future Generations are established, building on the work of the ASG. At the regional, national and subnational levels, we consider that sustainable development itself demands that every individual nation as well as regional groupings (e.g. the European Union) commit themselves to setting up strategies, mechanisms and institutions to promote long-termism and give due consideration to the needs of future generations.



## Context

Since the 1992 Conference on Environment and Development in Rio, the concept of sustainable development has been incorporated into many UN instruments and its implementation has been taken up by the international community. However, current assessments signal the increasing vulnerability and precariousness of the Earth's ecosystems now and into the future and consequently the lives of both people alive today and those who have yet to be born. We have already breached the safe operating space (or boundaries) for three of nine key planetary systems (climate change, biodiversity loss and excess nitrogen and phosphorus production).<sup>2</sup> Operating within planetary boundaries is a necessary precondition for sustainability.

Our actions as human beings impact not just other people and our local environment, but the planet and the conditions of life for centuries to come. We have raised global temperatures, destroyed habitats and made countless species extinct. Our consumption patterns underscore a view of ecosystems and the planet's natural environment as little more than unlimited and disposable resources. Worse, predicted accelerated consumption will lead inexorably to a series of „resource peaks" as we use "natural capitals" beyond sustainable levels and further degradation of the ecosystems on which all life depends. It is commonly agreed that the impacts humans have on the planet are not only growing in magnitude, but they are also growing in consequence. For all their positive achievements, human beings may now have become a negative force on a par with Earth-rending volcanic eruptions.

Spikes in food and energy prices, together with accelerating anthropogenic climate change and rapid global population growth are among the evolving risks that threaten to bring sustainable development to a crisis point. Our current activities: that is our consumption of fossil fuels and water, our uses of chemicals, and the uses to which we put land, are reducing the planet's ability to sustain life. We stand to leave future generations with an impoverished common inheritance. Humanity faces a situation of gross intergenerational injustice. Future generations will question hardships they face and the sacrifices they are forced to make due to their ancestors' careless, short-termist lifestyles. Likewise, the world's poor people will also question their privations when they observe a widening disparity between their lifestyles and the lifestyles of the rich; generation upon generation. Inequality, over-consumption, loneliness, isolation and greed threaten our current collective well-being and threaten greater intergenerational injustice in the future.

## Our Challenge to Rio+20

Our challenge to participants in the Rio+20 process is to view the 2012 Conference as a milestone in a global effort to deliver higher regard for the longer-term and the needs of future generations through the way in which they conduct the business of politics and the governance of our nations.

There are already some examples of good practice in national governance approaches. Since 2008, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Future Generations has been one of four ombudsmen elected by the unicameral Hungarian Parliament. Around the world, nineteen constitutions refer explicitly to future generations, including those of South Africa, Argentina, Germany, Bolivia and Iran.<sup>3</sup> The constitution of the Confederation of the Six Nations of the Iroquois requires leaders to make decisions with the „Seventh Generation to come" in mind.

These examples of institutional and constitutional trailblazing offer inspiration; building on this there is much more to be done from the local to the global level. A commitment to bring long-termism and future generations into policy processes needs institutional, political and cultural foundations. Any innovation at the national and subnational levels needs support from global institutions and internationally agreed commitments. Rio+20 is the time to demonstrate and craft that support. People and their representatives must drive the process of transformation that is now so urgently needed to set the world on course for sustainable development. Renewed commitments to public participation and to public right of access to information must therefore be a prominent part of the Rio+20 process and outcomes.

We need international laws, policies and agreements to support long-termism and the needs of future generations. We need highest-level representatives to make decisions with a focus on the long-term, the interests of our children, and the needs of generations yet to be born – wherever in the world they might be.

In so much as we take inspiration from the achievements of past generations and the key decisions that shape our lives, our aspiration is to create the conditions in which future generations may come to see Rio+20 as a significant turning point towards sustainable development.

## Rio+20 - A turning point

Three objectives and two themes have been agreed for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. We comment on each in turn below.

### 1. Objectives

1.1. Securing Renewed Commitment to Sustainable Development - Putting long-termism and future generations at the heart of Rio+20 is a key element in securing renewed political commitment for sustainable development as defined by the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland report).

- The nature and content of the renewed political commitment to sustainable development must be clear and unequivocal. It must incorporate a clear recognition that intergenerational justice is an essential component of sustainable development. And it must recognise the biophysical reality of the imperative to remain within overall planetary boundaries. Environment, economy and society must be recognised as the pillars of sustainable development, but against a non-negotiable backdrop of the limits of our planet.

1.2. Assessing Progress and Exploring Gaps - Taking a long-term view can support the framing of our assessment of the progress to date and the gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development so far. Many visions for the Earth already exist. A commitment to taking a longer view can underpin efforts to develop a successor framework to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); to bring the needs of future generations into the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and thereby to act on an understanding of longer-term trends, instead of simply taking snapshots of the current situation. We concur with the many critics, including the Sarkozy Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress,<sup>5</sup> which pointed out that GDP is an inadequate metric through which to gauge well-being over time. There is an important distinction between assessing current well-being and assessing sustainability. Well-being measures generally portray a snapshot in time, while sustainability shows the trend over time.

- Preparations for Rio+20 must assess progress on sustainable development to date in terms of a broad set of indicators of well-being and underlying trends over time. Goals and indicators must be developed that give a richer picture of both the current situation and what the future might hold. Only then can appropriate decisions be made on what needs to be done to improve the lives of people in the future as well as the lives of people now.

1.3. Address New and Emerging Challenges – Intergenerational justice is very much about building foresight through futures-awareness analysis.<sup>6</sup> An appropriate focus on the needs of future generations would give us a lens through which we can identify and address new and emerging challenges to sustainability. The risks of past failure to take account of the needs of future generations are arguably illustrated by recent events in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, urban unrest in England and rising uneasiness about youth unemployment across the globe.

- Rio+20 should provide political recognition that short-termism and lack of regard for the needs of future generations in political processes and decision-making are

themselves emerging challenges that need to be addressed at political, institutional and cultural levels. In addition, both short-termism and lack of regard for the needs of future generations undermine efforts to effectively address other new and emerging challenges, such as those highlighted by Rio+20 Secretary General Mr Sha Zukang which include sound water management, improved resilience and disaster preparedness and food security.

## 2. Themes

### 2.1. Green Economy and Poverty Eradication

Decisions regarding our global economic system should not prioritise current well-being over future well-being. The imperative of eradicating poverty world-wide as soon as possible should not be achieved at the expense of future generations who – left with an impoverished common inheritance – may simply fall back into a poverty trap not of their own making. Furthermore, it is possible to have a "green", low-carbon economy that allows a minority of the population to live highly affluent but eco-resilient lives, whilst forcing the majority of the population to live on the margins. Such a model would not capture an essential element of sustainability; that of fairness, now and into the future.

Rio+20 must provide a milestone in the development of an ecologically-friendly economy that respects planetary boundaries and actively helps to secure both intergenerational and intragenerational justice.

In support of such a transformed economy, the legal and constitutional frameworks within which businesses operate must not incentivise a focus on short-term financial returns. Instead, they should actively support the adoption of long-term perspectives on business contributions to sustainable development; on long-term benefits of action to achieve sustainability, not only short-term costs.

Assumptions about the future in policy tools applied by governments and others to support economic decision-making should be transparent and publicly accessible. Economic policy tools should never discount future costs and values in such a way as to undermine the potential for future generations to meet their needs.

- Rio+20 must recast the 'Green Economy' as the 'Green and Fair Economy'. For these purposes, fairness must be considered both spatially and temporally.
- Rio+20 is an opportunity to formally recognise key environmental limits - such as planetary boundaries - within which we must remain, and the thresholds that we must respect in order to maintain the sustainability of our planet. The signing at Rio + 20 of a 'Declaration on Planetary Boundaries' outlining key principles would show political commitment by attendees to this concept.
- International financial and economic institutions must be equipped to take a long-term perspective and play their part in meeting the needs of future generations in ways that maximise their contribution to overall indicators of well-being and sustainability over time.
- Governments and businesses participating in Rio+20 must commit to work to remove legal and other obstacles that prevent business managers and workers from acting on long-term perspectives or hamper efforts to develop and implement sustainable development policies.
- Governments must commit at Rio+20 to a) transparency about assumptions on future prices and rates of return that are applied in economic evaluations and other economic policy tools, and b) not discounting the future in ways that undermine the potential for future generations to meet their needs in line with sustainability principles.

### 2.2. The Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

Frameworks for the delivery of sustainable development from the international through to the national and down to the local level call for strategies, governance, performance management frameworks and appropriate monitoring and reporting. More qualitatively, but equally important, strong leadership and meaningful accountability from top to bottom are also essential. Due regard for the needs and well-being of future generations needs to be hard-wired into this architecture to ensure that long-termism becomes a matter of course and that appropriate checks and balances are in place.

Regional, national and subnational governments and institutions should use Rio+20 as an opportunity to share ideas on how best to incorporate long-termism and the needs of future generations into regional and domestic policy decisions, including the policy tools and institutional settings that could help to achieve this in ways that respect principles of sustainable development. Examples could include exploring the idea of guardians for future generations; applying sustainable development-oriented foresight or futures methodologies to public policy decisions; and development of futures impact assessment tools that adopt longer time-horizons than those associated with existing impact assessment approaches. The adoption of Sustainable Development Goals at the global level would also provide an underpinning for long-term decision-making and regard for future generations.

- Rio+20 should mark the beginning of discussions to develop a successor to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); a broader framework of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). These SDGs should reflect emerging evidence of planetary boundaries and other key long-term trends and projections.
- As part of the Declaration on Planetary Boundaries, a Planetary Boundaries Institution should be given the job of promoting and developing the principles of the Declaration.
- The political outcomes of Rio+20 need to incorporate a commitment on the part of UN members to develop mechanisms to incorporate long-term thinking and regard for the needs of future generations into decision-making processes. This will not necessarily be achieved through current proposals for strengthening of UNEP, or even the creation of a World Environment Organisation, and must be considered separately.
- UN members should commit at Rio+20 to improve governance in order to ensure long-termism and regard for the needs of future generations. For example, a UN High Commissioner for Future Generations would provide a mechanism to safeguard long-termism and the needs of future generations at global level. However given the urgency of related issues, an Assistant Secretary General (ASG) on Youth and Future Generations should immediately be appointed. This ASG should lead a review of the achievements and shortcomings of UN programmes designed to support youth and future generations, and champion recommendations on how to more effectively address the challenges hindering the development and participation of youth. The creation of such roles would be an enabling and positive step towards providing assurance that long-term care for the earth and its people is at the core of global governance. The UN High Commissioner for Future Generations and an associated Commission on Future Generations would build on this work of the ASG for Youth and Future Generations.

This Open Challenge Paper has been endorsed as a basis for further discussion by the following individuals and organizations. Save where indicated, all are members of the Alliance for Future Generations.

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1st November 2011

## ALSTOM SUBMISSION TO THE UN ZERO-DRAFT FOR THE RIO+20 SUMMIT

## USING INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE FUNDS TO LEVERAGE PRIVATE

## INVESTMENT IN CLEAN TECHNOLOGY

## Key messages box:

- IEA estimates that over \$300 trillion of investment in clean technologies will be needed by 2050
- COP16 in Cancun agreed to establish a Transitional Committee to set up a Green Climate Fund to raise \$100bn per year by 2020 for mitigation and adaptation projects in non-Annex 1 countries
- • The private sector will be critical to achieving these levels of investment but leveraging private finance will require:
  - o The right policy frameworks, including markets that enable development of competitive tariffs;
  - o Carbon pricing;
  - o Capacity building in developing countries; and
  - o Use of a combination of Public Private Partnerships (PPPs), capital markets and infrastructure funds

Alstom invests in many different kinds of projects around the world. We have invested significant sums in building manufacturing facilities, export hubs and R&D centres in key locations. This investment in our own facilities typically offers benefits (direct and indirect) to the host community such as jobs, development of local industrial capacity and technology transfer. We are also involved in arranging project finance for some of the major infrastructure (e.g. power plants, grid systems, rail) projects that we deliver to our customers. This note focuses mainly on leverage of project finance, though some of the issues it raises (especially capacity building) will also be applicable to investment in corporate facilities.

## ‘Crowding-in’ private finance at scale

Investment will be attracted to projects with the best balance of risk and reward, so governments need to focus on both in order to scale up finance with the speed and volume required.

## Risk

Investors will assess projects on the basis of whether the level of risk offered is commensurate with the reward. But they find political and capacity risk difficult to manage because it is hard to forecast and price. These risks may include: policy or regulatory change, inconsistency of regulation or enforcement, nationalization, confiscation or expropriation of assets. These risks are especially problematic because of the mismatch between the long-term nature of investment (typically over decades) and the shorter-term lifetime of policy and regulation. Before investing, the private sector will look to the public sector to offset the worst downside risks.

Governments can reduce **political risk** to low carbon projects by:

- Committing to long-term, predictable policy frameworks – e.g. market mechanisms to price carbon; Feed-in Tariffs or Power Purchase Agreements; tax incentives to encourage entrepreneurialism and investment (including FDI)
- Planning and implementing major public infrastructure projects as transparently as possible – e.g. competitive tendering, payment by results
- Setting regulation and standards to support competition and commercial activity – e.g. setting performance standards, supporting transparent reporting and liability regimes, fair public procurement and protection for intellectual property rights.

Multilateral Development Banks, Export Credit Agencies and other International Financial Institutions can help address the **capacity risks** of operating in developing countries by:

- Assisting governments in planning for major infrastructure and helping them assess the potential of newer or transformational technologies
- Support policy development
- Supporting industrial capacity building by funding projects with potential to enhance local construction, manufacturing, supply chains, especially those that may also have R&D elements
- Support capacity building in local and regional financial services in developing countries to enhance finance flows, improve the availability of local finance (reducing currency risk) and supporting local industrial development (e.g. improving access to finance for supply chain partners)

## Reward

Incentivising private investment can be based on either lowering the costs of the project or enhancing its profitability.

## Lowering the cost of capital

Cost is directly linked to risk, so measures listed above that reduce risk will also help to lower cost, and especially those that target the cost of debt, through delayed payment of principals or lower interest rates. Now is an exceptionally difficult time to be raising finance, in the wake of the financial and sovereign debt crises in developed countries and the rising cost of commodities fuelling inflation in emerging economies. For sheer scale and for its long term maturities, the international bond market offers a potential source of funding but market participants will be highly sensitive to commercial returns and unwilling to finance loss-making or non viable projects unless there is a tariff or subsidy mechanism to compensate them. Institutional investors, another potential source of long-term investment, will primarily be seeking operational assets that generate reliable cash flow over their lifetime.

For these reasons, additional support may be necessary to lower the cost of financing projects by lowering the risk profile, such as:

- Subordinated debt – by which a public funder would offer finance but with a lower priority than other creditors for repayment

- Guarantees from IFIs for project bonds (another form of subordinated debt) along the lines of the EU's proposal for a Europe 2020 Project Bond Initiative
- Concessional long-term debt financing that deferred interest payments for the first few years to support highly capital-intensive projects
- Government loan guarantees to provide confidence to private sector investors
- Export credit guarantees, as already offered by many national governments to support exports, their use could be expanded regionally, e.g. offered on a European basis by the EIB.

#### Supporting profitability

Many low carbon projects involve high up-front capital costs. Investors in major infrastructure projects are highly sensitive to CAPEX and will require the assurance of a viable retail market for their investment. Financial backers similarly will require assurances that projects will move into a required level of profit within a specific timeframe to generate enough cash flow to pay debt and equity investors. This may also require some targeted OPEX support to improve the Net Present Value of newer technologies. Policies that can help enhance the profitability of low carbon projects include:

- Pricing carbon, to create a long term incentive for low carbon investment and generate value from the sale of credits and offsets or from their use as collateral to raise finance
- Building power markets across regions based on transparent, harmonized regulation and standards, to develop a broad consumer retail market
- Advance market commitments to guarantee a viable market for products requiring high capital investment
- Feed-in tariffs (where grid-connected power is supplied through a market) to accelerate investment in low carbon technologies and offer preferential access to the grid.

#### Public-private risk sharing

Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) will be essential to attracting private investment in major public infrastructure projects. The PPP structure offers:

- flexibility of securing diverse sources of up-front finance and funding
- risk mitigation (by sharing it between public and private partners) where levels of risk may erode the Net Present Value of low carbon projects.

Specifically, PPP can help where projects are hard to finance on purely commercial terms, such as where:

- o technology is deployed for the first time in a country (even if successfully demonstrated elsewhere)
- o a government faces the challenge of simultaneously developing infrastructure, policy frameworks and supply chains.
- o pilot or demonstration projects for newer technologies could support capacity building

Where PPP is used, it will be important for governments to be active participants, cofunding projects and ensuring that they are aligned with national development priorities and implementation plans. Early dialogue between governments and potential private sector partners is essential to ensure alignment and adequacy of funding levels. This underlines the importance of engaging business in the process of Technology Needs Assessments, Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Activities and other strategic planning of national infrastructure.

#### Basic model of a PPP

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## Alternatives Locales de Développement (CAALD)

Titre du texte : Observatoires communautaires de changement Climatique

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### 1- Introduction

Les changements climatiques constituent l'un des défis majeurs du vingt-et-unième siècle, tant pour les pays développés que pour ceux en développement. Bien que les pays en développement portent rarement la responsabilité des phénomènes à l'origine des changements climatiques, ils sont appelés à en souffrir davantage en raison de leur vulnérabilité aux événements climatiques extrêmes.

Les communautés locales qui travaillent dans les secteurs les plus dépendants du temps, comme l'agriculture sont les plus touchées aux conséquences de la dégradation de l'environnement, notamment la consommation d'eau, la déforestation, la pollution, la désertification et la biodiversité. Pourtant, à long terme, personne (femmes ou hommes, riches ou pauvres) n'est à l'abri des défis et dangers qu'engendrent les changements climatiques. Les conséquences des changements climatiques varient selon les régions, les générations, l'âge, les classes, les tranches de revenus, les professions et le sexe.


Manquer de répondre aux défis posés par les changements climatiques pourrait avoir de graves conséquences sur le niveau de vie des communautés locales. Les changements climatiques mettent en danger les efforts déployés pour atteindre les Objectifs du millénaire pour le développement convenus au niveau international. Les crises économique et financière mondiales que nous traversons aujourd'hui représentent également des risques, notamment de voir les engagements antérieurs de limiter les émissions de gaz à effet de serre ou de démanteler les usines polluantes.


A Messamena, il manque une expertise locale autochtone qualifiée ; des observatoires communautaires en matière de changement climatique. Dans la zone, le changement climatique influence sur de nombreuses ressources, notamment l'agriculture, la pénurie d'eau, la forêt, la faune, les infrastructures de base et de communication, la


recrudescence des maladies ( paludisme, VIH/Sida, ...).


Toute réponse aux changements climatiques devrait être intégrée aux stratégies nationales , sectorielles et locales de développement . Une adaptation planifiée aux changements climatiques améliore la résilience des communautés et des citoyens qui sont dépendants des ressources naturelles pour leurs besoins quotidiens ainsi que leur savoir – faire spécifique en vue de renforcer les moyens d'existence et de sécurité.


Parmi les mesures pour promouvoir l'adaptation aux changements climatiques et leur atténuation, le CAALD envisage de :


 Puiser dans les vastes connaissances et capacités de gestion des ressources naturelles des communautés locales lors de l'élaboration de politiques et d'initiatives d'adaptation et d'atténuation du changement climatique ;

 Intégrer les perspectives spécifiques aux communautés dans les politiques internationales, nationales et locales ;

 Veiller à faire participer les communautés locales aux processus de prise de décision et d'élaboration des politiques ;

 Promouvoir les approches participatives dans les activités de planification locales et communautaires ;

 Créer des opportunités aux niveaux national et local pour éduquer et former les communautés dans le domaine des changements climatiques, stimuler le renforcement de capacités et le transfert de technologie et engager des ressources spécifiques afin de garantir la participation des communautés locales sur un pied d'égalité aux bénéfices et opportunités offertes par les mesures d'atténuation et d'adaptation ;

 Collecter de nouvelles données différenciées pour les communautés locales et analyser ces chiffres dans les secteurs clés, comme l'agriculture, le tourisme, la foresterie, la pêche, l'énergie et la consommation d'eau, afin de mieux comprendre comment le changement climatique influence la vie des communautés locales de Messamena. La mise en oeuvre de cette action sera développée dans le cadre d'un programme de création d'observatoires communautaires et de renforcement des capacités des hommes et des femmes des communautés locales de Messamena en vue de faciliter leur capacité d'adaptation et de savoir –faire aux changements climatiques.

Cette action permettra aux communautés locales d'être des agents importants de changement et de contribuer à l'atténuation des effets des changements climatiques et aux programmes d'adaptation aux niveaux local, national, et international

## 2. Objectif de développement


Objectif global

Le projet vise à faciliter l'engagement civique des populations de la localité de Messamena dans la résolution des problèmes de lutte contre le changement climatique et de développement des capacités des communautés en météorologie.


Objectifs spécifiques :

 Renforcer les capacités de 60 jeunes des organisations locales en matière de changement climatique ;


 Créer quatre observatoires communautaires de lutte contre le changement climatique dans la localité de Messamena ;


 Equiper les quatre observatoires communautaires de matériels de fonctionnement (système d'information géographique, système de positionnement global, pluviomètre, thermomètre, anémomètre, girouette,...) ;


 Collecter des données concernant le climat, la biodiversité, la socio-économie de la zone ainsi que gérer la base de données des observatoires ;

 Créer la base de données du projet en étroite collaboration avec les partenaires ;


 Concevoir et mettre en oeuvre un système d'information géographique avec le matériel informatique, les logiciels et leur paramétrage ;


 Produire des cartes actualisées des données sur le climat, la biodiversité, la socioéconomie, les infrastructures de base et de communication, les ressources énergétiques, l'eau, le transport,....


 Former les utilisateurs du projet à l'usage de la base des données et renforcer les capacités au niveau local en gestion des bases de données et système d'information géographique ;


 Créer des supports de sensibilisation concernant le climat, la socio-économie, les infrastructures de base et de communication, les ressources énergétiques, l'eau,.... (publications, dépliants, brochures, matériels écrits, sites internet,...) ;


 Echanger des données avec des partenaires d'assistance technique au développement ;

 Fournir des données et cartes aux partenaires de développement ;

 Rédiger et faire valider un canevas standard pour la collecte des données géo référencées ;

 Elaborer une stratégie cohérente et harmonisée en matière de collecte des données dans les observatoires de changement climatique dans les villages ;

 Veiller à la supervision, au reporting et à la capitalisation des activités du projet ;

 Assurer la gestion administrative et financière des observatoires de lutte contre le changement climatique.

## 3. APPROCHE PARTICIPATIVE DE GESTION DU PROJET

### A – METHODOLOGIE

Le projet utilisera une méthode essentiellement participative et interactive comprenant :

-des réunions de sensibilisation et de mobilisation des partenaires autour des objectifs poursuivis par le projet ;

-des ateliers de réflexion sur les activités du projet ;

-des ateliers de planification des activités prioritaires du projet ;

- des séminaires de formation des organisations et communautés locales pour faciliter l'appropriation du projet par les bénéficiaires ;
- des plans de communication avec des partenaires d'assistance technique et financière au développement ;
- des discussions en plénière avec la participation de tous les acteurs et des travaux en groupes ;
- des recueils de données et recherches sur les informations nécessaires (climat, économie, biodiversité,...) ;
- des plans de communication des activités au partenaires

## B – ACTIVITES

Cette méthode participative et interactive sera soutenue par les activités suivantes :

- le développement des capacités des communautés et des utilisateurs locaux du projet à l'usage et gestion des outils de changement climatique ;
- la création des observatoires communautaires de changement climatique ;
- l'équipement et la dotation des observatoires en matériels de fonctionnement ;
- la mise en place d'une base de données de changement climatique ;
- la production des documents de sensibilisation et de communication pour la lutte contre le changement climatique : cartes actualisées, publications, dépliants, brochures, matériels écrits, sites Internet,...
- la collecte des données sur les ressources naturelles, la biodiversité, la santé, le climat, les infrastructures de base et de communication, les ressources énergétiques, l'eau,....
- la supervision, le reporting et la capitalisation des activités du projet ;
- la production des émissions télévisées et radiophoniques ;
- la formulation des propositions de projets de lois au gouvernement camerounais

















## C- MISE EN OEUVRE DU PROJET

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

Tableau 2 : diagramme de gant't du projet

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

## 4 - Résultats escomptes du projet

-  60 jeunes formés dans la lutte contre le changement climatique ;
-  21 jeunes formés engagés dans les activités de lutte contre le changement climatique ;
-  800. 000 pygmées engagées dans les activités de lutte contre le changement climatique ;
-  2.500.000 habitants des communautés villageoises impliquées dans les activités du projet ;
-  12 agents du CAALD enrôlés dans les activités de changement climatique ;
-  04 observatoires communautaires de lutte contre le changement climatique créés dans la zone de Messamena ;
-  04 observatoires communautaires dotés d'équipements de fonctionnement du projet ;
-  Données climatiques collectées par les populations, les jeunes et déposées dans les observatoires ;
-  Base de données climatiques créée par le projet ;
-  Système d'information géographique conçu et mis en place par le projet ;
-  Cartes actualisées des données climatiques produites par le projet ;
-  06 députés de l'Assemblée Nationale impliqués et engagés dans les activités de lutte contre le changement climatique
-  Supports pédagogiques de sensibilisation produits par le projet pour les activités de lutte contre le changement climatique ;
-  Données climatiques et cartes fournies aux partenaires de développement ;
-  Canevas standard validé pour la collecte et la saisie des données géo référencées ;
-  Stratégie cohérente des données climatiques dans les observatoires.

## 4. ASPECTS NOUVEAUX

- Présence d'une expertise locale qualifiée en matière de lutte contre le changement climatique ;
- Effectivité du fonctionnement des observatoires communautaires de changement climatique ;
- Présence réseau d'acteurs de lutte contre le changement climatique ;
- Engagement civique des communautés locales dans la lutte contre le changement climatique : collecte des données, recherche, information, sensibilisation, formation, usage des outils techniques et des équipements,...

- Elaboration des programmes politiques et de développement d'adaptation et de savoir-faire aux changements climatiques aux niveaux local, national, et international ;
- Intégration des perspectives spécifiques aux communautés dans les politiques internationales, nationales, locales et de création des opportunités aux niveaux national et local pour éduquer et former les communautés dans le domaine de la lutte contre le changement climatique ;
- Etablissement de plan de communication (sensibilisation, information, communication) dans les communautés, les organisations locales dans le domaine de la lutte contre le changement climatique ;
- Connexion des observatoires communautaires aux réseaux national, régional, international de lutte contre le changement climatique.








## 5 - PLAN D'APPRENTISSAGE ET ECHANGE DE CONNAISSANCES

### MODALITES PEDAGOGIQUES

Pendant l'exécution du projet, les activités seront articulées par l'animation des modules de formation dans les sites permettant aux jeunes participants d'acquérir des aptitudes dans la lutte contre le changement climatique ( des supports seront remis aux participants pour soutenir les activités de terrain et garantir la pérennité des services fournis par le projet) ainsi que la séance pratique permettant aux participants à ces séminaires de maîtriser l'usage des outils et équipements techniques pour la collecte des données climatiques dans les observatoires (des équipements techniques seront remis à chaque observatoire de la zone).

### CONTENU DE LA FORMATION

Le contenu de la formation prend en compte l'intérêt de connaître les changements climatiques. La formation comporte sept ( 07 ) parties :

-  Fundamentals of climate change ;
-  Observed and projected change of climate parameters;
-  Responses to climate change adaptation;
-  Responses to climate change mitigation;
-  Responses to climate changes;
-  Climate change and active citizenship;
-  Use tools of collecting data.

### ORGANISATION DU PROJET

Le projet se déroule durant trois (03) semestre dans l'arrondissement de Messamena au Cameroun. Il est exécuté de manière concertée et participative par les partenaires réunis au sein d'un comité de pilotage. Le projet fait l'objet d'un plan d'évaluation périodique ( hebdomadaire, mensuelle, trimestrielle, semestrielle) des activités

## 7 – Conclusion

ensemble construisons des observatoires de lutte contre le changement climatique en vue de protéger la vie des hommes, des plantes, des animaux, des écosystèmes maritimes et forestiers.

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## Alzheimer's Disease International

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Submission for Rio +20 Conference

The global number of people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias was 36 million in the year 2010 and it is estimated to rise up to 66 million by the year 2030 and 115 million by 2050, as a result of global ageing. The cost of the disease was \$604 billion in 2010 (Source: World Alzheimer Report 2010, <http://www.alz.co.uk/worldreport>). These diseases will hurt the sustainability of health and finance systems in the future if we don't act.

What are the solutions?

1. Reduce risk factors for dementia, many of them are in line with other major non-communicable diseases: reduce smoking, obesity, and hypertension and increase physical exercise; prevent diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.
2. Improve disease management: earlier diagnosis and intervention improves the quality of life of people with dementia and their carers and it saves money to health care systems. Governments should work on national dementia plans to make this happen.
3. Stimulate innovation and research to find a cure. This means an increase is needed of the currently little research efforts and resources into the working of the brain, prevention and treatments for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

Alzheimer's Disease International

Marc Wortmann

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## Amend

Rio+20: Improving Urban Development in Africa, for Environment, Safety and Accessibility

A submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development by the UNEP 'Share the Road' Initiative and Amend

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November 2011

### Introduction

UNEP's Share the Road initiative and Amend recognise the natural confluence of safe roads and sustainable transport. We are both working in Sub-Saharan Africa to improve nonmotorised transport, to make cities safer, to reduce pollution and to increase accessibility.

Share the Road is an initiative led by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to promote policies in government and donor agencies for systematic investments in walking and cycling road infrastructure, integrated with mass transit systems.

Amend is an NGO operating in Sub-Saharan Africa, with the objective of reducing the number of children killed and injured on the roads.

We welcome Rio+20 as an important opportunity to highlight a cost-effective solution to many of the most urgent problems associated with road development in urban Africa – increased investments in walking and cycling infrastructure.

This submission details our contribution to the Compilation Document, which will serve as basis for the preparation of the Rio+20 Outcome Document. It focuses on the sectoral priority of sustainable urbanisation, through the development of non-motorised transport infrastructure, which will also contribute to a green economy and poverty reduction.

### A Cost-Effective Solution to Some Major Global Problems

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), globally more than 1.3 million people are killed every year due to urban outdoor air pollution. Up to 90% of this air pollution comes from the emissions of motor vehicles, and road transport is the fastest-growing sector for greenhouse gas emissions. WHO statistics also show that more than 1.2 million fatalities and 50 million serious injuries are caused each year by road crashes. 90% of these fatalities occur in low- and middle-income countries where pedestrians and cyclists make up the majority of people killed or injured.

Investing in road infrastructure for walking and cycling leads to massive benefits in environment, safety and accessibility. It reduces emissions of air pollutants and greenhouse gases, protects vulnerable road users and income earning adults from high-speed motor traffic, and increases affordable access to vital services and employment.

### Roads for Some versus Roads for All

Sub-Saharan Africa has the most dangerous roads in the world, with a road fatality rate of 28.3 per 100,000 people. Despite the fact that millions of lives could be saved and pollution and poverty could be reduced, urban development in Africa continues to benefit the carowning minority, at the cost of the majority who walk, cycle and use public transport. The majority have lost their place on the roads. Pedestrians and cyclists - users of the most healthy, clean and resource-efficient forms of transport - have been pushed out to make way for bigger roads and bigger vehicles. They are now the group of road users most at risk of death and injury through crashes and health problems related to pollution.

Saving lives will help to reduce poverty, as so often those who are killed and injured are young adults and children. The death or disability of a breadwinner can push a family deeper into poverty, and a sick or injured child will suffer through absence from school while at the same time costing the family in medical fees. In addition, the healthcare costs from urban air pollution are estimated to cost up to 5% of GDP in developing countries.

### The Cost of Inaction

Sub-Saharan Africa has an average GDP growth rate of 5.1%, which should mean ample domestic and foreign investments in sustainable road infrastructure. Without such investments, road fatalities in 2020 will be 80% higher than now. The problem in urban areas will be amplified due to the fact that more than 300 million residents will be added to Africa's cities in the next 25 years. The majority of these rural to urban migrants will rely on the most affordable and accessible modes of transport – walking and cycling – for which minuscule investments are currently made.

In addition to the exponential rates of urbanization, the population of Africa will grow by more than a billion people by 2050. Africa's rate of motorization is one of the fastest in the world, with thousands of cars added to the roads every day. Globally, the number of private motor vehicles is forecast to triple by 2050. Two-thirds of this explosive growth will take place in non-OECD countries such as those in Sub-Saharan Africa.

### Change is Possible

There are ways to drastically reduce the forecast congestion, pollution, and deaths and injuries, while at the same time bridging the gap between the rich and poor. This solution is to build cities that thrive on integrated, multi-modal transport systems. In modern, green and efficient systems, non-motorised transport will be at the core of mobility planning and implementation.

The critical change needed at the level of decision-makers in government and donor agencies is to systematically allocate funds for walking and cycling infrastructure in all urban transport investments. Even a small proportion of funds would go a long way in making investments more accountable and beneficial to the majority of the population, instead of only benefiting the car-using minority. In turn, such investments will support governments in meeting the overarching goal of poverty reduction, as envisaged in the Millennium Development Goals.



There have been successes in Africa, through both the Share the Road initiative and the work of Amend. For example, the Kenyan government has enacted a policy change whereby walking and cycling facilities are incorporated into its urban road designs. There are also positive developments in Uganda and Rwanda, and in Tanzania where Amend is working to improve the walk to school for tens of thousands of school children. But more needs to be done in these countries as well as the whole of Africa.

The focus of Rio+20 is green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development. The international community would be hard-pressed to ignore the rationale and feasibility of increasing investments in walking and cycling on Africa's roads. The hundreds of millions of people moving around our cities by foot or bicycle, going to school and work, going to meet friends and family, at great undue risk to their lives. They deserve a strong call for action on this occasion of Rio+20.

## American Cancer Society (ACS)

### Placing Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) on the Agenda for Rio+20:

American Cancer Society Input for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, 4-6 June 2012

#### Introduction

As world leaders and experts meet to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, to assess progress to date, and to address new and emerging challenges it is imperative that attention is drawn to the topic of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and their links to economic development and the environment. NCDs—cancer, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases, and diabetes—have been increasingly acknowledged as a major health and economic development issue, and one of the most significant emerging challenges to poverty eradication.

The magnitude of this threat has been recently acknowledged in the UN High Level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of NCDs and its resulting political declaration (September 2011). The importance of the NCD burden and its links to sustainable development and equity concerns were also highlighted by many member states, experts, and civil society representatives at the recent WHO Meeting on the Social Determinants of Health in Rio de Janeiro (October 2011).

#### The Global NCD Burden

NCDs are the leading causes of death in the world, accounting for 63% of global deaths<sup>1</sup>. The burden of NCDs is greatest in the developing world, with nearly 80% of NCD deaths occurring in low and middle income countries<sup>2</sup>. In addition, vulnerable and socially disadvantaged people in developing countries get sick and die sooner as a result of NCDs than people of higher socio-economic status<sup>3</sup>. Approximately half of all female deaths in low and middle countries are attributable to NCDs<sup>4</sup>. Among women ages 15-59 in low and middle income countries, NCDs account for 37% of total deaths and 18.5% of the overall DALY burden (disability-adjusted life years)<sup>5</sup>. Even in low income countries the percentage of female deaths attributable to NCDs (32.6%) far exceeds those attributed to maternal conditions (3.6%) and HIV/AIDS (6.3%)<sup>6</sup>.

Projected increases in NCD incidence and mortality are expected to be greatest in developing countries. Between 2010 and 2020, global NCD deaths are projected to increase by 15%. NCD growth is projected to be highest in the regions of Africa, South-East Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean, where between 2010 and 2020 NCD deaths are projected to increase by over 20%<sup>7</sup>. The growth in cancer incidence by 2030 is projected to be over twice as high in low income countries (82% growth) compared to high income countries (40% growth)<sup>8</sup>.

The increase in NCDs is shifting the global disease burden and placing what has been referred to as “a triple disease burden”—infectious, non-communicable and pregnancy related conditions—on people and health systems in developing countries, thereby complicating our ability to ensure the right to health. In combination, these place a tremendous and escalating strain on resource-poor health systems.<sup>9</sup> NCDs thus represent a major and growing socio-economic burden in the developing world, which places undue strain on communities and health systems and is a major contributor to poverty. In the Political Declaration of the recent UN High Level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of NCDs, which has been unanimously adopted by Member States, the link between NCDs and poverty is underscored, noting “with grave concern the vicious cycle whereby NCDs and their risk factors worsen poverty, while poverty contributes to rising rates of NCDs, posing a threat to public health and economic and social development.”<sup>10</sup>

The NCD burden in the developing world is on the rise due to demographic factors and development-related changes in lifestyle, nutrition, and behavior. Chief factors contributing to the NCD burden, its growth worldwide, and its increasing impact in developing countries include:

- Demographic changes (i.e., and aging population) due to the combination of increasing life expectancy with decreasing fertility rates<sup>11</sup>.
- Changes in diet, working patterns, and activity patterns<sup>12</sup> as a result of economic development, urbanization, and globalization, that have increased exposure to major NCD risk factors (the most significant of which are tobacco, obesity, physical inactivity, and excessive alcohol consumption)

Some of the main common NCD risk factors are increasing as a result of environmentally problematic economic development policies and practices. For example, increases in obesity, physical inactivity, and air pollution have been fostered by planning and transportation patterns in urban centers that have also promoted environmental degradation. Poor diet (i.e., “overnutrition”) and obesity have also been fostered by environmentally unsound rural development practices that diminish the availability of fruits and vegetables and undermine food security.

A major impact on the NCD burden can be made by through preventative measures to address the main common NCD risk factors and strengthen access to NCD treatment and management. For example the, global community has the knowledge and tools to prevent more than half of all new cancer cases and cancer deaths worldwide<sup>13</sup>. The WHO estimates that approximately 40% of worldwide cancer deaths can be prevented by improving eating habits and physical activity, reducing tobacco use and alcohol consumption, and immunizing against viruses.

#### Health, NCDs, and Sustainable Development

The critical importance of health as a foundation of sustainable development has been widely acknowledged. Health and development are intimately interconnected, and environmentally problematic forms of economic development can result in severe environmental health and nutritional problems. The important links between health, the environment, socioeconomic disparities, and poverty are acknowledged in both Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. Within Agenda 21's section on “social and economic dimensions” (section I), health figures as a chief focus. Agenda 21 underscores the “primary health needs of the world's population” as “integral to the achievement of the goals of sustainable development and primary environmental care.

In particular, Agenda 21 emphasizes “preventive and curative health facilities, especially primary health care and maternal health care systems accessible to all” as a critical component of sustainable development<sup>14</sup>. Furthermore, Agenda 21 affirms that efforts to address health, environmental and socio-economic concerns require intersectoral actions—with a particular emphasis on preventative health measures—and that there is a need to “to coordinate the involvement of citizens, the health sector, the health-

related sectors and relevant non-health sectors (business, social, educational and religious institutions) in solutions to health problems<sup>15</sup>.

The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (from the 2002 Earth Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa) reaffirms the central importance of health in sustainable development, stating in paragraph 19 that: 'We reaffirm our pledge to place particular focus on, and give priority attention to, the fight against the worldwide conditions that pose severe threats to the sustainable development of our people, which include...endemic, communicable and chronic diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis...' <sup>16</sup>

Despite the widespread acknowledgement of health as a critical foundation of sustainable development, attention to NCDs in particular has been minimal, overlooking the important links between NCD prevention and control and global sustainable economic development. Given that environmental degradation and NCDs share similar causes and solutions, inclusion of the NCD challenge as part of broader debates about sustainable development and green economies and in the outcome document adopted at Rio in 2012 is essential to ensure more sustainable approaches to economic development.

### Summary Recommendations for Rio+20

The American Cancer society urges that the Rio+20 meeting and its outcomes document reinforce the central importance of health concerns in global sustainable development policies, strategies, and actions, and that the conception of health within sustainable development be broadened in a manner that holistically integrates NCDs and established health priorities (e.g., maternal and child health and communicable diseases) and encompasses health issues throughout the lifecycle, with a particular emphasis on the most vulnerable populations.

NCDs are a major component of future demographic, economic development, and environmental trends globally and it is critical that they part of the dialog, metrics, and policies of sustainable development. It is imperative that the potential synergies between NCD control and environmental concerns be incorporated within the agenda of the Rio+20 meeting. In particular, we urge attention to the importance of NCD prevention and control for:

- Promoting, health, wellness, and poverty alleviation.
- Monitoring the impacts of development and providing evidence-based support for sustainable development.
- Strengthening strategies for multisectoral policy development and planning, thereby maximizing their potential for the effective promotion of health, the environment, and sustainable development.
- Developing rural development and agricultural policies that support food security, nutritional health, and environmental sustainability.
- Developing urban planning and transportation policies and plans that promote health, environmental, and economic goals.
- Developing policies and strategies for tobacco control that promote health and sustainable development.

### Potential Synergies between NCD Control and Sustainable Development

Policies and actions for NCD control and environmental issues have the potential for important synergies. Some environmental policies may also pose health risks or tradeoffs (e.g., economic and agricultural policies to promote biofuel production can undermine food security and nutrition if not properly designed) that need to be considered in formulating sustainable development policies<sup>17</sup>. Inclusion of NCDs in sustainable development discussions is important to better understand the links between health and the environment and to maximize potential synergies between environmental, health, and economic development policies.

NCD control can contribute to a variety of elements encompassed within the vision of sustainable development as articulated in Agenda 21, including: promoting food security as a component of sustainable agriculture, protecting and empowering vulnerable communities and groups (e.g., women) in decision making processes, giving attention to rapid urbanization, reducing health risks from environmental pollution and hazards, strengthening basic health care services for women and children, and promoting of health education and provision of essential drugs, and the development and monitoring of health indicators for sustainable development.

More broadly, interventions for NCDs can contribute towards progress on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). For example, controlling NCDs will make progress towards ending poverty (MDG1) and it will promote gender equity (MDG3) and child health (MDG4). Similarly, reducing adult death rates and disability promotes economic growth and poverty reduction (MDG1); and, given that NCDs are the leading cause of death for women in most countries, preventing NCDs promotes women's health and empowerment (MDG3). NCD prevention efforts can also complement interventions to ensure environmental sustainability (MDG7) through promoting biodiversity-friendly, sustainable food production, limiting production of and exposure to air and water pollution, and limiting occupational exposure to toxic compounds, among other measures.

Below is a survey of some specific examples of potential synergies between NCDs and environmental concerns that can contribute to the pursuit of the broader global objective of promoting sustainable development.

### NCDs, Health, and Poverty Alleviation

- Improved prevention and control of NCDs diminishes the health and economic burden on vulnerable populations, thereby contributing to poverty alleviation and the promotion of sustainable development. Actions targeting NCDs also support other global health priorities (e.g., maternal and child health, communicable diseases) and are essential to health system strengthening. Improved NCD control will strengthen healthcare systems in ways that will bolster interventions for all diseases and health conditions, including improving and strengthening: public health literacy, human resources, technical capacity, primary care capacity and delivery, diagnostic capacity, infrastructure for secondary and tertiary care, and procurement strategies for essential medications. Priority interventions for NCDs – such as tobacco control and improved nutrition – would actually benefit maternal and child health<sup>18</sup>. For example, reducing smoking and indoor air pollution decreases childhood illness. Improvements in health status and in the quality and accessibility of health care as a result of attention to NCDs are essential for addressing poverty alleviation and promoting sustainable development.

### NCD Prevention and Sustainable Development

- Prevention of some of the major NCD risk factors (e.g., poor diet, nutrition, and lack of physical activity) can and should be addressed through sustainable development policies (e.g., policies aimed at food security, sustainable agriculture, sustainable transportation, and urban air pollution). Attention to NCDs within the framework of sustainable development provides important synergies between health and environmental concerns, helping to provide evidence-based support for negative impacts of environmental policies as well as strengthening the potential outcomes of environmental policy and governance structures.
- Because of overlapping causes between health and environmental concerns, there are potential synergies between educational efforts for NCD prevention/awareness and environmental sustainability.
- The development and implementation of preventative health and wellness initiatives within government policies and the private sector contribute to a greener economy and avert placing unnecessary burdens on economic and health systems.

- Attention to NCDs can help improvement monitoring of impacts of sustainable development initiatives and the development of evidence-based policies and strategies for sustainable development. Agenda 21<sup>19</sup> calls for taking into account demographic trends and factors as essential to formulating integrated national policies for environment and development. Attention to the causes and implications of the NCD burden is an indispensable component of the future demographic trends that needs to inform sustainable development policies and plans.

#### **NCDs, the Environment, and Multisectoral Approaches to Sustainable Development**

- Cross cutting measures are essential for promoting sustainable livelihoods and environmental protection. As is the case for environmental issues, addressing NCDs requires a multi-sectoral, whole-government approach. Addressing both of these issues, necessitates engaging ministries of health, environment, transportation, agriculture, finance, foreign affairs, and education—among others—and, therefore, integrated approaches to addressing both issues can be supportive of strengthened models for effective multisectoral actions and institutional frameworks for sustainable development. Agenda 21 acknowledges the virtue of intersectoral approaches that integrate health and environmental concerns, asserting that the “linkage of health, environmental and socio-economic improvements requires intersectoral efforts.... Particularly relevant is the inclusion of prevention programmes rather than relying solely on remediation and treatment.” The Political Declaration of the recent UN High Level Meeting on the Prevention and Control of NCDs includes a commitment to “promote, establish or support and strengthen, by 2013, as appropriate multi-sectoral national policies and plans for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases<sup>20</sup>.” Inclusion of environmental considerations as part of the process of developing these multisectoral policies and plans is fundamental to the promotion of health and sustainable development.

#### **NCD Control and Rural Sustainable Development**

- Integration of health and environmental concerns is critical in formulating rural development and agricultural policies aiming to promote food security, improved nutrition, and more environmentally sound land and resource use practices. Attention to the NCD issue can help strengthen support for such policies and potentially improve their impacts on health, wellbeing, and the economy. A recent report (Bringing Agriculture to the Table How Agriculture and Food Can Play a Role in Preventing Chronic Disease) asserts that “in the decades to come, the agriculture and food system will need to change to meet the related challenges of rising demand, accessibility and affordability, and improved nutrition and health”, necessitating an “integrated look at agriculture, food, nutrition, and the growing threat of diet-related chronic diseases.” The threat of “dual malnutrition” brought on by the rise of NCDs needs to be acknowledged and integrated within agricultural and resource utilization policies in order to make “healthy foods more available and affordable to consumers at all income levels”, thereby fostering more sustainable economic development. The persistence of “current trends in agriculture would mean maintaining inequitable food distribution, unhealthy diets, unsustainable environmental threats, and unknown risks from climate change”<sup>21</sup>. Addressing NCDs requires a multisectoral response that engages agricultural and food production sectors (among others) in support of health objectives<sup>22</sup>. In order to promote sustainable development there is a need for integrated approaches to enhancing agricultural production, increasing food access, supporting healthy populations, and protecting the environment. A combined focus on health and the environment is important for developing fiscal policies and subsidies that more fully account for environmental and health externalities and maximize their potential for promoting sustainable development. For example, policy and market instruments to support small scale food producers and farming communities in order to promote food security and improved availability and access to nutritious foods need to be mindful of both under and over nutrition in order to effectively promote sustainable development<sup>23</sup>. Conversely, policies targeting the price, availability, and marketing of unhealthy foods need to be cognizant of environmental concerns, ensuring that they do not foster unsustainable resource use practices and maximizing their potential to be leveraged for the promotion of more environmentally sound resource use practices.

#### **NCD Control, Urbanization, and Urban Green Development**

- Agenda 21 underscores the importance of attention to rapid urbanization and calls for the need for “greater attention should be given to preparing for the needs, in particular of women and children, for improved municipal management and local government.” It also highlights the links between urban development, poverty, inadequate diets, and environmental hazards and the importance of attention to urban health as an integral component of sustainable development. Furthermore, it underscores the fact that in urban contexts “many factors that affect human health are outside the health sector”, thus requiring coordinated actions to address urban health. Given the important links between urbanization and decreases in physical activity, impoverishment of diet, and air pollution, attention to NCD control is a critically important component of urban sustainable development policies and programs. For example, WHO’s Health in the Green Economy brief<sup>24</sup>—which highlights some potential synergies and tradeoffs between health and climate change policies and interventions—asserts that “cycling, walking and using rapid transit/public transport can greatly enhance levels of physical activity, helping prevent a range of chronic diseases including cancer, heart disease and diabetes.” Green transportation initiatives provide an excellent example of synergies between health and environmental issues. Green urban planning and transportation policies (e.g., investment in and provision of transport network space for pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, and land use planning that increases density and diversity of uses) can diminish risk factors for respiratory disease, cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, and obesity, through promoting physical activity and addressing air pollution<sup>25</sup>.

#### **Tobacco Control and Sustainable Development**

- Tobacco exposure is a risk factor for cancer, cardiovascular disease, respiratory diseases, diabetes, and other diseases, and tobacco-related deaths are the single most preventable cause of death in the world, making it one of the most pressing global health priorities.
- The WHO FCTC (Framework Convention on Tobacco Control)—an international treaty which currently includes 174 parties—emphasizes the importance of “protection of the environment” (Article 18) as part of tobacco control efforts, calling for “Combined health and environmental efforts to promote nutrition and food security to promote government policies promote corporate initiatives that are environmentally sound and promote health, including social responsibility initiatives, workplace initiatives, and business practices (e.g., food and beverage industry)”. The FCTC contains a mixture of demand and supply side interventions for tobacco control. Among the three supply side interventions is “Provision of support for economically viable alternative activities”, including for tobacco workers and growers (Article 17). Supply side measures targeting tobacco cultivation can provide environmental benefits (and health benefits to rural workers) and need to incorporate a sustainable development framework in promoting alternative agricultural and land use programs.
- Increasing taxes on tobacco products is seen as one of the most effective ways to diminish demand and promote tobacco control<sup>26</sup>. Resources raised through these taxes can potentially be applied to supporting economically and environmentally sustainable alternative agricultural activities.
- Implementing comprehensive national tobacco control strategies also brings additional potential economic benefits, thereby supporting sustainable development efforts. Smoke-free workplaces create a healthier workforce that benefits businesses by reducing absenteeism, improving productivity, and lowering healthcare costs and insurance premiums<sup>27</sup>. Secondhand smoke imposes a heavy financial burden on businesses in the form of increased medical costs for employees, lost productivity due to illness, higher insurance premiums, and other costs.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>1</sup> World Health Organization. 2011. Global status report on noncommunicable diseases <sup>2</sup> Ibid. <sup>3</sup> Ibid. <sup>4</sup> NCD Alliance. 2011. Non-communicable Diseases: A priority for women’s health and development. <sup>5</sup> WHO. 2008. The global burden of disease: 2004 update. Geneva, World Health Organization. <sup>6</sup> Ibid. <sup>7</sup> WHO. 2011. Global status report on noncommunicable diseases. <sup>8</sup> World Health Organization. 2011. Global status report on noncommunicable diseases <sup>9</sup> Beaglehole et al. 2011. Priority actions for the

non-communicable disease crisis. The Lancet 377 (9775): 1438 - 1447. <sup>10</sup> Political declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable

Diseases. 2011.

<sup>11</sup> Raymond, Susan, Henry Greenberg, and Stephen Leeder. 2005. Beyond reproduction: Women's health in today's developing world. International Journal of Epidemiology 34. <sup>12</sup> PATH. 2009. The growing chronic disease burden: implications for reproductive health. Outlook 26(1). <sup>13</sup> American Cancer Society. 2011. Global Cancer Facts & Figures 2nd Edition. <sup>14</sup> Earth Summit Agenda 21. 1992. Available at: <http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/> <sup>15</sup> Earth Summit Agenda 21. 1992. Available at: <http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/> <sup>16</sup> The Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development. 2002. Available at

[http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD\\_POI\\_PD/English/POI\\_PD.htm](http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/documents/WSSD_POI_PD/English/POI_PD.htm)

<sup>17</sup> World Health Organization. 2011. Health in the Green Economy Policy Briefings: Health Co-benefits of Climate Change Mitigation. Available at [http://www.who.int/hia/green\\_economy/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/hia/green_economy/en/index.html). <sup>18</sup> Beaglehole et al. Priority actions for the non-communicable disease crisis. The Lancet, Volume 377, Issue 9775, Pages 1438 - 1447, 23

April 2011. <sup>19</sup> United Nations. 1992. Earth Summit Agenda 21. Available at: <http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/> <sup>20</sup> Political declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Disease.

2011.

<sup>21</sup> Nugent, Rachel. 2001 Bringing Agriculture to the Table How Agriculture and Food Can Play a Role in Preventing Chronic Disease. The Chicago Council. <sup>22</sup> Ibid. <sup>23</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). 2011. Greening the Economy with Agriculture: Concept Note. <sup>24</sup> World Health Organization. 2011. Health in the Green Economy Policy Briefings: Health Co-benefits of Climate Change Mitigation.

Available at [http://www.who.int/hia/green\\_economy/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/hia/green_economy/en/index.html). <sup>25</sup> Ibid. <sup>26</sup> World Health Organization. 2004. Building blocks for tobacco control: a handbook. Geneva: World Health Organization <sup>27</sup> Reed H. 2010. The effects of increasing tobacco taxation: a cost benefit and public finances analysis. London: Landman Economics for

Action on Smoking and Health.

<sup>28</sup> Ross H. 2005. Economics of smoke-free policies. In, The SmokeFree Europe Partnership, Smoke free Europe makes economic sense: A report on the economic aspects of Smoke free policies. May 2005. p13-17. <http://www.ehnheart.org/files/SmokefreeEurope-102853A.pdf>.

## American Planning Association

American Planning Association (APA) and the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA)

Objective: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development in the Western Hemisphere by assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, as well as addressing new and emerging challenges.

The American Planning Association (APA) has partnered with the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and a variety of educational and nongovernmental organizations in the U.S. and abroad to address the issue of sustainable development through improved urban and regional planning. Under President Obama's leadership, APA was awarded two grants under the umbrella of the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), an intergovernmental agreement among over a dozen Western Hemisphere nations to cooperatively address the issues of climate change and energy consumption. We suggest that the framework established through our first ECPA grant, aimed at improving planning capacity in Latin America and the Caribbean, combined with the goals of our second ECPA grant, where we will identify and initiate pilot projects in housing and sustainable community development, will provide lessons for the attendees and their governments as they seek to reaffirm and commit to reducing remaining barriers in sustainable development.

Themes: (1) A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (2) The institutional framework for sustainable development.

ECPA provides a thoughtful approach to engaging a wide range of interests and stakeholders— government, NGOs, educational institutions, and private sector companies—to collaborate across levels of jurisdiction and disciplines, thus placing more expertise at the hands of all parties directly responsible for community building. Primarily through a variety of networks, APA has already seen progress in changing the way people and communities view the role of planning in the overall effort to achieve more sustainable, economically prosperous, and equitable places. In our ECPA work, we have specifically targeted solutions that will simultaneously improve the living standards for the poor and those historically marginalized from the discussions related to infrastructure and economic investment, while also assisting communities to reduce energy poverty, build resilience to climate change, and promote community and national NGO bodies that will carry on this work after our initial technical assistance work ends.

A primary example of our success thus far is reflected by progress in the Caribbean to create a professional network of city and regional planners who will be able to provide more technical assistance, advocacy, and knowledge to local citizens and government leaders about energy and climate change issues. This effort transcends borders and languages, representing one of APA's early achievements in the ECPA effort. In addition, we have advised a joint U.S.-Brazilian graduate level urban and regional planning studio on a petrochemical facility outside of Rio de Janeiro and hosted two international conferences on sustainable urban planning and sustainable economic development that drew participants and case studies from across the Americas.

APA's overall institutional framework combines training, targeted technical assistance, and the creation and enhancement of nonprofit organizations. As such, it is a framework that we feel should be of interest to the participants in Rio + 20. As a result of our ECPA program, APA feels that our work resonates well with both themes and that our successful outcomes will greatly assist in meeting the summit's overall objectives

## American Youth Understanding Diabetes Abroad, Inc. (AYUDA)

Youth and NCDS: Their Role in Sustainable Development

As young people involved within the field of development as it pertains to health, we welcome the opportunity to comment on the Rio +20 Meeting on Sustainable Development.

Here, in light of this meeting and others that touch on similar social, economic and environmental determinants such as UN GA High Level Meeting on NCDs, the Rio World Conference on Social Determinants of Health are our comments regarding the importance of youth involvement, which we find critical as it relates to health and its impact on development sustainability.

Non-Communicable Diseases or NCDs, including but not limited to diabetes types 1 and 2, cancer, chronic heart disease and asthma, account for 60% of deaths worldwide. The World Economic Forum's 2010 Global Risks Report identifies NCDs as the second most severe threat to the global economy and a global risk equal in cost to the current global financial crisis. NCDs can be especially crippling in low and middle-income countries where they can contribute directly to poverty and other development issues.

Chronic diseases in young people include asthma, diabetes, congenital adrenal hyperplasia, cystic fibrosis, chronic lung disease and some cancers. It has been well documented that the incidence of type 1 and type 2 diabetes is increasing not just in adults, but also children, particularly in developing countries that previously experienced very low prevalence of the diseases. The challenges of managing these diseases on a day-to-day basis are exacerbated in developing countries where a lack of education at the primary health care level is coupled with poor access to medical supplies (due to poor access to health services, inequities within the health system, insufficient or non-existent drug supply system and inability to pay). These issues can create a heavy negative impact on economic development and sustainability.

Although NCDs affect many young people, most prevention measures are not targeted towards youth. It is young people who will bear the brunt of the economic, social and emotional burden of NCDs throughout their lives. This is why we see it as critically important to encourage meaningful youth participation within all global development policy discussions.

To reinforce these points, we include the following goals:

Young people are meaningfully involved in the global policy debate. From global to national settings, world leaders must acknowledge the significant contributions of young people and meaningfully involved them in the policy-making that addresses NCDs. We seek to ensure that youth are meaningfully included in high-level negotiations and processes. This includes investments in youth leadership for global, regional and national processes and the inclusion of specific time-bound outcomes related to young people and NCDs in global health policy. Youth inclusion ensures not only representation from a key population, but sustainability as the youth leaders of today will be the adult leaders of tomorrow.

Include Youth in NCD Prevention design and delivery. The four WHO-identified NCD risk factors - tobacco use, unhealthy diets, physical activity, and harmful use of alcohol, as well as mental health conditions, have their roots in adolescence. In order to target this key population in NCD prevention, youth must be meaningfully involved in the design and delivery of interventions - with a strong focus on peer-to-peer learning and "for youth, by youth" approaches.

Current literature raises awareness of many of the challenges facing people living with chronic disease in developing countries and acknowledges that many factors impact health outcomes. However, many of the recommendations fail to focus on practical interventions or solutions that are replicable in resource-poor settings. There is limited evidence comparing the relative effectiveness of locally-appropriate interventions for managing chronic disease in developing countries, particularly in regards to managing chronic disease in children, a particularly vulnerable group. Abegunde et al. argue in the Lancet Series on chronic disease that there is considerable opportunity for low-cost interventions that could help to curb the growing epidemic of non-communicable disease in developing countries.

AYUDA, (American Youth Understanding Diabetes Abroad, Inc) has been implementing sustainable low cost programs for children with type 1 diabetes in developing countries in conjunction with local partner organizations for over a decade. By empowering young people living with diabetes to work with and educate other youth with the same disease, AYUDA has found improved health outcomes for children when compared to alternative interventions in resource poor settings, in particular with regard to psychosocial outcomes. Cohort data demonstrates improvements in short-term and long-term glycemic control (HbA1c values).

Make NCDs a Human Rights Issue for Youth. From poverty to stigma and discrimination to access of health services, violations of human rights can make young people more vulnerable to NCDs. Young people will, where possible, link NCDs with the issues of human rights to ensure people understand that NCDs are not just about health, but are also an issue of social justice.

Connect communities, countries, conditions and sectors. Young people will make an effort to build a coalition on NCDs that connects young leaders, particularly those most affected, with leaders from all other areas of civil society. The youth movement will be linked to issues within global, regional and national context. The coalition will be linked to the greater youth and development movement.

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## An Taisce The National Trust for Ireland

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

- A commitment to fully implement those principles of the Earth Summit 1992 which have not yet been completed, both nationally and internationally.
- To prioritize those principles that have become even more critical, namely biodiversity and habitat loss, measures to counteract Climate Change, eradication of poverty, greater emphasis on Local Agenda 21 and 'bottom up' sustainability measures.
- A firm principle on strong governance and oversight to ensure audit and implementation of the measures agreed.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

### 1.2 Irish Constitutional and legislative provision for sustainable development.

The provision of Constitutional amendment to incorporate the revised and updated sustainable development declaration which will emerge from Rio +20 process.

Legislative provision for sustainable development as an overarching objective, parallel to national climate change legislation with mandatory greenhouse gas emission reduction targets. Revision of remit of Government departments state and Statutory boards and Government share-hold controlled companies, including Bord Na Mona and Coillte with sustainable development as overriding objective.

### 1.3 Reducing Irelands global resource consumption and emission footprint.

A range of global emission and resource consumption measurements now exist which all establish the unsustainability of continuing consumptions and emission levels. The 2006 National Footprint Network table (Appendix 1) is particularly striking in illustrating the disparity between the developed and the poorest countries. Global footprint calculation is based on a range of measurements including arable land use area, water use, fossil fuel and mineral resource use, calculating point of origin and transboundary impacts.

The October 2010 Living Planet report identified Ireland as having the tenth highest global footprint

The Living Planet report looks at the changing state of ecosystems, consumption of natural resources and the implications for the future of the world. Overall, the report concludes natural resources are being consumed faster than the Earth is replenishing them. People are now living lifestyles which would require one and a half planets to sustain, though there are significant differences between rich and poor nations. The report, carried out by the World Wildlife Fund, examines the number of 'global hectares' — the amount of biologically productive land and water available per person on the planet — that countries need.

Irish people on average use just over six global hectares per person, more than double the demand of some EU countries, such as Hungary and Romania. The worst offender is the United Arab Emirates.

Irish per capita resource consumption levels and global foot impacts are at a comparable level to the US and Australia. Post boom Ireland retains in high per capita levels of energy consumption, consumer and household goods and clothing, meat and processed food.

### 2.2 Sustainable use of the components of biodiversity,

All human activities, including all our economic activities, take place inside, and cannot exceed, the carrying capacity of our environment. The carrying capacity of our environment is dependent on the healthy functioning of our biodiversity and ecosystems. From an economic perspective, numerous attempts have been made to understand the value of biodiversity to humanity in terms of ecological goods and services for instance insect pollination, water regulation and purification, carbon storage.

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) assessed the condition of 24 of the earth's natural systems that it considers humanity's "life support systems". It concluded that over the previous 50 years, four of these systems have shown some improvement, fifteen are in serious decline, and five are in a stable state on a worldwide basis, but threatened in some parts of the world. The establishment of the TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) study (<http://www.teebweb.org/>) is another initiative to highlight economic benefits of biodiversity, cost of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and make practical management recommendations.

Yet other reasons to conserve biodiversity are equally valid and must not be lost in the rush to weigh up its economic value to humans. There is also our ethical responsibility to conserve biodiversity and facilitate a shift toward societal respect for nature. In the words of Richard Frankham "The ethical justifications for conserving biodiversity are simply that one species on Earth does not have the right to drive others to extinction, analogous to abhorrence of genocide among human population".

#### Pollination

The value of crop pollination in Ireland by all pollinating insects has been estimated as €53million per year in Ireland . Unfortunately, the current status of Irish pollinators appears to be in decline, with 30% of the wild bees and 18% of butterfly species in Ireland considered threatened according to the International Union for Conservation (IUCN).

#### Soil Protection

To achieve food security in face of an ever growing population, Ireland and the world, will require large areas of fertile land. However increasing pressures such as urbanisation, afforestation, industry, erosion and overgrazing are putting soil quality at risk. As yet there is no program to monitor and protect this essential resource in Ireland. In the European Union it has been estimated that soil deterioration costs 38 billion a year, however to date; no such figure appears available for Ireland.

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

An Taisce – The National Trust for Ireland

Tailor's Hall,

Back Lane,

Dublin 8

31st October 2011

RE: UN Submission re Rio +20

An Taisce, The National Trust for Ireland, welcomes this opportunity for public consultation on Ireland's progress since the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro (Rio 1992). An Taisce was established in 1948 and is Ireland's oldest voluntary environmental organisation. It is national organisation and a key consultation prescribed body under a

number of environmental and planning, acts and regulations in Ireland. As such An Taisce has been uniquely positioned to observe the ongoing developments in Ireland's natural environment since Rio and during the economic and construction boom of the 'Celtic Tiger'.

There is an urgent need to ensure that environmental issues are embedded in all relevant legislation both on a national and international level. Measures should be introduced to assess practices carried out throughout the system e.g. agriculture, forestry, planning etc. Procedures for appropriate monitoring of impacts along with relevant regulations and should be introduced plus provisions for strict enforcement to ensure compliance when found necessary together. The establishment of a Court for Environmental Justice would be an appropriate development as would the strengthening of UNEP. A constitutional right to a healthy environment should be enshrined in law.

Since the adoption of the 1992 Rio Declaration, Ireland had the fastest population increase in the EU. The unprecedented physical and infrastructural investment which occurred between the mid 1990's and 2007 failed to address the principles of the Rio Declaration. Development was instead underpinned by a flawed economic growth based model disregarding resource consumption, climate emissions and debt accumulation. There was significant lack of initiative in protecting Ireland's most internationally significant Habitats and accordingly breaking the biodiversity convention. This particularly applies to the introduction of a ten year derogation to accommodate continued mechanised peat cutting in Special Area of Conservation designated raised bogs.

Transport investment was focused on over-scaled airport terminal capacity and a motorway programme which has accelerated car based urban sprawl and made rail travel slower than inter regional road travel times.

The late implementation of EU building energy performance rating standards and lack of any significant retrofit investment has left a highly energy inefficient building stock.

Investment in a new generation of 3 peat burning power stations created an additional carbon burden on top of an already per capita emission level. Ireland's per capita emissions at over 16 tonnes are twice that of Sweden.

Much of the focus of Tourism investment during the boom years was for visitor accommodation and golf resort development in sensitive landscape locations or country house parklands. This can undermine the key asset base which makes Ireland attractive in the first place.

Government Departments and State Agencies and companies failed to incorporate sustainability into their core remit, policy and decision making.

In many cases policies or actions promoted by the former Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government were disregarded. Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government funded a television advertising campaign recommending lower driving speeds to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while the Department of Transport increased motorway speed limits from 100kph to 120kph, thereby increasing greenhouse gas emissions and further undermining viability and use of public transport.

In 2008 the Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment promoted the export of Irish Peat to Africa without addressing legal status of extraction under the Environmental Impact Assessment and IPPC Directives, let alone sustainability.

In 2010 the Department of Agriculture and Food published a ten year strategy 'Food Harvest 2020'. This includes an objective to increase milk production by 50%. No evaluation was carried out on the impact of this on climate emissions, biodiversity or fertilizer and energy use was not addressed.

Ireland's failure to adopt an integrated sustainable development model over the last 20 years has created unquantifiable, social, environmental and economic costs for the future.

The cost of the EU/IMF bailout is only now being recognised.

Parallel to this we face the social cost of poorly integrated socially divided communities, car dependence and obesity, poor planning in climate adaptation and flood risk.

Our high dependence level on imported fossil fuel creates unquantifiable cost exposure in transport and energy.

Poor biodiversity protection and water management will need significant remedy to meet EU standards and Directives.

The failures of the last two decades cannot be reported. Sustainability needs legal and practical effect in all future planning and decision making.

The key recommendation of this submission is the need to give sustainably legal effect in the Constitution and legislative remit of Government departments and State agencies and companies.

An Taisce

Tailors Hall

Back Lane

Dublin 8

Rio+20

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

An Taisce Submission to the UN

October 2011

1 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

1.1 Introduction

Much of the current national political and media focus is on promoting economic development and employment. While all mainstream commentators and politicians extol the virtues of a return to economic growth (GDP/GNP) as the conventional solution to our current economic, unemployment and fiscal difficulties it should be borne in mind that there is an inherent contradiction between the current model of economic growth and environmental and resource sustainability. Our society is currently locked into an economic system that has a GDP growth imperative and, as a consequence, increased energy demand, increased greenhouse gas emissions and increased resource throughput and depletion. Our ecological debts are as unstable as our financial debts. Neither is properly accounted for in the relentless pursuit of consumption growth. This contradiction is placing further pressure on the carrying capacity of the environment to support society and the economy.

Furthermore, GDP economic growth is a highly imperfect and counter-productive measure of human progress as it only measures income and does not account for the

consumption of natural capital (resources) or the significant costs of anthropogenic pollution. The Stern Report noted that Climate change is the greatest and widest-ranging market failure ever seen. As can be seen from the very high prices in Brent Crude Oil, the return of economic growth to the world economy has triggered an energy price spike, reducing consumption demand and further recession. Continued GDP economic growth in the Irish economy is unsustainable in the long-term and it is prudent to plan now for a different economic future including 'low growth' or 'no growth' scenarios.

For example, a 2 per cent per annum growth in GDP would mean the carbon occasioned by each unit of economic output would have to be 130 times lower in 2050 than it is today otherwise we cross a threshold in terms of carbon emissions that future generations are unable to recover from. Economic growth is therefore inconsistent with the requirement to abate greenhouse gas emissions. In any event, 2% GDP growth would mean the total size of the Irish economy with double every 35 years. This is not physically possible in finite world and we should therefore not be planning for it.

Current Government policy is to promote the Smart Economy and a return to an export-led economy. While this strategy has many virtues it is based on the premise that Ireland cannot compete with manufacturing industries in low-cost developing nations in a globalised economy. As a consequence, the structure of modern developed economies such as Ireland have typically tended to move progressively away from domestic manufacturing resulting in more and more finished and semi-finished goods need to be imported from abroad and expanding the financial and services sector to pay for it. Of course, this strategy is extremely vulnerable to oil price inflation (for transport) and outsources environmental degradation to less regulated countries. We submit that a strong local manufacturing base that is based on the sustainable use of local indigenous resources and local markets will make Ireland more resilient in long run.

Current national economic development policies demonstrate a long-term blindness to the limitations of the material world. Responses to the crisis which aim to restore the status quo are misguided and doomed to failure. Prosperity today means nothing if it undermines the conditions upon which the prosperity of tomorrow depends.

## 1.2 Constitutional and legislative provision for sustainable development.

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## 1.4 Transport

### 1.4.1 Shipping

Greenhouse gas emissions from international shipping activity currently account for at least around 3% of total global emissions, and comparable to aviation. The global shipping and aviation sectors were not included in the failed Kyoto protocol, and left to be addressed in future agreements.

The most recent study into medium to long-term traffic volumes at Irish ports is provided in the Dublin Port National Development Plan Study, published in 2009. This study took account of the economic downturn and the uncertainty over when the economy would return to growth. The Study concluded that the sector would face renewed capacity constraints from approximately 2025 onwards. This study did not factor the emission and resource consumption reductions that will be required by 2020 or the impact of oil production peak.

### 1.4.2 Low carbon sea-rail link from Dublin to London

Ireland is unsustainably dependant on international air travel for connectivity. This creates high per capita levels of greenhouse gas emissions, and disproportionate risk exposure to future fluctuation in fossil fuel costs or natural events such as a major Icelandic volcanic eruption.

A joint initiative will be negotiated with the UK Government and Welsh Assemblies for a low carbon Dublin-London link extending electrification of rail link from Crewe to Holyhead and procurement of the most emission efficient passenger ferry vessels.

The impact of the spring 2010 Icelandic volcanic eruption highlighted the strategic importance of foot passenger services from Ireland to Britain and France. This was reinforced by the minor May 2011 eruption which curtailed the Barak Obama visit to Ireland.

Based on the nearly 1,000 year historic data on Icelandic volcanic eruptions and older ice core data, there are future unpredictable risks, in duration and time interval for much larger scale eruptions such as occurred in the 1780s, which would be capable of curtailing jet aviation in Europe and the North Atlantic for unquantifiable time periods. It is unclear what future risk factor should be calculated for such an event, whether 1 in 100 years, 1 in 200 years or a larger margin.

There are factors apart from volcanic ash risk, requiring that low carbon sea passenger connectivity should be the single most important marine transport priority for Ireland in order to:

1. Ensure that aviation greenhouse gas emissions are reduced in tandem with all other categories of national and transnational emissions



2. Avoid future exposure of aviation fuel to unpredicted price rise, which would create an unplanned flip to sea passenger demand.

Existing passenger ferry services to Britain and France, are primarily car and roll on and roll off freight services. Ferries are poor in emission standards. There is a need for a new generation of low carbon efficient specifically passenger ferries, with the most efficient achievable land connection to London and other centres. This provides a major co operation opportunity to use the Cross Border and Ireland UK institutions under the Belfast agreement, to a real practical benefit.

#### 1.4.3 National transport investment

A time-tabled implementation of the targets set out in Department of Transport's Smarter Travel Policy 2009 is required.

Smarter Travel: A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2020 sets out a series of overriding policy objectives in Chapter 3, summarised as follows:

- 1 Future population employment growths will predominantly take place in sustainable compact forms which reduces the need to travel for employment and services;
- 2 500,000 more people will take alternative means to commute to work to the extent that the total share of car commuting will drop from 65% to 45%;
- 3 Alternatives such as walking, cycling and public transport will be supported and provided to the extent that these will rise to 55% of total commuter journeys to work;
- 4 The total kilometres travelled by the car fleet in 2020 will not increase significantly from current levels;
- 5 A reduction will be achieved on the 2005 figure for Greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector.

Local initiatives to reduce short car journeys in favour of walking or cycling.

Regional and national initiatives to increase modal share of public transport through investment and traffic management using revenue from carbon tax and parking fees.

National implementation of car parking levy in all commercial and other locations. This would in particular remove the unfair advantage of out of town urban fringe retail in comparison to town centre retail. Limiting of further world investment to minimal bypassing of towns and villages causing bottleneck/congestion. Abandonment further investment inter regional road inter regional motorway/dual carriageway schemes and cross border Dublin-Derry dual carriageway focusing of investment in Greater Dublin Area and other major urban centres on bus priority measures, bus rapid transport and investment in best technology, lower emission buses.

#### 1.4.4 Rail freight and Smarter Travel Policy

Successive transport ministries and CIE Iarnrod Eireann have pursued a deliberate policy of running down rail freight over the last 20 years, reflected in the closure of the Navan Kingscourt freight line in the early 1990s

The Lisheen and Galmoy lead and zinc mines were ill advisedly permitted without requirement for a rail spur. The closure of the Navan Kingscourt freight line in the early 1990s

Iarnrod Eireann failed to exploit the potential of Rosslare Port as a rail based freight hub and has now closed the vital strategic Waterford to Rosslare railway line representing a major strategic failure.

In the overall exercise of its remit CIE Iarnrod Eireann has failed systemically to take leadership as a public transport provider

The objectives on rail freight stated in Department of transport "Smarter Travel" policy are vague and ineffective.

Specific targets in increased of annual tonnage in rail freight is required.

#### 1.5 Electricity generation and heating

##### 1.5.1 Greenhouse Gas Power Generation

Phased reduction of peat and coal for power generation at Moneypoint and 3 peat burning power stations which cessation achieved by 2020.

##### 1.5.2 Domestic and other heating

Ireland faces a particular challenge in reducing levels of greenhouse gas emissions in the domestic heating sector because of poor insulation quality of national housing stock, the higher levels of energy consumed in one-off houses or free standing houses and limited capacity in retrofitting district housing schemes.

Up scaling of national energy refit/insulation programme using government bonds with householder loan scheme for ten year repayment period demonstrating net energy saving over payment of borrowings during this period.

The priority is phasing out of domestic peat combustion from mechanised extraction sources by 2020 with incentivisation of energy insulation alternatives biomass or other renewable sources where appropriate.

##### 1.5.3 40% Renewable energy target by 2020

Ireland faces major challenges in meeting the 2020 40% renewable energy target.

This requires a strategic approach to grid enforcement and wind energy distribution while at the same time minimising impact on biodiversity peatlands and sensitive landscapes.

#### 1.6 Tourism and outdoor recreation

Strategies for promotion of tourism need to minimise aviation dependence because of risk to future cost of fossil fuel and exposure to natural events such as a significant Icelandic volcanic eruption (see section 3.2 under transport).

Investment should focus on encouraging home tourism and recreational activity and maximising visitor numbers to Ireland by sea from Britain and continental Europe.

Tourism investment should be linked with the protection and enhancement of the existing natural and cultural endowment. There are particular opportunities to develop Ireland as a focus for outdoor recreation and in particular walking/hiking, cycling/mountain biking, surfing, canoeing/kayaking.

A number of significant initiatives have been taken such as the cycling/mountain bike trails developed by Coillte in Ballyhoura, County Limerick and the Dublin Mountains, the

development of the Clew Bay cycle way between Westport and Mulranny and the major initiative in the promotion of canoeing/kayaking on the Northern Ireland Waterways.

A key focus is the integration of a tourism investment with local communities and stake holders with parallel benefit in maximising local employment and dispersal of economic input from visitors across a wide spectrum of the community.

## 2 BIODIVERSITY

One of the major agreements at Rio 1992 was the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Convention established three main goals; (1) the conservation of biological diversity, (2) the sustainable use of its components, and (3) the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits from the use of genetic resources. Ireland along with other signatories submits reports on their achievements under these headings. However, An Taisce has a number of concerns about Ireland's efforts to attain these goals and has illustrated some examples under each of the three headings.

### 2.1 The Conservation of Biological Diversity.

#### 2.1.1 Protected areas.

Special protection Areas for Birds (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's).

Ireland's SPAs and SAC's are designated and protected by the European Birds Directive and the European Habitats Directive respectively as part of the Natura 2000 network established by the European Union in response to the Convention on Biological Diversity. As such, full implementation of EU legislation is seen as integral to Ireland fulfilling its obligations under the Convention of Biological Diversity.

Ireland has the lowest percentage of land protected by SPA's of all EU states bar Malta, though additional areas are being proposed and this is welcomed. However many difficulties exist, with rulings found against Ireland by the European Court of Justice (ECJ) in areas such as, correct designations, failure to correctly transpose important provisions of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive, protection of designated sites from pollution and deterioration, etc. All of these failures are in the context of continuing declines in the conservation status of important protected habitats and species. Just over 93% of Ireland's Annex 1 habitats under the Habitats Directive have either a poor or bad conservation status. Many habitat types are classified as being in overall "unfavourable –bad" status. Favourable reference values are the minimum values required for the long term survival of the habitat or species.

#### NPWS and Funding

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is currently preparing Site Management plans for SAC's and Species Action Plans (SAPs) for species of highest conservation concern. A number are already published, which is welcomed. However, the further compiling of management plans and implementation of existing management plans depends largely on the resources available to the NPWS (as well as the extent to which other government departments take on their responsibilities in relation to Natura 2000 site management and protection and their own areas of responsibility, such as planning, forest licensing, and agri-environment support measures).

The 2011 budget cuts for the Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government were entirely disproportionate in comparison to those for Tourism, Arts and Sport. Particularly significant was the 57% cut in the 'project' funding of the NPWS and 47% cut in the budget of the Heritage Council. This trend of underfunding nature conservation in Ireland needs to be reversed if Ireland is to conserve its biological diversity in line with the EU 2020 biodiversity strategy. This strategy in turn responds to the global Strategic Plan for biodiversity 2011-20207 agreed at the Conference of the Parties (CoP10) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Following the last governmental election the NPWS were transferred from the former Department of the Environment Heritage and Local Government to the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht. This switching around of Heritage between Departments is something which has happened on a frequent basis following General elections. It swallows valuable resources the reorganisation of Human Resources, Accounting and Communications systems, the design of new websites and new stationery and the disruption of working relationships cost a lot in terms of money and time resources.

#### Cumulative impacts and transparency

An Taisce conducted an investigation into two randomly selected SAC's to attempt to assess the procedure from site selection designation right through to ongoing site protection. One example which illustrates the lack of assessment for cumulative impacts was highlighted in connection with the Forestry Service. All forestry files, for the period of January 2007 to June 2010 in relation to the two SAC's were requested. The Forest Service stated the request was too 'voluminous', they also stated that 'we do not have data stored on an SAC basis' and requested a fee of €3,854.80 in order search and retrieve the files requested. After An Taisce requested an internal review of this decision it was upheld by the Forest Service. Currently the request is being appealed to the Commissioner for Environmental Information.

This indicates that currently afforestation licences in SAC's are being assessed on an individual basis. That the information is not accessible for Forest Service staff in going about their duties seriously compromises their ability to assess potential impacts including cumulative impacts upon designated areas. This deficiency needs to be rectified as it is vital that all sites protected under EU and Irish Environmental Legislation are easily identified by Forest Service staff and easily accessible to the general public, stakeholders and NGO's.

In reality SAC management falls under many different organisations. It is not just the NPWS that is responsible for the conservation interests of a site. The roles of organisations outside the control of the NPWS can influence the conservation status of an SAC. Therefore, responsibility also falls to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government (DoECLG), DAFF, the Forest Service, Planning authorities (county councils), Inland Fisheries Ireland, etc. A mechanism is needed for developments such as windfarms, strategic infrastructure, forestry, aquaculture, etc to be assessed by different agencies and authorities in a specific area.

#### Salmonoid rivers

In 2005 SAC Rivers throughout Ireland had changes made to the boundaries of the buffer zone required between SAC Rivers and areas outside the SAC from previous levels of 50 – 20m down to 2.5m including all salmonoid rivers. Revising the boundary to a 2.5m buffer zone increases the danger of run-off from agricultural fields getting into the river system. An Taisce considers this change in the law was a retrogressive act which may reduce the conservation status of Ireland's rivers. The possible ramifications for water quality are many fold, one example being the status of protected species such as salmon *Salmo salar*, lamprey *Lampetra planeri*, crayfish *Austropotamobius pallipes* etc

#### Natural Heritage Areas (NHA's) and proposed Natural Heritage Areas (pNHA's)

NHA's are areas that contain flora and fauna, habitats, or geological or geomorphological features which are of interest for their diversity of natural attributes, and which are thus worthy of conservation. These areas are protected under the Wildlife (Amendment) Act of 2000. Currently, only bog NHAs have been granted statutory protection. There are a further 617 pNHAs which still do not have the full legal protection they require although have been proposed since 1995. Many conservation professionals are alarmed by the unchecked destruction of pNHAs across the country.

Protecting NHAs with statutorily awarded NHA Orders is crucial to strengthen the coherence and benefits of Ireland's network of ecosystems and 'Green Infrastructure'; to

protect the functional values and ecosystem services of Ireland's Environment; to buffer against the impacts of Climate Change; to deliver commitments under European Nature Directives; and a worthy task toward achieving Ireland's objectives under Sustainable Development objectives and the EU 2020 biodiversity strategy.

#### Actions required for protected areas

- Complete the designation and protection of Natura 2000 sites in immediate future.
- Set site specific conservation objectives for all Natura 2000 sites by 2012. This obligation is long overdue and needs to be allocated necessary resources and prioritised without further delay. The creation of site specific management plans for all Natura 2000 site would also be welcomed.
- Address the serious problems that exist around planning policy and the effective management of protected areas in Ireland. An Taisce recommend that binding statutory guidelines are produced (with associated training) for Local Authorities and other planning bodies on the protection of species and habitats listed in the Annexes of the Habitats and Birds Directives in order to ensure compliance with the Directives and maintain Favourable Conservation Status of all protected species and habitats.
- Proceed with the designation of pNHA's starting with those which do not need further surveys as identified by An Taisce report NHAs The Case for Conservation.

#### 2.1.2 Wider countryside

##### Biodiversity Forum

Comhar (the Sustainable Development Council) has been abolished and its remit taken over by the National Economic and Social Council (NESC). The Biodiversity Forum as it existed under Comhar was essential to ensure stakeholder involvement in drawing up and implementing the National Biodiversity Plan as required by each country under the Convention for Biological Diversity. No mention has been made to the continuation of the Biodiversity Forum. An Taisce sees this as a step backwards in fulfilling our obligations under the Convention for Biological Diversity.

#### Actions required for the wider countryside

- The Biodiversity Forum should be reestablished as a matter of urgency.
- Urgent action is required as regards habitat mapping for Ireland.
- A National Hedgerow Conservation Plan for Ireland should be realized.
- It is imperative that each Local Authority has a designated biodiversity officer to undertake natural heritage conservation responsibilities.
- More specific actions for forestry are needed.

#### 2.1.3 Transposing EU Directives

The introduction of primary legislation is required to ensure effective transposition of EU Directives on Waste, Water, Air, EIA, IPPC, Birds and Habitats. Excessive use of S.I.'s and regulatory amendments undermines the implementation of effective transposition (see example on EIA assessment below). Where functions are delegates to local authorities the EPA or other statutory body's adequate national oversight is required on implementations.

##### Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) assessment - Split authorities

A European Court of Justice (ECJ) judgment found that Ireland did not take enough account of sensitive countryside features. The judgment found that the thresholds for undertaking an EIA for certain types of projects, including the restructuring of rural landholdings and water management projects land drainage, were based on high size thresholds alone. Ireland has recently sought to address this with two pieces of recent legislation.

However, in seeking to address this judgment on EIA Directive, compliance in another case should have been addressed. This case related to the lack of proper provision for consent authorities in Ireland to perform EIA, and the issue of lack of integrated assessment in the case of split jurisdictions for consent on different elements of a project. While the case cited the split between planning legislation and EPA functions for EIA, the judgment is applicable to all split consents.

These proposed Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) Regulations follow SI No 456 of 2011 which creates a new EIA threshold, screening and assessment and consent regime under DAFF. This establishes a new EIA consent function at a time when another case has highlighted the lack of integration between existing EIA consent functions in Ireland. Giving this decision making power to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is contrary to current practice which is to vest such decision-making power in independent decision making bodies. For example, the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government's power to grant foreshore licenses is to be transferred to planning authorities and An Bord Pleanála.

#### Actions required for the EU Directives

- Primary legislation should be used to ensure effective transposition of EU Directives.
- All decision-making powers in relation to Environmental Impact Assessment should be given to independent decision making bodies.
- All plans and strategies should be proofed against existing legislation to insure they do not contravene them.

#### 2.2 Sustainable use of the components of biodiversity,

All human activities, including all our economic activities, take place inside, and cannot exceed, the carrying capacity of our environment. The carrying capacity of our environment is dependent on the healthy functioning of our biodiversity and ecosystems. From an economic perspective, numerous attempts have been made to understand the value of biodiversity to humanity in terms of ecological goods and services for instance insect pollination, water regulation and purification, carbon storage.

The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) assessed the condition of 24 of the earth's natural systems that it considers humanity's "life support systems". It concluded that over the previous 50 years, four of these systems have shown some improvement, fifteen are in serious decline, and five are in a stable state on a worldwide basis, but threatened in some parts of the world. The establishment of the TEEB (The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity) study (<http://www.teebweb.org/>) is another initiative to highlight economic benefits of biodiversity, cost of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation, and make practical management recommendations.

Yet other reasons to conserve biodiversity are equally valid and must not be lost in the rush to weigh up its economic value to humans. There is also our ethical responsibility to conserve biodiversity and facilitate a shift toward societal respect for nature. In the words of Richard Frankham "The ethical justifications for conserving biodiversity are simply that one species on Earth does not have the right to drive others to extinction", analogous to abhorrence of genocide among human population".

## Pollination

The value of crop pollination in Ireland by all pollinating insects has been estimated as €53million per year in Ireland. Unfortunately, the current status of Irish pollinators appears to be in decline, with 30% of the wild bees and 18% of butterfly species in Ireland considered threatened according to the International Union for Conservation (IUCN).

## Soil Protection

To achieve food security in face of an ever growing population, Ireland and the world, will require large areas of fertile land. However increasing pressures such as urbanisation, afforestation, industry, erosion and overgrazing are putting soil quality at risk. As yet there is no program to monitor and protect this essential resource in Ireland. In the European Union it has been estimated that soil deterioration costs 38 billion a year, however to date; no such figure appears available for Ireland.

## Flooding

With a predicted rainfall increases of 17% in western areas of Ireland and possibly as much as 25% in places, the importance of adequate flood management is immediate. An Taisce commissioned a report "The Use of Wetlands for Flood Attenuation" which highlights amongst other issues the draining of many small wetlands. "Small isolated wetlands, or 'kettle holes' within a landscape probably have limited storage capacity and flood attenuation potential on an individual basis, but studies show that when many small wetlands occur within a catchment, the aggregate storage capacity may give rise to considerable flood attenuation potential."

## Actions required to protect Ecosystem Services.

- Stricter protection of the wider countryside utilising the natural buffer zones provided by biodiversity in relation to pollination, flooding mitigation etc.
- Future strategies for Flood Risk Management should refer to increasing research into the services of wetlands in flood attenuation and the incorporation of wetland protection and management into flood risk management plans.
- A National Hedgerow Conservation Plan for Ireland should be realised.
- Prioritisation of a national action plan on Green Public Procurement (the importation of illegally felled timber being a particularly significant issue); and detailed actions for ensuring legal protection of Irelands Natural Heritage Areas.

## 2.3 Sharing the benefits arising from the commercial and other utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way

Ireland has not yet signed the Nagoya protocol to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity which is a supplementary agreement to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

## Action to be taken

This treaty should be signed without delay.

## Other issues.

## Aarhus

Ireland has not ratified Aarhus.

## Action to be taken

This treaty should be ratified without delay.

## Summary

An Taisce believes that the principle outcomes of Rio+20 should include:

- A recommitment to fully implement those principles of the Earth Summit 1992 which have not yet been completed, both nationally and internationally.
- To prioritize those principles that have become even more critical, namely biodiversity and habitat loss, measures to counteract Climate Change, eradication of poverty, greater emphasis on Local Agenda 21 and 'bottom up' sustainability measures.
- A firm principle on strong governance and oversight to ensure audit and implementation of the measures agreed.

## APPENDIX I

This document is written in an Irish context but with universal analysis.

## PRICING CARBON AND RESOURCE CONSUMPTION IN GLOBAL TRADE.

The 2007 Stern report identifies the climate change as the greatest ever market failure.

Global trade is operating to a short term economic model which disregards the immediate and longer term impact of climate emissions. The worlds' poorest in Sub Saharan Africa are already victims.

Rich high resource consuming countries have externalised their real emission impact on other countries. One third of total Chinese emissions or half the increase over the last decade is for the manufacture of goods for the developed world, in factory conditions that would not be remotely tolerated in the West. China is becoming a progressively larger extractor of global resources including mineral smelting and extraction in Africa (2009 Carnegie Mellon University).

The up scaling of shipping to develop container vessels the size of oil tankers has made long distance transport such a small element in the cost of global consumer goods and has enabled this mass production of goods from the energy of coal burning power stations of China. Port expansion and the accommodation of larger tonnages of container ships and throughputs directly increases global Greenhouse gas generation in shipping and the manufacture of consumer goods, many of them throw away with a short performance life, leading to unsustainable waste streams.

Future global and national trade models require the full internalisation of the cost of carbon emission generation and resource consumption. This requires that cost must be borne by the end use consumer, and be at a level that a per capita emission level which climate science requires cannot be exceeded.

The imperative of containing nuclear radiation levels within accepted safe levels, must be applied equally to climate emissions.

It is no coincidence that the emergence of this recent enlightenment on the importance of issues associated with sustainable development has coincided with the national economic collapse and the inter-related major challenges of peak oil, climate change, resource scarcity and the persistent degradation of our natural environment and its ecosystem services. There is now a general overwhelming international and national consensus amongst policy makers at all levels of the policy making hierarchy that business as usual is no longer an option, we can no longer afford to continue the pursuit of the failed short-sighted policy approaches of the past and that our collective future must be different.

The international and national economic recession has provided a narrow window of opportunity to take action to concentrate investment and focus policy on the transition to a post-oil low-carbon locally resilient society. This is the major challenge of our time and will require urgent understanding of the nature of the challenges; no shortage of decisive political leadership, a radical change of direction together with robust and, in some instances, policy implementation which will be politically unpopular in the short-term. Through the regulation of port capacity, Dublin Port Company, has the most critical role to play in facilitating this transition.

#### ENERGY DESCENT & CLIMATE CHANGE – THE CHALLENGE

Peak oil and climate change are the interrelated biggest challenges of our time. We are currently experiencing an environmental and resource crisis that places human development at a crossroads. The implications of climate change, peak oil and resource scarcity are becoming increasingly visible and are being exacerbated by economic recession. The effects of these challenges are, and will continue to be, multi-faceted and systemic. Effects include energy price inflation, increased flooding; increases in the cost of resource dependent production; food shortages and other scarcities. These challenges, and the necessary development of policies to address them, are becoming a reality with which society has to learn to live by becoming more localised and resilient.

It is likely that energy price inflation and climate change will also have additional crippling effects on our economy. The 2007 Stern Report, for example, strongly suggests that climate change will result in an average 5-10% loss in global GDP. In addition, protection against flooding and the clean-up costs after extreme weather incidents will place significant burdens on our national finances. The total cost of the major 2009 floods in Ireland was estimated to be €244m (Irish Insurance Federation, 2010). The rising cost of insurance due to the increased risks posed by climate change will also have major implications especially for those on low incomes. In 2010, the Irish Brokers Association stated that Irish homeowners will face insurance premium increases of up to 20% due to flooding (Irish Times, 26/2/2010).

#### Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Targets

As discussed above the Planning & Development (Amendment) Act 2010 includes a new mandatory objective as follows:

“The promotion of sustainable settlement and transportation strategies in urban and rural areas including the promotion of measures to

- (i) reduce energy demand in response to the likelihood of increases in energy and other costs due to long-term decline in non-renewable resources,
- (ii) reduce anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, and
- (iii) address the necessity of adaptation to climate change

in particular, having regard to location, layout and design of new development.”

Circular (PSSP-4-2010) issued to all Planning Authorities and has determined that the following national policy documents relate to proper planning and sustainable development under section 9(6):

- a) Smarter Travel – A Sustainable Transport Future: A New Transport Policy for Ireland 2009 – 2012 (Department of Transport)
- b) National Climate Change Strategy 2007 – 2012 (Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government).

The Government has signed up to the 20:20:20 EU agreement whereby we have a legally binding pledge to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 20% below 1990 levels and increase energy efficiency by 20% by 2020. The scale of change needed to meet Ireland's commitments is enormous. Ireland's national Green House Gas (GHG) emissions reduction target equates to c.2.5% per year until 2020. Greenhouse gas emissions from the transport sector have risen 170% over 1990 levels primarily due to spatial sprawl.

#### Oil Dependency

Peak oil is a monumental challenge, the impact of which is widely and significantly underestimated, misunderstood and eschewed by official policy makers. Ireland is the seventh most oil dependent economy in the world (O'Neill, 2003). Ireland's primary energy usage increased by 67% between 1990 and 2006 (SEAI, 2008). Further, demand for fossil fuels is increasing, not decreasing.

Ireland is 99% dependent on oil for transport and is amongst the most private car dependent countries in the world. Ireland is also highly dependent on road haulage for freight with only an extremely marginal rail freight infrastructure. The amount of oil used for transportation in Ireland tripled between 1972 and 2002, leaving Ireland consuming at least 50 per cent more per capita than the average of the EU-25 by the end of the period.

There is growing international consensus, as expressed by Macquarie Bank, Goldman Sachs, McKinsey Consultants, the UK Industry Task Force on Peak Oil and Energy Security, the UK Energy Research Council, IHS Herold, OFGEM, ASPO, Global Witness, the International Energy Agency and the Saudi Oil Ministry together with, most recently, Lloyds Bank that the 'era of cheap oil is over' and that serious supply constraints and an oil supply crunch is likely in the short-to-medium term. The Hirsch Report commissioned by the US Department of Energy in 2005 highlights very clearly that the era of plentiful, low-cost petroleum is approaching an end. World demand for oil is predicted to increase by 50% over the period up to 2025 at a time when the world oil reserves are diminishing rapidly and will lead to rapid price inflation and scarcity.


The key issue with peak oil is that it is not an energy crisis so much as a 'liquid fuels' crisis, which will have immediate consequences for the main categories of oil usage, in particular transportation. As Ireland is particularly and increasingly dependent on oil for transportation, we are particularly vulnerable to oil price inflation it is important to start preparing and contingency planning for such an event. The Hirsch Report states: “The peaking of world oil production presents the U.S. and the world with an unprecedented risk management problem. As peaking is approached, liquid fuel prices and price volatility will increase dramatically, and, without timely mitigation, the economic, social, and political costs will be unprecedented. Viable mitigation options exist on both the supply and demand sides, but to have substantial impact, they must be initiated more than a decade in advance of peaking.”


More recently, the International Energy Agency - World Energy Outlook published in November 2009 and again in November 2010 confirmed that oil prices are likely to inflate significantly through to 2030 and the continuation of current energy use trends would have dire consequences for climate change together with huge systemic implications for the economy, society and environment. They would also exacerbate ambient air quality concerns, thus causing serious public health and environmental effects, particularly in

developing countries. The current economic recession is likely to further exacerbate oil price inflation due to lack of current investment in boosting capacity.

We would respectfully refer to the following critical reports, which should be foremost in the consideration in the preparation of the Development Plans:

 A Baseline Assessment of Irelands Oil Dependence - Key Policy Considerations, Forfas, 2006

 Tipping Point: Near Term Systemic Implications of a Peak in Global Oil Production: An Outline Review; Feasta, 2010

 Sustainable Energy Security – Strategic Risks and Opportunities for Business (White Paper), Lloyds/Chatham House, 2010

 Growth Isn't Possible – Why We Need A New Economic Direction, New Economics Foundation/Schumacker College, 2010

As confirmed in the Hirsch Report there is no ready alternative to oil for private vehicle use. In this context, debates over substituting oil with renewables are irrelevant. The widespread replacement of the current vehicle stock with electric powered vehicles is economically and environmentally impractical. The mass production of battery or hydrogen technology capable of the propulsion of electric vehicles, particularly HGVs, is at the very least several decades off and it is most probable that there is no technological solution to this problem. The preferred raw material for the production of batteries, Lithium, is itself severely resource constrained and found largely in highly politically unstable regions of the world. In any event, the mass production of electric vehicles is wholly resource inefficient and the use of increasingly scarce energy for unproductive uses, such as electric vehicles, would be imprudent. Bio-fuels are not a solution as it competes with food for land and drives up food prices. For example, the grain required to fill the tank of a modern car could feed one person for a year.

Accordingly, any rational analysis of future available oil resources and energy resources would result in an inevitable conclusion that further public investment in new air transport infrastructure or road transport infrastructure for use primarily by private vehicles is short-sighted, ill-conceived and an inefficient use of public funds. While we recognise that there remains a considerable straightforward connection in the minds of policy makers and elected members as to the economic benefits of road infrastructure, the overwhelming international evidence clearly indicates that past trends must not be used as a guide to likely future outcomes. Further investment in Ireland in road infrastructure (outside of road infrastructure maintenance) and the shaping of our society and economy around oil based transport (i.e dispersed settlement patterns) will inevitably increase and 'lock-in' our exposure to oil price inflation and undermine the resilience of our economy and society in an era of peak oil and our international greenhouse gas reduction commitments.

-3 w Route Selection Study for a City By-Pass for Oil Vulnerability & Carbon Price Impact Assessment

As compared to other northern European countries Ireland is considered to have significant infrastructural deficits that undermine our national competitiveness particularly in transport and waste infrastructure. The former is largely a result of our laissez faire and malleable land-use regulation and permissive approach to market-driven car dependent dispersed development patterns that were not aligned with appropriate infrastructure investment. The latter is as a consequence of a complete absence of any understanding of environmental carrying capacity and the short-term prioritisation of new development over other public health and environmental interests.

The Capital Investment Programme 2010 - 2016, Transport 21 – much of it dependant on PPP's has collapsed leaving major public transport deficiency.

The Water Services Investment Programme is designed for a now departed era of energy abundance with no consideration given to the future price of oil or carbon. For example, the current energy bill for a large modern waste water treatment plan can be in the order of €2.5 million per annum. No assessment is being undertaken to ascertain whether this huge Exchequer investment is entrenching deep structural vulnerabilities in our society and storing up major problems for the future.

Peak Oil and its impacts is a phenomenon which is we cannot avoid but we should urgently prepare a risk management strategy for its effects. A permanent oil shock is coming and is the biggest threat to Ireland's economy and society. A national "Oil Vulnerability & Carbon Price Impact Assessment" is required to assess the threats to our future from inflated and volatile oil prices together with the future (shadow) price of carbon. This should be undertaken for both capital and operational municipal functions (e.g. sewage treatment, water supply, road developments, road repair, flood defences etc) and of vulnerabilities to the general economy (e.g. increased distribution costs, decline in tourism, retail etc.).

1. BUILDING IRELAND'S SMART ECONOMY 2008

2. The 2008 developing Ireland's Smart economy does not identify high tonnage or bulky exports as a part of the future smart economy.

3. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY INWARD INVESTMENT STRATEGY

4. The main industries targeted by the IDA for future development are not dependent on high tonnage capacity. The high exports values generated by Ireland's inward investment boom by multi nationals is in medical devices pharmaceuticals and IT services with a high value to tonnage ratio.

5. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD POLICY 2020 FOOD HARVEST

6. The 2010 Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food 2020 Food Harvest policy was published without Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The application of SEA and other sustainability considerations means that significant additional export tonnage capacity will not be achievable. Future food security planning will require a significant reduction in current Irish import levels and dependence on fertiliser, grain, animal feed, fruit vegetables and processed foods.

All parts of Irish trade need to be subject to sustainability evaluation. A prime example is the continued government promotion of peat compost export to UK, Europe and Africa, which is coming from illegal extracting sites in Ireland, and failure to screen sources of tropical hardwood import and wood products.

An Taisce submits there is no requirement for additional oil or coal import capacity, since current levels need to be substantially reduced to meet climate emission reduction levels required and reduce unsustainable energy import dependency. The requirement to explore the percentage contribution of truly renewable gas as an important element of our energy solution also needs to be addressed.

The London-based New Economic Foundation (NEF) has carried out considerable work in this area on the UK and accordingly, there is useful guidance in carrying out similar analysis in Ireland. This includes perverse trade for example in foodstuffs where goods of virtually identical type or quality e.g. are exported and imported in similar quantities eg plastic bottled water.

In 2007 the NEF published Chinadependence, which remains equally applicable to the sustainability of Ireland's trade relationship with the world at large (appendix 1)

An Taisce submits that fully transparent information is needed on the nature origin and destination of all goods passing through Irish ports. The suggestion on pages 13 and 14 of the Departments consultation document that "commercial confidentiality" applies is not tenable. The provision of the EU Access to Information on the Environment Directive 2003/4/EC and Aarhus Convention for which Irish ratification is overdue, require this.

## APRODEV and Act Alliance

APRODEV is the network of European development agencies related to the World Council of Churches. This paper expresses the views of the APRODEV Working Group on Climate Change Advocacy. Over the last five years this group has worked with ecumenical organizations like the World Council of Churches and partners in the South to advocate an ambitious, equitable and legally binding climate regime. Being a European network our focus is first and foremost to influence the European Union and Norway

The ACT Alliance is an alliance of more than 125 churches and church-related organisations that work together in development, humanitarian and advocacy, operating in 140 countries around the world. Eighty per cent of members are from the global south. The alliance has over 33,000 people working globally and mobilises US\$1.6 billion annually to enable and empower poor and vulnerable women and men to have sustainable livelihoods, attain economic development and enjoy their human rights. As part of its global climate advocacy strategy, the alliance urges States to take action since climate change is threatening development and affects poor and vulnerable people the most

### Overview

This submission covers issues of:

- A fair green economy: a justice perspective
- Alignment of international agencies and finance
- Political will for raised action on climate change
- Political will for raised action on biodiversity
- Post-MDG framework
- Development finance and tax
- Finance, technology and capacity building to implement Rio+20 outcomes
- Trade and Investment regime
- Changes of consumption patterns and life styles
- Access to sustainable energy
- Supporting sustainable agriculture and food systems

### Rio +20

As ecumenical development and humanitarian organisations we have a broad network of partners throughout the world. We appreciate the opportunity to provide input to the important process leading up to Rio +20 in June next year.

In this submission we will highlight a number of concerns on green economy and global governance in relation to sustainable development, as these are the two themes of the conference. However, we will also address the broader debate about sustainable development by providing inputs to the debate about a possible continuation of the current Millennium Development Goals.

#### A fair green economy: a justice perspective

Global environmental, social and economic crises are forcing us to recognise that we must become better at generating economic activity from resources that are limited. As population and consumption grow, and pressure on limited resources increases, it is necessary to move towards a low carbon and resource efficient green economy that limits consumption to the bio-capacity of the planet.

In meeting the challenges, a pillar of greening the economy must be to eradicate poverty. However, achieving this aim will depend on how the vision of 'green economy' is understood and pursued. There is a wide variation in interpretations of the term, from a focus on green growth: perceived by many southern civil society organisations (CSOs) to risk neglecting poverty and equity; by some private sector actors to be a business model to expand the green market potential; and by many as a vision that puts social equity at the heart of the definition. This diversity of views risks undermining progress towards achieving desired outcomes.

A green economy needs to deliver three main outcomes to win international buy-in: ensuring mankind's ecological footprint is sustainable; maintaining and enhancing natural capital, biodiversity and ecosystem services; poverty reduction and improving human well-being and social equity.

The UNEP definition of a green economy as one that "results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities" is a vision we support. However, it is essential that, in the implementation and monitoring of the green economy model, the objectives of social equity are central, not sidelined as a secondary aspiration.

The current dominant economic model will increase extremes of poverty and disparity between rich and poor if it is allowed to continue unchecked: attempts to shift our economies to a more sustainable and fairer footing are of fundamental importance if efforts tackle poverty, now and in the future, are to have any chance of success.

Our fear now is that developed countries, faced by the current economic crisis and fiscal constraints, will be tempted to 'go for the low hanging fruit' and develop systems that favour middle income countries as a green economy might be well received in these countries. Many of the least developed countries need an economy, green or otherwise, and it would be in the long-term interest of governments, donors, and the world as a whole to develop green economies in those countries.

#### Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments need to agree to practical steps at the local, national and global level that:

- Ensure that fairness and equity – based on the original 1992 Rio Earth Summit declaration of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' (CBDR) principles – are central to sustainable development.
- Move beyond GDP as the main means to define and measure progress in development to indicators that focus on well-being, human rights and equality, on building social, human and economic wealth, and preserving natural resources.

- Make a fundamental change in economic policies, (i.e. financial markets, trade and investment) from liberalisation to a regulations based policy aiming not just at economic growth but at social equity and respecting the ecological limits.
- Make changes in decision-making structures – recognising that a minority of powerful actors benefits from the status quo while our current economic models don't adequately benefit the vast majority.
- Back a vision of green economy, that makes poverty-eradication, equity and resilience central - not supplementary. This should lay a foundation for the development of a post-MDGs framework.
- Commitment of all States to set up low carbon action plans (for industrialised countries zero carbon action plans) until 2050 (milestones for 2020 2030 2040) as a key tool.
- Commitment of all States to reach the biodiversity targets agreed upon at CBD COP-10 in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010

Make sustainable agriculture and food core issues in Rio. Give the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) a mandate to develop a work plan to implement the IAASTD findings and call for all countries to establish their own structures for following up.

#### Alignment of international agencies and finance

International governance for sustainable development needs to be reformed if we are to make progress on international targets for biodiversity, climate change, poverty eradication and social equity. It is beyond the capacity of agencies charged with achieving development and environment objectives, acting alone, to address these challenges effectively. The impact of trade agreements and instruments; the exercise of power and rights at local and national levels; access to and use of natural resources and land; the functioning of markets; and many other factors must also be recognised and addressed. Reforming institutions, rules and processes is vital, since 'unsustainability' is largely a result of weak or inconsistent governance at all levels (global, regional, national and local).

Governance and economic policies regarding finance, trade and investment are inseparable - we need improved governance of the World Bank and other finance bodies in order for these institutions to be in a position to contribute to a transition to a fair green economy and to sustainable development. The multilateral financing mechanisms should be obliged to contribute to social equity by respecting human rights and the biocapacity of the planet. Investment policies and bilateral investment treaties should be reshaped in a way that investors have clear duties regarding human rights, social equity, protection of natural resources, climate protection and biodiversity conservation. International trade rules, as agreed in the WTO and numerous bilateral trade agreements, have to be reshaped in order to give policy space to national governments to make trade work for sustainable development.

#### Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments should:

- Work towards enacting a step-change in global institutional co-ordination and coherence – in particular to mitigate, and respond to, resource-related crises and risks, such as the food crisis and climate shocks.
- Press for strong operational principles for sustainable development in the work of multilateral financial institutions including the World Bank and IMF, of the World Trade Organisation and bilateral treaties and agreements.

#### Political will for raised action on climate change

With political leaders in Rio, this is a key opportunity to raise the overall political will for greater action on climate change, to be fed into the current climate talks under the UNFCCC.

As a first step, developed countries need to acknowledge promptly their responsibility for and capability to deal with the climate crisis and urgently commit to providing the required support for climate action in developing countries.

At Rio+20, governments must raise their ambition regarding increased emissions reduction targets and financial commitments, equitable effort sharing, and robust implementation. All countries should acknowledge and commit to the climate talks under UNFCCC, and agree on an intensified cooperation within this framework to fight for climate justice.

#### Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments should be prepared to:

- Assess 20 years of process since Rio '92 and take stock of existing greenhouse gas reduction commitments and adaptation efforts and raise their ambition respecting CBDR.
- Elaborate national and sub national action plans that substantially improve governance – overseeing progress and supporting implementation – of sustainable development objectives.

#### Political will for raised action on biodiversity

The presence of political leaders in Rio will be a key opportunity to raise the overall political will for greater action on the protection of biodiversity.

As a first step, Governments - especially those of developed countries - need to acknowledge their responsibility for and ability to deal with the crisis of biodiversity and urgently commit to providing the required support for biodiversity protection in developing countries.

At Rio, governments must raise their ambition regarding biodiversity protection and financial commitments, sustainable use and benefit sharing, including robust implementation.

#### Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments should be prepared to:

- Assess 20 years of process since Rio '92 and take stock of the efforts and results regarding the protection of biological diversity, its sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources and related traditional knowledge. They should raise their ambition regarding these targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity by respecting the principles of CBDR and the precautionary principle.



- Recommit the obligations agreed to in the Strategic Plan approved at the 10th COP to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010.
- Take concrete actions regarding the sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Recommit their respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples as proclaimed in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Sign and ratify the Nagoya Protocol.

#### Post-MDG framework

It is essential that the new Post-Millennium Development Goals (post-MDGs) poverty reduction framework, to be developed over the coming years, builds on the sustainable development objectives as a fundamental aspect of long term poverty reduction, environment protection and human rights. But history shows that governments may fail to meet the internationally agreed goals. In order to provide an incentive for every government to meet its goals, sustainable development goals (SDGs) should not only refer to the global level, but at the same time be complemented and mirrored by national sustainable development goals for all countries, so that the political will and the real contribution of every country to make sustainability a reality becomes transparent and measurable. This will require the new post-MDGs framework to include indicators of sustainable development, and to recognise the impact which consumption pattern of the wealthy can have on access to and exploitation of natural resources and increased poverty.

#### Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments should:

- Support the establishment of sustainable development goals reflecting the key areas of sustainable development on a global level.
- Support the establishment of national sustainable goals with a clear contribution to global sustainable development.
- Ensure social and transparent monitoring mechanisms so that governments can be held accountable by their citizens.
- The post-MDG goals need to reflect the responsibility of developed countries regarding the impacts of their actions on the rights to natural resources for poor people.
- Recognise that to achieve the goals in a sustainable manner means that States must address natural hazard risk and vulnerability into development plans.

#### Development finance and tax

G8 countries should keep to their Gleneagles commitments of giving 0.7% of GNI to development. However, even if this were to be achieved, the financing gap is still significant. The Monterrey Consensus committed to mobilising domestic resources for development. By raising the tax to GDP ratio to 15%, developing countries could raise an additional \$198bn. Governments have a responsibility to raise domestic revenue in a progressive and equitable manner, implementing tax policies which reflect environmental externalities and encourage investment in sustainable development.

Illicit capital flows including tax evasion undermine development efforts. Financial secrecy provided by offshore financial centres not only undermines efforts to mobilise domestic revenues, but facilitates corruption. By challenging tax abuse by multinational companies, an additional \$160bn could become available for development.

#### Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments should reaffirm commitments made in the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha review summit and the UN MDG review summit to:

- "Enhancing and strengthening domestic resource mobilization and fiscal space, including, where appropriate, through modernized tax systems, more efficient tax collection, broadening the tax base and effectively combating tax evasion and capital flight."
- "Implementing measures to curtail illicit financial flows at all levels, enhancing disclosure practices and promoting transparency in financial information. In this regard, strengthening national and multinational efforts to address this issue is crucial, including support to developing countries and technical assistance to enhance their capacities."

In addition governments at Rio+20 should

- Recommend a strengthening of the institutional arrangements supporting the UN committee of experts on international tax cooperation.
- Promote automatic information exchange between tax jurisdictions in an effort to curtail illicit financial flows (particularly offshore financial centres).
- Recommend Country by Country reporting disclosure of financial information by Multinational Enterprises to increase accountability and curb tax abuse.

#### Finance, technology and capacity building to implement Rio+20 outcomes

An agreement from Rio +20 will only be implemented if there is sufficient financial and technological support, as well as related capacity building. For some countries these resources will be found within domestic budgets, but for the vast majority of developing countries support from other countries will be needed. Finance and technological support should be given in light of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and capabilities, acknowledging the historic responsibility related to the current ecological, climate and environmental situation.

Finance for sustainable development is addressed in various fora. Rio +20 should acknowledge that climate finance is addressed within UNFCCC, as an additional source to official development assistance. However, while acknowledging existing sources Rio +20 should also address the additional need for support in relation to the agreements made during the conference. It will therefore be important to also address new and innovative sources of finance such a Financial Transition Tax as well as the role of taxation (stated above).

We have noted that the pre Rio+20 debates in several countries focus on private finance. While we acknowledge that private sector may have an important role to play, we also think it is vital to note existing experiences related to private investments and sustainable development. A good investment will lead to positive spill over effects in the local community, encourage new companies and support capacity building and transfer of skills and knowledge. However, investments may also lead to the opposite, i.e. crowding out of local companies, violations of human, labour and land rights and creating emissions and other negative environmental effects.

#### Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments should:

- Agree on an ambitious work program to operationalise supplementary and innovative sources of long-term finance and reach agreement on a further set of public sources needed to meet the financing requirements for sustainable development.
- Champion a financial transactions tax for this purpose.
- Confirm the formation of a dedicated funding window for poor countries to access finance for clean energy and low carbon development (a 'leapfrog' fund – see below).
- To create a framework for private finance, hindering negative effects of investments and supporting the positive effects, including local stakeholder dialogues. Trade and investment regime The global trade and investment regime is still focussed on a fossil, growth oriented and unsustainable development path. It needs to be re-oriented in order to make it a facilitator rather than a barrier to sustainable development.

Recommendations:

At Rio+20 governments should:

- Affirm that human rights, the protection of natural resources and nature conservation may never be undermined by trade and investment rules. At the same time safeguards that such a system cannot be used by developed countries for justifying protectionist measures against developing countries shall be introduced.
- Affirm that investors have an obligation to meet human rights and contribute to the protection of resources regardless of investors' rights as now agreed in numerous bilateral investment treaties. In this respect, the participation of the local population on an investment and the conditions for an investment have to be respected and supported by governments and investors.
- Acknowledge that national policy space is essential for meeting sustainable development goals.
- Establish an international mechanism within the UN system to survey and monitor the contribution of international trade and investment to sustainable development and to suggest the necessary amendment of rules that exist inside and outside the UN system.

Changes of consumption patterns and life styles

The global consumption class, which is still predominantly located in developed countries and mid-classes of middle income countries, is largely responsible for the overall unsustainable state of the world. Changing consumption patterns and life styles is less an individual responsibility than governments' obligation to provide a framework that sets incentives to make sustainable life styles attractive. In particular, At Rio+20 governments should:

- Agree to open policy space to discriminate between sustainable and non sustainable products while establishing safeguards that this could not be misused as a tool for economic protection against products vital for the economies and livelihoods of people in developing countries.
- Agree to establish and implement national action plans to strengthen sustainable consumption patterns, including to monitor the impacts and to adapt necessary measures for improvement.
- Agree to initiate an accelerated transition from an economy dependent on growth to a sustainable economy aiming at human well-being, sound use of environmental resources and nature protection.
- Support policies that promote healthy consumption, and reduce its environmental foot print. In most OECD countries this means reducing meat and dairy consumption.
- Pioneer new approaches and technologies to reduce waste in the food system, increase recycling and efficiency of energy and water use.

Access to sustainable energy

About 1.4 billion people globally live without access to electricity and 2.7 billion people cook on open wood, dung or charcoal fires. It is widely recognised that without access to modern energy services, such as electricity and modern fuels, it is highly unlikely that any of the MDG objectives will be achieved. Many developing countries have an abundance of renewable energy sources and have huge scope for improving energy efficiency. In short, they can be supported to leapfrog fossil fuel based economies towards low-carbon sustainable energy.

Access to energy for the poorest parts of the poorest countries will require large amounts of financial transfers in form of grants. Providing rural areas with decentralized grid systems powered by energy from solar, biomass or small scale hydro might not attract private investments as the return is highly questionable. Nevertheless, such projects must be core business of a partnership aiming at energy access for all. Hence, while supporting joint public-private investments to a certain degree and for certain countries, this financial model will have to be supplemented with a grant based system if not the poorest people are to be left behind again.

Recommendations:

- As 2012 is the UN year of access to sustainable energy, agreeing new energy goals to expand energy access to the poorest, shift to renewable, and increase energy efficiency must be a priority for Rio +20.
- The target should be the one set by the United Nations of having universal access to modern energy services by 2030: clean, reliable and affordable energy services for cooking and heating, lighting, communications and productive uses.
- Commit to a 'leapfrog fund' to finance access to sustainable energy initiatives.

Agriculture and the global food system

Agriculture and the global food system are presently causing dramatic environmental problems while failing to feed almost one seventh of humankind. However, this can, and must be turned from a major problem into a part of the solution, contributing to sustainable development. The transition to sustainable agriculture and food systems therefore need to be a core issue at Rio.

Transition from an unsustainable to a sustainable food system

Our current food system is both ecologically and socially unsustainable. It is failing, both in ensuring rights to food and to preserve the ecosystems on which future food production depends. This situation is exacerbated by climate change and other forms of environmental degradation which threaten food production and expose people to new shocks and stresses that deepen poverty.

At Rio+20 governments should commit to

- Implement policies that address the externalities of agriculture and implement the polluter pays principle.
- Implement competition policies to decrease the current concentration of power in food and input markets which is marginalising smallholders and accelerating the loss of biodiversity as well as diversity of agricultural practices.
- Reform agricultural policies so that they promote sustainable agricultural practices and do not undermine food security in developing countries. In the European context this would imply for example a decreased dependency on soy import, which is today putting a heavy ecological footprint on exporting countries while at the same time fuelling unsustainable meat production within the EU.

#### Supporting sustainable agriculture and food systems

Policies must be adopted that give strong and increasing support to small scale farmers and agro ecological and other sustainable and resilient forms of food production that promote poverty reduction and climate change adaptation while preserving ecosystem services for future generations.

At Rio+20 governments should commit to:

- Support the organisation of small scale food producers.
- Secure rights to land and resources of those who depend on them for their livelihood, in particular advance the rights of women food producers.
- Prioritise participatory and farmer-led research, extension and dissemination of agro ecological innovations including locally adapted ('in situ') agricultural technologies and conservation strategies, and the breeding and production of underutilised crops.
- Adopt policies that reduce soil degradation to protect long term food security.
- Strengthen urban and peri-urban food systems.

#### Institutional frameworks

The International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) was initiated Rio+10 in Johannesburg. The findings of IAASTD need to be affirmed at Rio+20, and actions to implement them need to be decided:

- Give the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) a mandate to develop a work plan specifying benchmarks/indicators for progress towards the objectives to implement the IAASTD findings and call for all countries to establish their own structures with active inclusion of civil society and mechanism for following up.
- Encourage the establishment of a participatory regular multi-stakeholder panel on agriculture with the mandate to consider the impact of agricultural knowledge, science and technology and IPR on sustainable development.
- Examine and monitor impact of different ways to tackle the climate change challenge (biofuel production, REDD+, CDM, soil carbon sequestration) on local community, food security, and sustainable development and seek out possible remedies.

The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) must be respected, which means that OECD countries have the responsibility to take a lead in the transition to sustainable food systems:

#### Conclusions

APRODEV and ACT Alliance call on the United Nations and the Brazilian government to conduct the negotiations at Rio+20 in an open and transparent way and allow for full participation from civil society.

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## AquaFed

### Executive summary - Key messages

AquaFed represents private companies of all sizes that operate water and sanitation services under the mandate of public authorities in accordance with a wide variety of business models. Its aim is to contribute to solving water issues through participating to the work of the international community.

Good management of water and sanitation services to the population and the economy is a precondition for sustainable development. It contributes to a green economy; it underpins the three pillars of sustainable development and is also essential to poverty eradication. These are compelling reasons to address water and sanitation challenges in UNCSD 2012.

As practitioners of water supply and sanitation services Private Water Operators believe that the global community should use the opportunity of the UNCSD to make progress on water and sanitation management through making decisions on at least three major water and sanitation challenges: (i) access to sanitation & drinking water, (ii) wastewater management and (iii) sustainable economics. This contribution to the UNCSD zero draft focuses on these three pressing issues which, to a greater or lesser extent, impact countries in both the developing and in the developed world. To a large degree they are interrelated so that progress in one will have a significant impact on the others.

Accelerating access to safe drinking water and sanitation. UNCSD should acknowledge the need for accelerating programmes that aim at improving access to drinking water and sanitation both in rural and urban settlements through: i) recognising the needs of the billions of people without satisfactory access to drinking water (using the criteria of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation more than half of mankind needs to be targeted); ii) recognising the urgency to reverse the deterioration of water and sanitation services in urban settings where these programmes are outpaced by urban growth; iii) deciding to monitor, both globally and nationally, the quality of water used by people to better identify the current water safety gap.

Sharing a common vision and adopting an action plan for wastewater management. Controlling manmade pollution of water and organising successive uses of water are becoming more and more necessary to protect health of individuals against contamination by others and by economic activities, to support economic development, to protect ecosystems from harmful pollution and to mitigate increasing water scarcity. UNCSD should decide to include the management of man-made water pollution in its global agenda. It should target collection and de-pollution of water after use as well as the organisation of successive uses of water. It should propose to country governments to take appropriate steps to adopt a shared vision of urban, industrial and agricultural wastewater management.

Ensuring sustainable water economics to provide services sustainably. UNCSD should promote the adoption of water/sanitation policies that are grounded on the principles of

sustainable economics. These include predictable public subsidies and affordable tariffs to ensure the Sustainable Cost- Recovery that is necessary for services to be provided sustainably to all users, thus supporting the long term social, environmental, and economic dimensions of green economy and poverty alleviation.

## Introduction

This submission to the zero draft of UNCSD 2012 is made by AquaFed, the International Federation of Private Water Operators. AquaFed is a business-oriented NGO accredited to the UN ECOSOC with consultative status. The Federation represents private companies of all sizes that operate water and sanitation services under the mandate of public authorities in accordance with a wide variety of business models. AquaFed is a membership organisation open to companies from all countries and of all sizes. It currently represents over 300 different companies that provide services to more than 50% of the world's population that is served by private sector operators.

Our aim with this submission is to bring to the attention of the Rio+20 conference some pressing issues concerning the contribution of water and sanitation services to the green economy, a contribution that is essential to Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation.

This submission complements the one that we have contributed to Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD), in which AquaFed is a contributing partner. In that submission, we argue for significant points that affect all sectors of business and industry.

In this submission we focus particularly on the role of water and sanitation services. We have selected three key areas on which we believe the Rio 2012 conference should focus and have not attempted to raise a wide range of subsidiary subjects. In our view all three subjects raised are of pressing importance, irrespective of whether water supply and sanitation services are provided by the public sector, the private sector or informal and philanthropic providers.

The three subjects that we have selected are of pressing importance and, to a greater or lesser extent, impact countries in both the developing and in the developed world. To a large degree they are interrelated so that progress in one will have a significant impact on the others in the context of both Green Growth and Poverty Alleviation. These three areas are:

1. the urgent need to recognise the scale of the challenge posed by the deficiency in the provision of water and sanitation to a large part of the world population and to accelerate significantly efforts to overcome it,

2. the importance of collecting and treating water after use so that it can be used as a resource to meet successive needs and to ensure the protection of the environment and biodiversity,

3. the necessity to ensure that policies for water and sanitation are grounded on the principles of sustainable economics to ensure that services can be provided to support the long term social, environmental, and economic dimensions of Green Growth and Poverty Alleviation.

## 1. Accelerating access to safe drinking water and sanitation

### The challenge

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation is an essential component of sustainable development. The UN have decided to improve this access through the MDG programme. Much is being done in the field with hundreds of millions of people having gained access to safe drinking water or sanitation in the past decade. However, the needs are still very large and the MDG programme is far from addressing all of them. Worse, since the first Rio Summit in 1992, the global landscape has evolved with the emergence of dominating issues such as urbanization, climate change, financial crises or natural disasters that make the challenge of ensuring universal access to safe drinking water and sanitation even more difficult.

Although the safety of the water used by individuals is not yet monitored at the global level, available data show that billions of people need a better access to water supply or to basic sanitation. The situation is critical in the urban half of the world where the programmes that aim at improving access to drinking water and sanitation are being outpaced by the urban growth.

Billions of people are using unsafe water. The current MDG indicator monitors the type of physical access to water sources. According to this indicator significant progress is being made to help people avoid sharing their water sources with animals. The number of individuals having not access to "improved water sources" is now less than 900 million. However, the safety of the water used by people is not yet monitored globally. There are indications that at least 2 billion people use water that is unsafe. It is estimated that more than 3 billion people use water of unknown therefore dubious quality

Even more people have a right to a better access to water. The Human right to safe drinking water requires more than the safety of water. Individuals need water that is also accessible, acceptable, available, and affordable without discrimination. There are no statistics available. However, it is clear that the number of people that should be targeted by the global community exceeds the number of people using unsafe water. Around half of mankind is probably concerned.

Progress of access to sanitation is slow. The global community has a specific MDG goal on basic sanitation, understood as access to private and hygienic toilets. Despite many efforts progress is slow and the 2015 MDG will not be achieved. 2.6 billion people are deprived from private hygienic toilets. In the field of sanitation people need more than toilets. They need their wastewater to be collected and transported safely. They need to be protected from contamination caused by others, etc. The UN General Assembly has called for a 5-drive on sanitation<sup>3</sup> to stimulate acceleration of public policies.

The urgency to stop the deterioration of water/sanitation services in the urban half of the world. In the urban half of the world, despite having provided access to water or sanitation services to hundreds of millions of additional people, the current policies have been unable to prevent the situation worsening.

Comparing the latest figures (2008) with 2000, the initial year of the Millennium Development Goals programme, a clear deterioration is observed. The proportion of the urban population that benefits from satisfactory access to drinking water or sanitation is decreasing<sup>1</sup>. In cities, and towns of all sizes, over those 8 years there has been an increase of: i) 114 million more people without access to tapwater at home or in the immediate vicinity; ii) 134 million more people without access to private sanitary toilets (basic sanitation). In both cases, this means an increase of 20% in the number of individuals living in cities who lack these accesses<sup>2</sup>.

In the meantime, in urban areas, the number of people without access to "improved water sources" (i.e. more or less the sources that are protected from direct contamination) and the number of people without any other option than open defecation has not decreased.

So, in cities, despite all the efforts, overall the world is not making progress in these domains that are essential to life and to social and economic development. There the world is in regression. A surge is necessary to reverse these trends. Obviously, current efforts in rural areas should continue while efforts in urban and peri-urban areas should be stepped up to prevent worsening the situation further.

### More ambitious policies are needed

Access to safe drinking water and sanitation is a challenge that concerns the needs of more than half of mankind. Through their MDG programme, the UN have focused their

efforts on part of this challenge. However, the important efforts being made are not sufficient. People need more than what is monitored by the MDG indicators, progress on basic sanitation is too slow, the situation is deteriorating in the urban half of the world and existing monitoring tools are not sufficient to monitor progress. An acceleration of public policies is needed and the UN should revise their common goals to adopt more ambitious targets on access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

Key action message – Acknowledging the needs for more ambitious policies

UNCSD should acknowledge the need to accelerate programmes that aim to improve access to drinking water and sanitation both in rural and urban settlements through: i) recognising the needs of the billions of people without satisfactory access to drinking water (using the criteria of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation more than half of mankind need to be targeted); ii) recognising the urgency to reverse the trend towards deterioration of water and sanitation services in urban settings where these programmes are outpaced by urban growth; iii) deciding to monitor, both globally and nationally the quality of water used by people to better identify the current water safety gap.

## 2. Sharing a common vision and adopting an action plan for wastewater management

The challenge

Sanitation includes several components: basic sanitation, wastewater management through individual or collective facilities, stormwater management and solid waste management.

Controlling man-made pollution of water and organising successive uses of water are becoming more and more necessary to protect health of individuals against contamination by others and by economic activities, to support economic development, to protect ecosystems from harmful pollution and to mitigate increasing water scarcity.

Management of water after use is an essential sanitation activity that contributes to social and economic development as well as to environmental protection. It contributes to sustainable development, to the green economy and to poverty alleviation.

However, for more than half of mankind, wastewater is not collected safely and 80% of wastewater is not de-polluted before re-use or discharge into nature which leads to an increasing pollution of rivers, lakes, aquifers and seas. Countries have very different wastewater policies.

An initiative on waterborne pollution and water reuse would fit perfectly with the Rio+20 objectives on the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Management of water after use is an essential sanitation activity that contributes to social and economic development as well as to environmental protection, all three components of sustainable development. This is why it deserves consideration in every global summit on sustainable development.

The Rio+20 Conference will focus on the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. Wastewater management fits perfectly with this goal from the perspective of water uses since controlling man-made pollution of water facilitates economic development by making water reusable, contributes to protecting ecosystems. It prevents individuals from being contaminated by others or by economic activities and thus facilitates their integration into the national economy.

Furthermore, there are many linkages with other green growth activities since wastewater management creates opportunities for using water as:

- a source of energy through burning sludge extracted from wastewater, using calories transported by the wastewater or using wastewater flows to produce hydroelectricity,
- a source of water and also a source nutrients for agriculture that both contribute to solving the food crisis,
- a source of water that contributes to mitigating increasing water scarcity,
- a source of health for individuals and ecosystems,
- a way to control the emission of gases by the biological pollution included in water,
- a way to enhance property values and encourage the development of tourism because polluted water bodies impair these activities. Recent publications by WHO and OECD have confirmed the high economic rate of return to a national community of investing in wastewater management.

The global strategy on sanitation is incomplete

Up to 2002, sanitation challenges were largely ignored by the international community. In 2002, the Rio+10 Summit in Johannesburg sparked a revolution on sanitation. Governments decided to add a Millennium Development Goal on sanitation. At the time the perceived priority was basic sanitation, i.e. access for individuals to decent toilets and to evacuation of water after use from households. However, for many years sanitation has remained a word added to water in global declarations. Only in 2008 did sanitation gain full respect thanks to the International Year on Sanitation. Although progress on basic sanitation is too slow, the 2002 decision has permitted a complete change in the status of sanitation in the international community. On the 21st of June 2011, the day of his reelection, the UN Secretary General launched a 5-year drive on sustainable sanitation, and in his address to journalists mentioned that eliminating open defecation is part of his job.

The 2000 resolution only did part of the job on sanitation. Sanitation, in all its components, is needed by human beings and the planet. They need more than basic sanitation. They also need man-made pollution of water to be controlled to protect health of individuals against contamination by others and by economic activities, to sustain economic development, to protect ecosystems against excessive pollution and to mitigate increasing water scarcity.

Year after year it has become clearer and clearer that Governments need to harmonise their views and adopt coherent policies on wastewater management. This area is so underestimated that global knowledge of wastewater management is very scarce if not completely absent. There are no global statistics on wastewater collection and reuse. The absence of any global monitoring tool is a good indicator of the absence of shared thinking on the matter.

However, some moves have begun. On 22 March 2009, governments that participated in the Istanbul 5th World Water Forum declared their will to "strengthen the prevention of pollution from all sectors in surface and groundwater, appropriately applying the polluter pays principle, while further developing and implementing wastewater collection, treatment and reuse". On 20 December 2010, the UN General Assembly made a resolution on the follow-up of the International Year of Sanitation, 2008. That resolution "encouraged all States, as well as the United Nations system and international organizations and other stakeholders, to approach the sanitation issue in a much broader context and encompass all its aspects, including hygiene promotion, provision of basic sanitation services, sewerage, and wastewater treatment and reuse in the context of integrated management of water resources."3

The Rio+20 summit could usefully complete the partial resolution on sanitation made in the Johannesburg Rio+10 summit that was limited to basic sanitation. The Rio+20 summit should develop a common vision and adopting an action plan for wastewater management to ensure satisfactory control of man-made pollution of water and successive uses of water.

## Key action message – Sharing a common vision and adopting a common action plan for wastewater management

Controlling man-made pollution of water and organising successive uses of water are becoming more and more necessary to protect the health of individuals against contamination by others and by economic activities, to support economic development, to protect ecosystems from harmful pollution and to mitigate increasing water scarcity. UNCSO should decide to include the management of manmade water pollution in its global agenda, targeting collection and de-pollution of water after use as well as the organisation of successive uses of water. It should propose to country governments to take appropriate steps to adopt a shared vision and action plans for urban, industrial and agricultural wastewater management.

### 3. Ensuring sustainable water economics to provide services sustainably

#### The challenge

The social, environmental and economic benefits of providing water supply and sanitation to people and businesses and of collecting and treating water after use are far more significant than is normally recognised. Water, sanitation and pollution alleviation are often seen as matters that are expensive and politically unattractive. In the case of both Green Growth and Poverty Alleviation this needs to be understood differently. These activities provide very significant direct and indirect benefits, to individuals, economies, and environment. They contribute significantly to national wealth, societal wellbeing and protection of natural capital. They also eliminate broad areas of avoidable direct and indirect costs, which hold back Green Growth and Poverty Alleviation.

Reliable and efficient water and wastewater services and pollution control systems are a clear indication of a stable and well governed society. These services enable people to enjoy productive and healthy lifestyles, to benefit from education and employment and to live in environments that are attractive and rich in biodiversity.

In order to deliver these benefits, these services have to be established and operated on a sound economic basis. They need sufficient and predictable revenue to ensure that capital investment, operating costs and renewal and maintenance expenditure are covered adequately over the longterm.

Sustainable economics of these public services can only be achieved through the communities that benefit contributing to the costs. This can be done through cash flows based on tariffs charged to users, taxes levied on the community, or some combination of the two. Additional financing from transfers from national or international budgets can be useful to provide temporary injection of funds, but it is not sustainable over the long term. These three mechanisms, tariffs, taxes and transfers (the 3Ts) are the fundamental elements of sustainable cost recovery. When stable and predictable cash flows are established using these tools, additional repayable finance in the form of loans from international financial institutions or commercial banks can be mobilised. These processes combined are often referred to as "sustainable cost recovery (SCR)", which is to be distinguished from "full cost recovery", which may be socially or politically unattainable.

Some of the economic justifications for ensuring adequate financing for the provision of water, and sanitation and de-pollution are as follows:

- o Reliable access to satisfactory water and sanitation services eliminates the "coping costs" that are necessary when the services are inadequate or unavailable. Studies show that coping costs can reach 20% of household incomes. Poor households are usually the most seriously affected and burdened by coping costs.
- o Water, sanitation and pollution prevention are powerful and effective tools for public hygiene and preventive health. Water-borne diseases are among the most common causes of death and disability and are almost entirely preventable. The WHO estimates that about half the hospital beds in the developing world are taken up by people suffering from water related diseases. The cost of providing and maintaining a hospital per bed is many times that of delivering a water and sanitation service. Water and sanitation investments are therefore very cost effective solutions for public health.
- o The loss of educational opportunity related to lack of adequate water and sanitation services is serious handicap in many cases. The costs of this are considerable to both individuals and the economy of a country as a whole.
- o Poor education and poor health that result from lack of adequate water, sanitation and pollution removal have serious implications for employment, productivity and purchasing power and therefore directly affect societal wellbeing and economic performance.
- o Access to water and sanitation services has a positive impact on property values, while polluted water bodies reduce values.
- o Clean water bodies and clean environments are more attractive and have richer biodiversity, which give rise to better human wellbeing and to economic activities, notably leisure and tourism industries.
- o The positive benefits of water, sanitation and de-pollution on the economy improve the tax revenue base for the government. The net benefits outweigh the costs by a considerable margin.

#### Key economic principles resulting from our experience in the field

<sup>[4]</sup> The sustainability of all water and sanitation services is dependent on sound economics. This means having sufficient and predictable flows of cash to enable the costs of operation and maintenance to be covered, investments to be planned and their costs to be repaid.

<sup>[4]</sup> Assuring the sustainable financing of water and sanitation infrastructure and operations is essential to ensure that all the other benefits and policy objectives delivered by these services can be realised. Sustainable financing must therefore be considered a pre-condition to other policy objectives.

<sup>[4]</sup> In the vast majority of cases it is a political responsibility to set the prices or cost recovery mechanisms for water, sanitation and de-pollution services. These cost recovery systems need to be set with a realistic relationship to the real costs incurred in delivering the services, irrespective of the nature of the service supplier (public, private or other).

<sup>[4]</sup> Failure to ensure sustainable financing of water, sanitation and de-pollution leads directly to a vicious downward spiral of failing services and increasing costs to consumers, society, the economy and the environment.

<sup>[4]</sup> Affordability must be tackled in a structured way identifying, both affordability for individual users, and for the community as a whole (macro-affordability versus micro-affordability). The structured decision making of SCR enables decision-makers to see the risks and benefits of alternative subsidy policies and minimise adverse consequences of subsidy payments.

<sup>[4]</sup> Setting water service prices for a whole community on the basis of "ability or willingness to pay" of the least affluent is a trap to be avoided. Prices should be set on the basis of covering the costs to provide services to the average consumer, with special provisions to support those who are truly unable to pay that price.

<sup>[4]</sup> Without SCR the newly recognised right to water and sanitation is an empty promise. The misconception that the poor cannot pay leads to their exclusion by default and creates even greater costs for them. Failing to provide them a proper service for which they will pay less is unfair. There is no disconnect between SCR and extension of

access to the poor.

National and local policies to drive more sustainable water economics

The UNCSD is an opportunity to take steps towards more sustainable economics of water and sanitation services. Key elements of national and local policies include the following ones:

- a) Water services should be prioritised in public budgets, recognising the extensive benefits they provide to the objectives of Green Growth and Poverty Alleviation.
- b) Water services should be paid for on a sustainable basis by the communities that benefit from them. Decision makers should determine how this is done by applying the principles of Sustainable Cost Recovery (SCR) which combines predictable subsidies and affordable payments by users.
- c) The policies and processes for setting and regulating cost recovery and charging mechanisms for water services should be applied on the same basis for all forms of service operator within the jurisdiction.
- d) Specific provisions for assessment and targeting of support to people who have difficulty to pay should be set up in ways that do not undermine the overall economic viability of the service provision to the whole community.
- e) Specific policies are required to show to all stakeholders the objectives and processes used in deciding on a particular SCR scheme. These should be reviewed and adjusted periodically as conditions evolve.

We believe that these elements are present fully or partly in many national policies. UNCSD should promote their use in all countries to ensure that water economics are sustainable everywhere.

Key action message - Ensuring sustainable water economics to provide services sustainably. UNCSD should promote the adoption of water/sanitation policies that are grounded on the principles of sustainable economics. These include predictable public subsidies and affordable tariffs to ensure the Sustainable Cost-Recovery that is necessary for services to be provided sustainably to all users, thus supporting the long term social, environmental, and economic dimensions of green economy and poverty alleviation.

## Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED)

### ARAB ENVIRONMENT.4

#### GREEN ECONOMY: SUSTAINABLE TRANSITION IN A CHANGING ARAB WORLD EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Arab economies have underperformed over the past four decades. Arab countries have adopted aggressive economic growth models, but in doing so have gravely undermined progress on social and environmental issues. The ensuing forms of poverty, unemployment, food and water security threats, and environmental degradation continue to plague Arab economies. These shortfalls are not necessarily borne out of natural limitations. Rather, they are the outcomes of policy choices. The shortcomings in the performance of Arab economies have also significantly contributed to deteriorating social conditions. The persistent poverty and unemployment have led to social marginalization, which is further compounded by income disparities. The aggregate impacts of these shortfalls have caused social and political instability. Demands for change across Arab countries reveal that the mounting economic, social, and environmental strains and the resultant implications on livelihood security have become unsustainable.

This report of the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED) advocates a development model rooted in a green economy. A fundamental tenet of a green economy is giving equal weight to economic development, social equity, and environmental sustainability. This report argues that meeting these three goals provides a sound foundation for addressing the shortcomings of Arab economies, from curbing poverty and unemployment, to attaining food, water, and energy security, to achieving more equitable forms of income distribution. Moreover, a green economy places great emphasis on the efficient use and deployment of natural assets to diversify the economy, which in turn provides immunity against the volatilities and recessionary pressures of the global economy.

The systemic strains caused by Arab development models can be appreciated by examining indicators across a range of dimensions. Poverty continues to afflict 65 million people in Arab countries. Economic insecurity is further aggravated by disturbingly high unemployment rates of 14.8% for the general population, reaching 27.3% among the youth. Collectively, these economies have scored less than a 0.5% rise in real gross domestic product (GDP) per capita from 1980 to 2004. These figures cast doubt on the ability of Arab economies, as currently structured, to create 51 million new jobs projected to be required by 2020, just to accommodate new entrants into the work labor force, while keeping current unemployment rates the same.

Arab development strategies continue to be dominated by investments in extractive commodity products earmarked for export markets. These industries require high initial investments but generate low levels of employment. Despite generating high GDP growth, this model leaves Arab economies more vulnerable to global market volatilities, while failing to significantly create jobs. The lack of income diversification is a primary cause of the structural weakness of Arab economies.

#### SHORTFALLS OF ARAB DEVELOPMENT MODELS

The state of water resources is nearing a crisis in most Arab countries, driven mostly by policies that encourage over-consumption and tolerate over-exploitation of the scarce water resources available, leaving future generations to pay the price of current policies. In Arab countries today, more than 45 million people accounting for 10% of the population lack access to clean water and safe sanitation.

Food security poses another major threat to Arab countries, driven primarily by negligence and underdevelopment of the agricultural sector, resulting in poor agricultural productivity, low irrigation efficiency rates, and weak extension services to farmers. The net import bill for the main food commodities was \$30 billion in 2008, including \$18.3 billion for cereals. The escalating food import bills cause large trade deficits, strain the public budgets of Arab countries, and make them vulnerable to export bans by other countries.

Arab economies continue to unsustainably deplete renewable natural resources, motivated by short-term profits, causing environmental impoverishment of scarce land and water resources while discounting the value of these resources to future generations. The average annual cost of environmental degradation in Arab countries has been estimated to be \$95 billion, equivalent to 5% of their combined GDP in 2010.

Nearly 60 million people in Arab countries lack access to affordable energy services, limiting their opportunities for improved living standards. Energy security is becoming a serious concern for oil-importing countries because of high oil prices. A number of Arab economies are among the least energy efficient in the world, measured by their annual CO2 emissions per capita and per unit of GDP. With the demand for electricity escalating in these countries, the policy of building more power plants and providing energy

subsidies will no longer be economically sustainable.

Transportation policies in Arab countries have focused primarily on highway and road construction rather than on mass public transit. The lack of effective intervention policies in the transportation sector has resulted in serious traffic congestion in urban centers, poor air quality in many cities, and land degradation.

Cities in the Arab region suffer from chaotic land-use patterns and excessive urban sprawl, leaving infrastructure systems incapable of adequately supporting their populations. Rural-to-urban migration and high housing costs in many Arab cities have contributed to the spread of slum areas, characterized by inadequate - if not entirely absent - basic services.

Energy and water use in the existing building stock across the region, and in particular in commercial and public buildings, is alarmingly inefficient. The internationalized approach to architecture and construction in the region is insufficiently attuned to the local climatic conditions, resulting in wasteful use of energy.

The waste management sector in Arab countries is characterized by underdevelopment, underinvestment, and high-risk waste dumping practices. The sector is plagued by insufficient regulations and weak waste disposal standards. In many Arab countries, over 50% of all waste generated remains uncollected. Open-air burning is often used at dumpsites, allowing decomposing waste products to pollute the air, soil, and ground and surface water.

#### CHANGING COURSE: TRANSITIONING TO A GREEN ECONOMY

Making the transition to a green economy will require a fundamental review and redesign of public policies to stimulate shifts in production, consumption, purchasing, and investment patterns. The chapters of this report present proposed enabling policies and conditions that will be needed to transition to a green economy across eight priority sectors. The report calls upon Arab governments to prioritize agricultural rural development as a strategic policy objective to alleviate rural poverty and reverse years of neglect. Such a policy shift would enable farmers, aided by well-designed extension services, to improve seeds, irrigation efficiency, soil conservation, agricultural yields, and sustainable practices. Revitalizing the agricultural sector will increase its share in the productive labor force, improve living standards, and limit rural to urban migration. A shift to a 40% share in the labor force by agricultural workers in the Arab region would generate more than 10 million jobs in the sector. In addition, shifting to sustainable agricultural practices is expected to result in savings to Arab countries of between 5-6% of GDP, amounting to about \$100 billion annually, as a result of increased water productivity, improved public health, and better-protected environmental resources. Policy shifts in the water sector must begin with the introduction of institutional and legal reforms that affect water use, regulation, and governance. Arab states need to concentrate on policies that control and regulate water access, promote irrigation and water use efficiency, prevent water pollution, and establish protected areas vital to water resources. Volume of wastewater treated should increase from below 60% today to a 90-100%. The portion of treated wastewater which is reused should increase from 20% today to 100%. Innovative technologies for water desalination should be developed locally, incorporating the use of solar energy.

For the energy sector, the report proposes sustained investments in energy efficiency and in renewable energy sources through a mix of regulatory standards and economic incentives. A reduction in the average annual per capita consumption of electricity in Arab countries to the world average through energy efficiency measures would generate electricity consumption savings that are estimated in monetary terms to reach \$73 billion annually. A 25% reduction in energy subsidies would free up over \$100 billion over a three-year period, an amount that can be shifted to finance the conversion to green energy sources.

Arab countries should develop low-carbon industrial development strategies motivated by the opportunity to become energy-efficient economies. This would enhance local industrial competitiveness, income diversification, and job creation. The viable reduction in energy requirements per ton of product is estimated to be in the order of 30%. For example, energy efficiency enhancements in cement manufacturing can reduce energy consumption per ton of cement by 20% to 40%, leading to a cost advantage to the producer through lower energy costs.

One of the most important measures to reduce emissions is deploying the most efficient production technologies in new plants and retrofitting energy efficiency equipment in existing plants where it is economically viable. A 30% reduction in energy requirements due to more efficient industrial processes is estimated to result in annual savings of 150,000 billion kWh or \$12.3 billion.

For the transportation sector, the report argues for policies in favor of mass public transit systems and vehicle fuel efficiency standards. These policy interventions have been demonstrated to have a relatively low cost while yielding high economic, social, and environmental dividends within a short period of time. The benefits would include the provision of dependable, affordable, and safe transportation services that are energy efficient, while minimizing pollution, congestion, and unmanaged urban sprawl. A projected target of 50% greening of the transport sector, resulting from higher energy efficiency and increased use of public transport and hybrid vehicles, should generate savings of \$23 billion annually. To create healthy and economically competitive urban communities that offer a high quality of living for their inhabitants, the report advocates for the adoption of zoning regulations and mixed-use development. Moreover, traditional design approaches in Arab architecture, which are in many cases more responsive to environmental considerations, should be adapted and applied where relevant and appropriate, thus contributing to environmental, social, and cultural sustainability. For buildings, a holistic design approach that incorporates environmental principles in building form, materials, orientation, equipment installations, and other aspects is proposed to yield the highest energy efficiency gains. Building efficiency codes and standards are seen as the most effective institutional levers for influencing construction practices. Integrating energy efficient considerations in the design of buildings is expected to result in a reduction of about 29% of projected CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2020, which would cut consumption by 217 billion kWh and generate savings of \$17.5 billion annually. In addition, spending \$100 billion in greening 20% of the existing building stock in Arab countries over the next 10 years, by investing an average of \$10,000 per building for retrofitting, is expected to create four million jobs.

The report argues that there is an urgent need for a fundamental shift in the approach to municipal solid waste from waste dumping, burning, and/or land filling to a resource management approach that seeks to capture value from waste materials through reduction, reuse, recycling, and recovery. It is estimated that greening the waste management sector would save Arab countries \$5.7 billion annually. Green waste management contributes to job creation because it is labor-intensive and stimulates the demand for products, systems, and services in other industries. Moreover, it offers unique investment opportunities in recycling, composting, and energy production. Organic food waste, which accounts for 40-80% of municipal waste in Arab countries, can be used as a raw material to produce compost for agricultural use and biogas to replace fossil fuels. Agricultural waste can also be used as a potential raw material for biofuels production. In Arab countries today, mainstream economic planning is still anchored in short-term GDP growth and quick fixes, while disregarding the underlying causes of poverty, inequity, unemployment, and environmental degradation. It is clear that to date, the policy response to these shortfalls and associated disparities in income and power has been extremely inadequate.

This report advocates a response anchored in a transition to a green economy. It argues forcefully that the region does not have to choose between economic development, social equality or healthy ecosystems. By design, the green economy seeks to achieve economic, social, and environmental policy goals. The transformative changes called for in this report will require shifts in economic policies and systems.

Making the transition to green development is not a one-time event that can be achieved by a single high level decision. Rather, it must be viewed as a long and arduous process guided both by top-down policy prescription as well as bottom-up public participation. This approach gives transition the political and social legitimacy needed to ensure wide-scale mobilization of efforts to make it a reality.



## Recommendations – Draft 28/10/2011

The Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED) held its fourth annual conference in Beirut on 27-28 October 2011, dedicated to discussing the transition to a green economy in the Arab world. The conference, held under the patronage of His Excellency the President of the Republic of Lebanon General Michel Sleiman, has brought together 500 delegates from 46 countries, representing corporations, nongovernmental organizations, academia, research institutions, and media organizations. Ministers and representatives of governments and international institutions have participated as observers. At the conference, delegates deliberated the findings and recommendations of the AFED report, *Green Economy in a Changing Arab World*, which advocates development patterns that achieve balanced progress across the economic, social, and environmental dimensions, while sustaining natural capital. The report communicates a set of enabling policies for making a transition to a green economy across eight key economic sectors in a manner that achieves economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability.

The conference endorsed the following conclusions and recommendations:

- 1) The conference agrees with the AFED report that forward-looking Arab economic development models need to meet people's aspirations in economic security, social equity, resource efficiency, and environmental protection. The findings of the report indicate that deterioration in economic, social, and environmental conditions has generated systemic strain on livelihoods, health, and human wellbeing, and may even lead to more social and political turmoil. The conference also agrees that the strategy of pursuing fast growth in gross domestic product (GDP) while neglecting or undermining sociopolitical and environmental conditions, needs to be fundamentally reconsidered.
- 2) To achieve the transformation to a green economy, public and private investments should be directed at maximizing resource efficiency and productivity of energy and water, reducing waste and pollution, securing new growth engines through research and development of green technology, and the sustainable management of local, natural, and cultural assets that boost the local economy and the capacity to create jobs and support the poor. 3) The conference calls upon Arab governments to:
  - a) Allocate a higher priority to agricultural rural development as a strategic policy objective to achieve food security, alleviate rural poverty, and reverse years of neglect. Agricultural strategies should be focused on maintaining the sustainability of surface and ground water, improving irrigation efficiency, raising the productivity of rain-fed crops, facilitating trade in agricultural commodities and virtual water, supporting eco-agricultural methods protective of soils, land, and water, and increasing agricultural investments for development, rehabilitation, and research.
  - b) Introduce a policy shift towards water demand management that would regulate water access, improve water use efficiency, and prevent water pollution. Governments are urged to introduce fair water tariffs that rationalize water use, achieve cost recovery in a gradual manner, and promote equity through targeted subsidies. Wastewater treatment rates should be increased from the current figure below 50% to over 90% and water reuse from the current 20% to almost 100%. Local development of innovative desalination methods that utilize primarily solar energy should be actively promoted.
  - c) Adopt national and regional strategies for energy efficiency, demand-side management, cleaner energy, and renewable energy. To manage energy demand growth cost-effectively, governments should mandate and enforce energy efficiency standards and labels in residential and commercial buildings, industrial facilities, modes of transportation, and for electrical appliances and lighting. Governments should also reconsider broad electricity, petrol, and natural gas subsidies to take into account economic incentives that spur investments in energy efficiency, clean energy, and renewable energy technologies. Targeted subsidies should be used to assist low-income households.
  - d) Introduce municipal zoning regulations that promote mixed-use development, high-density land use patterns, open green spaces, and accessible public transportation networks.
  - e) Develop a national industrial policy that provides appropriate and favorable institutional and regulatory framework for low-carbon industries and research and development (R&D) capabilities.
  - f) Make sustained investments in mass public transportation in Arab cities and in regional rail lines to transport freight and people within busy corridors, locally, nationally, and regionally. Government agencies should ensure that transportation and urban planning are well integrated. Governments should adopt national fuel efficiency standards for vehicles and reduce in a gradual manner vehicle fuel subsidies, while introducing incentives for the replacement of ageing, polluting vehicles with new higher fuel efficiency vehicles, and applying a taxation system proportionate to emissions and fuel consumption.
  - g) Adopt a resource management approach to municipal solid waste that seeks to capture value from waste materials through reduction, reuse, recycling, and recovery. Governments should promote investments in converting organic food waste into compost and biogas, as well as waste-to-energy strategies.
  - h) Develop a package of policy instruments, including regulations, incentives, and capacity building to implement sustainable tourism practices in travel, hospitality, and recreational services. Government should give particular attention to ecotourism as well as community-based cultural tourism to help in nature conservation and to support local economies.
  - i) Promote, through a mix of economic incentives and publicly sponsored research programs, opportunities for the private sector to assist in developing locally-based competitive green technology as an economic engine for growth.
  - j) Commit to re-education of the workforce to develop the knowledge base for implementing green initiatives and to build innovative capacity within the local supply chains to meet the demand for green materials, technologies, and services.
  - k) Strengthen the institutional capacity of national government agencies, municipal councils, and local governments to mandate and enforce efficiency codes, standards, labels, and regulations, and to develop effective economic public incentives that enable green transformation in all sectors.
  - l) Launch sustained public awareness campaigns to cultivate understanding of the green economy and motivate behavioral changes in consuming, purchasing, and investment patterns. Civil society, including non-governmental organizations, academia, and private sector groups should be included in green economy planning and transformation.
- 4) The conference calls upon regional organizations and governments to activate the Arab Environment Facility and establish regional green economy initiatives, covering:

Research and Development, Renewable Energy Solutions, Sustainable Communities, Cleaner Production, Sustainable Agriculture, Regional Transport Networks.

5) The conference recommends that AFED provide technical assistance to various sectors in Arab countries to transition to a green economy upon request. This may be in the form of seminars, training, policy design, and implementation of pilot projects on the ground.

6) The conference calls upon private industrial enterprises to deploy the most efficient production technologies in new plants and retrofitting energy efficiency equipment in existing plants where it is economically viable, in order to maximize the resource productivity of energy, water, and materials and minimize pollution. Industrial companies are also urged to invest in distributed solar and wind power generation on-site when appropriate.

7) The conference calls upon private developers and regionally based professionals in architecture, construction, building materials, and engineering to increasingly accord energy and water efficiency a high priority and make use of green solutions in buildings. Additionally, they are urged to apply traditional design approaches in Arab architecture that are known to be more responsive to local environmental elements and to indigenous cultural and aesthetic values.

8) The conference calls upon real estate developers, commercial building owners, and large resort enterprises to accord energy and water efficiency a high priority in the design and operation of buildings and hotels and to take advantage of the economic viability of solar water heating.

9) The conference calls upon non-governmental organizations, academia, and the private sector to cooperate fully in the implementation of these recommendations.

The conference wishes to thank the Arab Forum for Environment and Development (AFED) for its constructive initiative of promoting an Arab green economy, and requests it to present the recommendations to all Arab governments and other stakeholders, and to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20. The conference invites the AFED Board of Trustees to consider means of following up the implementation of the annual conferences' recommendations, and to present the outcome at AFED's fifth annual conference. The conference expresses its gratitude to the Lebanese government for hosting the event. It offers its appreciation to all sponsors for lending their support for the convening of this conference.

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## Arab NGO Network

Text not available.

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## Area Cultura Sostenible

APORTACIONES DEL CENTRO CULTURAL RECTOR RICARDO ROJAS, SECRETARÍA DE EXTENSIÓN UNIVERSITARIA Y BIENESTAR ESTUDIANTIL DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA, PARA EL DOCUMENTO DE COMPILACIÓN BASE PARA LA PREPARACIÓN DE UN BORRADOR PRELIMINAR DEL DOCUMENTO FINAL RIO+201.

### CONTENIDO GENERAL

El presente documento se centra en el tema "El marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible" como contribución del sector cultural universitario, y aborda aspectos sobre mecanismos institucionales específicos de cooperación e implementación.

### ANTECEDENTES:

CULTURA SOTENIBLE DESDE LA UNIVERSIDAD A LA COMUNIDAD Dentro del marco institucional universitario y en línea con la política cultural de la Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, a través de la Secretaría de Extensión Universitaria y Bienestar Estudiantil, el Centro Cultural Rector Ricardo Rojas creó durante 2011 el área de Cultura Sostenible.

Las profundas desigualdades sociales de nuestra comunidad nos sumergen e insertan abruptamente en las diferencias culturales, educativas, artísticas y creativas generadas a partir de la limitada o nula posibilidad de acceso a los bienes culturales. La brecha generacional se profundiza a medida que la comunidad excluida se recluye en su hábitat. Entendiendo a la cultura como la suma de los diversos saberes y costumbres de los distintos sectores de la sociedad, desde el Área de Cultura Sostenible proponemos mirarnos hacia adentro para evaluar nuestras acciones, implicancias y responsabilidades y hacia fuera, con el fin detectar las distintas costumbres y diferentes saberes, de nuestra Autores: Lic. Cecilia Vázquez, Coordinadora General de Cultura de la UBA; Arq. María Antonia Kaul y Mariana Ron, Directoras del Área de Cultura Sostenible del Centro Cultural Rector Ricardo Rojas de la UBA.

comunidad y nuestra región potenciándolos e incentivando el respeto y la existencia de los mismos, como aporte a la construcción cultural global en pos de una sociedad sostenible.

Consideramos que hoy están dadas las circunstancias para proponer a través del Área Cultura Sostenible disminuir esta brecha, promover y generar el crecimiento y desarrollo a través de las industrias creativas, la educación y las artes en búsqueda de una cultura inclusiva, sin discriminación. Sabemos que es necesario un cambio profundo, una @evolución en la forma de enfocar la relación con el medio, los seres humanos, y su cultura. Sabemos que debemos incorporar los costos ambientales en las decisiones que tomamos como productores y consumidores culturales. Sabemos también, que es demasiado costoso para todos considerar los recursos culturales y naturales como bienes carentes de valor y traspasar esa desvalorización al resto de la sociedad.

Desde el área de Cultura Sostenible se abre un espacio colaborativo y de aprendizaje continuo como plataforma de diálogo e intercambio entre los diversos saberes del mundo académico de las Facultades de la Universidad de Buenos Aires y de los Programas ya existentes, junto a las organizaciones gubernamentales, del tercer sector y la comunidad.

Hablar de Educación Cultural Sostenible en la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina, requiere considerar la urgente necesidad de incorporar la variable ambiental a nuestra cultura y nuestra cotidianeidad. Nuestra historia así como el presente, la conciencia sobre la finitud de los recursos naturales y las variables ambientales son temas presentes que involucran cada uno de los aspectos de nuestra vida y de nuestra cultura.

Asimismo la vida democrática requiere la formación y ejercicio de la ciudadanía responsable, comprometida, informada y consciente tanto en relación a los temas de urgente definición como sobre los desafíos y la búsqueda de las propuestas superadoras que cada cultura y cada sociedad establezca como propios. Es pues, en la organización social a partir de los consensos culturales, donde encontraremos como sociedad la solución a los problemas globales. La temática referida a la cultura sostenible se constituye en un valioso y necesario proceso de formación cultural sostenido a partir del ejercicio y compromiso cotidiano de ciudadanos con rol activo en la construcción de una sociedad democrática y solidaria. Es, pues en esta construcción que la reflexión pública sobre el estado de situación de nuestras comunidades locales, se potencia a través de la creatividad relevante de sus miembros, en pos de la construcción colectiva y global.

EL CENTRO CULTURAL RECTOR RICARDO ROJAS DE LA UNIVERSIDAD DE BUENOS AIRES (CCRRRojas UBA) COMO USINA CULTURAL DEL CAMBIO EN POS DE UNA SOCIEDAD SOSTENIBLE.

Para hacer de la reflexión pública sobre la cultura sostenible y el desarrollo humano un instrumento de desarrollo social y político, que integre al concepto de ambiente como totalidad que resguarde permanentemente los equilibrios ecológicos, el desarrollo pleno del hombre y sus instituciones sociales; potenciando la perspectiva sustentable en respeto de las características que la población quiera mantener como fundamento y sentido de sus vidas individuales y colectivas, el Centro CCRRRojas UBA ha desarrollado la plataforma de diálogo para la Cultura Sostenible:

- Porque esta propuesta se realiza en cumplimiento con el artículo 5 de la Declaración Universal de la UNESCO sobre la Diversidad Cultural: "Los derechos culturales, marco propicio para la diversidad cultural, Los derechos culturales son parte integrante de los derechos humanos, que son universales, indisociables e interdependientes. El desarrollo de una diversidad creativa exige la plena realización de los derechos culturales, tal como los definen el Artículo 27 de la Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos y los Artículos 13 y 15 del Pacto Internacional de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales. Toda persona debe tener la posibilidad de expresarse, crear y difundir sus obras en la lengua que desee y en particular en su lengua materna; toda persona tiene derecho a una educación y una formación de calidad que respeten plenamente su identidad cultural; toda persona debe tener la posibilidad de participar en la vida cultural que elija y conformarse a las prácticas de su propia cultura, dentro de los límites que impone el respeto de los derechos humanos y de las libertades fundamentales",
- Porque cuidar el ambiente, más que una preocupación, es una forma de vivir y de pensar. Es cultura.
- Porque sabemos que nuestras prácticas cotidianas, nuestras "costumbres", son culturales, se transmiten mediante educación formal y no formal.
- Porque crear y difundir el conocimiento y la cultura en todas sus formas; y extender la acción y el servicios a la comunidad, con el fin de contribuir a su desarrollo y transformación, estudiando en particular los problemas nacionales y regionales y prestando asistencia científica y técnica al Estado y a la comunidad es nuestra misión como Centro Cultural de la Universidad de Buenos Aires a través de la Secretaría de Extensión Universitaria. (Artículo 28 de la Ley de Educación Superior N° 24.521).

#### DESARROLLO:

El Centro Cultural Rector Ricardo Rojas de la Universidad de Buenos Aires propicia a través de esta propuesta la institucionalización de un nuevo espacio abierto y dinámico como mecanismo de participación ciudadana, conducente de manera transparente y horizontal a la sinergia de los actores implicados, articulando mecanismos de participación que permitan hacer permeable, garanticen eficiencia en los procesos de construcción de pensamiento crítico, colaborando en la eficacia de los actos del Estado, objetivando mecanismos y ámbitos que fomenten el tratamiento de los temas de cara a la sociedad.

#### PROPUESTA:

Se promueve la Conformación de la Comisión Universitaria de Cultura Sostenible (CuCS) La conformación de la Comisión tiene por objeto elaborar conjuntamente con las universidades nacionales de la República Argentina un documento de Propuesta de Políticas Culturales para el desarrollo de una Cultura Sostenible a fin de ser elevado como documento preliminar al Secretario de Cultura de la Nación para ser tenido en cuenta en el desarrollo de las políticas nacionales que den un marco adecuado a la gestión de los recursos culturales a través del desarrollo sostenible consagrado en el artículo 41 de la Constitución Nacional.

La mencionada comisión permitirá establecer los mecanismos que posibiliten la participación adecuada de las universidades nacionales. Del mismo modo, se espera que la CuCS contribuya a la elaboración de la correspondiente estrategia, como así también a los planes y programas nacionales para la gestión integral de cultura sostenible.

#### OBJETIVOS:

- Proponer Proyecto de Ley de Presupuestos mínimos para la Gestión Integral Cultural Sostenible.
- Elaborar e implementar junto con los correspondientes organismos nacionales y provinciales una Estrategia Nacional para la Gestión Integral Cultural Sostenible.
- Realizar charlas/debates/jornadas/ciclos/simposios de capacitación en distintas instituciones correspondientes al sector científico, académico, cultural y organismos de aplicación provincial, sobre la propuesta e implementación de la normativa.
- Promover Proyectos de capacitación y reflexión en todo el territorio nacional sobre Cultura Sostenible.
- Promover la comunicación del modelo de Cultura Sostenible a diferentes públicos a través de la formulación de un plan de difusión.
- Colaborar en la definición de presupuestos programáticos para equilibrar las distintas temáticas.
- Trabajar conjuntamente con el programa de Educación Ambiental, Participación e Información Ambiental (EA) en la definición de indicadores y metas conjunta incluyendo indicadores de sostenibilidad cultural.
- Examinar los más relevantes asuntos de gestión cultural desde el punto de vista local, regional, nacional, internacional y global discerniendo los distintos ámbitos de responsabilidad y sus soluciones.
- Propiciar un proceso continuo y permanente consolidando la experiencia educativa formal y no formal así como la vida social en su conjunto, de forma transversal, aportando a la formación de individuos o colectividades coadyuvando a comprender y tomar decisiones en relación con la sociedad en que se vive.
- Relacionar el análisis, estudio formal y no formal y comprensión de los problemas con acciones concretas para afrontarlos en las diversas manifestaciones y modalidades de su abordaje.
- Establecer un Sistema de Indicadores de Desarrollo Cultural Sostenible:

Habida cuenta que desde el año 2004, la Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible comenzó el trabajo en pos de la generación de indicadores de Desarrollo Sostenible, y, conscientes de que el desarrollo sostenible no puede ser abordado por un organismo en particular dado el carácter multidimensional que posee, y teniendo en

cuenta que el Sistema de Indicadores de Desarrollo Sostenible para Argentina (SIDSA) considera las dimensiones sociales, ambientales, económicas e institucionales, donde tienen competencias distintos organismos del Estado Nacional, el Centro Cultural Rector Ricardo Rojas de la Universidad de Buenos Aires propone a las universidades nacionales a través de sus institutos, organismos, cátedras y equipos interdisciplinarios, conformar una Red Interinstitucional para el relevamiento, promoción y generación de indicadores de Cultura Sostenible, como aporte para el proceso de construcción de este sistema que se ha desarrollado desde sus comienzos en forma interinstitucional.

## LA PARTICIPACIÓN

De los mecanismos de participación ciudadana en la democracia deriva la inclusión de temas propuestos por la sociedad civil tanto en la agenda política como en la agenda de los gobiernos locales.

Este proceso mejorará la intervención de la ciudadanía en relación a la toma de decisiones así como en la realización de acciones concretas relacionadas con sus propios intereses.

Específicamente, las problemáticas ambientales son de las áreas con mayor participación ciudadana. Como elementos claves en un buen desarrollo de procesos de participación ciudadana se encuentran:

- la disponibilidad de información para todos los ciudadanos
- la presencia de actores vinculados al conocimiento que le dan certidumbre y fidelidad a los argumentos
- La creación, estímulo y desarrollo de espacios abiertos al ciudadano
- Los mecanismos que afiancen el sentido de pertenencia

## INFORMACIÓN CULTURAL:

Del interés de la sociedad, de los sectores gubernamentales y no gubernamentales por atender y solucionar los temas de relevancia cultural se desprende como necesario proveer información veraz, oportuna y pertinente que posibilite realizar evaluaciones objetivas y representativas de las demandas de la sociedad.

El Programa Agenda Local 21, surgido a partir de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo, celebrada en Río de Janeiro en 1992, destaca la necesidad de contar información y mejorar el acceso a la misma, para la toma de decisiones, a todos los niveles. En el mismo se expresó (Principio 3) "(...) En el plano nacional, toda persona deberá tener acceso adecuado a la información sobre el medio ambiente de que dispongan las autoridades públicas, incluida la información sobre los materiales y las actividades que encierran peligro en sus comunidades, así como la oportunidad de participar en los procesos de adopción de decisiones. Los Estados deberán facilitar y fomentar la sensibilización y la participación de la población poniendo la información a disposición de todos (...)" (Principio 10).

Serán entonces, los procesos de construcción de las soluciones colectivas demandadas por la sociedad, aquellos garantidos y expresados por los actores comunitarios como elemento central que adquiere relevancia en la mejora de las políticas públicas.

Autores: Lic. Cecilia Vázquez, Coordinadora General de Cultura de la UBA y Directora del Centro Cultural Rector Ricardo Rojas de la UBA y Arq. María Antonia Kaul y Mariana Ron, Directoras del Área de Cultura Sostenible del Centro Cultural Rector Ricardo Rojas de la UBA.

## Article 19

Submission of ARTICLE 19, Global Campaign for Free Expression, on Incorporating Principle 10 and the Right to Information in the Rio 2012 Outcomes

### Summary

The rights of access to information, public participation, and access to justice are essential to sustainable development. The 1992 Rio Declaration fostered these rights in Principle 10. Now renewed commitment is needed for the full recognition of the rights in all countries. The Rio 2012 Summit provides an opportunity for governments to transform Principle 10 from aspirational goals into actionable rights. In particular, the Outcome Document should include strong commitments from all nations to improve their legal structures on national environmental governance based on Principle 10 and the Bali Guidelines, agree to the development of an international instrument giving legal force to Principle 10 based on the Aarhus Convention, and ensure that the principles are incorporated into all UN bodies decision-making processes.

### The Interest of ARTICLE 19

ARTICLE 19 is an independent human rights organisation that works around the world to protect and promote the right to freedom of expression and information. It takes its name from Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees freedom of expression and freedom of information.

ARTICLE 19 has worked on numerous environment and development-related human rights projects around the world, managed through our offices in London, Mexico, Brazil, Senegal, Kenya, and Bangladesh. In 2010, ARTICLE 19 brought together civil society groups, government officials and experts to develop the London Declaration for Transparency, Free Flow of Information and Development, which sets a clear agenda for transparency in the promotion of development (see appendix 1). In 2011, ARTICLE 19 worked with groups across Africa to set a development-focused agenda on access for African states and assisted in the development of the African Platform on Access to Information (see appendix 2). For the upcoming Rio 2012 Summit, ARTICLE 19 is working closely with other civil society groups around the world, including development and environmental groups, and has recently released a report with The Access Initiative (TAI) on the progress since Rio 1992 and needed outcomes to make Rio 2012 meaningful (see appendix 3). The Importance of Access to Information and Rio 1992

We believe that one of the largest problems standing in the way of sustainable development and a clean environment is the lack at both the national and international level of operational and effective rights of access to information, public participation and access to justice. These access rights facilitate more transparent, inclusive, and accountable decision-making in matters affecting environment and development. Access to information empowers and motivates people to participate in an informed and meaningful manner. Participatory decision-making enhances the ability of governments to respond to public concerns and demands, to build consensus, and to improve acceptance of and compliance with environmental decisions because citizens feel ownership over these decisions. Access to justice encourages the public's ability to enforce their right to participate, to be informed, and to hold regulators and polluters accountable for environmental harm.

Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration recognised the crucial importance of these rights and proposed that access to information, public participation and access to justice be adopted into law in all nations. We believe that the outcome of the Rio 2012 Summit must include an affirmation of these fundamental access rights and that substantial efforts must be made to establish them and make them enforceable in all countries.

## Need for Full implementation of Principle 10

These demands are necessary because Principle 10 has not yet been fully embraced in many nations. There has been substantial improvements in many national legal frameworks, particularly in areas of access to information and environmental impact assessments. A substantial number of countries have adopted new legal frameworks on access rights, especially relating to access to information. However, the adoption of laws has not been uniform. There remains much needed to be done to ensure that these rights are truly available to empower societies and citizens.

This is particularly noticeable in the area of access to information. Over 90 countries have now adopted framework laws or regulations for access to information, including in the past few years China, Indonesia, Nigeria, Liberia, Mongolia and Brazil. Many countries have also adopted specific environmental information access statutes or included access provisions in general environmental protection laws. Many nations have also created Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTRs), which require governments to collect information on pollution releases and make that information publicly available through databases. These PRTRs have been shown to be one of the most effective means of making pollutant related information available to the public while simultaneously reducing pollution. The 1992 Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 were instrumental in promoting the adoption of these laws.

However, there are many countries who have not adopted these laws and there are significant disparities between regions. While most of the nations of Europe, the Americas and a significant portion of Asia have the laws in place, most Middle Eastern, African, Pacific and Caribbean countries do not yet have the right incorporated into national law. Thus, much work remains to ensure that the citizens of the other 100 nations without adequate legal rights are empowered to ensure that they are informed so they may participate and ensure development and a clean environment is enjoyed by all in an equitable and fair manner.

Furthermore, practice lags behind laws in many countries. Research by ARTICLE 19 and other human rights and environmental organisations across the world demonstrates that many people are still being denied access to essential information about climate change and the environment 20 years after Principle 10 was signed by the world's leaders. Some of the problems include a lack of detailed administrative rules and operational policies, inadequate public capacity to use the laws, and insufficient official capacity to implement laws. There are also problems with governments failing to proactively release environmental information, including basic information on air quality and drinking water quality. Emergencies also raise problems. As the recent disasters in Japan and Burma revealed, the public is often not informed of serious hazards.

International institutions have also not fully adopted Principle 10 into their practices. The international bodies of the UN, including UNEP and UNDP, do not have adequate mechanisms for access to information that obligate them to provide information and have working mechanisms for appeals of denials for access. Important discussions are held and decisions are made at the World Trade Organisation and other bodies without adequate public participation.

There has been somewhat more progress with the global financial institutions. The World Bank's recent revision of their Policy on Access to Information is a significant improvement but it remains to be seen if it fully provide information that communities need. The other regional development banks are also revising their public information policies but so far, the revisions have been mostly unsatisfactory. The newly revised Public Information Policy of the European Bank of Reconstruction and Development mentions confidentiality more than transparency. Thus any discussion of institutional reform should firmly establish that the international bodies are accountable and transparent also.

The role of the international bodies in promoting Principle 10 has also been mixed. The UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice (The Aarhus Convention) has been a notable success as the first legally binding international treaty on access rights. The Convention places ratifying nations under a series of important obligations including the collection of information held by private bodies and requiring public bodies to affirmatively make information available to the public, respond to requests, and provide strong rights of appeal. It also established rules for public participation, appeals, and access to justice measures. It has now been ratified by 44 countries from Iceland to Turkmenistan. The 2003 EU Directive which firmly implements the Convention into EU law should also be noted. We believe that this is a model that should be widely followed. Unfortunately, this model has not been widely adopted elsewhere. No other UN regional body has adopted or even begin negotiations on a similar instrument and non-UNECE countries have joined the Convention.

The UNEP Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters ("the Bali Guidelines") on how governments should develop national laws in relation to Principle 10 are also a welcome development, even if it was nearly 20 years after Rio 2012. Unfortunately, the Guidelines are only voluntary, are largely unknown, and while there are commitments by UNEP and other bodies to provide assistance and training, the efforts appear currently to be on a very small scale.

## Growing Consensus on Principle 10

There is a growing agreement both in civil society and in governments that enhancing Principle 10 rights is an essential element in making further progress on sustainable development and environmental protection. The Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference, representing the consensus of over 1,400 civil society representatives included numerous references and demands relating to Principle 10 and many individual and joint CSO submissions make similar demands. There is also significant government support. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) submission states that "Rio+20 could produce a mandate to negotiate international agreements (at the global or regional level) to promote the enactment of legislation pertaining to Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration and its implementation, to be possibly, but not necessarily, based on the Aarhus Convention." The European Committee of the Regions is calling for "promotion of environmental democracy globally" through extension of Aarhus, regional conventions or starting negotiations on a new global convention. Similarly, the European Parliament resolution of 29 September 2011 on developing a common EU position on Rio+20 calls for "ensuring the effective global implementation of Rio Principle 10" and creating a new global convention or extension of the Aarhus Convention. Based on our discussions with other officials, we expect many government submissions to mirror these recommendations.

## Recommendations

We believe that there needs to be a significant effort to ensure that Principle 10 is reaffirmed and extended in the Rio 2012 progress. We urge governments and negotiators to include these three major areas in the Outcome Document.

- All nations should make tangible and identifiable commitments for adopting Principle 10 into national law based on the Bali Guidelines by 2017. This includes laws on access to information, public participation, and mechanisms to ensure that access to justice to enforce these rights are implemented. These should be included in Sustainable Development Goals. Additional assistance should be provided by UNEP and other parties to assist nations into fully implementing the UNEP guidelines into national law.
- All parties should commit to begin negotiations on a new international convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice to be completed by 2017 based on the Bali Principles and the Aarhus Convention model. The other UN regional bodies should be encouraged to adopt in the meanwhile regional mechanisms for access to information following the model of the Aarhus Convention. The members of the Aarhus Convention should also be encouraged to open up the Convention to members outside of the UNECE.
- Any reform of the institutional framework of governance for sustainable development should including the creation of a Council on Sustainable Development, and a World Environmental Organisation or UN Environmental Organisation should also ensure that the Principle 10 rights are incorporated into their structures. This includes all other UN and regional bodies.

# Appendix 1. The London Declaration for Transparency, the Free Flow of Information and Development

We, as members of the global human rights, development and transparency communities and participants in the ARTICLE 19 conference on “Transparency, Free Flow of Information and the Millennium Development Goals” held in London on 24-25 August 2010, adopt the following Declaration.

In September 2000, leaders from 150 countries adopted the Millennium Declaration and agreed eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) each with targets to meet by 2015.

Since 2000, a number of countries have succeeded in achieving some targets, for instance in combating hunger, and improving school enrolment and child health.

However, progress has been uneven and several MDGs are likely to be missed in many countries. Large differences remain between regions, across countries in the same region, and even within countries.

It has been repeatedly acknowledged that progress is off track, not because the MDGs are unreachable or because time is short, but rather because of unmet commitments, inadequate resources, and lack of focus and accountability. Development efforts are hampered by corruption, mismanagement, improper allocation of resources and their inefficient and ineffective use.

There is mounting evidence that transparency of financial flows, including of budgets, aid assistance and revenues from natural and other resources, is insufficient and ineffective. The environment and space for civic engagement and civil society organisations are increasingly restricted, preventing active participation and monitoring, and weakening demands for accountability. Both the free flow of information and transparency, including through a free and independent media, have largely been sidelined in the debate on the MDGs and the fight against poverty.

Yet, as is broadly recognised, transparency and the free flow of information reduce corruption and play a vital role in ensuring accountability at all levels. The availability and accessibility of information empowers people to demand their rights and public services. Free, independent and professional media and civil society organisations are essential to the global fight against poverty, and facilitate citizen participation in development programs.

We are convinced that all efforts towards achieving the MDGs by 2015 must be considerably and urgently stepped up and should encompass the following interconnected principles:

First, the free flow of information, transparency and civic engagement are fundamental to the achievement of the MDGs, and the global fight against poverty

Second, the free flow of information includes protecting and strengthening the right of all to seek, receive and impart information and ideas related to the MDGs and development, and the existence of a free, diverse and professional media

Third, transparency requires collecting, producing, and disclosing accessible, credible and disaggregated data on MDG indicators and targets, as well as on budgets, aid assistance and revenues from natural and other resources

Fourth, civic engagement requires establishing and protecting an enabling environment for civil society organisations (CSOs) and the media, and active participation by all, in particular people living in poverty and those discriminated against, or marginalised. We urge all States to take immediate action on the following priorities:

To promote the free flow of information and civic engagement:

1. Respect, protect and fulfil the right to freedom of expression, including the right to information, as well as the right to freedom of association, in accordance with international human rights law
2. Adopt and effectively implement national laws, regulations and policies on access to information. This includes promoting access to, and proactive disclosure of, information related to development and the MDGs
3. Establish an enabling legal, regulatory and public policy framework for the media, including new media, which promotes their independence, diversity and pluralism, and thus allows for independent investigation and reporting on MDG implementation and poverty alleviation
4. Establish an enabling legal and regulatory environment for CSOs which recognises their independence and right to carry out their peaceful work without fear of harassment, reprisal, intimidation and discrimination
5. Take all necessary measures to ensure that all sectors of society (including women and vulnerable groups) are able to exercise their right to impart and access information without discrimination, including through the media and information and communication technologies (ICTs)
6. Remove all obstacles preventing people living in poverty from accessing information on development policies and take proactive measures to promote their effective participation in the design and execution of development strategies
7. Ensure that national, sub-national and local bodies make available and accessible all development- related information, including information on development assistance received and expended, strategies for development, MDG targets and indicators.

To promote transparency:

8. Ratify and fully implement the UN Convention against Corruption
9. Implement the Paris Declaration and the Accra Agenda for Action; recognise that national development strategies require ownership by governments as well as parliaments, citizens, civil society organisations, and communities
10. Implement the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) and ensure that IATI delivers an international standard that aligns with the information needs of governments and their citizens
11. Publish accessible and comprehensive information on budgets, expenditures and revenues in relation to development and the MDGs, such as on development assistance, social, economic and financial activities, and natural resources, including the extractive industries, forestry, fisheries and land
12. Fully comply with the International Monetary Fund’s Code of Good Practices on Fiscal Transparency
13. Join or support relevant multi-stakeholder initiatives, such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) and the Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA). Donor governments should also support developing countries’ transparency measures in planning, licensing and

contracting for natural resource management and establish benchmarks for all development assistance programming in resource-rich countries

14. Implement the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) Guidelines for the Development of National Legislation on Access to Information, Public Participation and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters
15. Adopt legal rules to require that all publicly-traded companies in natural resources and other relevant sectors publish all information on contracts with and payments to governments.
16. Ensure that all intergovernmental organisations adopt comprehensive, effective access to information policies, such as those developed by the Global Transparency Initiative (GTI) for international financial institutions (IFIs)
17. Establish participatory and transparent local government institutions to ensure equitable and quality service delivery.

We also call on all other partners in the development and MDGs process to take the following actions:

18. Intergovernmental organisations should adopt and effectively implement comprehensive access to information policies based on the principles of voluntary, maximum and proactive disclosure, such as those developed for IFIs by the Global Transparency Initiative
19. Non-governmental donors should support governments in adopting laws, regulations and policies that will ensure the free flow of information and transparency, including on MDGs and development strategies, and the receipt and expenditure of development assistance
20. Private sector bodies should adopt corporate social responsibility standards which recognise the importance of transparency and the free flow of information. They should join multi-stakeholder initiatives, such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) and the Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA) and publish all information on contracts with and payments to governments, particularly in relation to the extractive industries and other natural resources
21. Civil society organisations, including international and national non-governmental organisations, should join and support international and national self-regulatory initiatives to strengthen their reporting, transparency and accountability, including accountability to the people they serve. They should publish detailed information on their funding and expenditure as well as on the impact of their development activities.
22. Media organisations should provide a platform for an inclusive public debate about development and achievement of the MDGs with the participation of people living in poverty by, among other things, reporting on issues that are of particular concern to them. They should also actively and fairly investigate and report on the implementation of strategies on the MDGs and the delivery and use of development assistance, including by governments, CSOs and IFIs
23. All MDG partners should champion efforts at national and international levels, to enable citizens to access information and hold authorities to account, including by supporting and strengthening CSOs and civic engagement. They should support and make use of relevant accountability mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels, including parliaments, courts, ombudspersons, UN Charter and treaty bodies and regional bodies to scrutinise MDG implementation and strengthen accountability.

London 25 August, 2010

African Platform on Access to Information

19 September 2011

Preamble

We, participants at the Pan African Conference on Access to Information, organised by the Windhoek+20 Campaign on Access to Information in Africa in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the African Union Commission (AUC) and the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights in Cape Town, South Africa, September 17-19, 2011:

Reaffirming the 1991 Windhoek Declaration on Promoting an Independent and Pluralistic African Press and viewing the significant progress that has been made in the past 20 years on freedom of expression, access to information and the free flow of information;

Stating that access to information (ATI) is the right of all natural and legal persons, which consists of the right to seek, access and receive information from public bodies and private bodies performing a public function and the duty of the state to provide such information;

Emphasising that access to information is an integral part of the fundamental human right of freedom of expression, essential for the recognition and achievement of every person's civil, political and socio-economic rights, and as a mechanism to promote democratic accountability, good governance;

Acknowledging that access to information is instrumental to fostering access to education and health care, gender equality, children's rights, a clean environment, sustainable development and the fight against corruption;

Recalling Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948, which guarantees that: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers", Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the UN Human Rights Committee General Comment No. 34 adopted in 2011 which states that Article 19(2) of the ICCPR includes the right of access to information held by public bodies, and Article 1.2 of the UNESCO Constitution;

Underlining Article 9 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights adopted by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) on 27 June 1981, which provides that, "Every individual shall have the right to receive information";

Reaffirming Article IV(1) of the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression in Africa, adopted by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights at its 32 Ordinary Session held in October 2002, which provides that "Public bodies hold information not for themselves but as custodians of the public good and everyone has a right to access this information, subject only to clearly defined rules established by law";

Cognisant of the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption, the African Charter on Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, the African Youth Charter and the African Statistics Charter, all of which promote transparency in public life.

Welcoming the efforts of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in developing a Model Law for AU Member States on Access to Information, aimed at assisting Member States in formulating, adopting or reviewing access to information legislation and its

implementation;

Mindful of the efforts of international organisations and others to develop principles and declarations on the right of access to information and freedom of expression including the 2010 Brisbane Declaration Freedom of Information: The Right to Know, the Atlanta Declaration and African Regional Findings, the Accra Agenda for Action, the Lagos Declaration on the Right of Access to Information, the Johannesburg Principles on National Security, Freedom of Expression and Access to Information, and the Declaration of Table Mountain;

Aware that the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) brought to the forefront the importance of access to information in the modern world through the Geneva Declaration of Principles and Tunis Commitment and that the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) plays a crucial role in bringing together all of the stakeholders to facilitate an international internet governance debate that includes issues of access and openness;

Recognising the work of the African Union Commission to give practical expression to the various instruments of the African Union on freedom of expression and access to information, through such initiatives as the Pan African Media Network and portal, the new AU website, social networks, the media center, training programmes, ensuring media access to the AUC leadership, and publication of other information materials among others; as well as its efforts in promoting Information and Communications Technology (ICTs) in Africa;

Encouraged that over 90 countries around the world have adopted comprehensive national access to information laws or regulations including ten in Africa; that many countries in Africa have joined the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, the International Aid Transparency Initiative and the Open Government Partnership; and that the Economic Community of West African States is moving towards adoption of a binding Supplementary Act for a Uniform Legal Framework on Freedom of Expression and Right to Information;

Concerned that most African nations have not yet adopted comprehensive ATI laws or regulations and that significant problems remain with both the substantive provisions of many of those that have adopted laws and the full implementation of the laws;

Acknowledging that civil society organisations and government bodies around the world have adopted 28 September as International Right to Know Day;

Convinced that it is of critical importance that clear and comprehensive principles are established to guide the promotion and protection of the right of access to information in Africa through the adoption and effective implementation of appropriate national laws and regulations;

Resolve to adopt the following Principles on The Right of Access to Information:

#### Key Principles

1. **Fundamental Right Accessible to Everyone.** Access to information is a fundamental human right, in accordance with Article 9 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. It is open to everyone, and no one should be privileged or prejudiced in the exercise of this right on account of belonging to a class or group howsoever defined, and whether in terms of gender, class, race, political association, occupation, sexual orientation, age, nationality, HIV status, and other bases as cited in many African constitutions. It is not required that anyone must demonstrate a specific legal or personal interest in the information requested or sought or otherwise required to provide justification for seeking access to the information.
2. **Maximum Disclosure.** The presumption is that all information held by public bodies is public and as such should be subject to disclosure. Only in limited circumstances set out in these principles below may disclosure be denied.
3. **Established in Law.** The right of access to information shall be established by law in each African country. Such law shall be binding and enforceable and based on the principle of maximum disclosure. The law shall take precedence over other conflicting laws that limit access to information.
4. **Applies to Public Bodies and Private Bodies.** The obligations of ATI shall apply to all public bodies, as well as to private bodies that are owned or controlled by the government, utilise public funds, perform functions or provide services on behalf of public institutions, or have exclusive contracts to exploit natural resources (with regards to said funds, functions, services or resources), or which are in possession of information which is of significant public interest due to its relation to the protection of human rights, the environment or public health and safety, or to the exposure of corruption or illegal actions or where the release of the information may assist in exercising or protecting any right.
5. **Clear and Unambiguous Process.** The law shall include procedures for the exercise of the right. The process to obtain information should be simple and fast and take advantage of new information and communication technologies where possible. Bodies falling under the scope of the ATI law should provide assistance to requesters in order to ensure that they receive the information they need. The information provided should be provided in a form understandable to the requestor. Information should be disclosed within a clear and reasonable deadline provided for by law. It should be available at low or no cost.
6. **Obligation to Publish Information.** Public and relevant private bodies shall be obliged to proactively release information in a timely manner about their functions, powers, structures, officials, decisions, expenditures, budgets, and other information relating to their activities that is of public interest. The dissemination should use all reasonable means of communications, including ICTs, to maximise access to all communities and sectors of society.
7. **Language and Accessibility.** To the greatest extent possible, information should be available in the language of the person seeking it, in an accessible location, in a format that is as accessible as possible, and, in particular, ensures that it is accessible to those who may be particularly affected by the subject matter of the information.
8. **Limited Exemptions.** The right of access to information shall only be limited by provisions expressly provided for in the law. Those exemptions should be strictly defined and the withholding of information should only be allowed if the body can demonstrate that there would be a significant harm if the information is released and that the public interest in withholding the information is clearly shown to be greater than the public interest in disclosure. Information can only be withheld for the period that the harm would occur. No information relating to human rights abuses or imminent dangers to public health, environment, or safety may be withheld.
9. **Oversight Bodies.** Independent bodies such as an ombudsperson or information commissioner should be established to monitor and hold government bodies and relevant private entities to account on their access to information disclosure practices, to receive and decide upon complaints, and generally oversee the implementation of the access to information legislation. The oversight body should be adequately funded.
10. **Right to Personal Data.** All persons have a right to access and correct their personal data held by third parties.
11. **Whistleblower Protection.** To ensure the free flow of information in the public interest, adequate protections against legal, administrative and employment-related sanctions should be provided for those who disclose information on wrong-doing and other information in the public interest.
12. **Right of Appeal.** Everyone has a right to appeal administratively any action that hinders or denies access to information or any failure to proactively disclose information. They have a right to further appeal to an independent body and to finally seek judicial review of all limits of their right of access to information.



13. Duty to Collect and Manage Information. Public and relevant private bodies have a duty to collect information on their operations and activities on behalf of their citizens. They also have a duty to respect minimum standards in relation to the management of this information to ensure that it may easily be made accessible to citizens.

14. Duty to Fully Implement. Public and relevant private bodies have an obligation to ensure the law is fully implemented. This includes internal procedures and processes and the designation of responsible officials.

#### Application of Principles

These principles are essential to development, democracy, equality, and the provision of public service, and are applicable to, amongst others, the following:

1. Enabling Environment. Governments should ensure that the legal frameworks create an enabling environment allowing individuals, civil society organisations including trade unions, media organisations, and private businesses to fully enjoy access to information, thus fostering active participation in socio-economic life by all, in particular people living in poverty and those discriminated against or marginalised.
2. Elections and Electoral Processes: Governments and election management bodies have a positive obligation to provide the public with information before, during and after elections, not to interfere with media coverage, to encourage public participation and proactively publish campaign spending and contributions.
3. Disadvantaged Communities: Governments have a particular obligation to facilitate access to information by disadvantaged minority groups and minority language speakers, as well as marginalised groups including women, children, rural people, the poor and persons with disabilities. Information should be available at no costs to these groups. This especially applies to information that contributes to the long-term empowerment of the groups. Governments also have an obligation to ensure equitable and affordable access to ICTs for those with special needs and for other disadvantaged persons and groups.
4. Women: Governments, civil society and the media have an obligation to facilitate women's equal access to information, so that they can defend their rights and participate in public life. Civil society organisations should be encouraged to make the best use of access to information mechanisms to monitor governments' fulfilment of commitments to further gender equality, to demand the enhanced delivery of services targeted at women and to ensure that the public funds they are entitled to actually reach them. The collection, management and release of information should be gender disaggregated.
5. Children and Youth: Governments have an obligation to encourage the mass media to disseminate information and material of social and cultural benefit to children and the youth. Governments are further encouraged to facilitate the exchange and dissemination of such information and material from a diversity of cultural, national and international sources as well as the production and dissemination of information specifically for children and youth and wherever reasonably possible facilitate and encourage access to such information by children and youth.
6. Environmental Information: Governments and inter-governmental organisations should increase their efforts in implementing Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development on the right of access to information, public participation and access to justice on environmental issues. Governments should adopt appropriate legislation and regulations to promote access and proactive release of environmental information, guarantee openness, fight secrecy in institutional practices, and repeal that which hinders public availability of environmental information. Governments' capacity to supply environmental information and civil society organisations' demand for such information, as well as engagement in decision-making processes and the ability to hold governments and other actors accountable for actions affecting the environment should be strengthened.
7. Education: Taking into account the close connection between the right of access to information and the right to education, governments have the duty to make publicly available information about educational policies and assessments of their impacts, school performance data, and budgets for education at all government levels. Governments also have a positive obligation to provide information for each school, in particular, schools' admission policies and admission lists, information on management practices, school governance, and other relevant aspects.
8. Health: Governments have a duty to provide access to information with a view to ensuring and improving access to health care services and enhancing accountability regarding their provision. Civil society actors should be encouraged to implement actions to expand the reach of this type of information to all sectors in society, promote the exercise of the right to information to advance the right to health and counter its violations, undertake advocacy and monitoring actions and directly involve individuals in them. Enhanced access to health-related information shall not preclude the protection of individuals' right to privacy.
9. The Fight Against Corruption: By contributing to openness and accountability, access to information can be a useful tool in anti-corruption efforts. Besides ensuring that access to information legislation is effectively implemented, governments have a duty to guarantee a broader legal and institutional framework conducive to preventing and combatting corruption. Civil society organisations and plural media independent of powerful political and commercial interests are critical actors in unveiling and fighting corrupt practices, and their use of access to information laws and other mechanisms enhancing transparency should be encouraged.
10. Aid Transparency. Governments, donors and recipients have a duty to make all information relating to development assistance including grants, loans and transfers to public and private bodies, and assessments on the use and effects of such assistance fully public in a proactive manner based on the principles of the International Aid Transparency Initiative.
11. Natural Resources Transparency. Governments should proactively publish all information including policies, impact assessments, agreements, subsidies, licenses, permits and revenues relating to the exploitation of natural resources including the extractive industries, water, fisheries, and forests. Private bodies which are exploiting natural resources should be required to publicly disclose the terms of such agreements and payments made to governments based on the principles developed by the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).
12. Media and Information Literacy. Governments, civil society, education institutions, and the media have an obligation to promote media and information literacy, to assist individuals and communities to ensure that all members of society can understand and take advantage of new technologies, and to be able to participate intelligently and actively in public matters, and enforce their right of access to information. Citizens should be empowered to be able to consume information critically and express their views on such information, as well as be enabled to seek corrections where applicable.
13. Access to Information and Communications Technologies. Governments have an obligation to (i) use ICTs and other media to ensure maximum disclosure and dissemination of information; (ii) promote and facilitate unhindered public access to such technologies for all citizens and especially for disadvantaged minority groups and minority language speakers, as well as marginalised people such as women, children, rural people, the poor and persons with disabilities.
14. Apply in Other Spheres. The principles stated above on the right of access to information also apply to various spheres that have not been listed.

#### Call to Action

In light of the above, the Conference calls on:

UNESCO to:

- Endorse, through its General Conference, the African Platform on Access to Information and the proclamation of 28 September as International Right to Information Day, also recommending the endorsement of this International Day by the United Nations General Assembly, as a date to raise awareness about the importance of the right of access to information throughout the world;
- Develop and implement internal policies facilitating access to information held by UNESCO in line with this Declaration, and to encourage the adoption of similar policies by other UN agencies.

UN Economic Commission for Africa:

- Develop as part of the RIO +20 Earth Summit a regional convention on access to environmental information, public participation and access to justice based on Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration and the UNEP Bali Guidelines.

The African Union, its Organs and Institutions:

- The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to promote 28 September as African Right to Information Day;
- The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to adopt use this Declaration for a resolution authorising the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information to expand Article IV of the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression in Africa to incorporate the principles of this Declaration.
- The African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to complete and approve the proposed Africa Model Law for AU Member States on Access to Information;
- The African Union Commission to take forward this Declaration by (1) proposing to the next AU summit in January 2012 to adopt 28 September as African Right to Information Day; and (2) initiate an Experts Group to develop further instruments on access to information;
- The Pan-African Parliament (PAP) to endorse this Declaration;
- All African Union bodies to promote the respect of the principles in this Declaration by national governments and provide assistance in implementing them;
- The New Partnership for African Development (NEPAD) to adopt the revised African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), which includes transparency and access to information;
- The African Union should develop and implement internal policies on access to information held by AU bodies based on this Declaration.

Other African Regional Organizations and Institutions:

- All Regional Economic Communities (RECs) should develop internal policies on access to information held by those bodies based on this Declaration;
- ECOWAS to review and adopt the Supplementary Act for a Uniform Legal Framework on Freedom of Expression and Right to Information in West Africa;
- The Southern African Development Community (SADC) to revise the Protocol on Culture, Information and Sport to include principles on access to information;
- Inter-governmental Agency on Development (IGAD) to develop and adopt a Protocol on access to information based on this Declaration;
- The East African Community (EAC) to develop and adopt a Protocol on access to information based on this Declaration;
- The African Development Bank (ADB) to adopt a revised public access policy based on the Transparency Charter for International Financial Institutions.

National Governments of AU member states to:

- Adopt or revise existing comprehensive laws on access to information in line with the principles in this Declaration and the proposed AU Model Law, and fully implement them;
- Harmonise legal frameworks to ensure access to information including repealing or revising antiquated laws which restrict access and ensuring that new laws are compatible with the ATI principles;
- Engage with civil society and other stakeholders to ensure widespread information demand and effective implementation of laws and policies to advance access to information by all persons, especially marginalised groups.
- Join and implement multi-stakeholder efforts including the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST) and the Medicines Transparency Alliance (MeTA) to further transparency;
- Promote availability of public domain information through ICTs and public access to ICTs;
- Support AU efforts to adopt an instrument on access to information;
- Officially recognise 28 September as International and African Right to Information Day;
- Adopt and effectively implement legislation and policies ensuring whistleblower-protection.

Civil Society to:

- Engage with governments in developing, enhancing and implementing ATI laws;
- Monitor progress on the implementation of ATI laws including sectoral laws;
- Create awareness on ATI and provide assistance to facilitate information access by the general public as well as by specific audiences (including women, minority groups and minority language speakers, children, rural communities, individuals with disabilities or living in poverty);
- Ensure transparency in their own activities;
- Promote September 28 as African and International Right to Information Day and, in particular, carry out activities on that date every year to advance the recognition, awareness and enjoyment of the right of access to information by all sectors of society.

Media to:

- Respect editorial independence, professional ethics and journalism standards in their provision of information;
- Recognise the need for transparency and accountability with regard to their own output and institutions, while safeguarding the principal of protecting sources;
- Respect and promote equality, and provide equitable representation within their information output;
- Promote the widest possible access to their information output;
- Enhance mechanisms for audience participation and response;
- Recognise and be responsive to gender differences in regard to audience and market research;
- Popularise the importance of, and issues around, access to information.
- Make optimum use of ATI laws to access information for the public interest.

Business Sector Companies and Corporations to:

- Join multi-stakeholder initiatives promoting transparency including EITI, CoST and MeTA;
- Adopt corporate and social responsibility (CSR) policies that promote transparency and accountability, including access to information and protection of whistleblowers;
- Proactively disclose information of public interest including on pollution releases and other environmental issues;
- Support government and CSO efforts to improve access to information in society.

Public and Private Donors to:

- Ensure that all information relating to the use of development assistance and its effects are made public;
- Ensure that all information relating to development assistance is made available in conformity with the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standards;
- Encourage and support governments in the adoption and full implementation of access to information laws and policies;
- Support civil society and governments efforts to promote access to information.

Moving from Principles to Rights

Rio 2012 and Ensuring Access to Information, Public Participation, and Access to Justice for Everyone

Article 19 and The Access Initiative

July 2011

Synopsis

The rights of access to information, public participation, and access to justice are essential to sustainable development. The 1992 Rio Declaration provided for these rights in Principle 10 and Agenda 21 moved them into reality in many countries. Now renewed commitment is needed for the full implementation of the rights in all countries. The Rio 2012 Summit provides an opportunity for governments to transform Principle 10 from aspirational goals into actionable rights. Governments and civil society should use the opportunity to commit together in adopting, implementing, and exercising these rights in support of sustainable development. The 2012 Summit's focus on the theme of improving institutional frameworks should galvanize nations to improve their national environmental governance, develop international instruments giving legal force to Principle 10, and implement these principles into international bodies' decision-making processes. This paper reflects insights from the research, on the ground experiences, and core beliefs of over 250 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working in 50 countries within The Access Initiative Network together with ARTICLE 19 - a human rights organisation that promotes freedom of expression and freedom of information all over the world.

Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration

Environmental issues are best handled with participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information held by public authorities concerning the environment, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available. Effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy, shall be provided.

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Introduction

In the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the international community recognised that sustainable development depends upon good governance. Principle 10 of the Declaration sets out the fundamental elements for good environmental governance in three "access rights": access to information, public participation, and access to justice. These are based on the experience that governmental decision-making failing to include these essential tenets of access will produce outcomes more likely to be environmentally damaging, developmentally unsustainable, and socially unjust.

Access rights facilitate more transparent, inclusive, and accountable decision-making in matters affecting the environment and development. Access to information empowers and motivates people to participate in an informed and meaningful manner. Participatory decision-making enhances the ability of governments to respond to public concerns and demands, to build consensus, and to improve acceptance of compliance with environmental decisions because citizens feel ownership over these decisions. Access to justice facilitates the public's ability to enforce their right to participate, to be informed, and to hold regulators and polluters accountable for environmental harm.

The access rights in the Rio Declaration have been widely recognized around the world. However, there is much work remaining to ensure that these rights are truly available to empower societies. Commitments made by governments to the principles of good governance under the Rio Declaration Agenda 21, and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation need to be strengthened, monitored, and reported upon. Governments that have not already done so must establish legal rights to access to information, public participation, and justice. Finally, all governments must demonstrate their support for protection of these rights. Once access rights are established, governments and

civil society need to focus on developing the capacity to operationalize these rights and make them meaningful for the communities they are intended to support.

The Access Initiative (TAI) aims to bridge the gap between international commitment to P10 and national-level implementation of the policies and systems that support these access rights. Over the 10 years since its formation, partner NGOs have carried out evidence-based indicator assessments of their governments' implementation of Principle 10. Article 19 has worked on supporting the development and implementation of laws guaranteeing and implementing rights to freedom of expression for over 20 years in over one hundred countries around the world. TAI and ARTICLE 19's work supports the belief that sustainable development cannot succeed when citizens are sidelined and decisions are made in secret behind closed doors.

We believe that the outcome of the Rio 2012 Summit must include an affirmation of these fundamental access rights and that substantial efforts must be made to establish them and make them enforceable in all countries. At a minimum national governments must commit to the full implementation of access rights into national law, ensure intergovernmental organisations and institutions incorporate these rights into their own regulation and practices, and develop international and regional mechanisms to ensure support across regions for tracking and monitoring of implementation. We believe that the new international instruments are necessary to ensure that these access rights are truly available to everyone.

## 2 The Rio 2012 Process and Principle 10

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, the Rio 2012 Summit, follows up on the 1992 Earth Summit. Its stated purpose is to "secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges." Within that context, there are two specific themes emphasised: (1) A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (2) The institutional framework for sustainable development.

Overall, these themes have been discussed in isolation from each other and there has been insufficient discussion on what reforms are needed to achieve these objectives, who needs to be involved in decision-making, and how the objectives will be achieved. Both agenda items need to be discussed in light of the principles of transparency, public participation, and accountability. A fruitful approach would be for the two themes to be considered together in conjunction with the larger objective of securing political commitments for sustainable development that could have a greater impact on the Summit.

As UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon notes, the goals represented by these themes are interdependent, as "improved institutions are crucial to favourable social outcomes of green economy policies." He calls upon governments to do more to "build on progress made to promote transparency and accountability through access to information and stakeholder involvement in decision-making." Without these basic changes the current economic paradigm will prevail, supported by institutions and interest groups that have benefited from restricting citizen access.

### 2.1 The Green Economy

There has been an extensive debate on creating a definition for a "green economy" and determining its scope. There is some agreement that at the national level, greening the economy will include improving fiscal policy reform, reducing environmentally harmful subsidies, employing new market-based instruments, and targeting public investments to "green" key sectors. There has been almost no discussion on the role of citizens and on access to rights as an important facet of creating this new economic model.

We should no longer ignore the role citizens must play in determining the success or failure of a global green economy. Ensuring that policies designed as green meet their intended aims of economic and environmental sustainability and social equity requires broad based public participation and support from empowered civil society actors, well-informed and engaged voters, consumers, stakeholders, and shareholders. Disseminating information about what specifically a green economy entails for society is essential to motivating social actors' involvement in the decision-making process of policies intended for developing and protecting sustainability. Governments must establish infrastructure for access to this type of information and ensure public participation. The media must act as a neutral messenger.

Without a fundamental shift in the power of interest groups, greening the economy will remain a game of catch up as innovation and industry move ahead without regard to the social and environmental costs.

### 2.2 Reforming Institutions at the International and National Levels

Meanwhile, discussions on the sustainable development governance theme have focused on International Environmental Governance (IEG). The Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome Document proposes a reform agenda for institutions, the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP), the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), and the Economic and Social Council. A second tier of concerns addresses the fragmentation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), funding mechanisms, and Secretariats.

The current deliberations before the UNCSD have failed to deliver a visionary approach to the creation of a new international environmental governance system that includes mechanisms for accountability.

Within the IEG discussions there has been sufficient emphasis on the need to make these international institutions and governments themselves more transparent and accountable to the citizens they are intended to serve. Currently, there are limited and inadequate mechanisms for access to information held by UN bodies, especially relating to trade. There has been more significant process with the World Bank and International Financial Institutions (IFIs).

At the same time, there has been little effort toward reviewing and reforming national institutions. While international institutions have critical roles in formulating and coordinating policy on international environmental governance, their reform will have little impact on those national level institutions where citizens are still struggling to participate in decisions affecting their environment.

The Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome Document, for example, does not make any mention of compliance mechanism to ensure implementation and monitoring of Multilateral Environmental Agreements and environment obligations by citizens. This is a glaring omission. Without mechanisms to ensure a means of government accountability, governments will continue to fail to fulfill their obligations under international environmental law. Some possible mechanisms which may be put forward for consideration include:

- Peer review - The OECD Group on Environmental Performance (GEP) has developed a process to conduct reviews of the environmental performance of OECD member countries with respect to both domestic policy objectives and international commitments. It has been in place since 1992.

- Independent evaluation and compliance mechanisms - The North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation takes a multi-pronged approach to promoting environmental enforcement and compliance. Central to the agreement is a commitment by the parties to effective enforcement of their respective environmental laws, reinforced by two formal procedures: (1) A procedure for citizen submissions asserting ineffective enforcement by a party, to which the secretariat may respond by requesting a response from the party and developing a factual record; and (2) A procedure for claims by a party that another party exhibits a persistent pattern of failure to effectively enforce its environmental law.

-Dispute resolution process: Under the Kyoto Protocol, states are considered a procedure that would allow private investors a right to appeal decisions by the Clean Development Mechanism that go against their interest while under the World Bank Inspection Panel affected citizens can trigger inspections of alleged failures of the Bank to follow its own policies. Finally, under the WTO dispute settlement process, and under several bilateral investment agreements, civil society organisations have been allowed to submit amicus curiae briefs to influence the outcome of decisions.

In his background paper for Ministerial consultations at the 26th session of the Global Ministerial Environmental Forum, the Executive Director of UNEP noted that to deal with the accountability challenge, it would be necessary to make review a key function of the Global Ministerial Environment Forum, to implement independent third-party reviews and performance monitoring, to create incentives for performance and early action, and to establish a global version of the Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters. The IEG discussions clearly need to move away from the current negotiations and refocus in areas that can engender greater transparency and accountability, acknowledging achievements and compliance with international commitments but also acknowledging where capacity and political will have been lacking.

### 3 Progress to Date on Principle 10 and What is Missing?

The 1992 Rio Declaration was signed by 178 States. There has been notable progress both internationally and nationally since its adoption. However, many gaps remain.

#### 3.1 International Progress

In the area of access rights, the 1992 Rio Declaration has seen mixed success on the global level. Unlike many other areas in the Declaration, no global legal instrument - such as a treaty or convention - on access rights in the environment has been developed. It is only recently, mostly in the context of the Rio 2012 process, that this has even been discussed.

UN bodies have also been slow in addressing the issue. In 2012, after nearly 20 years, the UNEP Governing Council finally adopted guidelines ("the Bali Guidelines") on how governments should develop national laws in relation to Principle 10. The guidelines are intended to assist national governments by "promoting the effective implementation of their commitments to Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development within the framework of their national legislation and processes." However, the guidelines are largely unknown and while there are commitments by the UNEP and other bodies to provide assistance and training, the efforts appear currently to be on a very small scale.

More successful has been the efforts of the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). The UNECE has adopted two groundbreaking treaties based on the Declaration. Of primary interest to this paper, the Declaration was the starting point for development of the first legally binding international treaty on access rights - the 1998 Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, commonly known as the Aarhus Convention. The Convention places ratifying nations under a series of important obligations including collecting information held by private bodies and requiring public bodies to affirmatively make information available to the public, respond to requests, and provide strong rights of appeal. It also established rules for public participation, appeals, and access to justice measures.

The Convention also requires that signatories "promote the application of the principles of this Convention in international environmental decision-making processes and within the framework of international organisations in matters relating to the environment." UN Secretary General Kofi Annan described it as "the most ambitious venture in the area of environmental democracy so far undertaken under the auspices of the United Nations."

As of June 2011, the Aarhus Convention has been ratified in 44 countries from Western Europe to Central Asia and has been incorporated into EU law through a directive. The Compliance Committee has now heard over 50 cases, nearly all filed by the public or civil society organisations. In 2003, a follow-up instrument to the Aarhus Convention, the Kiev Protocol on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers, was adopted. This Protocol holds corporations accountable for disclosing information on the toxics they release to the environment. It has now been ratified by 26 countries.

In addition to the Aarhus Convention, Principles 17 and 19 of the Rio Declaration also resulted in the creation of the 1991 UNECE Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (the Espoo EIA Convention). It creates requirements for state parties to assess the environmental impact of major projects early on and to notify other countries when the project will have a transborder effect. It has been signed by 45 countries and ratified by thirty.

#### The Access Initiative Assessment Toolkit

The Access Initiative (TAI) has developed a comprehensive tracking indicator toolkit on Principle 10. It uses a 148 indicator web-based toolkit to assess the performance of governments on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration. Working in their respective countries, TAI partners form national coalitions to assess the performance of their governments in providing the public with (a) access to information about government decision, (b) public participation in decision-making, and (c) access to justice when their rights to information, participation, and a clean environment are violated. TAI currently has CSO partners in 50 countries and assessments for over three dozen countries are available on the web. It is available at <http://www.accessinitiative.org/resource/the-access-initiative-assessment-toolkit>.

To date, no other regions have moved forward on developing binding legal instruments similar to the Aarhus and Espoo Conventions. As we discuss later in the paper, there is an opportunity for them to do so.

#### 3.2 National Progress

There have also been substantial changes in legal frameworks at the national level since 1992, particularly in areas of access to information and environmental impact assessments. A substantial number of countries have adopted new legal frameworks on access rights, especially relating to access to information.

However, the adoption of laws has not been uniform. Few African countries have adopted legal frameworks and significant gaps remain in the Asia Pacific region and in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Implementation has been difficult. Profound institutional and societal transformations are necessary to achieve a level of openness in which governments and civil society share a commitment to environmental democracy. Even countries that have made progress in adopting and implementing Principle 10 are often limited by internal structural and political fights. In many countries, efforts have been led by the Ministries of Environment and other agencies dealing with environmental conservation. Simultaneously, in other areas of decision-making that impact the environment, secretive and closed door routines continue to remain the norm. For example, access to information and public participation in decision-making in Ministries relating to macroeconomic policies or energy planning is minimal. Rio 2012's broader sustainable development framing and its emphasis on the green economy present an opportunity for governments to commit to a synchronization of policymaking with opening up a wider range of processes to public scrutiny.

There is considerable evidence that many governments now recognise the need for addressing good governance in achieving sustainable development and fulfilling the Rio commitments. The UN Development Programme, for example, found that the vast majority of 119 countries recently identified capacity development in governance related to issues as their top priority for sustainable development improvements. There is a real need for Rio 2012 to be the impetus for addressing these challenges.

### 3.2.1 Access to Information

Sustainable development relies upon accurate information on a range of environmental matters, including those related to the green economy and climate change. Disclosure of information is therefore clearly in the public interest and serves to enhance the effectiveness of sustainable development programmes.

Since Rio 1992, there has been a dramatic increase in recognition of the right to access information by nations. Over 90 countries have adopted framework laws or regulations for access to information, including in the past few years China, Indonesia, Nigeria, Chile and Mongolia. Over 100 countries have the right to information enshrined in their constitutions. Many others including Brazil have adopted specific environmental information access statutes or provisions in general environmental protection laws. The Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 played an important role in the adoption of these laws.

As the map above shows [UN-DESA: Please see Full Submission for Map], there are significant disparities between regions. While most of the nations of Europe, the Americas and a significant portion of Asia have the laws in place, individuals in most Middle Eastern, African, Pacific and Caribbean countries do not yet have this right to incorporate into national law. Furthermore, practice lags behind laws in the majority of these countries. Causes for this gap vary, including lack of detailed administrative rules and operational policies, inadequate public capacity to use the laws, and insufficient official capacity to implement laws.

Another positive trend with respect to access to information is the increased adoption of Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTs), which require governments to collect information on pollution releases and make that information publicly available through databases. PRTs have been shown to be one of the most effective means of getting pollutant related information out to the public while simultaneously reducing pollution. There has been a steady increase of countries providing registers and it is estimated that the number of national registers is likely to double over the next 10 years. There are now single register covering all of North America and Western Europe. [UN-DESA: Please see Full Submission for Map]

Outside of these successes, there are many gaps remaining for access to information. These include:

- Research by ARTICLE 19 and other human rights and environmental organisations across the world demonstrates that populations are still being denied access to essential information about climate change and the environment. Denial of access to information stems largely from the absence of freedom of information legislation and the institutional secrecy of numerous state authorities, coupled with legislation in place preventing access to information, including state secret laws, national security laws, and anti-terrorism legislation.
- Around the world, few laws exist that require the government to proactively release environmental information, including basic information on air quality and drinking water quality. Meaningful access to environmental information requires governments to proactively gather, analyse, and disseminate this information. Where databases exist at the international level, there are no requirements that this information is disclosed to the public.
- Many countries performed poorly in providing environmental information during and after emergencies. Most countries fail to release relevant environmental information on emergencies at all. Mandates to produce and disseminate such information are generally weak despite recent international disasters.
- Most countries produced state of the environment reports of generally good quality, but publicity is particularly weak; few countries make attempts to publicize the results through the mass media or in a usable format.

### 3.2.2 Public Participation

Progress on public participation is more complex to assess at the policy, planning, and project levels. In many countries, planning processes are now designed to ensure that the public have procedural rights to intervene and to ensure that public bodies have a duty to take this into account when making their decisions. One key aspect of this area is Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs), which require the assessing of the environmental and social impact of projects prior to their approval. There has also been a substantial up-take of laws requiring Environmental Impact Assessments in recent years. Over 120 countries have adopted legal provisions on EIAs.

However, in practice, there are many gaps remaining in public participation. These include:

- Public participation has not been fully incorporated at the project level through EIA procedures in many countries. Often there are hurdles to meaningful participation, including insufficient lead time or unavailable project documents even where there are open participatory processes in place. Consultation is often held too late in the project development cycle to make a significant difference in project design or selecting outcomes.
- Framework public participation laws are still new to many governments despite progress in their adoption in a number of countries, e.g. Thailand and Indonesia.
- Implementation of EIA processes has also been criticized as weak. Often sequencing of EIA and permitting processes excludes participation in the scoping and screening exercise, as well as in the determination of permit conditions. In some countries, copies of EIAs are only provided to citizens at a substantial cost, while restrictions to access based on claims of commercial confidentiality are evident in other countries.
- Conflicts of interest in the public hearing process, the technical nature of the EIAs, access to non-technical summaries in local languages, and claims of lack of independence of systems to develop and review EIAs are also evident.

At a higher level, Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs) are a mechanism for incorporating environmental considerations into policies, plans, and programmes. The World Bank describes SEAs as "including mechanisms for evaluating the environmental consequences of policy, planning, or program initiatives in order to ensure that they are appropriately addressed in decision making on par with economic and social considerations." SEA strengths include a general availability of documents relating to proposed policies. There is an EU directive requiring that all EU member states incorporate SEAs into national law. SEAs have also been incorporated within national legislation in a number of countries in Latin America and the Southeast Asia region. Some development assistance from international financial institutions and donor agencies is increasingly tied to the conduct of SEAs. However, to date public participation in SEA processes is still rudimentary and needs improvement.

### 3.2.3 Access to Justice

The access to justice pillar is arguably one of the most difficult areas in which to see improvement. Increasingly, countries have created or enhanced environmental courts and tribunals with specialized functions. The belief that these institutions enhance access to justice and provide more efficient means of resolving environmental disputes has been a primary reason for these interventions. In 2010, there were over 300 environmental courts and tribunals in 41 countries [UN-DESA: Please see Full Submission for Map]. Recently, India established a Green Tribunal and Malawi created an Environmental Tribunal.

However, there remain many gaps in the road to improving access to justice. Issues of timeliness (time taken to obtain a remedy), intimidation, and costs (litigation, loser pays principles, payment into court and costs to hire attorneys) should be highlighted, including in countries party to the Aarhus Convention.

The risk of seeking injunctive relief is also significant. There are improvements in many countries relaxing rules for legal standing; however, there are still concerns about

legal standing in sectoral legislative processes such as planning. Meanwhile, public interest cases taken by civil society organisations against corporations and governments for causing environmental harm are almost exclusively supported by donors and foundations.

### 3.3 Capacity Building

Legal mandates are insufficient to ensure the implementation of access rights. Governments need the infrastructure and capacity to supply access and the public and civil society organisations must have the ability to demand access and participate. Government officials need knowledge of the legal framework and officials must possess practical skills and financial resources for access across all relevant ministries. Often, only the national ministry of environment has sufficient training in implementing access while other parallel and sectoral ministries and agencies do not. To address the needs of indigenous peoples, vulnerable communities, and the poor, government must be innovative in how it provides and disseminates access to information. These communities in particular continue to be excluded from decision-making, and specific entitlements are needed to facilitate their participation and achieve inclusiveness.

In addition, a free and independent media plays a key role in increasing awareness of environmental protection and sustainable development to those most likely to be affected by these policies. Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights declares everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers. Information access reflects how and what media covers. With legal protections, a free and independent media can monitor and strengthen the transparent and accountable delivery of funds for environmental goals on a diverse range of issues including climate change, protected areas, species endangerment, and protection of coastal resources. An effective, free, and independent media translates complex information into a meaningful, understandable, and actionable format for public consumption. Media facilitates discussion and debate between citizens and officials about sustainable development and green policies. The media has the ability to relay back key messages from affected communities to officials.

Furthermore, media plays a key role in an effective advanced warning system, particularly in relation to the dissemination of warnings, developments, and disaster mitigation. Indeed, in many areas affected by natural or other disasters, the mass media are the only means by which crucial information is quickly and widely disseminated. In order to be able to perform this role, the media must be able to access accurate and timely information from credible sources. Local media outlets, including community radios, newspapers, and even television services, have a central role to play not only in disseminating information from official sources but also in ensuring an effective two-way flow of information underpinning effective participation.

### 4 From Principle to Enforceable Rights: How Rio 2012 Could Strengthen Principle 10

There is a compelling need to ensure that Principle 10 is fully implemented in all countries. While UNEP made some progress in 2010 with the adoption of Bali Guidelines on national legislation discussed above, this development is not sufficient by itself. Voluntary implementation of guidelines, coupled with resource and budgetary support, country-by-country, decreases the usefulness and potential impact of these guidelines.

Bolder action at the global level, involving the development of new and revised international instruments to promote Principle 10, is needed. There are a number of approaches at the international level that should be considered including the drafting and adoption of a new legally binding global instrument, adoption of legally binding instruments at the regional level, and new sustained efforts to bring additional parties into the Aarhus Convention. Such proposals are not exclusive but rather complementary and should be considered as part of a package which can be advanced simultaneously.

#### 4.1 Options for international instruments

Possible options for international instruments:

##### 1. A new global convention on Principle 10

The most far-reaching option is the drafting and adoption of a new global legally binding instrument adopting the access rights in Principle 10. This would be based on a commitment by the national leaders at Rio 2012 to adopt such an instrument. This approach would create a global platform to engage worldwide discussion on the subject, as has been done for other areas on environment. It could ensure that P10 is uniformly adopted worldwide. However, there are a number of challenges associated with the development of a global legally binding instrument, such as a convention on access rights. The proposal of such an instrument may encounter resistance from some states and there is real risk that such an initiative would lead to the adoption of minimal standards. It would also likely take a considerable time to develop. Finally, there are possible difficulties on how this would affect parties to the Aarhus Convention.

##### 2. Promoting regional Principle 10 conventions.

A more scaled down approach would focus on the development of new regional legally binding instruments similar to the UNECE Aarhus Convention. A significant positive aspect to this approach is the potential greater involvement of all countries in each region in developing and shaping the text of the regional instrument from the start, rather than the discussion being limited to major countries at the international level. This would provide the opportunity to take account of regional specificities and create a sense of regional ownership. In addition, countries within a region often share common political, cultural and linguistic ties, potentially simplifying the negotiations and making it easier to reach consensus. It would also likely be a quicker process than a global debate. Finally, regional conventions would likely strengthen existing regional institutions and processes to reduce resource constraints. However, this approach is not without risks, set out below.

##### 3. Opening up the UNECE Convention to all states

The last option is to encourage accession to the Aarhus Convention by states outside the UNECE region. The treaty is well respected and has a functioning oversight system. It has already been ratified by 44 countries. However, no state outside the UNECE region have acceded to it to date. There are political and practical obstacles to accession including the procedure for accession itself and reticence from many governments towards adopting a treaty viewed as "European-centric".

#### 4.2 Developing a Regional Convention Approach

We believe that the best approach is to begin the process of negotiating regional and sub-regional legally binding instruments on Principle 10 using the UNECE Aarhus Convention as a model. This approach is guided by a pragmatic belief that a new global convention would be too slow to develop and is likely to be substantially watered down in the process. The Aarhus Convention has been recognised as a model that should be considered for other regions. However, since its adoption in 1998 no other nation outside the UNECE region has signed it. This suggests it is not likely to significantly expand in terms of accession without substantive incentives, which have not yet been forthcoming.

There are some risks to this approach - some regions may be unlikely to adopt legally binding instruments at the regional level in the foreseeable future. But there remains the possibility for progress toward agreements on their merits, drafting, and adoption at the sub-regional level. Moreover, the development of regional treaties could further strengthen future efforts to create a global instrument in the future as has happened in the field of anti-corruption.

##### 4.2.1 Opportunities in Latin America

We are particularly hopeful that this approach will be successful in the Latin America and Caribbean region as a first mover region, where there is a normative convergence around Principle 10. Some developments include:

- Regional Support. The Declaration of Santa Cruz+10 reaffirmed the commitment of the members of the Organisation of American States (OAS) to Principle 10 and the importance of public participation in sustainable development decision making. The Inter American Court of Human Rights recognises the right of citizens in the region to have access to information and participate in decisions that affect their rights, while the OAS Secretariat recently released a Model Law on Access to Information.

- Free trade agreements between several North and South American states recognise the importance of environmental assessments and the need to harmonize environmental regulations and standards. The Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CACED) along with the UN Institute for Training and Research developed tools for a national strategy to guarantee access rights to Nicaragua, Honduras, and the Dominican Republic. ECLAC proposed activities in its 2011 programme of work to help states implement Principle 10.

- National Developments. A number of countries in the region have already adopted laws improving access rights including Chile, Jamaica, Peru, and Mexico while Brazil is currently about to adopt one. Jamaica has just undergone an extensive review of its Access to Information Law to improve implementation, proactive disclosure, and development of a mandated public interest test. Mexico has one of the most advanced access to information regulatory systems, with one of the most effective oversight and enforcement agencies in the world, and has developed its own pollutant release and transfer register. Some countries have increased their efforts to promote public participation. For example, Chile is in the process of revising environmental impact regulations that will take public participation to the next level - to proactively include the poor and marginalized groups in decision-making by requiring both the project proponent and the government to adapt their strategies of information dissemination and adopt methods of citizen participation that take into account the social, economic, cultural, and geographic characteristics of the population in question. The draft regulations require the authority to make special efforts to adapt these procedures, taking into account vulnerable and geographically/territorially isolated communities, indigenous communities or those with ethnic minorities, and communities with a low educational level. What is particularly exciting about this new draft regulation is that it is the first time a Latin American country has brought the notion of environmental justice in public participation into standard practice within the framework of a law. Brazil leads the way with innovative strengthening of the justice system to provide relief for environmental harms through public prosecutors and environmental courts.

## 5 Conclusion and Recommendations

Experience and research have demonstrated that freedom of expression, access rights (including access to information, public participation, and access to justice), transparency, and civic engagement are fundamental to sustainable development and the achievement of the Rio Principles. While there has been significant progress over the past 20 years, billions of people around the world still do not have these rights.

If Rio 2012 is to be successful and bring the world closer to building a green economy and ensuring sustainable development, these fundamental principles must be at the heart of the Outcome Document and consecutive commitments by governments to advance Principle 10 at the international, regional, and national levels.

ARTICLE 19 and The Access Initiative have the following specific four recommendations:

Recommendation One: That all states that have not yet done so, codify Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration in national laws, and for all states to make measurable and time bound commitments to improve laws, institutions, and practices for implementing Principle 10.

In particular, states should provide for:

A legal and regulatory framework:

1. To establish a legal and regulatory framework to protect the right to freedom of expression and the right to freedom of information, including freedom of the media, as well as the right to freedom of association, freedom of assembly, the right of all to access administrative and judicial remedies, and the right to effective political participation. This legal framework should recognise and insist upon the principle of non-discrimination.
2. To enshrine and implement in domestic law the principles of maximum and proactive disclosure on environmental and green economy information.
3. To enshrine the right of the public, communities, and stakeholders to participate in decision-making that affects the environment and natural resources.
4. To ensure that the media, civil society groups, scientists, and members of the general public are not hindered in their efforts to gain access to information on development and environmental issues and to report and express their opinions.
5. To protect the right of whistleblowers, especially related to environmental hazards, and take necessary measures to ensure that whistleblowers should benefit from legal protection.
6. To remove all obstacles preventing people living in poverty, vulnerable groups (such as women and minorities), and indigenous peoples from accessing information on development and environmental policies, and to take proactive measures to promote their effective participation in the design and execution of development strategies.

Recommendation Two: The Rio 2012 Outcome Document should call for new international instruments to provide global and regional standards for, and oversight of, the implementation of Principle 10 into national law. This would include a resolution by all member states mandating UN regional bodies in Asia, Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as UNEP regional offices and other regional bodies, such as SAARC, SACEP, ECOWAS, ASEAN, OAU, and OAS to take steps to negotiate and conclude legally binding regional or sub-regional conventions modeled on the UNEP Principle 10 Guidelines. The Aarhus Convention Secretariat should intensify its efforts to convince governments in other regions of the world to either adopt the Convention or take it as a model for regional or sub-regional efforts.

Recommendation Three: The Rio 2012 Outcome Document should include a commitment by all international organisations and agencies working on sustainable development to codify Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration in their rules and procedures, including by proactively disclosing information, providing for the participation of civil society in their decision-making processes, and establishing redress mechanisms for individuals affected by their policies and activities. International financial institutions should adopt comprehensive standards as proposed by the Global Transparency Initiative.

Recommendation Four: The Rio 2012 Outcome Document should include specific and time measured information regarding the implementation of the Bali Guidelines recently adopted by the UNEP Governing Council. This programme should identify target countries and specify long term funding sources as well as a timetable for UNEP to provide assistance to developing countries to bring their laws, institutions, and practices in line with the Guidelines. The programme should include capacity building programmes, opportunities for mentoring of public officials, and mechanisms for civil society organisations to share experiences on the development of new legal instruments to create and implement access rights. About The Access Initiative and ARTICLE 19

The Access Initiative is the world's largest network of civil society organisations working to ensure that people have the right and ability to influence decisions about the natural resources that sustain their communities. ([www.accessinitiative.org](http://www.accessinitiative.org)).



ARTICLE 19, the Global Campaign for Free Expression, is an international human rights organisation focused on protecting and promoting the right to freedom of expression and right to information. ARTICLE 19 is a registered UK charity (No. 32741) with headquarters in London and field offices in Kenya, Senegal, Bangladesh, Mexico and Brazil ([www.article19.org](http://www.article19.org)).

## Asia Injury Prevention Foundation (AIP Foundation)

Making Roads Safe at Rio+ 20

A submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development by Asia Injury Prevention Foundation (AIP Foundation)

Summary:

- Road traffic crashes are the leading cause of child injury globally, and led to around 262 000 child deaths in 2004- almost 30% of injury caused deaths among children (WHO World Report on Child Injury Prevention, 2008);
  - By the year 2030, road traffic injuries are predicted to be the leading cause of death worldwide for all age groups;
  - The economic cost of road traffic crashes in developing countries is at least \$100 billion a year. In Thailand alone, damage caused by road traffic crashes led to an economic loss of almost 6 billion USD, or about three percent of the country's GNP (Prince of Songkla University, 2009)
  - South-East Asia and the Western Pacific Regions of WHO together accounted for two thirds of all road traffic deaths, and South-East Asia is one of the three regions expected to see the most significant increases in road traffic injuries (WHO World Report on Child Injury Prevention, 2008);
  - In May 2011, the United Nations launched the 'Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020', with a goal to "stabilize and then reduce the forecast level of road traffic fatalities around the world by increasing activities conducted at the national, regional and global levels." (UN Road Safety);
  - There is a strong relationship between road safety and the MDGs. A study conducted in Cambodia entitled How traffic injuries affect household welfare: An assessment using the MDG benchmarks reveals that households in which one member has been injured by a road traffic accident perform worse than average in a number of MDG indicators.
  - Addressing road safety will also help to achieve environmental objectives. According to the UN Environment Programme, such policies can make "a large, lasting impact...on fuel use, congestion, air quality and CO2 emissions... It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives". In Cambodia, the use of fuel wood (which is linked to forest depletion) increased among surveyed households even though the national average is decreasing;
  - While organizations such as the World Bank have recently become aware of the pressing issue that is global road safety, the gap between an institution acknowledging the issue and achieving sustained action must be bridged. We believe the solution to this lies in the inclusion of road safety in the framework of a major international sustainability conference; (Commission for Global Road Safety)
  - The priorities agreed at international fora like Rio+20 set the global agenda and issues that are absent from the agenda are subsequently neglected and under-funded. This is why it is so important that action to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport is included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference. (Commission for Global Road Safety) Safer Roads at Rio + 20 1. Asia Injury Prevention Foundation is a U.S. registered 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to provide life-saving traffic safety knowledge and skills to the developing world with the goal of preventing road traffic crash fatalities and injuries. Founded in 1999 in Vietnam, AIP Foundation has offices in Vietnam, Thailand, and Cambodia. AIP Foundation's approach focuses on public-private partnerships, mass media awareness campaigns, and school-based helmet use and traffic safety education programs. AIP Foundation's efforts also include advocacy and the provision of technical expertise. In 2001, AIP Foundation built a non-profit helmet assembly plant that manufactures Protec "Tropical" Helmets, making affordable high quality helmets widely available. Disabled workers make up 30% of the factory's workforce.
2. In Vietnam, 30 people die each day from road traffic crashes (National Traffic Safety Committee, 2010). Approximately 36,000 people suffer from serious brain injuries annually as a result of these accidents. In Cambodia, 18,287 casualties caused by road traffic accidents in 2010 represent a 41% increase since 2006. With males representing over 86% of motorcycle related fatalities, thousands of families are being stripped of their sole bread winner. And in Thailand, 34 people die on the road every day (WHO, 2007).
3. AIP Foundation's 2007 public awareness campaign was credited with influencing the Vietnamese government's decision to bring forward the new nationwide mandatory helmet legislation and also played a role in ensuring an astonishing 98% compliance rate when the law was introduced. Within one year following the passage of the mandatory helmet law, injuries dropped by 24% and fatalities by 12%. By the end of 2010, this law resulted in 780 million USD saved (AIP Foundation calculations based on National Traffic Safety Committee data, 2007 and 2008).
4. This success can be reproduced in countries throughout the developing world. In 2009, AIP Foundation, in collaboration with the FIA Foundation and the World Bank, launched the Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative (GHVI), an international movement with the objective of "putting a helmet on every head in the 'Decade of Action for Road Safety.'" The Initiative brings AIP Foundation programs to developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Obtaining governmental cooperation and securing adequate funding are the most challenging components of these projects.
5. AIP Foundation strongly believes that global road safety must be addressed at the Rio+20 Conference, as it is one of the most important sustainability challenges facing the world today. The improvement of safe roads and road users can significantly contribute to the success of the MDG's and to tackling environmental issues. In turn, the international visibility that the issue will gain from its inclusion in the conference's 'Outcomes Document' will help institutionalise road safety programmes within middle and low-income governments and organisations like the World Bank.
6. We additionally believe that the absence of road safety from the agenda of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, and the subsequent disregard for the issue in the following international fora, has contributed to the growing number of fatalities and injuries on South-East Asian roads.
7. In May 2011, the United Nations launched the 'Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020', with a goal to "stabilize and then reduce the forecast level of road traffic fatalities around the world by increasing activities conducted at the levels" 1 . national, regional and global UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/64/255 could save 5

million lives and 50 million serious injuries if its goals are attained ('Make Roads Safe: A Decade of Action for Road Safety', Commission for Global Road Safety, 2009).

8. In its Resolution proclaiming the Decade of Action for Road Safety, the United Nations General Assembly described road traffic injuries as a "major public health problem with a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect the sustainable development of countries and hinder progress towards the Millennium Development Goals". According to leading development experts and international agencies, the impacts of failure to address road safety can go beyond the immediate toll of death and disability to undermine policies on poverty alleviation, child survival and development, and climate change. (Commission for Global Road Safety)

9. In a study entitled How traffic injuries affect household welfare: An assessment using the MDG benchmarks (Erickson, M. and Kim, P., 2009), road traffic injuries' impact on Cambodia's progress toward the MDGs was measured through a survey of households in which one resident suffered a road traffic injury. In terms of poverty (MDG1), injuries resulted in a 21% loss of income for the household. Those mostly severely affected were those with a seriously injured resident as well as the poorest households. Primary education (MDG2) dropout rates were 8 times the province average. The gender (MDG3) income gap widened by 28% and women bore 88% of the burden of care for the injured. The infant mortality (MDG4) rate was more than double the province's average rate, and the maternal mortality rate (MDG5) was 15 times the national average. The households also recorded rates of priority diseases (MDG6) at twice the national average. There was no indication of an organized partnership (MDG8) for road transport programs which make provision for traffic injuries.

10. Of particular relevance to the Rio+20 Conference are the negative environmental outcomes (MDG7) for households in which one resident had suffered a road traffic injury. While the national Cambodian population's access to improved water sources between 2000 and 2007 increased from 38% to 65% (World Bank, 2009), the surveyed households' access stagnated rather than increased.

11. A serious environmental concern is Cambodia's high incidence of fuel wood dependency, which is a notable factor in its forest depletion (MoP, 2007b). Wood fuel also causes respiratory diseases, burns, and other negative health effects (Mishra, Retherford and Smith, 1999). While the national trend is one of reduced household use of wood fuel (MoP2007b), 26 out of 100 surveyed households reported using an increased amount of wood fuel.

12. The UN Environment Programme is currently urging a transformation of the way transportation is organized and planned in developing nations, to improve the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. UNEP argues that "designating road space for pedestrians and cyclists in proportion to the demand for non-motorised transport is crucial. It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives." ('Share the Road: Invest in Walking & Cycling', UN Environment Programme and FIA Foundation, 2011).

13. WHO reports that in Thailand, no formal audits are required for the construction of new road construction projects, and no regular audits take place of existing road infrastructure (2009).

14. A pedestrian research study conducted in Dong Nai Province, Vietnam, revealed that in only six months, approximately 5,824 primary school students were hit by a vehicle while walking around, to, or from school (Pedestrian Research Report, AIP Foundation, 2011). Almost 1000 accidents per month in just one province out of 64 is a clear display of the immediate need for improved road infrastructure to protect these children on their daily routes to school.

15. While many regulations exist and are in place to ensure that cars and their passengers are as safe as possible on the road, many low and middle income country residents do not own a car. According to the WHO, up to 80% of road traffic deaths are among vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists, or users of motorized two-wheelers) in low and middle-income countries. In Vietnam, 95% of registered vehicles are two-wheelers (National Traffic Safety Committee, 2008). In Thailand, 70% of fatal road crashes involved motorcycles (WHO, 2007). According to the CDC, the number of autos in use in rapidly emerging economies is expected to expand six-fold by 2018, potentially without corresponding improvements in road infrastructure or traffic safety. Middle and low income country transportation methods must be taken into account in reviewing global road safety advances.

16. CDC recently recognized increased awareness and response for improving global road safety as one of the 10 great public health achievements of the decade worldwide. CDC Director Dr. Thomas Frieden said, "There are still far too many people who die from conditions that are easily preventable. Continued investments will help millions more live healthy and productive lives while helping to protect our own country from health threats." This report highlighted the Decade of Action for Road Safety goals that, if achieved, could save 5 million lives and \$3 trillion, and prevent 50 million serious injuries.

17. The Rio+20 Conference can play a critical role in encouraging such action. As we have shown above, there is growing recognition that road traffic injuries are a public health and sustainable development challenge that needs to be addressed, and that doing so will benefit the wider agendas of tackling climate change and working towards the Millennium Development Goals. Yet, despite this growing consensus, road safety and wider issues of sustainable mobility remain on the margins of public policy, lacking vocal advocates within government aid agencies and major institutions and consequently denied the resources needed to assist developing nations to improve their institutional capacity, skills and policies. (Commission for Global Road Safety)

18. It is our view that this gap between the growing acknowledgement of the issue and achieving sustained action can be bridged if, for the first time, road safety is included within the framework of a major international sustainability conference. Identifying road traffic injury as a new challenge at the Rio+20 Conference will be invaluable in raising the profile of the issue and helping to institutionalise road safety programmes within middle-income and low-income governments and organisations like the World Bank. As we have seen in the powerful response to climate change and environmental protection following the first Rio summit in 1992, and in the united focus on achieving the Millennium Development Goals that was the major outcome of the Johannesburg Summit in 2002, the priorities agreed at these international fora do set the global agenda and issues that are absent from the agenda are subsequently neglected and under-funded. (Commission for Global Road Safety)

19. Until road safety can be integrated into the mainstream of sustainability policy, millions of people will be condemned to unnecessary and preventable violent, painful deaths, and lives blighted by severe disability or loss of their primary income generator. This is why it is so important that action to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport is included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference. (Commission for Global Road Safety)

20. We urge and encourage the secretariat, member nations and participants to include reference to safe and sustainable road mobility in the 'Outcomes Document' of the Conference. (Commission for Global Road Safety)

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## Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN)

### TOWARDS A PEOPLE CENTERED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#### ASIA PACIFIC RESEARCH NETWORK'S INPUT TO THE ZERO DRAFT OF RIO+20

The Asia Pacific Research Network recommends the following inputs to be fully incorporated into the Zero Draft of the Secretary General's Compilation Document for Rio 2012. The inputs in this contribution are derived mostly from the People's Statement on Rio+20 and Sustainable Development,, which is the outcome document of the "Promoting a Transformative Agenda for Sustainable Development: A Strategy Workshop on Rio+20" in Bangkok, Thailand, where men and women from fifty two organizations in eighteen countries - Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, China and Hongkong SAR, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, Timor Leste, USA, and Vietnam - representing peasants, agricultural workers, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, workers, women, youth and students, refugees and stateless persons, academia, environmental and support NGOs and networks attended. The statement was circulated in various networks and list serves and gained more signatories, in addition to the original fifty two that have signed.

Twenty years after the UN Conference on the Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, popularly known as the Earth Summit, the world is farther than ever from reaching the goals of genuine people centered sustainable development. The multi faceted, yet interconnected crises encompassing the economic, political and ecological spheres are causing unparalleled suffering all over the world. Worst afflicted are people from poor countries, most especially women and indigenous peoples.

This crisis of global capitalism further propels profit driven and unsustainable development that causes irreversible damage to the world's environment. This crisis results in the global climate meltdown, the appropriation of natural resources and the destruction of lives and livelihoods, especially of ecologically sensitive indigenous and traditional livelihood systems.

Rio+20 in 2012 thus comes at an opportune time, when the world's governments and peoples are obliged to think of alternatives to the current development model with its ever increasing failures. It presents opportunities to push urgently and comprehensively the agenda for genuine people centered sustainable development.

Indeed, solutions exist. And they are in the hands of the people, who in our communities, workplaces, farms and forests, make the building blocks of genuine people centered sustainable development. As we strengthen and consolidate our movements to achieve genuine economic, political, social, gender, ecological and climate justice, we call on the leaders of governments, multilateral institutions and other stakeholders to heed the people's calls for genuine sustainable development. We urge governments and the UN system to deliver and not backtrack on the promises and commitments made in Rio twenty years ago.

#### On the Green Economy

We are alarmed at the corporatized nature of the Green Economy agenda. We believe that technological fixes and market based incentives are false solutions to the ecological and climate crises and will not advance sustainable development.

For sustainable economies to develop, it is crucial to democratize ownership, control and decision making over productive resources and assets. We should move from a capital investment model towards an appropriate mix of more democratic modes such as cooperative, community based and driven, commons or public forms of ownership to ensure that economic activity provides sustainable livelihoods and meets the developmental goals of the community and society. It is also necessary to rethink the nexus between society and the environment - that is, fostering greater concern and sensitivity to the ecological consequences of human activities rather than regarding nature as an inexhaustible source of materials for human consumption and a bottomless sink of waste. Also crucial are cultural diversity and interculturalism - for when there is greater biodiversity, there is greater resilience, adaptability to changes and new challenges in the environment. Interculturalism, on the other hand, enriches the various systems of knowledge of modern, traditional, advanced industrialized countries, indigenous communities, and so on. To this end, we call for:

- a reversal of privatization and keeping of public enterprises in public control;
- the promotion of sufficiency based economies (i.e. catering primarily towards meeting local needs and demands, developing local capacities, based on available resources, appropriate technologies and resource sharing);
- manufacturing that promotes closed loop production where products are designed with minimum use of energy and materials, longer life spans and with maximum reuse and recycling of parts and components;
- the promotion of mass public transportation systems;
- implementation of genuine agrarian, aquatic, pastureland and forestry reforms; and promotion of biodiverse ecological agriculture that benefits small producers, especially women and indigenous people.
- stoppage of profit oriented exploitation and destruction of natural resources that destroy lives and livelihoods.
- a halt to industrial corporate agriculture and fisheries;
- renewable energy that is not dependent on monoculture and biomass extraction;
- respect for and promotion of community based and farmer driven efforts in organic agriculture, seed banking and on farm improvement of crop varieties and animal breeds; and
- people centered sustainable economies that promote the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in accordance with UNDRIP including rights to land and resources, and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

#### On the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

To deliver on the promises of the first Earth Summit, there is a need for an effective and democratic institutional framework that can and will ensure economic progress, social equity and environmental protection - the three dimensions of sustainable development in an integrated and holistic manner. This governance architecture must operationalize and implement the Rio principles including the Right to Development, common but differentiated responsibility, the polluter pays principle and the precautionary principle.

Building a strong apex body on sustainable development that works on a global level and can integrate the disparate United Nations bodies working on one of the three pillars of sustainable development is necessary and urgent. Options that should be explored include transforming the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development, or establishing a UN Organization on Sustainable Development.

A rights based approach to the IFSD means that duty bearers should have explicit mandates expressed in clear, preferably legally binding, human rights standards. There must also be judicial or quasi judicial mechanisms that are effective at delivering entitlements, responding to complaints, and ensuring accountability. These mechanisms of redress must also be readily accessible, especially to vulnerable and marginalized groups.

A rights based approach to sustainable development underscores the democratic right of people to determine the goals and means of achieving sustainable development. Along this line, the development and adoption of a global or regional convention on Principle 10 of Rio based on the Aarhus Convention should be supported. This will help ensure access to information and meaningful participation of people in sustainable development, and access to effective judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy.

Rio+20 should work for the immediate establishment of a broad inclusive multi stakeholder consultative body tasked with supporting the promotion and implementation of Agenda 21 and Rio+20 resolutions. Such body should be fully inclusive, participatory, democratic, giving equal voice and opportunities for participation to non state actors and have an integral multi stakeholder character that accords civil society with equal rights and equal voice as governments.

The UN Human Rights Council should also establish Special Procedures for the Right to Sustainable Development, including the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Sustainable Development. Such an expert or experts will be tasked with reviewing international, national and regional case law and practice with a view to clarifying the linkages between social, economic and environmental issues from a rights perspective; elaborating on applicable human rights standards and indicators.

The OHCHR should also collaborate closely with UNEP, the proposed Council on Sustainable Development or World Environment Organization, if and when they are established, in order to develop guidelines and propose actions to be taken by governments, intergovernmental bodies and other actors consistent with human rights obligations.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of a global body on sustainable development rests on the effective functioning of similar institutions at the local and national levels and its relevance to people's lives.

Commitments from the North in the form of adequate financing (according to common but differentiated responsibility), appropriate technology cooperation, and needs based capacity building are of utmost importance to support developing countries make a just transition to sustainable development pathways.

#### On New and Emerging Issues

Addressing new and emerging challenges is crucial in securing renewed political commitment for sustainable development. Therefore, we urge that the Rio+20 Conference go beyond and not be confined to the two identified themes of green economy and institutional framework for sustainable development, and address/include other new and emerging issues in its Conference agenda/objectives and outcome document:

- The UNCSDD 2012 must affirm and strengthen internationally agreed principles and objectives for sustainable development at all levels of government. All actors should be held accountable to well established international standards and conventions - e.g. Right to Development, Human Rights conventions, Extractive Industry Accountability, Transparency Accountability Initiative, etc.
- Reorganize international trade, investment, finance and development cooperation relations around rules that value, respect, protect and fulfill people's rights; economic, social, gender ecological and climate justice; economic sovereignty and self sufficiency.
- Enhance development cooperation in support of sustainable development.
- Commitments from the North in the form of adequate financing (according to common but differentiated responsibility), appropriate technology cooperation, and needs based capacity building are of utmost importance to support developing countries make a just transition to sustainable development pathways.
- Developing countries and their development partners should evaluate the coherence of their policies in trade and investments and rectify those that are incoherent with sustainable development. Repudiate unequal trade and investment agreements.
- Restructure foreign direct investments in the context of South South Cooperation (not North South or South South competition) to include regulatory controls and a transition period.
- Uphold food sovereignty to address the food crisis. Communities should have the right to determine their patterns of food production and consumption, and farmers should be able to prioritize food production for domestic consumption. Government should give incentives to sustainable food production practices.
- Reject the intellectual property rights regime and other monopolistic enclosures that impede people's access to commons and productive resources.
- There should be a global mechanism to assess the impacts of new technologies. Such mechanism should provide resources towards building capacity of countries and communities to assess and monitor the health, biodiversity and environmental impacts of new technologies. We support the adoption of an International Convention for the Evaluation of New Technologies (ICENT) and an outright ban on technologies that put the planet at grave risks such as geo engineering.
- Governments should invest in research and development on people centered sustainable development.
- Policies should respect cultural diversity, and modern science should be combined with indigenous knowledge in bottom up approaches of research and development to develop technologies that are appropriate and democratic.

#### On the Sustainable Development Goals

The proposed Sustainable Development Goals should not be confined to merely addressing the symptoms of poverty, exclusion and ecological degradation like the millennium development goals. Instead, SDGs must address the roots of these problems including the question of rectifying unequal power relations within and between countries, and the dominant development model based on neoliberal doctrine.

The SDGs should also affirm the Rio principles, including the CBDRRRC. They should not be donor driven targets or technocratic exercises in formulating indicators and monitoring progress. They should be based on Agenda 21, but also be consistent with human rights obligations, including the Right to Development.

Communities have shown extreme resilience and creativity in confronting the spiraling multiple crises, utilizing various mechanisms not just to survive, but also to assert their economic, social, cultural and political rights. In the midst of this protracted crisis of the global capitalist system, people dare to imagine and build a new world where development means promoting the well being and dignity of all; where prosperity is created through shared resources and efforts; where nature's limits are respected; and where nations, peoples and communities cooperate to ensure democracy, justice, equity, peace and prosperity for all.

Today, even more so than twenty years ago, people of the world are aware that the challenge of genuine sustainable development requires no less than the profound transformation of societies and of international relations. We must all rise up to the challenge. #

## PEOPLE'S STATEMENT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND RIO+20

August 17, 2011

Bangkok, Thailand

We, 52 women and men from 18 countries - Bangladesh, Burma, Cambodia, China and Hongkong SAR, India, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, South Korea, Spain, Thailand, Timor Leste, USA, and Vietnam (and some more additional signatories)- and representing peasants, agricultural workers, fisherfolk, indigenous peoples, workers, women, youth and students, refugees and stateless persons, academia, environmental and support NGOs and networks met for the ["Promoting a Transformative Agenda for Sustainable Development: A Strategy Workshop on Rio+20"](#) on August 15-17, 2011 in Bangkok, Thailand.

We have come to this meeting fully aware that twenty years after the UN Conference on the Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, popularly known as the Earth Summit, the world is farther than ever from reaching the goals of genuine people-centered sustainable development. The multi-faceted, yet interconnected crises encompassing the economic, political and ecological spheres are causing unparalleled suffering all over the world. Worst afflicted are people from poor countries, most especially women and indigenous peoples.

This crisis of global capitalism further propels profit-driven and unsustainable development that causes irreversible damage to the world's environment. This crisis results in the global climate meltdown, the appropriation of natural resources and the destruction of lives and livelihoods, especially of ecologically-sensitive indigenous and traditional livelihood systems.

Rio+20 in 2012 thus comes at an opportune time, when the world's governments and peoples are obliged to think of alternatives to the current development model with its ever-increasing failures. It presents opportunities to push urgently and comprehensively the agenda for genuine people-centered sustainable development.

Indeed, solutions exist. And they are in our hands, the people, who in our communities, workplaces, farms and forests, make the building blocks of genuine people-centered sustainable development. As we strengthen and consolidate our movements to achieve genuine economic, political, social, gender, ecological and climate justice,

we call on the leaders of governments, multilateral institutions and other stakeholders to heed the people's calls for genuine sustainable development. We urge governments and the UN system to deliver and not backtrack on the promises and commitments made in Rio twenty years ago.

In particular, we put forward these messages:

### On the Green Economy

We are alarmed at the corporatization of the Green Economy agenda. We believe that technological fixes and market-based incentives are false solutions to the ecological and climate crises and will not advance sustainable development.

For sustainable economies to develop, it is crucial to democratize ownership, control and decision-making over productive resources and assets. We should move from a capital investment model towards an appropriate mix of more democratic modes such as cooperative, community-based and driven, commons or public forms of ownership to ensure that economic activity provides sustainable livelihoods and meets the developmental goals of the community and society.

- Public enterprises should remain in public control and privatization should be reversed.
- Promote sufficiency-based economies (i.e. catering primarily towards meeting local needs and demands, developing local capacities, based on available resources, appropriate technologies and resource sharing).
- Manufacturing should promote closed-loop production where products are designed with minimum use of energy and materials, longer life-spans and with maximum reuse and recycling of parts and components.
- Promote mass public transportation systems.
- Implement genuine agrarian, aquatic, pastureland and forestry reforms; and promote biodiverse ecological agriculture that benefit small producers, especially women and indigenous people.
- Stop profit-oriented exploitation and destruction of natural resources that destroy lives and livelihoods.
- Stop industrial corporate agriculture and fisheries.
- No to renewable energy that depends on monoculture and biomass extraction.
- Respect and promote community-based and farmer-driven efforts in organic agriculture, seedbanking and on-farm improvement of crop varieties and animal breeds.
- People-centred sustainable economies should promote the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in accordance with UNDRIP including rights to land and resources, and free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

### On the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

To deliver on the promises of the first Earth Summit, there is a need for an effective and democratic institutional framework that can and will ensure economic progress, social equity and environmental protection -- the three pillars of sustainable development -- in an integrated and holistic manner. This governance architecture must operationalize and implement the Rio principles including the Right to Development, common but differentiated responsibility, the polluter pays principle and the precautionary principle.

- Building a strong apex body on sustainable development that works on a global level and can integrate the disparate United Nations bodies working on one of the three pillars of sustainable development is desirable. Options that should be explored include transforming the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development, or establishing a UN Organization on Sustainable Development.
- Rio+20 should work for the immediate establishment of a broad inclusive multi-stakeholder consultative body or network tasked with supporting the promotion and implementation of Agenda 21 and Rio+20 resolutions. Such body should be participatory, democratic, and have an integral multi-stakeholder character that accords civil society with equal rights and equal voice as governments.
- Ultimately, the effectiveness of a global body on sustainable development rests on the effective functioning of similar institutions at the local and national levels and its relevance to people's lives. On New and Emerging Issues
- The UNCSD 2012 must affirm and strengthen internationally-agreed principles and objectives for sustainable development at all levels of government. All actors should be held accountable to well- established international standards and conventions – e.g. Right to Development, Human Rights conventions, Extractive Industry Accountability, Transparency Accountability Initiative, etc.
- Reorganize international trade, investment, finance and development cooperation relations around rules that value, respect, protect and fulfill people's rights; economic, social, gender ecological and climate justice; economic sovereignty and self-sufficiency.
- Enhance development cooperation in support of sustainable development.
- Commitments from the North in the form of adequate financing (according to common but differentiated responsibility), appropriate technology cooperation, and needs-based capacity building are of utmost importance to support developing countries make a just transition to sustainable development pathways.
- Developing countries and their development partners should evaluate the coherence of their policies in trade and investments and rectify those that are incoherent with sustainable development. Repudiate unequal trade and investment agreements.
- Restructure foreign direct investments in the context of South-South Cooperation (not North-South or South-South competition) to include regulatory controls and a transition period.
- Uphold food sovereignty to address the food crisis. Communities should have the right to determine their patterns of food production and consumption, and farmers should be able to prioritize food production for domestic consumption. Government should give incentives to sustainable food production practices.
- Reject the intellectual property rights regime and other monopolistic enclosures that impede people's access to commons and productive resources.
- There should be a global mechanism to assess the impacts of new technologies. Such mechanism should provide resources towards building capacity of countries and communities to assess and monitor the health, biodiversity and environmental impacts of new technologies. We support the adoption of an International Convention for the Evaluation of New Technologies (ICENT) and an outright ban on technologies that put the planet at grave risks such as geo-engineering.
- Governments should invest in research and development on people-centered sustainable development.
- Policies should respect cultural diversity, and modern science should be combined with indigenous knowledge in bottom-up approaches of research and development to develop technologies that are appropriate and democratic.

Communities have shown extreme resilience and creativity in confronting the spiraling multiple crises, utilizing various mechanisms not just to survive, but also to assert their economic, social, cultural and political rights. In the midst of this protracted crisis of the global capitalist system, people dare to imagine and build a new world where development means promoting the well-being and dignity of all; where prosperity is created through shared resources and efforts; where nature's limits are respected; and where nations, peoples and communities cooperate to ensure democracy, justice, equity, peace and prosperity for all.

Today, even more so than twenty years ago, people of the world are aware that the challenge of genuine sustainable development requires no less than the profound transformation of societies and of international relations. We must all rise up to the challenge. #

#### Signatories

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Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)

Asia Monitor Resource Center (AMRC), Hong Kong

Asia Pacific Forum for Women, Law and Development (APWLD)

Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN)

Asia Society for Social Improvement and Sustainable Transformation (ASSIST), Philippines

Burma Environmental Working Group (BEWG)

Center for Community Economics and Development Consultants (CECOEDECON), India

Centre for Environment and Development (CED), Sri Lanka

Center for Peoples Democratic Governance (CPDG), Philippines

Centre for Sustainable Development in Mountainous Areas (CSDM), Vietnam

Centre for Sustainable Rural Development, Vietnam

China Association of NGOs (CANGO), China

Coastal Development Partnership (CDP), Bangladesh

Cooperation Committee for Cambodia (CCC)

Dignity International

Earth Rights International

Ecumenical Institute for Labor Institute (EILER), Philippines

Equity and Justice Working Group Bangladesh (EquityBD), Bangladesh

ETC Group

Forum of Womens NGOs of Kyrgyzstan

Foundation for Consumers, Thailand

Green Movement of Sri Lanka (GMSL)

IBON International

International NGO Forum for Indonesian Development (INFID), Indonesia

Institute for Motivating Self<sup>emp</sup>Employment (IMSE), India

Instituto de Estudios Politicos para America Latina y Africa (IEPALA), Spain

Khmer Institute for Democracy (KID), Cambodia

Korean Civil Society Forum on International Cooperation (KOFID), South Korea

Korean Federation for Environmental Movement (KFEM), South Korea

Korea NGO Council for Overseas Cooperation (KCOC), South Korea

Local Development Institute, Thailand

Navdanya International

ODA Watch Korea

Participatory Research and Development Initiative (PRDI), Bangladesh

Pesticide Action Network Asia Pacific (PAN AP)

Peoples Movement on Climate Change (PMCC)

Peoples Solidarity for Participatory Democracy, South Korea

Public Interest Research Centre, India

Reality of Aid Asia Pacific (ROA<sup>ap</sup>AP)

Roots for Equity, Pakistan

Shan Women<sup>net</sup>s Action Network (SWAN), Burma

Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment (SEARICE), Philippines

Sustainable Rural Development (SRD), Vietnam

Thai Committee for Refugees Foundation, Thailand

Timor Leste NGO Forum/FONGTIL

World Society for the Protection of Animals <sup>int</sup> Southeast Asia Office

Vikas Adhyayan Kendra (VAK), India

Additional Signatories as of October 22, 2011

Center for Environmental Concerns (CEC), Philippines

Uganda Coalition for Sustainable Development - Rio and beyond

Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC)

Partnership for Governance Reforms (Kemitraan), Indonesia

Franciscans International (Asia Pacific)

Water and Quality of Life Foundation, Thailand

Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre, Nigeria

Pergerakan Indonesia

Kampala, Uganda

Indigenous Peoples Issues and Resources, USA

NNARA Youth-UPM, Philippines

Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP), Philippines

Asian Peasant Coalition

APVU, India

SAHANIVASA, India

Civil Society Counterpart Council for Sustainable Development, Philippines

Isis International

The Strategy Workshop on Rio+20 was co-organized by the Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN), Ibon International and the Reality of Aid-Asia Pacific (RoA-AP). Should you wish to sign on to this statement, please email to([secretariat@aprn.net.org](mailto:secretariat@aprn.net.org))

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## Asia Pacific Youth

### ASIA PACIFIC YOUTH POSITION PAPER TOWARDS RIO +20

Kathmandu

Nepal

12 August 2011

#### Preamble

1. In recent years, the Asia-Pacific region has experienced robust economic growth with emerging economies. However, key challenges remain in ensuring that negative environmental and social consequences are vigorously tackled and that economic opportunities benefit all.
2. Severe and pressing issues which have arisen as consequences include climate change, melting of glaciers, rising sea level, biodiversity loss, energy crisis, food insecurity and health problems, depleting natural resource base, natural disasters, migration and deforestation. Vicious circle of poverty is on the top of all. The transition to a green economy, revision of institutional frameworks on sustainable development and enabling of low-carbon solutions to energy issues are therefore at central to address these interconnected challenges.
3. It is our firm belief as Asia Pacific youth [representing over 50% of the world's population], that Rio+20 marks an important milestone for the global community to critically reassess our collective commitment towards sustainable development and to implement the reforms that are necessary to transform our societies and economies. The decisions made at Rio+20 will have potentially widespread implications for the Asia-Pacific region. It is us, the youth, who will be affected in future with the decisions made today, and we have to take lead in the coming era in effecting and establishing better economic structures and mechanisms for conservation of our environment.
4. Therefore, it is crucial that we effectively and strongly participate in decision making processes through the provision of important perspectives, thereby taking ownership of the trajectory of the Asia-Pacific's development path leading to a more sustainable future.
5. Keeping in view the diversity of the Asia-Pacific region, this paper sheds light on the most pragmatic recommendations made by youth, as vital change makers, to address our regional issues.

#### Green Economy to Eradicate Poverty

##### Background

The Asia Pacific region is more vulnerable towards the impact of climate change; therefore, urgent adaptations and actions to protect the environment have become an utmost priority. Youth of today should own the responsibility and promote the concept of green economy to tackle the issues of the region. Poverty eradication and environment conservation are the ingredients of Green Economy. According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), "Greening the economy refers to the process of reconfiguring businesses and infrastructure to deliver better returns on natural, human and economic capital investments, while at the same time reducing greenhouse gas emissions, extracting and using less natural resources, creating less waste and reducing social disparities."

A question always arises who has the ownership right of ecosystem services? Neither the government nor the rich has complete right, the major possession of natural resources lies with the local communities including the vulnerable and marginalised inhabiting in the mountains and remote areas, actually deserve to benefit from the ecosystem services, both tangible and non-tangible benefits. As per the Polluter Pays Principle "Polluter has to pay for the damages caused by him/her to the environment and not the ignorant," Mankind enjoying the luxury of nature in several forms of services has been posing great threat to the environment and never realised the extinction of species, disappearance of resources and is presently responsible for climate change. Green economy is the best solution to food crisis and so to alleviate poverty. Green economy is the stair-case to achieve sustainable development.

According to the User Pays Principle "One has to pay for deriving benefits from the ecosystem, it may be the government, private sector, public or any other stakeholder," Earth is not the premise to dump all the waste and extract all the resources, this way we are ruining our own future leading to low GDP resulting into low economy growth.



Green economy aims to profit the people and the planet. It acts as a fulcrum to maintain a balance between the sustainable development of mankind and GDP growth. Due to expanse of urbanization the demand and supply curve of availability of resources has shown an abnormal growth, with more demand of resources (natural and manmade) and less availability with increasing span of time. Green economy is the best option to bridge the gap between scarcity of resources and growth and thus eliminating social inequity.

#### Challenges

6. Poverty: Barring a few outliers, the Asia Pacific region has seen a significant amount of economic growth in the recent past. However, there still exists a wide divide between poor and rich and social inequity which hampers the overall development of the nations.
7. Climate change and natural disasters: Changing climate is exacerbating the pressure on natural resources and the region is witnessing its impact in the form of glacier melting, floods, droughts, sea-level rise, loss of biodiversity etc.
8. Over exploitation of natural resources: To accelerate the development, people are exploiting the natural resources in an unsustainable manner, which is having multiple impacts like environmental pollution, degradation of ecosystems setting.
9. Unsustainable production and poor waste management: Production of non- biodegradable products, usage of unsustainable processes and poor handling of waste poses threat to the environment.
10. Lack of access to clean and renewable energy technologies: Access to a reliable and adequate source of energy is inextricably linked to sustained progress and growth. However, the most common source of energy production in the region is biomass, fossil fuel burning which poses considerable risks to the environment in the short and long-term. Despite of availability of renewable resources, lack of technology has compelled people to use the resources in unsustainable ways. There needs to be strong mechanism to promote renewable energy like hydropower and other alternative energy resources.
11. Unsustainable urban development: More Asia Pacific cities have become the focal points as major producers, consumers and distributors of goods and services. However, many cities tend to lack sustainable services such as water, air and transport systems. Migrations levels are high in cities, creating more slums, increasing pressure on limited resources and increasing pollution.
12. Inefficient governance and political instability: There is lack of good institutional framework in the Asia Pacific. The current governance system is a centralized system with top-down approach. Voice of community and other vibrant groups including youth is generally not audible to decision makers to make strategic policies as per the need of the community.
13. Lack of priority given to research and development: Asia Pacific region is more vulnerable to climate change impacts, but the development activities have been practicing without basic findings of research. For example, the Himalayan region was presented as data lacking are (white spot) by 4th Assessment Report of the IPCC.
14. Quality of Life: Currently, happiness, mindfulness and wellbeing of society that reflects the true quality of life is not taken into account.
15. Lack of evaluation of ecosystem services: Ecosystem provides number of services with tangible and intangible benefits. Mountain ecosystems are sources of exhaustive number of services, which are not valued by consumers and providers.
16. Low literacy level: Marginalised communities do not have access to the basic education and those getting are generally ignorant of the environmental issues because of the curriculum. Brain drain is another issue which is hampering the development in the region.
17. Unemployment and lack of opportunities: People are not getting enough opportunities to get jobs and vocational trainings or skill development opportunities.
18. Food security in the HKH region: Majority of the HKH communities are highly dependent on livestock and rain-fed agriculture for their livelihoods and due to changing hydrological regimes they are highly vulnerable.
19. Gender issues: Women are worst hit as men have to migrate out for work due to scarcity of resources in the mountain region.
20. Melting of glaciers in the HKH range: Melting of glaciers has contributed faster to sea- level rise in the last 350 years. It also contributes to catastrophic floods known as glacial lake outburst (GLOFs) causing heavy loss of life and property.
21. Health issues: Due to less accessibility to resources, infrastructure and other health facilities the mountain communities are likely to be vulnerable to various diseases.

#### Recommendations

22. Government, industries and people are the stakeholders of any system that has to work in a team to promote green economy.
23. Existing policies and programmes should be properly implemented with continuous monitoring and evaluation mechanism. Government should further carry out SWOT Analysis to assess the gaps and missing links of the present policy reforms. Sustainable Development strategies need to be prioritized and mainstreamed in the government policy framework to strengthen existing environmental laws and policies such as Air Act, Water Act, Forest Conservation Act, CBD, Waste management act, Act to safeguard the rights of local communities, Coastal Zone Regulation Act and implement new acts to ensure green growth of the economy.
24. Government should provide several carbon market mechanisms such as Payment for Ecosystem Services, REDD, REDD+, etc to create green jobs for the unemployed and marginalised communities inhabiting the mountain regions.
25. Further assessments such as Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Mountain Risk Engineering, Tourism Impact Assessment is recommended to restore and increase the resilience of the mountainous regions in the HKH region and to reduce the vulnerability of the communities therein.
26. There is need for a monitoring, and verification system to indicate and measure sustainability with respect to the GDP of the economy.
27. Industries need to use clean and green technologies to increase their carbon credits and decrease their emissions to provide increasing employment opportunities through green jobs.
28. Life-cycle analysis should be mandatory for every industrial product. Implementation of 5Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, residual management) is another tool for waste management. Cradle to grave approach should be adopted.
29. Techniques like organic farming should be used to ensure healthy and productive agriculture to address issues of food security and also micro financing should be

introduced for the welfare of local people.

30. Trainings and workshops to be conducted for local people, tourists and corporate is further recommended to aware them of the guidelines as well as their individual responsibilities to protect the environment.

31. Youth involvement needs to be initiated in the policy formulation processes to get better policy reforms what impacts the youth in future.

32. There is a need to establish a youth network to share the problems and good practices.

33. Regional and global cooperation is needed for knowledge and technology transfer taking into consideration the intellectual property rights.

34. Establishing indicators to check country development need to be incorporated such as Genuine Progress Index and Gross National Happiness (GNH).

35. Entrepreneurship and skill development of the local community should be promoted to build the capacity of local communities.

36. Seed funding should be made available to carry out R&D activities for developing low carbon technologies and in turn generating more green jobs.

#### Energy for Low Carbon Future

##### Introduction

37. This section of the position paper presents the collective vision of the Asia Pacific youth on measures to be adopted to drive a low carbon future.

38. The Asia Pacific youth envisions a low carbon future as one in which

38 i) sustainable energy management is practiced;

38 iii) access and affordability of energy are enhanced thus ensuring the well-being of all; and

38 iii) emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants are minimized to combat adverse effects of climate change.

##### Key Issues

39. The use of fossil fuels and other conventional sources of energy is contributing to global warming.

40. In recent years the Asia Pacific region has gradually increased energy consumption and production due to several factors such as economic growth and/or population growth.

41. Due to lack of affordable and accessible green energy, people are more and more dependent on the unsustainable traditional sources to fulfill their increasing demand of energy.

42. The Asia Pacific countries are dependent on certain other nations for energy sources. This leaves the region highly vulnerable to volatile oil prices which can be dictated by strong industry players in the energy market.

43. Emissions from fossil fuel and some of traditional energy sources such as firewood combustion lead to many diseases. Such health impacts have tremendously increased the medical cost burden to the people and contributed to a reduction in labour productivity.

##### Key Barriers

44. There is a lack of definitive policies and strong legislation promoting the development of low carbon energy. The existing policies and regulations are not implemented effectively due to weak and ineffective institutional mechanisms. In particular, there are significant lacking in the aspects below:

##### Ineffective collaboration & partnership

45. There is a lack of effective collaboration between: public and private sectors, governmental bodies and the community, national and regional-level. In addition, there is low concern of government for youth activities. Without effective collaboration, it is impossible to coordinate a concerted effort towards achieving a low carbon future between institutions.

##### Financial Barriers

46. There is a lack of financial aid (support) system to support the production of low carbon energy. While it requires high start-up and operational costs, long payback periods associated with investment in low carbon technologies, this posed a financial barrier to potential investors.

47. In addition, there is a lack of seed funding for youth driven entrepreneurial initiatives in the area of low carbon energy for instance, innovations in energy efficient appliances.

##### Barriers to social change

48. People are lacking awareness and knowledge of fossil fuel and greenhouse effect and there is a big gap in climate education for community.

49. In addition, people seem unwilling to change due to the difficulties in both accessing renewable energy resources and changing their own daily lifestyle.

##### Technological Barriers

50. In most Asia Pacific countries, research and development (R&D) is quite insufficient due to limited attention and funding. In addition, we are lacking with skilled human resources. Due to these reasons, low carbon energies have shortages and limitations that hinder them from large-scale adoption.

##### Unsustainable Urban Development

51. While lacking of institutional and policy frameworks, the rate of urbanization in Asia Pacific cities are growing fast. As a result, cities in the Asia Pacific region have to deal with rising motorization and energy consumption.

##### Recommendations

52. The legislative framework needs to be strengthened in a way that would promote a low carbon future, enhance compliance monitoring and accountability and establish an index for the measurement of energy sustain.

53. To address Ineffective collaboration & partnership

For national and regional level:

„h National-level governmental bodies should communicate with regional-level governmental bodies in a timely manner and transparent way for community to see.

„h Enhancing civil society's role, especially the youth's role and having an open channel of communication with the government, allowing civil society to have a say in the policy making process.

„h Provide platform for communication and collaboration between the government and different stakeholders.

For international level:

54. Governments should actively participate in international frameworks and intergovernmental Collaborations. Such collaborative processes should be transparent, fair, and inclusive and demand driven. Further, it is important to ensure that these commitments are sustained and the words are translated into effective action.

To address Financial Barriers

55. In order to lower the high financial costs associated with alternative energy setups, there is necessity of:

„h Fund raising for alternative energy research and project implementation and from international organizations and different financial mechanism (in a transparent manner).

„h It is imperative for governments to provide greater funding (and) incentives to encourage the production of alternative energy by the private sector.

„h Potential measures include tax concessions or exemptions, feed-in tariffs, subsidies (i\$Subsidiesj~ should change to i\$incentivej~), grants, and easy credit availability for improving green energy production.

To Address Barriers to social change

56. We need to improve education on low carbon technologies, sustainability, sufficiency and efficiency in using energy. This can be implemented via:

„h Capacity building program, advocacy via social networking platforms, environmental oriented competitions.

„h Innovative and interactive educational initiatives on environment and energy should be encouraged and institutionalized as well.

„h Implementation of carbon footprint labeling.

„h Implementation of policies that encourage reduction in consumption of energy and accept embodied energy in formulating policy.

57. There should be integration among education and sustainable development and green job. Youth can encourage a higher willingness to pay for green products.

To Address Technological Barriers

58. There needs to be enhanced diffusion of low carbon technologies from technologically advanced nations to other nations. It is proposed that efforts be made to establish an attractive investment climate for foreign clean energy companies and thus make technology transfer mutually beneficial to both the donor and recipient parties. Knowledge transfer through educational scholarships and student exchange programs should go hand-in-hand with technology transfer. There needs to be more research & development into alternative energy technologies to enhance their viability.

To Address Unsustainable Urban Development

59. Cities should focus more on an integrated view of urban development including environment protection, setting low carbon footprint as one of its strategic objectives. Consider the local context as the critical point for determining the policies and programs, cities; government have to:

59 a) Encourage the development and use of public transport systems and the decrease in the use of personal vehicles; promote the use of non-motorized transport i.e. walking and cycling;

59 b) Promote integrated and collaborative energy demand management initiatives;

59 c) Promote the development of energy efficient and energy conserving buildings, industries and districts.

59 d) Increase and connecting green spaces and wildlife corridors

Lack of enforcement

60. The legislative framework needs to be strengthened in a way that would promote a low carbon future, enhance compliance monitoring and accountability and establish an index for the measurement of energy sustainability.

Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

Background:

61. The Asia Pacific youth recognize the following key ideas would strongly encompass the concept of sustainable development.

62. Public awareness & engagement allows the community to identify the problems, while capacity building ensures a good and effective deliverance of policy implementation for sustainable governance. In addition, as policies are the tools towards better governance, the use of the right policies is mandatory to ensure authoritative and operative governance in setting the values towards sustainability. Finally, good governance is necessary for effective implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policies.

Issues & Challenges in:

Governance

63. Although most Asia Pacific countries have introduced a number of globally accepted principles on natural resources and sustainable environmental management in their legislative systems- ineffective implementation, lack of monitoring and evaluation systems, and corruption hinders sustainable development so that it results in a lack of accountability weakening the implementation and rationalization of environmental policies. Absence of evaluation also means the youth fail to learn from past initiatives. Therefore their capacity is compromised.

64. Corruption, vested political and business interests across countries in the Asia Pacific contribute to massive exploitation of natural resources that impacts sustainable development stifles innovations and obstructs the access to information and justice and en-curtaiment of the freedom of speech. Voice of youth is nullified.

65. There are a number of issues during the design and implementation of equitable policies such as the chain of corruption, poor compliance, and poor due process, lack of accountability, transparency and ineffective monitoring processes within the communities. These issues exacerbate environmental degradation.

#### Policy

66. The existence of several Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), conventions, and organizations with no proper coordination, lack of effective implementation and authority hinders progress regarding solving environment and sustainable development issues.

67. There is a lack of youth participation in policy making processes which in turn neglects the voice, opinions, and ideas of the future generation that could be vital in the formulation of comprehensive environmental policies.

68. Lack of incorporation of environmental issues into socio-economic development policies and plans make it difficult to address sustainable development goal. Also, weak implementation of existing laws, rules, and regulations regarding environmental conservation is a major issue in most Asian countries.

69. There is a lack of awareness of potential revenue and economic growth from other resources that do not damage the environment, such as REDD (Reduces Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation) projects, if necessary safeguards are taken.

70. The lack of advanced scientific expertise along with inconsistencies in research methodologies creates a barrier to the formulation of effective environmental policies.

#### Capacity Building

71. There is an absence of by-laws, a lack of full understanding of technical regulations, and also unclear regulations and mechanisms for enforcement, which have left government and voluntary authorities relatively free to interpret them. They are also limited by their own knowledge and capacities, leading to difficulties with proper implementation of policies.

72. Low technical capacity, knowledge, experience and the high cost of training hamper their ability to incorporate environmental issues with the civil society and local community to have their sustainable works for their areas done effectively. In addition, they lack awareness of available funding for environmentally friendly projects.

#### Public Awareness and Engagement

73. There is a lack of public awareness and sense of individual responsibility and civic engagement in the change of national and international environmental laws. The basic definitions and the importance of environmental laws, conservation and sustainable development are not understood. Due to this lack of awareness, the public becomes less open to positive environmental change.

74. The access to the information and the political will and accountability regarding the issue of Climate Change is still limited. The public, especially youth, does not receive adequate impactful education on the participatory processes that enable effective engagement with the government or government agencies on sustainable development. Though youth are willing to engage to the process of environmental protection, the sufficient effective platforms for the youth to convey their messages, initiatives and innovation are hardly found. On the government side, there is a lack of political will to engage different stakeholders and the public in these participatory processes.

#### Recommendations

##### Governance

75. Comprehensive environmental governance must be a top priority and all sectors must cooperate towards it.

76. A general regulatory framework for the development and enforcement of environmental rules and regulations should be strengthened

77. The chain of corruption can be broken by increased accountability, transparency and responsiveness on a local, district level or a federal system through the involvement of community governance.

78. There should be an international environmental assessment tool to annually measure how well countries are moving towards their commitments to sustainable development under practical Local Agenda 21 and it has to be binding upon signatories. In this regard, youth organisations can produce a shadow report to complement the official government report.

##### Policy

79. An effective development policy strategy should involve innovative and creative thinking with non-price based policy instruments supported by the youth while taking into account each country's unique situation. This will be important in ensuring sustainable economic growth without compromising the environment and standard of living.

80. International, national, and local governments and key stakeholders need to recognize the importance of environment services equitably under the existing development plans and the legal concepts of sustainable development carried out by communities. This could be carried out by using mechanisms that facilitate payment for environmental services. Furthermore, countries could raise awareness and facilitate the implementation of mechanism among the youth and public.

81. More funds should be allocated towards environmental conservation such as research and development for environmental initiatives. More importance should be given to other policies than it is being given right now so as to increase the facilitation of sustainable development.

82. Minimum environmental standards for areas such as energy consumption can be set to encourage use of green technologies. In addition, the "value-added" system should be revised to include direct and indirect environmental benefits encouraging businesses to implement green practices.

83. The design and formulation of environmental policies need to accommodate environmental, social and political aspects. To promote environmental policy innovations, it is recommended that environmental innovation policy centers and pilot projects be established. The innovation policy centre can be set up based on a partnership approach, spearheaded by a governmental interagency committee with collaboration with academic institutions, private associations (environment friendly traders), CBOs, NGOs and youth groups.

## Capacity Building

84. Government officials involved in the policy making process must be selected through a stringent selection process based on merits, experiences, academic achievement and technical knowledge. A review on the countries' environmental regulations must be carried out and timelines must be set and kept through proper monitoring and evaluation and the youth should be an integral part of this process.

85. Governments should address low capacity of their officers to handle partnership collaborations with all stakeholders especially the youth through training and building up skills in community development.

86. Governments should form collaborations with international organizations so that knowledge, expertise and external help are available to the country to actively tackle environmental issues. Governments must maintain an open channel of communication with the grassroots so that feedback from the public can be worked out between the youth, other communities and the government, and partnership practices, for example participatory dialogues set in place. This builds a cohesive relationship between the people and the government.

87. Environmental studies can be introduced as a compulsory subject in pre-tertiary education institutions. Civil society and private sectors should establish an active collaboration with local communities, especially the youth, to educate the community and act as an avenue where members of the community can turn to for environmental advice and help. Annual events that promote awareness such as 'Earth Day' can be adopted and actively participated in across Asia Pacific. These actions will enable better understanding and keep the people updated on environmental know-how. Capacity-building should be carried out by all stakeholders to enable the youth to take the lead in organising such events.

88. Civil society, academia, and the government should exchange ideas, information, and scientific expertise regarding environmental research and development through dialogue sessions and public seminars. Governments should also take steps to collaborate with the youth in environmental projects which could lead to better understanding of environmental issues.

## Public Awareness and Engagement

89. Impactful environmental initiatives from the youth, Civil Society Organisations (CSO), nongovernmental organisations (NGO), academia and the private sector should be encouraged to create a focused and targeted approach in order to raise public awareness and engagement in environmental issues. The government and relevant stakeholders should cooperate and coordinate in order to support these initiatives.

90. The youth should have access to official and professional platforms to voice out their concerns at every level of the decision making process, in regards to issues such as environmental policies. There should be structural mechanisms in place to facilitate their voice, such as setting up youth councils, giving proper consideration to their recommendations, and implementing them at the local, national, and international level. Therefore, assistance must be provided to help youth to build awareness and capacity to take on such a role and be able to impact sustainable development in their respective countries and the world. And the participation must be made compulsory in legal documents.

91. Governments should also prioritize and allocate proper funding for mechanisms which are designed to increase public awareness and engagement regarding environmental policies and issues through education.

## Note:

Asia-Pacific Youth Forum on Climate Actions and Mountain Issues, 8-12 August, which was attended by 43 youth from 17 countries in the Asia Pacific region (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam) representing diverse geography, rich cultural background and variety of issues, concluded with the launch of two important documents prepared in the context of ongoing debates on 'Climate Change Adaption' and 'Rio +20' preparation. The 'Asia Pacific Youth Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development' and the 'Asia Pacific Youth Position paper on Rio +20' both were launched on 12 August in a special function organised to mark the International Youth Day (IYD), conclusion of the International Year of Youth (IYY 2010/2011) and 'key message communication' session of the Youth Forum.

Organised by the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) through its Asia Pacific Mountain Network (APMN), the event was technically supported by more than a dozen global and Asia Pacific regional initiatives promoting climate and sustainability actions including Rio+Twenties, Road to Rio +20, UN CSD Youth Caucus, 350.org, Activating Talent in Sustainability (ACTIS), Adaptation Knowledge Platform (AKP), Asia and the Pacific Adaptation Network (APAN), Eco-Singapore, Peace Child International, Schumacher College UK, Sustainability Asia and UNEP TUNZA.

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## Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

An Asia-Europe Environment Forum Submission for the —Rio+20 Outcome Document Zero Draft

### I. INTRODUCTION

The Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) convened the Asia-Europe Strategies for Earth Summit 2012: 1st and 2nd Scenario Planning Workshops in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, on 16th to 18th July and Uppsala, Sweden, on 10th to 12th October respectively.

The Asia-Europe Strategies for Earth Summit 2012 is a series of three informal consultation workshops to be held among stakeholders of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) process in the lead up to the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) or 'Rio+20' in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 4th to 6th June 2012.

The series is an initiative of the Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum), a partnership among the Asia-Europe Foundation, the Hanns Seidel Foundation, the Institute of Global Environmental Strategies, the Swedish Environmental Secretariat for Asia, in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme.

Please note that this document reflects the views and opinions emerging from group discussions and does not necessarily represent the views of the institutions involved. The group of over 55 international experts represents different sectors such as policy makers, academics, civil society activists—all being involved extensively in sustainable development and environmental governance.

## II. PROPOSALS

### A. Recommendations for Asia-Europe Meeting governments

The initiative focuses on one of the two Rio+20 themes: Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) and the need for strengthening environmental pillar as a part of IFSD framework. As such, based on the outcomes of the two workshops, participating governments of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) are encouraged to:

- participate in Rio+20 at the highest levels by the heads of state or government;
- pledge to produce a politically-binding outcome document that secures a renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, and address new and emerging challenges that include the themes of IFSD and green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development;
- agree on measures for strengthening IFSD through fundamental and incremental changes including those that go beyond the current IEG structure.
- ensure greater participation and accountability from civil society in the entire policy process for sustainable development, from agenda setting to decision making.

The failure to come to decisive action in Rio 2012 will be a missed opportunity and the lack of commitment might result in the perpetuation of an undesirable status quo or at best, progress at incremental—but inadequate—steps.

ASEM governments and civil society are furthermore exhorted to forge closer co-operation at bilateral, regional and inter-regional levels.

### B. Rio+20: Conference Objectives

The following recommendations are made with regard to the Rio+20 conference objectives.

#### - Securing political commitment for Sustainable Development

To secure political commitment for Sustainable Development, the creation of a Sustainable Development Council (SDC) is necessary at all levels: international, regional and national that will integrate three pillars of sustainable development: economic, political and environmental.

The SDC should work to achieve broad goals of sustainable development, subject to assessment in terms of transparent indicators through monitoring mechanisms to further allow and facilitate global reporting on sustainable development.

- Acknowledging the need of addressing gaps in already agreed commitments as well as to ensure the overall coordination of sustainable development within UN system and Bretton Woods institutions

To effectively address gaps in existing commitments and ensure the over-all coordination of sustainable development in the international system, the SDC should map and address any overlapping areas and use available funding in an efficient and transparent way.

#### - Addressing new and emerging challenges

To address new and emerging challenges, scientific and technological innovations should be integrated as an integral part of the decision-making process. This should include the use of a future-oriented, foresight approach and long-term planning to ensure flexibility and preparedness for the uncertain challenges that the SDC will need to address in the years to come.

### C. Horizontal integration

Human activity has seriously affected planet boundaries that directly endanger ecosystem stability and all countries, especially developing countries, need access to the resources required to achieve sustainable development. The 2011 Solo Message resulting from the High Level Dialogue on IFSD2 called for an international body to promote the integration of the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development. The SDC should therefore be established by building upon the precedents and useful lessons to be drawn from relevant institutional reforms, including recent experience in establishing the UN Human Rights Council.

The SDC should:

- ensure horizontal integration and become a central body for sustainable development coordination and coherence;
- be spearheaded by the high level UN representative such as the UN High Commissioner for Sustainable Development or the UN Ombudsman for Sustainable Development;
- address sustainable challenges to be environmentally, socially and economically most effective, based on regular scientific and technical assessment;
- monitor how States adjust policies, reform institutions and enact legislation to meet the achievement of sustainable development targets, adjusting the requirements to their economic and social situation;
- accommodate the need for meaningful public participation and contributions at all levels;
- enhance human security to mitigate the risks of a food, energy, water and climate change nexus, especially for developing countries;
- safeguard the earth's ecosystems for present and future generations.

### D. Vertical Integration

The horizontal integration of the economic, environmental and social pillars should be replicated vertically, according to the principle of subsidiarity throughout the international, regional, national and sub-national levels in the implementation of sustainable development goals.

A multi-level SDC should facilitate the creation of sustainable development bodies, where they do not exist, and complement, where they do, the existing structures at the international, regional and national levels to provide a strengthened mechanism for sustainable development. The legacies of the 1992 Earth Summit and the 2002 World



Summit on Sustainable Development—in terms of institutions, mechanisms and good practices—should be mapped and built upon. Fully accounting for National and Local Councils for Sustainable Development that have continued to thrive, for example, could be a first step in this process.

In line with Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration, these structures and mechanisms should furthermore be constituted as multi-stakeholder platforms. These platforms can furthermore provide support to (1) synergy among scientists, policy-makers and field researchers; (2) innovative actions for policy development, technology application, social mobilization and partnership building; (3) strategic research; and, (4) higher education, training and capacity development.

With the perspective of a vertically-integrated sustainable development institutional framework, further emphasis is given here to regional-level SDCs and International Environmental Governance:




#### 1. Regional-level SDCs

The regional SDCs should:

- review existing mechanisms for Sustainable Development pillars and map best practices;
- promote complementarity between the UN system (including the regional commissions and offices) and the regional organisations;
- produce a regional report on the achievement of sustainable development goals based on a clearly-defined set of indicators;
- monitor the performance and implementation of national and regional goals based on long-term sustainable development strategies;
- initiate actions and distributing resources for programmes at the different levels, in order to meet the targets set; initiate mitigating measures if targets are not met; and,
-  propagate a model(s) for regional bodies that work under similar principles and functions albeit tailored to regional needs, realities and institutions; and,
-  propagate a model for national bodies to best organise existing institutions for sustainable development or mandate appropriate agencies as needed, tailored to the needs, realities and institutions at the national and sub- national levels;
- support the peer review of national policy performance;
- allow the individual petition/communication and administer a mechanism for complaints and redress. The national mechanism for SDSs should be integrated within the SDC and regional SDCs system. The structure is to be decided by national governments based on the best practices models, possibly in the consultation with the appropriate regional SDC.

#### 2. International Environmental Governance

Additionally, there is a strong need for strengthening the environmental pillar within UN system for better balance. It is therefore vital to strengthen IEG through the measures that will enhance overall coherence, effectiveness and efficiency. To do so requires the reform of the UNEP within the UN structure. It is recommended to upgrade UNEP to an agency that:

- has full and universal membership of member states and other stakeholders;
- has a mandate to oversight environmental strategies and programmes and to cluster similar issues;
- is legitimate to partner with Bretton Woods institution and can:
  -  ensure the contribution of financial bodies to environment enhancement;
  -  facilitate high-level dialogue between Bretton Woods decision makers and stakeholders;
  -  ensure the involvement of the market in environment protection through market-based incentives (eg. subsidies and taxes);
- plans programmes that deliver tangible outcomes in order to receive increased funding;
- has a mandate to require environmental assessment of the projects, especially in case the project will have a
- transboundary effect;
- works with a panel of inter-disciplinary experts representing relevant stakeholders groups such as governments,
- international organisations, major groups and academia to enable knowledge sharing as well as technology transfer;
- includes stakeholders input via organizing meetings and conducting research that enables the agency to act as an
- interface between policy and science, developing practical actions for the environmental pillar;
- provides indicators and general framework for measurement of sustainable development that is unified and allows to
- build up capacity to report at the regional and national level and compare regions progress;
- operationalizes planetary boundaries<sup>3</sup> in terms of regional limits and biosphere carrying capacity;
- conducts regular assessments on carrying capacity using the available scientific knowledge and communicate results to public;
- enables mechanisms to share good practices and knowledge;
- safeguards finances for environmental aid, guided by a bottom-up approach based on local expertise and local needs;
- supervises mechanisms for project assessment which include guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessment at down to the local level for international projects and local consultations;

- has a reinforced role in addressing the securities Nexus, with a mandate to synergistically address energy, water and food issues.

A strengthened IEG could include the creation of a Court for Environmental Justice that:

- takes into account existing environmental law;

- can evaluate the efficiency of development aid and technology used across the needs of local communities seeking assistance.

#### E. Access to information

Access to information, public participation and environmental justice is needed in order to promote compliance that ensures transparency, accountability, efficiency and effectiveness at all levels. Based on Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development, the Aarhus Convention could be enlarged into a global convention.

Governments must ensure the effective implementation and adequate compliance with the national freedom of information acts or relevant legislative measures on the public access to environmental information.

Transboundary environmental management programmes and bodies should reinforce and institutionalize measures for ensuring the public access to environmental information and public participation in environmental decision-making. To foster and ensure compliance with Principle 10, it is vital that the bilateral and multilateral aid agencies and organizations incorporate Principle 10 objectives; particularly the public access to environmental information, environmental information disclosure and public consultation on the projects funded by the aid and/or investment programmes.

Failing a global convention, other regional instruments—such as for the Asia-Pacific region—could be considered. An Asia–

Pacific regional convention on Principle 10 should include the following features:

- compliance mechanisms through the peer review of national level convention implementation;

- individual/non-state actor's communication on non-compliance issues.

The proposed regional convention should also include the provision that will ensure the effective implementation of impact assessment at the project level (EIA: environmental impact assessment) and at the planning level (SEA: strategic impact assessment) taking into account the UNECE Espoo Convention on SEA. Such assessment must include social and environmental impact assessments and follow the public consultation procedures.

#### F. Civil society accountability framework

Civil society participation in the IFSD, particularly the SDC at all levels, must be assured. Conversely, civil society representatives need to be accountable to their constituents through a democratic, self-managed mechanism that ensures transparency, efficiency and effectiveness in CSO participation in the Council's deliberations. Developing an accountability framework for civil society should, as a first step, review the major group participation system to assess its representativeness and accountability.

The principle of subsidiarity concerning representation (from local to national, regional, and international levels) may be relevant but the aggregation of representation must be complemented by direct access to the international level. Guidelines could be developed along these lines.

#### G. Legal framework

In order to pave the way for the establishment of the SDC that would integrate the three sustainable development pillars – social, economic and environmental – and promote sustainable development governance at the global, regional, national and local levels, it is recommended to consider the following options:

- UN Charter change;

- an international convention for sustainable development; or

- decisions and resolutions at the UN and other relevant bodies.

### III. CONTACT

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The Aarhus Convention refers to the UN Economic Commission for Europe 1998 Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-

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## Asia-Pacific Major Groups & Stakeholders Workshop

Major Groups and Stakeholders Asia Pacific Meeting 2011

Asia – Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012

"The Road to Rio 2012: Charting Our Path"

Context and Objectives



1. The Major Groups and Stakeholders Asia Pacific Meeting 2011 was held from 17–18 October 2011, immediately prior to the Asia–Pacific Regional Preparatory Committee Meeting for the Earth Summit 2012 on 19-20 October. Discussions in the meeting were organized under four themes, namely: (1) Regional and Sub-regional priorities and emerging challenges, (2) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, (3) Institutional framework for sustainable development, and (4) Access to information, public participation and environmental justice (Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration 1992).
2. The UN Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 (Rio+20) provides a critical and timely platform for governments at the highest level to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development. Since 1992 the ecological crisis has worsened and the world has experienced a series of financial shocks and crises. Income and social inequalities have escalated even as high economic growth took place in several countries. There was a commitment to a paradigm shift towards sustainable development, but this has remained elusive.
3. While the environmental dimension of sustainable development has remained weak, the economic dimension characterised by excessive market liberalisation, privatisation and deregulation has resulted in instabilities in the global financial system and a continuing unfair trade system. As we head towards Rio 2012, employment and livelihoods are under threat, while the rights of women, indigenous peoples, youth and other vulnerable groups continue to be marginalised.
4. The Rio+20 Conference should therefore honestly appraise the implementation of the sustainable development commitments and action plans, and identify the gaps and obstacles, to ensure the transformation of the economic, social and ecological dimensions and their effective integration. This needs to take place at the local, national, regional and international levels.
5. In moving forward towards sustainability that also incorporates the inter-generational dimension, the best of knowledge systems and innovations need to be galvanised. Recognising that changes in social values and practices are necessary in addition to technical solutions, there should be increased, integrated involvement of natural scientists, social scientists, and technologists in helping governments and society to achieve sustainable development. Furthermore, there must be recognition and promotion of indigenous and local knowledge systems and their interface with more formalised knowledge systems.
6. The agreed principles of Rio 1992 should accordingly be strongly reaffirmed and implemented at all levels, in particular common but differentiated responsibilities, the precautionary principle, the polluter pays principle and Principle 10 on Access to Information, Public Participation and Environmental Justice.
7. Twenty years after the first Rio Earth Summit, positive achievements have been primarily manifested at local and community levels. At the national, regional and global levels, many commitments made in Rio remain unfulfilled, and major challenges and gaps persist, even as new issues and challenges have emerged. Thus, it is felt that Rio+20 must result in strong recommitment to the promises made in 1992. The following issues are among those that have yet to be satisfactorily addressed:

- Promoting sustainable societies that ensure gender equality, democracy, and human rights.
  - Recognising that currently prevailing economic models promote unsustainable consumption and production patterns, facilitate grossly inequitable economic systems that fail to eradicate poverty, assist exploitation of natural resources towards the verge of extinction, and have induced multiple crises on Earth, and need to be replaced by sustainable economies in the community, local, national, regional and international spheres.
  - Providing appropriate regulatory frameworks and mechanisms that will prevent unrestrained financial markets from compromising national sovereignty of member states and that will protect them from the adverse impacts of current and potential future global financial crisis on the three dimensions of sustainable development.
  - Addressing the restriction or loss of policy space in developing countries resulting from multilateral agreements and donor impositions that constrain national development strategies from being comprehensively nationally owned.
  - Upholding primary responsibilities of states to promote, guide and deliver sustainable development policies, provide for essential social services, and provide an enabling environment and financing while recognizing the key role of local governance in implementation.
  - Recognizing the importance of peoples' participation, particularly of youth, women and indigenous peoples, providing for their empowerment and relevant, functional education to support inclusive sustainable development.
  - Addressing challenges and vulnerabilities of the least developed countries and small island states in the face of manifold threats from globalization and climate change. 8.
- Below are summarized the key issues, challenges and courses of action that have been identified and affirmed in the Major Groups and Stakeholders' meeting.

#### Issues, Challenges and Ways Forward

##### On Regional Priorities and Emerging Challenges

9. As a diverse region that comprises developing countries, including small island developing states, land-locked nations and least developed countries, as well as developed countries, the Asia Pacific region has many common but also particular sub-regional priorities and challenges.
10. As a region that is home to the largest part of humanity, the right to a life of dignity free from conflict and war is integral to sustainable development.
11. Some regional and sub-regional priorities include:
  - Eradication of poverty – while many have been lifted from poverty, the region still has the most number of people living in poverty.
  - Capacity to respond to natural disasters and impacts of climate change, including monitoring, surveillance and alert systems; emergency responses; disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change.
  - Conservation and sustainable use of depleting natural resources and biodiversity, including by indigenous peoples and local communities in managing forest, land and water resources, and in the practice of sustainable agriculture.
  - Specific circumstances of small island developing states in the Pacific highlighting the crucial importance of marine resources management and governance, within and beyond national jurisdictions, (including EEZs) necessary for the survival of the people in these islands.
  - More equitable distribution of income and natural resources, particularly land.
  - Stronger national policies that protect and promote food sovereignty in the face of competing resource use (e.g., land for biofuels).
  - Need for food self-sufficiency policies and regulation that would reduce reliance on imports, as well as support and incentives for sustainable food production practices.
  - Regulation at the international, regional and national levels with effective enforcement mechanisms to ensure corporate social responsibility, accountability and transparency.

- Stronger regulation on foreign investments related to natural resources to protect the rights of indigenous peoples, impoverished and marginalized peoples, and the environment.
- Compliance with trans-boundary agreements to ensure equitable sharing of resources, particularly water.
- Protection and promotion of community access and control of all natural resources, which are vital for impoverished and disadvantaged communities.
- Honoring the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in national policies and laws.
- Safeguarding natural resources (including agriculture, forests, ancestral lands, waters, oceans) against commodification and privatization.
- Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) for environmentally-sound disposal of toxic substances and wastes, and enforcement of international regulations on toxic substances and wastes, in particular hazardous substances is required to avoid the adverse impacts on communities and the environment.
- Creation of local employment and recognition of labor rights to address population mobility and increasing urbanization.
- Global, regional and sub-regional systems based on science to engage communities and CSOs in community-based monitoring and sharing of data related to impacts on the three dimensions of sustainability, including inter alia chemicals and nuclear emissions.
- Involvement of communities and CSOs in the development, implementation and monitoring of new technologies or techniques.
- Compliance, accountability and transparency of corporations to redress displacements and other violations of rights against communities and the environment.

#### 12. Some emerging challenges include:

- Worsening income and social inequalities in several developing countries that have experienced rapid economic growth, and a trend of social inequity in some developed countries.
- Massive infrastructure projects targeted for the next 10 years, with ecological and social sustainability as well as economic viability requiring thorough assessment. Several current large-scale infrastructure projects are already at the centre of controversy.
- Spread of unsustainable consumption patterns that with growing income disparities result in the wealthy consuming beyond their needs while the poor lack basic needs. Unsustainable consumption patterns put additional pressures on natural resources and the environment as well as lead to new health problems.
- Demographic changes and increased urbanization that result in declining rural workforce with resultant stresses on food production and security.
- Critical importance to the region of active promotion and support of sustainable fishing particularly involving small-scale fishers, in view of the dangerous level of depletion of fisheries resources across the region's seas and oceans.
- Need to ensure faithful and consistent enforcement of the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal; ban dumping of wastes and toxic chemicals into the marine environment; and ensure proper management of electronic waste, including efforts towards their reduction and eventual elimination.

#### On Green Economy in the Context of Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development

13. In view of the need for clearer understanding on the concept of "green economy," participants reaffirmed sustainable development as the overarching paradigm and centered discussions on key attributes of sustainable "economies", viz:

- Built on sustainable production and consumption patterns and ensuring all people's wellbeing;
- Democratizes access to, ownership and control over productive resources and assets, particularly for women, and promotes equitable access to opportunities for advancement and improvement of human and family welfare;
- Provides decent work and right livelihoods and ensures that social benefits are distributed equitably among all peoples;
- Fosters citizen participation;
- Upholds social justice, human rights, equity, and gender equality;
- Achieves economic sufficiency;
- Safeguards animal welfare and protects ecosystems;
- Ensures agriculture systems and supply chains are sustainable and humane; and
- Regulates financial markets and holds firms accountable for the social and environmental impacts of their operations.

14. Governments in Rio 1992 agreed to reform existing patterns of consumption and production in pursuit of sustainable development objectives, recognising the link between poverty and unsustainable production and consumption patterns. However, more attention has been given to environmentally friendly production than on consumption patterns. High economic growth in the region has been accompanied by unsustainable consumption patterns. A more rational pattern of consumption is needed to ensure a more rational pattern of production. Consumption patterns are in turn highly influenced by the distribution of incomes across and within countries.

15. Due to the unequal distribution of world incomes, an inordinately large share of goods and services produced are targeted for those with purchasing power. On the other hand, the poor who have great unmet needs but limited capacity to pay lack basic goods and services such as housing, clean water, sanitation, health services, basic education and food. Solutions cannot be found in the market mechanisms, but must be provided in public policy and government actions. Governments must ensure universal access to basic health, education, sanitation, and other essential services, removing all social and cultural barriers that discriminate against minorities including on the basis of age, sexuality, ethnicity, caste, disability and gender.

16. Economy and economic life must be defined not in the narrow sense of efficiently allocating scarce resources, but as the range of processes, activities, relations and structures involved in and affecting the provisioning for human life in all its fullness, integrity and dignity. These include not only those involved in "production" as commonly understood, but also activities, processes, relations and structures in what is termed "social reproduction," rendered primarily through the unrecognized and un(der)valued

labor of women.

17. Technological fixes alone will not solve environmental problems that are consequences of social and economic factors. Fundamental issues such as access, intellectual property rights (IPR), and assessment of the potential impacts of new and untested technologies (e.g., geo-engineering, ocean fertilization, etc.) before they are released in the environment and deployed commercially must be addressed in the development and transfer of technologies.

18. Opposition was expressed against nuclear energy, mega-dams and agrofuel plantations; instead, governments are called upon to scale up public financing to provide wide access to renewable energy.

19. Opposition was similarly raised against the privatisation and commodification of nature and ecosystem functions that lead to further marginalization of communities.

20. There is need to uphold food sovereignty to address the global food crisis. Communities should have the right to determine their patterns of food production and consumption, and farmers should be able to prioritise food production for domestic consumption. Governments must support small-scale farmers, including women, as they form the heart of sustainable food production systems and along with their families, are the primary objects of rural development.

21. The pursuit of sustainable development in the rural areas must aim at the optimum balance between rural and urban development, with the view towards avoiding problems attendant to excessive rural-urban migration. Efforts to promote sustainable cities via green infrastructure, improved waste management, access to sustainable sanitation and urban food sufficiency are likewise important, but need to be mindful of this rural-urban balance that is determined, among other things, by environmental carrying capacities.

22. Financing sustainable development and a just transition to sustainable economies requires significant public financing, financial and technology transfer from more endowed to less-endowed countries, private sector investments that are productive and non-speculative in nature, and fair and innovative modes of taxation, including a financial transaction tax.

23. Market-based mechanisms that permit developed countries to avoid the delivery of commitments to deep cuts in their greenhouse gas emissions and pass on such obligations through the markets must be reconsidered.

24. Governments must provide enabling policies for promoting sustainable economies as an important impetus to eradicate poverty reduction and achieve sustainable development. Governments must also examine fiscal policies and economic instruments to promote measures conducive to promoting sustainable development, and remove measures detrimental to such objectives including those that subsidize fossil fuel use and support inefficient resource use and economic activities.

25. Governments need to establish regional and inter-regional programmes for supporting capacity development in support of sustainable development. These must inherently involve mechanisms that promote the active participation of stakeholder groups and organisations to exchange good practices and expertise and to support pilot projects, research work, human resource development including training and education, and network activities within and across countries.

26. Stronger partnerships among governments, civil society organisations, private businesses and stakeholder groups must be established for promoting sustainable economies. Such partnerships need to be within frameworks of accountability and transparency including regulation. In line with this, research institutes, educational institutions and other stakeholder groups are enjoined to support good practice case studies and promote dissemination of information on such good practices for promoting sustainable economies in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development.

27. As young people make up more than 40 per cent of the world's unemployed, governments must provide children, adolescents and youth with education, training and opportunities for the active participation in economic, political, social and cultural life; promote youth employment rights, and security to prevent their marginalisation and social exclusion; and child labour by addressing the conditions that lead to it.

28. Finally, disaggregated indicators to monitor and assess sustainable economies need to be developed, not based on GDP, but on people's wellbeing, inclusiveness, social equity, human rights, gender equality, decent work, biodiversity and ecological footprint.

On the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD)

29. The IFSD should implement the agreed sustainable development commitments and actions at the international, regional, sub-regional levels and national levels with broad public participation in the various bodies and in decision-making. The three dimensions of sustainable development must be strengthened (or transformed where necessary) and closely integrated. The framework must:

- Promote accountability and legitimacy
- Improve coordination and synergies among sectors, actors and levels
- Ensure coherence, complementarity, effectiveness and efficiency
- Guarantee meaningful public participation.

30. There is need to transform the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development under the General Assembly to integrate the work of disparate multilateral bodies working on each of the three dimensions of sustainable development, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the World Trade Organisation. The body must have strong technical support, an independent secretariat and dedicated budget.

31. In support of the IFSD, and in recognition of the continuing weakness of the environmental pillar in the existing IFSD structure, significant strengthening of international environmental governance is needed to deal with the evolving scale and scope of environmental issues and challenges. As the entity with the primary responsibility for the global environment, UNEP should be upgraded and provided with adequate resources for its work. The institutions and work of the numerous multilateral environmental agreements need to be further coordinated within the context of integrating the 3 dimensions of sustainable development.

32. Strengthening of the environmental dimension must come alongside transformation of the economic dimension to make it supportive of the two other dimensions, rather than overwhelm them. In particular, this transformation needs to be geared toward prevention of the occurrence of more financial and economic debacles, which cause much social dislocation and environmental degradation. The UN must also take a direct hand in economic and financial policy-making and act as an effective counterbalance to the traditional dominant global economic and financial bodies.

33. At the regional level, corresponding sustainable development bodies could be established. Sub-regional analogs could also be created where size and diversity of the region warrant it, such as in the Asia-Pacific.

34. At the national level, governments must establish multistakeholder councils for sustainable development (NCSDs) where absent, and strengthen them where already existing. NCSDs must coordinate planning, policy making, issues resolution, and reporting to the corresponding sub-regional/regional and global sustainable development

bodies to ensure vertical coherence from implementation levels to the global level.

35. Local authorities are closest to the ground and directly serve the people. They must be given a responsibility and be involved in decision-shaping that concerns in particular sustainable development.

36. To be effective, the national sustainable development councils should be (a) organized at highest possible level, i.e., chaired by the Head of State/Government; (b) lodged with an appropriate coordinating body such Office of the Prime Minister or Planning Ministry; (c) composed of relevant ministries and major groups/stakeholders including local authorities; and (d) institutionally stable by virtue of a strong legal mandate and endowed with a dedicated budget.

37. The above proposals are initial steps to start fundamental changes that are necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century. In the long term this may include updating the Charter of the UN.

#### On Access to Information, Public Participation and Environmental Justice

38. As stipulated in Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, access to environmental information, participation in decision-making and judicial proceedings over environmental matters are a critical part of the policy and institutional framework for achieving sustainable development. Thus the policies on access to environmental information, participation in decision-making and judicial proceedings over environmental matters must be fully implemented at the multiple levels. The Aarhus Convention and UNEP Guideline on Principle 10 provide useful frameworks for developing and implementing policy measures to achieve Principle 10 objectives.

39. The general public is often denied access to information, participation and justice. In the implementation of P-10 policies, due consideration should be given to respect of human rights, gender equality and the realities and needs of the marginalized groups such as women, youth and indigenous peoples

40. A number of countries in Asia and the Pacific have adopted freedom of information acts and promote the public access to environmental information. However, the level of implementation and compliance with Principle 10 varies considerably, and there are cases where the poor and socially marginalized groups such as women, youth, and indigenous peoples are denied or unable to benefit from the access to environmental information.

41. Governments must provide mechanisms and avenues that support the empowerment of the stakeholders, particularly the socially marginalized groups, to recognize their key roles and to enable their active participation in decision making. Government must also involve major groups and stakeholders in policy dialogues and decision making processes over the environment and sustainability policy issues.

42. Governments must promote the application of P-10 in dealing with the new and emerging issues such as the potential impacts of the emerging technology on the human and environment, by ensuring access to information, public participation in technology assessment, access to liability and redress in cases of damages.

43. Governments must extend the application of the P-10 for promoting and ensuring accountability and transparency of the government, corporations and organizations through effective feedback from the citizens.

44. Governments must recognize and allow alternative peoples' initiatives such as citizen juries, peoples' tribunals, and technology observation platforms.

45. Governments need to exercise the authority to obtain information from the private sector and make available such information to the stakeholders when private sector activities are to cause the impacts on the environment or public concerns. Exceptions to the public access to environmental information and other Principle 10 policy measures should be restricted and should not be abused.

46. To facilitate effective implementation of the Principle 10 policy measures, education, awareness raising, training and capacity development activities must be strengthened.

47. Inadequacy of the forums and institutions at different levels has to be recognized and addressed through such measures as strengthening of the existing mechanism, "Green Bench", establishment of environmental courts, and consideration of creating an international environment court.

48. Governments are called upon to mandate and enable UNEP to develop a robust programme on UNEP Bali 2010 guidelines. In additions, governments must adopt and implement UNEP guidelines on P-10 at national level through adopting necessary legal framework and appropriate policies

49. Governments in Asia and the Pacific must develop the regional/sub-regional conventions on P-10. At the same time, interested governments in the region are enjoined to accede to the Aarhus convention, and/or to adopt its features such as the peer policy review, and complaint/individual petition procedures without precluding the adoption of the Asia Pacific convention. The negotiation for establishment of an international convention on Access to Information, Public Participation and Environmental Justice must be launched at the soonest possible time.

50. To ensure the compliance of countries to Principle 10 policy measures at the national level, it is suggested to define the legal rights, obligations and enforcement procedures, and incorporate penalty clauses in such measures in order to pose penalty on the individuals or corporations that fail to provide information despite their legal obligations.

51. Finally, the useful benchmarks and indicators to assess performance on Principle 10 policy measures must be adopted and widely applied.

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## Asia-Pacific NGOs

We are occupying Seoul:

Position of Asia-Pacific NGOs Major Group on Rio+20

A month ago, civil society started to occupy Wall Street. This week, we are occupying Seoul. In June, we will occupy Rio ...

Recognising the right to sustainable development is a fundamental right of people.

Emphasising that sustainable development must promote equity and enhance the wellbeing of all.

Further emphasising that sustainable development must be based on the protection and conservation of the natural resource base, on which life depends, not on unbridled consumption.

We call for strengthening of the holistic integration of the environment, economic and social dimensions of sustainable development.

Recognising that communities together with NGOs around the world have developed numerous innovative solutions to development challenges that need to be supported with enabling environments to link, upscale and mainstream these efforts.

Recognising that NGOs are independent and equal development actors that are integral in decision-making processes at different levels.

Stressing the importance of effective engagement of NGOs in sustainable development.

We recognise and commend the commitment and efforts of a number of governments in the Asia-Pacific Region to implement Agenda 21 since 1992 through the creation of national councils for sustainable development strategies with the active engagement of NGOs.

We call upon these mechanisms to be recognized as an integral part of the national development agenda.

We further call upon countries where these mechanisms exist but have lagged, to revive and strengthen them and in countries where these mechanisms do not exist, for them to be created.

Sadly recognizing that governments have committed themselves to shift to the sustainable development paradigm 20 years ago, but have done little to deliver this promise.

We urge that new labels such as green economy must not confuse, distract from or obscure commitments to sustainable development and that governments and the international community must instead reaffirm their commitment to sustainable development.

We call for renewed political commitment to sustainable development principles adopted at Rio in 1992, namely, the precautionary principle, common but differentiated responsibilities, polluter-pays principle, the access principle (access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters), and the recognition of the indispensable role of major groups in sustainable development.

We strongly call upon governments to recognize that the current convergence of crisis should not be used as an excuse to avoid or delay the delivery of these commitments.

#### On Green Economy

Recognising that the current economic model, which promotes unsustainable consumption and production patterns, facilitates a grossly inequitable trading system, fails to eradicate poverty, assists exploitation of natural resources towards the verge of extinction, and has induced multiple crises on Earth, needs to be replaced by sustainable economies in community, local, national, regional, and international spheres.

Acknowledging that green economies within sustainable societies should also ensure gender equality, democracy, improve human wellbeing, reduce environmental risks, respect the fundamental human rights of people, enhance opportunities for green, decent work and right livelihoods, and ensure that jobs and social benefits are distributed equitably among all peoples;

We are convinced that green economies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication should be economic systems that foster citizen participation; require social justice and equity and gender equality, protection of ecosystems; creation of economic sufficiency, and that aims for the core idea that green economies enhance sustainable development and prosperity of all nations; ensure the wellbeing of all people; respect the rights, cultures, languages, and wisdom of indigenous peoples and local communities; safeguard animal welfare and conserve biodiversity for future generations, while stressing that green economy does not replace sustainable development.

We believe that partnerships to promote green economies should promote sustainable development and should not be exploitative and opportunistic.

We oppose the privatisation and commodification of nature and ecosystem functions that lead to further marginalization of communities.

We reject market-based mechanisms that serve as means for developed countries to avoid the delivery of commitments to deep cuts in their greenhouse gas emissions and to pass such obligations to markets.

We believe that technological fixes alone will not solve environmental problems that are consequences of social and economic factors. Fundamental issues such as access, intellectual property rights (IPR), and assessment of the potential impacts of new and untested technologies before they are released in the environment and deployed commercially must be addressed in the development and transfer of technologies.

#### On Sustainable Development and Governance

Stressing that governments must recognize the existing efforts of communities and NGOs in promoting sustainable development at the national and local levels, and should support and provide platforms to mainstream and link these efforts to have more sustained impacts on development.

We call for renewed commitment of governments to implement Agenda 21 by establishing, strengthening or reviving national and local mechanisms such as multi-stakeholder councils for sustainable development, and ensuring synergy and coherence among the different agencies involved in sustainable development.

We call for the global institutional framework for sustainable development to ensure equitable rights and opportunities for all to enjoy sustainable development and promote wellbeing for all.

We also call upon the Rio+20 process to address sustainable development governance, and not just focus on international environmental governance that should go beyond reforming UNEP but should also involve all institutions in the environmental governance architecture.

We strongly call for the building of a strong apex body on sustainable development that works at the global level and can integrate the work of disparate multilateral bodies working on each of the three pillars of sustainable development, including the International Monetary Fund, The World Bank and the World Trade Organisation. Options that should be explored include transforming the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development, or establishing a UN Organization on Sustainable Development. The unifying mandate of this body should be the promotion of sustainable development as a fundamental right to all.

We also call upon Rio+20 to work for the immediate establishment of a broad inclusive multi-stakeholder consultative body or network tasked with supporting the promotion and monitoring the implementation of sustainable development commitments and actions since 1992 as well as the Rio+20 resolutions. Such a body should be participatory, democratic, and have an integral multi-stakeholder character that accords civil society with equal rights and equal voice as governments.

We further stress the need for a systematic monitoring of the implementation and strict enforcement of existing agreements related to sustainable development at the global and their enabling laws at the national level.

#### New and Emerging Issues

Being alarmed by the trends in Asia-Pacific in the systematic acquisition of land in least-developed and developing countries by public and private entities from food-insecure

but financially-endowed states.

We call for an end to this massive land grab.

We call upon the specific circumstances of small island developing states in the Pacific to be recognized and fully addressed with regards to the crucial importance of marine resources management and governance necessary for the survival of the people in these islands.

We further call for a ban to the dumping of wastes and toxic chemicals into the marine environment.

We call for the rights and responsibilities of consumers to be recognised and promoted.

We further call for the active promotion and support of sustainable fishing, particularly involving small-scale fishers in view of the dangerous level depletion of fisheries resources across the region.

Recognising the critical importance of food sovereignty to address the food crisis.

We call for communities to have the right to determine their patterns of food production and consumption, and farmers should be able to prioritize food production for domestic consumption, where Government provides incentives to sustainable food production practices.

We call for global and regional mechanisms, such as a Regional Technology Observation Platforms, in evaluating the impacts of new and untested technologies must be adopted. Such mechanisms must involve communities, civil society and other actors, and provide resources towards providing adequate information and building capacity of countries and communities to assess and monitor the health, biodiversity and environmental impacts of new technologies.

On Principle 10

We call on the Rio+20 conference to launch negotiations for the establishment of an international convention on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration that deals with access to information, public participation and environmental justice.

We further call on the Rio+20 conference to encourage the development of a regional convention on Principle 10, to invite interested states to accede to the Aarhus Convention and to mandate UNEP to develop a robust program to implement the 2010 Bali Guidelines on Principle 10.

Our occupation of Seoul is built on the sincerity of our efforts to live the spirit and operationalize the principles of sustainable development. Our decades of experiences in working with communities and offering concrete solutions in our engagements with governments are living proof that we walk the talk ...

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## Asian Centre for Organisation Research and Development

### Contribution to the Zero Draft Document RIO + 20

- Terms like “green economy” and “sustainable development” are very pretty, but in terms of hard reality they mean one thing on the ground : lowering the rate of consumption. This however is unacceptable to the people at large, and is a problem of “mass- psychology” which economists, politicians, and technologists are neither willing nor able to even take on. Who wants to be unpopular and get to the root of the problem?
- “The limits to growth published by the Club of Rome in the early 60’s is still the most relevant analytical document, but it has been given a quick burial – every one runs for office on the promise of more growth, more consumption, more welfare, whether sustainable or not.
- The Pareto principle is still an iron law of economics, and it has proven its validity even in biology. The top 20% of the 7 billion people control the consumption and exploitation of 70-75% of the world’s resources, while the bottom 20% consumes less than 2% of global resources.
- The top 50% of the world’s population needs to reduce 10% of its consumption in the first instance, and thereafter 10% every 5 years – the world’s best politicians, philosophers, psychologists, mass-communicators need to form a coalition to help nations work within the global limits, whether natural or man-made limits. The addition to “endless growth without limits” needs to be treated as a mass neurosis which has no sustainable base in reality.

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## Asociación Ancash

La hermosa región Ancash cuenta con una amplia porción de su territorio de montañas alto andinas, que son parte de su patrimonio natural y cultural. Es en esta zona donde la operación minera Antamina viene operando su yacimiento desde hace 10 años, generando una oportunidad para promover un cambio en la vida de sus poblaciones en este espacio de vida y desarrollo. Antamina, para atender el desarrollo de las comunidades en su ámbito de influencia, ha creado a la Asociación Ancash en el año 2002, año internacional de las montañas, como una asociación civil sin fines de lucro, encargada de promover el desarrollo sostenible en su región. Nuestra institución es miembro de la Alianza para las Montañas desde su creación.

Parte importante de nuestra labor es la estrecha coordinación con las entidades públicas y privadas que se suman como socios estratégicos para la consecución de dicho objetivo, focalizados en tres aspectos que son el respeto y revaloración de la cultura local y la conservación de los recursos naturales, siendo el turismo el eje transversal de todas nuestras iniciativas, pues estamos convencidos que es el mejor medio para sacar de la marginalidad y fomentar el desarrollo de los pueblos largamente olvidados de

nuestras zonas de montaña. Este modelo de apoyo se convierte en un modelo innovador de trabajo en ámbito de montañas desde la inversión privada, en especial con el apoyo a la gestión del Parque Nacional Huascarán, Patrimonio Natural de la Humanidad.

La oportunidad de aportar al desarrollo de las montañas, desde la iniciativa empresarial privada, está en marcha y estamos convencidos que puede ser ampliamente provechosa si se logra enmarcar el desarrollo e integración real de las montañas en el desarrollo nacional mediante la intervención del Estado.

Por esta razón el desarrollo sostenible de las montañas, especialmente a través de políticas integradas y socialmente incluyentes, así como tecnologías de baja emisión de carbono, debe ocupar un lugar prominente en la agenda de Río 2012 y debe estar claramente establecido en su declaración final.

Mirko Chang Olivas Director General Asociación Ancash

[www.aancash.org.pe](http://www.aancash.org.pe)

A large portion of the beautiful Ancash region is located in the high Andes Mountains, which are part of their natural and cultural heritage. It is in this area where the Antamina mining project has operated for 10 years, creating an opportunity to promote a change in the lives of the surrounding populations in this lively and developing area. In order to address the development of communities within its area of influence, Antamina created the Ancash Association in 2002 –the international year of the mountains– as a civil non-profit entity, tasked with promoting sustainable development in the region. Since the very beginning our institution has been a member of the Mountain Partnership.

An important part of our work is the close coordination with public and private entities that add up as strategic partners to achieve this objective, focusing on three areas; namely, revaluation of local culture, conservation of natural resources and tourism. The latter being the transverse axis of all our efforts, because we are convinced that tourism is the best way to promote the development of our long-forgotten mountain people and to take them out of marginalization. For the private investment, this model becomes an innovative way of working in mountainous areas, especially because of the support given to the Huascaran National Park, World Natural Heritage.

The opportunity for private companies to contribute to the development of the mountains is underway and we believe that it can be widely useful if we can get to include the development and actual integration of the mountains in national development through state intervention.

For this reason, mountain sustainable development, especially through integrated and socially inclusive policies as well as low-carbon-emission technologies, should occupy a prominent place in the agenda for Río 2012 and must be clearly stated in its final declaration.

Mirko Chang Olivas Director General Ancash Association

[www.aancash.org.pe](http://www.aancash.org.pe)

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## Asociación Ecuatoriana de Motociclistas (AEMoto)

Rio de Janeiro for the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development  
Rio de Janeiro, Brasil, junio 4 – 6, 2012

What percentage of the world population rides motorcycles?  
Motorcycle Safety Citizens Plan

Project by:  
AEMoto, Asociación Ecuatoriana de Motociclistas  
Ecuadorian Motorcyclists Association  
Adscrit at:

Ecuadorian Motorcycling Federation F.E.M.  
F.I.M. Latin America, International Motorcycle Federation

Rio de Janeiro for the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development

IT'S TIME TO ACT; F.I.M. Latin America, International Motorcycling Federation,  
F.E.M. Ecuadorian Motorcycling Federation and  
AEMoto, Ecuadorian Motorcyclists Association

will present a project of a 10 year Strategic Plan for Rider Road Safety inspired in the initiatives being taken by FIM in support of the Decade of Action for Global Road Safety [www.un.org/en/roadsafety](http://www.un.org/en/roadsafety) decreed by the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

IT'S TIME TO ACT; F.I.M. Latin America, F.E.M. and AEMoto will present a project of a 10 year Strategic Plan for Motorcycle Rider Road Safety. This ten-year strategic plan to spread motorcycle road safety throughout the region follows the spirit of the Decade of Action for Global Road Safety.

Many other organizations worldwide, are implementing actions to tackle and reduce traffic accidents, and are following the lead of the F.I.M. International Motorcycling Federation.

In Latin America, we have an extensive motorcycling community, that will be united by this Plan for Motorcycle Safety, and as world citizens, will include Green economy philosophy, always following the Ride Green motto.

At the beginning of 10 years of action to save thousands of lives that are lost due to traffic accidents, F.E.M. and AEMoto and are working to get the essential support of official and civil organizations in order to spread road safety actions in Ecuador. Hundreds of letter have been sent and will be, to Institutions and Companies in Ecuador and other countries, to present this Motorcycle Safety Plan called PLAN NACIONAL CIUDADANO POR LA SEGURIDAD MOTOCICLISTA to the community.

The first step was taken with the distribution of a flyer with the 10 key recommendations for safe motorcycle operation sponsored by insurance company Seguros del Pichincha. This has been done in social events and the press. The second step will be taken in November 2011, with the publication of a Motorcycle Rider Education Supplement with one of the major editorial groups in Ecuador, the Vistazo magazine, with the circulation of 70.000 copies that will circulate with the national magazines Vistazo, Estadio and Generación XXI.

This is the start of a 10 year campaign, with a pilot programme in Ecuador for 2011 and 2012. After an evaluation, the Motorcycle Safety Citizens Plan will be spread throughout the region, with the support of Latin America's Motorcycling community and FIM latin America.

We support the 'Safer Roads @ Rio+20', an initiative led by the Make Roads Safe campaign, building on the momentum of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety to broaden the coalition supporting action to prevent 5 million road deaths by 2020. We are seeking recognition that tackling the global road injury epidemic must be a key element of any post-2015 sustainable development framework. Road Safety is an environmental issue that has to be part of the Millennium Development objective since decrease of traffic accidents is a vital part of improvement of environment and quality of life.

We request that the Rio +20 conference on sustainable development would also include Motorcycle Road Safety plans as part of agenda so that the decisions taken would give a impulse to the movement for Road Safety.

Now, in Rio de Janeiro Brazil, June 2012, we request that the Rio +20 conference on sustainable development would also include this Motorcycle Road Safety plan as part of the agenda so that the decisions taken would give funding directed to global Motorcycle Road Safety, specifically to edit study of motorcycling in Latin America, invaluable tool to best develop this Plan.

Together we can save millions of lives.

Yours Ricardo Rocco Paz  
Executive Secretary  
AEMoto, Asociacion Ecuatoriana de Motociclistas  
Ecuadorian Motorcyclists Association  
Adscrit at:  
Ecuadorian Motorcycling Federation F.E.M.  
F.I.M. Latin America, International Motorcycle Federation

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## Asociación proyecto Gobernanza Democrática Mundial – World Democratic Governance project association (apGDM – WDGpa)

[\[EN ESPANOL\]](#) Index of the contribution

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1. Contribution from the apGDM-WDGpa: about the general content and, specifically about the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development IFSD

Our young and small Catalan association, in which despite that, are working together persons with long and diverse traditions and aptitudes linked with the field of World Democratic Governance, cannot do anything else than applause the invitation of the Second Preparatory committee of the Rio+20 Conference and, of course reflect, conform and transmit to the UN, with humility but at the same time with great conviction, its contributions to the political preparatory process of the Conference.

As an association that, according to its own denomination, has as fundamental objective, to face the big current challenges, to work towards building a real Global Democratic Governance System; we will contribute fundamentally, within this context towards Rio+20, working on one of the basic topics on which the conference bases in order to achieve its objectives: the "Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, IFSD".

Understanding that the objectives and general contents of the Conference face with this topic the fundamental challenge in order to clarify the situation, and draw truly a framework and define the way for its construction. In order to walk, with decision and effectiveness, towards a real sustainable development, that includes unavoidably the poverty eradication within a globalized world, it is need that the Democratic Governance at global level serves as a response to the current circumstances. Which gives the frame for the specification and orientation of our reflections and contributions.

If we frame this paragraph –which can be considered as a kind of proposal 0 from us– it is just to stress that each time that we consider that we are defining a proposal it will be frame in this way

1. Referential elements of the contribution

We have chosen to carry out our reflections and contributions neither on a virginal white either on an unapproachable black, due to the interesting and countless contributions that, fortunately are currently being build and carried out. We have chosen as a referential element for our work the previous official report of more significance on the current state of the art towards the Conference: the United Nations Secretary General Report for, concretely, the meeting of the Second Preparatory Committee for the Conference carried out on March of 2011. Report which was presented together with and to complement the first synthesis document based on the responses from the member states, the main groups and the organisms belonging to the United Nations themselves, as an answer to the first invitation received with the aim to participate actively in the preparation of the Conference in the moment of its announcement by the General Assembly(GA) of the UN.

2. The issue of the "Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development IFSD" within the context of the objectives of the conference

In the summary of the report previously mentioned, we can read, literally (the bolds and underlines in cites will always be made by us in order to stress a part of the text): This



report examines the two themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development — green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication (GESDPE), and the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD) — in relation to the objective of renewed political commitment to sustainable development, reviewing progress and implementation gaps and addressing new and emerging challenges. The starting point is the recognition that sustainable development, with each of its three pillars reinforced and mutually reinforcing, has been the overarching goal of the international community since Rio 1992. Thus, the question posed here is how a focus on GESDPE and IFSD can help accelerate progress on the sustainable development agenda.

And already in the text of the report of the SG, part III, section A, it says, always literally,

#### A. Approaches to strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development

91. The institutional framework for sustainable development covers a spectrum of formal and less formal bodies, organizations, networks and arrangements that are involved in policymaking or implementation activities. The institutional framework must be considered at local, national, regional and international levels. Globally, the institutional framework has witnessed a dramatic growth in the number of institutions and agreements, with more than 500 multilateral environmental agreements currently in existence. Thus the reach of sustainable development governance has greatly expanded. Yet the continuing deterioration in the natural resource base, threats to ecosystems, global climate change and persistent poverty call into question whether the grasp of the institutional framework matches its reach. The international institutional landscape has been characterized as fragmented, with a silo-like arrangement of regimes and institutions and a related lack of coherence and coordination.

An article, from our point of view, more important than what can be considered in first instance.

Probably when the Secretary General talks about “a spectrum of formal and less formal bodies, organizations, networks and arrangements that are involved in policymaking or implementation activities” we could link it with a possible definition of how would be a global governance system for sustainable development. However, as it happens a lot of times, afterwards the Secretary General will cite as an example of it the “500 multilateral environmental agreements currently in existence”, coming to the conclusion that “the reach of sustainable development governance has greatly expanded”, performing with it the first and important internal contradiction in the text (what is more, so usual during already so many years and so many texts and references coming from the UN) that is the fact of identifying “environmental” with “sustainable”. Fortunately, in this case the SG himself has taken care, within the summary written at the beginning of this section, to point out his own conceptual contradictions in reference to the topic saying: “The starting point is the recognition that sustainable development, with each of its three pillars reinforced and mutually reinforcing, has been the overarching goal of the international community”.

We also consider that SG establishes another important contradiction when he affirms that the “500 multilateral environmental agreements currently in existence” “the reach of sustainable development governance has greatly expanded”. There is no doubt, currently, we have a wide normative level on environmental topics, and it should allow us the implementation of a good and necessary environmental governance. However it does not mean that it has been like this and is like this, or even the opposite, as we think, and many other relevant actors on this issues do. The governance of these agreements, in which refers to their implementation, can be qualified as extremely precarious –and even in some cases inexistent– and, actually, with a lack of a truly Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, IFSD, that, among other things, allows to move forward on the governance, due to and unavoidably coordinated, in most of the cases, by the cited agreements.

Returning to the first and fundamental identify contradiction: exactly, more since Johannesburg than since Rio, the verification that the social, environmental and economical pillars are indivisible and constitute the essence itself of the way towards sustainable development, it is at least an unquestionable and unquestioned reference, although, there is no need of more than a line in order to contradict it, in almost all the contexts, as we verified again in the SG text.

It can be that because of this we should rewrite, and propose for the process of the conference, consider sustainable development as the sustainable development socially desirable (society has to decide how wants, and can, live in each historical moment within the planet), environmentally compatible (the planet earth, at least until now, is the only home that humanity has and cannot destroy it (without return) in case they do not want to mortgage irremediably the future of humanity life in the planet) and economically performable (it has to be like this because it will always be necessary to keep managing and assigning resources -always scarce- in order to satisfy the needs -impossible to be unlimited- that allows the development socially desirable and, of course, cannot coexist with the curse of the current big poverties). And avoid, acting on hurry, to consider only the environmental pillar when we refer to sustainable development.

The stress on this point could seem excessive, but as will be seen further on it is not. Part III of the SG report presents the following index:

### III. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

#### A. Approaches to strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development

##### B. The broader framework

##### C. Governance of the environmental pillar

##### D. Governance of the economic and social pillars

Although it could seem we suffer a trend to exaggeration; the truth is that the section is almost irrelevant, both in terms of extension (less than one page of the report) and most of all in terms of analysis, and proposals, while most of the focus at section B and of course all section C, refers in fact only to the environmental pillar, and therefore to the corresponding problem: as old as the first of the so named environmental conferences of the UN -Stockholm 1972- in which among other things, the UNEP would be created and the topic of the GEG-IEG would start to be discussed.

In this sense, although it does not appear in the objective, neither in the topics of the basic premises of what Rio+20 would like to be, there is an enormous risk on the fact that most of the preparatory process of the conference and the conference itself ends up talking only about (from our point of view quite mistakenly) IEG and almost no talking about IFSD! For this reason we have to propose to avoid this situation at all costs.

#### 3. Institutional framework for Sustainable Development, IFSD, and Global or International Environmental Governance IEG-GEG: Important misunderstandings and conceptual and political contradictions

In the line with our previous alert our main contribution and/or proposal at this level is to state explicitly the fact that the second topic of the conference are actually two big subtopics: a) the Institutional Framework for sustainable development IFSD, in the direction of the construction of a truly Global Sustainable Governance; b) the International or Global Environmental Governance itself, as a reform and reconstruction of that kind of governance, but to be precise, as a part of the Global Sustainable Governance that we mentioned before, together with the social and economical governance as a whole that defines bidirectionally the IFSD.

Rio+20 cannot be prepared neither carried out without dismissing the eternal misunderstanding and contradiction -or even better expressed reduction- between environmental and sustainable. The environmental part will not be sustainable or unsustainable by itself, but depending of how socially and economically we interact with the environment.

From our point of view, and accepting as a logical fact that the IEG does not have yet, time and spaces (normative and operative realities) such as the ECOSOC, as evident as in reference to the social and economical topics; we consider logical and appropriate that the IEG has a privileged space within the frame of Rio+20 but without misunderstanding -and almost identifying it only- with the whole of the Global Sustainable Governance, or isolating it from social and economical governances.

Following this line, we propose an index that could avoid misunderstanding, contradictions and simplifications; and tries to clarify the previously explained conceptual structure:

. Institutional framework for Sustainable Development IFSD, or Global Sustainable Governance

Global Social Governance, in the sustainability context

Global Environmental Governance, IEG-GEG, in the sustainability context

Global Economical Governance, in the sustainability context

4. Reform proposals of the ECOSOC in order to walk towards the real conformation of an IFSD at a global normative level of the sustainable development governance

Within the UN the fundamental normative authority remains in the General Assembly (GA), but it is shared, specialized or get ready, on thematic and procedure level in the councils. Apart from the security council, it is evident that the experience that we are living with the new -and still provisional- Human Rights Council is one of the most successful and encouraging ones at the level of the UN, as an instrument of World governance. Almost everybody assumes the fact that peace and security and human rights among other topics are included in the jurisdiction of the UN. By contrast the origin on the ECOSOC is closely related to, exactly, the question of, for example, where the Global Economical Governance remains. But it is also true that partially and also in a contradictory way, as the environmental topics have appear historically some of them have end up on the hands of the ECOSOC.

While the UN Charter defines the ECOSOC always in conditional terms (It could: carry out studies, make recommendations, coordinate the agencies work, etc.) and the agreements achieved concerning to the relation between the UN and the institutions of Breton Woods (BWI), defined the last ones as specialized independent agencies of the UN, what we could define as Global economical Governance, was established and keeps still in the IMF and the WB (the two main BWI). And the following G5, G7 and G8 (Maybe in the future the G20 although we do not think so), as the main stockholders of the BWI institutions, have being through the BWI the Worldwide economical governments.

From the very beginning of the UN, the most cited and claimed reform -and less truly tackled- is the reform of the ECOSOC, on one hand, and the relation that it has with the BWI institutions on the other hand.

For the moment, specially since the Rio summit and enforcing it after the Johannesburg summit, some of the environmental issues, -as we have already mentioned- from a normative point of view, have been transferred to the ECOSOC, due to the creation of the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) within the Rio summit, as an specific commission of the ECOSOC. As long as, although, Rio will bet for the way of the specific environmental treaties and multilateral environmental agreements about the key environmental issues (climate change, biodiversity, desertification,...) with governmental organs, in most of the occasions, ad hoc, the CSD has not given the expected results. It has never been able to get out of the environmental pillar of the sustainability, it did not have until now any capacity not even to coordinate the MEAs topics and in reference to the economical fundings, the WB eclipsed it almost completely with the creation of the Global environmental facility (GEF). Therefore it happens the same with the CSD than with the ECOSOC, everybody agree on the fact that it has to be reformed, empowered, etc.

And in fact we also consider that is the way: a way that however, it has not been, it is not, and it will not be easy, although not for this reason is not the way. Without a reform and real empowerment of the ECOSOC and its commissions and, with them the CSD, talking about IFSD or Global Sustainable Governance, is one more, talking about a chimera.

We are conscious that the topic is not new, and it has been longly debated and proposed, but still we consider the reform of the ECOSOC as a necessary step forward that has to be done and it will be done sooner or later. In relation to these topics the report that we are taking as a reference of the SG of the UN, says literally in the part III:

B. The broader framework

105. The General Assembly serves as the apex body for legislative outcomes on sustainable development. It also provides the forum for integrated consideration of issues related to the oceans, e.g. through the Regular Process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, as recommended in the JPOI. The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has the overall mandate to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development. ECOSOC, through its Annual Ministerial Review and linkages to the IFIs, has strengthened its integrative role.

106. The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was established as the high-level body for the review and follow-up to the implementation of Agenda 21. While the central role of the Commission is widely acknowledged, concern has been expressed about lack of implementation of its policy decisions and its perceived weakness in driving the sustainable development agenda. However, the Commission has been a leading institution in the United Nations system with respect to the involvement of major groups, who engage actively and substantively in its work programme.

From our point of view the article 105 Play to the crowd that nobody that works on the institution and the topic can believe rather the reflection of the article 106 (stressed in bold) has to be extended also to the ECOSOC. From all this, our contribution within this context would be to propose:

In relation to the IFSD:

. Deep reform and real empowerment of the ECOSOC in relation to the social, environmental and economical governances and its umbrella role in relation to the financial and economical organizations (BWI), the other specialized agencies of the UN family and the main programmes and funds related to the ECOSOC topics. In this sense, and although it is a minor topic, the ECOSOC should change its name and switch to be named: Economical, Social and Environmental Council of the UN. With this simple denomination change the three sustainability pillars are, at least in conceptual terms, institutionally interrelated.

This proposal includes the ending up of the specific governing body paper that paradoxically the GA plays with some environmental issues (of course of great importance) like the oceans, that should also be included, coherently to our proposal, in the normative competences of the ECOSOC. Afterwards, as always in the UN, the GA exercises the final maximum normative power in all the topics that, either directly faces or are presented by the Councils of the organization themselves.

. Reform and empowerment of the CSD in relation, concretely, to the idea of becoming, within the ECOSOC, in the axis of the IFSD and the interrelation between the three pillars of sustainability.

In order to do so it is necessary a new conception and organization of the competences and the work of this commission. In conceptual terms and at the competences level it has to be the commission who faces (by its own initiative or as a result of the analysis and coordination of the other initiatives that emanate from the UN system) the

normative proposals of the topics related to the sustainable development in its triple dimension.

In order to avoid, from the beginning, that it is identify only with the environmental pillar of the sustainability, it is necessary that it has three subcommittees of organic style work:

- The social Subcommittee social in the sustainability context (that from our point of view it would also include the topics and attributions that already currently has the existent Commission for Social Development of the ECOSOC)
- The Environmental Subcommittee in the sustainability context (that essentially would assume, also among others, the topics and attributions that the CSD currently has)
- The Economical Subcommittee in the sustainability context

It is not even necessary to say that in this reform it is needed to conceive, organize and implement the flow and the coherence inter-bidirectional between the normative commissions (starting obviously from themselves) and the different operative instances of the UN system on these topics.

4.1.About the current possibility of the creation of a Special Group of experts on global financial and economical crisis and its effects on the development; about the role of the United Nations in the Global Economical Governance and the development, and our proposal of the creation of an economical subcommittee within the sustainability context.

In the same way that we understand the Social subcommittee within the sustainability context, as in fact, the adaptation of an already existing commission of the ECOSOC, taking now in consideration that the 66th period of sessions of the GA of the UN -that started in September of 2011- is the one that will be open during both, the preparation process and the execution process of Rio+20, it can be used to do something similar for the implementation of our proposal (quite critical, in fact) of the creation of the Economic Subcommittee in the sustainability context. Indeed, as a result of the financial and economical crisis that we are submerge since 2007, in the UN conference about this crisis that took place in June of 2009, among many other things there where doubts about the role of the UN itself about the world economical governance (a possible confrontation between G20-G192 or UN was discussed) and from all the proposal that came out from that conference (not many caused by the declared disagreement of the G20 countries), just one was left: the creation of a Panel of experts on financial and economical issues that would act as it in relation to the GA and the ECOSOC, with a similar conception to the paper that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC, roles in relation with the governmental bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and that so good results brought So, in the last high level meeting of the ECOSOC (celebrated, as usual, during the last July) The E/2011/L.41 project of resolution was approved that, as it becomes preceptive it will have to be considered and, if proceeds, accepted within the 66th session of the GA of the UN, most probably during its period of maximum normative work: from September to December of the present 2011.

In the resolution process that will arrive to the GA, the ECOSOC says literally:

1. Affirms the need to examine the most efficient modalities to provide independent technical expertise and analysis on issues relating to the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development, to be made available to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, which could contribute to informing international action and political decision-making and to fostering constructive dialogue and exchanges among policymakers, academics, institutions and civil society;
2. Recommends, in that regard, that the possible establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts on the world economic and financial crisis and its impact on development should be further considered by the General Assembly, taking into account the outcomes of the various related processes, including the Ad Hoc Openended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development, as well as the forthcoming deliberations in the Assembly on the role of the United Nations in global economic governance and development, and on the modalities of the financing for development follow-up process;
3. Requests the Secretary-General to explore options in that respect, taking into account the need to make full use of existing United Nations bodies, including the regional commissions, and to report to the General Assembly through existing reporting mechanisms.

Without going into details (since it is not the topic that we are discussing about) but trying to take advantage, once more, our support to the creation of this Panel (although all the weakening that the proposal is suffering in its legislative way within the UN), having observed that in the point 3 the ECOSOC asks to take in consideration its regional commissions that, are actually commissions in the economical sphere, we propose that this new body acts, at least at the beginning, as economical subcommittee in the context of sustainability, within the ECOSOC. Indeed we have been insisting in the interrelation of the three pillars of sustainability, and indeed, also the financial and economical crisis have reinforced again our vision when, in relation to it, strong energetic, alimentary and poverty crisis among others have manifest.

5. Proposals of transformation of the UNEP directed to the establishment of and operational global structure on the IEG field.

In the SG report that we have been using as reference, always referring to the part III, we can read literally (we added the under numbering):

#### C. Governance of the environmental pillar

111. A number of initiatives have explored options for strengthening international environmental governance (IEG), with a focus on UNEP. The consultative process launched by the UNEP Governing Council identified a number of system-wide responses to the shortcomings in the current system of IEG and also considered a number of institutional options for strengthening the environment pillar in the context of sustainable development.

Institutional options:

##### Enhancing UNEP (111.1)

Universal membership in the UNEP Governing Council (GC) universal (from current 58 members). No change to mandate and minimal financial implications. Some analysts conclude that broad and active participation in GC and Global Ministerial Environmental Forum (GMEF) of observer countries amounts to de facto universal membership.

Establishing a new umbrella organization for sustainable development (111.2) New institution exercising executive functions, possibly founded on existing intergovernmental and secretariat entities. It would enhance integration of sustainable development in the work of institutions covering economic, social and environmental pillars. Established by GA resolution or legal instrument.

Establishing a specialized agency such as a world environment Organization (111.3) Specialized agency based on the model of UN agencies such as WHO and FAO, which are hybrid normative and operational entities. It would be the global authority on the environment, providing policy guidance to other UN entities working on the environment and MEAs.

##### Reforming the United Nations Economic and Social Council and the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (111.4)

In relation to ECOSOC, possibilities that have been raised include strengthening the coordination of role of ECOSOC in relation to sustainable development, e.g. by establishing a sustainable development segment to engage more closely with the reports of the various functional commissions and entities such as UNEP. Another possibility

involves merging ECOSOC with CSD into a council on sustainable development. Mention has also been made of upgrading the CSD to a Sustainable Development Council, which could be achieved through a GA resolution.

Enhancing institutional reforms and streamlining existing structures (111.5) A consortium arrangement for environmental sustainability, headed by a high-level governing body. An instrument or set of instruments would structure relationship with existing institutions.

From our point of view, it is fully visible, once more, the usual and constant contradictions, already mentioned about the SG report and, so, keeps mixing IFSD and IEG issues, and normative and operative topics. On the other hand, in theory we are now on IEG issues and much more on operative than normative topics, as long as, at least until now, the UNEP is mainly an operative programme that works on the field. In reference to this, the 111.4. proposal would be linked, from our point of view, with the part 4 of our contributions document. We would like to precise here that when it is considered that the ECOSOC does not work properly (which is manifestly like this) it is good to remember that its main meetings during the July month each year, are organized through thematic segments. We do not think that adding another segment would be useful at all; maybe even to get worst. Switching from the ECOSOC to a Sustainable Development Council would need a high degree of maturity and audacity by the institution, in this case, maybe being ourselves a bit conservatives we would prefer the answer already expressed in the part 4 of the present document, which summarizes with the change of the denomination of the current council that would be named further on Economic, Social and Environmental Council.

We would take a similar position facing the 111.2. y 111.5 proposals, that would clearly fit better in the IFSD related proposals. We find them vague and specially hardly to be approved within the context of the organization and with a lot of probabilities, too many from our point of view, of making more complicated and make less efficient and effective the already existing instruments.

In summary, again, in relation to what it is, exactly, the IFSD we refer to our proposals defined in the point 4 of the present document.

We think that, finally, within the IEG the debate turns around the ways to enforce the UNEP as an instrument of this governance (it would be the proposal 111.1) or to carry out, truly, a deep reform of the UNEP that turns it, definitely, to the real instrument, with coordination attributions both normative -in the frame, in this case, of what outcomes from the ECOSOC and the GA and, also and mainly, from the MEAs in reference to the treaties and normative international agreements<sup>[9]</sup> and operational, becoming, in this case, the only and real axis of the IEG in all its operative elements.

We could say that we are proposing to opt for the proposal 111.3. of the creation of a new specialized agency of the UN family, that we would prefer to name: World Organization of environmental sustainability WESO. However, we cannot, neither want to stop here. This option, that we consider as correct, it always seems to us so, and only if, the proposals related to the reforms of the ECOSOC of the point 4 of our document are also carried out, and within the normative collaboration agreements between the GE, the ECOSOC, the MEAs, etc. and the new agency <sup>[10]</sup>WESO<sup>[11]</sup>. The UN is able to radically get out of the inefficiency and inefficacy frame of most of the existing agencies and, in contrast, incorporate those singular aspects that some of them have that, actually explain, from our point of view, their running, sometimes and very pertinent and positive, in other occasions.

Then for example, on one hand, we cannot create a new FAO that, actually, has ended up needing to be duplicate, specially in operational terms, through the UN World Food Programme. On the other hand, and specially in a theme in which the participation of stakeholders, through the main groups structure, is one of the engines that keeps more alive the most interesting dynamics of the environmental governance, we have to base then in the ILO model, in the moment to decide the conception of a new type agency, in which the participation of the stakeholders, both in its governance and operative, becomes one of its fundamental pillars. The new agency should be also engaged with the indispensable coordination of the environmental sustainable operatives at different territorial levels ((global, regional, national, subnational and local), what requires innovative approaches in terms of organization, structuring and implementation .

Our proposal that, we insist, can only be considered complementing the proposals of point 4, assumes, for example, that the new agency becomes the unitarian secretariat (not territorially concentrated) of all the current MEAs; only in this way it can be expected to really walk towards a coherent and effective management of them.

#### 5.1. Ab out the characteristics of the Agreement of the relations between the UN and the new specialized agency

The level of complexity (by itself, but adding the repetitions and overlapping, etc.) of the topics discussed in this contribution is so high, that the presented proposals will keep running bad in a very evident way if a key piece of the working order of the UN system it is not conceived and elaborated, in this case, with a special and singular gentleness.

If created a new specialized agency of the system, according to the UN Charter, it will have to proceed to elaborate and approve, by both parts, the agreement of relations between both.

The agreements that, according to the UN Charter, have to be signed by this one and the specialized agencies, is a figure and legal form, that for example and to stress its importance, can even be elaborated as it was made in the case of the Bretton Woods institutions transferring an almost total level of independence. This paragraph pretends to serve to reinforce and support all the mentions and petitions of revision and deep reform of this agreement between the UN and the Bretton Woods institutions. Then, the group of proposals presented in this contribution, are forecasting and assuming, without any doubt, a relation agreement that, from the most political point of view, have to state explicitly, very clearly, their own and relative competences ranges, and their levels of real coordination; among other aspects and just to enumerate specifically some of the ones that we consider more important, this agreement should clearly establish:

- a) What are the limits of the normative competences of the new ECOSOC with some of its new commissions and where do the normative competences of the new agency start.
- b) The coordination mechanisms and shared work, specially, referring to the border limits of the normative capacities and overlapping between different bodies.
- c) In the same way, there will have to be defined, in a very transparent process, the relations between the normative capacities of the new agency itself, with the current MEAs structure, as long as the new agency have been propose to exercise the coordination, at least, of their secretariats
- . d) Both at the level of the normative developments within the MEAs, and in order to stress the role of coordinator that we propose the new agency performs in relation to them -at least with regard to the secretariats of the MEAs-, it is fundamental that the agreement between the UN and the new agency defines, concretely and clearly, the levels of coordination in reference to the implementation on field.

#### 6. Proposals of extraordinary political actions of Rio+20 in relation to the UNFCCC (United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change)

Getting out, for first time, of the SG report that we have used as reference in order to present out our contributions and proposals, we believe the world lives a situation of extraordinary importance that, sue to origin and topic, Rio+20 cannot obviate. We are talking, of course, about the climate crisis. The Earth Conference of Rio 1992, among many and important results, approved the UN Framework Convention of Climate Change UNFCCC. The convention, as an international agreement that is, entered into force two years after and nowadays it has been ratified almost all the UN member states (we cannot say the same, about the Kyoto protocol that arises from this convention).

The consideration of this topic as an international agreement brings as consequence that its governing body is performed through its own regulate bodies that, although are

approved or ratified by the GA of the UN, have singularities and specificities that, as another MEA, is are bringing humanity to deadlocks.

It is well known that after the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC of 2007, the Plan of action of Bali, approved in the island the same year, by the maximum governing body of the conference (the conference of the Parts COP -Signing parts of the agreement-, in its 13th annual session), pretended that in its 15th annual session, that would take place in Copenhagen in 2009, the bases of Global fight action against the climate change that, currently, threatens by causing an increase of the average surface earth temperature of between 2 and 6°, depending of the level of mitigation achieved, or not, in CO2 emissions.

It is absolutely known the big failure of Copenhagen and, the most important fact is that neither in Cancun in 2010 or in Durban 2011, there have been the necessary political conditions in order to draw the necessary action plan. The pessimism facing Durban is based in a lot of facts, one of the most fundamental and evident: the North American presidential elections in 2012.

Well then, from our point of view, the deadlock situation of the international climatic negotiations it is so obstruct and serious, that the Conference of Rio+20, 20 years after Rio 92 where the climate change topic was firstly approached and took action on it, the conference has to take again the initiative and has to get ready to approach a new special topic within the conference of Rio+20 that, essentially, has to pretend and achieve decisions about the following key aspects:

a) The governance and the decision making system of the COPs of the UNFCCC; being conscious that one of the reasons for being in a deadlock in the negotiations, lies in the fact that the COP has been unable, until the present date, to approve, within its regulations, a decision making system -in other words, a voting system<sup>[1]</sup> of the conference: our proposal is that Rio+20 makes the necessary modifications in the regulations of the COP of the UNFCCC; on one hand, expanding its composition to members of the IPCC and main groups, and on the other hand and essential, deciding the needed ample majorities in order to make possible decision making, that due to the risk for human life and planet as we know it, would have to be binding for all the parts.

b) Rio+20 has to establish also, already, which are the main objectives that the Convention has to face immediately; the concrete unavoidable goals that have to be achieved both in 2025 as in 2050; and sanction, for the last deadline, in which the emissions reduction in reference to 2050, has to be of the 50% (90% in the case of developed countries) as the IPCC proposals.

Aportaciones para el documento de compilación (que servirá de base para la preparación de un borrador provisional del documento final), como respuesta a la invitación del Segundo Comité Preparatorio de la CNUDS 2012/Rio+20

Aportaciones de la apGDM WDGpa (asociación proyecto Gobernanza Democrática Mundial World DemocraticGovernanceprojectassoci ation)

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0. Aportación de la apGDM WDGpa: sobre el contenido general y, específicamente, acerca del marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible, MIDS IFSD

Nuestra joven y pequeña asociación catalana, en la que sin embargo trabajan conjuntamente personas con largas y diversas tradiciones y aptitudes vinculadas al campo de la gobernanza democrática mundial, no puede más que aplaudir la invitación del Segundo Comité Preparatorio de la Conferencia Rio+20 y, por supuesto, reflexionar, conformar y transmitir a NNUU, con humildad pero también con gran convencimiento, sus aportaciones al proceso preparatorio político de la Conferencia. Como asociación que, de acuerdo con su propia denominación, tiene como objetivo fundamental, ante los grandes desafíos actuales, trabajar en la dirección de construir un verdadero sistema de Gobernanza Democrática Mundial, contribuiremos fundamentalmente, en este contexto hacia a Rio+20, sobre uno de los temas básicos sobre los que se asienta la conferencia para alcanzar sus objetivos: el del "Marco Institucional para el Desarrollo Sostenible, IFSD".

Entendiendo justamente que los objetivos y contenidos generales de la Conferencia tienen en este tema el reto fundamental ante el cual clarificar la situación, dibujar realmente un marco y definir el camino para su construcción.

Para caminar, decidida y efectivamente, hacia un desarrollo verdaderamente sostenible, que incluya ineludiblemente la erradicación de la pobreza en un mundo globalizado, es preciso que la Gobernanza Democrática al nivel global sea la primera en estar a la altura de las circunstancias. De ahí la especificación y orientación de nuestras reflexiones y aportaciones.

Si encuadramos este párrafo -que puede ser considerado como una especie de propuesta 0 por nuestra parte- es precisamente para hacer notar que siempre que consideremos que estamos realizando propiamente una propuesta la dejaremos encuadrada de esta forma.

1. Elementos referenciales de la aportación

Hemos optado por realizar nuestras reflexiones y aportaciones no sobre un blanco virginal ni sobre un negro inabarcable debido a las interesantes e innumerables aportaciones que, afortunadamente, se están construyendo y realizando ya. Hemos elegido como elemento referencial de nuestro trabajo el informe previo oficial de más significación en el estado actual del camino hacia la conferencia: el Informe del Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas para, precisamente, la reunión del Segundo Comité Preparatorio de la Conferencia realizado el pasado mes de marzo de 2011. Informe que se presentó conjunta y complementariamente con el primer documento de síntesis basado en las respuestas de los estados miembros, los grupos principales y los organismos de las propias Naciones Unidas a la primera invitación recibida a participar activamente en la preparación de la Conferencia en el momento de su convocatoria por parte de la AG de las NNUU.

## 2. El tema del "Marco Institucional para el Desarrollo Sostenible, IFSD" en el contexto de los objetivos de la conferencia

En el sumario del informe mencionado podemos leer, textualmente, lo siguiente (los subrayados y las negritas de citas textuales serán siempre nuestros): En el presente informe se examinan los dos temas de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible —la economía ecológica en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la erradicación de la pobreza, y el marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible— en relación con el objetivo del compromiso político renovado en favor del desarrollo sostenible, evaluando los avances logrados y las lagunas en la aplicación y haciendo frente a las nuevas dificultades que están surgiendo. El punto de partida es el reconocimiento de que el desarrollo sostenible, con sus tres pilares reforzados y que se refuerzan mutuamente, ha sido el objetivo general de la comunidad internacional desde la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo celebrada en Río de Janeiro en 1992. Así, la cuestión que se plantea es de qué manera la atención prestada a esos dos temas puede contribuir a acelerar los avances en el programa de desarrollo sostenible.

Y ya en el texto del informe del SG en la parte III, en el apartado A, se dice, siempre textualmente,

### A. Enfoques dirigidos a reforzar el marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible

91. El marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible abarca un conjunto de organismos, organizaciones, redes y arreglos con distinto grado de oficialidad que participan en actividades de formulación o ejecución de políticas. Dicho marco debe considerarse en los planos local, nacional, regional e internacional. A escala mundial, dentro del marco institucional ha habido un crecimiento espectacular en el número de instituciones y acuerdos, existiendo actualmente más de 500 acuerdos medioambientales multilaterales. Por lo tanto, se ha ampliado sustancialmente el alcance de la gobernanza en materia de desarrollo sostenible. Sin embargo, el continuo deterioro de los recursos naturales, las amenazas a los ecosistemas, los efectos del cambio climático a nivel mundial y la pobreza persistente plantean dudas sobre su eficacia. Se considera que el panorama institucional internacional está fragmentado y presenta una configuración de regímenes e instituciones compartimentada, con la consiguiente falta de coherencia y coordinación.

Un artículo, a nuestro parecer, más importante de lo que quizás pueda considerarse inicialmente.

Probablemente cuando el secretario general habla de "un conjunto de organismos, organizaciones, redes y arreglos... que participan en actividades de formulación o ejecución de políticas", nosotros podríamos relacionarlo con una posible definición de lo que sería el sistema de gobernanza mundial para el desarrollo sostenible. Sin embargo, como sucede tantas veces, después el secretario general pondrá como gran ejemplo de ello los "500 acuerdos medioambientales multilaterales, AMM MEAs", llegando a la conclusión que ello "ha ampliado sustancialmente el alcance de la gobernanza en materia de desarrollo sostenible", cometiendo así una primera e importante contradicción interna en el texto (por otra parte tan habitual durante ya tantos años y en tantos textos y referencias de NNUU) que es la de identificar "medioambiental" con "sostenible". Afortunadamente, en este caso el propio SG se habría cuidado, en el resumen recogido al principio de este apartado, de poner en evidencia las que serán también sus propias contradicciones conceptuales al respecto cuando dice: "El punto de partida es el reconocimiento de que el desarrollo sostenible, con sus tres pilares reforzados y que se refuerzan mutuamente, ha sido el objetivo general de la comunidad internacional".

También creemos que entra en otra importante contradicción cuando afirma que con los "500 acuerdos medioambientales multilaterales" "se ha ampliado sustancialmente el alcance de la gobernanza". No hay duda de que, actualmente, tenemos un nivel normativo, en lo medioambiental, muy amplio y que debería permitirnos implementar una buena y muy necesaria gobernanza medioambiental. Pero otra cosa es que haya sido y sea así, o más bien al contrario, como opinamos nosotros y muchos actores relevantes en estos temas. La gobernanza de estos acuerdos, por lo que se refiere a su implementación, puede calificarse como de extremadamente precaria y a veces inexistente- y, precisamente, faltada sobretodo de un verdadero Marco Institucional para el Desarrollo Sostenible, IFSD, que, entre otras cosas, permita avanzar realmente en la gobernanza, debida e imprescindiblemente coordinada en la mayoría de los casos, de dichos acuerdos.

Volviendo a la primera y fundamental contradicción identificada: efectivamente, más desde Johannesburgo que de Río, la constatación de que los pilares sociales, ambientales y económicos son inseparables y constituyen la esencia misma del camino hacia el desarrollo sostenible, es como mínimo una referencia incuestionable e incuestionada, aunque nunca se tarde más de alguna línea en contradecirlo, en prácticamente todos los contextos, como acabamos de constatar otra vez en el texto del SG.

Tal vez por ello debamos volver a escribir, y proponer para el proceso de la conferencia y para la conferencia misma, que siempre se considere, explícitamente, el desarrollo sostenible como aquel desarrollo socialmente deseable (la sociedad debe decidir cómo quiere, y puede, vivir en cada momento histórico en el planeta), ambientalmente compatible (el planeta tierra, como mínimo por el momento, es la única casa que tiene la humanidad y no puede destruirla irreversiblemente sino quiere hipotecar irremediamente el futuro de la vida de la humanidad en el planeta) y económicamente factible (porque siempre será necesario continuar distribuyendo y asignando recursos -siempre escasos- para satisfacer las necesidades -que no pueden ser ilimitadas- que permitan el desarrollo socialmente deseable que, por supuesto, no puede convivir con las lacras de las grandes pobreza actuales). Y que nunca, apresuradamente, se contemple solo y de forma aislada el tema medioambiental cuando nos refiramos al desarrollo sostenible. Nuestra insistencia en este punto podría parecer excesiva; pero como se comprobará a continuación no lo es en absoluto. La parte III del informe del SG de las NNUU tiene el siguiente índice:

### III. Marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible, MIDS IFSD

#### A. Enfoques dirigidos a reforzar el marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible

#### B. El marco más amplio

#### C. Gobernanza del pilar medioambiental

#### D. Gobernanza de los pilares económicos y sociales

A primera vista podría parecer que padecemos de un defecto de exageración maniquea; pero lo cierto es que el apartado D es prácticamente irrelevante tanto a nivel de "extensión" (menos de una página del informe) como sobretodo de análisis y ya no digamos de propuestas, mientras que, gran parte del enfoque del apartado B y, por supuesto, todo el apartado C hacen referencia de hecho, y únicamente, al que hemos identificado como el pilar medioambiental y, por la tanto, a la problemática correspondiente: tan "vieja" como la primera de las denominadas conferencias ambientales de las NNUU -la de Estocolmo en el 1972- en la que, entre otras cosas se creará el PNUMA UNEP y se empezará a hablar, por lo tanto, de la Gobernanza Ambiental Internacional o Global, GAI IEG.

De tal manera que a pesar de que no figura ni en el objetivo, ni en los temas ni en las premisas básicas de lo que se pretende que sea Río+20, hay un enorme peligro de que gran parte del proceso preparatorio de la conferencia y de la propia conferencia acabe hablando solo (y a nuestro parecer muy equivocadamente) de IEG y prácticamente ni aborde el IFSD! Por ello, debemos proponer que esto se evite a toda costa.

### 3. Marco Institucional para el Desarrollo Sostenible, MIDS IFSD, y Gobernanza Ambiental Global o Internacional, GAI IEG: importantes confusiones y contradicciones conceptuales y políticas

En sintonía con nuestra alerta anterior nuestra principal aportación y/o propuesta a este nivel es la de que se explicita especialmente que el segundo gran tema de la conferencia son -deben ser-, en realidad, dos grandes subtemas: a) el del Marco Institucional para el Desarrollo Sostenible, IFSD, en la dirección de construcción de una

verdadera y efectiva Gobernanza Sostenible Global; b) el de, concretamente, la Gobernanza Ambiental internacional o Global, IEG, como reforma y reconstrucción de esta gobernanza pero, precisamente, como parte incluida dentro de la Gobernanza Sostenible Global anterior, parejamente a las Gobernanzas Sociales y Económicas que, como conjunto tripartito define bidireccionalmente el IFSD.

Rio+20 no puede prepararse ni realizarse sin desterrar la eterna confusión y contradicción -o mejor dicho, reducción a- entre lo ambiental y lo sostenible. Lo ambiental no será sostenible o insostenible en sí mismo, sino en función de lo que social y/o económicamente interactuemos con el medioambiente.

Desde nuestro punto de vista, y admitiendo como lógico que la IEG no tiene aún, como lo pueden tener los temas sociales y económicos en, por ejemplo, el ECOSOC, unos espacios y tiempos (unas realidades normativas y otras aplicativas/operativas), tan explicitadas como en los temas sociales y económicos, nos parece lógico y oportuno que tenga un espacio privilegiado en el marco de Rio+20, pero sin confundirlo -y casi identificarlo únicamente- con el conjunto de la Gobernanza Sostenible Global ni aislándolo, de ninguna manera, de las Gobernanzas de los temas sociales y económicos.

En este sentido, un índice que evitase confusiones, contradicciones y simplificaciones fuera de todo sentido proponemos que, por lo que se refiere a este segundo tema de la conferencia, tuviese una estructura conceptualmente ineludible del siguiente tipo:

. Marco Institucional para el Desarrollo Sostenible, IFSD, y/o Gobernanza Sostenible Global

Gobernanza Social Global en el contexto de la sostenibilidad

Gobernanza Ambiental Global, IEG, en el contexto de la sostenibilidad

Gobernanza Económica Global en el contexto de la sostenibilidad

4. Propuestas de Reformas del ECOSOC encaminadas a la verdadera conformación de un IFSD al nivel normativo global de la gobernanza del desarrollo sostenible

En NNUU, la autoridad normativa fundamental reside en la AG pero se comparte o se especializa o se prepara, a nivel temático y de procedimiento, en los Consejos. Dejando aparte el Consejo de Seguridad, está claro que la experiencia que se está viviendo con el nuevo -y de hecho todavía provisional- Consejo de DDHHes una de las más exitosas y esperanzadoras a nivel de lo que supone NNUU como instrumento de Gobernanza Mundial. Poco se cuestiona que Paz y Seguridad y Derechos Humanos, entre otros, sean temas de NNUU. En cambio, el origen del otro Consejo, el ECOSOC (Consejo Económico y Social), está íntimamente relacionado con, precisamente, el cuestionamiento generalizado de dónde reside, por ejemplo, la gobernanza económica mundial. Pero también es cierto que de forma parcial, y también contradictoria, a medida que los temas ambientales han ido saliendo históricamente a la palestra, algunos de ellos han ido a parar a las manos del ECOSOC.

En la medida en que la Carta de NNUU define el ECOSOC en términos siempre condicionales (podrá: realizar estudios, hacer recomendaciones, coordinar el trabajo de agencias, etc.) y que los convenios a los que se llegó en lo que concierne a la relación entre las NNUU y, particularmente, las Instituciones de Bretton Woods (IBW- BWI), definieron a estas últimas como agencias especializadas independientes de NNUU, aquello que podríamos entender como gobernanza económica global se asentó, y así sigue, en el FMI y el BM (las dos principales BWI). Y los subsiguientes G5, G7 y G8 (tal vez en un futuro el G20, aunque no lo creemos así), como accionistas principales de estas instituciones, han venido siendo, a través de dichas BWI, los gobernantes económicos mundiales.

Desde el origen de las propias NNUU, no hay una reforma más citada y reclamada -y menos realmente abordada- que la reforma del ECOSOC, por un lado, y de su relación con las BWI, por el otro.

De momento y, sobretodo en este caso, desde la Cumbre de Rio, y reforzándose después en la Cumbre de Johannesburgo, algunos temas ambientales -como ya hemos dicho-, desde un punto de vista normativo, se han trasladado al contexto del ECOSOC con la creación en Rio de la Comisión de Desarrollo Sostenible (CDS CSD), como comisión específica del ECOSOC. En la medida, sin embargo, que Rio apostara también por la vía de los tratados y los acuerdos multilaterales específicos alrededor de temas ambientales clave (cambio climático, biodiversidad, desertificación, etc.; los AMMs- MEAs) con órganos de gobierno, en la mayoría de ocasiones, ad hoc, la CSD tampoco ha dado los frutos deseados. Nunca ha sido capaz de salirse del pilar ambiental de la sostenibilidad, no ha tenido ninguna capacidad de siquiera coordinar el tema de los MEAs y, por lo que se refiere a los fondos económicos, el Banco Mundial (BM WB) la ha apantallado casi totalmente con la creación en su día y en su seno del Fondo Ambiental Global (FAG GEF). Por lo tanto, pasa con la CSD como con el ECOSOC: todo el mundo está de acuerdo en que hay que reformarla, empoderarla, etc.

Y de hecho también nosotros consideramos que este es el camino; un camino que, sin embargo, no ha sido, no es, ni será fácil pero que no por ello dejará de ser el camino.

Sin una reforma en profundidad y un empoderamiento real del ECOSOC y de sus comisiones y, entre ellas, de la CSD, hablar de IFSD o de Gobernanza Sostenible Global será hablar, una vez más, de una quimera. Apostemos por aquel refrán español que dice "tanto va el cántaro a la fuente que al final se rompe", e interpretándolo a nuestro favor en sentido contrario, asumamos que de tanto hablar de la reforma del ECOSOC y de la CSD, etc. al final la conseguiremos.

Con relación a estos temas el informe que estamos siguiendo como referencia del SG de las NNUU, en su parte III, dice textualmente:

B. El marco más amplio

105. La Asamblea General es el órgano principal en materia de resultados legislativos relativos al desarrollo sostenible. También sirve de foro para el examen integrado de las cuestiones relativas a los océanos, por ejemplo mediante el proceso ordinario de presentación de informes y evaluación del estado del medio marino a escala mundial, incluidos los aspectos socioeconómicos, tal como se recomienda en el Plan de Aplicación de las Decisiones de Johannesburgo. El Consejo Económico y Social tiene encomendado el mandato general de integrar los tres pilares del desarrollo sostenible. El Consejo, gracias a su examen ministerial anual y sus vínculos con las instituciones financieras internacionales, ha reforzado su papel integrador (véase A/61/583).

106. La Comisión sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible es la máxima instancia para la revisión y seguimiento de la ejecución del Programa 21. Si bien se reconoce ampliamente el papel fundamental que cumple la Comisión, se ha expresado preocupación por la escasa aplicación de sus decisiones normativas y sus presuntas deficiencias a la hora de impulsar el programa de desarrollo sostenible. Sin embargo, la Comisión ha asumido un papel de liderazgo dentro del sistema de las Naciones Unidas en lo que respecta a la participación de los grupos principales, que colaboran de manera activa y sustantiva en su programa de trabajo.

A nuestro entender el artículo 105 es un brindis al sol que nadie que conozca la institución y el tema puede creerse en absoluto. Más bien debe extenderse la reflexión crítica (destacada en negritas) del artículo 106 también al ECOSOC. A partir de todo ello, nuestra aportación en este contexto sería proponer: En relación al IFSD:

. Reforma en profundidad y empoderamiento real del ECOSOC en relación a las gobernanzas sociales, ambientales y económicas y a su papel de paraguas en relación a las organizaciones financieras y económicas (las BWI), las demás agencias especializadas de la familia de las NNUU y los programas y fondos principales de NNUU relacionados con los temas propios del ECOSOC. En este sentido, y aunque sea un tema menor, el ECOSOC debería cambiar de nombre y pasar a denominarse: Consejo Económico, Social y Ambiental de las NNUU. Con este simple cambio de denominación los tres pilares de la sostenibilidad ya están, como mínimo de forma conceptual, interrelacionados institucionalmente.

Esta propuesta incluye acabar con el papel de órgano de gobierno específico que, a nuestro entender, paradójica y especialmente juega la Asamblea General, AG, ante algunos temas ambientales (cierto que de especial importancia) como el de los océanos que también debería entrar, coherentemente con nuestra propuesta, en el ámbito de competencias normativas del ECOSOC. Después, y como siempre en NNUU, la AG tiene el máximo poder normativo final en todos los temas que, o bien afronte directamente, o bien le vengan presentados por los propios Consejos de la organización.

. Reforma y empoderamiento de la CSD en relación, específicamente, a convertirse, dentro del ECOSOC, en el centro de gravedad del IFSD y de la interrelación entre los tres pilares de la sostenibilidad.

Para ello es necesaria una nueva concepción y organización de las competencias y del trabajo de esta comisión. Conceptualmente y a nivel de las competencias debe ser la comisión que aborde (por iniciativa propia o/y como resultado del análisis y la coordinación de los otras iniciativas que emanen del sistema de NNUU) las propuestas normativas de los temas relacionados con el desarrollo sostenible en su triple dimensión.

Para evitar, de entrada, que se identifique solamente con el pilar medioambiental de la sostenibilidad, es necesario que tenga tres subcomisiones de trabajo orgánico: la subcomisión social en el contexto de la sostenibilidad (que a nuestro entender comprendería también los temas y atribuciones que tiene actualmente la ya existente Comisión de Desarrollo Social del ECOSOC) la subcomisión ambiental en el contexto de la sostenibilidad (que esencialmente asumiría también, entre otros, los temas y atribuciones que ya tiene actualmente la actual CSD) la subcomisión económica en el contexto de la sostenibilidad

No habría ni que decir que dentro de esta reforma hay que concebir, organizar e implementar el flujo y la coherencia inter-bidireccional entre estas comisiones normativas (empezando por supuesto por ellas mismas) y las distintas instancias operativas del sistema de NNUU en estos temas.

4.1. Sobre la actual posibilidad de creación de un "Grupo especial de expertos en la crisis financiera y económica mundial y sus efectos sobre el desarrollo"; sobre la función de las Naciones Unidas en la gobernanza económica mundial y el desarrollo, y nuestra propuesta de subcomisión económica en el contexto de la sostenibilidad

Del mismo modo que entendemos la subcomisión social en el contexto de la sostenibilidad como, de hecho, la adaptación-principalmente por ampliación de competencias- de una comisión ya existente en el ECOSOC, teniendo en cuenta ahora que el 66 período de sesiones de la AG de NNUU -que acaba de empezaren setiembre de 2011- es el que estará abierto en todo el proceso tanto de preparación como de realización de Rio+20, puede aprovecharse para hacer algo similar para implementar nuestra propuesta (bien importante, por cierto) de creación de la subcomisión económica en el contexto de la sostenibilidad.

Efectivamente, a raíz de la crisis financiera y económica en la que estamos inmersos desde el año 2007, en una Conferencia de NNUU sobre esta crisis, celebrada en junio del 2009, entre muchas otras cosas se cuestionó el propio papel de las NNUU en la gobernanza económica mundial (se habló de una posible confrontación política G20 G192 o NNUU) y, de entre las propuestas que salieron de aquella conferencia (pocas por el desacuerdo manifiesto de los países del G20), quedó una: la de la creación de un Panel de Expertos en temas Financieros y Económicos que actuaría como tal en relación a la AG y al ECOSOC, en una concepción más o menos simétrica a la del papel que juega el Panel Intergubernamental sobre el Cambio Climático en relación a los órganos de la Convención Marco de las Naciones sobre el Cambio Climático y que tan buenos resultados ha dado en aquel contexto. Pues bien, en la última reunión de alto nivel del ECOSOC (celebrada como es habitual durante el pasado mes de julio) se aprobó el Proyecto de Resolución E/2011/L.41 que, como es preceptivo deberá considerarse y, si procede, aprobarse en la 66 sesión de la AG de las NNUU, muy probablemente en su período de máximo trabajo normativo: de setiembre a diciembre de este 2011.

En el proyecto de resolución que llegará a la AG, el ECOSOC dice textualmente:

1. Afirma la necesidad de examinar las modalidades más eficientes de aportar un análisis y conocimientos técnicos independientes sobre las cuestiones relacionadas con la crisis financiera y económica mundial y sus efectos en el desarrollo, que se facilitarían al Consejo Económico y Social y la Asamblea General, lo que podría contribuir a informar la acción internacional y la adopción de decisiones políticas y a fomentar un diálogo e intercambios constructivos entre los encargados de formular las políticas, los círculos académicos, las instituciones y la sociedad civil;

2. Recomendando, a ese respecto, que la Asamblea General siga considerando la posibilidad de establecer un grupo especial de expertos en la crisis económica y financiera mundial y sus efectos en el desarrollo, teniendo en cuenta los resultados de los diversos procesos conexos, incluido el Grupo de Trabajo Especial de composición abierta de la Asamblea General para el seguimiento de las cuestiones que figuran en el documento final de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre la crisis financiera y económica mundial y sus efectos en el desarrollo, así como las próximas deliberaciones que se efectuarán en la Asamblea sobre la función de las Naciones Unidas en la gobernanza económica mundial y el desarrollo, y las modalidades del proceso de seguimiento de la financiación para el desarrollo;

3. Solicita al Secretario General que estudie opciones al respecto, teniendo en cuenta la necesidad de aprovechar plenamente los órganos de las Naciones Unidas existentes, incluidas las comisiones regionales, y que informe de ello a la Asamblea General a través de los mecanismos vigentes de presentación de informes.

Sin entrar en más detalles (puesto que no es el tema que nos ocupa) pero sin dejar de aprovechar, una vez más, nuestro apoyo a la creación de este Panel (muy a pesar de las debilitaciones que está sufriendo la propuesta en su paso legislativo dentro de NNUU), habiendo observado, por ejemplo, que en el punto 3 el ECOSOC pide que se tengan en cuenta sus comisiones regionales que, precisamente, lo son en el ámbito económico, nosotros proponemos que este nuevo ente pase a actuar también, como mínimo inicialmente, como subcomisión económica en el contexto de la sostenibilidad, dentro del ECOSOC. No en vano hemos venido insistiendo en la interrelación de los tres pilares de la sostenibilidad y no en vano, tampoco, la crisis financiera y económica nos ha reforzado otra vez esta visión cuando, en relación a ella, se han manifestado fuertes crisis energéticas, alimentarias, de pobreza, etc.

5. Propuestas de transformaciones del PNUMA UNEP encaminadas a establecer una estructura operacional global en el ámbito de la IEG

En el informe del SG que venimos siguiendo como referencia, siempre dentro de su parte III, podemos leer textualmente (la subnumeración de las opciones es nuestra):

#### C. Gobernanza del pilar medioambiental

111. En el marco de algunas iniciativas se han considerado opciones para reforzar la gobernanza medioambiental internacional, prestando especial atención al PNUMA. En el proceso de consultas puesto en marcha por el Consejo de Administración del PNUMA se identificó una serie de respuestas a nivel de todo el sistema para subsanar las deficiencias del sistema actual de gobernanza medioambiental internacional y se sopesó también una serie de opciones institucionales para reforzar el pilar medioambiental en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible.

#### Opciones institucionales

Fortalecimiento del PNUMA (111.1) Composición universal del Consejo de Administración del PNUMA (actualmente cuenta con 58 miembros). Sin modificaciones al mandato y con mínimas consecuencias financieras. Algunos analistas consideran que la participación amplia y activa de países observadores en el Consejo de Administración y en el Foro Ministerial Mundial sobre el Medio Ambiente equivale a una composición universal de facto.

Establecimiento de una nueva organización coordinadora para el desarrollo sostenible (111.2 Nueva institución con funciones ejecutivas, posiblemente basada en entidades



intergubernamentales y de secretaría existentes. Esta institución fomentaría la incorporación del desarrollo sostenible en la labor de las instituciones encargadas de los pilares económicos, sociales y medioambientales, y sería establecida por resolución de la Asamblea General o por instrumento jurídico.

Creación de un organismo especializado, como, por ejemplo, una organización medioambiental mundial (111.3) Organismo especializado basado en el modelo de organismos de las Naciones Unidas como la Organización Mundial de la Salud (OMS) y la FAO, entidades híbridas de carácter normativo y operacional. Se trataría de la autoridad mundial en materia de medio ambiente y proporcionaría orientación normativa a otras entidades de las Naciones Unidas que trabajan en ese ámbito y a los acuerdos medioambientales multilaterales.

Reforma del Consejo Económico y Social y de la Comisión sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible (111.4.)

En relación con el Consejo Económico y Social, entre las posibilidades planteadas cabe mencionar el fortalecimiento de la función de coordinación del Consejo en relación con el desarrollo sostenible, por ejemplo estableciendo un "segmento de desarrollo sostenible" para examinar con mayor detenimiento los informes de las diversas comisiones y entidades orgánicas, como el PNUMA. También se podría fusionar el Consejo Económico y Social con la Comisión sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible, creando así un consejo de desarrollo sostenible. Se mencionó asimismo la posibilidad de dotar de mayor categoría a la Comisión, que pasaría a denominarse consejo de desarrollo sostenible, pudiendo esto lograrse por medio de una resolución de la Asamblea General.

Afianzamiento de las reformas institucionales y racionalización de las estructuras existentes (111.5.)

Modalidad de consorcio para la sostenibilidad medioambiental, dirigido por un órgano rector de alto nivel. Un instrumento o conjunto de instrumentos articularía la relación con las instituciones existentes.

Desde nuestro punto de vista, es del todo observable a priori que se repiten, una vez más, las contradicciones habituales y constantes ya comentadas del informe del SG y, así, se va de un lado a otro "intercambiando mezclando" temas de IFSD con temas de IEG y temas normativos con temas operativos. En cambio, teóricamente estaríamos ahora en temas de IEG y mucho más operativos que normativos en la medida que, como mínimo de momento, el PNUMA UNEP es un programa de NNUU de carácter principalmente operativo sobre el terreno.

En este sentido la propuesta 111.4. estaría relacionada para nosotros con el apartado 4 de este nuestro documento de aportaciones. Precisar aquí solamente que cuando se considera que el ECOSOC funciona mal (lo cual es manifestamente así) es bueno recordar que sus reuniones principales de los meses de julio de cada año funcionan a través de "segmentos temáticos". No creemos que añadirle otro segmento sirva prácticamente para nada; tal vez para empeorarlo. Pasar del ECOSOC a un Consejo de Desarrollo Sostenible supone tal grado de madurez y osadía por parte de la institución que, en este caso, pecaremos nosotros de conservadores y preferiremos la propuesta que ya hemos planteado en el apartado 4 de este documento que, recordemos, se resumiría aquí, para no repetiros, en el cambio de denominación del consejo que pasaría a llamarse y a actuar de Consejo Económico, Social y Ambiental.

Nos situaríamos en una posición parecida ante las propuestas 111.2. y 111.5, que claramente se inscribirían más en lo que serían propuestas relativas al IFSD. Las encontramos vagas y sobretodo muy difícilmente aprobables en el seno de la organización y con muchísimas, demasiadas para nosotros, probabilidades de que aún complicaran e hicieran menos eficientes y eficaces los instrumentos existentes.

En definitiva, otra vez, en relación a lo que es, propiamente, el IFSD nos remitimos a nuestras propuestas presentadas en el apartado 4 de este nuestro documento.

Creemos que, finalmente, en el contexto de la IEG el debate gira en torno a las maneras de fortalecer el PNUMA-UNEP como instrumento de esta gobernanza (sería la propuesta 111.1) o a realizar, verdaderamente, una reforma profunda del mismo que lo convierta realmente en el instrumento, con atribuciones de coordinación tanto normativas -en el marco, en este caso, de lo que emane del ECOSOC y de la AG y, también y muy principalmente, de los MEAs cuanto a tratados y acuerdos internacionales normativos se refiere- como operativas, transformándose, en este caso, en el centro de gravedad real y único de la IEG en todos sus elementos operativos.

Podríamos decir que estamos proponiendo optar por la propuesta 111.3. de creación de una nueva agencia especializada de la familia de las NNUU, que nosotros preferiríamos llamar: Organización Mundial de la Sostenibilidad Medioambiente, OMSM-WESO. Sin embargo, no queremos ni podemos pararnos aquí. Esta opción, que nos parece la correcta, solo nos lo parece si, y solo si, las propuestas relativas a las reformas del ECOSOC del apartado 4 de nuestro documento también se llevan a cabo, y en los convenios de colaboración normativos entre la AG, el ECOSOC, los MEAs, etc. y la nueva agencia -WESO-, NNUU es capaz de salirse radicalmente del marco ineficiente e ineficaz de la mayoría de las agencias existentes y, en cambio, incorporar aquellos aspectos muy singulares de algunas de ellas que, precisamente, explican, a nuestro entender, su funcionamiento, a veces y en otros casos, muy pertinente y positivo.

Así por ejemplo, por un lado, no podemos crear una "nueva FAO" que, justamente, ha necesitado acabar siendo "duplicada", sobre todo operativamente, mediante el Programa Mundial de la Alimentación de NNUU. En cambio, y sobre todo en una temática en la cual la participación de los stakeholders, a través de la estructura de los grupos principales, es uno de los motores que más vivas mantienen las dinámicas más interesantes existentes de la gobernanza medioambiental, debemos basarnos entonces en el modelo OIT-ILO, en el momento de concebir una agencia de nuevo tipo en la que la participación de los stakeholders, tanto en su gobernanza como en su operativa, sea uno de sus pilares fundamentales. La nueva agencia debería ser también la responsable de la imprescindible coordinación de las operativas ambientalmente sostenibles a los distintos niveles territoriales (global, regional, nacional, subnacional y local), lo cual requiere concepciones novedosas tanto en su organización, como en su estructuración e implementación.

Nuestra propuesta que, insistimos, solo podemos entrever complementariamente a las del apartado 4, presupone, por ejemplo también, que la nueva agencia pase a ser el Secretariado Unitario (no concentrado territorialmente) de todos los MEAs; solo de esta manera se puede esperar avanzar realmente hacia una gestión coherente y eficaz de los mismos.

#### 5.1. Sobre las características del "Convenio de relaciones entre las NNUU y la nueva "agencia especializada"

El nivel de complejidad (de por sí, pero al que se añaden repeticiones, solapamientos, etc.) de los temas de los que trata esta aportación es tan elevado, que las propuestas presentadas seguirían "funcionando mal" de una forma muy evidente si una pieza clave del funcionamiento del sistema de NNUU no es concebida y elaborada, en este caso, con una especial y singular delicadeza. Creada una nueva agencia especializada del sistema, de acuerdo con la propia Carta de las NNUU, deberá procederse a elaborar y aprobar, por ambas partes, el convenio de relaciones entre las mismas. Los convenios que, de acuerdo con la Carta de las NNUU, deben firmarse entre esta y las agencias especializadas, es una figura y forma legal que, por ejemplo y para subrayar su importancia, tanto daño hizo y hace al multilateralismo cuando puede llegar a elaborarse como se hizo para las Instituciones de Bretton Woods, otorgándoles un nivel de independencia real total. Sirva este párrafo para apoyar todas las menciones y peticiones de revisión y reforma profunda de este convenio entre las NNUU y las Instituciones de Bretton Woods.

Pues bien, el conjunto de propuestas presentadas en esta aportación, están previendo y/o presuponiendo, sin lugar a dudas, un convenio de relaciones en el que, desde el punto de vista más político, deben explicitarse, muy claramente, los ámbitos de competencias propios y relativos, y sus imprescindibles niveles de coordinación real; entre otros aspectos y por explicitar solamente algunos de los que consideramos más importantes, este convenio deberá establecer claramente:

a) Hasta dónde llegan las competencias normativas del "nuevo" ECOSOC -con algunas de sus nuevas comisiones- y dónde empiezan las competencias normativas de la

nueva agencia.

b) Los mecanismos de coordinación y trabajo conjunto, sobretodo, en los estadios frontera de estas capacidades normativas.

c) De la misma manera, deberán establecerse, muy diáfananamente, las relaciones entre las capacidades normativas propias de la nueva agencia, con la de la estructura actual de MEAs, en la medida que hemos propuesta para la nueva agencia una atribución de "coordinación" de, como mínimo, sus secretariados.

d) Tanto a nivel de los desarrollos normativos en el seno de los MEAs, como sobre todo para subrayar el papel de coordinador que proponemos juegue la nueva agencia en relación a ellos -como mínimo respecto a los secretariados de estos MEAs-, es fundamental que el convenio entre la nueva agencia y las NNUU, hilvane, muy específicamente y claramente, los niveles de coordinación en lo que concierne a su implementación sobre el terreno.

6. Propuestas de actuaciones políticas extraordinarias de Rio+20 en relación a CMNUCC UNFCCC (Convención Marco de NNUU sobre el Cambio Climático)

Saliéndonos, por primera vez, del informe del SG que hemos utilizado como referencia para presentar nuestras aportaciones y propuestas, creemos que el mundo vive una situación de extraordinaria importancia que, por origen y tema, Rio+20 no puede ni debe obviar.

Se trata, por supuesto, de la crisis climática. La Conferencia de la Tierra en Rio 1992, entre sus muchos e importantes resultados, aprobó también la Convención Marco de NNUU sobre el Cambio Climático, CMNUCC UNFCCC. La Convención, como tratado internacional que es, entró en vigor dos años después y actualmente lo han ratificado prácticamente todos los estados miembros de las NNUU (no se puede decir lo mismo, como es sabido, del Protocolo de Kyoto que deriva de esta Convención).

El tratamiento de este tema como tratado internacional comporta que su gobierno se realice a través de órganos y reglamentos propios que, aunque aprobados o ratificados finalmente por la AG de las NNUU, tienen especificidades y singularidades que, como un MEAs más, están llevando a la humanidad a algunos callejones sin salida.

Es sabido que después del informe del Panel Intergubernamental sobre el Cambio Climático, PCCC IPCC, de 2007, el Plan de Acción de Bali, aprobado en esta isla y este mismo año, por el máximo órgano de la Convención (la Conferencia de las Partes, COP -partes firmantes del tratado-, en su sesión anual número 13), pretendía que en su sesión anual número 15, que se celebraría en Copenhague el año 2009, se aprobasen las bases de actuación mundiales de lucha contra el cambio climático que, actualmente, amenaza con provocar aumentos de la temperatura media en la superficie de la tierra de entre 2 y 6C, dependiendo de cuál sea el nivel de mitigación conseguido, o no, en emisiones de CO2.

Es absolutamente conocido el gran fracaso de Copenhague y, quizás no tanto pero igual o más importante, que ni en Cancún en 2010, ni este 2011 en Durban, se dieron ni van a darse las condiciones políticas para dotarse del plan de acción necesario. El pesimismo ante Durban tiene muchas bases; una de ellas fundamental y evidente: las elecciones presidenciales norteamericanas en el 2012.

Pues bien, desde nuestro punto de vista, el bloqueo de las negociaciones climáticas internacionales están enquistado y es tan grave, que la Conferencia Rio+20, 20 años después de que en la Conferencia Rio+92 se tomase la iniciativa en este tema, debe retomar esta iniciativa y debe prepararse para tratar un nuevo tema especial dentro de la misma Conferencia Rio+20 que, esencialmente, debe pretender y conseguir tomar decisiones sobre los siguientes aspectos clave:

a) La gobernanza y el sistema de decisiones de la COP de la UNFCCC; sabiendo que uno de los motivos del enquistamiento de las negociaciones, radica en el hecho de que esta COP ha sido incapaz, hasta el momento, de aprobar, dentro de su reglamento, el sistema de toma decisiones -de votaciones, en definitiva- de la Convención: nuestra propuesta es que Rio+20 haga las modificaciones pertinentes en el reglamento de la COP de la UNFCCC; por un lado, ampliando su composición a miembros del IPCC y de los grupos principales y, por otro lado e imprescindible, decidiendo las mayorías holgadas necesarias para que se puedan tomar decisiones que, habida cuenta de que lo que está en juego es el futuro y la calidad en este futuro- de la vida humana en el planeta tal como la conocemos, sean de obligatorio cumplimiento por todas las partes, es decir sean vinculantes.

b) Rio+20 debe establecer también, ya, cuáles son los objetivos principales que debe afrontar de forma inmediata la Convención; las metas concretas ineludibles que deben alcanzarse tanto a nivel del 2025 como del 2050; y sancionar, para este último plazo, que la reducción de emisiones mundiales, respecto al año 2050, debe ser del 50% (del 90% en el caso de los países desarrollados), tal como propone el IPCC.

## Association des Populations des Montagnes du Monde (APMM/WMPA)

Paris, le 28 octobre 2011

### CONTRIBUTION DE L'APMM

#### POUR LA CONFÉRENCE DE RIO 2012

Partout dans le monde et en dépit des différences de milieux et cultures, les populations des montagnes se reconnaissent une **identité commune** par les savoir-faire, les savoir-être et les pratiques spécifiques qui leur permettent de vivre dans leurs territoires, lieux de richesses spirituelles comme matérielles. Elles sont **fières** d'y avoir créé des civilisations et des cultures encore trop souvent méconnues ou méprisées, et qui sont pourtant une richesse de notre monde. Elles sont **fières** d'avoir diversifié les milieux et d'avoir ainsi **contribué à l'augmentation de la biodiversité** qu'on les accuse trop souvent et contre toute évidence de mettre en danger.

En vue de la Conférence de RIO 2012, l'Association des Populations des Montagnes du Monde présente la synthèse des travaux et propositions issus de rencontres réalisées entre les communautés et acteurs de territoires de montagne de plus de 40 pays ainsi que des rencontres régionales réalisées sur trois continents (Andes, Himalaya, Afrique du Nord, Afrique centrale, Afrique de l'Est, Afrique australe). Elles sont nourries des études des scientifiques, des expériences et expertises des ONG de développement et des institutions impliquées dans les territoires de montagne. L'APMM et ses représentants font les propositions suivantes

#### I- DES COMMUNAUTÉS ET DES TERRITOIRES : DES INSTITUTIONS POUR LA GESTION DES ÉCOSYSTÈMES DE MONTAGNE

##### 1-L'institution communautaire

Les montagnes sont des réservoirs de grande richesse biologique accrue par l'étagement en montagne sur des faibles distances. L'homme en a tiré profit par la domestication de nombreuses plantes cultivées et la diversité biologique naturelle a été constamment enrichie par les savoir-faire de l'homme et savoir-être de l'homme dans son milieu. Du fait des caractéristiques et contraintes du milieu et de la singularité de leurs Histoires, les populations de montagne se sont organisées en collectivités gérant des territoires selon des formes culturelles très diverses.

Construites par des cultures voire des civilisations millénaires, les institutions communautaires ont fait la preuve dans la longue durée, de leur capacité à gérer des écosystèmes complexes, en inventant des formes de gouvernance souvent fondées sur des règles de démocratie participative capables d'évolution ; elles ont su créer des

systèmes de normes dans l'usage des ressources et des organisations territoriales fonctionnant à diverses échelles et dans le temps long.

Elles ont su mettre à profit les complémentarités qu'offrent les systèmes de production agro-sylvo- pastoraux, ont aménagé fortement le milieu pour en vivre par des investissements collectifs lourds en

travail qui ont créé les paysages notamment de terrasses, pour contrôler l'eau, sa répartition et son usage et ainsi augmenter les productions et la diversité.

Les territoires de montagnes sont ainsi les lieux et le produit de l'intégration de l'ensemble des activités qui lient les communautés à leur milieu et leur permettent d'innover et de s'adapter aux évolutions constantes des sociétés. Pour le bénéfice des populations de la planète, elles doivent continuer à porter ces valeurs et biens. Car, dans le contexte actuel de la mondialisation homogénéisatrice et des défis écologiques à venir, ces communautés constituent un atout pour le futur de la planète, en tant qu'important potentiel de diversité humaine et culturelle.

En effet, la montagne a été nourricière en léguant au monde beaucoup de ce que la plaine et la science et la technologie moderne se sont approprié en matière de productions agricoles et recèle aujourd'hui encore un potentiel trop souvent ignoré de produits de qualité, de services et de formes de vie équilibrées, d'une grande diversité, toujours issus de la culture des hommes et du milieu. En ce sens, il reste important de réarticuler les espaces de plaine et des grandes villes de montagne à leurs territoires dans un rapport de proximité et d'échange.

### **1. Les territoires de montagne : au-delà de l'économie verte un projet politique pour une transition écologique et sociale des territoires**

La Conférence de Rio 2012 met en avant un nouvel objectif pour la planète, l'économie verte et sa gouvernance.

Nous sommes bien convaincus que le mode de développement du Nord n'est plus tenable et que les pays en développement les plus pauvres devront réaliser leur développement selon une autre voie, inédite, essentiellement à partir des énergies renouvelables. Mais cela ne saurait exonérer les pays du Nord, qui, rappelons-le, représentent 20% de la population mondiale mais consomment 80% de l'énergie produite, d'un changement significatif de leurs consommations et activités et de leurs bases énergétiques.

Nous reconnaissons donc l'intérêt de ce concept à condition qu'ils permettent d'aborder des questions encore insuffisamment explorées qui lient les activités productives en synergie avec la qualité de leur environnement et de mesurer le **déficit écologique des plaines et des pays du Nord**. L'intérêt et les préoccupations de la société globale pour les espaces et écosystèmes de montagne s'en trouvent renouvelés et se mettent en place des politiques qui correspondent à ces intérêts, qui sont nouveaux pour elle mais, en réalité, le fondement millénaire des économies montagnardes. Cette vision répond ainsi à ce que sont les atouts de la montagne, la valorisation de ses ressources en reconnaissant la spécificité des produits de montagne liées aux qualités de leurs territoires et aux cultures et savoir faire de leur population.

L'autre dimension de « l'économie verte » concerne la rémunération pour la production des biens et services écologiques rendus à la société. Justifiés par les grands défis écologiques que doit affronter la planète du fait des difficultés et crises du mode de développement actuel, se mettent en place les mécanismes de monétarisation des « services écologiques » et les accords internationaux privilégient les mécanismes de marché pour traiter des questions écologiques notamment avec la mise en place du marché du carbone, de la biodiversité et des mécanismes de compensation entre pays du Nord et du Sud. Apparaissent ainsi au gré des accords internationaux, de nouveaux secteurs d'activités et une nouvelle offre lancée depuis l'international et déclinée jusqu'au local selon des mécanismes complexes entre Nord et Sud.

Dans des contextes économiques souvent difficiles, les personnes saisissent ces nouvelles opportunités au gré de l'offre et de la demande relatives à un secteur de gestion : l'eau, la forêt, la biodiversité

notamment... Ces mécanismes sectoriels de marché agissent en dehors des politiques de territoires, de développement durable des pays et sans concertation avec l'ensemble des communautés concernées au premier chef du fait de leurs fonctions et apports à la gestion de l'écosystème de montagne et celui de la planète.

L'APMM considère que l'économie verte organisant la rémunération des biens et services écologiques ne peut devenir le mode de rétribution de la montagne. Le changement du modèle technologique dans un sens plus écologique ne peut se faire par la monétarisation croissante du vivant et des écosystèmes.

Cette notion est plus restrictive que celle de développement durable, puisqu'elle ne mentionne pas explicitement des objectifs sociaux, renvoyant seulement à un changement de modèle technologique pour certains acteurs. Mais le changement de civilisation ne peut être limité à une transformation technologique, aussi nécessaire soit-elle. Cette notion ne peut être considérée comme un objectif en soi. Au regard des enjeux de sortie de crises, c'est la transition écologique et sociale pour aborder conjointement environnement et développement, proposée par le Collectif Rio+20 des ONGs françaises, qui doit prévaloir.

L'APMM souhaite utiliser les mécanismes et outils comptables de l'économie verte pour permettre de réévaluer l'importance et l'intérêt de la gestion collective des territoires dans une nouvelle pensée de l'activité économique liée à leur environnement dans le milieu qu'elles façonnent. Il s'agit de montrer que les communautés de montagne ont toujours été créatrices de « services écologiques », que, par leurs savoir-faire et savoirs, ces communautés de montagne ont su gérer leurs biens communs aux différentes échelles de territoire et que la société mondiale a besoin qu'elles restent sur leurs territoires et y vivent dignement.

Mais ensuite, dans la nouvelle vision du développement dont la planète a besoin, ce n'est pas à la compensation sectorielle qu'il faut recourir, notamment entre Nord et Sud : il faut reconnaître le rôle des communautés de montagne par des politiques intégrées de développement territorial véritablement équitables, aux échelles des massifs, des bassins versants, des communautés. Et non pas introduire de nouveaux déséquilibres en attribuant une valeur extrinsèque à tel ou tel élément, forêt ou rivières, des systèmes de production montagnards. En effet, par exemple, payer des populations en fonction de la superficie en forêts de leur territoire c'est, d'une part, dans le court terme, désavantager celles qui n'ont pas de forêts et qui contribuent d'une autre manière positivement au bilan carbone par une agriculture de proximité minimisant les transports, d'autre part, déstabiliser les systèmes de production agro-pastoraux en induisant une extension des forêts qui entraînera une diminution des espaces cultivés, plus de migrations et plus de saturation et pollutions urbaines, dans un contexte d'insuffisance alimentaire mondiale.

**Dans la perspective de Rio, l'économie verte a pour intérêt l'expérimentation qui peut être menée avec les communautés sur leurs territoires à la condition que les mécanismes de compensation respectent les conditions suivantes :**

- ils doivent financer équitablement le développement intégré des territoires de montagne à toutes les échelles
- selon des modalités définies avec/par les communautés concernées de ces territoires
- ils ne doivent pas devenir l'unique instrument financier car ils sont largement insuffisants pour répondre aux besoins de politiques intégrées de développement de ces territoires

L'objectif de Rio 2012 sera de tracer la voie d'une transition écologique, culturelle et sociale pour affronter les crises de toute nature qui se présentent en repensant développement et environnement. Pour cela, le monde a besoin de montagnes vivantes et il doit reconnaître le rôle qu'elles ont joué, jouent et veulent encore jouer dans le développement puisqu'elles sont souvent à la pointe aujourd'hui du développement soutenable malgré leurs difficiles conditions d'existence.

## 2. Territoires de montagne, biens communs et patrimoine

Au concept de service écologique, l'APMM préfère se référer à celui des « biens communs » créé à partir notamment de la forme de gouvernance par les communautés de montagne des ressources de leurs territoires. Elles sont organisées en communautés d'usagers de ces biens, objets d'une appropriation collective

Les biens communs sont des dons de la nature, mais surtout des biens produits, entretenus, partagés entre des usagers regroupés dans une « communauté », dont la taille et la nature peuvent varier. Ils supposent l'engagement des citoyens et la définition de règles d'usage en fonction notamment de savoir-faire traditionnels. A l'échelle globale, les biens communs tels que l'eau, la terre, la forêt, la mer et les océans, mais aussi la santé ou l'éducation, le vivant, sont aujourd'hui l'objet d'un accaparement sans précédent qui, au lieu de les préserver, met en péril les équilibres écologiques et la vie des populations qui en dépendent.

L'expérience montre qu'un territoire est le plus souvent mieux géré par la collectivité qui en fait usage que par la sanctuarisation au nom de la protection de la nature que peuvent imposer les États contre leurs propres gestionnaires et usagers.

Enfin, alors que l'utilisation de la notion de "biens communs" offre une alternative au terme de

« ressources naturelles » qui est marquée par l'extériorisation et l'instrumentalisation de la nature, par un anthropocentrisme caractéristique de la civilisation occidentale, parler de « biens communs » permet de trouver un langage commun entre des cultures différentes. Le terme « bien commun », en insistant sur le rôle des communautés humaines et sociales, peut permettre un dialogue des civilisations.

**La gouvernance qui devrait être proposée à Rio, notamment la mise en place d'une Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement (OME), devrait être organisée avec les communautés et territoires contribuant de façon décentralisée à la constitution des biens communs globaux et constituer un appui pour toutes les expériences qui, de manière décentralisée, sont fondées sur la réappropriation collective des biens communs de toute nature par les communautés d'usagers. Ces communautés d'usage des communs, tout en étant autonomes, ne seront ainsi plus indépendantes de la société globale.**

**Dans ce sens, nous proposons, de promouvoir des politiques intégrées de la montagne avec les institutions nécessaires à la bonne gouvernance en biens communs à toutes les échelles de territoires, tout en poursuivant l'objectif de rétablir l'équité du développement économique et social, condition de la durabilité. La poursuite des OMD doit rester une priorité à condition qu'elle s'appuie sur des politiques spécifiques mettant au centre la vie des territoires et des communautés et les compétences de gestion territoriale que ces sociétés ont su acquérir et organiser.**

## 3. L'innovation, l'expérimentation sociale et politique

Cela demande dans chaque contexte culturel et socio politique des innovations en matière de gouvernance fondées sur la reconnaissance des communautés, leur diversité culturelle, leur autonomie, leurs savoir-faire en matière de gestion de leurs ressources territoriales.

L'APMM veut faire connaître, faire partager, fédérer les expériences politiques et sociales concernant les thèmes suivants, portés actuellement par des pays de montagne et des organisations d'acteurs de la montagne :

- le concept du « bien vivre » apporté par les pays andins ;
- le « Bonheur National Brut » du Bhoutan ;
- les politiques de cohésion et diversité territoriale mises en avant par les organisations de la montagne en Europe (AEM) ;
- beaucoup d'expériences nationales, dont celle de la Fédération des Groupements d'utilisateurs de la forêt au Népal, et locales dont celle de la démarche patrimoniale de l'Institut Patrimonial du Haut Béarn en Pyrénées françaises.

Les sociétés montagnardes ont toujours mis à profit les complémentarités des territoires soit par l'exploitation directe de ces territoires soit en pratiquant l'échange. Ces pratiques diversifiées et ces échanges ont toujours exigé et favorisé l'innovation, inscrite dans la gouvernance des territoires. Ces sociétés sont donc sont un réservoir inégalé de savoir-faire et de ressources potentielles à la condition qu'elles soient des acteurs légitimés et reconnus dans les processus de décision politique.

**Les régulations et la gouvernance mondiale doivent être reconstruites dans cette interdépendance construite selon ces principes, par subsidiarité ascendante, par la redistribution des richesses générales et par la péréquation indispensables au développement équitable (services de base, infrastructures, activités économiques non territorialisées...). À ces conditions, les communautés pourront vivre en montagne et de la montagne. Elles pourront affronter les nouveaux défis qui se présentent en particulier les évolutions démographiques, les migrations et mobilités entre villes et campagnes, les adaptations liées au réchauffement climatique.**

La mise en œuvre de ces politiques intégrées de la montagne à toutes les échelles est d'autant plus urgente que les évolutions démographiques locales et les aléas climatiques ont augmenté les pressions sur les milieux à un rythme parfois supérieur à celui des innovations techniques qui auraient permis l'adaptation nécessaire et le fonctionnement équilibré des capacités gestionnaires de ces populations. L'évolution actuelle et prévue des climats ne fera qu'augmenter les déséquilibres.

## 4. Le Changement Climatique et les mécanismes du marché du carbone

**Dans de nombreux massifs, les prévisions climatiques laissent présager un véritable choc climatique lorsque l'on sait que la limitation prônée par le GIEC à 2° ne pourra être tenue et qu'en montagne les augmentations sont le double de la moyenne. Même si certains territoires seront gagnants, on sait que les catastrophes climatiques vont se multiplier demandant alors des adaptations technologiques et des investissements en infrastructures qui vont dépasser les capacités locales de gestion des communautés, en particulier dans le domaine de l'eau.**

**La disparition des glaciers à brève échéance va affecter considérablement les disponibilités des ressources en eau, comme on peut déjà l'observer. Les enjeux pour l'accès à l'eau vont**

s'accentuer entre les différents acteurs : les grandes métropoles, l'agriculture productive d'exportation des grands périmètres irrigués et les industries minières. Il est probable que les priorités et les investissements souvent colossaux à prévoir iront à ces acteurs incontournables. Il est donc encore plus important que les populations des territoires de montagne, particulièrement vulnérables du fait de leurs faibles ressources, soient associées aux décisions et programmes.

L'Alliance du Mountain Partnership mise en place pour RIO devrait aussi être active et très présente dans les grandes négociations en particulier dans la Conférence sur le Changement Climatique.

### **I. DES OUTILS ET PROGRAMMES D'ACTION POUR LA MONTAGNE**

Pour répondre à ces enjeux qui concernent l'ensemble de l'humanité tant aux niveaux économique, démographique, culturel qu'environnemental, l'APMM en tant qu'acteur regroupant les populations, considère que la Montagne doit être l'objet d'un document de référence relatif à toutes ses dimensions. Elle fait la proposition d'actualiser avec les partenaires le Chapitre 13 de l'Agenda 21 de Rio 92 qui reste une étape fondamentale vers la reconnaissance des territoires de montagne et de la nécessité d'une approche systémique et multiscale des problèmes de l'écosystème mondial.

Ce nouveau document présentera les politiques, les outils, les actions que nécessite la spécificité des territoires de montagne du local au global.

Les organisations de montagne sont particulièrement concernées par la mise en œuvre de certaines thématiques, que l'APMM soutient :

1. La mise en œuvre de la Déclaration des Nations Unies sur le Droit des Peuples Autochtones, qui sont nombreux en région de montagne. Cette déclaration est fondée sur des principes qui relèvent du Droit des personnes et des Droits de l'Homme (DDHH), des droits collectifs, du droit des communautés.
2. La reconnaissance constitutionnelle par les États et les Régions concernés de la spécificité des territoires de montagne et l'adoption, en concertation avec les populations locales, de  
« lois montagne » adaptées aux différentes situations des massifs.
3. Les droits et règlements économiques et sociaux spécifiques appropriés à ces territoires partagés avec la société nationale et globale et visant à réduire de manière volontariste l'iniquité de traitement qui les touche et tenant compte des caractéristiques naturelles.
4. La reconnaissance culturelle et juridique des formes de gouvernance de leurs territoires selon le mode dont elles sont les héritières ou qu'elles choisissent.
5. Les droits relatifs à cette pleine reconnaissance des cultures comme moteur de la gouvernance.
6. Le droit de consultation sur l'exploitation des ressources naturelles et les politiques de partage des bénéfices entre les différents niveaux territoriaux sont une exigence partagée par toutes les communautés de montagne, souvent victimes de spoliations. En effet, l'un des thèmes les plus critiques actuellement, est celui du rapport entre les populations de montagne et les acteurs de la société globale intéressés par l'exploitation des ressources naturelles largement concentrées sur les territoires de montagne et qui constituent les richesses territoriales des communautés (industrie extractive, grands projets hydro-électriques, etc.).

### **II. MOYENS ET FINANCEMENTS**

1. L'affectation par les Etats dans les **budgets nationaux et régionaux** de moyens adaptés à la mise en œuvre de ces politiques et investissements spécifiques pour les territoires de montagne par une **juste péréquation nationale** et en utilisant notamment la richesse issue de l'exploitation des ressources naturelles dans les montagnes
2. la création de taxes sur les ressources exploitées dans les montagnes par les acteurs de l'économie globalisée (multinationales qui exploitent eau, énergie, hydrocarbures, minerais, forêt) pour financer, en complément les budgets nationaux, les coopérations internationales et programme international ainsi défini.
3. la définition d'un **Programme international d'action pour la montagne** sur le long terme en faveur des populations des montagnes afin d'atteindre les Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement (OMD) dans ces zones spécifiques alimenté notamment grâce aux mécanismes de compensation concernant le carbone, selon des modalités territoriales plutôt que sectorielles et pas seulement monétarisées, comme il a été dit plus haut.

### **III. ADAP T A T I O N DES ORGANISATIONS INTERNA TIONALES AU FAIT MONTAGNE**

Le rôle de l'APMM est de porter la voix des territoires des Montagnes dans les instances internationales et auprès des acteurs globalisés et des autres secteurs des sociétés.

- Le Mountain Partnership
- Les Forum Sociaux
- L'OME et RIO (pour que le projet d'OME comme nouvelle agence de l'ONU répondant aux objectifs qui vont être définis dans la Conférence de Rio, soit acceptable par les communautés de montagne, l'APMM entend qu'elle ne soit pas seulement inter-gouvernementale, mais constituée de façon participative à partir d'acteurs territorialisés à côté de ceux apportant la connaissance générale sur les phénomènes environnementaux. Elle devra être aussi transversale aux autres agences, notamment la FAO, etc.)

Afin de faire reconnaître et respecter la légitimité des propositions des populations des Montagnes qui sont

1. La participation des organisations de la montagne à la Conférence Intergouvernementale sur le Changement Climatique est nécessaire compte tenu de l'impact très fort du CC en montagne.
2. La reconnaissance par l'Organisation Mondiale du Commerce de la spécificité des économies et produits des territoires de montagne et des politiques nationales et régionales spécifiques mises en œuvre et à mettre en œuvre en leur faveur.
3. La création au sein de la FAO d'un département « Montagne » chargé de coordonner l'action internationale en faveur des populations des montagnes en relation avec les Centres régionaux, la recherche, les ONG et l'Observatoire International.
4. La reconnaissance comme thématique de montagne de l'importante question de la production de cultures déclarées illicites pour leur usage sous forme de drogue. Les populations de ces territoires principalement de montagne, sont souvent criminalisées sans que soient prises en compte les situations de

pauvreté, les déséquilibres dans le développement territorial, l'absence de gouvernance à l'origine de ces cultures.

5. En ce sens, l'APMM poursuivra l'action menée avec les organisations de producteurs de ces cultures qui ont lancé, avec d'autres partenaires, le premier Forum Mondial des Producteurs de Cultures Illicites avant d'être présents à l'Assemblée Générale des

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feuille de coca pour leurs usages traditionnels (mastication), artisanaux, culturels et pharmaceutiques ainsi que des usages industriels potentiels, la lutte contre le trafic des drogues qui en sont issues, la décriminalisation des producteurs et la redéfinition des politiques dites alternatives de l'UNODC.

ANNEXES

PROPOSITION CHAPITRE 13 -RIO 2012 : DES MONTAGNES POUR LE MONDE ACTIONS DE l'APMM

CHARTRE DES POPULATIONS DES MONTAGNES DU MONDE

DÉCLARATION DU FMPCDI de BARCELONE

MANIFESTE D'OLORON « DES MONTAGNES VIVANTES POUR UN MONDE PLUS HARMONIEUX »

## Association européenne des élus de montagne (AEM)

### AEM's position paper on RIO +20 conference – The crucial role of mountains in the achievement of Rio +20 objectives

The European association of elected representatives from mountain regions (AEM) welcomes the RIO + 20 conference and especially the consultation of the stakeholders in preparing this event that can be a milestone similar to the Earth summit in 1992. In the outcomes of this previous conference, mountain territories' issues have been acknowledged, thanks to Chapter 13 of Agenda 21. This highlight has permitted the creation of numerous organization dedicated to the preservation and the valorization of mountain territories and people.

Europe's mountain ranges have similar issues to other mountain ranges on the rest of the planet. Ecosystems are in danger, as well as the quality of life of mountain people. In spite of Chapter 13, mountains are still in critical condition, because of the climate challenge but also because of the economic conditions (crisis, lack of access to services). Moreover, "one size fits all" policies do not take into account mountains added costs and specificities. To sum up, mountains deserve a specific attention but they are still too often considered as only rural or strictly marginal.

AEM has been contributing to the European debate for more than 20 years. Our association has called for a better acknowledgment of mountain specificities within EU's policy making.

For a long time, policies related to mountain territories have mainly focused on tourism and agriculture (e.g. natural disadvantage compensations from the CAP). However, AEM's lobbying has contributed to a shift. Indeed, the Lisbon Treaty (adopted in 2009) now grants a specific attention to regions with a permanent natural or demographic disadvantage, such as mountain regions (art.174). Mountains are also naturally considered as a key element of the EU official objective of territorial cohesion (art.3). As a consequence, it is now established in the Treaty that European mountain territories should benefit from a particular attention from all of EU sectoral policies (art. 175).

### Green Growth and mountain regions

In 2010, the European Union has launched a new global strategy. Europe 2020 defines EU's priorities for the next 10 years which are gathered in three broad objectives: smart, inclusive and green growth.

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Green economy is also the main theme on RIO +20 agenda. AEM fully agrees on the fact that a new model of sustainable development must be set up in order to tackle the climate change challenge.

AEM has lead numerous works that prove that mountain territories have a lot of assets regarding this objective and, hence, will have a role to play at the EU but also at the global level. Besides agriculture and tourism, mountain assets are obvious: they include most of the water resources (which implies most of the hydroelectric production), a large part of the wood industry, many specialized and precision industries, flexicurity as a result of pluriactivity and seasonality, local development through formation and a great biodiversity. The economic profile of mountain regions is deeply linked to environment, biodiversity and landscape, while at the same time ecological innovation and green growth are becoming a major dynamic at the European and international level (as RIO +20 proves it).

AEM argues that mountain ranges have to renew and promote their economic potential considering their environmental assets and their traditional know how. Of all territories, mountain regions are aware of the importance of the mitigation and the adaptation to climate change. This issue has to trigger new model of endogenous development. Such sustainable development must be based on mountain assets, be well balanced between preservation of ecosystems, as it will be a key element to green growth and the production of carbon free energy.

Because of its specificities and its wealth in natural asset, mountain territories can become pilots for new initiative based on green growth and social inclusion.

However, the environmental challenge is far from being abstract. It implies that every territory, every ecosystem, must be taken into account and must be the target of tailor

made policies. As a result, mountain people and stakeholders have to be associated to the policy making in a broad multilevel governance based system.

#### **Multilevel governance, cooperation and territorial cohesion**

AEM calls for the setting up of a multilevel governance that associate every level of government and stakeholders to the policy making. In Europe, "one size fits all" policies that do not take into account the territory have proved to be misadapted, with the failure of the Lisbon Strategy. This type of governance could also be implemented at the global level for environmental issues. New academic works lead by the University of Geneva on Regional Environmental Governance show that cooperation between regions with the same ecosystem is mandatory to tackle climate change and shape adapted policies. Mountain ranges have the particularity to be often transboundary. They request a special type of governance that could then be implemented at a global scale. Once again, mountain ranges request cooperation, which will be a key element for the success of RIO +20 and the following initiatives. However, such a model is not "mountain exclusive" and should be applied at a global scale.

With the Lisbon Treaty, the European Union has adopted a new objective: territorial cohesion. This aim goes hand in hand with the need of multilevel governance and cooperation. Territorial cohesion stipulates has assets and should then contribute to EU strategies. No region should be left behind as every territory has potentials.

To achieve this, a key element is the concept of functional area. Each area should be defined according to its territorial cohesion. The actual EU debate on macroregional strategies is another sign of this tendency. Macro regions aim at creating more synergies between the various strands of the cohesion policy, in a more efficient and relevant way than with segmented sectorial policies. There is a clear interregional added-value regarding the European territorial challenges "transform diversity into strength" and development of macro-regional strategic approaches that clearly fits to mountain ranges. The integration of policies, the acknowledgment of territorial cohesion both go beyond traditional administrative border would also be great inputs to RIO +20.

#### **Conclusion**

AEM understands that RIO +20 will not include mountain orientated initiatives, as the earth summit did. However, in order to reach a model of endogenous development, mountain ranges need reinforcement and development of regional, national and international (multilevel) governance that articulate mountains and lowlands, facilitate transboundary coordination and support capacity building and the exchange of good practices for innovation and sustainable development. Mountain territories are different. They need a specific attention granted by the Earth Summit even if it has not been sufficient, as mountain ranges are still treated as marginal environments.

Green economy and the new focus on environment is positive news for mountain ranges. They have a lot of assets to valorize. But environmental issues imply a new model of governance and a focus on each territory specificity.

*Since 1991, AEM brings together elected representatives, from mayors to members of the European Parliament, local and regional authorities from mountain areas, as well as various similar networks. AEM gathers, directly and indirectly, members from 12 000 municipalities, 100 provinces, 50 regions from 11 European Member States. The composition of the Executive Board is based on a political and geographical balance.*

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## Association for Defense of Nature (Prodena) and Ecosophy Foundation (EF)

### **INPUTS FOR COMPILATION DOCUMENT**

**UNCSD Secretariat, Division for Sustainable**

**Development, UN-DESA.**

**Submission by**

**Association for Defense of Nature (PRODENA) Ecosophy Foundation (EF)**

*PRODENA and EF are Bolivian independent environmental organizations. PRODENA is the second oldest environmental organization in Bolivia, founded in 1979; it has been working for the nature for more than 3 decades. Prodena has been promoting environmental laws and policies, as well as sustainable development in Bolivia since*

*1990. We made proposals for the new Bolivian constitution, many of which were included in the text. Currently the focus of our work in Bolivia is demanding access to information, participation, justice, accountability, transparency, law enforcement and compliance on environmental issues. We are also working in climate change adaptation.*

*The Ecosophy Foundation is a new think tank that is working in the intersections between mind, culture and the environment. It deals with philosophical, religious and ethical issues related to the environment, and it is trying to rescue and revitalize the environmental knowledge of indigenous peoples, particularly the ethno-ecological knowledge of Bolivian indigenous peoples.*

a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

The expectations couldn't be greater since the planet cannot wait for another 10 years of constant deterioration, species extinction and disruptions of natural processes and cycles. We need a transformational change in the way we are managing the planet. Climate change is not the just the result of increasing greenhouse emissions but of the way we have been managing (rather mismanaging) the Earth, therefore we need a very bold approach to not let the earth systems collapse.

In this sense we have the following proposals:

1. Create a **Global Environmental Organization** that upgrades the UNEP and that hosts the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEA), and other UN bodies that deal with environmental issues.
2. Approve an updated Rio Declaration or an **Environmental Governance Charter that** among others includes transparency, accountability, efficiency and the rights access to information, participation and justice.
3. Create Global **Center of Environmental Information** to collect all the environmental and climate information from the governments on a regular bases (currently this information is collected by the WB, UNEP, UNDP, among others) but is incomplete and not always updated by the governments. It should be a duty of the states to provide updated information.

The other purpose of this Center will be to connect diverse environmental data bases, and to deliver information to the public for free.

5. To establish an **International Court for the Environment**, where all the citizens have access.

6. A **Declaration of Environmental Rights and Duties**

7. The creation of a **Global Ombudsman for the Environment**.

Whenever violations of environmental rights and environmental destruction occurs out in developing countries, we don't have any instance to complain, therefore we need to have the possibility to be heard at the global level.

Possible structure of the Outcome document

1. Current state of the environment (includes climate change).
2. The consequences and prospects of environmental destruction and climate change for future societies and for the world's peace,
3. Institutional architecture and governance framework for more effective enforcement and compliance of environmental laws and regulations.
4. Sectoral issues: oceans, biodiversity, climate change, energy, population, etc.
5. Funding

b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

Green economy maybe a great new paradigm to overcome environmental ills, however it is not understood nor digested in developing countries, which are suspicious of the ideas behind green economy. Many of them tend to see green economy as a Trojan horse to introduce market barriers, and impose conditionalities in developing countries. In

addition many don't agree with the payment for environmental services. Therefore, if the discussions for Rio+20 are focused on the green economy a lot of time is going to be consumed without concrete outcomes, and no much progress is going to be achieved towards the improvement of global environmental governance. We believe that first

developed countries should show the viability of green economy, and then try to spread to the world.

Regarding the "revitalized global partnership for sustainable development" we should bear in mind that most of the Partnerships emerged of the Johannesburg Summit were not very successful, therefore it may remain in another good declaration.

Regarding IFSD, the CSD has failed in advancing SD goals. Therefore the UNEP should be upgraded in a Global Environmental Organization (GEO), because we need a powerful organization that can lead the process of transformational change. The GEO should also include the many UN bodies and Conventions (more that 700) that deal in a separate, disperse and non-effective manner with environmental issues.

The core issue should be providing world's citizens enough tools to change the state of affairs. Despite that in developing countries the legal environmental framework has improved, the laws are often broken even by the governments when economic interests are involved, thus the environmental impacts and constraints are disregarded. According to our experience governments don't care for the environment if don't have enough social pressure.

c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

The implementation of the Rio outcomes has been very week and as a result environmental conditions have been deeply deteriorated as can be seen with global green house emissions. Therefore it is necessary to reinforce the participation of civil society organizations because the governments always tend to stand for economic gains in detriment to the environment. As a result we have seen the rising of environmental conflicts worldwide, and that the most vulnerable and poor people are the more affected.

We should move from Principles to Rights, and the Principles should become Rights to be enforceable. For instance, some of the principles of the Rio Declaration should become Rights.

d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

In our view, the most important implementation tools are: a Global Environmental Organization for the improvement of environmental governance, an International Environmental Court for the implementation and enforcement of environmental agreements, a Center for Environmental Information and an Ombudsman for the Environment.

## 2. Specific Elements:

a. **Objective of the Conference:** To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.

Contributions could include possible sectoral priorities (e.g., (e.g., energy, food security and sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, water, oceans, sustainable urbanization, sustainable consumption and production, natural disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, biodiversity, etc.) and sectoral initiatives that contribute to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20.

To secure renewed political commitment we need a powerful environmental organization, otherwise not changes in the ground are going to be made. We don't need more programs of action that not implemented, but rather tools for citizens to defend nature and their right to a clean environment.

On regard to climate change we cannot deal with greenhouse gasses in a separate manner since the carbon cycle works in interaction with other cycles and processes, the wiser is to not intervene the last remaining natural areas of the world. Mitigation should be included in all the natural resources management plans.

We need to realize that in a warming world it is going to be more difficult to satisfy the needs of the present and future generations, therefore what we need now is a resilient development that helps people in the developing world to overcome or not being much affected by the impacts of climate change. In the incoming years we should work



resiliency as the most important tool to overcome climate change impacts

b. *Green economy* in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Poverty eradication is a delusion in a warming world because many people in developing countries are becoming poorer due to the losses of extreme weather events. Hunger and poverty are increasing in many developing countries, and developed countries are less rich. Therefore there are fewer resources to support poor countries.

That is why we believe that the most important is to assure that people have enough tools to defend their rights, to not let the governments implement plans and projects that are harmful for the environment and people. Governments tend to respond to economic interests, but if people have more power of influence in decisions, things may change.

c. *Institutional framework* for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels – local, national, regional and international.

It should be recognized that the environment is not a pillar, but the support base of our societies and economies, and therefore should be prioritized over the other pillars.

d. *Any proposals* for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution

64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".

We believe that the conference should focus on institutions, rights and rules for the improvement of environmental governance to deal with the deteriorating state of the planet and global warming that already compromised the satisfaction of the needs of future generations.

La Paz, Bolivia, October 31 2011

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## Association for Protection of Environment and Culture (APEC-Nepal) and Atlantic States Legal Foundation (ASLF), Inc. (NGO), USA

### Inputs for Rio+20 Compilation Document

#### The conceptual problems of Green Economy and Sustainable Development

On behalf of the

Association for Protection of Environment and Culture (APEC-Nepal) and

Atlantic States Legal Foundation (ASLF), Inc. (NGO), USA

Input submitted by Medani P. Bhandari ([medani.bhandari@gmail.com](mailto:medani.bhandari@gmail.com)) co-founder and former chair of APEC-Nepal; Scientist of at the ASLF-USA and Research Associate at Syracuse University, NY, USA

**APEC-Nepal:** General objectives of the organization are to extend help in the protection of biological diversity such as wildlife, wetland species, forest resources and development of the nation by organizing individuals and experts in the conservation of natural resources and sustainable use. Founded in 1985, APEC-Nepal is a member of IUCN; accredited with the UNEP; member of Global Environment Facility-NGO Networks and associated with UN-DPI. [http://www.geocities.ws/ngo\\_apec/](http://www.geocities.ws/ngo_apec/)

**ASLF-USA:** Atlantic States Legal Foundation (ASLF) was established in 1982 to provide affordable legal, technical and organizational assistance to individuals, community groups, and other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), as a way to effectively remediate threats to the natural environment. ASLF is accredited with the UNEP; member of Global Environment Facility-NGO Networks and associated with UN-DPI. <http://aslf.org/>

#### Introduction:

As the Rio+20 has already set the objective to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, it should begin to create common ground to build the consensus among

stakeholders as it was able to do in the Rio 1992.

a. *What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?*

The Rio+20 conferences should prioritize for the political commitments through the institutionalization of the Sustainable Development and Green Economy concepts in various binding agreements.

b. *What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?*

The proposed themes of Rio+20 Conference-- a green economy (GE) in the context of sustainable development (SD) and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development-- are very vague. There is no clear documentation regarding the history and the theoretical route of green economy initiatives. In separate attached document, I outline the theoretical frame of GE and SD (see attached document).

c. *What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);*

There is an assumption that GE tries to capture the notion of the vulnerability of human welfare, caused by the degradation of global environment, which can be understood

as a result of the widespread application of an unsustainable economic growth. Probably, it captures the concerns of the past four decades to address climate change to frame treaty agreements. The GE initiatives can serve as a tool for the greening as an engine for growth, with valuing the ecosystem services and biodiversity issues by addressing strategic uncertainty such as: the likelihood of adverse effects; the consequences of change; the speed of change; discontinuities; and especially uncertainty over the effectiveness of policy instruments.

The issues of institutionalization of political commitments are missing in Rio+20. In order to attain the objectives of the SD, institutional framework has to be developed to coordinate and manage activities of all related stakeholders (i.e. governments, UN agencies, multilateral and bilateral donors; development banks; international nongovernmental and governmental organizations; national nongovernmental organizations etc.). It requires an effective institutional structure, strong policy, and framework for policy implementation and can work effectively, efficiently, equitably and transparently.

*d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?*

To achieve the desired outcomes in such complicated themes, it would be hard to propose the specific timeframe. However, it is also necessary to bind within the time frame; therefore, I proposed three schemes (1) 2 to 3 years policy and program framing phase; 4-6 years program implementation phase; and 7-10 years monitoring and evaluation phase.

To implement the green economy initiatives in the developing world, there is also a need to change or revisit the trade regulations imposed by the World Trade Organization (WTO); especially the social and environmental conditions of specific developments such as the removal of the ability of foreign cooperation to over-ride local social and environmental factors. To foster the ability of the developing world, it is essential to establish a chain of cooperation between North and South. The chain of cooperation can be established through creation of international oversight schemes which can help to bridge the gap between North and South.

## A view paper for Rio+20

### The Theoretical Route of Green Economy Initiatives, Applicability and the

#### Future

#### Abstract

Medani Bhandari<sup>1</sup>

There is no clear documentation regarding the theoretical route of green economy initiatives. Only, from 2008, global conservation movements have taken on a new dimension, with a special focus on Green Economic Initiatives. The United Nations and its agencies, for example, are major stakeholders in global environmental governance, and have been advocating in international forums to integrate conservation and development themes and establish collaborative platforms where all concerned stakeholders could contribute to the health of the planet. The green economy initiative initiated by United Nation Environment Program (UNEP) captures the notion of the vulnerability of human welfare, which can be understood as the result of the widespread application of an unsustainable model of economic development. Green economy initiatives capture the notion and concerns raised repeatedly over the course of the past

40 years, from the Stockholm conference of the first United Nations Conference on the Human Environment held in 1972, to Earth Summit 1992 in Rio; to the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio' Earth Summit +10), Johannesburg, South Africa 2002. These concerns likewise have been raised in publications over the course of that period, such as World Conservation Strategy-Living Resources conservation for Sustainable Development (1980), Our Common Future (1987), and Caring for the Earth- A Strategy for Sustainable Living (1991). These conferences and publications have explored global environmental phenomena in transnational political context to minimize environmental impact and maximize public wellbeing. UNEP defines a green economy (GE) as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. The UNEP assumes that greening is a new engine for growth, emphasizing sectoral opportunities, addressing hurdles and enabling conditions, demonstrating the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, capturing these values, and reversing the vicious cycle of environmental losses and persistent poverty by reversing the vicious cycle of environmental losses and persistent poverty. The major players fostering the GE include UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, ILO, CBD, multilateral and bilateral institutions, member countries, regional forums, business and civil society groups, universities and regional commissions and international and national NGOs, among others.

Theoretically, it is possible to interpret environmental problems and recommend environmental reforms with the application of technology-intensive policies to manage the environmental problems both in the developed and the developing world (e.g., through analysis of the existing situation, formulation of policy options, and encouragement to apply environment friendly advance technology for sustainable world). The GE initiative is embedded within the frame of sustainable development, including the globalization processes and global transformations, and providing the know-how to perceive global economic growth in a positive way. It also incorporates the ecological economic factors of social dynamism and responses to basic environmental changes i.e. the Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC), CO2 emissions per unit of GDP, proportion of natural resource consumption in GNI, an economy's energy and

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resource density, and global heat have been raised in alarming rate. Likewise human population density, energy production, pollution and per capita industrial wastewater biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) have been rising and the per capita forest resources and biodiversity have declined from the 18th to 20th century. At the same time awareness about such changes is also raised from the local to the global level; several international and national treaties, memorandums and acts have been introduced, incorporated and implemented. However, these notions do not apply to the developing world because it encompasses a different set of environmental problems, basically linked with the poverty and inequality. Yet the developing

world, in particular, needs to consider GE principles to overcome its socio-economic (population growth, poverty, epidemics etc.) and environmental crises. It needs a different set of institutional architectures. However, till now there has been no institutional model that encompasses the responsibility to fulfill these assumptions and objectives of the GE. This research will briefly outline the practical problems to realize GE initiatives in developing world. The research argues for the reform of existing structures and to

create a new institutional framework which can coordinate and manage activities by which all related stakeholders may obtain the goals of GE, by creating and implanting environmental policy instruments such as standards; bans; permits and quotas; zoning; liability; legal redress as well as the flexible regulations.

This research proposes the historical overview of GE theoretical route and overseas the linkages between GE (theory) and social theories such as ecological economics and environmental/resource economics, and industrial ecology. Further, this research takes the GE initiative as a platform that still needs to be grounded to be accepted as an application tool or theory in addressing severe global environment problems.

GE highlights long-term impact, and searches for high-tech visions, while environmental sociology examines the world on the practicality of environmentalism based on social dynamism. However, because GE is still a relatively new concept, there is an urgent need to advance knowledge to foster more theoretical grounding for the green economy paradigm. In this paper, I argue that for GE to flourish, it should focus on beliefs about humanity's ability to upset the balance of nature, the existence of limits to growth for human societies, and humanity's right to rule over the rest of nature. GE philosophy should design in ways that provide an equal platform for both South and North to manage the environment by creating an effective institutional structure, strong policy, and framework for policy implementation that can work effectively, efficiently, equitably and transparently within the frame of global governance. The task that lies before us. We, as scholars and practitioners, have to help define this innovative and ambitious architecture.

**Key Words:** global conservation; green economic initiatives; environmental governance; social theories

## 1. Introduction

Since 2008, global conservation movements have taken different paths, with the especial focus towards the Green Economic Initiatives (GEI). The major stakeholder of global environmental governance, the United Nations, has been advocating for the integration of conservation and developmental themes as well as the establishment of a collaborative platform where all concern stakeholders can contribute to the health of the planet.

In fostering this concept, the UNEP called for a Global Green New Deal (GEND) in the wake of unprecedented economic stimulus packages. A UNEP report released in December

2008 called for a GEND and a subsequent policy brief to G20 heads of state urging them to turn the crisis into an opportunity by enabling a global green economy (GE) driven by massive job creation from a more efficient use of resources, energy-efficient building and construction, widespread use of clean and modern public transport, the scaling up of renewable energy, sustainable waste management, and sustainable agriculture that reflects the latest thinking in ecosystem management and biodiversity and water conservation (UNEP-GRID 2009:4).

However the concept of the GE is still maturing within the UN as well as in academia

and global forums for conservation. The UNEP (2010) notes that the GE is an important concept in linking economic growth to the achievement of environmental sustainability. It implies the realization of growth and employment opportunities from less polluting and more resource- efficiency in energy, water, waste, buildings, agriculture and forests. It also demands the management of structural changes such as potentially adverse effects on vulnerable households and traditional economic sectors. The concept of a GE and its policy implications will be

applied differently across the globe, reflecting national circumstances and priorities. However, for developing countries in particular, widespread opportunities exist to strengthen economic development, including poverty reduction as well as food and water security in developing countries, through improved environmental and natural resource management (UNEP 1010:5).

## 2. The green economy

A GE is one whose growth in income and employment is driven by public and private investments that reduce carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency, and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. These investments need to be catalyzed and supported by targeted public expenditure, policy reforms and regulation changes. This development path should maintain, enhance and, where necessary, rebuild natural capital as a critical economic asset and source of public benefits, especially

for poor people whose livelihoods and security depend strongly on nature. A green economy

(GE) can be defined as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. A GE is characterized by substantially increased investments in economic sectors that build on and enhance the Earth's natural capital or reduce ecological scarcities and environmental risks. These sectors include renewable energy, low-carbon transport, energy-efficient buildings, clean technologies, improved waste management, improved freshwater provision, sustainable agriculture and forest management, and sustainable fisheries. These investments are driven

or supported by national policy reforms and the development of international policy and market infrastructure (UNEP 2010:3).

The GE system is also a complex phenomenon which aims to achieve a low-carbon economy, life cycle analysis, and resource efficiency. The GE theory especially captures the notion of the vulnerability of human welfare, which can be understood as the result of widespread application of an unsustainable model of economic development. With the linkages of the recent year's economic and environmental crises, the UNEP urges cooperative efforts to address bringing economy and environment together, under the notion that the environment is where we live, and the development is what we all do in attempting to improve our lot within that abode. The two are inseparable (UNEP 2007). As the environmental issues have chain effects; these situations also can be seen through the lens of diverse and complex impacts of

climate change, water management, biodiversity conservation, and forest and land management

(UNEP 2010).

## 3. The major component of Green Economy (GE)

The UNEP GE Report outlines the eleven major issues to be addressed while empowering the social well-being of citizens of the developing world. The report addresses important sectors of the GE along with cross-cutting issues, such as finance and other enabling conditions, which include: "Green Industry Segments; Energy Generation; Energy Efficiency; Transportation; Green Building; Energy Storage; Environmental Consulting; Water & Wastewater; Finance/ Investment; Environmental Remediation; Air & Environment; Business Services; Research & Alliances; Agriculture; Recycling & Waste Materials; and Manufacturing/Industrial" (UNEP-GRID 2009:38-39).

It is important to note however that the UNEP is one of the major partners of the IUCN in theorizing and preparing policy directives, and encouraging governments to utilize GE concepts in the UNEP and the IUCN's member-states. Dr. Achim Steiner, the UN Undersecretary- General and UNEP Executive Director, notes that the GE concept is also far from being set in stone. It is, on the other hand, providing for some governments a rationale, blueprint, and a focus for actively realizing many of those unmet sustainability goals, albeit at the current level of each nation (UNEP 2010:2).

As noted above one of the goals of a GE is to help reduce poverty, while increasing resource efficiency and improving social welfare. Importantly, the GE is both a journey and a destination; it has much to do with the MDGs; and it is inextricably intertwined with many of the drivers and factors involved in trying to achieve them (UNEP 2010). There is a strong connection between the environment and the MDGs, since its goals include the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger; the achievement of universal primary education; the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of women; the reduction of child mortality; the improvement

of maternal health; combating major diseases; ensuring environmental sustainability; and the

creation of a global partnership for development (UNEP 2007).

The MGDs are based on principles of the people-first approach and the notion of the human well-being. As the UNEP (2007:13) notes, human well-being is the extent to which individuals have the ability and the opportunity to live the kinds of lives they have reason to value. People's ability to pursue the lives that they value is shaped by a wide range of instrumental freedoms. Human well-being encompasses personal and environmental security, access to materials for a good life, good health, and good social relations, all of which are closely related to each other, and underlie the freedom to make choices and take action. Furthermore, in capturing the impact of environmental change on human well-being as described in the Global Environmental Outlook -4 (GEO 2007) conceptual frameworks, the impacts of environmental change on human well-being are strongly mediated by social and institutional factors. Furthermore, the explicit links between environmental change and certain aspects of human

well-being, such as food availability and water stress, are better understood than, say, those related to education, personal security, good social relations, and overall access to materials for a good life.

#### 4. The Human Wellbeing and the Green Economy

Well-being encompasses more aspects than listed in the following text box; they do not, therefore, fully capture the impacts of environmental change on well-being. However, by

enhancing positive impacts, these concepts can pave the way positive environmental change, and it is likely that the addressing the well-being aspects can help to empower society to minimize its impact on the environment.

The conventional environmental problems are well-known effects of environment degradation; whereas single sources can generally be identified, the potential victims are often close to those sources, and the scale is often local or national. " Conventional problems such as microbial contamination, harmful local algal blooms, emissions of sulphur, nitrogen oxides, and particulate matter, oil spills, local land degradation, localized habitat destruction, fragmentation of land, and overexploitation of freshwater resources" (UNEP 2007:517). The green economy concept establishes causality of environmental damage and proposes a new way to tackle those causes by bringing all concerned stakeholders together in addressing the issues.

#### 5. Theory behind the GE concept

The position document (zero draft) for the Rio+20; clearly sets the desired outcome from the world conference but lacks theoretical background of green economy initiatives. The document also lacks discussion of how views toward the sustainable development are emerged and linked with the green economy. To fill this gap I propose the following conceptual map (modified from Hopwood *et al.* 2005).

The theoretical map of sustainable development and green economy

The map above shows the complex conceptual frame derived basically from the Club of Rome publication "The Limits to Growth" (1972). That report presented five challenging scenarios for global sustainability, (population, food production, industrial production, pollution, and consumption of non-renewable natural resources) which still represent the reality of the conservation problems (Turner 2008). The World Conservation Strategy promulgated by IUCN,

UNEP and WWF (1980) illustrated the importance of biological diversity, setting the objectives of conservation and requirements for their achievement, including priorities for national and international actions. Similarly, Caring for the Earth- A Strategy for Sustainable Living IUCN, UNEP and WWF (1991), also crafted the principles and actions for sustainable living, with a set of objectives for implementation and follow-up. However, the mainstreaming of sustainable development only took place after the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, which also created the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

Since inception, CBD has been playing an institutional role to conserve biological diversity, working collaboratively to achieve the Millennium Development Goals and targets (which came from the Millennium Declaration signed by 189 countries, including 147 Heads of State, in September 2000) with the convention parties (the governments) and other international UN agencies, international non-governmental organizations (IUCN, WWF etc.), and multinational and bilateral international development agencies (as listed in the conceptual map above, which is one of the initiatives of CBD - Biodiversity and Poverty, CBD 2011). Theory has advanced through research, development and academic institutions to provide a theoretical

frame for obtaining the CBD goals. Particularly since 2008, global conservation movements have taken on a new dimension, with a special focus on green economic initiatives.

The United Nations and its agencies, for example, are major stakeholders in global environmental governance, and have been advocating in international forums to integrate conservation and development themes and establish collaborative platforms where all concerned stakeholders could contribute to the health of the planet. The major players fostering the green economy include UNDP, UNEP, UNIDO, ILO, CBD, multilateral and bilateral institutions, member countries, regional forums, business and civil society groups, universities and regional commissions and international and national NGOs, among others. Because "Biodiversity contributes directly to poverty reduction in at least five key areas: food security, health improvements, income generation, reduced vulnerability, and ecosystem services" (Koziell and McNeill. 2002 as in Emerton 2005:1) this new initiative can be helpful to obtain the Rio+20 goals listed in the ZERO-DRAFT, somehow captures the theory of green economy.

Furthermore, GE concept is based on the basic principles of ecological economics and environmental/resource economics. These disciplines are specifically dedicated to the economic analysis of the relationship between humans and the environment; whereas ecological economics considers the economy as a subset of a larger ecological system (Dasgupta 2001; Daly 2005), environmental/resource economics examines the combination of environmental elements with

existing classical (or neo-classical) economic models (Harris, 2006). The following table shows the difference between these two schools of thought (on the basis of Bergh 2000 classification).

Table 1: difference between ecological economics and environmental/resource economics

Ecological Economics	Traditional Environmental and Resource Economics
1. Optimal scale	1. Optimal allocation and externalities
2. Priority to sustainability	2. Priority to efficiency
3. Needs fulfilled and equitable distribution	3. Optimal welfare or Pareto efficiency
4. Sustainable development, globally and North/South	4. Sustainable growth in abstract models

5. Growth pessimism and difficult choices
6. Unpredictable co-evolution
7. Long-term focus
8. Complete, integrative and descriptive
9. Concrete and specific
10. Physical and biological indicators
11. Systems analysis
12. Multidimensional evaluation
13. Integrated models with cause-effect relationships
14. Bounded individual rationality and uncertainty
15. Local communities
16. Environmental ethics

Source: Berg 2000:9

5. Growth optimism and "win-win" options
6. Deterministic optimization of inter-temporal welfare
7. Short to medium term focus
8. Partial, mono-disciplinary and analytical
9. Abstract and general
10. Monetary indicators
11. External costs and economic valuation
12. Cost-benefit analysis
13. Applied general equilibrium models with external costs
14. Maximization of utility or profit
15. Global market and isolated individuals
16. Utilitarianism and functionalism

Ecological economics takes a broad perspective in framing environmental questions by incorporating laws derived from the natural sciences. Ecological economy theorists emphasize the importance of energy resources, especially fossil fuels, in current economic systems. All ecological systems depend on energy inputs, but natural systems rely almost entirely on solar energy. A fundamental principle of ecological economics is that human economic activity must be limited by the environment's carrying capacity (Harris 2006:5-7).

Resource economics is the study of the how society allocates scarce natural resources. Moreover, the green economy concept is situated on the Neoclassical Welfare Economics theory and provides the alternative avenue with the use of ecological economic alternatives to cope with the changing scenario of the global environmental crisis.

The GE concept accepts the traditional economic model and provides options with the application of ecological economics, resource economics, and industrial ecology for sustainable livelihood. As Randall (1982) noted long ago, the mainstream economists fall into several loose groupings. The middle ground is occupied by those who find the mainstream economic methodology useful and even quite powerful, but who recognize that it has some perplexing limitations, especially when applied to policy analysis. "To one side of the middle, there is a group of free-market zealots, who see the economic system in very simple terms, and who

cannot understand why others fail to see what, to them, is obvious. They divide their time between proselytizing for free-market solutions among known economists and attempting to keep the other group of mainstream economists on the straight-and-narrow. On the other side of the middle, there is an ill-defined group of those who are quite uneasy about limitations, so the mainstream economists and policy analysts are suspicious that the zealots are confusing methodology and ideology, but are unable to develop a coherent alternative to the mainstream methodology" (Randall 1982:37 and also in Terry 1982:928).

Furthermore, the GE concept accepts the key conceptual issues of neoclassical welfare economics and alternatives to the ecological economic model, which largely overlap each other, as seen in Table 2.

Table 2: Key conceptual issues of neoclassical welfare economics and ecological economic model

Conceptual Issue	Neoclassical Welfare Economics	Ecological Economic Alternative
Value Monism	Reduce value to commensurable monetary units; utility function.	Separate value into incommensurable categories; multi-criteria assessment.
The Rational Actor	Individual consumers and firms at the	Analyze humans as social actors, consumers

	center of analysis.	versus citizens.
Marginal Analysis	Comparative statics of marginal changes.	Recognizes discontinuous change and total effects
Evolutionary Change	Evolution as constrained optimization, survival of the fittest view of market outcomes, individual based selection.	Importance of contingency, historical accidents, path dependency. Considers altruism and group selection as well as selfishness.
Uncertainty	Reduce uncertainty to risk. Market outcome focus to decision-making.	Precautionary principle to deal with pure uncertainty. Process-oriented, co-evolutionary focus to decision-making.
Decision Criteria	Efficiency as the sole criterion, usually based on potential Pareto improvements.	Equity, stability, resilience of environmental and social systems.
Production Process	Theory of allocation of fixed resources; production function.	Production as a biophysical process, thermodynamics; extended input-output approach, joint production of goods and polluting wastes.
Discounting	Straight-line discounting of future costs and benefits.	Recognizes the difference between individual and social valuation of the future; hyperbolic discounting.

Adopted from Gowdy and Erickson 2005:213 (Value Monism implies that all objects of utility

have some common characteristic that allows them to be compared. Until the middle of the twentieth century there was a lively debate in economics about varieties of value, including use vs. exchange value, labor and energy theories of value, and so on. Value Monism lies behind standard cost–benefit analysis (CBA) which uses the notion of consumer surplus to judge the desirability of public policy choices (Gowdy and Erickson 2005:212-213).

As seen in the table, the ecological economy examines the inter-relationships of

economic activities that have an impact on the environment. The ecological economy also looks at the functional relationships of ecosystems, social systems, and economic systems, which has a domino effect on social institutions as seen in Table 3.

Table 3: Ecological economic functions

Ecosystem		
Social System		
Economic		
Transactions among Economic Sectors	Transactions from Economic Sectors to Social Institutions	Environmental Impact from Economic Sectors
Transactions from Factor Inputs to Economic Sectors		

Transactions from Social Institutions to Economic Sectors	Transactions between Social Institutions and Value Added	Transactions between Social Institutions	Environmental Impact from Social Institutions
Environmental Inputs to Economic Sectors		Environmental Inputs to Social Institutions	

Drawn on the basis of Gowdy and Erickson 2005:219

Fueled by the ecological economic functional model, one of the major aspects of the GE is the examination of the impact of human economic activities on the biophysical environment and provisions of alternatives to reduce such impacts. Similarly, another discipline which relates closely to the notion of the GE is the industrial ecology, which looks more closely at the relationship between human activity and the environment in the context of an industrialized

society (IUCN 2010:3). The concept of industrial ecology is relatively old and uses a systematic approach to examine the trends of environmental degradation. The concept was first utilized by Jay Forrester at MIT in the early 1960s, to examine the world as a series of interwoven systems. Industrial ecology is the study of the physical, chemical, and biological interactions and interrelationships both within and between industrial and ecological systems (Forrester 1968,

1971 as in Garner and Keoleian 1995:3).

The idea of an industrial ecology is based on an analogy of natural ecological systems. In nature an ecological system operates through a web of connections in which organisms live and consume each other and each other's waste. The system has evolved so that the character of communities of living organisms seems to encompass a notion that that nothing which contains available energy or useful material will be lost. There will evolve some organism that will manage to make its living by using any waste product that provides available energy or material. Ecologists talk of a food web: a mutual connection of organisms to each other's wastes. The structure of a natural ecology and the structure of an industrial system, or an economic system,

are extremely similar (Frosch 1992:800, also in Garner and Keoleian 1995:31).

Broadly speaking, industrial ecology is the study of systems, which applies the multidisciplinary approach with orientation toward the future of analyzing interactions between industrial and ecological systems; material and energy flows and transformations; and changes from linear (open) processes to cyclical (closed) processes (so the waste from one industry is used as an input for another). Furthermore, it looks for ways to reduce the industrial systems' environmental impacts on ecological systems, to emphasize the harmonious integration of industrial activity into ecological systems, to suggest making industrial systems emulate more efficient and sustainable natural systems, and to identify the industrial and natural hierarchies, which indicate areas of potential study and action (Garner and Keoleian 1995). The goal of industrial ecology is to promote sustainable development at the global, regional, and local levels, which largely overlaps with the goals of the green economy principles.

Likewise, GE theory is fueled by the principles of environmental economics, which is a subset of economics concerned with the efficient allocation of environmental resources. The environment provides both a direct value as well as raw material intended for economic activity, thus making the environment and the economy interdependent. For that reason, the way in which the economy is managed has an impact on the environment which, in turn, affects both welfare and the performance of the economy (The Environmental Literacy Council 2007:6). Environmental economics examines human relationships with nature using rational choice models of human behavior. It analyzes the impact of economic activities on the environment, the significance of ecosystem to the economy, and suggests the appropriate ways of regulating economic activity so that balance is achieved in the society. Furthermore, environmental

economics is the understanding of various environmental factors, their influence in the economy, their functions upon the environment, and their impacts upon the life of the people of the present and future. Environmental economics also examines how the individual and society values the overall environmental dynamism and willingness to pay if needed to address the environment.

The ultimate goal of the GE is also embedded with the principles of sustainability. There is a link between social, economic, and environmental sustainability and green economics. The framework of sustainable development provides criteria for the management of human and economic development, while ensuring a proper and optimal function over time (Goodland and Daly 1996; UNEP 2007).

The GE is also based on the people-first approach whereas the concept of sustainability is based on the planet-first or equal-treatment approaches. Furthermore, the GE accepts the environment as the foundation for the furthering of people's well-being by increasing the asset- base and productivity; empowering poor people and marginalized communities; reducing and managing risks; and taking a long-term perspective with regard to intra- and intergenerational equity (UNEP 2007). Environmental health is central to all four of these requirements. Long- term development can only be achieved through sustainable management of various assets such as financial, material, human, social, and natural. Natural assets, including water, soils, plants, and animals, underpin the livelihoods of all people. At the national level, natural assets account for 26 percent of the wealth of low-income countries. Sectors such as agriculture, fishery, forestry, tourism, and minerals provide important economic and social benefits to people. The challenge lies in the proper management of these resources (Bass 2006; World Bank 2006;

UNEP 2007:10). Sustainability and GE stand for quality of life (including and linking social, economic, and environmental aspects); care for the environment; thought for the future and the precautionary principle; fairness and equity; and participation and partnership (Gibbs 2000). The only difference between the two is the procedure of implementation. In addition to these major theoretical roots of the GE, it can also be examined under the various sociological theories such

as governance, stakeholder, institutional, network, and so on.

## 6. The GE and environmental sociological theory

The GE can be evaluated within scholarship of environmental sociology. Environmental sociological scholarship reviews human ecology; environmental attitudes, values, and behaviors; the environmental movement; and technological risks. It conducts the risk assessment and evaluates the political economy of environmental politics. Furthermore, environmental

sociology looks toward bridging the dualisms – structure vs. agency, nominalism vs. realism, materialism vs. idealism, methodological precision vs. substantive importance – that continue to

pervade the discipline as a whole (Buttel 1987:484- 1987). One of the core implications of the

GE is to look at the societal situation in relation to social and environmental justice. In the same line, environmental sociology looks at society as a globalized marketplace with the

understanding that the prevailing forces in our lives undermine the real importance of our human communities and our planet. Green Economics argues that society should be embedded within the ecosystem, and that markets and economies are social structures that should respond to social and environmental priorities (Cato 2008). Environmental sociology acknowledges the role of conservationist, naturalist, holistic approaches, and particularly international media, and looks at the societal influence on the global bio-physical environment. Similarly, it looks at environmental organizations as a loose network structures rather than as dense inter- organizational networks, and finds it difficult to function in corporatist arrangements (Buttel

1987).

In the broader theoretical line, sociologists have not examined the greening of the world, which is present in sociological scholarships. The New Ecological Paradigm (NEP) propounded by Dunlap and Liere (of 1977), is one example of sociologists' concerns about the connection of the environment and society. The NEP focuses on beliefs about humanity's ability to upset the balance of nature, the existence of limits to growth for human societies, and humanity's right to rule over the rest of nature (Goldman and Shurman 2000; Dunlap *et al.* 2000; Dunlap 2008).

Here the subject matter of the GE and the organization sociology largely overlap. In this regard, it is noteworthy to see that how the NEP can contribute to the extension of GE, which is still

largely being discussed in international environment conservation forums by the United Nations agencies (particularly the UNEP) and conservation organizations like the IUCN.

New ecological paradigm

	New Ecological Paradigm (NEP)
Assumptions about the nature of human beings	While humans have exceptional characteristics (culture, technology, etc.), they remain one among many species that are interdependently involved in the global ecosystem.
Assumptions about social causation	Human affairs are influenced not only by social and cultural factors, but also by intricate link- ages of cause, effect, and feed- back in the web of nature; thus purposive human actions have many unintended consequences.
Assumptions about the context of human society	Humans live in and are dependentt upon a finite biophysical environment which imposes potent physical and biological restraints on human affairs.
Assumptions about constraints on human society	Although the inventiveness of humans and the powers derived therefrom may seem for a while to extend carrying capacity limits, ecological laws cannot be repealed

Source: Catton and Dunlap 1980:34; Modified from Buttel 1987:470

It is evident that the subject matters listed in the NEP are subject matters of the GE and

are situated in the same nexus. Both try to understand and search for options to reduce the public pressure on the global ecosystem, with the understanding of the conventional (forest

degradation, water pollution, air pollution, acid rain etc.) and the newly explored (climate change, ozone hole, rise in the global temperature and glacier recession) cause-and-effect environmental problems. The principles of environmental sociology, the NEP, and Green Economics as Kennet and Heinemann (2006) note, are positioned within a very long-term, earth-wide, holistic context of reality as a part of nature. It also incorporates and celebrates difference, diversity, equity, and inclusiveness within its concepts of society and community. Its philosophy is to manage economics for nature as usual, rather than to manage the environment for business as usual. Green Economics can incorporate a much wider, more practical, multidisciplinary range of knowledge than other schools of economics (Kennet and Heinemann 2006:68).

Green Economics highlights forward thinking for long term impact and searches for high- technology based on the practicality of environmentalism on the basis of social dynamism. However, because the concept is so new there is an urgent need to incorporate accepted sociological knowledge to foster more theoretical grounding. Linking the theory into the efforts of the UNEP for greening the world, the Max Weber concept of rationalism and the avenue of the global leadership hold very strong positions. Weber focuses on the trend of rationalization

in organizational governance in both the public and private sectors of modern societies and how society can produce more goods and services to fulfill social needs through formal forms of organizations. It is important to acknowledge that the former and current Secretary General of the United Nations, as well the Director General of the UNEP, have been trying to implement policy directives through UN agencies. Although there are few indications of a positive direction, it is too early to state the effectiveness of the initiatives. The UN has, for example, implemented varieties of environmental policy instruments such as standards; bans; permits and

quotas; zonings; liabilities; legal redress; and flexible regulations (UNEP 2010), as seen in Table



5.

## Environmental policy instruments and focus

Command-and-control regulations	Direct provision by governments	Engaging the public and the private sectors	Using markets	Creating markets
Standards Bans Permits and quotas Zoning Liability Legal redress Flexible regulation	Environmental infrastructure Eco-industrial zones or parks National parks, protected areas and recreation facilities Ecosystem rehabilitation	Public participation Decentralization Information disclosure Eco-labeling Voluntary agreements Public-private partnerships	Removing perverse subsidies Environmental taxes and charges User charges Deposit-refund systems Targeted subsidies Self-monitoring (such as ISO 14000)	Property rights Tradable permits and rights Offset programs Green procurement Environmental investment funds Seed funds and incentives Payment for ecosystem services

UNEP 2007:468

However, by nature, the implementation of the international policy instruments in the complex phenomena and the globalized the concept and follow the complexity procedure and still try to incorporate all most all component of GE.

## 7. Theory of governance, and GE

The UNEP policy directive on governance notes that the term 'governance' has been defined in many different ways, which vary according to the scope and locus of decision-making power (ECOSOC 2010). In recent times, many governance functions that influence individual and collective behavior have been executed beyond the exclusive remit of governments. Accordingly, there has been a shift to a definition under which the governance, at whatever level of social organization it may take place, refers to conducting the public's business by the collection of authoritative rules, institutions, and practices by means of which any collectivity manages its affairs (Ruggie 2004). The most important actors in the process of IEG include national governments; intergovernmental organizations such as the UN and its specialized bodies; civil society groups; private sector associations; and a variety of partnerships between public, private, and civil society actors. The key institutions and mechanisms through which

IEG is carried out include a multitude of intergovernmental, non-state, and public-private processes and initiatives that vary in format, structure, and membership (UNEP 2010: 2).

Governance engenders a number of perspectives and definitions which are closely linked with the concept of a green economy and the IUCN's efforts in mainstreaming the environmental governance principles. This definitional claim of Kahn and Zald (1990) is useful to examine the relationships between the IUCN and its members including INGOs, NGOs, national

governments, and private enterprises. It is an established notion that the global governance includes both nation-state and the non-state actors (INGOs, NGOs, Civil Society Organizations and private sectors (McKormick, 1999; Kauffman 1997; Schreurs 1997). In the social sciences, governance is also sometimes explained in Foucaultian terms (Baldwin 2003; Agrawal 2005), where government means less of the political or administrative structures of the modern state but

rather the people's internalization of the rules that leads to types of self-governance, that is

governance without active external enforcement (Foucault 1991). Foucault's work is notable; it philosophically illustrates the extensive social and political structures, including the state,

bureaucracy, and professions that are utilized in framing the GE. It also describes how knowledge and power are utilized by a hybrid international organization (such as the IUCN) at the state and transnational levels. In the broader sense governance is a matter of resolving conflicts, finding common purpose, and/or overcoming inefficiencies between actors in situations of interdependent choice (Barnett and Duvall 2005:6).

There are various players in global governance that include: multilateral organizations, such as the UN, IMF, World Bank and WTO; international associations, such as the G8, OECD, the Commonwealth and NATO; inter-regional groups, such as SAARC, APEC, and the Trans- Atlantic Partnership; regional bodies like the EU and NAFTA; private governance, such as the IUCN, Greenpeace, WWF, Amnesty International etc.; national governments, of which there are approximately 230 in the world; and finally subnational governments like US states, Canadian provinces, and the German *Länder* etc. (Cable 1999 as in World Humanity Action Trust 2000).

## 8. GE and Global Environmental Governance (GEG)

Global environmental governance (GEG) is the sum of organizations, policy instruments, financing mechanisms, rules, procedures and norms that regulate the processes of global environmental protection. In the contemporary world, there has been increase in the awareness of environmental threats. As a result numerous efforts have emerged to address them globally.

Since environmental issues entered the international agenda in the early 1970s, global environmental politics and policies have been developing rapidly (Najam *et al.* 2006:6). In the development of environmental policies the agencies of the United Nations have played the most important roles. Similarly, from the nongovernmental sector, the IUCN is only the IO who is involved in environmental governance policy formation. The GEG is the complex issue; therefore it is extremely difficult to evaluate success and failure. Najam *et al.* (2006) have tried to outline major efforts of UN in GEG reform, especially in strengthening the role of the UNEP.

The weakness of the GEG, particularly in the case of the UNEP, has been largely discussed in the UN General Assembly. In this line, with the realization of a strong international

environmental conservation organization, the French President, Jacques Chirac, called for the creation of a United Nations Environmental Organization (UNEO) at the UN General Assembly in 2003. In response to President Chirac's presentation, an informal working group was set up to facilitate dialogue among governments on UNEP reform (Najam *et al.* 2006). From 2003, there have been long debates in the UN General Assembly and in international forums about the global authority of environmental governance. Similarly, there have been discussions regarding models of GEG reform such as the Compliance Model, which advocates for the creation of a body that could provide binding decisions; and the New Agency Model, which refers to creating a new organization outside the UNEP with concentrated environmental responsibilities and the ability

to steer UN agencies in relation to environmental issues. This model has been highlighted mostly by the Bierman *et al.* mostly since 2000.

Bierman (2004:17) argues that creating a UNEO would pave the way for the elevation of environmental policies on the agenda of governments, international organizations, and private organizations; it could assist in developing the capacities for environmental policy in African, Asian, and Latin American countries; and it would improve the institutional environment for the negotiation of new conventions and action programs as well as for the implementation and coordination of existing ones.

Similarly the UNEP model focuses to upgrade the UNEP as a departure point for improving environmental governance and suggests upgrading it to a specialized agency to

strengthen its status. Likewise, the Multiple Actors Model argues that the system of governance comprises multiple actors whose actions need to be mutually reinforcing and better coordinated. Without better integration of these multiple actors, organizational rearrangement cannot resolve institutional problems (Najam *et al.* 2006:17-20). The success and failure of the governance depends on the governments' and other stakeholders' commitments and mutual efforts to attain the goals. In the case of environmental management it has a chain of difficulties largely associated with the public well-being. As Bierman (2004:12) notes, the UNGO is a political response to economic, cultural, social, and eco-logical globalization. It is not initiated and developed by some centralized decision-making body, but by an amalgam of centers of authority at various levels.

The efficacy of the current system of global governance has been the subject of intense debate. It is not only a normative discussion as to increased global governance, but likewise a debate on better global governance. By nature the success of GEG depends on political will. As World Humanity Action Trust (2000) notes, the challenge of GEG can also be seen on the basis of the World's Commons, whereas issues of responsibility have always been challenging. Furthermore, the effectiveness of GEG also depends on the capacity of tackling the commons as well as on the formation of coping strategies, and the availability of infrastructures for implementation.

The cause of ineffective GEG is due to the lack of cooperation and coordination among international organizations; the lack of implementation, compliance, enforcement, and effectiveness; inefficient use of resources; and global governance outside the environmental arena. Other causes of GEG's ineffectiveness can be noted similar to the analysis of Najam *et al.* (2006:24), such as the lack of leadership; developing country concerns; institutional fiefdoms; lack of political will; and the balance of national interests versus global environmental problems. They further note that developing countries have legitimate concerns about the state of the international system. They are already distrustful of the international system in general and are especially concerned about the rapid growth of environmental instruments and its possible impacts on their economic growth. Although developing countries are not necessarily beholden to the status quo, they fear that any change will necessarily make things even worse. Likewise, the UN institutions that are the major responsible body to implement the governance principles are often loath to let go of any part of their authority even where overlap and duplication are obvious.

There is also a marked decrease in the importance attached to environmental issues by the international community.

## 9. Conclusion

The economy is often given priority in policies and the environment is viewed as apart from humans. They are interconnected, with the economy dependent on society and the environment while human existence and society are dependent on, and within the environment. The separation of environment, society and economy often leads to a narrow techno-scientific approach, while issues to do with society that are most likely to challenge the present socio-economic structure are often marginalized, in particular the sustainability of communities and the maintenance of cultural diversity (Giddings *et al.* 2002:187).

This paper largely looks only the contemporary scene of macro level theories in which the concept of green economy (GE) is embedded; whereas GE broadly aims to reforest the global economy without hampering the earth ecosystem and boost social justice. However, there has been a long history of utilization of creativity for the human wellbeing without destroying the nature. Though in academia it has been documenting as a means of economic transformation only since 1980s (Hopwood *et al.* 2005; Donald 2010), when scholars began to examine the relationship between humans and the environment. The green economy theory is based on the neoclassical welfare economics; ecological economics and environmental/resource economics; industrial ecology; scholarship of the environmental sociology; ecological modernization theory etc.; however these concepts are in the trajectory to stand as new theory particularly the GE, which is close sibling of sustainable development (SD) and highly in global discussion. There is an assumption that GE tries to utilize the resources in sustainable way; bridge the gap of North and South, has long term focus; and is based on the integrated models with cause-effect relationships; and able to empower local communities and enhance environmental ethics (IIED- GlobeScan 2011).

Theoretically, it is possible to interpret environmental problems and recommend environmental reforms with the application of technology-intensive policies to manage the environment problems both in the developed and the developing world (e.g., through analysis of the existing situation, formulation of policy options, and encouragement to apply environment friendly advance technology for sustainable world). The GE initiative is embedded within the frame of sustainable development, including the globalization processes and global transformations, and providing the know-how to perceive global economic growth in a positive way.

However, till now there has been no institutional model that encompasses the responsibility to fulfill these assumptions and objectives of the GE.

Innovative knowledge institutions and partnerships are needed, and they must be guided by certain principles. Highly varied local situations and the uncertainty of complex social and ecological systems call for flexible, experimental, and adaptive learning-based approaches. The new institutions must also be problem-driven. The alleviation of poverty and environmental sustainability should be explicit goals for which knowledge must be generated. Institutions must transcend traditional disciplinary boundaries to generate new ideas and technologies and link science with policy and governance to frame questions and foster social change (Bawa, *et al.* 2008:126).

There is no global institution which can implement initiatives like GE and can bridge the gap between North and South. The role of international organizations (particularly the United Nations; the World Bank) has not been very healthy particularly in global environmental governance (Najam *et al.* 2006; Bierman 2004), whereas success and failure of the inventiveness GE aims to archive largely depended on how governance mechanism operate in particular niche. The GE concept is based on basket and macro assumption and too broad and too complex. The contemporary world problems can only be solved when micro level, sectoral and people driven approach is created and implemented. There is a need of umbrella institution, with the flexible

mandates, freedom from bureaucratic control, and a focus on specific problems, and able to forge the frameworks to implement work that is relevant to the identified societal needs (Bawa *et al.*

2008), and can work with the principles of mutuality and can create the collaborative platform

from global, continental, regional and national to the local level, with the especial focus to the developing world. Only the hybrid institution (German and Keeler 2010) can create the above mentioned situation; and creating such institutional architecture might be one of the options to enhance the feasibility of GE; however, there no any concept flowing to create such umbrella agency. GE without having the institutional frame assume too much about greening as an engine for growth, sectoral opportunities, hurdles and enabling conditions, the value of ecosystems and biodiversity, and the vicious cycle of environmental losses and persistent poverty.

There is also strategic uncertainty in applying green economy theory especially to the developing world because of the:

Uncertainty about the likelihood of adverse effects global environmental change; Over the consequences of change;

Over the speed of changes; and

About discontinuities and mostly the uncertainty over the effectiveness of policy instruments

To effectively imply the GE it is essential to have a firm commitment and consensus on how concept can be implemented. Several existing Agreements are not legally binding in their current form and lack clarity around a timeline for establishing a legally binding regime, which could help to obtain the goal of green economy.

These concepts are still a relatively new; therefore there is an urgent need to advance knowledge to foster more theoretical grounding for these green paradigms. I believe that for GE to flourish,

it should focus on beliefs about humanity's ability to upset the balance of nature, the existence of limits to growth for human societies, and humanity's right to rule over the rest of nature, which

is one of the major missing point of green economy concept.

Particularly, the GE philosophy should design in ways that provide an equal platform for both South and North to manage the environment by creating an effective institutional structure, strong policy, and framework for policy implementation that can work effectively, efficiently, equitably and transparently within the frame of global governance. The task that lies before us, particularly of the developing world, where environmental problems are more severe

We, as scholars and practitioners, have to help define this innovative and ambitious architecture and need to frame the model which fits for developing world.

*Acknowledgements: Author thanks to the Syracuse University for providing the funding support to conduct this research and to Dr. Steven R. Brechin, Mr. Peter Englot and Ms. Prajita Bhandari for their insightful comments, input and language editing and also like to thank the reviewer panel for their input and comments.*

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## Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education

Input for the UNCSD 2012 Compilation Document from Multiple National, Multinational, and International Tertiary Education Sustainability Organizations During the past several months, the following tertiary education focused organizations have been collecting input regarding UNCSD and the position of their members towards Rio + 20 outcomes: The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) (USA/Canada) Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) (Australia/New Zealand) Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) (Spain/international) Korean Association for Green Campus Initiative (KAGCI) (South Korea) Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) (United Kingdom) Collectively, these organizations engage more than one-thousand tertiary institutions across the globe. Each organization has gathered input through consultation and developed positions regarding the input for the UNCSD Compilation Document, the Zero Draft Document and the Outcomes Document. The statements from each organization are provided below. Although there are differences representing the different viewpoints and needs there are a number of common, international themes that are embodied in these statements. All organizations noted that it is critical for the role of tertiary education in advancing sustainable development to be explicitly recognized in all documents related to UNCSD 2012. The role of tertiary education in realising sustainable development and the eradication of poverty includes its functions in education and training, knowledge production and dissemination (i.e. research), community engagement, and as serving as exemplars for good practices in sustainable development. In addition, the organizations called for the UNSCD 2012 to insist on support for tertiary education through the provision of appropriate resources and through access to stakeholders so they can assist business, governments and society to advance sustainable development Although the organizations have not reached consensus on how to best create long term institutionalization of sustainable development within the United Nations structure, they do agree that there is a need to create an organization with United Nations support that will last long term and provide a focus for education for sustainable development. Within this structure there needs to be a body for addressing, assessing and encouraging continued education for sustainable development efforts.

As is noted in the following documents, the organizations are prepared to work with each other, to encourage their members to work with one another as well as institutions elsewhere, and to work with the appropriate United Nations agencies to assist tertiary education in advancing sustainable development. Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability submission for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 1. Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) is a non- profit member based organisation representing higher and further education institutions within Australia and New Zealand. ACTS aims to inspire, promote and support change towards best practice sustainability within the operations, curriculum and research of the tertiary education sector. ACTS seeks to build community and business partnerships at the local, regional and international level, in order to bring together a network of people for positive engagement, capacity building and change. 2. As an NGO operating within the Asia Pacific region, ACTS was involved in drafting the statements submitted by Major Groups and Stakeholders Asia Pacific, as well as Asia Pacific NGOs and we therefore strongly endorse and support both. 3. We believe that the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 (Rio+20) provides a critical and timely platform for governments at the highest level to secure renewed political commitment and action for sustainable development. Since 1992 the ecological crisis has worsened, whilst income and social inequalities have escalated even as high economic growth took place in several countries. Not enough has been done to achieve the paradigm shift required to change current unsustainable trends and we urgently call on governments to act on change towards sustainable development, rather than continue to debate the issue further. 1. The Rio+20 Conference should therefore honestly and openly appraise the implementation of the sustainable development commitments and action plans, and identify the gaps and obstacles, to ensure the transformation and integration of the economic, social and ecological dimensions. This needs to take place at the local, national, regional and international levels. 2. In moving towards sustainable development that also incorporates the inter-generational dimension, the critical role that tertiary education plays in achieving a long-term and sustainable shift needs to be galvanised. Recognising that changes in social values and practices are necessary in addition to technical solutions, there should be a focus on ensuring educational structures provide appropriate and relevant sustainability related skills and knowledge to achieve long term change within society and economy. Furthermore, there must be recognition and promotion of indigenous and local knowledge systems and their interface with more formalised knowledge systems. 3. The role that tertiary education can, should and does play in achieving sustainable development has often gone unrecognized and/or under represented. Since 1992, it has become clear that tertiary education institutions play a number of critical roles, including those summarized below: They provide relevant and critical education to our future government, business, industry, education and community leaders. By integrating sustainable development into curriculum, skills training and student development, tertiary education will equip the future with people who have the knowledge and capacity to positively impact the global economic and educational systems and programs, to eradicate poverty and improve access to education for all; They are critical homes for the research that provides sustainable solutions to the complex problems of development. Indeed, Secretary Ban Ki-moon pointed out in his call for the world's academic community to find solutions to global hunger, water shortages, and energy issues, "the academic community can help us connect the dots"; They serve as the "test beds" for examining the context in which innovative sustainability practices are executed. As these institutions implement a variety of context-specific sustainability practices through education and operations, they demonstrate the viability of these practices and provide models for sustainable development; They facilitate engagement of groups at the community level through building and maintaining strong links to government, business and civil society, as part of the core business of learning and teaching and as part of research; and They provide the opportunity for cross fertilization of knowledge and understanding through hosting students from the international community, who then transfer learnings into their own areas for the benefit of all. 4. These roles of tertiary institutions should be recognised while also acknowledging that: There is need to strengthen the holistic integration of environmental, social and economical dimensions of sustainable development; Through promoting sustainable societies it is essential to ensure gender equality, democracy, and human rights; The importance of peoples' participation, particularly of youth, women and indigenous peoples, and providing for their empowerment and relevant, functional education to support inclusive sustainable development, is most readily done through the tertiary education system; and There have been communities that have developed numerous solutions to sustainable development challenges in spite of a lack of leadership and support from high levels of government. These initiatives need to be fully recognized, supported and celebrated with a view to link, upscale and maintain efforts. 5. It is the fundamental role of tertiary education to innovate and be an open source of new technologies for the benefit and wellbeing of the global community. We therefore propose that tertiary education institutions need to be more open and transparent with regards to the sharing of information with the global community for the common good towards sustainable development. 6. Open sharing of information and innovation cannot be accomplished without the support and backing of business and government. We therefore request business and government to provide more substantial financial and in kind support to see such endeavours come to fruition. 4. Below are summarized the key issues, challenges and courses of action that have been identified and affirmed in the ACTS annual conference. Issues, Challenges and Ways Forward On Tertiary Education sector contributions to the Zero Draft document and subsequent implementation 7. We believe that the language that is used within the Zero Draft document and any subsequent documents must be directive and commitment-oriented to avoid any misunderstanding or 'ways out' from implementing the intention of the document and in order to achieve the paradigm shift required to move beyond rhetoric to action towards sustainable development. 8. We strongly feel that the role of tertiary education should be prominent throughout the Zero Draft document and any subsequent documents in order for the intent of Rio and Rio + 20 to be realised. The role of tertiary education should therefore not be relegated to inclusion as an ad hoc after thought. 9. We further believe that relevant and appropriate education at all levels is essential, as is support from pillars of society such as government and business. The recognition that informal learning processes are just as important as formal learning processes is essential, particularly to empower and encompass the marginalised youth, women and indigenous groups in society. These two approaches to learning can be used in conjunction to ensure the most beneficial outcomes at a variety of levels and learning. Education for all is an important cornerstone of civilisation, whether provided through formal or informal means. 10. Community engagement is part of the core business of higher and further education. We therefore believe that tertiary education institutions are in a strong position to facilitate the partnerships between government, business and civil society (including individuals and community groups) at the community level, as part of the implementation of goals and objectives associated with Rio + 20 outcomes (see Figure 1 below). Figure 1: Implementation for Change Model 11. We submit that tertiary education be recognised as playing a significant role in the Zero Draft document and in its subsequent implementation to achieving the commitments of Rio and Rio + 20 and in particular, as summarised below: Tertiary institutions, business/industry groups and governments alike should provide resources and funding to facilitate the fundamental shift to embed sustainability in the curriculum, research, and operations of tertiary education. The development of tools, resources and appropriate professional development for academics and institutional leaders are required for this fundamental shift in our collective approach to sustainable development to be successful Each tertiary institution within developed countries should partner and work with a tertiary institution from a developing country, for the purpose and mutual benefit of research, knowledge and resource exchange. Each institution should make this partnership explicit through registering on a dedicated page, coordinated by the apex body discussed further below Every tertiary institution should commit to sharing and learning from one another in the spirit of international partnership and long-term global societal benefit. As importantly, institutions should commit to working more closely with local community and business to facilitate dialogue, capacity building and change at the local level. On Green Economy in the Context of Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development 12. We firmly believe that current prevailing economic models promote unsustainable consumption and production patterns, facilitate grossly inequitable economic systems that fail to eradicate poverty, assist exploitation of natural resources towards the verge of extinction, and need to be replaced by sustainable economies in the community, local, national, regional and international spheres. 13. We have concerns about the term 'green economy', and indeed, striving towards a 'green economy' as it leaves the current economic system open to 'greenwashing' without fundamentally changing a system that is significantly contributing to unsustainable practices. 14. The use of jargonistic titles such as 'green' to describe the economy only confuses the matter and the outcomes that need to be reached in order to realise sustainable development by ignoring the social dimension. We therefore propose that the approach is based on fully integrated sustainable economies, the key attributes of which promote and encapsulate: Cultural change towards sustainable development from the bottom-up, moving towards less unnecessary consumption; Sustainable production and consumption patterns, ensuring social and environmental wellbeing in that process; Decent work and livelihoods, ensuring that social benefits are distributed equitably among all peoples; The upholding of social justice, human rights, equity, and gender equality; Allows and supports the achievement of economic sufficiency; Safeguarding animal welfare and protection of ecosystems; and Regulation of financial markets, holding firms accountable for the social and environmental impacts of their operations. 15. We further question the use of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as a measurement for growth and instead believe a more appropriate index be used, one which is based on people's wellbeing, inclusiveness, social equity, human rights, gender equality, decent work, biodiversity and ecological footprint. 16. We present that tertiary education institutions can play a significant role in developing the methodologies required to measure progress towards sustainable economies and indeed, sustainable development. Through our core business, we have the capacity to question terminology and measurement of non- economic factors, bearing in mind our reluctance to inappropriately value the environment. 17. We believe that technological

fixes alone will not solve environmental problems that are consequences of social and economic factors. Fundamental issues such as assessment of the potential impacts of new and untested technologies (e.g., geo- engineering, ocean fertilization, etc.) before they are released in the environment and deployed commercially must be addressed in the development and transfer of technologies. 18. We present that tertiary education has a significant role to play in ensuring the issue of assessment of potential impacts is addressed. Through our research we have the capacity to question current technologies, and innovate and appropriately assess future technologies prior to release, and importantly, to continue monitoring and evaluation once technologies are in place. 19. We further present that tertiary education can play a significant role in achieving sustainable economies in an accelerated timeframe through embedding sustainability across curriculum and by enabling it to be delivered through relevant learning and teaching practices that are based on best knowledge, unbiased and distanced commercial conflicts of interest to ensure the current skills and knowledge gap does not exist into the future. 20. We believe that stronger partnerships among governments, civil society organisations, private businesses and stakeholder groups must be established for promoting sustainable economies. Such partnerships need to be within frameworks of accountability and transparency including regulation. In line with this, tertiary education institutions and other stakeholder groups are enjoined to support good practice case studies and promote dissemination of information on such good practices for promoting sustainable economies in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development. On the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) 21. We believe it is necessary to build a strong apex body on sustainable development that works at the global level and can integrate the work of disparate multilateral bodies currently working on each of the three dimensions of sustainable development. This apex body needs to include the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the World Trade Organisation to ensure ALL dimensions of sustainable development are considered, and those with the ability to influence change are involved in decision-making processes. Options to be explored include transforming the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development, or establishing a UN Organization on Sustainable Development. The unifying mandate of this body should be the promotion of sustainable development as a fundamental right of all. 22. We further believe it is essential to immediately establish a broad inclusive multi-stakeholder consultative body or network which is tasked with supporting the apex body through provision of information to assist in realising outcomes and monitoring the implementation of commitments and actions since 1992. Such a body should be participatory, democratic, and have an integral multi-stakeholder character that accords civil society with equal rights and equal voice as those of governments. 23. At the regional level, corresponding sustainable development bodies should be established. Sub-regional analogues could also be created where size and diversity of the region warrant it, such as in the Asia-Pacific. 24. At the national level, governments must establish multi-stakeholder councils for sustainable development (NCSOs) where absent, and strengthen them where already existing. NCSOs must coordinate planning, policy making, issues resolution, and reporting to the corresponding sub-regional/regional and global sustainable development bodies to ensure vertical coherence from implementation levels to the global level. 25. To be effective, the national sustainable development councils should be (a) organized at highest possible level, i.e., chaired by the Head of State/Government; (b) lodged with an appropriate coordinating body such Office of the Prime Minister or highest level elected represented body; (c) composed of relevant ministries and major groups/stakeholders including local authorities; and (d) institutionally stable by virtue of a strong legal mandate and endowed with a dedicated budget. 26. Local authorities are closest to the ground and directly serve the people. They must be given appropriate responsibility and be involved in decision-making that concerns sustainable development. 27. We strongly assert that it is essential for the apex body and governments to recognize the existing efforts of communities and NGOs such as ACTS in promoting sustainable development at the national and local levels. Recognition needs to be accompanied by support, with the provision of platforms to mainstream and link these efforts to have more sustained impacts on development. 28. The above proposals are initial steps to start fundamental changes that are necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century and ensure a sustainable global civilisation in the centuries beyond. In the long term this may include updating the Charter of the UN. ACTS would particularly like to thank and acknowledge the contributions of the following people without whom this document would not be possible: Leanne Denby Danielle Rostan-Herbert Carlene Kirvan Corey Peterson Audette Benson Cathy Horan Brett Sharman Jennifer Klippel Stephen Derrick Aaron Magner Geoff Dennis Clem Campbell John Hassall Ed Maher Sam Kashuk Lesley Stone Lania Lynch Delwyn Langdon John Rafferty Jonathan Pheasant Rowena Scott GUNI's INPUT FOR RIO+20 Input on UNCSD Compilation Document 1. Expectations of Outcome: What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document? In the Outcome Document, two key aspects for the construction of sustainable development should appear: the role of knowledge and its use, and the role of education in the construction of a sustainable future for humanity and the planet: - The Role of Knowledge: We are on the verge of a change in the model of civilization, which cannot be constructed from the old paradigms of a system which has already met its limits. Sustainability involves the development of a new culture that attributes a different kind of value to knowledge and that questions the assumptions on which we are sustaining the comprehension of the world and the human dynamics in it. The major contribution of higher education to sustainability is the co-creation of pertinent knowledge for the understanding of reality, and of doing it with anticipation so as to play a proactive and committed role in the transformation and positive change of societies. The role of higher education as agents of social transformation and how its visions and actions could be re-oriented towards a new understanding of knowledge, broadening the scope of the use of knowledge in society to facilitate the emergence of better and positive contributions to global human coexistence. Renew thought for society: break the conformity of thought by proactively criticizing the world of ideas. Transform the paradigms and beliefs established in social, economic and political systems, how we organize our community and how this is reflected in our education systems. Analyze the ethical, social and environmental implications of the advance of knowledge: Increase the resources invested in analyzing the impact of science and technology and augment the capacity to absorb their expansion, in all aspects of human life. - El papel de la educación: Education is the key for change: sustainable development is a learning process, a way how people is prepared to live and to understand the world they live in. Rethink how we prosper, specially how we do it collectively and then we have to reconsider how we are educating and for what purpose. Now is the moment to widen the scope of education and research in society and to move beyond creating socio-economic wellbeing towards the transformation of society as a whole and the creation of a sustainable global community. 2. Comments on Existing Proposals: What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g. a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others? HEIs can contribute to a green economy and to sustainable development goals by providing the lessons learned by its research, through the training of the professionals of the future, and by introducing technological advances. - Research Experiences and lessons learned: provide solutions through research and through higher education experiences on sustainable development. Democratize access to knowledge and research: provide open access to expert knowledge, making it as useful as it can be for international organizations, UN system, governments, civil associations and citizenry. Move to the idea of socially relevant knowledge as human heritage. Networking and research for local needs and global challenges: Cooperation and co-creation of knowledge and technology. Local needs require local proposals in global frameworks, and global challenges require global solutions that are locally acceptable. However, global solutions can come from local experience and vice versa. Explore how to link scientific research and political decision making related to collective well-being. - Training and development of professionals that can lead the shift towards sustainability Go beyond educating professionals to educating citizens: The mission of higher education is to prepare critical professionals, with ethical awareness and civic commitment. Know how to contribute to the common good through professional practice. Educate for locality, democracy, citizenship, intercultural dialogue and relations, peace building, sustainability, global social justice and a deep understanding of life's dynamics. Make links with previous levels of education. Introduce complexity, uncertainty and transdisciplinarity in the training and in research, towards a holistic vision of reality. Link different areas of knowledge in order to understand complex issues and find solutions to the great problems in the local and global context. - Technology Incorporate sustainability in the creation of technology: shift paradigms from individual competitiveness, economic profitability and a short-term focus to the collective, with social and human benefits and sustainable in the long term. 3. Views on Implementation: What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.) It is necessary to shorten the time in which knowledge reaches society. The democratization of knowledge and education must bring better decisions and actions based on a suitable use of knowledge. The access to education and specially to higher education is an indicator of human development and there is a co-relation between education and the eradication of poverty (source: GUNI Reports on Higher Education in the World). 4. Implementation Tools and Timelines: What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actioned to be implemented? Open up to society: proactive engagement in dialogue with citizens and the rest of social, cultural and economic stakeholders. Create a true knowledge-based society through engagement with society as a whole. Provide a plurality of expert advice in dealing with green economy, poverty and the sustainable development goals. The creation of real partnerships for the co-creation of knowledge and answers to problems and to co-create visions for the future. Partnerships between higher education institutions (at all levels or scales), partnerships with the community stakeholders, and partnerships with governments, NGOs, civil associations, etc. Become cosmopolitan centres of global culture:

build bridges between different cultures and sources of knowledge. Knowledge is no longer produced exclusively by and consumed within universities. Instead, their task should be to connect different kinds of knowledge, forging links between knowledge and citizenship. Input on Role of Tertiary Education 1. Role of Tertiary Education: Please describe why the role of tertiary education institutions' in global sustainable development is central to Rio+20 discussions and Outcomes document. HEIs can play a significant role in building a sustainable paradigm. They may help in facing local and global challenges, facilitating society to answer major global challenges. Their vision and action could be reinforced with a role review towards the creation and distribution of socially relevant knowledge in education and research and in the relationship with communities. They can support, and even anticipate, ways for action to play a proactive and committed role in rebuilt societies. Higher education can prepare people to handle complex realities in a simple way and they should integrate emotional abilities with instrumental and knowledge related abilities. They can train people to learn to learn; to fully understand uncertainty and change; to handle a vast and complex universe of data from many sources and of many different natures; and to discriminate between information, knowledge and wisdom. They can train people to understand what we are, what we are like and how to be, both as individuals and as a group, and to manage their own education and development throughout life. It is an education based on the development of the individual. It is about learning to be, to know, to do, to live together and to transform oneself and society. All this implies personal, family and societal well-being; respecting and searching for knowledge and wisdom; engagement in productive work and recreation; social justice and cohesion; inter-cultural and international co-operation and peace; food security; active citizenship; futures thinking; responsible lifestyles; sharing of resources; and adaptability. 'UN Rio+20 Conference Position Paper' Prepared by KAGCI (Korean Association for Green Campus Initiative) We are living in a transition period of the greatest risk and uncertainty ever experienced in the human history. Earth's climate change, the destruction of natural ecosystem, together with the changing world economic geography and the deepening gap between the rich and the poor are the causes of amplifying anxiety. The most critical problem of these is the intensifying vulnerability of terrestrial ecosystem, which threatens the survival of mankind and their future. At the heart of the problem lies the sustainability crisis – the climate crisis, the environmental crisis, the resource crisis, and the energy crisis, over which mankind has limited control. To save earth and mankind from the present crisis, we need a fundamental change in economic and social lifestyle comparable to the early industrial revolution, which we can call "the sustainability revolution". Sustainability revolution should start at the university, a hall of the leading intellectuals and where future leaders are nurtured. Governments and businesses are tied up with short-term economic recovery and growth, so they are not ready to address the serious global crises in a macroscopic, holistic, and systematic manner. Once we recognize the seriousness of the sustainability crisis, we become sympathetic to the need for change and will start to search for ways to solve the problem. To spread this movement globally as well as locally, we should start a political, economic, social, and cultural reformation movement throughout the world based on the sustainability criteria. The formal education so far was influenced by the early industrial revolution and was framed to fit mass production and mass consumption. The coming age would not allow us to continue the hitherto spending spree lifestyle where consumption was a virtue. New era requires a paradigm shift from the growth-oriented paradigm to the sustainability-oriented paradigm, which cares for the ecological vulnerability of the nature. Concepts such as green economy or green growth are still based on growth-oriented paradigm and are deficient to save the earth and mankind from the crisis at hand. Therefore, following the 1992 Rio Declaration, we need to systemize and sophisticate the sustainability paradigm based on the triple bottom line. In line with this, education contents and methods to link the sustainability paradigm to the real world should be researched and taught at the tertiary education. We hereby declare that sustainability to be the main value for mankind to jointly pursue and tertiary education should play a pioneering role to transmit this value to future leaders and to save the earth from the sustainability crisis. For this, we ask to the UNCSD the following missions: 1. UNCSD evaluates the UNESCO-led DESD (Decade of Education for Sustainable Development) program, and newly starts a research and education program to overcome the upcoming sustainability crisis. 2. To this end, we suggest the UN Secretary General's Office to form a task force to prepare a vision for new value and social, economic systems commensurate with the sustainability crisis era. The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) Input for the Compilation Document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 (Rio+20) The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) is an institutional member NGO representing more than 850 colleges and universities (primarily in the United States of America and Canada). During the AASHE 2011 Conference, a meeting was held to gather input for the UNCSD2012 Compilation Document. Also, for more than one month, AASHE provide opportunities for members to provide input via a webform on the AASHE website. From these various inputs, AASHE has compiled the following recommendations for UNCSD. Regarding the "expectations for the outcome of Rio+20: The outcomes document must recognize the critical role that tertiary education plays in sustainable development. During the past two decades it has become clear that tertiary education has been essential in discovering both problems and solutions related to sustainable development. Through tertiary education's research functions we better understand how what we do currently is not sustainable and what we must do to create a global sustainable society. Furthermore, the outcomes document should specifically recognize the role that tertiary education plays in providing learning opportunities for both professionals and for citizens in contributing to sustainable development. In addition, the outcomes document should recognize the role that tertiary education plays in serving as a testing site for new technologies and that tertiary education facilities can and do model what can be done at larger scale throughout society with respect to sustainable development. Indeed, how tertiary education facilities address issues of water and energy can be drivers of change throughout their communities and nations. Finally, the outcomes document should urge support for tertiary education efforts that provide opportunities through research, education, and example to both advance sustainable development and to eradicate poverty. With respect to comments on existing proposals, specifically a green economy: AASHE has witnessed the important role that tertiary education can play in training technicians and professionals to create and work in the green economy. Only with adequate access to tertiary education can the workforce required by a green economy be prepared for facing the uncertainty of the future and develop the creativity needed to solve the many complex and inter-related problems we face in sustainable development. Furthermore, the critical research that is needed to develop the various technologies of a green economy will necessarily be based in tertiary education's research capacity. Tertiary education will need to be engaged in the advancement of sustainable development. Without this engagement (and support) there will be little chance in creating any economy that is capable of eradicating poverty while reducing global environmental impacts. In particular, it will be important that the education of all stakeholder be advanced to the greatest degree possible but especially the education of young women who will be required to play a significant and equal role in solving the problems of our unsustainable development and growth. With regards to implementation and closing the implementation gap: AASHE supports strong language urging nations to charge their tertiary education system with providing society with graduates who are well trained in the skills needed for creating a globally sustainable society and to focus funding on research at those institutions on those areas that will contribute to sustainable development and the eradication of poverty. Furthermore, AASHE supports strong language that recognizes the need for academic programs to work in more integrated ways to make contributions to solving the complex problems of society. It is important that the outcomes document charges the nations to provide regular reports on their progress with respect to education for sustainable development in both education and training and in research and its dissemination. Finally, the tertiary education institutions themselves should be charged with reporting their progress towards creating a sustainable society within their own practices including reporting on their efforts and impacts on the eradication of poverty. Regular accountability by nations and their tertiary education institutions will be needed to ensure progress in ESD. With respect to specific cooperation mechanisms: AASHE exists to facilitate cooperation among tertiary institutions with respect to sustainable development. The United Nations should provide support for similar collaborative efforts in other countries and should assist in the formation of an umbrella organization that respects the individual differences of the various national and multi-national organizations while providing opportunities for international sharing of sustainable development knowledge. Furthermore, nations should be urged to develop specific funding for exchange programs for both students and instructors that are focused on furthering understanding of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty. Finally, support should be provided to tertiary institutions that make efforts to disseminate their findings to the larger public through community demonstration project and other similar activities. Perhaps most important is the position that AASHE takes with respect to the importance of tertiary education in sustainable development. It has been clear that in the past two decades, tertiary education has made great progress in addressing issues related to sustainable development. Only through the efforts of tertiary education do we understand the complexity of global climate change. Because, as Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said, "the academic community can help us connect the dots" it is imperative that the critical role of tertiary education in sustainable development be explicitly and regularly recognized in the outcomes document from UNCSD 2012. Paul Rowland, Executive Director AASHE Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges - UK The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges - EAUC is the sustainability alliance for the United Kingdom. Established in 1996 the EAUC comprises 312 UK universities and colleges plus another 160 governmental, professional and support organisations and private companies. Our vision is a university, college and learning and skills sector where the principles and values of environmental, economic and social sustainability are embedded. Our Mission is to lead, inspire and equip Members and stakeholders with a shared vision, knowledge and the tools they need to embed sustainability within curriculum and operations. To develop a position to inform the Rio +20



submission, in October 2011 the EAUC conducted a survey of its members. We had a very significant response. In addition a consultation event was held at the University of Exeter. Iain Patton Chief Executive, Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges EAUC National Office Park Campus, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 2RH 01242 714321 [www.eauc.org.uk](http://www.eauc.org.uk) Company No: 5183502 Charity No: 1106172 Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges - UK Input for the Compilation Document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20, 2012 The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges - EAUC is the sustainability alliance for the United Kingdom. Established in 1996 the EAUC comprises 312 UK universities and colleges plus another 160 governmental, professional and support organisations and private companies. Our vision is a university, college and learning and skills sector where the principles and values of environmental, economic and social sustainability are embedded. Our Mission is to lead, inspire and equip Members and stakeholders with a shared vision, knowledge and the tools they need to embed sustainability within curriculum and operations. To develop a position to inform the Rio +20 submission, in October 2011 the EAUC conducted a survey of its members. We had a very significant response reflecting the aspiration (and frustration) from within the TE sector to play a more significant part in leading change. In addition to the survey a consultation event was held at the University of Exeter. I am grateful to EAUC Board Member Harriet Sjerps Jones at the University of Exeter for leading the EAUC response. Why the critical role of Tertiary Education Institutions to Global Sustainable Development must be central to Rio+20 discussions The role that tertiary education can, should and does play in achieving sustainable development has often gone unrecognized and/or under represented. In the past two decades, it has become clear that tertiary education institutions:

- Provide relevant and critical education to our future government, business, industry, education and community leaders. By integrating sustainable development into curriculum, skills training and student development, tertiary education will equip the future with people who have the ethical principles, knowledge and capacity to positively impact the global economic and educational systems, to eradicate poverty and improve access to education for all;
- Are critical homes for the research that provides sustainable solutions to the complex problems of development. Indeed, Secretary Ban Ki-moon pointed out in his call for the world's academic community to find solutions to global hunger, water shortages, and energy issues, "the academic community can help us connect the dots"; and
- Serve as the "test beds" for examining the context in which innovative sustainability practices are executed. As these institutions implement a variety of context-specific sustainability practices through education and operations, they demonstrate the viability of these practices and provide models for sustainable development. However, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is still not being supported at the national level. This is the conclusion of the UNESCO first report on the DESD (2009). International frameworks such as the UN DESD and UNFCCC have presented ESD models but these have not been implemented or supported by national agencies particularly in further and higher education. In light of this, it is recommended that:

- Tertiary institutions and governments alike should provide resources and funding to facilitate the fundamental shift to embed sustainability in the curriculum, research, and operations of tertiary education. The development of tools, resources and appropriate professional development for academics and institutional leaders are required for this fundamental shift in our collective approach to sustainable development to be successful;
- Each tertiary institution within developed countries should partner and work with a tertiary institution from a developing country, for the purpose and mutual benefit of research, knowledge and resource exchange. Each institution should make this partnership explicit through registering on a dedicated UNCSD page, though we do have concerns that this could become a meaningless window-dressing exercise.
- Every tertiary institution should commit to sharing and learning from one another in the spirit of international partnership and long-term global societal benefit.
- Tertiary institutions will act as a locus for catalytic research, learning and action for a transition towards a 'Green Economy'. We are divided over the use of the words 'green economy' or 'green growth' as to many of us this still emphasises economy and growth, and could neglect the importance of social value like social capital and community participation.
- The EAUC would like to see Rio Plus 20 provide incentives and governance frameworks to ensure that the role of education and learning for sustainability is understood by national agencies and supported through grants and other incentives particularly within FE and HE.
- Actions and implementation frameworks are being identified for Climate Change, Biodiversity, MDGS and similar thematic areas. ESD should have a similar set of actions and implementation framework which identifies what constitutes progress in ESD in TE (amongst other sectors).

Iain Patton, Chief Executive, Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges

## Associations 21

Input from Associations 21 to zero draft of final document Rio+20 :

Renew our commitment: for a really sustainable world, OKBrussels, October 28, 2011.

Associations 21 for Sustainable Development is a network of associations and organizations of the civil society working in different fields: environment, culture, agriculture, social economy, education, gender, social work, North-South relations, human rights, etc.

Cfr founding charter: <http://www.associations21.be/Charte-fondatrice>

Since 2006, we develop together a critical transverse thinking, so as to allow everyone access, here and there, now and later, to quality of life. As part of the major group "NGOs" defined in the Rio Declaration, we contribute to social dialogue in Belgium, in order to integrate sustainable development principles into all policies and, eventually, into society. Facing huge problems...

On one hand, concerns expressed by the visionary heads of the Rio Summit in 1992 have now become urgent and immediate problems: 1. In 20 years, the production of wealth has exploded but these are less and less spread. There are still many hungry (1 billion) while in 2011, global food production could be enough to feed 6 billion people, provided that provided that the global food system is controlled and modified. . Meanwhile, around the world, inequality is still growing. In Belgium, according to the General Report on Poverty published in 1994, between 6 and 7% of people were then living below the poverty line. Now in 2011, they are 15%. In 2015, most of the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals will not be achieved.

2. The pressure of human activity on resources has also emphasized; particularly, the ecological footprint of industrialized countries is still growing. Consequently, humanity has exceeded the limits of Earth's biocapacity and the most vulnerable populations are the most affected, especially in developing countries. The three major Rio conventions of 1992 (climate change desertification and biodiversity) have failed to contain global warming, desertification and biodiversity loss.

3. Liberalization has facilitated the globalization of trade without internalizing social and environmental costs. The financialization of the economy has pushed these trends and changed the balance of power in favor of financial institutions, so that it has been more and more difficult to take measures towards sustainability.

4. In this context, repeated crises and austerity programmes cause social conflicts and push numerous people in misery.... Seizing countless opportunities On the other hand, the commitments made in 1992 have led many initiatives across associations, companies, local authorities and States, many of whom have proven their relevance and are now credible solutions to get the humanity out of these multiple crises. There are countless examples in the following fields: agro-ecology & farming in the perspective of food sovereignty, renewable energy, social economy, green building, waste reuse, waste reduction ..., complementary currencies, solidarity-based initiatives... Last but not least, the successful experiences of participation of those concerned, particularly the poorest, and of involvement of cultural actors in this dynamic of change. The challenge: proactive and courageous policies, effective regulation It is now time to bring out such initiatives of their niches and to break the "glass ceiling" that prevents them from transforming the world ... and society. To achieve such a goal, proactive policies and effective regulation are crucial, because the market can't regulate itself. It is also possible because for 20 years, the concept of sustainable development made its way into institutions and in minds. Given the crises described above, the biggest part of the world's population is now ready to understand their relevance and emergency. So as in Belgium, it is high time to apply the "durability testing" (impact assessment of decisions on sustainable development), enshrined in law and mandated but not yet implemented. Yet this tool being "oiled" at different power levels, we could make it effectively inspiring for others countries. Renew our commitment yes, if it is for such a goal! The final declaration of the Rio Conference in 2012 has to be an inspiring and motivating document for all stakeholders invited to renew their commitments for the future, while taking into account not only the "emerging challenges" but also all those who waited too long for the decisive stage of regulation. This commitment will be meaningful only if it is based on:

- thorough analysis of the reasons why our development patterns aren't sustainable
- an alternative proposal responding to the wishes of the majority, by insuring social justice in the redistribution of the wealth produced
- a drastic reduction of the footprint of

industrialized countries while preventing runaway in some emerging countries. Renew our commitment: yes, but how? This commitment can be translated into sustainable development Goals (SDG). At first, they should not compromise the continuation of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Anyway, for those SDG to be acceptable, relevant, realistic and measurable by all parties, their definition will take some time. It is thus reasonable to agree the SDG to take over the MDGs as from 2015. Managing transition to fair and sustainable ways of life. The first theme of the conference - a green economy - is reductive, even though the following clarification was added: "In the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication." By the way, green economy is presented as the main solution. Decoupling is one of the measures but not the only one to allow a real change of paradigm & civilization. The priority is now to put the social pillar in the heart of the debate. Indeed, allowing more fairness in a world with limited resources, requires not only technical changes but also social and cultural innovations. The economy is not a goal but a tool that must be converted so as to allow transition to a fair and sustainable patterns for all. Furthermore, the aim is to fight against inequality and not against poverty (certainly not against the poor!) Why transform the economy? Because since 1992, overall wealth produced by growth, exploded! But translating these gains in economic welfare is less efficient. Between 1990 and 2001, for every \$ 100 increase in GDP / person, only \$ 0.6 helped reduce extreme poverty (\$ 1 / day / person). So, for every dollar allocated to poverty reduction, \$ 166 come from production and consumption. The poor performance of the current economic model not only does not contribute to reduction of inequalities, it exacerbates also dangerously environmental degradation. How to transform the economy?

1. Ensuring compliance with social and environmental standards

2. Internalizing in costs all social and environment costs.

3. In these perspective, it is necessary to go beyond GDP with a set of indicators, focusing on the ecological footprint (which should be as close as possible to 2 ha / person / year), on employment, inequality (a GINI index as low as possible), well-being and the realization of human rights. According to the Human Development Index (HDI), the minimum level to achieve worldwide minimum = 0.8. Equity, redistribution, participation. Currently, the least developed countries lack the financial means to implement such a policy. However, these countries are in the frontline to face famine and climate change. Meanwhile, in Northern countries, societies are increasingly dual. Therefore, it is urgent to:

1. Ensure, in each State and at the global level, more redistributive policies that reduce inequalities and ensure the realization of basic human rights for all.

2. Protect Social Security where it exists (eg in Belgium) against the austerity policies, and promote it where it remains to be established.

3. Recognize gender differentiated impact of climate change and strengthen the role of women, as agents of change, in the decision-making processes by improving access to resources, land and skills ensuring their right to sexual and reproductive health and education as mentioned in Chapter 24 of Rio Declaration (1992).

4. Consolidate the role of policy as regulators.

5. Control and regulate financial markets, therefore tax havens must be forbidden.

6. Create tax instruments harmonized on global level: financial transactions tax, carbon tax wealth tax, withdrawal from the Agreement of Chicago giving the airline industry an exemption from tax on kerosene.

7. Establish fully participation processes that systematically take into account the views of civil society on different power levels, particularly in the context of international meetings; for example, the new "Committee for Food Security" (CFS) established within the framework of United Nations (FAO). Reduce the environmental footprint. The drain on natural resources should be minimized, while maximizing the positive social and environmental effects of new production and consumption models. Therefore, the following steps need cooperation rather than competition between States, in order to:

1. Set product standards on global level, so as to ban pollutants on global level as well.

2. Subordinate world trade agreements to treaties on labor, environment, agriculture and human rights, so that it really takes into account needs and potentials of people, preservation and restoration of natural resources. So, prices in B to C exchanges should really internalise the costs of different production processes and marketing patterns so that they become sustainable and in order to stop dumping.

3. Reach a binding, ambitious and fair climate agreement, so that EU is committed to reduce GHG emissions by at least 40% within Europe and to finance the climate fund for developing countries.

4. Ensure greater coherence for all SD policies. This requires:

- a "no harm" procedure so as to avoid conflicting policies or measures (eg, a Belgian or European climate policy inducing land grabs and a netto increase of greenhouse gases beyond our borders).
- Reinforced analysis tools: systematic impact assessments – including gender among other criteria – of trade policies, financial, agricultural, climate, cooperation, etc. .... on SD.
- Stated objectives to fight inequalities (not against the poor but with their participation)
- stricter application of the precautionary principle to new technologies. Our "common's" future. The international community must now integrate a hierarchy of rights giving primacy to the commons and public interest. Therefore:

1. Basic rights all over the world must be realized with respect for international human rights and environmental conventions. These, like food security, must be above trade laws in the hierarchy.

2. It is time to shift land, agriculture and trade policies by giving primacy to the right of use for soil and natural resources rather than to exchange laws. So as to stop merchandising of commons, the principles related to the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity (TEEB), should be reviewed. Ultimately, credible alternatives to emissions trading and other "rights to pollute" should be defined because so as they are, they increase inequalities.

Agriculture: a priority solution

During Rio UNCS D Summit, a particular attention should be given to the entire food system. On this point, Association 21 refers to the common declaration of civil society entitled "Rio +20: time to act" [www.time2actrio20.org](http://www.time2actrio20.org). Indeed, agriculture is both a problem and the main solution to feed the world on a sustainable way, while ensuring food sovereignty principles and self-sufficiency. In that perspective, let:

1. relocate production and diversify consumption and food processing by reducing the power of oligopolies..

2. Stop land grabbing.

3. Give priority to the food function in land use including ensuring women's access to land.

4. Support farming and agro-ecology.

5. Replenish food stocks at the regional level to ensure the supply of distressed areas and to avoid speculative outbreaks of prices, while ensuring proper management of stocks in order to avoid waste.
6. Improve the local processing, including by women, to increase the added value and therefore the management and control of income on the spot of production. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development: providing the means to act multilaterally. Institutional reform considered in the Rio+20 process is an opportunity for adopting within the UN institutions a strategy to integrate the principle of sustainable development into all policies and institutions. To do this:
  1. The coordination of different agencies and programs must be provided by an executive body with the authority and resources needed to monitor and sanction, if needed. In that perspective, the "Commission of Sustainable Development" (CSD) must be transformed and eventually merged with ECOSOC.
  2. Beside this, it is now time for UNEP to become a true World Environment Organisation, like the WTO and the ILO, the WTO being subject to compliance with social and environmental standards in all economic policies.
  3. In order to legitimate taking account of sustainability on all levels, we also advocate the creation of an international panel of experts on sustainability like the IPCC (for climate) and the IAAST (for Agriculture and Food). Such a panel should be balanced regarding to gender and South//North.
  4. The recommendations from the Committee for Food Security (UN / FAO) must be applied in the regions and states with the participation of civil society.
  5. Environmental justice must be ensured and the principle 10 of Rio Declaration must be implemented. Therefore Arrhus Convention should be extended worldwide.
  6. A multilateral protocol should ensure implementation of the precautionary principle before any use of new technologies.
  7. The framework for action should include accountability mechanisms for authorities. They should be accountable to the major groups and create services "ombudsman" for future generations.

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## Ateliers Terre

### CONFERENCE DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE RIO+20

#### 4-6 JUIN 2012, RIO, BRESIL. CONTRIBUTION DES ATELIERS DE LA TERRE

*Tirée du Livre Blanc de la Global Conference 2011,*

#### **REVOLUTIONNER LE CADRE INSTITUTIONNEL DE LA GOUVERNANCE POUR FAVORISER LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE ET L'ESSOR DE L'ECONOMIE VERTE**

### Préambule

Les Ateliers de la Terre sont un cercle de réflexion indépendant qui analyse les défis contemporains et à venir en matière de développement durable. Leur vocation est d'animer la vie des idées, d'encourager l'innovation intellectuelle et de produire de l'expertise pour alimenter la vision de long terme des décideurs et participer à

l'élaboration d'un nouveau modèle de société, plus respectueux de l'homme et de l'environnement.

Résolument tournés vers l'action, les Ateliers de la Terre se focalisent également sur la valorisation des expériences de terrain réussies et diffusent les bonnes pratiques pour accompagner le changement vers des modèles de développement et de société plus soutenables.

Les 26, 27 et 28 septembre 2011 a eu lieu à Evian, France, la VIème édition de la Global Conference des

Ateliers de la Terre.

Plus de 900 décideurs, leaders d'opinion, responsables gouvernementaux, chefs d'entreprises, d'ONG et d'associations, représentants de la société civile, chercheurs, académiques et medias, originaires de 65 pays,

se sont réunis pendant trois jours pour échanger et imaginer les solutions permettant de faire face aux défis économiques, sociétaux et environnementaux qui caractérisent notre monde actuel.

Dans le cadre de cette VIème édition, la thématique retenue était la suivante : « **Quelles révolutions pour gouverner ensemble un monde vulnérable ?** ».

En choisissant ce thème comme cadre de réflexion commun de ces trois jours d'échanges, les Ateliers de la Terre ont voulu souligner le fait que de véritables révolutions (des modes de pensée, des modes de vie, des modes de consommation et de déplacement, et surtout des modèles de gouvernance) sont nécessaires pour

faire face aux enjeux de notre temps et pour parvenir à une gouvernance efficace et partagée à l'échelle pl a-

nétaire.

**Cette 6ème édition de la Global Conference a donc été pensée en cohérence avec le Sommet de Rio, puisque l'une des deux priorités de Rio+20 est la définition d'un cadre institutionnel de gouvernance du développement durable.**

Déclinée en plusieurs sous-thèmes pendant ces trois jours, cette question a permis de mettre en avant les innovations et solutions existantes, mais aussi d'imaginer des révolutions qui nous permettront de faire face, tous ensemble, aux défis posés par la multitude des crises (politique, économique, sociale et environnemen- tale) que nous traversons.

Trois *Commissions de Travail* ont également présenté leurs travaux à Evian dans le cadre de cette VIème édition de la Global Conference :

-*Internationaliser le modèle de l'entrepreneuriat social*, en partenariat avec le Groupe SOS.

*-Responsabilité Sociale et Environnementale : faire évoluer la gouvernance des entreprises, en partenariat avec Terra Nova.*

*-La médiation comme solution de règlement des conflits environnementaux, en partenariat avec l'ESSEC-*

IRENE.

La contribution des Ateliers de la Terre pour la Conférence des Nations Unies pour le Développement Durable est tirée du Livre Blanc de la Global Conference 2011 et s'attache à mettre en avant les idées et propositions évoquées pendant ces trois jours de réflexion.

**Cette contribution est donc constituée de la synthèse des échanges de la Global Conference 2011. Elle comprend également les recommandations proposées par les experts des trois commissions de travail mises en place cette année.**

#### **« Face aux bouleversements du monde, quelle gouvernance construire ? »**

*Concilier vulnérabilité et développement économique nécessite un changement radical de modèles. Plusieurs alternatives sont envisagées: remettre en cause le système actuel de la gouvernance mondiale ; renforcer les institutions existantes ou mettre en place une instance plus fonctionnelle. Un modèle unique est-il souhaitable ? Comment allier attentes des acteurs économiques et équilibres géopolitiques mondiaux ?*

« Nous avons trop parlé, et insuffisamment agi ». Cette phrase de Karl Falkenberg résume un constat largement partagé par les acteurs et experts du développement durable.

Les décideurs d'aujourd'hui sont nés dans un monde qui comptait entre trois et quatre milliards d'habitants. Aujourd'hui, la population mondiale atteint quasiment sept milliards d'habitants, et les prévisions pour les décennies à venir envisagent neuf milliards d'habitants.

La gouvernance à l'échelle mondiale est souvent perçue comme le produit de l'action des grandes institutions internationales, comme les Nations unies. Or, ces institutions, nées dans un contexte historique et social bien précis – celui de l'après-Seconde Guerre mondiale – doivent faire face à une remise en cause profonde de

leur mode de fonctionnement. Leur pertinence dans le traitement des défis du développement durable est questionnée.

L'efficacité des modes de gouvernance doit s'évaluer à l'aune de leur capacité à traiter les défis du

développement durable dans leur multiplicité, même si les objectifs peuvent à l'occasion apparaître

contradictoires. Les réponses proposées doivent tenir compte cette complexité et, en premier lieu, elles ne doivent pas négliger l'humain. Par exemple, sauvegarde de la biodiversité ne peut se faire au détriment de la réduction de la pauvreté et de l'élimination de la fin, qui sont des objectifs du millénaire.

Le maintien en l'état pour les prochaines décennies des structures de production et des contraintes extrêmes qu'elles placent sur les écosystèmes ne peut être accepté. Il est nécessaire de mettre en place sans tarder

des solutions durables, qui réduisent les émissions et la pollution, utilisables par toutes les nations.

Le constat de l'insuffisance de la gouvernance actuelle face aux évolutions du monde et aux défis du développement durable étant établi, quelles solutions s'offrent aux acteurs économiques, politiques et sociaux ?

#### **Gouvernance publique des acteurs privés ?**

*Les acteurs privés sur la sellette*

Certains regrettent qu'avec l'accélération de la mondialisation qui a marqué les vingt dernières années le code de conduite de ces entreprises soit devenu évanescent, que leurs comportements ne soient pas étudiés

ni surveillés, et qu'aucune instance ne permette de les sanctionner efficacement le cas échéant.

Les conventions et traités concernant des sujets spécifiques, comme la pollution, ne sont pas des outils adaptés pour condamner des actions néfastes de la part d'entreprises.

Certaines organisations internationales manquent de pouvoir, comme l'OIT ; d'autres sont perçues comme des instruments de la mondialisation libérale et de l'économie financière qui assure la prospérité des multinationales, comme le FMI, la Banque Mondiale ou l'Organisation mondiale du commerce.

Les entreprises multinationales se sont développées jusqu'à atteindre une puissance considérable. La mise en perspective des montants en jeu avec les chiffres correspondant à l'économie des États donne le vertige.

À titre d'exemple, le chiffre d'affaires d'un géant de l'informatique, dont les effectifs sont d'environ 50 000 employés dépasse le produit intérieur brut de plus de 120 pays ; et la capitalisation boursière de cette même

entreprise correspond au produit intérieur brut de l'Autriche – un pays avancé et industrialisé de plus de 8 millions d'habitants.

Cette puissance peut légitimement soulever des inquiétudes, car le déséquilibre induit met un grand nombre

de pays dans une situation d'inégalité, voire de sujétion, face aux multinationales.

En réalité, toutes les entreprises ne s'exonèrent pas de leur responsabilité sociale et environnementale. Dans les pays en voie de développement, si certaines entreprises se conduisent en prédateur, d'autres adoptent un comportement responsable. Celles-ci sont encore plus sensibles à cette responsabilité lorsqu'elles évoluent dans un environnement fragile où les effets de leurs interventions peuvent être considérables.

Il convient d'éviter l'amalgame et de ne pas blâmer l'ensemble des entreprises pour ces comportements.

Toutes les entreprises présentes dans des pays émergents ont la capacité, en agissant sur les salaires,

conditions de travail et modes d'opération, de participer à une gouvernance incluant les besoins de la population et permettant de répondre, même à petite échelle, aux nécessités du développement durable.

*Soft power : quels résultats ?*

Ce type d'action est considéré comme faisant partie du « *soft power* », par opposition aux lois et règlements

(« *hard power* »).

Cette gouvernance locale peut être définie dans des codes et chartes de conduite des entreprises, dans des engagements vis-à-vis des parties prenantes et de la société civile. Mais il convient surtout qu'elle associe les

pouvoirs publics et les autorités locales, qui sont souvent défaillants dans les pays les moins avancés.

Par ailleurs, les citoyens ont une responsabilité individuelle sur leurs modes de vie, qui permet de favoriser des comportements bénéfiques pour le développement durable. Cette responsabilité peut s'étendre aux organisations des modes de gouvernance collectifs : dans l'entreprise, dans les associations, dans les collectivités territoriales – jusqu'aux gouvernements.

L'idée maîtresse est d'éviter la dilution bureaucratique et de conférer à tous les acteurs la responsabilité

partagée des décisions ?

### **Dépasser les blocages nationaux**

S'agissant des États et des organisations internationales, leur action est souvent marquée par la défense d'intérêts catégoriels. Les défis du développement durable se heurtent aux structures économiques, sociales et industrielles complexes des pays qui défendent – ou croient défendre – le bien-être de leur population et

leur prospérité économique. Les vicissitudes du Protocole de Kyoto montrent que les pays riches ont toujours tendance à pratiquer un protectionnisme économique qui nuit au développement durable.

Certains pays émergents ont connu des succès remarquables dans leur trajectoire de développement au cours des dernières années. Ainsi, sous la présidence de Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, près de 40 millions de Brésiliens sont sortis de la pauvreté.

Toutefois, ce succès a été réalisé au détriment de la protection de l'environnement et en particulier de la forêt

amazonienne.

L'intérêt du développement brésilien entre en conflit avec la préservation du patrimoine mondial qu'est la forêt amazonienne. Cette situation est symptomatique de la difficulté de la coordination internationale dans la gouvernance du développement durable : les écosystèmes et les défis environnementaux associés ne reconnaissent pas les frontières internationales.

Il a été proposé de bâtir une Organisation internationale de l'environnement, qui pourrait fédérer des compétences issues d'autres organisations internationales (Santé, Travail, Agriculture, Commerce, etc.) et offrir un cadre de débat et de décision plus efficace afin de dépasser les critiques énoncées à l'encontre des

grandes institutions de la communauté internationale. Dans la perspective de la préparation du sommet Rio

+20 de 2012, cette proposition est d'une grande actualité.

Dans l'Union européenne, la règle de l'unanimité, très stricte dans son application, apparaît comme un frein à une action déterminée en faveur du développement durable. De manière générale, l'unanimité ne saurait être

un mode de gouvernance adapté aux défis à relever.

Toutefois, dans le cadre européen, l'effet d'entraînement d'une décision soutenue par la Commission et le Conseil est particulièrement bénéfique. L'adoption d'une gouvernance reposant sur la majorité qualifiée ou sur des pôles de pays volontaires peut être un moyen d'action efficace en ce sens.

### **La gouvernance : une médiation**

Le succès d'une gouvernance nouvelle doit être apprécié au travers des réponses et des résultats obtenus. À

ce titre, l'évaluation doit être intégrée à la gouvernance. Des acteurs externes sont en mesure de porter un

regard sur les projets en amont, lors de leur conception, et en aval lors de leur implémentation. Une évaluation sincère, objective et efficace favorise les bonnes pratiques.

De tels exemples existent au sein d'initiatives de conservation ou de démarches volontaires d'entreprises, comme celle de la Table ronde sur l'huile de palme responsable. De manière similaire, certaines entreprises

comme Puma répondent aux questionnements soulevés par des ONG sur la dangerosité des produits.

La gouvernance est un moyen et non une fin en soi. C'est un ensemble de pratiques qui a pour but d'orienter les acteurs – publics, privés et individuels, de favoriser les comportements responsables et de définir et implémenter des réponses aux défis du développement durable. C'est une médiation entre les besoins immenses du développement durable et les réponses nécessairement nouvelles qu'il convient d'apporter.

#### « Acteurs nouveaux, pouvoirs différents, modèles balbutiants »

*De nouveaux acteurs ont émergé sur la scène internationale. La « société civile » est devenue incontournable. L'émergence de ces nouveaux acteurs nécessite une redistribution de l'équilibre des pouvoirs à l'échelle globale. Faut-il une révolution des institutions démocratiques pour les associer aux décisions ? Sommes-nous déjà rentrés dans la République des réseaux ?*

Les mots « gouvernance » et « nouveaux modèles » ont probablement été ceux qui furent le plus prononcés au cours de cette 6ème Edition de la Global Conference des Ateliers de la Terre. En effet, la conscience d'une nécessaire recherche de nouveaux types de gouvernance et d'approches économiques est de plus en plus forte et partagée. L'émergence de la société civile dans les différents débats politiques et économiques laissent à penser que de nouveaux acteurs prennent ou partagent une partie du pouvoir et que s'instaure un

nouveau bilatéralisme « société civile » face à « pouvoir économique ». Peut-on réellement parler de nouveaux acteurs ou n'assistons nous pas plutôt à un rééquilibrage des pouvoirs ? Au delà de ces questions, le sujet d'un nouveau mode de gouvernance mondial reste la clé pour s'engager vers un vrai développement durable.

La question consistant à comprendre si on faisait face à de nouveaux acteurs ou à un rééquilibrage des pouvoirs entre acteurs a été centrale au cours des différents débats.

Depuis la chute du Mur de Berlin, le poids du pouvoir politique ne cesse de reculer dans les pays démocratiques et ce sont des acteurs présents depuis toujours qui ont soit conforté leur pouvoir soit qui sont

arrivés sur le devant de la scène. Il s'agit essentiellement de la société civile et de ses relais dont l'expression

n'est plus sans conséquence aujourd'hui pour les sphères économiques et politiques. Il s'agit aussi bien sur

de la mise en lumière d'une évidence existant depuis les balbutiements du commerce qui est le poids

croissant et affirmé de la sphère privée économique. C'est elle qui aujourd'hui exerce une part non

significative du pouvoir et qui s'oppose de plus en plus régulièrement aux représentants de la société civile.

Les débats de cette conférence ont clairement mis en avant plus une réallocation des pouvoirs entre acteurs

que l'apparition de nouveaux acteurs.

Les taux de participations aux élections des différents pays démocratiques ces dernières années traduisent de leur côté la baisse de crédibilité et de confiance des politiques. Cette dégradation est renforcée par de multiples exemples de leur incapacité à réguler les problématiques sociales, économiques et environnementales mondiales. Les exemples du changement climatique et de la crise financière sont les plus récentes illustrations.

Dans le même temps et sur ces mêmes sujets les ONG ont démontré leur capacité à faire entendre les voix

de cette société civile qui hors crise ou révolution ne s'exprimait que peu lors des siècles passés. Les

conséquences des alertes portées par ces organisations au cours de ces dernières décennies ont souvent été à l'origine d'évolutions importantes du fonctionnement de notre société. Cependant, les récents bouleversements politiques dans le Monde Arabe démontrent aussi que la société civile n'a pas toujours besoin de relais structurés (type ONG) pour s'exprimer y compris pour engager ces changements de gouvernance radicaux. Et c'est ainsi qu'on arrive aujourd'hui à une nouvelle réallocation des pouvoirs ou la sphère économique concentre l'essentiel du pouvoir face à une société civile et à ses relais se faisant de plus en plus entendre et à un pouvoir politique à la recherche d'une nouvelle gouvernance et d'une nouvelle

légitimité.

L'internationalisation relayée par l'efficacité des moyens de communication et de transport est une des

explications de ce rééquilibrage des pouvoirs. En effet, très vite, l'activité économique humaine s'est fondée sur les échanges internationaux. Dès l'antiquité, les « hommes d'affaires grecques » agissaient sur un territoire méditerranéen bien au delà de leurs frontières. Ceci n'a fait que se renforcer, au cours du temps et aujourd'hui, l'activité économique et mondiale totalement globalisée et s'appuie sur des outils et moyens adaptés. Cette question de la territorialité n'est pas neutre dans les débats. En effet, l'expression politique est encore très ancrée sur des zones locales et assez peu globales. Elle agit au plus au niveau d'un pays. Les premières recherches d'une gouvernance mondiale politique au travers de La Société Des Nations puis via

l'ONU n'ont pas été grandement couronnées de succès jusqu'à la fin des années 90. La multiplication des

crises politiques sanitaires, alimentaires et politiques a démontré le manque d'efficacité de ces organismes

supranationaux.

Dans le même temps, ces mêmes crises ont fait apparaître une série d'acteurs issus de la société civile qui

se sont élevés d'une part contre l'inefficacité politique et d'autre part contre l'ignorance volontaire par la

sphère économique des enjeux sociaux, sociétaux et environnementaux.

C'est ainsi qu'on arrive à la situation d'aujourd'hui où une puissance économique mondialisée fait face à une

société civile locale et globale en l'absence d'une gouvernance politique et démocratique internationale.

Il serait illusoire de croire que la recherche d'un développement durable pourra se passer de l'action politique.

C'est cette action, dans une logique démocratique, qui est la seule à même de proposer des modèles de

société compatibles avec la démographie et les ressources de la planète.

Face à ce constat la question de savoir comment travailler à un rééquilibrage des pouvoirs, qui est le seul garant

d'un exercice efficace de la démocratie.

L'enjeu qui est devant nous n'est pas de donner la prééminence à un acteur mais bien d'envisager, comme cela a pu être proposé lors des débats de cette conférence, un fonctionnement multilatéral accompagné d'une réelle gouvernance. Il n'est pas envisageable que la société civile et la sphère économique ne soit pas régulées et le seul à le pouvoir ne peut être que l'acteur politique. Ce dernier doit donc faire sa révolution et chercher un modèle démocratique supranational capable de s'adapter à la nouvelle territorialité des enjeux et

de leurs acteurs.

Le fonctionnement des Nations Unies depuis Rio illustre ce que pourrait être un fonctionnement politique international : sur les sujets environnementaux et sociétaux l'ONU tente d'organiser un multilatéralisme connectant l'ensemble des acteurs vers un seul et même objectif. L'efficacité n'est pas encore démontrée, mais c'est probablement sur ces bases et sur ces modèles où sphères politique, économique et sociétal

peuvent se rencontrer et travailler ensemble.

Dans un plan similaire, la construction de l'Europe essentiellement sur des réalités politique et économique est une réelle opportunité de tester le fonctionnement d'une gouvernance supranationale.

L'enjeu est majeur pour les politiques du monde entier car ce n'est ni aux acteurs économiques ni à la société

civile de proposer un modèle de développement et une gouvernance. Ils doivent y contribuer mais dans le respect d'un cadre défini au plan politique. Face à des enjeux globalisés la réponse des décideurs politiques ne peut se faire que dans un contexte lui aussi globalisé. Le vrai modèle à inventer reste donc aujourd'hui un

modèle politique ancré sur son territoire mais en même temps capable de faire face aux grands enjeux qui se

jouent à l'échelle de la planète. L'économie et la société civile agissent déjà dans ces deux champs et le plus

souvent sans réelle gouvernance, et sur ces points les débats de la Global Conference 2011 ont été particulièrement riches.

À 7 milliards de personnes aujourd'hui sur la planète et à 9 milliards demain le mot clé de cette conférence reste plus que jamais « Gouvernance ». Mais l'enjeu est de savoir de quelle gouvernance parlons-nous. Elle

ne peut être que démocratique et construite par le pouvoir politique. Il faut donc sans briser la nécessaire territorialité locale imaginer un mode de fonctionnement international dans le sens de l'intérêt général. Cette approche impliquera parfois des renoncements pour certains et des changements pour d'autres, mais elle est probablement la seule option soutenable dans le long terme. Il ne s'agit pas de réinventer la démocratie mais bien de la faire comprendre et accepter à 7 milliards de citoyens d'un même territoire.

#### **« Le développement durable, esquivé ou réalité ? »**

*Le concept de développement durable est aujourd'hui questionné. Tel qu'il a été conçu, il ne semble plus répondre aux enjeux actuels. Devant l'accélération des crises, faut-il plus mettre l'accent sur la responsabilité des acteurs ou imaginer des stratégies de rupture? Le temps n'est-il pas venu de mettre en œuvre des modèles révolutionnaires ?*

Le « développement durable », bien que né il y a environ 25 ans, reste un concept encore jeune qui n'a pas atteint la pleine maturité. Ses principes fondateurs sont bien connus : éclairer les décisions de toute organisation à la lumière des enjeux sociaux, environnementaux et économiques et placer ces mêmes décisions dans une optique de long terme en prenant en compte les transferts générationnels. En reliant les

pilliers économique, social et environnemental, le développement durable place la notion d'équilibre au cœur

des décisions des acteurs économiques. La justesse du message porté par ce concept est aujourd'hui

confirmée par les événements se déroulant au niveau mondial. En effet, le système économique actuel néglige les dommages causés à l'environnement et aux populations. Lors d'une récente conférence de l'ambassade de Chine à Paris, il était fait état des dommages causés par les désordres sociaux et

environnementaux dans ce pays : 70% des cours d'eau et des bassins sont pollués; 40% en ont perdu l'exploitabilité, 90% des cours d'eau sont gravement pollués dans les zones urbaines, 16 des 20 villes les plus polluées du monde sont chinoises, 33% du territoire reçoit des pluies acides, etc. Dans cette situation, la perte économique causée par la pollution est estimée entre 8 et 13 % du PIB. Avec une vision de développement durable, la croissance chinoise peut-elle être vraiment considérée comme une croissance à

deux chiffres ? Nous n'entrerons pas ici dans la question des indicateurs de mesure de la croissance (ou du

bien-être) mais ceci nous amène à penser que le constat posé par le concept de développement durable est

plus que jamais d'actualité et que c'est probablement la validité de ce constat qui s'est radicalisée au cours

des dernières années.

Certains acteurs continuent encore à esquiver leurs responsabilités en contestant (parfois partiellement) la réalité du constat de la détérioration de l'état de la planète et en utilisant le concept de développement durable dans une version édulcorée sans s'attaquer à la racine des problèmes. Et pourtant, près de 25 ans après la naissance de ce concept, la situation s'est aggravée. Nous citerons ici les éléments collectés par le

WWF et publiés dans le Rapport Planète vivante 2010. Il est notamment fait état du déclin de la biodiversité, en particulier dans les zones tropicales et les habitats d'eau

douce. L'index planète vivante montre en effet une baisse de 30 % depuis 1970, dont les aires tropicales apparaissent comme les plus touchées avec une baisse de 60 % en moins de 40 ans. Par ailleurs, les pays à haut revenus ont une Empreinte Ecologique environ trois fois plus importante que les pays à revenus moyens et à peu près cinq fois plus importante que les pays à faible revenus. Enfin, sur la base des données de 2007 analysées dans le rapport 2010,

l'Empreinte Ecologique de la Terre a dépassé sa biocapacité de 50 %. D'après le WWF, « nous sommes en

capacité de dépasser cette biocapacité uniquement dans la mesure où l'atmosphère fonctionne comme soupape de sécurité, ceci malheureusement sans éviter des conséquences climatiques. »

Le concept de développement durable s'appuie sur un constat et porte une ambition. Depuis quelques années, le constat de la gravité de la crise environnementale et sociale s'est confirmé, et l'ambition de réconciliation intra et inter générationnelle est plus que jamais d'actualité. Il ne faut donc pas se méprendre

sur le concept de développement durable car il ne porte pas en lui les solutions concrètes et pratiques du quotidien, c'est à l'ensemble des acteurs de les inventer à la lumière des principes posés. Ce concept est en fait à même de provoquer les nécessaires ruptures d'intérêt général. Et aujourd'hui, en effet, la pensée

théorique et les expérimentations de terrain progressent rapidement se portant, pour certains, vers des innovations de rupture. Ainsi, la radicalité du constat ne peut plus nous faire esquiver le problème posé par la

relative lenteur et pauvreté des solutions apportées jusqu'à présent.

A cet égard, les entreprises sont parfois aujourd'hui des vecteurs privilégiés de la mise en place de solutions

concrètes plus radicales. De quelle nature sont-elles ?

On distingue des actions liées à différents types de stratégies : s'adapter / innover sans rupture pour les uns

et innovation de rupture pour les autres en remettant en cause le modèle existant. Dans les stratégies d'adaptation, on retrouve par exemple la réduction des impacts sociaux et environnementaux des produits ou le développement d'une offre éco conçue ou socialement responsable permettant respectivement de baisser les coûts et de développer l'attractivité d'une marque. Quant aux stratégies de rupture, on peut donner l'exemple de l'économie de fonctionnalité dans laquelle l'entreprise revoit de façon fondamentale sa stratégie

commerciale en passant de la vente de produits ou de biens à la vente de services ou bien encore des stratégies BOP (Bottom of the Pyramid) qui consiste à développer une offre spécifique pour les populations à bas revenus.

Ces innovations de rupture sont aujourd'hui possibles dans nombre de secteurs d'activités. Les participants à la table ronde lors de la 5ème Edition des Ateliers de la Terre ont d'ailleurs appelé à ne pas se cacher derrière certains arguments qui ont jusque là entretenus « l'esquive ». Des éléments tels que le besoin de

gouvernance mondiale, les bienfaits du progrès technologique nous placent dans un horizon de temps bien souvent trop lointain, alors que des actions en rupture peuvent être engagées dès maintenant par les acteurs économiques.

Pour conclure, il nous apparaît que le concept de développement durable est toujours pertinent et en phase avec les enjeux actuels. Il définit une ambition de changement qui s'appuie notamment sur le constat d'une détérioration accrue de l'état de la planète. Néanmoins, malgré ses 25 ans, il s'agit d'un concept jeune qui laisse place à l'inventivité des acteurs dans sa mise en œuvre opérationnelle. Aujourd'hui, l'urgence face à la

montée des enjeux environnementaux et sociaux et la relative faiblesse des acteurs publics en terme de

régulation mondiale ont poussé certains acteurs privés à engager des stratégies de rupture, n'est ce pas là la

plus belle preuve de vie de ce concept de développement durable ?

#### « Rio+20 : souvenirs ou avenir ? »

*L'ambition commune proclamée il y a 20 ans et fondée sur une approche globale s'est traduite par des résultats en demi-teinte. Peut-on toujours construire nos espoirs sur cette démarche ou faut-il favoriser les espaces de négociations sectoriels et régionaux ? La croissance verte est-elle réellement un concept fédérateur ?*

La conférence Rio+20 aura lieu à Rio de Janeiro (Brésil) du 4 au 6 juin 2012. Elle porte sur deux thèmes : la croissance verte dans un contexte de développement durable et d'éradication de la pauvreté et le cadre institutionnel du développement durable. Elle aura lieu 20 ans après la conférence Rio de Janeiro en 1992 qui

avait notamment donné lieu à la création de l'agenda 21 ainsi qu'à l'adoption de trois grandes conventions :

sur la diversité biologique (CDB), sur les changements climatiques (CCNUCC) et sur la lutte contre la désertification. Ces 20 ans écoulés appellent à dresser un bilan des avancées.

Concernant l'évolution de l'environnement mondial, le résumé pour les décideurs du programme des Nations

Unies pour l'environnement rappelle que le monde a connu de nombreux bouleversements depuis 20 ans : la

population mondiale a augmenté de 5 à presque 7 Mds, le PIB de presque 2% par personne. Les innovations technologiques ont amélioré les moyens d'existence et la santé.

Le rapport juge ensuite qu'il : « il est évident qu'il y a des changements environnementaux sans précédent au niveau régional et mondial » « ces changements sans précédent sont causés par des activités humaines dans une société mondialisée, industrialisée et interconnectée, provoquée par des flux croissants de biens, de services, de capitaux, de populations, de technologies, d'informations, d'idées et de travail et affectent même des populations isolées ». Le « développement humain » est ainsi mis en péril. Les populations pauvres restent les plus vulnérables. « Les systèmes sociaux et biophysiques peuvent atteindre des points de basculement au delà desquels les changements sont graves, plus rapides et potentiellement irréversibles ».

Les acteurs ont également profondément évolué : en 1992, les ONG agissaient comme aiguillon des négociations mais pas comme parties prenantes. Les collectivités



locales n'étaient pas organisées sur le développement durable, certains maires étaient néanmoins présents comme personnalités. Aujourd'hui, une « diplomatie scientifique » qui s'appuie notamment sur le GIEC est mise en œuvre. La société civile est reconnue

comme un acteur à part entière. Elle est pleinement associée aux négociations. Les entreprises ont également désormais largement intégré le développement durable à leur processus de prise de décision et de gestion.

Interrogés sur les avancées qu'il y a eu depuis la première conférence en 1992, les membres du panel ont tous estimé que Rio avait permis l'émergence de nouvelles initiatives, de penser différemment. En particulier, pour [Mohameed SHAREEF](#), le sommet de Rio fut « l'un des sommets des Nations Unies les plus ambitieux ».

Concernant ensuite les actions concrètes qui ont été mises en place à l'issue de ce sommet, Marie Hélène Aubert rappelle que des agendas 21 locaux ont été réalisés dans de nombreuses collectivités locales avec des mesures sur les trois piliers du développement durable et une large participation des citoyens. Elle estime

cependant qu'il n'y a pas eu de transformation en profondeur des modèles de développement ni un changement

de vision qui auraient permis d'identifier des leviers d'action pour faire émerger un nouveau modèle.

Dressant lui aussi un bilan de la conférence, [Nick ROBINS](#) juge pour sa part que le sommet de Rio a permis la création d'un cadre légal nécessaire et efficace mais que Rio + 20 devrait mener à des avancées sur le sujet des forêts, de la comptabilité nationale ... sans se cantonner à une adaptation de l'existant.

La seconde question de Christine Oberdorff concernait les obstacles politiques ou économiques qui pourraient bloquer le projet. Les panelistes ont estimé que le sommet de 2012 interviendra dans un contexte de crise économique et sociale qui pourrait avoir des effets contradictoires. Les dirigeants politiques essaient

« d'éteindre l'incendie » sans prendre les mesures qui s'imposent. Plus qu'un simple « ajustage », le modèle

semble arriver à sa fin et imposer l'invention de nouveaux modèles de gestion de territoires avec des principes

communs.

Pour [Nick ROBINS](#), il faut donc intégrer d'avantage une vision à long terme et des critères économiques et sociaux. Selon les données publiées en mars 2009 par l'IFC (International Finance Corporation), l'intégration ESG concerne près de 300 milliards de dollars d'encours dans les pays émergents et les fonds ISR représentent près de 52 milliards de dollars en 2008 (contre près de 30 milliards en 2006).

[Gonzalo RAMIREZ GUIER](#) juge quant à lui que la pression dominante des populations concerne l'emploi et qu'il faut identifier un point à partir duquel une population accepte de réduire ses impacts sur l'environnement

et de ralentir sa croissance économique pour mieux le préserver.

La troisième question concernait les moyens à donner aux pays forestiers pour avoir des alternatives à la déforestation. Marie-Hélène AUBERT estime que c'est une obligation : « *si on ne s'assure pas que les forêts sont gérées durablement, on creuse notre tombe* ». Il faut d'une part être conscient de la situation, des enjeux et d'autre part user des outils en étant sûr de leur efficacité. La directrice adjointe de Futur Facteur 4 rappelle qu'il n'y a pas que la certification, « *il faut arrêter de parler et user des outils qui existent* ». Cela permettra aux pays forestiers d'être producteurs de croissance verte avant d'être consommateurs.

La dernière question concernait les mécanismes financiers. Les panelistes ont estimé qu'il y avait pour les investissements deux secteurs particulièrement importants : les nouvelles énergies et l'efficacité énergétique. Mais ils se sont aussi demandé si l'économie verte était forcément plus vertueuse et si elle devait se traduire par un verdissement de l'économie ou un changement de paradigme. Certains ont néanmoins rappelé que le fait de se focaliser sur la dimension économique du développement durable est problématique et qu'elle ne doit pas faire oublier la dimension sociale et l'enjeu de la réduction des inégalités. Certaines avancées peuvent être obtenues au niveau local et dès aujourd'hui.

La prise de conscience et les moyens techniques peuvent donc permettre de faire de Rio+20, selon Véronique Smée, « *un sommet de transition vers un monde plus soutenable... à condition que les décisions politiques suivent* ». La croissance verte dans un contexte de développement durable et d'éradication de la pauvreté et le cadre institutionnel du développement durable seront les deux thèmes principaux.

Concernant le premier thème, la Commission européenne estime que nous avons besoin d'une économie qui puisse assurer croissance et développement, tout en permettant d'améliorer le bien-être humain, d'offrir des emplois décents, de réduire les inégalités, de lutter contre la pauvreté et de préserver le capital naturel dont nous dépendons tous. « *Ce type d'économie, une économie verte, constitue un moyen efficace de promouvoir le développement durable, d'éradiquer la pauvreté ainsi que de répondre aux nouveaux défis et de remédier aux lacunes existant dans la mise en œuvre* ».1

Ce concept rassemble mais il n'est pas précisément défini. Lors du 2nd comité préparatoire de Rio +20, les pays ont notamment échangé leurs points de vue sur cette notion. Bien qu'une définition consensuelle n'ait pu être dégagée, les différents blocs de négociation ont pu être précisés. Les délégués de l'OASIS (alliance of small Island states) ont introduit la notion « d'économie bleue » qui met l'accent sur le développement durable des océans. Ensuite, le G77 estime d'une part que l'intégration sociale et la nécessité d'éviter tout protectionnisme vert doivent figurer dans le document final portant sur l'économie verte et d'autre part que l'économie

1 Communication de la commission européenne, « Rio+20: vers une économie verte et une meilleure gouvernance », 20 juin 2011.

verte doit être conforme aux Principes de Rio et à l'Agenda 21, prioriser l'éradication de la pauvreté ainsi que

réaffirmer le droit souverain des pays à disposer de leurs ressources.2

La gouvernance mondiale du développement mondial est rendue difficile par le fait que pour assurer la gestion commune des ressources terrestres, des mécanismes de régulation doivent être mis en place par les

Etats. Or, chacun est tenté d'adopter la stratégie du « passager clandestin » ou de gérer les autres crises qui

s'imposent : économiques, sociales qui donnent la fausse illusion que les enjeux environnementaux ne ré-

clament pas de solutions immédiates.

Pour Jean Pierre Thébault également, il faut trouver un nouvel équilibre entre le global et le local ainsi que renforcer le statut des Etats comme socle inattaquable de l'ordre mondial. Si le concept de développement

durable est partagé, il faut désormais lui donner un sens plus concret et cela passe pour lui par la réforme des institutions. Il juge que la gouvernance internationale du développement durable est en plein débat au-

jourd'hui entre les tentatives avortées de favoriser l'émergence de solutions rapides dans le système onusien

et la possible création d'une organisation mondiale de l'environnement.<sup>3</sup>

Plusieurs options de réformes existent en effet, rappelées par la Commission européenne : d'abord « *renforcer le rôle du Conseil économique et social des Nations unies (ECOSOC) en matière de développement durable, en accordant une importance égale à ses trois piliers* ». Ensuite, « *transformer la Commission du développement durable (CDD) des Nations unies en un organe plus permanent doté de fonctions élargies [de façon à garantir que] tous les organes des Nations unies concernés fassent une place beaucoup plus grande au développement durable.* »

Est enfin possible un renforcement du PNUÉ, soit en améliorant « son fonctionnement dans le cadre de son mandat actuel », soit en le renforçant et en le dotant de nouvelles tâches et responsabilités ou enfin « en créant une organisation environnementale multilatérale mondiale, par exemple en transformant le PNUÉ en

une agence spécialisée des Nations-Unies (telle que l'OIT).

« La conférence de Rio+20 débouchera sur des objectifs concrets, qui mèneront à des plans d'action », assure Brice Lalonde, co-coordonnateur exécutif de la conférence des Nations unies sur le développement durable appelée « Rio+20 ». Selon Brice Lalonde, la conférence devrait permettre de « *joindre des objectifs liés au développement durable aux objectifs sociaux des Objectifs du millénaire pour le développement* », dont l'échéance est 2015.

Aline Brachet relate qu'il « *il place en tête de ces objectifs la question de l'énergie, qu'il décline en trois mesures : l'accès universel à l'énergie d'ici 2030, le doublement de l'efficacité énergétique et le doublement de la part des énergies renouvelables dans le mix énergétique d'ici 2030. D'autres objectifs concrets devraient être formulés à Rio, liés à la sécurité alimentaire - comment produire mieux sans toucher aux terres, aux res-*

*sources en eau et en énergie* » - aux océans, et à la biodiversité. »<sup>4</sup>

2 Objectif Terre. Bulletin de liaison du développement durable de l'espace francophone. 2nd comité préparatoire Rio+20. 7/8 mars

2011.

3 Conférence du Comité 21 « *pour une contribution française au sommet de la terre 2012.* » Lundi 4 juillet 2012.

4 Aline Brachet **Rio+20 : « La conférence débouchera sur des objectifs concrets » (Brice Lalonde)**. Dépêche n°11728

Paris, jeudi 13 octobre 2011

#### « Les Afriques en marche vers Rio+20 »

*A l'approche du grand rendez-vous de Rio +20, le continent africain est amené à jouer un rôle pivot dans les négociations. Ainsi, les différents pays cherchent à s'accorder sur une vision commune. Quel consensus doivent-ils trouver pour être un acteur moteur dans ces négociations ?*

Vingt ans ont passé depuis le Sommet de la Terre de 1992. Il est utile de s'interroger sur les accomplissements, en particulier au regard des Objectifs du millénaire. Quelles ont été les concrétisations de ces objectifs nobles et généreux ? Sans minimiser les avancées réalisées, il apparaît que la tâche à accomplir

pour l'Afrique est encore immense.

Le regard porté sur l'Afrique et le constat qui en résulte est souvent sombre. L'Afrique représente moins de

2 % des échanges mondiaux ; et l'accumulation des calamités qui frappent le continent – sécheresses,

famines, guerres civiles, épidémies – peuvent faire le jeu d'un fatalisme parfois appelé « Afro-pessimisme ».

Mais la crise dans laquelle s'enlise l'économie des pays développés et l'urgence du développement durable permettent d'appréhender ce constat différemment. Le retard de développement se transforme en une page à écrire : l'Afrique peut être le continent de demain, à condition qu'elle prenne sa part du risque. Les révolutions arabes du printemps 2011 ont d'ailleurs commencé sur le sol africain

Aujourd'hui, la question du développement durable et du développement de l'Afrique est portée au plus haut

niveau dans de nombreux pays du continent. Le renouvellement des élites politiques et économiques insufflé

de nouvelles perspectives. La diversité de l'Afrique est la source d'émergence de formes d'engagement qui

feront la différence et permettront la réalisation de la « promesse africaine ».

#### Constat : la nécessité de nouvelles perspectives de développement

S'agissant des défis du développement durable considérés dans le contexte africains, trois constats sont

particulièrement significatifs :

- Les phénomènes d'épuisement des ressources et de destruction des milieux naturels et des éco-

systèmes sont irréversibles. Ce qui est perdu aujourd'hui en Afrique – forêt équatoriale primaire et

biodiversité associée, milieux aquatiques des Grands Lacs, savane reculant devant la désertification – ne pourra jamais être retrouvé à l'identique. Il n'existe pas de réserves de droits de tirage spéciaux pour la planète, dont la finitude s'impose à nous de manière de plus en plus nette.

- La forêt primaire « poumon de l'Humanité », les océans et les autres ressources environnementales sont des biens publics mondiaux. Leur caractère exceptionnel doit être préservé et leur jouissance

– contrôlée – doit être non-exclusive. À ce titre, l'échelle de l'État-Nation n'est pas pertinente pour

les appréhender, d'autant plus que la gouvernance des États africains est encore trop souvent d'échec.

- Un conflit de temporalité est perceptible dans les pays les moins avancés, et particulièrement en Afrique, dans la progression des trois objectifs du développement durable. L'ampleur des phénomènes, par exemple l'insécurité alimentaire ou l'épidémie du SIDA, est telle qu'il est difficile de prioriser les axes de développement. Le corollaire, malheureusement, est souvent le délaissement d'un

des piliers du développement durable : le pilier économique et le bien-être social des populations ne sont pas considérés dans un projet environnemental de conservation de la nature, par exemple.

Par ailleurs, les politiques de développement menées à partir de 1980 sous les auspices du Consensus de

Washington ont montré leur incapacité à répondre aux problèmes du développement durable. L'ajustement structurel est désormais structurellement dépassé.

La confiance de l'Afrique et des Africains en leurs capacités est essentielle. Il est nécessaire d'abandonner l'attentisme vis-à-vis des autres continents – l'Europe, l'Asie – des pays développés et des organisations internationales.

### ***Porter les voix africaines***

L'Union africaine œuvre pour rassembler les diversités du continent et rapprocher les États qui le composent. Dans la perspective du sommet de Rio +20 et de la présidence du G77, l'Union africaine doit parler d'une seule voix : c'est une responsabilité importante. L'Union africaine rassemble les multiplicités géographiques, politiques et culturelles de l'Afrique.

Dans le cadre des négociations internationales, l'Afrique a l'ambition d'être un moteur. L'Afrique, continent qui a vu naître l'Humanité, ne se délie pas de la solidarité globale, au contraire : elle souhaite prendre sa part de

responsabilité et contribuer positivement aux nouveaux fondements de notre civilisation.

Il est une valeur que les Africains souhaitent faire partager au reste du monde : c'est la solidarité. Le message

africain du sommet de Rio +20 vaut aussi pour l'Afrique elle-même : il est indispensable d'écouter sa propre

voix. Il importe que les dirigeants africains écoutent et prennent nettement conscience des demandes de leurs peuples.

Enfin, l'Afrique peut initier des programmes de coopération internationale pour la préservation et la gestion durable d'écosystèmes vitaux comme la forêt primaire et les bassins des grands fleuves (Congo, Niger, etc).

Les poumons et vaisseaux du monde doivent être gérés au mieux ; les pays concernés doivent être aidés. La déclaration de Brazzaville va en ce sens.

### ***L'Afrique : terre des possibles***

Au cours des vingt années qui se sont écoulées depuis le sommet de Rio, les enjeux du développement durable ont été culturellement intégrés en Afrique, comme ils l'ont été dans le monde occidental. C'est d'ailleurs l'absence de développement économique et la pauvreté qui permettent de définir des structures et

de mettre en place des projets qui appréhendent les trois piliers du développement durable : la création de richesses et l'augmentation du bien-être humain sont absolument cruciales en Afrique, ainsi que l'est la sauvegarde de l'environnement.

À ce sujet, la Première dame du Niger a souligné que « *toute politique de sauvegarde des biens environnementaux communs et de bonne gouvernance économique et sociale participe à la réduction de la pauvreté.* »

Alors que sa population a franchi le cap du milliard d'habitants en 2009, l'Afrique compte pour moins de 2 % des émissions totales de CO2. L'écart entre ces deux chiffres – un sixième de la population mondiale mais un cinquième seulement des émissions de gaz à effet de serre – est certes un reflet significatif de la différence de développement entre le continent africain et le monde occidental, mais c'est aussi un élément qui montre l'ampleur des potentialités africaines.

Sur ces territoires où tant reste à faire, il est possible et souhaitable de réaliser des projets innovants, durables, et adaptés aux besoins des populations – accès à l'eau, à l'énergie, sauvegarde de l'agriculture

vivrière, etc. Au cours des dernières années, le comportement quotidien des Africains a été modifié ; les

projets de production locale d'énergie propre ont foisonné.

Ainsi, la Commission de l'Union économique et monétaire ouest-africaine a financé 8 000 forages avec pompes à motricité humaine. Elle propose également un programme d'un milliard de dollars, en partenariat avec la BCEAO et la BOAD afin de financer des investissements locaux dans l'énergie durable : éolien,

biomasse, petites installations hydroélectriques. Ces équipements sont particulièrement bien adaptés aux

nécessités africaines, notamment à l'état souvent délabré des infrastructures existantes.

Certains élèves et étudiants africains formés en Europe voient désormais leur continent natal, l'Afrique, comme la terre où ils souhaitent développer leurs talents. Les

politiques d'immigration restrictives et la crise des pays du Nord sont des éléments importants dans ce « retour des cerveaux » qui apporte à l'Afrique des

élites motivées et compétentes, des ferments de société civile et de bonne gouvernance. La jeunesse a d'ailleurs un rôle considérable à jouer en Afrique, plus que dans tout autre continent. En effet, un Africain sur deux a aujourd'hui moins de 25 ans.

Enfin, le secteur privé – notamment les PME – et la société civile, qui se structure dans plusieurs pays africains, sont des richesses à mobiliser. De même, la voix des artistes et créateurs africains doit être prise en compte : il convient de la soutenir, sur la scène internationale comme en Afrique même.

### **Le continent des solutions**

L'Afrique a un rôle considérable à jouer dans le développement durable et l'atteinte des objectifs du millénaire. L'Afrique est un réservoir de ressources naturelles et d'inventivité. C'est un continent jeune, qui progresse malgré les défis immenses qu'il doit relever. Dans le cadre du sommet Rio +20, l'Afrique qui prend

conscience de son potentiel et des moyens de le réaliser est le continent des solutions.

### **« Les révolutions en marche »**

*Sur un plan financier, technologique et social, des solutions existent déjà pour mettre en œuvre les transformations nécessaires. Elles impliquent des bouleversements profonds des mentalités et représentent de véritables révolutions.*

Le terme « révolution » est souvent associé au renversement inattendu et précipité d'un régime politique pour

le remplacer par une autre de forme de gouvernement avec de nouvelles personnalités à sa tête. Les révolutions abordées dans le cadre de cette conférence des Ateliers de la Terre sont toutefois d'une toute autre nature. Il s'agit de révolutions au niveau social, technologique ou financier qui ont pour point commun de ne pas être à l'initiative de la sphère politique mais d'être le fruit de réflexions exercées à l'échelle des

entreprises et de la société civile. Ces réalisations ou ces projets bouleversent tous à leur manière les cadres de référence qui les ont vus émerger et certains cherchent explicitement à combler un espace laissé vacant par le politique.

Le terme de « révolution » n'est il toutefois pas excessif pour désigner ces initiatives ? En quoi contribuent-elles à un changement de paradigme en lien avec le développement durable ? Sont-elles réalistes et répliquables à grande échelle ?

Robert Bell dresse un constat d'échec de l'action des gouvernements et du marché pour lutter contre le changement climatique afin d'en appeler à une mobilisation de la société civile dans le cadre de « Fonds de rédemption verts ». L'économiste soutient ainsi que les Etats ne sont pas prêts à investir les montants jugés

nécessaires par l'Agence Internationale de l'Energie pour opérer la transition de notre modèle énergétique

(400 à 500 milliards USD par an d'ici à 2020 et 1000 milliards USD par an après cette date). L'apport financier

ne pourra pas non plus selon lui venir du marché dont l'horizon est trop axé sur le court terme. 70 % des

actions sont en effet vendues plusieurs fois par seconde sur les marchés. La solution consisterait donc à constituer des fonds d'investissements verts bloqués sur du long terme, quatre-vingt-dix-neuf ans par

exemple, pour fonctionner à une échelle de temps comparable à l'ampleur de la crise climatique. Ces fonds seraient soutenus dans l'esprit de Robert Bell par des États, des institutions publiques, des associations écologistes, des organisations caritatives, des Églises, voire des particuliers. Si l'idée est séduisante et ne manque pas de crédits elle n'est soutenue par aucune réalisation concrète à ce jour. On peut toutefois faire preuve d'optimisme en partant du principe que les premiers pas sont toujours les plus difficiles et que les premiers fonds constitués auront un effet d'entraînement pour structurer tout le système.

Une autre solution, fondée sur le recours à la technologie, a été proposée pour diminuer de façon significative les émissions mondiales de gaz à effet de serre : la fabrication de pétrole à travers la conversion accélérée de

CO2 en pétrole artificiel via l'utilisation de phytoplancton dans des concentrations très élevées. Ce procédé

innovant permet la production d'un pétrole au bilan carbone négatif directement utilisable comme carburant.

Après les révolutions financières et technologiques, deux entreprises privées, Orange et Suez Environnement, ont apporté leurs contributions aux débats lors de cette conférence en expliquant comment elles repensent leurs activités dans les pays en développement pour concilier rentabilité économique et progrès social. A travers le soutien apporté à une étude<sup>5</sup> sur le lien entre TIC6 et développement de projets

pour les populations les plus défavorisées dans les domaines de l'agriculture, de l'éducation, de la santé et

des services financiers, Orange a eu l'opportunité de présenter quelques facteurs de réussites et d'échecs de

ce types d'initiatives :

- Les services dans les domaines de l'éducation et de la santé ont beaucoup plus de difficultés à at-

teindre un stade d'indépendance financière que ceux dans les domaines de l'agriculture et des ser-

vices financiers.

- Dans le cadre de la conception du service il est fondamental de faire la distinction, étroite au premier abord, entre les besoins des populations ciblées et leurs demandes. La notion de demande permet

notamment d'identifier les services pour lesquels un individu est prêt à dépenser une somme d'argent

ce qui n'est pas toujours le cas pour un besoin.

- L'identification de relais au niveau local est indispensable pour implanter le service et le faire perdurer.

· La rentabilité du projet dépendra en grande partie de sa capacité à mobiliser le plus grand nombre

de secteurs d'activités et à s'exporter hors des frontières.

Les programmes d'ingénierie sociétale menés par Suez Environnement dans le domaine de l'accès à l'eau

reposent également sur une définition claire de la demande et une implication directe des populations locales,

allant parfois jusqu'au bénévolat.

Les initiatives de ces deux entreprises pour développer un business model en direction de la « base de la pyramide » témoignent d'une réelle volonté d'engagement et ont pour mérite de dépasser le cadre du mécénat. Toutefois, nous sommes toujours loin d'une remise en cause des fondements de leur modèle

5 Cf Etude Hystra, Leveraging information and communication technology for the base of the pyramid, juin 2011.

6 Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication

économique.

La révolution sociale passe également dans de nombreux pays par l'accès à la propriété privée. Les

questions foncières sont à l'origine de plus de 50 % des conflits devant les tribunaux dans de nombreux pays

africains. Le concept de « micro propriété », inventé par Abdoulaye HARISSOU, constitue une réponse adaptée à cet enjeu en descendant au plus près des populations pour décerner des titres officiels de propriété qui ne pourront plus être remis en cause.

Quel bilan tirer de ces initiatives de nature très différentes mais ayant pour dénominateur commun de ne pas entrer dans les cadres de pensée traditionnels ? Aucune d'entre elles ne peut réellement s'attribuer le label

révolutionnaire étant donné que les actions susceptibles de créer les plus grands changements en sont encore au stade de la théorie ou du projet pilote. Toutefois, plusieurs initiatives comportent incontestablement une dimension révolutionnaire en gestation tant elles bouleversent les référentiels traditionnels des

entreprises ou des investisseurs ou les modes de production pétroliers. Ces projets sont tous porteurs d'un

vent d'optimisme à l'heure des discours sur l'incapacité de la communauté internationale à définir une ligne

de conduite claire pour lutter contre le changement climatique. Une extraordinaire créativité existe au niveau des universités, des entreprises de toute taille ou de la société civile en général. Cependant, s'il ne faut pas attendre les bras croisés que toutes les solutions viennent du haut, l'implication du politique apparaît comme toujours indispensable pour permettre l'éclosion de ces révolutions et leur conférer une dimension de plus

grande envergure.

**« Eau potable : quelles échelles, quels modèles ? »**

*Des réformes sont à mettre en place pour assurer une gestion équitable et durable de l'eau. A quelle échelle cette ressource doit-elle être gérée ? Quel modèle de gouvernance mettre en œuvre pour en assurer un accès et une gestion efficace ?*

**Pour une gestion équitable et durable de l'eau**

L'eau va constituer un des grands défis contemporains de notre siècle. La démographie et l'activité humaine ont fait passer l'eau au cours des dernières décennies d'une situation d'abondance dans de nombreuses régions

du monde à un statut de ressource rare.

Or, la notion de rareté fait immédiatement référence à la science économique dont l'objet principal est de pouvoir gérer de manière optimale les ressources rares. En effet, l'époque de l'eau potable gratuite en quantité illimitée est révolue. Mais l'eau ne peut bien entendu se limiter à un bien économique tant elle est synonyme de vie aussi bien pour l'espèce humaine que pour la faune et la flore qui peuplent notre planète. Il s'agit par conséquent tout autant d'un bien social et d'un bien environnemental. Si depuis des millions d'années, la quantité d'eau est stable sur la terre, sa qualité s'est en revanche considérablement détériorée. Les possibles

évolutions climatiques, temporaires ou durables, viennent également perturber la donne avec des risques accrus d'inondation par moment et par endroit tandis que simultanément des risques de grande sécheresse peuvent apparaître dans d'autres régions du monde.

Dans ce contexte, la gestion de l'eau est devenue un exercice difficile et complexe. Difficile, car il faut désormais offrir un accès à l'eau potable à 7 milliards d'habitants alors que la planète ne comptait que 1,5 milliard d'habitants au début du XX<sup>ème</sup> siècle. Complexe, car l'eau, ce sont des enjeux techniques, institutionnels et

organisationnels, de nouvelles technologies, des aspects juridiques et réglementaires, des normes, de la régulation, des investissements, des coûts, des financements, des prix, de la gouvernance et de la soutenabilité économique, financière, sociale et environnementale. Même si la révolution numérique a eu un impact sur le

secteur, il demeure limité car depuis l'Antiquité on fait graviter l'eau, on construit toujours et encore des réseaux

et des aqueducs, simplement parce qu'à la différence des technologies de l'information, il n'est pas possible de transférer des millions de m<sup>3</sup> d'eau d'un territoire à un autre en un clic.

**La gestion des ressources en eau**

La quantité d'eau disponible à la surface de la terre ne s'est pas modifiée au cours de ces derniers millénaires. Si sa quantité est stable en revanche sa qualité s'est considérablement altérée. Par conséquent le premier enjeu se trouve au départ du cycle de l'eau avec la nécessité de préserver la ressource en amont.

Mais à quelle échelle territoriale ?

L'eau a vocation à être gérée à une échelle locale. Mais quelle que soit l'organisation institutionnelle, chaque Etat doit se préoccuper d'avoir la maîtrise de ses ressources en eau au niveau national. Toutefois, on voit très rapidement que cette échelle ne peut être satisfaisante quand on sait qu'il existe de nombreux fleuves et cours d'eau transfrontaliers ou des nappes phréatiques communes. Il existe en effet 215 fleuves transfrontaliers.

liens dans le monde dont les bassins couvrent une superficie d'environ 50 % des terres émergées. Si on ajoute à cela que 32% des frontières des Etats de la planète reposent sur des supports hydrographiques, on accroît substantiellement le risque de conflit à cause de la mitoyenneté de la ressource. Cela signifie que la coopération transfrontalière doit être une préoccupation partagée par les Etats.

Au-delà, c'est au niveau planétaire que la gestion de l'eau douce doit être prise en compte, notamment à

cause des phénomènes climatiques qui peuvent avoir des impacts sur la variabilité des ressources.

### **La gestion hydrographique par bassin**

Depuis une vingtaine d'années, et notamment depuis la conférence de Dublin de 1992, l'approche de la ges-

tion par bassin hydrographique s'est développée avec la création de la gestion intégrée des ressources en

eau (GIRE) par bassin. En effet, les ressources exploitables et renouvelables en eau douce se situent dans

les lacs, les marais, les fleuves et les aquifères. Ainsi le bassin fluvial correspond à la zone réceptrice des précipitations qui alimentent un système de rivières et de fleuves s'écoulant vers la même embouchure. Il faut rappeler à cet égard que l'on appelle souvent « l'école française de l'eau » l'ensemble des dispositions législatives qui ont permis en France la création des agences de bassin, devenues depuis agences de l'eau, qui, dès 1964, ont permis d'organiser les premières expériences de gestion de l'eau par bassin.

Il y a en effet une grande cohérence à gérer l'eau par bassin hydrographique, même si cette approche vient

bousculer l'organisation institutionnelle et administrative des Etats, puisque le bassin hydrographique ne cor-

respond généralement pas à une province, une région et encore moins à un Etat, mais souvent à plusieurs

fractions d'Etat (Nil, Congo, Niger, Tigre, Euphrate, Amazone, Rio de la Plata, Danube, Rhin pour n'en citer

que quelques uns).

Quels sont les bénéfices d'une GIRE ? D'abord, elle contribue à la gestion et à l'aménagement durables et

adaptés des ressources en eau, en prenant en compte les divers intérêts sociaux, économiques et environnementaux. L'approche intégrée par bassin permet ensuite de coordonner la gestion des ressources en eau pour l'ensemble des secteurs (usages agricole, industriel et domestique) et groupes d'intérêt, que ce soit au niveau local, régional et international. De plus, la gestion par bassin met l'accent sur la participation des acteurs à tous les stades dans l'élaboration des textes juridiques et privilégie la bonne gouvernance et les dis-

positions institutionnelles et réglementaires efficaces de façon à promouvoir des décisions plus équitables et viables.

### **L'organisation institutionnelle de la gestion de la ressource**

La fragmentation et les prises de décision non coordonnées ont été et sont encore dans une certaine mesure des problèmes cruciaux qui ont affecté l'efficacité de la gestion des ressources en eau. Dans ces conditions, le développement systématique de la création d'Agences de Bassin ne peut être qu'encouragée avec des

Comités de Bassin où autorités nationales, locales, usagers et citoyens peuvent s'exprimer en vue de satis-

faire au mieux la fourniture d'eau destinée à ses différents usages.

Sur le plan international, le Réseau International des Organismes de Bassin (RIOB) joue un rôle important de coordination. Mais il s'agit davantage d'une structure où l'on échange les expériences et les bonnes pratiques que d'une Autorité en tant que telle. Même si les Nations Unies jouent un rôle éminent dans le secteur de l'eau (reconnaissance du droit à l'eau en tant que droit humain universel en juillet 2010) avec la fédération des compétences au sein de l'agence UN-Water, il n'existe pas à proprement parler, aujourd'hui, une Autorité au niveau de la planète. Or, l'eau est un bien public mondial qui mérite qu'existe une gouvernance mise en œuvre par une Agence ou une Commission à l'échelle mondiale. S'agit-il de créer une nouvelle organisation

ou de fédérer des structures existantes en leur donnant des pouvoirs accrus, le débat est ouvert. Mais il est clair que si des progrès ont été accomplis au cours des dernières années, il est nécessaire d'avoir une gou-

vernance globale de la gestion des ressources en eau permettant de soutenir les bonnes pratiques et de sanctionner des décisions ou des actions unilatérales mettant en péril la ressource ou ne prenant pas en compte les intérêts de pays appartenant aux mêmes bassins hydrographiques.

### **L'accès à l'eau potable**

Une gestion durable et cohérente des ressources en eau est la première étape permettre un accès satisfaisant à l'eau potable. Cette condition est nécessaire, mais non suffisante. Il faut ensuite mettre en œuvre l'organisation permettant de capter, transporter, stocker, de traiter et de distribuer l'eau. Cette problématique se décline différemment suivant que l'on se trouve en milieu rural ou urbain voire au sein de grandes mégalo-

poles qui se sont développées au cours de ces dernières décennies avec les migrations de population des campagnes vers les villes.

### **L'organisation institutionnelle pour l'accès à l'eau potable**

Une fois réglées les questions relatives à la gestion des ressources en amont, l'accès à l'eau potable devient un enjeu local. Depuis un demi-siècle, on observe un transfert de compétences des Etats vers les collectivités territoriales (ce fut notamment le cas ces dernières années au sein des anciens pays à économie administrée

qu'étaient les pays d'Europe centrale et orientale où l'on a observé un transfert du patrimoine en direction des

régions et des municipalités). Ces structures sont en quelque sorte les autorités organisatrices qui ont le pouvoir de décider de l'organisation et des modalités d'accès à l'eau potable. En fonction des territoires, que ce soit en milieu rural ou en milieu urbain, l'intercommunalité ou l'organisation régionale doit être soutenue pour mettre en commun les moyens et mutualiser les besoins pour favoriser les économies d'échelle.

### Les modes de gestion

Les autorités organisatrices ont ainsi la compétence pour décider du mode de la gestion à adopter au niveau des différents maillons du cycle de l'eau, notamment de la production à la distribution. Les options sont essentiellement publiques ou privées, en particulier au travers des Partenariats Publics Privés qu'il ne faut pas confondre avec la privatisation, qui reste exceptionnelle et dont l'exemple le plus couramment cité est celui de l'Angleterre et du Pays de Galles où les actifs privés de production et de distribution d'eau ont été vendus par l'Etat au secteur privé.

Ces dernières années, de nombreux débats ont eu lieu sur l'opposition entre mode de gestion entièrement public et partenariat avec le secteur privé. Or, dans ce domaine, l'affrontement est trop souvent polémique et idéologique, ce qui n'a pas servi la cause d'un meilleur accès à l'eau potable. En effet, s'il est possible de trouver de nombreux exemples de bonne gestion publique comme de bonne gestion privée, l'inverse est également vrai. Il ne s'agit donc pas ici de privilégier un mode de gestion plutôt qu'un autre. D'ailleurs les choses n'ont que peu changé depuis 2000, et le secteur public reste très largement dominant dans le monde avec environ 95% de la gestion des services d'eau et d'assainissement. Mais si l'on veut qu'une véritable synergie se crée entre public et privé pour servir la cause de l'eau, il est nécessaire que les passions s'apaisent.

En effet, au milieu des années 90, les programmes d'investissement ambitieux pour améliorer l'accès à l'eau potable, financé par le secteur privé exclusivement, se sont retrouvés très vite dans les factures d'eau, avec

une impossibilité, pour beaucoup de consommateurs, de supporter des hausses tarifaires importantes et trop rapides. Or, ce problème relève du mode de financement et non du mode de gestion. Par ailleurs, s'agissant d'un service essentiel, la marge des opérateurs privés doit être adaptée et s'appliquer en toute transparence. Ces principes étant posés, c'est au regard de l'analyse coût/efficacité/qualité de service que la décision doit être prise, dans l'intérêt du consommateur. Dès lors, la coopération publique/privée peut s'avérer très utile pour accélérer l'accès à l'eau et à l'assainissement, si elle est fondée à la fois sur la gouvernance et la démocratie: Car c'est évidemment aux citoyens de s'exprimer par leur vote et aux élus d'appliquer des

décisions dans le cadre du mandat qui leur a été confié.

### Les financements pour favoriser l'accès à l'eau potable

La logique des 3T « Tarif, Taxes, Transfers » souvent exposée ces dernières années n'est rien d'autres que

celle du prix, des financements publics et de l'aide publique au développement. Pour autant, il est toujours

aussi difficile de se faire une idée précise de la situation mondiale au niveau des financements globaux consacrés à l'eau. Il s'agit encore une fois d'un problème de mise en place d'indicateurs communs avec la capacité d'agréger à un niveau national les ressources provenant du prix de l'eau, des financements publics

et de la solidarité internationale.

Bien que l'aide publique au développement ait doublé conformément aux préconisations du rapport

Camdessus entre 2002 et 2007, nous sommes encore loin de disposer des ressources financières nécessaires à la demande. Face à cette situation, la variable d'ajustement a été trop souvent l'investissement ou plus exactement l'insuffisance ou l'absence d'investissement. Or, on voit bien que pour progresser, il n'est

pas possible de rester dans une logique purement financière, car elle ne suffit pas à avancer sur le terrain. La logique du développement durable est, quant à elle, différente : elle consiste à intégrer l'ensemble des gains économiques, sociaux et environnementaux. Un accès à l'eau potable et des rejets d'eau assainie dans le

milieu naturel offrent des bénéfices globaux considérables. Non seulement, ils apportent des perspectives

d'activités économiques classiques, eux-mêmes induits par les investissements propres à l'eau, mais plus

généralement des gains pour la société dans son ensemble, en particulier dans le domaine de la santé

publique et de la préservation de l'environnement. Or les coûts, qui résultent de l'absence d'investissement,

ne sont que trop rarement pris en compte.

Pour faciliter le développement des financements, nous avons suggéré de mettre en place des mécanismes de solidarité financière où les consommateurs d'eau des pays riches viendraient en aide aux consommateurs d'eau des pays pauvres. Il s'agirait en réalité de majorer faiblement la facture d'eau par un prélèvement proportionnel à la consommation d'eau des premiers pour qu'il soit reversé aux seconds, au travers d'une aide directe ou d'une participation à certains projets. En effet, l'aide publique au développement ne pourra suffire. D'autres mécanismes doivent être inventés. L'enjeu est par conséquent à la fois de renforcer ce mécanisme et de l'étendre. Il consiste à faire en sorte que le concept de « l'eau finance l'eau » soit élargi territorialement entre les pays riches et les pays pauvres. Cela veut dire, en substance, qu'il doit devenir une cause de solidarité sectorielle, simplement parce que l'eau de la planète est à la fois un bien universel partagé et qu'il est indispensable à la vie. Développer une telle mesure, signifierait par exemple appliquer un prélèvement d'un pour cent sur le montant de la facture, ce qui demeurerait une contribution marginale mais avec un effet de levier fort, qui permettrait à des projets non réalisables aujourd'hui, pour des raisons d'équilibre financier, de le devenir. Etendre le dispositif au plus grand nombre de pays riches, et notamment à ceux de l'OCDE serait nécessaire. Cette approche doit constituer un objectif prioritaire pour que de tels mécanismes de solidarité contribuent utilement au financement des projets d'accès à l'eau potable dans les

zones les plus pauvres de la planète.

### « La ville est-elle devenue le laboratoire du long terme ? »

*L'urbanisation galopante impose une réflexion profonde sur nos modes de vie et conduit à la mise en œuvre de projets innovants et cohérents. La ville est-elle l'échelle de*

*gouvernance la plus adaptée pour impulser le changement? N'est-elle pas devenue le laboratoire grandeur nature d'un développement durable ?*

Les villes sont aujourd'hui un acteur incontournable des phénomènes environnementaux et sociaux en cours. Pour preuve, « dans le domaine climatique, les villes, qui ne représentent que 2 % de la surface de la Terre regroupent plus de 50 % des humains, et sont responsables de plus de 80 % des émissions de GES. »

La ville est donc assurément un espace crucial d'action pour faire avancer les grands combats du développement durable : lutte contre le changement climatique, réduction de la fracture sociale, bien être et mieux vivre ensemble, etc.

Pour autant, la ville est elle déjà ce laboratoire qui va permettre à l'humanité de mieux contrôler et réduire son empreinte environnementale ? Le projet de la ville durable de demain est il déjà en route ? L'urgence est là puisque sur 9 milliards d'habitants à l'horizon 2050, 7 milliards seront des urbains, quasiment le double d'aujourd'hui, comment penser cette ville du futur qui devra accueillir toujours plus de population ?

La ville « laboratoire » du futur doit se traduire par un nouveau projet urbain, ce qui n'implique pas

nécessairement de faire un saut technologique. Les innovations technologiques nécessaires pour construire

une ville « zéro émissions » existent déjà bien souvent. Par contre, les enjeux se situent aujourd'hui

notamment dans la recherche de nouveaux moyens financiers, de synergies entre les installations pour optimiser la consommation de ressources, la nécessité de penser l'organisation de la ville en amont et à une

échelle globale et de favoriser les coopérations entre le citoyen et le politique.

Ainsi, au-delà des avancées technologiques ou d'innovations en terme de mobilité qui sont déjà en place

dans certaines villes, il nous semble que la ville est d'abord le laboratoire d'une nouvelle forme de

gouvernance entre les acteurs de la cité. Ainsi, par exemple, dans la ville de Porto Alegre, un système innovant de formulation et d'accompagnement du budget municipal, appelé budget participatif, a été mis en

place à la fin des années 80. Il permet aux citoyens de décider comment allouer une partie du budget réservé aux projets de développement urbain (10 % du budget global de la ville). La démocratie participative de Porto

Alegre est en constante évolution depuis sa création et s'améliore d'année en année. Elle montre que la

gestion démocratique et transparente des ressources est le meilleur moyen d'éviter la corruption et de créer

une cohésion sociale autour du projet urbain.

Cet exemple nous montre également que l'écoute des populations et la coopération entre les différents acteurs (architectes, urbanistes, techniciens) de la conception de la ville nouvelle et/ou rénovation doit intervenir en amont de la réalisation des projets urbains. Cette approche est fondamentale pour le succès des

projets urbains. Le corollaire est bien souvent la nécessité d'une gouvernance forte de l'autorité publique

locale en place, cette dernière ne devant pas parfois hésiter à imposer ses idées même si elles vont contre

l'avis de l'opinion publique.

Au delà du socle de la gouvernance, il nous semble que les villes jouent également un rôle de laboratoire sur des sujets aussi diverses que la mobilité, le retour du lien avec la terre, le développement de nouveaux

modèles d'usage et de propriété, les innovations liées à l'utilisation de l'énergie, etc.

Sur le sujet de la mobilité, la période actuelle s'avère idéale pour la dématérialisation du transport de véhicules en ville notamment; les jeunes générations attachant moins d'importance au statut social que

confère le bien automobile. Une proportion grandissante de la population est ainsi disposée à passer de la

possession à l'usage. Les services d'auto-partage, de covoiturage ou le recours grandissant à la location de

voitures se mettent en place et permettent de diminuer significativement les transports urbains. Néanmoins

leur succès est étroitement lié aux conditions tarifaires d'accès, à l'efficacité globale de ces solutions en terme

de temps de déplacement notamment. Le lancement du système Autolib à Paris en décembre 2011 sera à

cet égard un test intéressant car il s'agit de la première initiative mondiale de cette envergure en matière de

mise à disposition de voitures électriques.

Pour rendre ces solutions plus opérationnelles il est primordial de travailler sur l'idée de chaîne de mobilité qui doit assurer la praticité et l'efficacité du système, seules conditions permettant de concurrencer véritablement le règne de l'automobile individuelle. Dans ce cadre, l'enjeu de l'information jouera un rôle primordial pour informer les usagers d'une offre combinée et intégrée de modes de transports : vélo / train / location de

véhicules/ transports collectifs, etc.

La ville doit ainsi être aujourd'hui un laboratoire qui accompagne les citoyens vers des modèles (de mobilité notamment) qui privilégient l'utilisation plutôt que la propriété.

Cette mutualisation des biens publics devra d'ailleurs à terme être testée dans d'autres domaines que celui de la mobilité. On peut par exemple penser que les logements étudiants pourraient être utilisés comme logements touristiques l'été et bien d'autres

exemples existent.



Concernant le retour à la terre, il constitue à la fois un enjeu de lien social mais aussi de diminution de l'empreinte environnementale avec le retour d'un approvisionnement local. La « verticalisation » de la production agricole est ainsi envisagée au cœur des villes. Les tours agricoles permettraient d'obtenir une

capacité de production six fois plus importante qu'en agriculture classique du fait notamment de l'absence de parasites et de contraintes extérieures. Il s'agit encore à ce stade de projets futuristes dont la ville constituera bien un premier laboratoire d'expérimentation. Le retour à l'utilisation de techniques parfois très anciennes fait

également partie de cette tendance du retour à la terre. Ainsi, les toits végétalisés sont utilisés dans certaines

villes aujourd'hui, et ont des effets bénéfiques notamment sur la lutte contre le réchauffement climatique, l'eau

ou la biodiversité.

Un autre champ d'expérimentation est plus directement lié à des innovations technologiques facilitant la réduction de la consommation d'énergie notamment. Depuis quelques années, certaines villes expérimentent des procédés de récupération d'énergie liés à la marche. Le principe est relativement simple et peut être appliqué à l'alimentation des éclairages publics ou installer dans des lieux de passage type le métro par

exemple pour être ensuite réinjecter dans le réseau. Des dalles, équipées de micro-capteurs sont installées. Le va-et-vient des piétons, à savoir de l'énergie cinétique, est alors transformé en énergie électrique qui

alimente une batterie. La mobilité électrique est en marche... Si aujourd'hui, les habitants équipés de

panneaux solaires peuvent revendre l'énergie produite sur le réseau, demain ils pourront également profiter

de l'énergie produite par la batterie de leur voiture électrique pour alimenter leurs habitations. Tous les

moyens sont bons pour transporter cette énergie « verte » à pied, à vélo et même en voiture.

Des exemples concrets à travers le monde montrent donc que la ville est déjà aujourd'hui ce laboratoire cherchant à trouver les modes de gouvernance adaptés, à tester des nouvelles formes de mobilité ou bien encore inventer une façon de réconcilier rural et urbain. Néanmoins, si dans les villes du Nord les innovations

technologiques existent pour faire face aux défis environnementaux et sociaux, c'est bien dans les pays du

Sud que vont se poser le plus de problèmes dans les villes de demain du fait de l'urbanisation croissante.

Quel laboratoire pour les pays du Sud ? Comment réaliser les transferts technologiques nécessaires vers ces pays et avec quels moyens financiers ? Beaucoup reste encore à inventer pour que l'exode rural massif en cours dans les pays en développement n'entraîne pas l'humanité vers des conflits urbains violents liés à ressource en eau, la gestion des déchets ou l'accès à l'énergie.

#### **« Bien au-delà des progrès technologiques, une nouvelle culture de la mobilité ? »**

*Des avancées notables sont réalisées dans le domaine des transports pour rendre notre mobilité plus sûre, plus propre, plus interconnectée. Mais cela ne deviendra durable qu'à travers une évolution forte de nos habitudes en matière de déplacement. Comment favoriser des comportements optimodaux ? Comment rendre la mobilité responsable accessible au plus grand nombre ? Comment accompagner la mise en œuvre d'un écosystème durable en matière de mobilité ?*

La mobilité, c'est-à-dire la capacité de déplacement des êtres humains et des marchandises, est essentielle pour notre société. Il est devenu normal de parcourir quotidiennement entre son domicile, son université, son

travail et ses lieux de loisir une distance significativement supérieure à la cinquantaine de kilomètres qu'un

homme peut raisonnablement marcher en une journée. Le caractère essentiel de la mobilité est d'ailleurs

spécialement saillant quand les réseaux et installations défilent et que nous parvenons des images de

foules échouées sur des quais de gare sans trains ou d'étendues immenses de voitures bloquées par la

neige.

#### *Transformation des territoires, évolutions de la mobilité*

Le transport a longtemps été un élément de fluidité permettant de déplacer hommes et marchandises entre des emplacements fixes à la fonction déterminée : la ville, la ferme, le château, le port, la mine, etc.

Aujourd'hui, la mobilité est un élément sous contrainte : elle assure un lien entre des emplacements dont les fonctions et les caractéristiques de population sont sans cesse en transformation. D'anciennes zones industrielles, parfois en friche, sont devenues des quartiers d'affaires, des zones rurales s'urbanisent et accueillent aujourd'hui les actifs.

Ainsi, la Plaine de France au Nord de Paris regroupe de nombreuses entreprises tertiaires qui ont pris la place des gazogènes, dépôts et ateliers ; et le plateau briard a vu ses surfaces horticoles être remplacées par des lotissements. Les réseaux de transport ont accompagné, parfois subi, ces évolutions. Offrent-ils

aujourd'hui aux utilisateurs la mobilité dont ils ont besoin ? L'expérience montre que les encombrements des

routes et la saturation des réseaux ne peuvent se résoudre par la simple augmentation de l'offre. En effet,

celle-ci entraîne rapidement une demande correspondante.

#### *La mobilité : une affaire de comportements*

Aujourd'hui, mettre en place de nouvelles formes de mobilité et assurer le succès du transport public et des

modes doux, il est indispensable de mener au préalable une réflexion sur les comportements des voyageurs

et sur l'accompagnement qui permettra de répondre à leurs besoins de transport.

Le défi du changement climatique impose de réaliser rapidement cette mise en place de solutions de transport public ou de modes de déplacement doux, non émetteurs de CO<sub>2</sub>, et ce de manière globale – car les progrès enregistrés dans certaines villes ou certains pays seront inopérants à l'échelle mondiale si la

consommation et les émissions continuent à croître dans les pays émergents.

Cependant, dans les pays en développement, la population des mégapoles et de leurs abords ne cesse de croître ; et malgré leur taille, leurs réseaux routiers sont saturés de voitures individuelles, le transport public y étant *laissé pour compte*.

Par ailleurs, l'augmentation du prix des carburants – ceux-ci ayant culminé à l'été 2008 – et la perception

grandissante par le corps social du caractère non renouvelable des ressources fossiles font prendre conscience de l'urgence de changer les comportements vis-à-vis de la mobilité. D'une étude récente pour le loueur ING Car Lease (septembre 2011), il ressort que les Français considéreraient d'abandonner les déplacements quotidiens en voiture si le prix des carburants dépasse 1,80 € par litre.

Le signal prix est un aiguillon très efficace pour la modification des comportements : même si les citoyens se déclarent préoccupés par des défis environnementaux et particulièrement par le changement climatique, ils

privilégient la dimension du coût. D'après le baromètre de Mobivia Groupe, pour 85 % des Français, il est

indispensable de réduire le coût des transports en commun et de proposer une aide financière à l'achat de

véhicules propres, comme des vélos électriques.

Cette dimension de coût porte encore trop souvent sur le coût d'usage immédiatement perçu. Les externalités engendrées par la voiture individuelle – évaluées par la Commission Européenne jusqu'à 2 € par kilomètre en milieu urbain, où l'influence des encombrements est considérable – ne sont pas toujours prises en compte par les automobilistes.

Toutefois, le baromètre d'opinion montre que les Français ont globalement conscience des dégâts à l'environnement par l'utilisation massive de la voiture et qu'ils reconnaissent que les solutions ne se trouvent

pas nécessairement à titre individuel.

Pour aider les citoyens à analyser leurs besoins de mobilité et à adopter les modes de transport et les véhicules les plus pertinents pour leurs déplacements, les opérateurs et acteurs du transport proposent désormais des offres de conseil.

#### **La nécessité d'une offre nouvelle**

*Le transport automobile individuel : un besoin ?*

L'automobile est associée à une grande liberté et facilité de déplacement. La sacralisation de l'automobile a

culminé au cours des Trente glorieuses<sup>7</sup> : la voiture symbolisait alors, en plus de la liberté et de la facilité de déplacement, une réussite sociale et financière. Aujourd'hui, les études d'opinion montrent que les Français ont une relation bien plus utilitariste à l'automobile. Toutefois, subsiste toujours la transformation de la *possibilité* d'utiliser une voiture individuelle en un *besoin* pour une proportion significative de la population.

L'infrastructure routière a été la principale bénéficiaire des investissements publics des dernières décennies.

Le réseau ferré français a connu sa plus grande extension dans l'entre-deux guerres. Les investissements

dans le réseau à grande vitesse ont certes été très importants, mais ils représentent en moyenne une cinquantaine de kilomètres de ligne à grande vitesse par an depuis le milieu des années 1970. Par

comparaison, le réseau autoroutier est aujourd'hui cinq fois plus étendu.

Dans les grandes villes du Sud, les réseaux de transport public n'ont généralement pas suivi le développement et l'urbanisation massive. Cette caractéristique est particulièrement prégnante en Amérique latine. Ainsi, les 11 millions d'habitants de Sao Paulo ne peuvent emprunter que 74 km de métro, même si le réseau fonctionne de manière très satisfaisante et qu'il est en extension. À Mexico, le transport public – particulièrement l'autobus – est frappé d'un stigmate social : c'est un transport « pour les pauvres », perçu

comme bondé, peu efficace et dangereux par rapport à la voiture particulière.

<sup>7</sup> En 1971, Georges Pompidou tenait ces propos : « *La voiture existe, il faut s'en accommoder et il s'agit d'adapter Paris à la fois à la vie des Parisiens et aux nécessités de l'automobile* ». (Discours prononcé au District de la Région parisienne le 18 novembre 1971)

#### *La mobilité quotidienne : le défi*

Le TGV a engendré une carte de France anamorphosée, où les temps de parcours se jouent de la réalité géographique. La réussite technique de la grande vitesse ferroviaire et son développement en France, en

Europe et au Japon a montré l'efficacité du mode ferroviaire pour des transports de moyenne et longue

distance.

Mais les préoccupations les plus contemporaines de la mobilité portent sur les trajets quotidiens qui sont

indispensables à l'activité économique. Les vingt kilomètres qui séparent Noisy-le-Grand de la Défense sont

ici plus importants que les 409 kilomètres de la ligne à grande vitesse Paris-Lyon. Sur les réseaux urbains, l'augmentation de l'offre n'amène pas de remède durable à la saturation. Elles portent également sur les déplacements quotidiens entre le domicile, l'école, les lieux de travail de loisir et la possibilité de réaliser ceux-ci par des modes doux, comme la marche à pied et le vélo. Ceux-ci sont d'autant plus pertinents que plus de 10 % des déplacements en Europe se font sur moins d'un kilomètre.

*Des offres qualitatives...*

Le transport public a besoin de réseaux maillés et interconnectés qui lui assurent une robustesse

d'exploitation appréciable. Depuis les expériences pionnières de Grenoble et Nantes à la fin des années

1980, les tramways ont connu en France un développement spectaculaire – alors même que les grands

réseaux de tramways d'avant la guerre avaient été supprimés dans leur immense majorité et remplacés par

des autobus. Ces nouveaux réseaux de tramways se caractérisent par une séparation des réseaux routiers et par des véhicules neufs et confortables. Les succès rencontrés montrent que la *qualité* de l'offre

est absolument primordiale.

La perception par le voyageur de son environnement au cours du trajet est fondamentale. Le confort est déterminé en particulier par la proximité avec les autres voyageurs, la qualité des aménagements intérieurs des véhicules et la fiabilité des informations reçues. Des progrès sensibles ont été effectués ces dernières années.

Jusqu'à la fin du XXe siècle, la conception du matériel roulant pour les services de banlieue répondait principalement à l'objectif de transporter le plus grand nombre de voyageurs possible. Bien sûr, la capacité est très importante, mais la réponse au besoin d'être transporté de manière confortable dans un véhicule de transport en commun attrayant l'est tout autant. Les dernières générations de matériel, comme celles

commandées pour les services au TER en France et aux *Regio* en Allemagne ou en Suisse, se rapprochent

de cet objectif. Grâce à ces efforts, la fréquentation des TER a augmenté de 40 % en un peu plus d'une

décennie.

Cet enseignement est particulièrement pertinent pour l'Amérique Latine. La déconsidération qu'y subit le

transport public urbain est souvent forte ; la voiture ayant l'apanage de la sécurité et de la commodité. Les

évolutions et adaptations portent essentiellement sur les réseaux : ainsi, Bogota dispose de nombreuses lignes de bus à haut niveau de service en site propre. Mais les conditions de transport ne sont pas améliorées à proportion des progrès des réseaux.

S'agissant du transport individuel et des modes doux, la qualité de l'aménagement est également un facteur déterminant dans le succès de l'utilisation. Les réalisations à l'économie n'attirent pas les usagers et se

dégradent, alors que les infrastructures bien conçues emportent le succès. La voie reliant Bristol à Bath au

Royaume-Uni, bâtie sur une ancienne infrastructure ferroviaire, attire aujourd'hui 2,8 millions d'usagers par

an.

La réutilisation de voies ferrées abandonnées (en pondérant la possibilité d'une reprise du trafic ferroviaire)

ou de chemins de halage permet de construire une infrastructure sécurisée et dédiée aux déplacements doux

(marche, vélos, rollers). Par leur maillage et par la qualité et la sécurité qu'elles proposent, les *voies vertes*

sont une offre de qualité pour ces modes de transport. Le développement de ces infrastructures sera accéléré par une pression citoyenne.

À Séville en Espagne, un investissement de trente millions d'euros pour bâtir 140 km de pistes cyclables a

profondément changé la répartition des modes de transport : la part de la bicyclette est ainsi passée de 0,2 à

7 % de la mobilité quotidienne.

Des villes nordiques comme Copenhague ou Stockholm connaissent des taux d'utilisation du vélo très élevés, notwithstanding la rigueur du climat hivernal. Ainsi, plus d'un million de voyageurs-kilomètres sont réalisés chaque

jour à Copenhague en vélo. Grâce à une infrastructure de pistes cyclables très développée et à un facteur culturel favorable, la bicyclette y atteignant la part modale de 32 %.

*Et simples d'emploi*

La première desserte voyageurs en France – de l'embarcadere de l'Europe, qui n'était pas encore la Gare Saint-Lazare au Pecq puis à Saint-Germain en Laye – offrait déjà 1837 des départs réguliers à raison d'un train toutes les 90 minutes. Dans les années 1920, le réseau de l'État sur la banlieue Saint-Lazare offrait une

desserte cohérente et régulière par groupes de destinations.

Le cadencement étend cette régularité à l'ensemble du réseau et simplifie l'utilisation. Il consiste à

systématiser les dessertes et les horaires afin de construire, autour de nœuds de correspondances, une

trame aisée à mémoriser et qui permet une exploitation robuste. Si les Pays-Bas ont débuté le cadencement dès les années 1930, ce sont les chemins de fer fédéraux suisses qui ont mis en place un cadencement généralisé, étendu à tous les réseaux du pays. Ce plan Rail2000, adopté par référendum et initié dans les

années 1980, est considéré comme une référence d'organisation d'un réseau maillé et aisé à utiliser. En

France, les dessertes ferroviaires seront cadencées pour le service 2012 (débutant le 12 décembre 2011). Cette évolution majeure renforcera l'attractivité du transport ferroviaire et grâce à la coordination entre réseaux, ouvre de nouvelles perspectives d'intermodalité.

### Un regard nouveau sur la mobilité

La crise que nous traversons actuellement est une opportunité de repenser les besoins de déplacement,

d'agir sur les habitudes et d'adapter les infrastructures pour préparer la mobilité nouvelle.

L'éco-mobilité, l'intermodalité et la complémentarité des moyens de transport permettent de réduire les

consommations énergétiques, les coûts associés et les émissions de gaz à effet de serre. La diminution de

l'usage de l'automobile et des coûts sociaux correspondants est une nécessité – qui ne se limite pas aux pays

développés.

Au-delà des améliorations de l'offre, qui doit correspondre aux attentes de confort et de qualité des usagers, un déplacement du regard doit s'opérer – du transport individuel automobile vers des modes doux et des transports publics efficaces. C'est en gagnant les consciences que l'éco-mobilité réussira.

### « Sécurité Énergétique, sécurité humaine ? »

*La catastrophe de Fukushima incarne la contradiction entre sécurité énergétique et humaine. Pourtant, l'homme ne peut négliger l'un au profit de l'autre. Comment concilier ces deux impératifs ? La sécurité énergétique peut-elle être un atout pour la sécurité des hommes ?*

Lors de la 5ème Edition des Ateliers de la Terre, les débats se sont centrés sur les enseignements à tirer de

l'accident de Fukushima qui nous rappelle le besoin impérieux de concilier sécurité énergétique et humaine.

Toutefois, au delà du débat sur l'énergie nucléaire, il nous paraît important de rappeler le rôle joué par la sécurité énergétique pour le développement des populations.

L'accès à l'énergie est assurément un facteur

essentiel pour le développement économique et donc un levier indéniable pour sortir nombre de populations de la pauvreté. Dans cette optique, la sécurité humaine ne doit-elle pas être envisagée aussi au regard de la

sécurité d'approvisionnement ?

Il est rappelé que : « l'accès aux services énergétiques est une condition indispensable au développement social et économique et à l'éradication de la pauvreté. Cependant, dans les pays en voie de développement, plus de 1,4 Md de personnes n'ont pas accès à l'électricité et 2,7 Mds dépendent de l'utilisation traditionnelle

de la biomasse pour la cuisine. » Ainsi, en janvier 2011, lors du Sommet mondial sur les énergies du futur qui a eu lieu à Abu Dhabi, Ban Ki Moon (secrétaire général de l'ONU) déclarait : « notre défi réside dans la transformation, nous avons besoin d'une révolution mondiale des énergies propres, une révolution qui rendra l'énergie disponible et abordable pour tous ».

Le défi de l'obtention d'une énergie « disponible et abordable pour tous » est immense car, au delà de l'obtention d'une énergie bon marché, il est nécessaire de s'appuyer sur une énergie sûre et propre (permettant de contribuer à l'objectif global des Etats de lutte contre le réchauffement climatique) dans un contexte d'épuisement progressif des réserves d'énergies fossiles.

Pour obtenir une énergie propre, différentes voies sont possibles. Selon Nobui Tanaka, directeur exécutif de

l'Agence Internationale de l'Energie, pour diviser par deux les émissions mondiales de CO2, « toutes les

technologies et toutes les énergies sont nécessaires ». Les deux priorités pour y parvenir sont les améliorations en termes d'efficacité énergétique « souvent peu coûteuses » et la « décarbonisation du secteur de l'électricité » qui pourrait passer par le développement des énergies renouvelables et du nucléaire ainsi que par l'équipement des centrales électriques de technologies de capture et stockage de carbone.

Ainsi, la voie qui devrait être privilégiée est d'abord celle de l'efficacité énergétique. Il reste en effet des gisements d'économies d'énergie à réaliser dans tous les pays. Sur ce point, les Etats membres de l'Union Européenne ont par exemple pris l'engagement de réduire d'ici à 2020 la consommation d'énergie primaire de

20%. En Europe, la consommation d'énergie dans les bâtiments résidentiels et commerciaux représente environ 40% de la consommation totale d'énergie finale. Elle est responsable de 36% des émissions totales de CO2 de l'Union européenne. Le secteur du bâtiment constitue donc un levier primordial pour des actions en matière d'efficacité énergétique.

Par la suite, l'ensemble des pays doit tendre vers un mix énergétique laissant plus de place aux énergies renouvelables. Ces dernières présentent incontestablement des avantages en matière de lutte contre le changement climatique, et constituent également des énergies moins exposées aux accidents et moins dangereuses pour la santé humaine. Toutefois, des inconvénients existent notamment en matière

d'accessibilité économique et de continuité de l'approvisionnement (aspect fondamental pour le

développement économique de nos sociétés). Par exemple, pour le solaire thermique ou électrique, l'obstacle

majeur est l'intermittence de l'ensoleillement. L'éolien est également freiné par l'intermittence du vent, les

tempêtes, la corrosion, ou bien encore l'emprise au sol. Dans ce contexte, la question du stockage de

l'énergie produite par ces sources renouvelables est fondamentale pour les années à venir. La question du

financement à l'accès à ces énergies renouvelables plus coûteuses que les sources d'énergie

conventionnelles reste également posée.

La nécessaire sécurité des approvisionnements en énergie impose par conséquent de rechercher des gains en matière d'efficacité énergétique et un mix énergétique mieux équilibré en vue de réduire progressivement la part des énergies fossiles. Toutefois, au-delà de l'enjeu en matière de sécurité d'approvisionnement, l'impératif de sécurité des hommes doit-il aller jusqu'à exclure du mix énergétique certains types d'énergies

notamment nucléaire ?

La filière nucléaire n'est pas aujourd'hui uniforme à travers le monde en termes de pratiques. En France, Areva rappelle que la sûreté, la sécurité et la transparence sont des éléments essentiels à l'intérieur de l'entreprise pour orienter les décisions. Toutefois, quelques soient les acteurs considérés, le risque zéro n'existe pas en matière nucléaire. En parallèle, il faut également prendre en compte qu'il s'agit d'une énergie produite sans émission de gaz à effet de serre et qui revendique le fait d'être bon marché. Dans ces conditions, on comprend que l'énergie nucléaire suscite des débats passionnés sur lesquels le pouvoir politique a bien du mal à trancher. La réponse de l'avenir du nucléaire dans les mix énergétiques au niveau mondial renvoie donc à l'acceptation sociétale d'une telle source d'énergie. Et aujourd'hui, les réponses sont diverses au niveau mondial car les sensibilités des hommes s'expriment différemment à travers le monde, la réponse ne sera donc assurément pas uniforme. Néanmoins, il apparaît que le développement de l'énergie

nucléaire pourrait globalement être fortement ralenti voire freiné suite à la catastrophe de Fukushima.

Par ailleurs, le débat sur l'énergie nucléaire ne doit pas éclipser le risque associé aux autres sources d'énergies. Pour mémoire, l'exploitation des énergies fossiles n'est pas exempte de risques que ce soit dans

les mines de charbon, champs de gaz ou plateformes pétrolières. Le 20 avril 2010, la plate-forme pétrolière

Deepwater Horizon louée par la compagnie pétrolière britannique BP pour forer dans le golfe du Mexique (dans les eaux territoriales américaines) explosait. Il s'agissait du puits le plus profond jamais creusé en offshore. 11 personnes sont mortes dans l'accident et 17 ont été blessées, une marée noire de grande envergure s'en est suivie.

En conclusion, la question de la sécurité humaine dans une situation incertaine de disponibilité de l'énergie au niveau mondial pose à la fois la question de la sécurité d'approvisionnement qui permet le développement

économique et celle de la sûreté des installations qui produisent puis distribuent ces énergies. Ce sont les citoyens qui seront progressivement amenés à opérer un choix en tenant compte de ces paramètres, le modèle énergétique est en effet devenu un enjeu sociétal primordial malgré la dimension technique de cette

question. Espérons dans ce contexte que les populations opèrent des choix éclairés...

#### « **Financements innovants, clé d'une croissance durable ?** »

*Malgré la mise en place de nouveaux modes de financements, les pratiques traditionnelles perdurent et les paradigmes évoluent peu. Ces solutions innovantes suffisent-elles à changer les modèles économiques et à assurer un développement responsable ? Sont-elles réellement efficaces ?*

L'enjeu majeur pour assurer un développement durable localement ou globalement c'est de financer ce développement. Quelque soit l'état du pays ou de la région, le financement est un sujet clé :

- Dans les pays développés, l'endettement des états fait que le recours au financement public sera de

plus en plus complexe et qu'il faudra donc dans certains cas réunir intérêt public et privé. C'est le cas

des Partenariats Public Privé (PPP). Il faudra également que la partie privée du financement se

préoccupe des enjeux de développement durable pour que les mécaniques économiques traditionnelles agissent comme un effet de levier

- Dans les zones les plus pauvres la question du financement est tout aussi cruciale et voire beaucoup plus, puisqu'il s'agit de donner accès à des richesses à des gens qui n'ont à priori pas les moyens de rembourser leur endettement qu'ils soient personne morale ou physique.

Les débats de la Global Conférence sur ces thématiques ont évoqué trois grands types d'exemples innovants

: la prise en compte croissante du développement durable dans le financement du tissu économique des PME des pays développés, en particulier dans les opérations de LBO, la recherche par les grandes entreprises de business model innovants adaptés aux pays pauvres et la question de la micro-assurance, tout aussi essentielle que la micro-finance très largement évoquée en général.

La prise en compte du développement durable dans les mécanismes financiers de création de valeur, en particulier dans le domaine du capital investissement, est récente mais croissante au plan international. Sur

ce sujet, certains fonds d'investissement français sont en pointe et ont clairement illustré leurs positions lors

des débats.

En effet, un des acteurs clés de l'économie est aujourd'hui constitué de fonds d'investissement réalisant

essentiellement des opérations de LBO. Ces fonds sont des investisseurs plutôt de long terme tournés vers le développement des entreprises de tailles moyennes qui sont au cœur de l'activité économique de la plupart des pays développés. Ce type d'investissement en capital n'est pas à proprement parlé innovant puisqu'il existait depuis plusieurs dizaines d'années. Par contre, depuis deux ans le secteur est en pleine

évolution autour des questions de développement durable. Compte tenu des effets de levier potentiels de ce

secteur cela constitue une bonne nouvelle d'autant plus que les principales motivations de ces acteurs

reposent sur la conviction que développement durable et croissance économique sont conciliables.

Au sein de ce secteur, la prise en compte du concept de Développement Durable se traduit par l'intégration des critères extra financiers Environnementaux, Sociaux et de Gouvernance (ESG) dans la conduite des affaires. Cette prise en compte consiste principalement en :

- Exercer leur responsabilité d'actionnaire actif et non dormant ;
- Capitaliser sur les principes de gouvernance existants puisque la profession du Capital Investissement s'est

construite autour de la gouvernance ;

- Déployer une stratégie ESG équilibrée à chaque étape du « cycle de vie » des participations, de la prise de participation à la cession permettant d'optimiser la gestion des risques et des opportunités, d'améliorer la

compétitivité et la valorisation financière.

L'importance de ces enjeux s'illustre par le rôle croissant des parties prenantes aspirant à un modèle

économique plus durable :

- L'Etat qui incite les entreprises cotées à intégrer les critères ESG dans leur gestion quotidienne, à travers l'adoption et l'application de réglementations telles que la loi NRE de 2001 et en 2013 la mise en œuvre de l'article 225 de la loi Grenelle II.

- La société civile qui recherche désormais une vision de long terme et des investissements durables pour

satisfaire ses besoins réels.

- Les entreprises qui évoluent en conséquence et modifient peu à peu leur business-model. Elles adaptent leur offre (produits et services) afin de répondre à la demande croissante de leurs parties prenantes : investisseurs, consommateurs, clients, société civile, ONG, fournisseurs.

Au-delà de ces attentes, un certain nombre de facteurs contribuent très significativement à la prise en compte progressive des critères ESG au sein du Capital Investissement :

- Des investisseurs institutionnels de plus en plus exigeants. Cette exigence émane des parties prenantes (souscripteurs, régulateurs, opinion publique) qui leur demandent de ne plus prendre en compte la seule performance financière de leurs investissements mais également la performance économique globale intégrant les enjeux sociaux et environnementaux. Ils prônent ainsi un devoir de transparence qui se formalise

progressivement sous la forme de questionnaires à l'attention des sociétés de gestion. Dans quelques

années, la prise en compte de critères ESG constituera très probablement un avantage concurrentiel pour lever des fonds.

- Une réglementation elle aussi de plus en plus rigoureuse, qui vise à renforcer le reporting sociétal des entreprises.

Néanmoins, la prise en compte des critères ESG ne doit pas seulement être considérée comme une contrainte, fruit de pressions émanant des parties prenantes, mais comme un véritable levier de création de valeur permettant de :

- Pérenniser la performance des participations et notamment sur la gestion des risques, la gestion des ressources humaines, la capacité à répondre aux appels d'offre et à l'émergence de nouveaux marchés et enfin à la réduction de certains coûts.

- Valoriser la performance des participations par le résultat des actions menées sur la politique sociale et environnementale, qui lui permettront de faire progresser son CA ou son EBITDA. La mise en place d'un reporting ESG au sein de chaque participation sera nécessaire pour suivre des indicateurs de performance ESG pendant la période de détention.

- Renforcer les relations entre la société de gestion et les sociétés constitutives de son portefeuille.

De même que pour les entreprises qui ont le Pacte Mondial les acteurs du capital investissement ont élaboré sous l'égide des Nations Unis les *Principles for Responsible Investment* (PRI) qui consistent à formaliser l'engagement des sociétés de gestion et à le rendre transparent via un reporting annuel. La prise en compte

de ces questions ESG devient une réalité forte sur le marché du Private Equity français puisque sur les 920

signataires des PRI, 73 sont français à ce jour. Et c'est bien ce qu'ont montré les discussions des différents

intervenants de cet atelier.

Si la question de la prise en compte du développement durable dans les financement privés des pays développés semble pouvoir se résoudre de façon traditionnelle, il faudra faire appel à de réels leviers

d'innovation pour régler les grands paradoxes auxquels nous sommes confronté dans les pays en voie de

développement tels que : des problématiques massives de malnutrition dans des pays où l'essentielle de la population est constituée d'agriculteurs, ou la pauvreté extrême (moins d'1 dollar par jour) dans des pays riche de ressources énergétique comme le pétrole.

Une partie des réponses semblent pouvoir venir de l'adaptation du business modèle de certaines entreprises

aux réalités économique et sociale des pays pauvres. Au delà de la commercialisation dans les pays développés des produits issus du commerce équitable c'est le développement de marché intérieur réel pour ces entreprises qui peut donner un espoir. L'exemple de Danone au Bangladesh est frappant à ce sujet. Pour

développer et pérenniser son activité localement et donc se créer une clientèle susceptible de pouvoir acheter ses produits sur place l'entreprise a dû revoir complètement son modèle économique et accepter une marge inférieure, au prix d'une promesse de volume important à long terme.

Ce type d'approche extrêmement innovante devrait avoir tendance à se développer dans les prochaines années, nombre de grandes entreprises étudiant de façon de plus en plus intéressées les marchés potentiels des économies à fort développement mais faible revenus.

Le microcrédit, mode de financement qui existe depuis plus de 10 ans, est particulièrement adapté aux pays en voie de développement, cependant les questions tournant autour des garanties des personnes ne sont abordées que depuis peu et sont par exemple le fait de grandes compagnies comme Allianz et sa division Allianz Africa.

La micro-assurance est un mécanisme de protection des personnes à faibles revenus contre les risques

(accident, maladie, décès familiaux, catastrophe naturelle) en échange du paiement d'une prime d'assurance

calculée en fonction de leurs besoins, de leurs revenus et du niveau du risque concerné. Selon une étude réalisée en 2009 par le [Fonds pour l'innovation en micro-assurance de l'Organisation internationale du travail \(OIT\)](#), 14,7 millions d'africains vivants avec moins de 2 dollars par jour sont actuellement couverts par des

produits de micro-assurance, soit seulement 2,6% de la population africaine entrant dans cette tranche de revenus. Les auteurs de l'étude révèlent aussi que l'Afrique du Sud couvre à elle seule 56% du total, que le continent est dominé par les produits d'assurance vie et que les produits de santé - souvent cités comme les plus demandés - ne couvrent en réalité que 0,3% de la population à faibles revenus. Quant à l'assurance des biens et l'assurance agricole, elles couvrent une population encore moins nombreuse, avec respectivement

0,2% et 0,1% de leurs marchés potentiels.

Les personnes les plus pauvres auraient tendance, selon les auteurs de l'étude, à croire que l'assurance n'est faite que pour les riches. Ils auraient aussi du mal à comprendre comment fonctionne l'assurance ou comment la comparer à d'autres outils de gestion des risques tels que l'épargne et le crédit. Un des

principaux objectifs de la prochaine décennie sera donc de rendre la micro-assurance plus accessible aux

personnes les plus démunies en instillant progressivement une culture de l'assurance par des programmes

de formation et de sensibilisation.

En effet, es produits doivent être conçus pour répondre aux besoins spécifiques des clients pauvres, ils doivent être disponibles (même dans les régions reculées) et abordables, le paiement des primes doit être

structuré de façon à convenir au budget des familles pauvres. Enfin, l'accès est aussi intellectuel. Les

assureurs en Afrique constatent, sur le plan de la demande, que l'expansion de la micro-assurance est

entravée par le manque de compréhension des concepts de l'assurance et les confusions qui existent par

exemple avec les mécanismes d'épargne (les clients s'attendent à récupérer leurs primes si aucun sinistre n'a

eu lieu) et mettent en avant la nécessité de l'éducation des consommateurs afin de faciliter les ventes. Ce

n'est que lorsque les populations à faibles revenus verront la micro-assurance comme une valeur ajoutée dans leur manière de gérer les risques que la croissance de l'industrie connaîtra un véritable essor. Sur le plan de l'offre, les assureurs notent que leurs difficultés sont essentiellement liées à l'efficacité des systèmes

existants qui ne répondent pas aux besoins du secteur. Les coûts administratifs sont élevés, les systèmes de

gestion des informations encore mal organisés et le personnel des compagnies d'assurance n'est pas

toujours formé de manière suffisante pour ce type de marché.

La micro-assurance ne se réfère pas à la taille de l'assureur, même si certains prestataires en Afrique sont en effet de taille modeste et ont même une structure informelle. Il existe des exemples de très grandes entreprises qui offrent des produits de micro-assurance, y compris des multinationales comme Allianz. Sous

diverses formes, la micro-assurance est disponible en Afrique depuis un certain nombre d'années. Les

coopératives d'assurance ont servi différents segments de population depuis les années 1970. Dans les

années 1980, de nombreux régimes d'assurance maladie communautaires, en particulier en Afrique de

l'Ouest, ont été créés. Au milieu des années 1990, les assureurs privés ont commencé à investir le marché de

la micro-assurance, offrant des produits spécifiques pour les populations démunies. Quant à la micro-

assurance informelle, elle est disponible depuis des décennies sous des formes variées allant des « tontines

» en Afrique de l'Ouest ou des groupes « Friends in need », en Afrique de l'Est, en passant par les sociétés

funéraires en Afrique du Sud.

Le fait que les divisions locales de grandes compagnies d'assurances internationales travaillent sur le sujet est un facteur encourageant pour ces pays et leurs populations.

La question du financement reste clairement au centre des enjeux de développement durable qu'ils s'agissent d'économies développées ou en voie de développement. Les débats relatifs aux financements innovants dans cette 5ème Edition des Ateliers de la Terre l'ont clairement illustré via deux approches essentielles. L'une centrée sur le développement économique dans les pays développés et s'appuyant sur les mécanismes mis en place par les fonds d'investissement intégrant de plus en plus le développement durable comme PAI, Eurazeo PME ou Pragma Capital. Et l'autre tournée sur le monde en développement et démontrant que des solutions économiques viables sont possibles pour traiter un certain nombre d'enjeux, comme la nutrition et l'assurance. Le fait que des grands groupes d'assurance, au-delà des raisons morales, s'intéressent à des territoires comme l'Afrique donne de l'espoir pour ce continent. Il est clair que de le percevoir comme un marché potentiel est la principale opportunité de développement pour l'Afrique. Une des plus grandes

innovations en termes de financement reste encore à venir. Elle est le fait des états et relève des choix

qu'elles feront en matière de gouvernance mondiale et de démocratie planétaire. Il s'agit de toutes les

récentes discussions issues de réflexions de James Tobin à propos de la taxation des transactions financières. C'est probablement une des options les plus crédibles aujourd'hui pour faire face aux besoins en développement de l'humanité.

#### « Crise alimentaire : quelles révolutions vertes ? »

*La sécurité alimentaire reste un défi majeur. Les mécanismes actuels ne répondent pas à cette crise profonde. Comment mettre en œuvre un autre système de production agricole permettant de nourrir 9 milliards de personnes? Faut-il révolutionner la révolution verte ?*

Un milliard d'êtres humains souffrant de malnutrition, la recrudescence des émeutes de la faim en Asie, en

Afrique et en Amérique centrale, une situation d'urgence humanitaire en Somalie du Sud ... les crises

alimentaires constituent un sujet brûlant d'actualité arrivé au cœur des agendas politiques nationaux et internationaux. Le modèle agricole actuel ne semble pas adapté pour répondre aux besoins d'une population mondiale de 9 milliards d'habitants en 2050 tout en faisant la promotion de conditions de production plus respectueuses de l'environnement. Si de multiples facteurs sont à considérer pour expliquer cette situation, mêlant des questions d'investissements et de spéculations à des problématiques climatiques et de comportements alimentaires, les réponses à ce défi majeur sont également plurielles. La réalisation d'un bond

technologique comparable à celui de la « révolution verte » des années 1960-1990 semble peu probable. Les

nouvelles révolutions vertes devront s'appuyer également sur des politiques publiques volontaristes ainsi que

sur des initiatives privées et citoyennes.

L'agriculture souffre depuis le début des années 80 d'un déficit chronique d'investissement aussi bien de la

part des pouvoirs publics que du secteur privé. Cette situation, conjuguée au développement des exportations

de produits alimentaires sous l'impulsion du FMI, a conduit à une diminution de la productivité agricole dans

plusieurs pays africains et à une situation de dépendance alimentaire de nombreux Etats du Sud, autosuffisants auparavant. Le niveau de vie des pays développés nécessite dans le même temps des besoins en terres dépassant leurs propres frontières. Une étude du Sustainable Europe Research Institute a ainsi mis en évidence que l'Europe des 27 mobilisait 640 millions d'hectares en 2004 pour sa consommation, soit 1,5 fois sa propre superficie. La consommation moyenne de terres de l'Union européenne est de 1,3 hectare par personne, contre 0,4 hectares pour la Chine ou l'Inde. La spéculation sur les matières premières alimentaires

et l'augmentation des cultures pour les biocarburants contribuent pour leur part à fragiliser encore davantage

la sécurité alimentaire des populations les plus vulnérables.

Le bilan environnemental d'une agriculture axée essentiellement sur l'amélioration des rendements conduit par ailleurs à s'interroger sur la pérennité d'un tel système : absorption de 70 % de la consommation d'eau mondiale par l'agriculture, pollution des sols et de l'eau par l'utilisation intensive d'intrants chimiques, atteintes

graves et parfois irréversibles à la biodiversité, etc. Le changement climatique se manifestant par des

événements météorologiques extrêmes risque enfin d'exposer d'ici 2080, 600 millions de personnes

supplémentaires à la faim<sup>8</sup>.

Face à l'ampleur et à la diversité des enjeux, les réponses apportées ne peuvent être que multiples et dans la mesure du possible complémentaires.

Une politique d'investissement de grande ampleur doit tout d'abord être mise en place pour préparer les

hommes et les territoires aux conséquences du changement climatique et œuvrer à la transition vers des

modes de production plus durables tout en atteignant des niveaux de rendement élevés. Cette approche, parfois désignée sous le terme « d'agroécologie<sup>9</sup> » se fonde sur le maintien ou l'introduction de la biodiversité

agricole (diversité des cultures, agroforesterie, pollinisateurs, etc.) et compte déjà à son actif des résultats prometteurs en Tanzanie<sup>10</sup>, au Malawi, au Mozambique ou en Zambie. Si les investissements publics doivent rester prépondérants pour assurer une vision à long terme aux programmes de recherche et aux opérations

de reconversion agricole, l'apport du secteur privé est également essentiel. Il convient ainsi de ne pas adopter

de position dogmatique à ce sujet : l'achat de terres agricoles par des entreprises étrangères peut être



profitable aux populations locales si les termes de l'accord sont suffisamment transparents et cadrés en amont ; le développement des agro carburants peut attirer des capitaux étrangers et contribuer à l'introduction

8 PNUD, Rapport mondial sur le développement humain 2007/2008

9 Nations Unies, Rapport du Rapporteur spécial sur le droit à l'alimentation (Olivier de Schutter), décembre 2010

10 Cf intervention de Christopher K. CHIZA, Ministre Délégué en charge de l'Agriculture, de la Sécurité Alimentaire et des Coopératives (Tanzanie)

de nouvelles techniques pour améliorer les rendements agricoles<sup>11</sup>.

Depuis l'envolée des prix alimentaires en 2008 et le sommet de l'Aquila en 2009, de plus en plus de voix se font entendre pour dénoncer la spéculation sur les produits agricoles et prôner une régulation des marchés. Cette sanctuarisation des produits agricoles qui concernerait notamment les prix des 4 céréales à la base de

l'alimentation mondiale (maïs, blé, riz, soja) s'inscrit dans un cadre plus global de régulation des marchés financiers et ne pourra être instituée que par l'entremise d'un accord au niveau du G20. Si cette perspective semble encore éloignée, cette voie doit rester ouverte et être explorée au cours des prochaines années.

La lutte contre le gaspillage constitue un autre axe de travail pour lutter contre les crises alimentaires. Dans un récent rapport, les experts de la FAO estiment à 1,3 milliard de tonnes le montant des produits alimentaires perdus ou gaspillés chaque année sur la planète. Soit un tiers de la production mondiale. Ces pertes de nourriture sont directement imputables à une surconsommation de nourriture dans les pays

développés et à des infrastructures défectueuses dans les pays en développement. L'agence de l'ONU conclut

ainsi qu'il est aujourd'hui plus rentable de réduire le gaspillage de nourriture que d'accroître la production

agricole pour nourrir une population mondiale en croissance.

S'il convient d'agir pour améliorer l'acheminement des produits alimentaires vers les populations qui en ont

besoin et intégrer la notion de mesure dans nos actes d'achats en lien avec le développement de stratégies

marketing plus responsables, la nature même de notre alimentation fait débat. Près de 50% de la production mondiale de céréales est en effet destinée à la fabrication de nourriture pour animaux. La diminution de la part des protéines animales dans le régime alimentaire des pays du Nord permettrait de dégager des excédents de céréales tout en répondant à un enjeu majeur de santé publique.

Le développement de l'agriculture en milieu urbain, illustré par l'initiative des fermes Lufa à Montréal présentée lors de la Global Conference, constitue enfin un élément de réponse intéressant pour concilier augmentation de la population urbaine, raréfaction des terres arables et promotion de circuits de distribution courts.

La science ne suffira pas à répondre au défi alimentaire auquel l'humanité aura à faire face au cours des 50 prochaines années. Plusieurs leviers d'actions sont entre les mains des gouvernements, des entreprises et des individus. Tout au long de l'Histoire, la faim a joué un rôle déterminant dans le déclenchement des révolutions et les renversements de régime. Si les décideurs politiques ont montré les premiers signes d'une prise de conscience en 2009 en s'engageant à mobiliser plus de 20 milliards USD en 3 ans, cet effort doit s'inscrire dans la durée et ne pourra pas faire l'économie d'une véritable stratégie agricole à l'échelle mondiale.

Cependant les nouvelles révolutions vertes passeront également par une « révolution des mentalités » se manifestant par une revalorisation des métiers agricoles aussi bien dans les pays du Nord que du Sud.

11 Cf intervention de Baba Seid BALLY, Président, Association Africaine de Promotion des Biocarburants (Mali)

## PRESENTATION DES RESULTATS DES COMMISSIONS DE TRAVAIL

### GLOBAL CONFERENCE 2011

#### INTERNATIONAL LEADERS OF THE ENTREPRENEURIAL SOCIETY

#### NOTE DE SYNTHÈSE

*Les entreprises sociales disposent d'un formidable potentiel de croissance, de création d'emplois durables et d'utilité sociale. Cette commission de travail mise en place par les Ateliers de la Terre en partenariat avec le Groupe SOS a pour but de réfléchir aux réformes nécessaires pour démocratiser le modèle de l'entrepreneuriat social et favoriser son émergence à l'échelle européenne et internationale.*

#### PREMIÈRE PARTIE : Et adresses de l'entrepreneuriat social

##### Qu'est-ce que l'entrepreneuriat social aujourd'hui ?

La notion d'entrepreneuriat social regroupe un panel relativement large d'activités dont on peut néanmoins

relever plusieurs **traits fondamentaux et pratiques communes** :

1) Tous les projets d'entrepreneuriat social constituent des **démarches privées**, ancrées dans le marché, favorisant la création d'emplois, recherchant un modèle économique viable, et visant à la production de biens et services.

Il s'agit donc d'une **démarche d'entreprise** (privée), au sens européen du terme. « *Est considérée comme entreprise toute entité, indépendamment de sa forme juridique, exerçant une activité économique. Sont notamment considérées comme telles (...) les sociétés de personnes ou les associations qui exercent régulièrement une activité économique* » (annexe I au règlement (CE) n° 800 / 2008).

2) Néanmoins, ces initiatives privées sont **au service de l'intérêt général**, avec pour objectif de répondre à des besoins de la société peu ou mal satisfaits : lutter contre les exclusions, maintenir des emplois sur des territoires fragiles, garantir un juste revenu aux producteurs, aider les personnes

âgées à mieux vivre, protéger l'environnement, répondre à de nouveaux besoins sociaux...

La finalité sociale de ces initiatives privées peut prendre différentes formes :

- **Sociale par les bénéficiaires de l'activité** (clients, usagers) : personnes fragiles ou fragilisées sur le plan du revenu, de l'emploi, de la santé, de l'éducation.

- **Sociale par les salariés de l'entreprise** : personnes fragiles ou fragilisées bénéficiant (ou pas) d'un accompagnement des pouvoirs publics (insertion, handicap...).

- **Sociale par l'offre de l'entreprise** : conception, production et/ou distribution d'une offre à caractère social, attestés par un label ou une certification reconnue (ex.: Max Havelaar).

La démarche est **doublement inclusive**. D'une part, les personnes vulnérables ciblées (pauvres, handicapés, etc.) sont incluses soit du côté de la demande (clients ou usagers), soit de l'offre (employés, producteurs, chefs d'entreprise).

3) Les projets d'entrepreneuriat social ont une **lucrativité limitée** : le profit n'est pas une fin mais un moyen, les excédents dégagés étant majoritairement réinvestis dans le projet ou dans d'autres initiatives sociales, notamment grâce à la stricte limitation de la rémunération du capital :

- Encadrement de la rémunération des apports en fonds propres (définition d'un seuil absolu ou relatif, limitation de la part des excédents redistribuables en dividendes...)

- Encadrement de l'échelle des salaires (1 à 10, à corrélérer en fonction du nombre de salariés).

- Excédents majoritairement réinvestis dans le projet (investissements, fonds propres, réserves...).

- En cas de dissolution, dévolution majoritaire des actifs à d'autres entreprises sociales.

4) Enfin, ces projets **encouragent l'innovation** et le dépassement des pratiques traditionnelles. Inventant de nouvelles réponses aux problèmes sociaux, de nouvelles manières de mobiliser des res-

sources : les entrepreneurs sociaux sont des « agents du changement social ». L'entreprise sociale privilégie des formes de gouvernance participative, où le processus de décision n'est pas fondé uniquement sur la propriété du capital mais aussi sur l'intérêt d'autres parties prenantes (salariés, collectivités, bénéficiaires, ONG...).

## II) Des opportunités de marché social existent :

Les entreprises sociales sont déjà des **dizaines de milliers** en Europe à montrer que l'on peut **concilier efficacité économique et utilité sociale**, pour lutter contre les exclusions, maintenir des emplois sur des territoires fragiles, garantir un juste revenu aux producteurs, aider les personnes âgées à mieux vivre, protéger l'environnement ou encore répondre à de nouveaux besoins sociaux.

Sont notamment concernées des entreprises d'insertion, des entreprises adaptées aux personnes handicapées, des coopératives sociales, des entreprises du commerce équitable, des entreprises associatives de la santé, des joint-ventures du type Grameen Danone, etc.

Rappelons qu'un certain nombre de **dynamiques ont favorisé l'essor de l'entrepreneuriat social** :

1) La prise en considération croissante des 3 piliers du développement durable.

· Domaine **environnemental** : la nécessité de gestion raisonnée des ressources qui s'est progressivement imposée (gestion locale des ressources en eau, projets de reforestation...) ou encore la dynamique de lutte contre le changement climatique, avec des projets visant à développer des solutions alternatives, notamment dans le secteur énergétique.

· Domaine **social** : le vieillissement de la population, ou encore la lutte contre l'accroissement des inégalités.

· Domaine **économique** : défi du commerce équitable ou du développement économique des territoires, politiques RSE, consommation responsable.

2) Les **financements** de l'entrepreneuriat social se sont multipliés, grâce notamment à de nouveaux fonds liés à la « venture philanthropy », à des financements issus du grand emprunt (100M€), à de nouvelles fondations, etc. Les « jeunes pousses » de l'entrepreneuriat social trouvent plus facilement

des capitaux pour amorcer leur projet.

3) L'**accompagnement** est progressivement renforcé, avec par exemple la mobilisation du réseau

« Entreprendre », le développement des dispositifs d'incubation, etc. Cet accompagnement reste

néanmoins loin de celui que l'on peut trouver dans le secteur classique.

4) L'**environnement juridique progresse**, grâce notamment au rapport Vercamer, à la Commission

Label, au Conseil Supérieur de l'ESS, etc.

5) Les **compétences augmentent** : de plus en plus de jeunes ou expérimentés issus du privé veulent

aujourd'hui mettre leurs compétences au service de l'entrepreneuriat social, même à des salaires in-

férieurs.

Ainsi, la dynamique des entreprises sociales est **porteuse d'avenir** :

1) Leur efficience économique est un levier de **réduction des déficits publics**.

2) Leur qualité de service est un facteur de **compétitivité économique et sociale**.

3) Leur modèle économique original attire de nombreux entrepreneurs en **quête de sens**.

4) Leur **potentiel de croissance, de création d'emplois durables et d'utilité sociale** est avéré, notamment sur :

· les marchés éthiques : bio, commerce équitable, écoproduits, circuits courts, recyclage...

· les activités d'intérêt général : santé, social, petite enfance, dépendance, environnement, éducation,

culture, transports...

5) Leur **potentiel de duplication entre pays**, encore peu exploité, reste important. De plus en plus de gouvernements, de collectivités locales, de fondations de pays européens s'engagent sur le soutien à la duplication d'entreprises sociales sur leur territoire.

*Ex : C'est par exemple le cas de la Catalogne qui vient de mettre en place un Programme pour développer l'entrepreneuriat social, notamment via la duplication d'entreprises sociales d'autres pays européens.*

Néanmoins, le développement de l'entrepreneuriat social butte sur des obstacles qu'il convient d'identifier.

### III) Limites au développement de l'entrepreneuriat social :

1) Un manque d'entrepreneurs sociaux : même s'ils sont déjà des milliers - voire des dizaines de milliers

- **les entrepreneurs** deviennent finalement la « **ressource rare** » dans l'économie sociale et solidaire

(ESS).

2) **Un manque d'accompagnement** des structures, notamment par rapport au secteur classique.

3) **Des outils de financements inadaptés**, en particulier pour les entreprises sociales matures à la recherche de capital-développement.

4) **Des obstacles à l'internationalisation** des structures de l'ESS, notamment en raison d'un manque

de référentiel commun.

Le frein principal au développement, ce n'est donc ni les compétences, ni les marchés. Bien sûr, ils restent insuffisants et il faut continuer à les développer et les mobiliser.

Mais il faut également s'attacher à démocratiser le modèle de l'entrepreneuriat social et lui apporter une reconnaissance au niveau européen et

international.

*Quelles réformes pourrait-on alors mettre en place pour favoriser l'émergence du modèle de l'entrepreneuriat social au sein de l'économie européenne et mondiale ? Comment faire pour changer d'échelle et propulser le modèle de l'entrepreneuriat social à l'échelle internationale ?*

La seconde partie de ce document s'efforce de mettre en avant plusieurs recommandations, dans quatre

domaines dont l'importance nous est apparue primordiale : formation, financement, identification et

internationalisation de l'entrepreneuriat social.

## DEUXIEME PARTIE : Recommandations pour l'émergence du modèle de l'entrepreneuriat

**social à l'échelle internationale.**

Au travers des contributions partagées par les experts de la commission de travail, il apparaît qu'en vue de favoriser l'émergence du modèle de l'entrepreneuriat social à l'échelle internationale, quatre dimensions sont essentielles et doivent faire l'objet de réformes aussi bien au niveau national, qu'eupéen et international : la formation, le financement, les statuts et la démocratisation à l'échelle internationale de l'entrepreneuriat social.

#### I) Formation à l'entrepreneuriat social :

*L'un des freins au développement de l'entrepreneuriat social en Europe et dans le monde vient du manque de l'offre de formation mise à disposition des étudiants et entrepreneurs souhaitant se diriger vers ce secteur en plein essor. Ce dernier ne pourra en effet changer d'échelle que si une offre de formation adéquate et de qualité est disponible. Cet enjeu est d'autant plus important que de nombreux postes sont amenés à se libérer dans le secteur dans les prochaines années, avec 480 000 postes concernés en France.*

Il convient donc de :

##### - Favoriser la mise en place d'une offre de formation en entrepreneuriat social qui soit plus structurée

**et plus massive dans les universités et les grandes écoles**, afin de proposer aux étudiants qui s'intéressent à ce secteur une formation solide, spécialisée et reconnue. En effet, aujourd'hui, la demande d'accès aux formations existantes est largement supérieure aux capacités d'accueil.

Ces nouvelles offres de formation pourraient notamment s'inspirer d'initiatives encourageantes, comme la création par l'ESSEC de la Chaire Entrepreneuriat Social au sein de l'Institut de l'Innovation et de l'Entrepreneuriat Social.

**- Développer les offres de formation continue à destination des dirigeants, salariés et bénévoles** de différentes structures. Ces offres pourraient s'inspirer de l'approche et des programmes proposés par l'Ecole de l'Entrepreneuriat en Economie Sociale de Montpellier.

##### - Mettre en place des modules de formations et sensibilisation à l'attention des organisations

**intermédiaires et des ONG**, en développant un réseau d'échanges des connaissances, pour favoriser les

dialogues entre les parties prenantes du secteur.

**- Rendre plus lisible l'offre de formation déjà existante** dans le domaine, en allant à la rencontre des étudiants, notamment par le biais de campagnes d'information et de sensibilisation par la preuve, pour donner envie aux jeunes d'entreprendre autrement.

**- Développer un socle théorique commun** dans le domaine de l'entrepreneuriat social, en favorisant la création d'un véritable corps doctrinal spécialisé, qui pourrait améliorer à la fois la qualité des formations

dispensées, mais aussi la lisibilité des enjeux propres au secteur. Dans cette optique, il serait intéressant de **répertorier les institutions les plus actives dans le domaine**, ainsi que les **ressources académiques disponibles**. Cette **base de données recensant tous les acteurs de l'économie sociale** faciliterait leur

mise en relation, la création de synergies et la construction de projets communs, en s'inspirant par exemple

des travaux réalisés dans le cadre de la **Growing Inclusive Market Initiative**, une initiative menée par le

PNUD pour favoriser la recherche multi-acteurs.

- Dans une logique d'internationalisation des compétences, **développer le volet « Entreprises Sociales »**

**du programme « Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs »**. Lancé par la Commission européenne en février

2009, sous l'égide du « Small Business Act », ce programme a pour but d'aider des créateurs d'entreprise à

acquérir des compétences en management en passant une période de 1 à 6 mois dans un autre pays

eupéen, auprès d'un entrepreneur expérimenté.

#### II) Financement de l'entrepreneuriat social

*Le secteur de l'entrepreneuriat social est confronté à une même problématique dans la plupart des pays d'Europe: la baisse des financements publics nécessite de trouver de nouveaux financements privés afin de faire perdurer leurs activités. Le secteur de l'entrepreneuriat social ne pourra en effet changer d'échelle s'il n'existe pas d'outils financiers spécifiques et adaptés permettant de couvrir leurs besoins.*

##### 1) Encourager un nouveau mode de financement pour les entreprises sociales :

Déjà répandu en Angleterre et aux Etats Unis, l'**impact investing** correspond aux investissements à « impact

social », c'est-à-dire qui allient à la fois **un retour financier et un retour social sur investissement**. L'**impact investing diffère donc de l'ISR** (Investissement Socialement Responsable), qui s'adresse aux entreprises engagés dans une démarche RSE (Responsabilité Sociale de l'Entreprise). L'**impact investing**

correspond donc au marché des entreprises sociales : entreprises dont la finalité sociale, sociétale et/ou environnementale est atteinte grâce à un modèle économique viable.

Le rapport « *Impact Investments, An emerging asset class* », publié en novembre 2010 par J.P.Morgan,

reconnait le marché de l'**impact investing** comme une **nouvelle classe d'actifs à très fort potentiel de**

**croissance**.

Ce rapport démontre que le marché de l'**impact investing** ne peut être classé parmi les classes d'actifs

traditionnels, car il répond à des logiques différentes, à savoir :

- un couple rentabilité/risque nouveau ;
- des compétences en gestion et organisation spécifiques ;
- des structures avec un modèle juridique et économique particulier
- le besoin de nouvelles mesures d'impact standardisées. Le rapport prévoit d'importantes opportunités pour les dix prochaines années, dans les secteurs du logement, de l'accès à l'eau potable, de la santé, de l'éducation, et de la microfinance. L'opportunité d'investissement est estimée au plus bas à 400 milliards de dollars.

Il convient donc d'**informer** et de **sensibiliser les investisseurs institutionnels classiques à ce nouveau mode d'investissement.**

Si les investisseurs traditionnels (banques, assurances, fonds d'investissement) sont concernés, d'autres fonds peuvent être sollicités.

#### **Les « *unclaimed assets* »**

Les « *unclaimed assets* » sont les fonds des banques restés inactifs pendant plus de 15 ans et non réclamés

à ce jour. En Grande Bretagne, leur montant s'élèverait à 400 millions de livres (selon la *British Banking*

*Association*). La « *Commission on Unclaimed Assets* », lancée par Tony Blair, a recommandé la création, à partir de ces actifs non réclamés, d'une « Social Investment Bank » d'au moins 250 millions de livres. Cette nouvelle structure jouerait le rôle d'un « grossiste » : opérateur de second niveau qui ciblerait les

investisseurs solidaires « détaillants » qui financent en direct les entreprises sociales et le tiers -secteur. David

Cameron a repris l'idée à son compte et annoncé le 19 juillet dernier la création à l'horizon d'avril 2012 d'une

« **Big Society Bank** », financée par les « *unclaimed assets* », et qui devrait débloquer « des centaines de millions de livres » à destination des entreprises sociales, et plus largement du tiers-secteur.

#### **L'épargne (salariale, retraite, assurance vie)**

En France, l'épargne salariale et solidaire a augmenté de 111% entre 2009 et 2010. Cette impressionnante

croissance est le fruit de plusieurs mesures. Tout d'abord, une obligation légale a été instituée par la loi de

Modernisation de l'économie du 4 août 2008 (loi Madelin). Celle-ci a instauré l'obligation de proposer dans

tout Plan Epargne Entreprise un Fond Commun de Placement Solidaire, investissant entre 5 et 10 % de leur actif dans des entreprises agréées solidaires. De plus, l'épargne salariale et solidaire est encouragée par des mesures fiscales. La même loi Madelin prévoit en effet une exonération d'impôt sur le revenu des capitaux

placés dans ces fonds. La possibilité de capter la part solidaire (5 à 10%) des FCP, FCPE et Sicav solidaires représente une réelle opportunité de part l'importance des volumes en question. Une modification des réglementations nationales pourrait encourager l'orientation de ces fonds vers les entreprises sociales.

#### **2/L' impact investing a besoin d'outils institutionnels pour fonctionner**

*Mesurer l'impact social des entreprises sociales*

**Mesurer l'impact social est nécessaire, aussi bien pour les investisseurs** qui font ou veulent faire de l'impact investing **que pour les entreprises sociales elles-mêmes**. Certains outils de mesure d'impact existent déjà, mais il n'y a pas de méthode commune. Les principales méthodes connues sont le SROI, le GIIRS et IRIS. Si toutes ces méthodes ont le mérite d'évaluer la performance sociale des entreprises, elles se

révèlent, pour les entrepreneurs comme pour les investisseurs, complexes, chères et chronophages.

Afin d'accélérer et faire converger le développement de cette **ingénierie** (boîte à outils, méthodologies, guides...) encore émergente mais essentielle pour un développement à grande échelle du *social business*, et son appropriation par les acteurs économiques classiques, il faut se mettre d'accord sur une **méthode**

#### **d'évaluation des performances financière et extra financière des entreprises sociales commune.**

Disposer d'un outil de mesure d'impact commun favoriserait la réalisation d'un **reporting systématique**. Evaluer les entreprises financièrement et extra-financièrement permettra de **valoriser ces dernières en prouvant l'efficacité de leur modèle**, attirant ainsi à la fois de nouveaux entrepreneurs et des investisseurs

vers l'entrepreneuriat social.

*Créer une agence de notation financière et extra financière européenne*

La mise en place d'une méthode d'évaluation des performances des entreprises sociales amène à

s'interroger sur les acteurs responsables de la notation. La mise en place d'une agence de notation

indépendante apporterait non seulement un cadre réglementaire et une transparence dans l'évaluation

financière et extra-financière des entreprises européennes.

Fournissant de l'information financière aux banques et aux fonds d'investissement, elle pourrait favoriser la normalisation de l'analyse financière des entreprises sociales. En développant les procédures d'analyse du

risque propre à ces **entreprises, elle faciliterait leur accès au financement.**

*Favoriser la mise en place d'un « social stock exchange européen »*

L'idée consiste à créer **une plateforme web qui mettrait en contact direct et de manière qualifiée les entreprises sociales et les investisseurs**, en vue d'une transaction. Cela permettrait de fluidifier et de **structurer le marché du financement solidaire**. Cette plateforme comporterait des **compartiments** par type de besoins de financement (fonds propres, prêts, dons...), de structures, d'investisseurs... Les entreprises sociales seraient systématiquement qualifiées par des tiers-experts.

Ainsi, cette plateforme contribuerait également à développer et **diffuser de nouveaux « standards »** pour l'entrepreneuriat social, notamment en matière de reporting social. Elle favoriserait donc une convergence vers des référentiels communs, élément essentiel à toute internationalisation.

*En France, la chaire entrepreneuriat social de l'ESSEC, le cabinet d'avocats Bird&Bird et Le Comptoir de l'Innovation (Groupe SOS) mènent un projet de recherche destiné à lancer une telle plateforme d'intermédiation.*

*Créer un fonds de liquidité européen*

Ce fonds jouerait le rôle de *market maker* sur le marché intérieur pour les entreprises sociales. Il fonctionnerait en garantissant aux investisseurs le rachat de leurs titres d'entreprises labellisées sociales au bout d'une certaine période de temps, par exemple 5 ans, et sous certaines conditions de performances de la structure émettrice.

Il ne s'agit évidemment pas de créer un fonds poubelle pour les titres sociaux, les conditions de rachat étant à la fois conditionnées à la viabilité économique et à la performance sociale de l'entreprise émettrice. Ce fonds agirait alors comme un **vecteur d'orientation en termes de performances sociales et économiques minimales pour l'entrepreneuriat social**. La question de la mesure de la performance sociale se pose encore ici, d'où la **nécessité de coupler la création de cet outil avec celle d'une agence de notation**

*Création d'un OPCVM européen des titres aux entreprises sociales*

Création d'une autorité européenne compétente pour agréer les OPCVM et les sociétés de gestion simplifiant ainsi les montages impliquant plusieurs Etats membres. La Création de cet OPCVM serait accompagnée par la **Création d'un agrément solidaire pour les OPCVM** gérant des fonds provenant de l'épargne solidaire.

*Encourager la recherche dans le secteur de la finance solidaire*

Il s'agit d'inventer de nouveaux produits financiers adaptés aux spécificités des entreprises sociales. Par exemple, on pourrait imaginer la mise en place de titres de fonds propres pour les entreprises sociales européennes ou le développement de « *Social Impact Bonds européens* » (SIB). Ce **concept innovant permet d'attirer de nouveaux investissements privés dans le secteur public** afin d'attaquer les problèmes sociaux, tout en encourageant l'innovation et en passant outre les contraintes budgétaires que rencontre le gouvernement. Le gouvernement établit un contrat avec un **investisseur intermédiaire privé à motivation sociale**, qui, à terme, **va réaliser certaines prestations sociales** auparavant assumées par le secteur public, en ayant préalablement fixé des **objectifs de réussite** précis avec le gouvernement. En ce sens, le gouvernement économise de l'argent, et **récompense l'investisseur privé avec l'argent économisé au pro rata des objectifs atteints**. Dès lors, plus l'investisseur atteint ses objectifs, plus le gouvernement économise, et plus l'investisseur est bien rémunéré. A l'inverse, ce dernier prend le risque de ne pas l'être s'il n'atteint pas les objectifs fixés. Faire de la recherche dans ce secteur permettrait de répondre aux problèmes induits par les *Social Impact Bonds*, à savoir en premier lieu la difficulté à définir et mesurer des objectifs.

*A titre d'exemple, l'organisation Social Finance développe les social impact bonds aux Etats-Unis grâce à un financement de la Rockefeller Foundation. En France, le Comptoir de l'Innovation développe des outils financiers spécifiquement adaptés aux entreprises sociales (produits, durée, rentabilité...).*

### III) Statuts de l'entrepreneuriat social

*Une autre problématique majeure du développement de l'entrepreneuriat social en Europe et à l'international provient du manque de lisibilité des entreprises sociales. Il convient donc de travailler sur les statuts des acteurs concernés.*

**1) Favoriser l'émergence de statistiques lisibles, mais pas nécessairement d'un statut unique**

**Il faudrait favoriser une implication sociale à « granularité » variable**, selon les organismes, et selon les cultures, en ne s'opposant pas à la **diversité des statuts et des niveaux d'engagement à travers le monde**.

- Rendre **les divers statuts plus précis et plus lisibles**, afin de mieux distinguer les différents niveaux d'engagement dans l'entrepreneuriat social, mais aussi de permettre une meilleure reconnaissance des

entreprises du secteur par les bailleurs de fonds.

- Dans ce cadre, **le statut de société anonyme à but social** tel qu'il est expérimenté en Californie pourrait être pris comme exemple. Ce statut a prouvé qu'il permettait aux entités de lever des fonds dans un but

différent de celui de la maximisation de profits pour les actionnaires.

- **Un statut optionnel de Société d'intérêt social (SIS)** au niveau européen pourrait également être adopté par toutes les sociétés (SA, SARL, SAS, SCS, SCA, corporations etc.), les coopératives et les associations. Ce statut implique une partition des fonds propres entre fonds verrouillés (non lucratifs) et fonds non verrouillés (en partie lucratifs). Les dividendes et plus-values sont nuls sur les fonds verrouillés (tout bénéfice

distribuable est mis en réserve verrouillée) et sont limités sur les fonds non verrouillés (l'excédent de bénéfice

distribuable est mis en réserve verrouillée). En cas d'abandon du statut optionnel de SIS, la société conserve

la partition entre fonds verrouillés et non verrouillés, mais la lucrativité des fonds non verrouillés n'est plus

limitée. Les fonds verrouillés sont composés de subventions publiques, de donations de particuliers et d'entreprises, ainsi que des bénéfices distribuables encadrés. Les associations qui choisissent ce statut ne peuvent avoir qu'une minorité de fonds propres lucratifs ; ces derniers ne donnent alors pas de droit de vote.

**2/ Favoriser la mise en place d'un label, notamment à l'échelle européenne, plutôt qu'une unique**

Accordé **par une autorité publique** aux entreprises efficaces sur le plan social, ce label permettrait de

**valoriser les bonnes pratiques** et serait un moyen d'**identifier les entités socialement prometteuses**. Il

permettrait de **systématiser les fondamentaux communs** et de les rendre visibles et lisibles par les

investisseurs, publics et privés, mais aussi, le cas échéant, par les consommateurs.

Dans ce cadre, un label européen « Social Enterprise » pourrait être créé. Ce dernier garantirait que les entreprises réunissent les conditions de définition de l'entreprise sociale et clarifierait les relations entre les collectivités publiques et les entreprises sociales : l'impact social doit être défini en concertation avec les collectivités, tout en assurant la liberté d'entreprendre du secteur privé. Il donne en contrepartie, aux entreprises sociales, des avantages publics. Le fait de posséder le label d'entreprise sociale devrait être obligatoire pour avoir le droit de répondre à certains appels d'offre spécifiques.

Fondé sur des pratiques (en distinguant des critères indispensables et recommandés), ce label européen permettrait de **donner un cadre clair à la « nébuleuse » des entreprises sociales**. Pour qu'il soit largement adopté, des **contreparties incitatives** devront néanmoins lui être associées. La piste de la création d'un label est actuellement à l'étude au sein de la DG MARKT. Sa mise en place constitue un **objectif à l'horizon 2013**, qui pourrait être désignée, par la même occasion « Année européenne de l'entrepreneuriat social ».

**3/ Poursuivre un processus de fertilisation croisée entre entrepreneuriat classique et entrepreneuriat social**

- **Encourager l'entrepreneuriat classique à s'inspirer des méthodes propres à l'entrepreneuriat social** pour les encourager à aborder les questions d'acceptabilité (le développement durable est autant question d'acceptabilité sociale que d'innovation).

- **Encourager les entreprises « classiques » à traiter la question de l'acceptabilité sociale de manière inductive** (partir d'un projet social pour construire un modèle économique viable) et non plus déductive (partir du business plan d'un projet pour y greffer une justification sociale).

- **Renforcer la culture entrepreneuriale de l'entrepreneuriat social**.

- **Inclure progressivement les problématiques de l'entrepreneuriat social et les compétences de l'entrepreneuriat « classique »**, afin de tendre vers la fusion de ces « secteurs », dont les projets porteraient tous une granularité sociale variable.

**IV) Changement d'échelle et internationalisation de l'entrepreneuriat social**

*La mise en place de formations, de nouvelles modalités de financement et de nouveaux statuts contribue largement au changement d'échelle et à l'internationalisation de l'entrepreneuriat social. D'autres pistes sont néanmoins à explorer pour concourir à cet objectif.*

**1/ Favoriser la convergence des critères et pratiques à l'échelle européenne**

- **Intégrer des critères sociaux dans les nouvelles directives européennes sur l'économie verte** : inclure des critères sociaux ou des incitations à privilégier les entreprises sociales sur les principaux marchés «

écologiques » (tri des déchets, éco-construction...).

- Créer des « Social Enterprises Unit » au sein des « DG » liées à l'intérêt général pour favoriser le

développement de social business sectoriels.

- **Intégrer les enjeux de l'entrepreneuriat social dans le prochain PCRD** (cadre de développement de la réflexion, et de la coopération en Europe) : cela facilitera entre autres les réseaux entre entreprises sociales des différents pays européens.

- **Créer une Fondation « Social Business Act » européenne**, abondée par les Fonds Structurels et des grandes entreprises européennes, focalisée sur l'aide au démarrage, et les dispositifs d'appui à la création.

**2/ Favoriser des dynamiques à l'échelon international**

- **Mettre en place un cadre juridique uniformisant les fondamentaux communs, à l'échelle européenne, puis internationale**, qui serait alors reconnu par les Nations-Unies.

- **Créer une charte et un statut global de l'entrepreneuriat social par les Nations-Unies**, pour lui donner une reconnaissance mondiale, tout en s'attachant à reconnaître la diversité des formes d'entrepreneuriat social existantes.

- Favoriser **des synergies à l'échelle internationale** dans le secteur de l'entrepreneuriat social

Ex : Le **Social Innovation Park dans la région de Bilbao** (Pays Basque, Espagne) s'est donné pour but de devenir **la première « Silicon Valley » sociale du monde**. Ce projet vise à regrouper de nombreuses entreprises sociales ayant déjà fait leurs preuves, ainsi que des jeunes projets innovants, afin de stimuler les coopérations et l'apprentissage mutuel.

Cette **fertilisation croisée** ayant pour vocation de largement dépasser les frontières administratives, elle concourt largement à l'internationalisation du modèle de l'entrepreneuriat social.

#### ANNEXE 1 : LISTE DES MEMBRES DE LA COMMISSION

Président de la Commission

• **Jean-Marc BORELLO**, Délégué Général, Groupe SOS.

Experts ayant participé aux travaux de la commission

• **Farid BADDACHE**, Directeur Europe, Business for Social Responsibility.

• **Geneviève FERONE**, Directrice du Développement Durable, Véolia Environnement.

• **José-Maria LARRAMENDI**, Ancien Directeur, Coopérative Mandragon.

• **Cécile MOLINIER**, Directrice, Bureau du Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement à Genève.

• **Bernard SAINCY**, Directeur Responsabilité Sociétale, Direction Stratégie et Développement Durable, GDF-SUEZ.

• **Francis VERCAMER**, Député du Nord, Rapporteur à l'Assemblée Nationale du Rapport sur l'entrepreneuriat social.

Animateurs de la commission et rédacteurs de la Note de Synthèse:

• **Jérôme BEILIN**, Directeur du développement en charge des programmes et contenus, Les Ateliers de la Terre.

• **Adrien DE CASABIANCA**, Responsable relations extérieures et Communication, Groupe SOS

#### RESPONSABILITE SOCIALE ET ENVIRONNEMENTALE : FAIRE EVOLUER LA GOUVERNANCE DES ENTREPRISES

##### NOTE DE SYNTHESE

*Cette commission de travail mise en place par les Ateliers de la Terre en partenariat avec Terra Nova a pour but de réfléchir aux évolutions de la gouvernance des entreprises vers plus de transparence et vers une prise en compte à long terme des impacts économiques, sociaux et environnementaux de leurs activités.*

Concurrence accrue dans la mondialisation, augmentation du prix des matières premières, marges de

manoeuvre financières réduites, les entreprises sont soumises à un faisceau de contraintes nouvelles. Elles

font face à ce nouveau contexte alors même que la perception de leur rôle et de leur responsabilité dans la société a changé : principaux lieux de vie pour les salariés et les entrepreneurs, acteurs clés de l'économie et

du quotidien, elles sont au centre des attentes de la population. À ce titre, elles sont amenées de manière croissante à prendre en compte des demandes extérieures qui dépassent leurs simples obligations

réglementaires, et à intégrer à leurs objectifs des préoccupations d'intérêt général.



De fait, le modèle de l'entreprise dont « la seule responsabilité est d'être profitable pour ses actionnaires », selon la formule de Milton Friedman, a fait son temps. De plus en plus, les entreprises intègrent dans leur

fonctionnement leurs environnements économique, social et écologique, qui dépendent d'elle et dont elles

dépendent. Dans une lecture plus complexe de l'organisation de la société, ne se réduisant pas au binôme

Etat / marché, l'entreprise apparaît comme co-productrice de l'intérêt général. Certes, sa mission demeure de

faire fructifier le mieux possible les capitaux qui lui sont confiés, mais en respectant un certain nombre de normes de comportements, vis-à-vis de ses salariés, de ses clients, de ses fournisseurs, de son environnement écologique, territorial, humain.

Dans le cadre de la Global Conference qui s'est tenue les 26, 27 et 28 septembre à Evian, Terra Nova et les Ateliers de la Terre ont mis en place une commission de travail ayant pour but de réfléchir aux évolutions de la gouvernance des entreprises vers plus de transparence et vers une prise en compte à long terme des impacts économiques, sociaux et environnementaux de leurs activités. Cette commission a formulé des recommandations pour :

- accroître la transparence au sein des entreprises, notamment en matière de reporting extra-financier, de

- rémunérations et d'échelle des salaires, de montages fiscaux et juridiques ;

- mieux prendre en compte les différentes parties prenantes de l'entreprise dans sa gouvernance, à travers des recommandations en matière de diversité, démocratie dans l'entreprise, participation des salariés aux organes sociaux de l'entreprise, prise en compte des sous-traitants, responsabilité des dirigeants ;

- intégrer la vision de long terme dans la gestion de l'entreprise, en liant les rémunérations à la performance à moyen terme, en liant l'entreprise à son territoire.

## **PREMIERE PARTIE : Transparence et gouvernance des entreprises : une nécessaire transformation**

Pour l'essentiel de nos concitoyens, salariés et entrepreneurs, les entreprises sont d'abord des lieux de vie

dans lesquels on passe souvent plus de temps qu'à son domicile. Ce sont aussi des lieux d'innovation et de

production de richesses où s'inventent les réponses à nombre de besoins sociaux.

Soumises à la pression sociale, les entreprises sont amenées de manière croissante à prendre en compte des demandes extérieures qui dépassent leurs simples obligations réglementaires. Certaines développent

également des solutions à des besoins non pris en charge par les pouvoirs publics, c'est le cas du secteur de

l'insertion par l'activité économique ou de projets menés par exemple par Danone ou Essilor pour favoriser

l'accès de familles démunies aux aliments pour bébés ou à une correction visuelle. La lutte contre les

inégalités, la précarité et l'exclusion sociale passent davantage qu'auparavant par une régulation interne des

comportements managériaux et une évolution du droit de l'entreprise.

Par ailleurs, la crise financière, dont les conséquences sociales n'ont pas fini de se faire sentir, a mis dramatiquement en lumière la nécessité d'un rééquilibrage entre sphère financière et sphère productive,

rééquilibrage qui implique de nombreux changements dans les modes de gestion et de gouvernance des entreprises.

Face à ces enjeux, le discours ambiant s'est souvent contenté de renvoyer de l'entreprise une image caricaturale. Il est grand temps d'aborder l'entreprise autrement, sous l'angle du changement et pas

seulement de dénonciation.

### **Prendre en compte la diversité du monde de l'entreprise**

Lorsqu'on pense « entreprise » en France, on pense d'abord entreprise cotée, voire entreprises du CAC 40. Or, l'écrasante majorité des entreprises comptent moins de 10 salariés. On pense aussi actionnaires et fonds d'investissement alors que le capitalisme familial reste une réalité très prégnante. On pense surtout objectif de profit et de rentabilité alors que tout un panel d'entreprises appartenant au champ de l'économie sociale et solidaire développe des actions dont la rentabilité n'est pas l'objectif premier. Et de plus en plus nombreuses

sont les entreprises qui panachent activités lucratives et non lucratives.

En réalité, le paysage entrepreneurial est très complexe. Par exemple il ne faut pas ignorer que beaucoup de

PME sont des sous-traitantes de groupes et se situent dans une relation de dépendance vis-à-vis de leurs

donneurs d'ordres.

Lorsqu'on réfléchit sur l'entreprise, il importe d'avoir cette diversité à l'esprit pour éviter de plaquer

artificiellement un modèle qui n'aurait de pertinence que sur un champ restreint de l'économie.

### **Des entreprises co-productrices de l'intérêt général**

L'État n'a pas directement la main sur les modes d'organisation internes des entreprises et il est très bien qu'il en soit ainsi. Cela ne signifie pas qu'il doive être neutre vis-à-vis des pratiques qui peuvent être développées par telle ou telle entreprise. En tant que garant de l'intérêt général, l'État est dans son rôle en valorisant et en encourageant les entreprises dont la démarche s'inscrit en cohérence avec la recherche de bénéfices sociaux et environnementaux. En démocratie, la définition de l'intérêt général relève du politique issu de la légitimité des urnes. Toutefois, cela n'implique pas que l'État détienne le monopole de la « production » de l'intérêt général. D'autres –

citoyens, associations, entreprises – peuvent y contribuer en participant à une diversité de réponses aux besoins sociaux. En effet, l'État n'est pas toujours le mieux placé, ni pour identifier les besoins

sociaux ou environnementaux, ni pour mobiliser les moyens nécessaires pour y répondre en tenant compte des situations particulières.

Il convient donc de changer le regard posé classiquement sur l'organisation de la société, et qui tend à ne considérer que deux acteurs : l'État et le marché. Une autre approche est nécessaire : « Au côté du marché et de l'État il est temps d'affirmer le rôle et l'importance de l'individu, sujet libre et responsable et fondement de la démocratie politique et économique »<sup>12</sup>. Ce faisant il faudra, évidemment, affirmer le rôle et l'importance dans la construction sociale, des différentes formes d'organisations dans lesquelles l'individu s'engage : entreprise capitaliste, sociétés de personnes, associations...

On peut légitimement avoir l'intuition que les échanges existants entre sphère publique et sphère privée iront en se renforçant : la sphère privée contribuera de plus en plus largement à la réponse aux besoins sociétaux alors que, dans le même temps, les pouvoirs publics se soucieront toujours plus de la compétitivité des

entreprises, source d'emplois et de croissance des richesses. De fait, les entreprises se trouvent au cœur de

nombre de débats essentiels dont elles ne peuvent se désintéresser : développement durable, emploi, risques psychosociaux, etc.

De plus en plus, la société fait irruption dans l'entreprise. Les demandes, les remises en causes, les

pressions ne se situent plus seulement au niveau de la confrontation entre directions et organisations syndicales mais proviennent aussi de l'extérieur, des attentes des clients en termes de services (par exemple,

faire circuler les transports en commun la nuit) et en termes éthiques (bannissement du travail des enfants notamment). Ainsi, le concept de responsabilité sociale de l'entreprise (RSE, devenue responsabilité sociale et environnementale) s'est imposé à l'entreprise, qui l'a plus ou moins largement récupéré. Si cette notion ne

peut être considérée comme un aboutissement dans la mesure où elle a essentiellement prospéré dans de grandes entreprises en servant parfois de couverture à de pures opérations de marketing, elle constitue

néanmoins une clé d'entrée qui a contribué à un travail de sensibilisation et d'évolution des pratiques sur

lequel il est important de chercher à capitaliser.

#### **Valoriser les entreprises qui se situent dans une démarche de changement**

Dans le cadre de cette réflexion, nous ne remettons pas en cause l'économie de marché en tant que système de production et d'allocation des ressources. Nous condamnons en revanche l'ultralibéralisme qui impose l'instauration d'une « société du marché » et préconisons de remettre l'économie de marché « au service » de la société.

Nous critiquons toutefois le fonctionnement actuel de certaines entreprises et cherchons à promouvoir :

D'une part, la diversité des démarches entrepreneuriales, considérant qu'il n'y a pas un modèle, par nature meilleur qu'un autre, et qu'il est plutôt préférable de rechercher la coopération entre des modèles complémentaires d'organisations – société de personnes, entrepreneuriat social, associations de producteurs,

etc. ;

D'autre part, l'instauration de nécessaires régulations et innovations permettant d'éviter les dérives de l'entreprise capitaliste qui tend à considérer l'humain et l'environnement, non comme des capitaux à préserver et développer, mais comme des ressources à exploiter et des variables d'ajustement sur lesquelles il faut

jouer pour préserver la rentabilité du seul capital financier.

On considère ici que la finalité purement pécuniaire ne relève pas d'une démarche progressiste. Gagner de l'argent devrait être un moyen pour l'entreprise 1. de survivre, 2. de développer ses activités, 3. d'adopter des

<sup>12</sup> Hugues Sibille, Tarik Ghezali, *Démocratiser l'économie*, Mondes vécus, 2010.

comportements plus responsables et plus favorables à son environnement.

Les logiques financières ne sont pas nuisibles en elles-mêmes mais elles le deviennent lorsqu'elles sont

exclusives : il importe de les réinscrire dans des finalités plus larges. En effet, leur prédominance conduit

également à altérer l'efficacité du management, qui ne s'intéresse qu'aux résultats et plus à la manière dont le travail est mené.

En outre, l'entreprise a besoin du profit... et du réinvestissement du profit. L'investissement fait les frais de

taux de rendement absurdes, ce qui aura des conséquences négatives à moyen / long terme.

L'investissement pourrait aujourd'hui être un moteur bien plus puissant de l'économie française, aux côtés de

la consommation des ménages.

On considère ici des entreprises dont la réalité va au-delà du seul pacte entre actionnaires, fondement principal aujourd'hui de la définition de la société en droit français, même si celui-ci reconnaît (ce qui n'est pas le cas dans beaucoup d'autres pays) l'existence d'un « intérêt social » (au sens d'intérêt propre de la société)

qui ne se réduit pas à celui des actionnaires.

Une telle logique est critiquable en ce qu'elle ignore les autres parties prenantes de l'entreprise que sont, au premier chef, les salariés apporteurs du capital humain, mais aussi les sous-traitants, fournisseurs, riverains, etc.

On l'a vu, il existe désormais une pluralité de modèles d'entreprises : la grande majorité, en nombre, en poids

dans l'emploi, dans la production, les échanges, relèvent du modèle classique de la société anonyme, dans

lequel des investisseurs apportent des capitaux à une entreprise pour que celle-ci les fasse fructifier ; mais le poids du secteur coopératif, mutualiste, des différentes formes que prennent l'économie solidaire ou à but non lucratif a cessé d'être marginal pour devenir très significatif.

À la logique de primauté du rendement financier des capitaux investis s'ajoute désormais celle de

performance globale qui prend en compte, non seulement les aspects économiques de la performance mais aussi les aspects, sociaux, sociétaux et environnementaux. Dans les entreprises de l'économie solidaire, associative, coopérative, mutualiste, ces objectifs sont d'emblée reconnus comme faisant pleinement partie de la vocation de l'entreprise, et le rendement des capitaux investis apparaît comme la clef de la pérennité et

du développement plutôt que comme un objectif en soi.

Qu'en est-il dans les sociétés anonymes « classiques », à but lucratif ? Leur mission demeure de faire fructifier le mieux possible les capitaux qui leur sont confiés. Elles ne sauraient se muer en agents des

politiques publiques. Mais il apparaît de plus en plus clairement qu'elles ne peuvent remplir cette mission

dans des conditions acceptables par la société tout entière que si elles prennent en compte pleinement leur responsabilité sociale et environnementale. Il ne s'agit pas de substituer cette responsabilité à leur mission originelle, mais de l'accomplir dans le respect d'un certain nombre de normes de comportements, vis-à-vis de

leurs salariés, de leurs clients, de leurs fournisseurs, de leur environnement écologique, territorial, humain.

Nous sortons de plusieurs décennies durant lesquelles les évolutions technologiques ont profondément

transformé les emplois et le contenu du travail. Ces évolutions ont réduit l'efficacité des garanties collectives

et affaibli les solidarités entre les différentes catégories de salariés. Leur cumul avec les politiques managériales centrées exclusivement sur une culture du résultat (technique, économique ou commercial) a progressivement retiré aux salariés des plus bas niveaux, mais aussi parfois aux cadres, la dimension de

sujet, déshumanisant l'entreprise et faisant perdre au travail tout son sens. Ce défi est central car l'humain

devient au contraire un facteur stratégique dans le développement de l'innovation, de la performance, du

capital social et immatériel de l'entreprise. Ce dernier devient d'ailleurs prépondérant face au capital matériel.

Nous proposons de répondre à ce second défi par des politiques de développement humain.

La prise en compte de la diversité, la lutte contre les discriminations, les solidarités intergénérationnelles

contribuent à la compétitivité de l'entreprise, à sa capacité d'innover, d'entreprendre et de transmettre ses

savoirs faire.

Quelles sont les réformes nécessaires pour faire de cette vision une réalité de l'entreprise ?

La seconde partie de cette note s'efforce de mettre en avant plusieurs recommandations afin de faire évoluer la gouvernance de l'entreprise vers plus de responsabilité et de transparence.

## **DEUXIEME PARTIE : Recommandations pour faire évoluer la gouvernance des entreprises**

À l'exception notable des sociétés coopératives, les entreprises se caractérisent de manière générale par le

pouvoir des actionnaires dans la fixation des orientations de l'activité. Ce pouvoir, légitime, tend toutefois à

laisser peu de places aux autres parties prenantes (salariés au premier chef, mais aussi collectivités locales, sous-traitants, associations, etc.) qui sont susceptibles de porter une vision complémentaire de l'entreprise.

Plusieurs biais peuvent être critiqués dans le gouvernement des actionnaires lorsqu'il se fait sans prendre en compte la responsabilité sociale et environnementale de l'entreprise, en particulier le manque de transparence des décisions prises, l'absence de concertation et la prédominance des intérêts de court terme.

### **2. 1 - Accroître la transparence au sein des entreprises**

#### **Information dans l'entreprise :**

- Mise en œuvre de l'article 225 de la loi du Grenelle 2 obligeant les grandes entreprises à publier dans leurs rapports de gestion un reporting extra-financier : aucun décret d'application n'a encore été publié à ce jour.

- Ce reporting extra-financier pourrait être complété par une analyse d'impact sommaire de l'entreprise sur :

- son empreinte environnementale (carbone, énergie, eau, matière) ;

- son empreinte sociale et sociétale.

#### **Rémunérations et échelle des salaires :**

- Inclure dans les rapports sociaux des éléments synthétiques de suivi des inégalités de rémunération (indices, tableaux). On peut ainsi imaginer un indice, le même pour toutes les entreprises, assurant la comparabilité, par exemple, des dix plus hautes rémunérations ramenées sur le salaire médian. Un tel indice

permettrait de comparer les entreprises d'un même secteur, et également de prendre la mesure des inégalités

salariales inter-sectorielles : ainsi, les différences de rémunérations entre le secteur industriel et le secteur financier, où celles-ci ont explosé, expliquent la « fuite des cerveaux » vers la finance.

- Etendre l'obligation de déclaration des rémunérations aux revenus annexes (facturations de prestations par bénéficiaire)

- Organiser un débat au sein du comité d'entreprise sur les éléments concernant les inégalités de rémunération figurant dans le rapport social. Les éléments clés du rapport social, notamment s'agissant des inégalités de rémunérations, seraient présentés en assemblée générale des actionnaires. L'obligation d'information des assemblées générales d'actionnaires sur les rémunérations des dirigeants et les

rémunérations les plus élevées serait renforcée. Pour les entreprises distribuant des bonus, des éléments

d'information sur les types de critères d'attribution de ces derniers devraient être présentés au comité

d'entreprise, avec des éléments plus détaillés pour les dix plus hautes rémunérations.

- Améliorer la composition (majorité d'administrateurs indépendants, absence de conflits d'intérêts) et la professionnalisation (recours à des experts externes, étude des meilleures pratiques, examen détaillé des éléments rendus publics) des comités de rémunérations qui fixent le salaire des dirigeants.

- Assurer la transparence des rémunérations du ou des mandataires sociaux dans toutes les grandes entreprises. Progresser dans la transparence des rémunérations des dirigeants en étendant aux sociétés non

cotées qui ont un chiffre d'affaires supérieur à 100M€ (seuil à préciser) l'obligation de publier la moyenne des

trois plus hautes rémunérations tout compris (code AFEP – MEDEF).

### Montages fiscaux et juridiques

- Supprimer le régime du bénéfice mondial consolidé

- Déterminer une règle par défaut de fixation du prix de cession avec obligation de validation (opposable) par le commissaire aux comptes en cas de dérogation.

Note: le remplacement de la fiscalité actuelle focalisée sur le travail par une fiscalité énergie / climat facilite la transparence fiscale, en enregistrant la fiscalité au point de consommation et / ou d'émission et en limitant l'intérêt même des effets d'aubaine (ex. : holding luxembourgeoise, importation de hifi & hi-tech via Monaco, groupe de droit néerlandais...)

- Imposer aux entreprises transnationales de publier des éléments de reporting (chiffre d'affaires, emploi) pays par pays. Des initiatives sectorielles existent déjà, dont le processus EITI (Initiative de transparence des industries extractives), mais elles ne reposent que sur une démarche volontaire des entreprises.

- Lutter contre l'évasion fiscale en donnant accès aux administrations fiscales de l'Union européenne à l'identité des ayants droits économiques des structures de type trust, fondation, etc. établies dans l'Union Européenne ; pour les structures hors Union européenne, lorsque la levée de l'anonymat s'avère impraticable, rechercher des accords permettant d'en taxer les ayants droits économiques conformément au

droit de leur pays de résidence.

## 2. 2 - Prise de décision et rôle des différents stakeholders dans la gouvernance de l'entreprise

### Diversité

- La France a le plus grand mal à faire entrer la diversité au sein de toutes ses structures d'activité, et demeure rétive à la mise en œuvre de quotas. Elle gagnerait néanmoins à s'inspirer de la loi canadienne pour l'équité en emploi, plus efficacement et rapidement applicable dans le cadre français. Cette loi, qui a obtenu

de bons résultats au Canada, et a été bien acceptée socialement, impose non pas une obligation de résultats,

mais une obligation de moyens à l'entreprise. À partir d'une certaine taille, celle-ci a l'obligation d'évaluer si la

diversité en son sein correspond à la diversité du territoire dans lequel elle se trouve. Si la comparaison révèle un niveau de diversité insuffisant, l'entreprise a l'obligation d'élaborer un plan d'action et de le mettre en œuvre de bonne foi. Elle s'expose à d'importantes sanctions financières si elle ne remplit pas cet objectif

à moyen terme.

### Démocratie dans l'entreprise

- Créer une obligation pour le comité des rémunérations de prendre connaissance de l'avis du comité d'entreprise sur les éléments du rapport social concernant les inégalités de rémunération, sur les types de critères retenus pour l'attribution des bonus, et en particulier sur les critères d'évolution des 10 plus hautes

rémunérations.

- Donner aux femmes et aux hommes dans l'entreprise un droit d'initiative et de participation à la

transformation de leurs situations professionnelles quotidiennes et à la définition de la qualité du travail, au

sein de groupes d'échanges homogènes.

Dans la mesure où de nombreuses méthodes de changement participatives, fondées sur des groupes

d'échanges homogènes, ont été expérimentées et développées avec succès par de grands groupes et des

PME, une négociation nationale interprofessionnelle est envisageable immédiatement. Elle pourrait être organisée en deux temps :

Une période de construction d'un diagnostic partagé sur l'intérêt d'une participation des travailleurs aux changements permanents et sur les modalités d'organisation de telles pratiques dans les différentes tailles d'entreprises et secteurs d'activité.

Une négociation entre partenaires sociaux à proprement parler sur les modalités de mise en œuvre d'un tel objectif. Y seraient incluses les modalités de l'évaluation dans le temps d'une telle réforme.

Une loi serait ensuite présentée au Parlement. Un cadre déontologique des modalités de travail des intervenants extérieurs serait conçu à cette occasion (son usage pourrait être élargi à l'ensemble des experts intervenants déjà auprès des comités d'entreprise).

### **Gouvernance et financement**

- Assurer la participation des salariés dans les organes sociaux de l'entreprise, avec un seuil minimal d'un tiers. Il s'agit d'affirmer une logique : l'intérêt social de l'entreprise ne se résume pas à celui de ses seuls

actionnaires, même dans le cadre des sociétés anonymes à but lucratif. Organiser une consultation régulière

et un dialogue de l'entreprise avec ses parties prenantes, à l'échelon de ses organes sociaux.

- Définir un statut de l'entreprise économiquement dépendante responsabilisant les donneurs d'ordre vis-à-vis de leurs sous-traitants : lorsqu'une entreprise représente plus de 50 % du chiffre d'affaires d'un de ses

fournisseurs, elle aurait une responsabilité spécifique vis-à-vis de celui-ci ; lancer une négociation entre organisations syndicales et patronat pour en déterminer les modalités avec un délai raisonnable pour aboutir (dix-huit mois, par exemple), faute de quoi, recours à des mesures législatives.

### **La responsabilité des dirigeants**

- Mettre en place un régime de sanctions lié au non-respect par les entreprises de leur obligation de reporting social et environnemental. Les entreprises seraient tenues ainsi à une double obligation : mettre en œuvre l'obligation de reporting pesant sur la société mère à l'échelle du groupe ; s'assurer que la société mère a

déployé tous les moyens adéquats, internes et externes, pour garantir un reporting reflétant fidèlement les

impacts sociaux et environnementaux de l'entreprise

- Imposer que les rapports de développement durable intègrent une attestation émanant d'une agence de notation sociale et environnementale reconnue sur les méthodes d'élaboration et le contenu de ces rapports ;

encourager la publication d'une « note de commentaires », rédigée de manière indépendante par un panel de parties prenantes associant des associations de défense des droits, des groupes de consommateurs, des

organisations écologistes, des représentations syndicales...

- Etablir un label de reconnaissance des agences de notation sociale et environnementale, inspiré des démarches applicables aux commissaires aux comptes et aux agences de notation financière.

## **2. 3 - Prise en compte de la vision de long terme dans les entreprises**

### **Lier les rémunérations avec la performance à moyen terme**

- Lier la rétribution des dirigeants à la performance globale à moyen terme : au-dessus d'un certain multiple du salaire le plus bas, les rémunérations devraient comprendre une part bloquée dont le versement serait étalé dans le temps, et serait conditionné au respect de critères de performance économique, et également, lorsque ce serait pertinent, sociale et environnementale.

- Proposer des règles fiscales incitatives au réinvestissement (notamment dans une logique de filière et territoriale). Cela permet à la fois une meilleure efficacité pour l'entreprise et pour la collectivité, et ne donne pas une image « punitive » mais collaborative.

### **Lier l'entreprise à son territoire**

- Encourager les contrats de territoires et accords inter-entreprise.

- « Dépoussiérer » l'arsenal législatif pour faciliter la collaboration inter-entreprises (sur le modèle des plans de déplacements d'entreprises coordonnés), notamment de mise en commun de moyens (outillage, logistique et livraison, approvisionnement, retraitement des déchets, transferts de co-produits, approvisionnement énergétique et en eau).

- Mettre en place des zones franches écologiques où des entrepreneurs partageant les mêmes valeurs écologiques et sociales essaient de nouveaux modèles économiques, écologiques et sociaux, dans le strict respect des principes de prévention et de précaution, mais avec un cadre législatif et administratif assoupli (notamment DDASS / DREAL / DRIRE...) contre démonstration sous 3 ans de la viabilité du concept et de l'intérêt de généraliser.

- Favoriser l'intervention des autres parties prenantes (notamment consommateurs et territoires) dans

l'appréciation des actions de RSE, en particulier en conditionnant les aides locales aux performances sociales

et environnementales des entreprises.

- On peut imaginer que dans le cadre d'une nouvelle étape de décentralisation (acte III attendu notamment par l'ARF), les Régions qui gèrent déjà les Schémas régionaux de développement économique se voient

dotées de compétences élargies et reçoivent en gestion déléguée certaines aides gouvernementales pour soutenir les entreprises. Dans ce cadre, il serait souhaitable de promouvoir des « contrats de développement

économique et territoriaux » dont les objectifs seraient de promouvoir des synergies entre entreprises d'un

territoire donné et entre ces entreprises et le territoire. Ce type de contrat serait incontournable pour permettre aux entreprises de bénéficier des aides régionales (et nationales) et les conduirait, en compensation de ces aides, à participer activement au développement économique local (contribution à la formation des salariés, à la recherche locale, à l'investissement dans des équipements publics...).

## ANNEXE 1 : LISTE DES MEMBRES DE LA COMMISSION

Président de la Commission

• **Oliver FERRAND**, Fondateur et Président, Terra Nova

Experts ayant participé aux travaux de la commission

• **Gilles de MARGERIE**, Directeur du Capital Investissement et de l'Immobilier, Groupe Crédit Agricole

• **Sandra DESMETTRE**, Rapporteur du groupe de travail de Terra Nova « Entreprises au service du pro- grès ».

• **Nicolas IMBERT**, Directeur, Green Cross France et Territoires

• **Yann QUEINNEC**, Juriste, Association Sherpa

• **Bruno REBELLE**, Directeur, Transitions

• **Hélène VALADE**, Directrice du Développement Durable, Lyonnaise des Eaux ; Présidente, Collège des

Directeurs du Développement Durable (C3D)

Animateurs de la commission et rédacteurs de la Note de Synthèse

• **Jérôme BEILIN**, Directeur du Développement en charge des programmes et contenus, Les Ateliers de

la Terre

• **Anne LAROCHE**, Directrice des Publications, Terra Nova

## LA MEDIATION COMME SOLUTION DE RESOLUTION DES CONFLITS ENVIRONNEMENTAUX

### NOTE DE SYNTHESE

*Cette commission de travail mise en place par les Ateliers de la Terre en partenariat avec l'ESSEC-IRENE a pour but de favoriser le recours à la médiation comme solution à la résolution des conflits environnementaux. Cette réflexion s'inscrit dans le cadre de la Global Conference 2011, dont le thème est le suivant : « Quelles révolutions pour gouverner ensemble un monde vulnérable ? ».*

*A ce titre, le mot "ensemble" prend une connotation particulière, en opposition à la culture de conflit, du tous contre tous. La médiation est l'un des aspects de la gouvernance, et même une technique de gouvernance bien comprise, en ce qu'elle est la meilleure résolution des conflits à chaque fois qu'elle est possible.*

*Elle n'est pas un modèle unique car tous les conflits environnementaux ne sont pas du ressort de la médiation. Le recours aux justices étatiques ne doit évidemment pas être écarté, pour les conduites criminelles notamment. La médiation constitue néanmoins une solution efficace qu'il serait utile de favoriser dans le cas des conflits environnementaux qui sont amenés à se multiplier. Ainsi, les experts de cette commission se sont réunis pour formuler plusieurs recommandations permettant de faciliter le recours à la médiation.*

### I-PREMIERE PARTIE : Définition, avantages, cadre et état des lieux de la Médiation comme solution aux conflits environnementaux :

*La première partie de cette note de synthèse s'attache à revenir sur la définition et le processus de la médiation, puis à en souligner les avantages comme méthode de résolution des conflits. Les experts de la commission*

#### I Q u 'est -ce que la médiation ?

##### 1- Nature et définition de la médiation

La médiation est un procédé amiable, volontaire et confidentiel de résolution amiable des conflits dans lequel un tiers neutre et indépendant - le médiateur - facilite, structure et coordonne les négociations des parties en litige, à leur demande, en vue d'aboutir à une solution amiable optimale au vu du contexte et des intérêts des parties.

A la différence du juge, le médiateur n'impose pas de décision. Il n'a donc pas vocation à trancher le litige ; le Médiateur ne propose pas, il doit susciter les propositions des Parties elles-mêmes, qu'il entend et dont il confronte les positions.

-Selon Maurice-Antoine Lafortune<sup>13</sup>, la médiation est « une méthode douce qui permet à des personnes, avec

l'aide d'un tiers impartial et sans pouvoir d'instruction, de consultation ou décision, de créer ou d'améliorer

leur liens, de prévenir et résoudre leurs désaccords, différends ou conflits ».

-Selon le professeur Michèle-Guillaume Hofnung, la médiation est définie comme « un processus de

<sup>13</sup> Maurice-Antoine Lafortune est avocat général honoraire à la Cour de Cassation, consultant arbitre, membre de

l'Institut d'expertise, d'arbitrage et de médiation.

communication éthique reposant sur la responsabilité et l'autonomie des participants, dans lequel un tiers impartial, indépendant et neutre (sans pouvoir décisionnel ou consultatif), avec la seule autorité que lui reconnaissent les médiateurs, favorise par des entretiens confidentiels l'établissement, le rétablissement du lien social, la prévention ou le règlement de la situation en cause ».

-la Directive 2008/52/CE du Parlement Européen et du Conseil du 21 mai 2008 définit la médiation comme étant « un processus structuré, quelle que soit la manière dont il est nommé ou visé, dans lequel deux ou plusieurs parties en litige tentent par elles-mêmes, volontairement, de parvenir à un accord sur la résolution

de leur litige avec l'aide d'un médiateur. Ce processus peut-être engagé par les parties, suggéré ou ordonné par une juridiction ou prescrit par le droit d'un Etat membre ». Selon cette directive, le médiateur est « tout tiers sollicité pour mener une médiation avec efficacité, impartialité et compétence, quelle que soit l'appellation ou la profession de ce tiers et quelle que soit la façon dont il a été nommé pour mener ladite médiation ou dont il a été chargé de la mener.

Il en résulte que l'accès à la médiation comme mode alternatif de règlement amiable des différends peut résulter de la mise en œuvre :

-d'une clause de médiation conventionnelle conclue par les parties

-d'une médiation judiciaire dont la proposition, faite par un organe judiciaire est acceptée par les parties concernées.

Quel cadre pour la médiation ?

Du point de vue du médiateur, La médiation professionnelle consiste en l'intégration d'un modèle culturel différenciant qui comprend :

-un processus d'aide à la décision, visant la responsabilisation et l'autonomie des personnes, qu'il s'agisse ou non d'une situation de nature conflictuelle.

-un cadre où des parties en conflits recherchent un accord négocié de manière contributive, c'est-à-dire un accord qui puisse être pérenne, respectueux des personnes et de leurs intérêts ;

-une technique qui favorise la conclusion du litige et anticipe au mieux les conséquences du choix qui peut être fait par chaque client partie.

## 2- L'accord de médiation

L'accord de médiation lorsqu'il est écrit, relève du droit des contrats, ce qui ne veut pas dire qu'un médiateur doit être nécessairement formé au droit, mais toujours en tous cas formé aux techniques de médiation.

Lorsqu'il s'agit d'une médiation conventionnelle (ou privée) - hors procédure judiciaire - les parties peuvent établir un accord qui relève naturellement du droit des contrats. C'est alors une transaction, terme qu'il est prudent de noter dans la clause de médiation du contrat, en droit français il est possible de demander au juge étatique dans la forme des référés de lui donner force exécutoire.

Lorsque la médiation intervient en cours de procédure judiciaire, (médiation judiciaire), il appartient aux parties de faire constater par le juge pour qu'il homologue l'accord. Dans ce cas l'accord a valeur de jugement et est exécutoire comme un jugement.

Des parties, qui ont choisi la médiation pour régler un différend, peuvent prévoir, dans leur accord, le retour devant le médiateur en cas de difficulté d'exécution, avant d'engager toute procédure judiciaire, ce qui aura

pour effet de suspendre la prescription de l'action civile.

Art. 9 Règlement de médiation de l'OMPI : " La procédure de médiation se déroule de la manière décidée par les parties. Si, et dans la mesure où, les parties n'ont pas pris de décision à ce sujet, le médiateur, conformément au présent règlement, décide de la manière dont se déroulera la procédure de médiation."

Principales étapes d'une médiation :

-Introduction de la procédure : demande de médiation

-Nomination du médiateur

-Première prise de contact entre le médiateur et les parties ; entente sur l'organisation de la première réunion, entente sur un premier échange éventuel de documents.

-premières réunions et réunions suivantes : entente sur les règles de base de la procédure, information et délimitation des questions en litige, examen des intérêts des parties, Elaboration des possibilités de règlement, évaluation des solutions possibles

-Conclusion

## 3- Le processus de médiation

Ce processus, pour avoir le maximum de chance d'aboutir, doit comporter des règles de fonctionnement et de communication dont le médiateur est choisi comme garant.

La médiation nécessite :

- l'adhésion des parties en litige
- leur capacité de s'engager et de décider

Il est possible d'identifier des étapes dans ce processus :

- Accueil
- Contextualisation
- Identification des positionnements, revendications, demandes, attentes, besoins, désirs...
- Résolution : identification des solutions énoncées et recherche d'autres hypothèses. Solution : selon les situations, définitive, intermédiaire, temporaire - et anticipation des conséquences .

Le médiateur: le médiateur professionnel est tenu au secret. Il conserve confidentiellement tous les échanges qui ont lieu lors des entretiens et des réunions qu'il est amené à conduire ou réguler. Il est indépendant de toute autorité hiérarchique, de tutelle ou économique. Il est tenu à l'impartialité. Il est neutre quant aux décisions prises par les parties pour résoudre leurs différends. Le médiateur doit :

- informer des coûts de son intervention ;
- informer les parties de la possibilité de consulter le Code d'Ethique et de Déontologie des Médiateurs ;
- orienter vers un autre médiateur s'il ne peut assurer le suivi d'une situation qu'il aurait commencé à accompagner ;
- restituer toutes les pièces qui lui auraient été présentées

La médiation est une procédure informelle et flexible dont les parties et le médiateur gardent le contrôle

A noter que lorsque les Parties refusent totalement de coopérer et/ou ne parviennent pas à un accord, l'Arbitrage apparaît comme la voie de suite naturelle.

Proposer les deux activités peut être un moyen de suivre la clientèle quel que soit son cheminement.

#### 4- Quelle ouverture à la médiation ?

Il existe certains moyens afin de stimuler l'intérêt et développer la mise en pratique de cette compétence :

- En informant, en participant à des manifestations, à des formations ;
- En communiquant auprès des entreprises signataires de la Charte de Médiation interentreprises ;
- En incluant de façon systématique des Clauses spécifiques au niveau des articles « Règlement des litiges »

dans tous les contrats rédigés.

#### 5- Spécificités et avantages

Les avantages de la médiation sont nombreux. En se renforçant les uns les autres, ils forment un système.

Le premier avantage de la médiation – c'est d'ailleurs un élément constitutif de sa définition – est qu'**elle laisse le pouvoir de décision aux parties elles-mêmes**, évidemment dans le respect de l'ordre public. Elle

offre aux parties **un processus libre, volontaire, de caractère consensuel**, dans lequel chacune des parties conserve jusqu'au bout un droit de retrait et un droit veto qui la protègent. Le corollaire important de cette liberté est que chaque partie n'acceptera la solution que si elle lui convient. Cette absence de contrainte,

propre de la médiation, pourrait-elle freiner son efficacité ? Au contraire : dans trois cas sur quatre, les parties acceptent une solution commune à l'issue de la médiation – celle-ci est donc un processus efficient. Ce

caractère volontaire explique que **l'exécution de la solution se trouve considérablement facilitée**. Cela

est à comparer avec les difficultés d'exécution que la solution judiciaire rencontre bien souvent. La médiation

forme **des solutions d'autant plus durables et robustes qu'elles sont générées par les parties elles-mêmes**, et acceptées sans contrainte.

Cette durabilité est en partie liée à d'autres avantages de la médiation. La médiation entretient notamment un rapport très particulier avec le temps. **Elle peut être déclenchée et aboutir dans un laps de temps beaucoup plus rapide** que des procédures judiciaires. Cette rapidité a comme corollaire **un avantage en terme de coût**. Il est moins coûteux pour les deux parties de rémunérer un médiateur que de rémunérer chacune leur avocat, qui plus est pour un laps de temps beaucoup plus long. Si la médiation consomme peu de temps, en revanche elle le met intensément à *profit, les parties peuvent voir leurs affaires traitées en autant de temps que leur complexité l'exige*. Or, en médiation, au contraire, les parties peuvent voir leurs

affaires traitées en autant de temps que leur complexité l'exige. Cette durée a des conséquences positives : il

y a là pour les parties, d'abord, **une marque de reconnaissance et d'apaisement** qui n'est pas à minorer.

Cette durée disponible facilite **une compréhension approfondie du problème**. Le médiateur a la possibilité d'organiser des entretiens séparés avec chacune des parties, entretiens qui optimiseront l'échange d'informations. Cette compréhension approfondie permet de remonter aux racines du problème, à ses causes réelles. Or, les racines d'un conflit sont souvent composites. Là où le juge se trouve vite embarrassé, car il ne



peut traiter autre chose que le litige pour lequel il est saisi, le médiateur a toute liberté de révéler, de mettre en lumière, d'embrasser l'ensemble des composantes du problème afin d'aider les parties à le traiter. La **robustesse et la durabilité des solutions** s'en trouvent renforcées.

Ce temps disponible et cette capacité à remonter aux racines du problème mettent en lumière un autre avantage de la médiation : il s'agit d'un **processus profondément inclusif** ; c'est particulièrement précieux pour la résolution des conflits environnementaux, lesquels intéressent une pluralité d'acteurs. À mesure que l'on comprend les racines du problème, on peut se rendre compte qu'au-delà des parties qui se trouvent réunies autour de la table, se trouvent dans le paysage d'autres parties prenantes, qui ont compté dans l'émergence du conflit et qui peuvent aussi, désormais, contribuer aux solutions. En associant ces parties

prenantes, **la médiation permet d'étendre de manière très opportune le périmètre à la fois de compréhension et de solution du conflit**. Cela permet la recherche de solutions innovantes, créatives et satisfaisantes pour tous. La médiation offre en outre la possibilité, si cela est nécessaire, de travailler à la

**restauration de la relation entre les parties**. Dans de nombreux conflits, la relation s'avère aussi importante

que le problème : celui-ci n'est qu'un symptôme d'une relation dégradée. En matière aussi bien civile que

commerciale, le maintien ou la restauration de la relation sont des enjeux cruciaux. Les parties ont certes un passif dans le passé, mais elles ont aussi un futur partagé ; c'est vrai aussi pour les acteurs partageant une destinée commune sur un même territoire. Cette dimension, qui fait de la médiation bien plus qu'une simple

transaction sur le fond, est fondamentale. Cela fait écho à la **fonction pacificatrice** généralement associée à la médiation.

Un avantage supplémentaire de la médiation réside, si besoin est, dans **sa discrétion et sa confidentialité**. En effet, des parties en conflit peuvent avoir un intérêt commun à préserver la confidentialité sur leur différend. Là où la procédure judiciaire est par nature publique, sauf exception, la médiation permet de créer une bulle de discrétion particulièrement précieuse pour les parties. Mais cette discrétion ne saurait servir à

masquer des problèmes environnementaux au détriment d'autres parties prenantes.

**D'autres avantages encore sont attachés à la figure du tiers** : le médiateur peut fournir un espace neutre et pallier l'absence de communication entre parties qui ne veulent pas forcément se rencontrer. Il peut également servir d'écran pour protéger chacune des parties contre l'émotion parfois agressive des uns envers les autres. La méfiance des parties l'une contre l'autre est équilibrée par la confiance qu'elle porte chacune au

médiateur. Dans une négociation non facilitée par un tiers, les parties doivent tout gérer par elles-mêmes :

structurer le processus de négociation, traiter du fond, tout en gérant leur relation personnelle, parfois tendue. Or, **la médiation organise une sorte de partage des tâches facilitant l'identification de solutions** : c'est en effet sur le médiateur que repose l'organisation d'un processus efficace. Il fait office de modérateur pour ce

qui concerne la gestion des relations, permettant ainsi aux parties de se consacrer plus efficacement aux questions de fond.

**Ces multiples avantages de la médiation ont cependant pour condition le respect d'un certain nombre de principes** : en particulier l'indépendance du médiateur vis-à-vis des parties, sa capacité à organiser et à garantir l'impartialité des processus, et donc sa compétence. On ne s'improvise pas médiateur. Être médiateur n'est pas une posture, n'est pas qu'une attitude. La médiation s'adosse à des méthodes, des techniques et des outils qui vont faire la différence dans l'aptitude du médiateur à éviter des risques et à gérer

un certain nombre de dilemmes (par exemple, comment réagir lorsque des parties acceptent volontairement

un accord qui est manifestement inéquitable ?). Il faut lutter contre l'utilisation du titre de médiateur par des personnes ne présentant pas forcément ces garanties d'impartialité ni de compétence.

**La médiation évite de recourir aux procédures judiciaires et aussi à l'arbitrage** : La médiation évite la saisine des tribunaux étatiques et un affrontement conflictuel tranché par un jugement. Il est sûr aussi que la

voie pénale dans le domaine de l'environnement ferme quasi automatiquement la porte à la médiation. C'est

pourtant la voie choisie dans bien des pays comme la France.

**Bien des conflits environnementaux trouvent cependant leur solution dans une réparation rapide et**

**intégrale, par la remise en état d'un espace naturel**.

Cela pose la question classique de la culpabilité. En Europe aujourd'hui règne une conception pénale dominante. C'est un outil qui ne sert que très peu dans la mesure où il n'est pas assez flexible, nécessite beaucoup de temps et ne tend pas naturellement à la réparation des dommages. Il n'est pas assez flexible en cas d'accident environnemental. **La voie pénale exclut pratiquement la médiation**.

La vision de la réparation à apporter doit être modifiée : si on sort de la conception pénale, on va vers plus de responsabilisation, vers la prise de conscience et la garantie de la réparation.

-La médiation est synonyme de prévention, réparation, responsabilisation : c'est un processus volontaire rapide et efficace. Dans le domaine de l'environnement, il faut souvent agir dans l'urgence pour rétablir au plus vite le milieu naturel à la suite d'un accident. Il faut apporter une réponse rapide à une dégradation

environnementale.

Les techniques de médiation peuvent être déjà utilisées de manière préventive pour désamorcer les conflits latents avant qu'ils soient formalisés, prendre en compte toutes les observations utiles, informer, négocier les acceptations. La médiation peut donc être un facteur de prévention des conflits. Par exemple, certaines

grandes entreprises, dans le cadre de leur activité de traitement des déchets à l'étranger, ont mis au point des

techniques de médiation, ayant permis de désamorcer les conflits avec la population locale ou entre les différentes parties prenantes de la population locale.

**Il n'est pas envisageable d'exploiter la médiation comme moyen de résolution des conflits environnementaux, une solution sous exploitée devant être renforcée et favorisée.**

Soucieux de mettre en avant la médiation comme solution plausible, innovante et efficace aux conflits environnementaux, les experts de la commission de travail partagent plusieurs constats. Notamment le fait

que, même si on parle beaucoup de médiation, en réalité c'est un système très peu utilisé dans certains pays comme la France.

La médiation judiciaire familiale est assez fréquente de même que la médiation sociale, soit conventionnelle, soit judiciaire surtout au niveau des cours d'appel. La médiation commerciale commence aussi à se répandre.

**Mais en ce qui concerne la médiation environnementale, malgré les avancées du Grenelle 2 et la Directive Européenne de 2008, nous en sommes toujours aux balbutiements.** Il faut pousser les grandes entreprises pour qu'elles mettent en place des solutions de médiation.

**Il n'y a pas aujourd'hui de structure de médiation nationale ou internationale spécialisée sur les conflits environnementaux.** En effet à l'heure actuelle il n'existe aucune structure spécifiquement dédiée à la médiation comme solution possible aux conflits environnementaux.

**-Plus largement, au niveau européen, la médiation et les autres mécanismes de résolutions des conflits ne sont pas assez fréquemment utilisés :**

**-Tout d'abord, les parties aux conflits environnementaux donnent toujours leur préférence aux procédures classiques** de règlement et sont assez sceptiques quant à l'idée d'utiliser d'autres outils, même si les pratiques de médiation sont répandues dans des pays comme l'Autriche, l'Allemagne ou les Pays-Bas.

**-Il ya un manque général de ressources, de connaissances, d'informations et de compétences autour de la médiation comme solution de résolution des conflits environnementaux.** Il n'y a que peu d'organisations et d'institutions spécialisées dans la médiation environnementale. Dans certains pays d'Europe, comme c'est le cas en Hongrie, un certain nombre d'instituts et d'universités s'intéressent à certains aspects de la médiation environnementale, mais pas une seule institution n'est complètement

spécialisée dans le domaine

**-Un faible nombre d'instruments juridiques ont été mis en place autour de la médiation environnementale. A l'exception des Etats-Unis, du Canada et de l'Autriche, où le recours à la médiation environnementale est plus fréquent, la médiation environnementale n'a que très rarement un cadre juridique bien défini.** Un tribunal ne peut pas imposer une médiation environnementale au préalable.

La médiation en matière d'environnement apparaît donc aux membres de notre commission comme une solution sous exploitée mais émergente, présentant de nombreux avantages et pouvant s'avérer adaptée à la résolution des conflits environnementaux.

**II-SECONDE PARTIE : Recommandations pour favoriser l'usage de la médiation comme technique de résolution des conflits environnementaux.**

Même s'il existe encore peu d'expérience de médiation environnementale en Europe, le Consensus Building

Institute a des partenaires avec qui il travaille en Grande Bretagne, Irlande, France, Portugal, Italie, Norvège, Allemagne et Autriche qui ont autant **d'expérience que certains des médiateurs environnementaux les**

**plus expérimentés aux Etats-Unis.** Le dernier rapport de l'OCDE sur le sujet suggère que la **médiation**

**« institutionnalisée » est de mieux en mieux acceptée en Europe.**

Il est donc temps **d'encourager et de soutenir la médiation environnementale en Europe**, en s'appuyant sur les succès marquants déjà obtenus dans d'autres pays. Dans cette optique, les points suivants ont particulièrement attiré l'attention des experts de la commission et devront faire l'objet de réformes :

- 1-Institutionnaliser la médiation comme solution de règlement des conflits environnementaux
- 2-Faire émerger le médiateur comme figure institutionnelle de la résolution des conflits environnementaux
- 3-Favoriser la médiation environnementale par la rédaction de clauses contractuelles
- 4- Financer le processus de médiation environnementale
- 5-Renforcer l'offre de formation en matière de médiation environnementale
- 6-Créer une plateforme spécialisée dans la médiation environnementale
- 7-Informer et sensibiliser la population et les parties prenantes aux avantages de la médiation comme moyen de règlement des conflits environnementaux.

**1-Institutionnaliser la médiation comme solution de règlement des conflits environnementaux :**

**-Renforcer la crédibilité et l'efficacité de la médiation comme solution de résolution des conflits**

**environnementaux :** dans la phase de préparation du processus de médiation, le soutien politique et juridique de la procédure doit être assuré. Il existe quelques options

pour renforcer la médiation dans la sphère des conflits environnementaux.

**-Donner une base légale à la médiation environnementale.** Comme aux Etats-Unis et au Canada, il serait intéressant de rédiger des dispositions de médiations dans certaines lois et réglementations afin de donner toute crédibilité à la procédure de médiation. Une telle réforme inciterait les parties à utiliser la médiation au lieu des procédures judiciaires et administratives classiques. Les rédacteurs de ces clauses devront prendre en compte les intérêts de toutes les parties prenantes en donnant une base légale à la médiation environnementale.

**-Permettre au juge d'ordonner une médiation pour une réparation immédiate du dommage en matière environnementale.**

**-Evaluer les conflits et bien identifier les bons représentants des parties prenantes :** Le médiateur doit débiter la préparation de l'évaluation d'un conflit afin de définir qui sont les interlocuteurs appropriés. La préparation de l'évaluation du conflit implique d'interviewer les parties prenantes évidentes (premier cercle) de manière privée et confidentielle. Cette série d'interviews met généralement en évidence un deuxième cercle

de parties prenantes à intégrer à la discussion. Une fois les interviews réalisés ; le médiateur doit écrire une note de synthèse cartographiant les grandes catégories de parties prenantes.

**-Procéder à des enquêtes conjointes :** Les parties devraient s'engager à procéder à une enquête conjointe dans le cadre du processus de médiation afin que les considérations scientifiques et techniques soient correctement intégrées au processus de médiation. De nombreux conflits environnementaux impliquent des décisions qui s'appuient sur des jugements scientifiques ou techniques. Quand des considérations

scientifiques ou techniques entrent en jeu, toutes les parties doivent avoir un accès égal à l'information. Aussi,

il est opportun d'éviter les batailles d'experts, choisis par chaque partie pour renforcer leur interprétation

techniques et contredire les arguments techniques des autres.

**-Donner un rôle consultatif aux ONG, qui pourrait aller jusqu'à l'amicus curiae dans le processus de médiation et faire évoluer le modèle classique de médiation** pour représenter la pluralité des intervenants impliqués.

**-Ne pas tout miser sur les mécanismes formels de médiation mais aussi s'attacher à mettre en œuvre**

**un cadre plus large de dialogue** favorisant la **résolution des conflits environnementaux** par des échanges réguliers et facilités entre les différentes parties prenantes. C'est par exemple ce qui a été mis en place au sein de l'ALENA avec la création de la Commission de Coopération Environnementale, qui est une plateforme d'information et de dialogue sur les risques environnementaux. Si ce système n'est pas parfait et

ne suffit pas à résoudre tous les problèmes à lui seul, la mise en place de ces réseaux est essentielle pour faire progresser le dialogue et parvenir la résolution de certains conflits.

-Concernant les **dispositifs visant à renforcer et à garantir la qualité de la médiation et la déontologie des médiateurs**, on se heurte à une limite. Certes, **un code de déontologie du médiateur**, faisant référence au code de conduite européen, est **important, de même que l'adhésion à des associations agréées semble nécessaire**. Mais fondamentalement, la médiation **est un processus libre, volontaire, souple, pluriel, multiple, adaptable et par conséquent adapté. Elle doit le rester.**

Le défi consiste donc à favoriser une **nécessaire professionnalisation, mais sans pour autant instituer une profession réglementée, contrainte et contraignante, tant pour le médiateur que pour les parties.**

## 2-Faire émerger le médiateur comme figure de la résolution des conflits environnementaux :

**-Faire émerger un nouvel acteur, le médiateur** comme un intervenant efficace des conflits environnementaux, **une force rapide d'intervention tant pour la réparation des dommages** en accord avec les organismes publics et les collectifs privés gestionnaires que **pour l'indemnisation des victimes**. Et ce sans qu'il soit besoin de longues procédures pour établir éventuellement responsabilités et culpabilités.

**C'est aussi replacer l'humain au cœur de la gouvernance environnementale, tout en sachant que le modèle classique de la médiation qui réunit deux parties autour du médiateur** (divorce, contrat de travail, petite délinquance...) **doit évoluer en raison de la pluralité fréquente d'intervenants**, pouvoirs publics, organisations associatives, co-auteurs du dommage, victimes....

**Mettre en place une liste de médiateurs à disposition**, eux-mêmes extérieurs aux agences impliquées dans le processus de médiation. L'Environmental Protection Agency aux Etats-Unis a choisi toute une liste de médiateurs neutres au sein de certaines agences fédérales et d'institutions nationales de résolution des conflits. L'Agence Européenne de l'Environnement pourrait développer une liste similaire avec l'IRENE et d'autres centres de résolutions des conflits. Cela pourrait aider à rationaliser le processus de sélection des

médiateurs.

**-Disposer de médiateurs de qualité.** Le médiateur motive les parties et les acteurs concernés, met au point le processus en coopération avec les parties et construit une atmosphère de confiance pour un tel procédé

par des discussions préparatoires avec les acteurs concernés. Afin d'assurer le succès de la médiation, un

médiateur doit répondre à certains critères : carrière professionnelles, familiarité avec les spécificités locales,

régionales et techniques, neutralité („Faciliter la Concertation", Eyrolle, 2009)

## 3-Favoriser la médiation environnementale par la rédaction de clauses contractuelles :

**-Favoriser la rédaction dans les contrats de clauses de médiation conventionnelle :** en l'absence de ces

clauses, une médiation ad hoc naissant après un litige ouvert risque fort d'aller au conf lit. Si la clause de

médiation est prévue en amont, elle constitue la loi des parties. Cela peut aussi inciter une entreprise ou une organisation à élaborer une véritable politique **de prévention**

des risques. Il faudrait donc promouvoir dans les contrats les clauses obligatoires et préalables de médiation, éventuellement précédée d'une phase de négociation ou de conciliation.

**-Promouvoir dans les contrats inter-entreprises (notamment de sous-traitance) mais aussi dans les conventions avec les particuliers, voire dans les statuts des associations environnementales des clauses de médiation obligatoires et préalables**, à l'image des clauses de conciliation obligatoire comme préalable par exemple aux clauses compromissoires, pour que soit systématiquement recherché un accord avant toute décision éventuelle de recours judiciaire.

#### 4- Financer le processus de médiation environnementale :

**Des ressources financières sont nécessaires pour garantir le fonctionnement du processus de médiation.** La répartition et le paiement des couts par plusieurs institutions ont montré leurs avantages. Cela

permet d'éviter l'impression que la voix de celui qui paie pèse plus que celle des autres, et donc que l'argent

peut déterminer l'issue. Ainsi, un **soutien financier est nécessaire pour aider les organisations à but non**

**lucratif, les communautés à participer dans les efforts de médiation.** Les expériences allemande et autrichienne montrent que les ressources financières pour les processus de résolution des différents conflits

viennent de différentes sources de financement et de programmes d'organisations internationales et étaient

gérées par des ONG qui menaient la médiation. On pourrait aussi imaginer que l'**Agence Européenne de l'Environnement et la Commission Européenne puissent développer des programmes de financement**

pour les communautés et les organisations à but non lucratif afin qu'elles participent au processus de

médiation comme méthode de résolution des conflits.

-Il serait très opportun pour l'Union Européenne de **créer un « fonds incitatif » pour soutenir les**

**expériences de médiation environnementale** ainsi qu'une **documentation approfondie** et transparente de leurs résultats.

#### 5-Renforcement de l'offre de formation en matière de médiation environnementale :

**-Favoriser la recherche est une pré-condition au développement de la médiation comme outil constructif de résolution des conflits environnementaux.** Il faudrait donc recenser, répertorier puis

étudier les pratiques de médiation environnementale déjà en place dans les pays de l'Union Européenne. Il

existe des exemples et des études intéressantes en Autriche et en Allemagne, mais il faudrait mettre au point un comparatif structuré des expériences passées dans le domaine de la médiation environnementale en Europe et ailleurs. Ce projet devra être considéré comme un point de départ de coopération vers une résolution collaborative des conflits environnementaux

-Il faut évidemment **former les médiateurs, les avocats, qui peuvent être soit conseils de parties en médiation**, soit médiateurs eux-mêmes. Former et recruter un corps de médiateurs spécialisés et brevetés en

matière environnementale avec des moyens d'actions et des procédures reconnues. Dans le cas précis de la

médiation environnementale, il sera important de former et recruter des experts spécialistes de la question de l'intégration des modèles culturels (historiens des idées, sociologues) pour aider à la sensibilisation des parties prenantes, dans le cas d'un préjudice environnemental ou d'une décision d'implantation d'une

entreprise à impact environnemental, afin que la médiation ne soit pas biaisée par une incompréhension culturelle.

-Il faut également **former des cadres et futurs cadres d'entreprise à ce qu'est la médiation** : par exemple, c'est le cas des formations de l'ESSEC : le jour où les étudiants se trouvent en situation de responsabilité au sein d'entreprises et face à des conflits, ils sont amenés à considérer la médiation comme un mode sérieux et

efficace de résolution des différends.

-Les **responsables associatifs et les élus politiques gagnent aussi à se former à la médiation, son esprit et ses méthodes.** La médiation figure ainsi dans les **modules de formation permanente** que

l'ESSEC propose à des cadres en fonction.

-Mettre à disposition de la société civile des formations intelligentes et responsables aux avantages de la médiation lors d'un conflit entre deux parties. Par exemple à destination des collectivités territoriales, des organisations de la société civile, environnementales notamment. Démocratiser et favoriser l'accès à la

médiation pour les populations locales

**-Renforcer les compétences autour de la médiation par un effort dans le domaine de l'éducation.** Les études empiriques sur l'utilisation de la médiation suggèrent que les instruments de médiation dans l'Union Européenne sont peu utilisés. C'est assez clairement du au fait que l'étendue des connaissances dans le

domaine de la médiation et de la résolution des conflits est limité. Les conflits dans le domaine environnemental ont une longue histoire de règlements administratifs et judiciaires avant même qu'un effort

de résolution informel soit amorcé. Il semble que la confiance soit bien plus grande envers ce type de processus de résolution des conflits qu'envers un processus de médiation mené par une personne indépendante et impartiale dont les décisions n'ont pas force exécutoire. Il est sans doute possible qu'il ne

s'agisse pas uniquement d'une question de confiance, mais aussi **d'un manque de connaissance des solutions alternatives de résolutions des conflits et de leurs outils ou procédures.** Il faut alors **renforcer activement les compétences autour de la médiation comme solution de résolution des conflits environnementaux.**

**Cela nécessite :**

- un accès facilité à l'information au sujet du processus de médiation et des autres outils et instruments de résolution des conflits/
- l'analyse de cas de médiations réussies dans d'autres pays.
- des échanges d'expériences et des entraînements communs
- des programmes de formation spécifiques pour les différentes parties (professionnels du monde judiciaire, organisations de la société civile et autorités publiques comme l'Agence Européenne de l'Environnement).

Dans cette optique, il serait utile que la Commission Européenne **offre des formations à la médiation environnementale de qualité pour des professionnels de l'environnement**, afin d'assurer une offre de médiateurs environnementaux "enregistrés".

-Il est **essentiel de pouvoir maintenir une "offre" de médiateurs environnementaux relativement proche de la "demande" pour de tels professionnels**. Pour ce faire, il faudrait **mettre l'accent sur la formation d'un petit nombre de professionnels issus du monde de l'environnement accompagné d'un engagement d'expérimenter la médiation de la part de l'Agence Européenne de l'Environnement**.

**6-Créer une plateforme spécialisée dans la médiation environnementale :**

-Création d'une **plateforme spécialisée dans la médiation environnementale**, constituée de médiateurs

spécialisés en environnement (exemple pour le gaz de schiste, il faut de vrais techniciens). Ouvrir un centre spécialisé de Médiation environnementale **avec des médiateurs spécialisés (et brevetés) en matière environnementale, domaine qui ne manque pas d'experts, avec des lieux propres, voire des instances ou espaces de négociations, eux mêmes spécialisés, sectoriels, régionaux, nationaux et**

**internationaux**. Cette solution serait préférable à la création d'une nouvelle juridiction internationale (une de

plus), qui ne ferait qu'ajouter des juges à des juges dans une culture procédurière et vindicative à l'opposé du modèle de la médiation.

Cette plateforme spécialisée dans la médiation devra intégrer en tant qu'élément central des mécanismes

d'engagement, de dialogue et d'échange entre les différentes parties.

**-Dans le même esprit, promouvoir une plateforme Européenne en matière de médiation.**

On pourrait **utiliser l'Agence Européenne de l'Environnement comme une plateforme pour la résolution des conflits environnementaux**. Les bénéfices potentiels d'une harmonisation européenne des procédures de médiation devrait être soulignés, en particulier le rôle de l'Agence Européenne de l'Environnement et des agences nationales de l'environnement devra être mis en valeur. **L'Agence Européenne de**

**l'Environnement et d'autres agences de l'environnement locales devrait être utilisées pour promouvoir l'utilisation de la médiation dans les conflits environnementaux et la levée de fonds pour**

mettre en place une troisième partie neutre incarnée par le médiateur. On pourrait s'inspirer des 30 années

d'expérience de la Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) aux Etats-Unis, pionnière dans l'application des

processus de médiation comme méthode de résolution des conflits.

**7-Informer et sensibiliser la population et les parties prenantes aux avantages de la médiation comme**

**moyen de règlement des conflits environnementaux.**

-Promouvoir un **Cadre commun de référence** pour définir et expliquer le processus de médiation. Un cadre reconnu et référençant les principes, les étapes et les acteurs engagés dans la procédure.

**-Sensibiliser les grandes entreprises aux avantages de la médiation (médiation conventionnelle notamment), mais aussi les organisations collectives, associations spécialisées et ONG.**

-Il faut **sensibiliser plus encore l'autorité judiciaire à la médiation**. Dans bien des instances, le recours à la médiation est très attaché et très corrélé à une personnalité : le jour où cette personnalité quitte son poste, le recours à la médiation chute. Il faut **systématiser l'insertion de clauses de médiation dans des contrats**.

-En premier lieu, il y a un intense besoin, en particulier en France, **d'informer les parties et le public des avantages réels de la médiation**.

- Il est important de **réunir une documentation et une évaluation précises des expériences existantes de médiation environnementale**, ce qui permettrait de **faciliter le recours à la médiation environnementale en Europe**.

**ANNEXE 1 : LISTE DES MEMBRES DE LA COMMISSION :**

Président de la Commission

• **Aurélien COLSON**, Directeur de l'ESSEC-IRENE

Experts ayant participé aux travaux de la commission

• **Francis CASORLA**, Avocat général honoraire à la Cour de cassation, chargé d'enseignements à la

Faculté de droit de l'Université de Nice, Conseiller d'Etat de la Principauté de Monaco.

• **Andrew CROSBY**, Directeur Exécutif Opérations et Stratégies, International Center for Trade and

Sustainable Development (ICTSD).

• **Samuel DAHAN**, Professeur associé, ESSEC-IRENE ; chargé d'enseignements, Université de

Cambridge.

• **Dominique DE COURCELLES**, Directeur de recherche au CNRS ; Membre du Collège International de Philosophie ; Enseignante à l'Ecole Polytechnique et à l'Université Paris-Dauphine.

• **Charles JARROSSON**, Professeur de Droit International et de Droit International de l'Arbitrage, Université Paris Panthéon-Assas.

• **Marianella Prizio Biroli SCLAVI, Sociologue**, Professeur d'Ethnographie Urbaine et de Gestion

Créative des Conflits, Institut Polytechnique de Milan.

• **Blaise TCHIKAYA**, Juriste et Professeur, Université Paris XIII, Membre de la Commission de l'Union

Africaine pour le Droit International.

Animateurs de la commission et rédacteurs de la Note de Synthèse

• **Jérôme BEILIN**, Directeur du Développement en charge des programmes et contenus, Les Ateliers

de la Terre

• **Eduard BELTRAN**, Avocat aux Barreaux de Paris et Barcelone, membre associé de l'ESSEC- IRENE.

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## Atlantic States Legal Foundation

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

The Rio+20 conferences should prioritize for the political commitments through the institutionalization of the Sustainable Development and Green Economy concepts in various binding agreements.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

The proposed themes of Rio+20 Conference-- a green economy (GE) in the context of sustainable development (SD) and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development-- are very vague. There is no clear documentation regarding the history and the theoretical route of green economy initiatives. In separate attached document, I outline the theoretical frame of GE and SD (see attached document).

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

There is an assumption that GE tries to capture the notion of the vulnerability of human welfare, caused by the degradation of global environment, which can be understood as a result of the widespread application of an unsustainable economic growth. Probably, it captures the concerns of the past four decades to address climate change to frame treaty agreements. The GE initiatives can serve as a tool for the greening as an engine for growth, with valuing the ecosystem services and biodiversity issues by addressing strategic uncertainty such as: the likelihood of adverse effects; the consequences of change; the speed of change; discontinuities; and especially uncertainty over the effectiveness of policy instruments.

The issues of institutionalization of political commitments are missing in Rio+20. In order to attain the objectives of the SD, institutional framework has to be developed to coordinate and manage activities of all related stakeholders (i.e. governments, UN agencies, multilateral and bilateral donors; development banks; international nongovernmental and governmental organizations; national nongovernmental organizations etc.). It requires an effective institutional structure, strong policy, and framework for policy implementation and can work effectively, efficiently, equitably and transparently.

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

To achieve the desired outcomes in such complicated themes, it would be hard to propose the specific timeframe. However, it is also necessary to bind within the time frame; therefore, I proposed three schemes (1) 2 to 3 years policy and program framing phase; 4-6 years program implementation phase; and 7-10 years monitoring and evaluation phase.

To implement the green economy initiatives in the developing world, there is also a need to change or revisit the trade regulations imposed by the World Trade Organization (WTO); especially the social and environmental conditions of specific developments such as the removal of the ability of foreign cooperation to over-ride local social and environmental factors. To foster the ability of the developing world, it is essential to establish a chain of cooperation between North and South. The chain of cooperation can be established through creation of international oversight schemes which can help to bridge the gap between North and South.

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### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication:** views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development:** Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes.** Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".

#### Inputs for Rio+20 Compilation Document

##### The conceptual problems of Green Economy and Sustainable Development

On behalf of the

Association for Protection of Environment and Culture (APEC-Nepal) and

Atlantic States Legal Foundation (ASLF), Inc. (NGO), USA

Input submitted by Medani P. Bhandari ([medani.bhandari@gmail.com](mailto:medani.bhandari@gmail.com)) co-founder and former chair of APEC-Nepal; Scientist of at the ASLF-USA and Research Associate at Syracuse University, NY, USA

**APEC-Nepal:** General objectives of the organization are to extend help in the protection of biological diversity such as wildlife, wetland species, forest resources and development of the nation by organizing individuals and experts in the conservation of natural resources and sustainable use. Founded in 1985, APEC-Nepal is a member of IUCN; accredited with the UNEP; member if Global Environment Facility-NGO Networks and associated with UN-DPI. [http://www.geocities.ws/ngo\\_apecl](http://www.geocities.ws/ngo_apecl)

**ASLF-USA:** Atlantic States Legal Foundation (ASLF) was established in 1982 to provide affordable legal, technical and organizational assistance to individuals, community groups, and other Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), as a way to effectively remediate threats to the natural environment. ASLF is accredited with the UNEP; member if Global Environment Facility-NGO Networks and associated with UN-DPI. <http://aslf.org/>

#### Introduction:

As the Rio+20 has already set the objective to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, it should begin to create common ground to build the consensus among stakeholders as it was able to do in the Rio 1992.

*a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?*

The Rio+20 conferences should prioritize for the political commitments through the institutionalization of the Sustainable Development and Green Economy concepts in various binding agreements.

*b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?*

The proposed themes of Rio+20 Conference-- a green economy (GE) in the context of sustainable development (SD) and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development-- are very vague. There is no clear documentation regarding the history and the theoretical route of green economy initiatives. In separate attached document, I outline the theoretical frame of GE and SD (see attached document).

*c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);*

There is an assumption that GE tries to capture the notion of the vulnerability of human welfare, caused by the degradation of global environment, which can be understood as a result of the widespread application of an unsustainable economic growth. Probably, it captures the concerns of the past four decades to address climate change to frame treaty agreements. The GE initiatives can serve as a tool for the greening as an engine for growth, with valuing the ecosystem services and biodiversity issues by addressing strategic uncertainty such as: the likelihood of adverse effects; the consequences of change; the speed of change; discontinuities; and especially uncertainty over the effectiveness of policy instruments.

The issues of institutionalization of political commitments are missing in Rio+20. In order to attain the objectives of the SD, institutional framework has to be developed to coordinate and manage activities of all related stakeholders (i.e. governments, UN agencies, multilateral and bilateral donors; development banks; international nongovernmental and governmental organizations; national nongovernmental organizations etc.). It requires an effective institutional structure, strong policy, and framework for policy implementation and can work effectively, efficiently, equitably and transparently.

*d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?*

To achieve the desired outcomes in such complicated themes, it would be hard to propose the specific timeframe. However, it is also necessary to bind within the time frame; therefore, I proposed three schemes (1) 2 to 3 years policy and program framing phase; 4-6 years program implementation phase; and 7-10 years monitoring and evaluation phase.

To implement the green economy initiatives in the developing world, there is also a need to change or revisit the trade regulations imposed by the World Trade Organization (WTO); especially the social and environmental conditions of specific developments such as the removal of the ability of foreign cooperation to over-ride local social and environmental factors. To foster the ability of the developing world, it is essential to establish a chain of cooperation between North and South. The chain of cooperation can be established through creation of international oversight schemes which can help to bridge the gap between North and South.

## Aube Nouvelle pour la Femme et le Développement (ANFD)

Text not available.

## Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS)

### Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability submission for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012

1. Australasian Campuses Towards Sustainability (ACTS) is a non--profit member based organisation representing higher and further education institutions within Australia and New Zealand. ACTS aims to inspire, promote and support change towards best practice sustainability within the operations, curriculum and research of the tertiary education sector. ACTS seeks to build community and business partnerships at the local, regional and international level, in order to bring together a network of people for positive engagement, capacity building and change.

2. The annual ACTS conference was held in Adelaide from 28--30 September

2011. One of the sessions at the conference was devoted to discussions pertaining to Rio + 20 and organized under three themes, namely: (1) Tertiary education sector contributions to the Zero Draft document and subsequent implementation, (2) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and (3) Institutional framework for sustainable development.

3. As an NGO operating within the Asia Pacific region, ACTS was involved in drafting the statements submitted by *Major Groups and Stakeholders Asia Pacific*, as well as *Asia Pacific NGOs* and we therefore strongly endorse and support both.

4. We believe that the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012

(Rio+20) provides a critical and timely platform for governments at the highest level to secure renewed political commitment and action for sustainable development. Since 1992 the ecological crisis has worsened, whilst income and social inequalities have escalated even as high economic growth took place in several countries. Not enough has been done to achieve the paradigm shift required to change current unsustainable trends and we urgently call on governments to act on change towards sustainable development, rather than continue to debate the issue further.

5. The Rio+20 Conference should therefore honestly and openly appraise the

implementation of the sustainable development commitments and action plans, and identify the gaps and obstacles, to ensure the transformation and integration of the economic, social and ecological dimensions. This needs to take place at the local, national, regional and international levels.

6. In moving towards sustainable development that also incorporates the inter--

generational dimension, the critical role that tertiary education plays in

achieving a long--term and sustainable shift needs to be galvanised. Recognising that changes in social values and practices are necessary in addition to technical solutions, there should be a focus on ensuring educational structures provide appropriate and relevant sustainability related skills and knowledge to achieve long term change within society and economy. Furthermore, there must be recognition and promotion of indigenous and local knowledge systems and their interface with more formalised knowledge systems.

7. The role that tertiary education can, should and does play in achieving sustainable development has often gone unrecognized and/or under represented. Since 1992, it has become clear that tertiary education institutions play a number of critical roles, including those summarized below:

- They provide relevant and critical education to our future government, business, industry, education and community leaders. By integrating sustainable development into curriculum, skills training and student development, tertiary education will equip the future with people who have the knowledge and capacity to positively impact the global economic and educational systems and programs, to eradicate poverty and improve access to education for all;
- They are critical homes for the research that provides sustainable solutions to the complex problems of development. Indeed, Secretary Ban Ki--moon pointed out in his call for the world's academic community to find solutions to global hunger, water shortages, and energy issues, "the academic community can help us connect the dots";
- They serve as the "test beds" for examining the context in which innovative sustainability practices are executed. As these institutions implement a variety of context--specific sustainability practices through education and operations, they demonstrate the viability of these practices and provide models for sustainable development;
- They facilitate engagement of groups at the community level through building and maintaining strong links to government, business and civil society, as part of the core business of learning and teaching and as part of research; and
- They provide the opportunity for cross fertilization of knowledge and understanding through hosting students from the international community, who then transfer learnings



into their own areas for the benefit of all.

8. These roles of tertiary institutions should be recognised while also

acknowledging that:

- There is need to strengthen the holistic integration of environmental, social and economical dimensions of sustainable development;

- Through promoting sustainable societies it is essential to ensure gender equality, democracy, and human rights;

- The importance of peoples' participation, particularly of youth, women and indigenous peoples, and providing for their empowerment and relevant, functional education to support inclusive sustainable development, is most readily done through the tertiary education system; and

- There have been communities that have developed numerous solutions to sustainable development challenges in spite of a lack of leadership and support from high levels of government. These initiatives need to be fully recognized, supported and celebrated with a view to link, upscale and maintain efforts.

9. It is the fundamental role of tertiary education to innovate and be an open source of new technologies for the benefit and wellbeing of the global community. We therefore propose that tertiary education institutions need to be more open and transparent with regards to the sharing of information with the global community for the common good towards sustainable development.

10. Open sharing of information and innovation cannot be accomplished without the support and backing of business and government. We therefore request business and government to provide more substantial financial and in kind support to see such endeavours come to fruition.

11. Below are summarized the key issues, challenges and courses of action that

have been identified and affirmed in the ACTS annual conference.

#### **Issues, Challenges and Ways Forward**

##### ***On Tertiary Education sector contributions to the Zero Draft document and***

##### ***subsequent implementation***

12. We believe that the language that is used within the Zero Draft document and

any subsequent documents must be directive and commitment--oriented to avoid any misunderstanding or 'ways out' from implementing the intention of the document and in order to achieve the paradigm shift required to move beyond rhetoric to action towards sustainable development.

13. We strongly feel that the role of tertiary education should be prominent

throughout the Zero Draft document and any subsequent documents in order for the intent of Rio and Rio + 20 to be realised. The role of tertiary education should therefore not be relegated to inclusion as an ad hoc after thought.

14. We further believe that relevant and appropriate education at all levels is

essential, as is support from pillars of society such as government and business. The recognition that informal learning processes are just as important as formal learning processes is essential, particularly to empower and encompass the marginalised youth, women and indigenous groups in

society. These two approaches to learning can be used in conjunction to ensure the most beneficial outcomes at a variety of levels and learning. Education for all is an important cornerstone of civilisation, whether provided through formal or informal means.

15. Community engagement is part of the core business of higher and further education. We therefore believe that tertiary education institutions are in a strong position to facilitate the partnerships between government, business and civil society (including individuals and community groups) at the community level, as part of the implementation of goals and objectives associated with Rio + 20 outcomes (see Figure 1 below).

#### **Figure 1: Implementation for Change Model**

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Examples

best pract

Levels of Government

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Facilitation Tertiari

Education

Dissemination

of knowledge

Business

Civil Society

16. We submit that tertiary education be recognised as playing a significant role in the Zero Draft document and in its subsequent implementation to achieving the commitments of Rio and Rio + 20 and in particular, as summarised below:

- Tertiary institutions, business/industry groups and governments alike should provide resources and funding to facilitate the fundamental shift to embed sustainability in the curriculum, research, and

operations of tertiary education. The development of tools, resources and appropriate professional development for academics and institutional leaders are required for this fundamental shift in our collective approach to sustainable development to be successful

- Each tertiary institution within developed countries should partner and work with a tertiary institution from a developing country, for the purpose and mutual benefit of research, knowledge and resource exchange. Each institution should make this partnership explicit through registering on a dedicated page, coordinated by the apex body discussed further below

- Every tertiary institution should commit to sharing and learning from one another in the spirit of international partnership and long-term global societal benefit. As importantly, institutions should commit to working more closely with local community and business to facilitate dialogue, capacity building and change at the local level.

***On Green Economy in the Context of Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development***

17. We firmly believe that current prevailing economic models promote

unsustainable consumption and production patterns, facilitate grossly inequitable economic systems that fail to eradicate poverty, assist exploitation of natural resources towards the verge of extinction, and need to be replaced by sustainable economies in the community, local, national, regional and international spheres.

18. We have concerns about the term 'green economy', and indeed, striving towards a 'green economy' as it leaves the current economic system open to 'greenwashing' without fundamentally changing a system that is significantly contributing to unsustainable practices.

19. The use of jargonistic titles such as 'green' to describe the economy only confuses the matter and the outcomes that need to be reached in order to realise sustainable development. We therefore propose that the approach is based on sustainable economies, the key attributes of which promote and encapsulate:

- Cultural change towards sustainable development from the bottom-up, moving towards less unnecessary consumption;
- Sustainable production and consumption patterns, ensuring social and environmental wellbeing in that process;
- Decent work and livelihoods, ensuring that social benefits are distributed equitably among all peoples;
- The upholding of social justice, human rights, equity, and gender equality;
- Allows and supports the achievement of economic sufficiency;
- Safeguarding animal welfare and protection of ecosystems; and

- Regulation of financial markets, holding firms accountable for the

social and environmental impacts of their operations.

20. We further question the use of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) as a measurement for growth and instead believe a more appropriate index be used, one which is based on people's wellbeing, inclusiveness, social equity, human rights, gender equality, decent work, biodiversity and ecological footprint.

21. We present that tertiary education institutions can play a significant role in

developing the methodologies required to measure progress towards sustainable economies and indeed, sustainable development. Through our core business, we have the capacity to question terminology and measurement of non-economic factors, bearing in mind our reluctance to inappropriately value the environment.

22. We believe that technological fixes alone will not solve environmental problems that are consequences of social and economic factors. Fundamental issues such as assessment of the potential impacts of new and untested technologies (e.g., geo-engineering, ocean fertilization, etc.) before they are released in the environment and deployed commercially must be addressed in the development and transfer of technologies.

23. We present that tertiary education has a significant role to play in ensuring the issue of assessment of potential impacts is addressed. Through our research we have the capacity to question current technologies, and innovate and appropriately assess future technologies prior to release, and importantly, to continue monitoring and evaluation once technologies are in place.

24. We further present that tertiary education can play a significant role in

achieving sustainable economies in an accelerated timeframe through embedding sustainability across curriculum and by enabling it to be delivered through relevant learning and teaching practices that are based on best knowledge, unbiased and distanced commercial conflicts of interest to ensure the current skills and knowledge gap does not exist into the future.

25. We believe that stronger partnerships among governments, civil society organisations, private businesses and stakeholder groups must be established for promoting sustainable economies. Such partnerships need to be within frameworks of accountability and transparency including regulation. In line with this, tertiary education institutions and other stakeholder groups are enjoined to support good practice case studies and promote dissemination of information on such good practices for promoting sustainable economies in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development.

#### ***On the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD)***

26. We believe it is necessary to build a strong apex body on sustainable development that works at the global level and can integrate the work of disparate multilateral bodies currently working on each of the three dimensions of sustainable development. This apex body needs to include the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the World Trade Organisation to ensure ALL dimensions of sustainable development are considered, and those with the ability to influence change are involved in decision-making processes. Options to be explored include transforming the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development, or establishing a UN Organization on Sustainable Development. The unifying mandate of this body should be the promotion of sustainable development as a fundamental right of all.

27. We further believe it is essential to immediately establish a broad inclusive multi-stakeholder consultative body or network which is tasked with supporting the apex body through provision of information to assist in realising outcomes and monitoring the implementation of commitments and actions since 1992. Such a body should be participatory, democratic, and have an integral multi-stakeholder character that accords civil society with equal rights and equal voice as those of governments.

28. At the regional level, corresponding sustainable development bodies should be established. Sub-regional analogues could also be created where size and diversity of the region warrant it, such as in the Asia-Pacific.

29. At the national level, governments must establish multi-stakeholder councils

for sustainable development (NCSDs) where absent, and strengthen them where already existing. NCSDs must coordinate planning, policy making, issues resolution, and reporting to the corresponding sub-regional/regional and global sustainable development bodies to ensure vertical coherence from implementation levels to the global level.

30. To be effective, the national sustainable development councils should be (a) organized at highest possible level, i.e., chaired by the Head of State/Government; (b) lodged with an appropriate coordinating body such Office of the Prime Minister or highest level elected represented body; (c) composed of relevant ministries and major groups/stakeholders including local authorities; and (d) institutionally stable by virtue of a strong legal mandate and endowed with a dedicated budget.

31. Local authorities are closest to the ground and directly serve the people. They must be given appropriate responsibility and be involved in decision-making that concerns sustainable development.

32. We strongly assert that it is essential for the apex body and governments to

recognize the existing efforts of communities and NGOs such as ACTS in promoting sustainable development at the national and local levels. Recognition needs to be accompanied by support, with the provision of

platforms to mainstream and link these efforts to have more sustained

impacts on development.

33. The above proposals are initial steps to start fundamental changes that are necessary to meet the challenges of the 21st century and ensure a sustainable global civilisation in the centuries beyond. In the long term this may include updating the Charter of the UN.

ACTS would particularly like to thank and acknowledge the contributions of the

following people without whom this document would not be possible:

*Leanne Denby*

*Danielle Rostan--Herbert Carlene Kirvan*

*Corey Peterson*

*Audette Benson Cathy Horan Brett Sharman Jennifer Klippel Stephen Derrick Aaron Magner Geoff Dennis*

*Clem Campbell John Hassall*

*Ed Maher Sam Kashuk Lesley Stone Lania Lynch Delwyn Langdon John Rafferty*

*Jonathan Pheasant*

*Rowena Scott*

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## Automobile Association of Southern India

Safe Roads at Rio +20

A Submission to the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development by the commission for Global Road Safety.

- Road Traffic Accidents take a toll of more than a lakh and twenty five thousand in India and added to that more than 5 lakhs people get injured.
- Inspite of having a target of reducing by 20% reduction the number of deaths and injuries is increasing alarmingly.
- Though the Government is committed to Road Safety, effective implementation in a coordinated manner is lacking due to various agencies being involved.
- The WHO and the U.N. General Assembly had rightly recognised the problem of Road safety as an Health Issue and even earmarked a day for Road Safety.
- The U.N. Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 with the goal to reduce road deaths by 2020 is also being implemented by the Government. But still it has not gained the momentum needed for effective reduction.
- Road Safety is also an environmental issue and has to be a part of the Millennium Development goal since reduction of accidents forms an essential part of improvement of environment and quality of life.
- The impact of injuries affects the rate of economic growth. The development of public Transport and creating safe environment for those who walk or cycle is necessary for reducing road accidents and improving the air quality safety has to be an integral part of design and management of road Transport system as envisaged by the World Bank.
- It is our request that the Rio +20 conference on sustainable development should also include Road Safety issues as part of agenda so that the decisions taken would give a fillip to the movement for Road Safety.

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## Automobile Club of Moldova

General content

World and country statistics in road crashes domain is an alarming fact that urges everyone to act in order to prevent them. It is alarming the fact, that in recent years, road accidents have become an epidemic, which destroys the lives of more than 1.3 million people worldwide, and other of some 50 million are severely traumatized. The road crashes are predicted to become the fifth leading global cause of death by 2030, unless immediate action is taken.

Most passenger and goods traffic uses roads (for example, close to 80 percent and 50 percent, respectively, in the European Union). Rising incomes in many developing countries have led to more motor vehicles and greater traffic volumes, but road safety management capacity, road infrastructure and enforcement of traffic safety regulations have not kept pace. As a result, road traffic injuries have become a major public health challenge in many low- and middle-income countries including in ECA. About 90 percent of the 1.3 million deaths and 50 million injuries from road traffic crashes worldwide each year occur in LMICs, although these countries have only 48 percent of the world's registered vehicles (WHO 2009). Increasing motorization and urbanization in these countries could double this toll by 2030. The difference between low- or middle-income countries and high-income countries - where many road deaths still occur - is stunning.

The main risk factors for road crashes are:

- Road design features, including those that expose vulnerable road users when mixing with traffic (for example, due to lack of crossings or walkways).
- Lack of effective regulation and enforcement of required vehicle condition, driver's education and training, and risky behaviors.
- Driver behavior: speeding; recklessness; drinking and driving; not using seatbelts, helmets, and other protective equipment; and using mobile phones, especially texting.

The Commission for Global Road Safety is an independent body under the Chairmanship of Lord Robertson of Port Ellen and patronage of HRH Prince Michael of Kent. It was established in 2006 by the FIA Foundation (a UK registered charity) to promote action to reverse the rising tide of road traffic injury and fatality in developing countries. Its "Make Roads Safe" reports published in 2006 and 2009 called for the first ever global Ministerial Conference, which was subsequently held in Moscow in November 2009, and proposed that the UN mandate a Decade of Action for Road Safety, a proposal which was subsequently approved by the UN General Assembly in March 2010. Amongst the recommendations in the Commission's third "Make Roads Safe" report, published in 2011, we call on the international community to recognize road traffic injuries as a

sustainability challenge in the context of the Rio+20 Conference and discussions on a post-Millennium Development Goals framework.

Dr. Watkins' analysis is echoed in the 2011 'State of the World's Children' report from the UN Children's Fund. In the report, which focuses on adolescence, UNICEF argues that older children have been neglected as a health priority. "Lasting change in the lives of children and young people...can only be achieved and sustained by complementing investment in the first decade of life with greater attention and resources applied in the second", the report concludes. Injury, and in particular road injury, is identified as an area that needs to be addressed. "Injuries are a growing concern in public health in relation to younger children and adolescents alike. They are the leading cause of death among adolescents aged 10-19...many of these deaths are related to road traffic accidents", the authors acknowledge. "Fatalities from injuries among adolescents are highest among the poor...Because the rate of urbanization is most rapid in the poorest regions."

We welcome Rio+20 as an important opportunity to identify the major sustainability challenges facing the world and to contribute to the design of a post-MDG framework that will meet the needs of developing nations in the second and third decades of the 21st Century. We strongly believe that global road traffic death and injury, and the wider but related issue of safe and sustainable transportation policy, must be recognized as sustainability challenges at the Rio+20 Conference. We urge and encourage the Secretariat, member nations and participants to include reference to safe and sustainable road mobility in the 'Outcomes Document' of the Conference.

#### Specific elements

According to WHO Report on road traffic injury prevention: "Road traffic injuries are a growing public health issue, disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups of road users, including the poor. More than half the people killed in traffic crashes are young adults aged between 15 and 44 years. Furthermore, road traffic injuries cost low-income and middle-income countries between 1% and 2% of their gross national product – more than the total development aid received by these countries."

The Republic of Moldova is one of the countries mentioned above, where the issue of road traffic accidents is a major public health problem. Over 3000 Moldovans are seriously injured and about 500 are killed on our national roads annually, more than 10% - children.

A deep study of the statistics demonstrated that the most vulnerable road users are young people and men - often the breadwinners in a family. This fact has a strong impact on the general situation of social public health. By the World Bank ranking, Moldova is considered to be a country with a "senescent" society, which is another important reason for us to prevent the fatalities involving young generation. These losses are not caused just by the number of crashes at the scene, but also by the tardy render of the first aid by the paramedics and the lack of an established system of post crash rehabilitation.

It is important to underline the link between the road casualties and development. In 2009 the World Bank and other leading development banks published a joint strategy paper identifying road casualties as "one of the most significant public health development priorities of the early 21st century." Real progress will require concerted action of the part of many actors. Within countries, effective casualty reduction requires cooperation across many public agencies. Achieving a good outcome will in turn require the development of new coalitions bringing together health professionals, teachers, parents and local community groups. At an international level, development agencies and civil society organizations need to start a treating road traffic injury as a core element in their activities.

In such a way, road safety issue is recognized as a huge burden, harming not only the social sphere of the community, but also the sustainable development of the whole state. A World Bank report in 2009, "Death on Wheels", pointed to the increasingly unbearable burden of road deaths and injuries on economic and social development in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, costing up to 3% of GDP in many countries.

Melanie Marlett, Head of the World Bank in Moldova, has estimated that every life lost on Moldova's roads costs the equivalent of US\$ 511,000 to the Moldovan economy, not to mention the human cost of each life lost and each injured person. The cost of road deaths and injuries to Moldova in 2009 was already in excess of \$300 million a year – around 3% of GDP. This demonstrates that safe roads are crucial to Moldova's economic development – underpinning trade and tourism, connecting people to offices, schools and hospitals, and building a business environment attractive for foreign investors. Effective enforcement is therefore an important tool for Moldova's economic and social development.

In regard to this, the Republic of Moldova has sponsored a UN Resolution agreed in March 2010 calling for the Decade of Action for road safety 2011-2020. In such a way, on 11th of May 2011, in Moldova, like in many other countries was launched the Decade of Action for Road Safety, making the commitment to raise the level of road safety and improve the safety measures for all road users.

The United Nations has launched the 'Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020', describing road injury as "major public health problem with a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect the sustainable development of countries and hinder progress towards the Millennium Development Goals". It worth to mention that Moldovan Secretary General of the Government, Victor Bodiu, participated at the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) Summit in New York, which took place in September 2010. Thus, the General Secretary of State met with senior United Nations officials and leaders from multilateral development institutions to highlight the 'missing link' between road safety and the MDGs.

There is growing recognition that improving road safety can also contribute to achieving the MDGs, particularly in relation to child mortality, access to healthcare (on safe roads), and universal access to education (a million children are killed or seriously injured each year in road crashes, the majority as pedestrians). UNICEF has urged that action to prevent injuries in the second decade of a child's life should become "a major international health objective".

Addressing road safety will also help to achieve environmental objectives, including action on climate change, particularly through providing a safer road system for users of non-motorized transport, such as pedestrians and cyclists, the most vulnerable road users. Providing safe facilities for non-motorized transport, and encouraging affordable and safe public transport, can reduce demand for modal shift to the car. According to the UN Environment Programme, such policies can make "a large, lasting impact...on fuel use, congestion, air quality and CO2 emissions... It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives".

The UN Environment Programme is also urging a change in emphasis in transport planning in developing nations to support and protect non-motorized mobility and to encourage safe and affordable public transport (low income families in developing countries can currently spend up to 25% of their income on public transport), citing the benefits for a range of environmental objectives. UNEP points out that "cities with a better modal mix between cars, public transport, walking and cycling have lower energy use per capita. By incorporating non-motorized transport facilities in the transport grid, a large, lasting impact can be made on fuel use, congestion, air quality and CO2 emissions". Furthermore, UNEP argues that "designating road space for pedestrians and cyclists in proportion to the demand for non-motorized transport is crucial. It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives. For example, the top two countermeasures for improving safety in Nairobi, Kenya, recommended by the International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP) are pedestrian crossings and sidewalks", ('Share the Road: Invest in Walking & Cycling', UN Environment Programme and FIA Foundation, 2011).

As Moldova is a developing country, the situation is made worse by the urbanization process, in the result of which the number of transport grows and the presence of old soviet cars pollute the environment and bring harm to a big number of population, particularly town inhabitants.

Another disappointing fact is that in our country there are no facilities for bicyclists and in many places even for pedestrians. On July 2, 2010, in Moldova was launched the iRAP Programme (International Road Assessment Programme) that inspected over 3000 km of Moldavian road network. At the end of the inspections there was elaborated a

final report, in which was specified that: "Overall, road markings were found to be poor on more than 90% of the road inspected. Less than 20% of roads were rated as in 'good' condition. Some 80% of the network had unpaved shoulders. Two-thirds of the network has aggressive objects less than 5 meters from the road edge."

According to World's Bank report entitled "Death on wheels": "An effective road safety strategy requires a multi-sectoral, "safe system" approach. It needs a lead agency to coordinate contributions by the many government departments across which road safety responsibilities tend to be diffused: transport, interior, police, health, and education, among others. The goal is to prevent the occurrence of injury, minimize the severity of injury when traffic injuries occur, and reduce the severity of injury in the aftermath. Road safety must be integrated into the design of transport plans and programs and considered in broader public policy discussions that influence people's transport options and decisions. When road safety becomes an integral part of transport policy, the benefits of reducing noise and air pollutants, controlling alcohol abuse, and promoting walking and cycling become apparent. For example, maintaining lower speeds reduces the costs of injuries and also the costs from air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, noise, and fear-based barriers among would-be pedestrians and cyclists."

It should be mentioned that in the Republic of Moldova a Strategy for Road Safety was elaborated, that highlights the main road safety problems and the main key steps to improve it, and namely to reduce with 50% the number of crash fatalities till 2020. In this strategy it is specified also about the so called Progressive Vision Zero, which goal is to have zero victims on roads, stating that even one victim is too much.

#### Institutional framework for sustainable development

It is our view that this gap between the growing acknowledgement of the issue and achieving sustained action can be bridged if, for the first time, road safety is included within the framework of a major international sustainability conference. Identifying road traffic injury as a new challenge at the Rio+20 Conference will be invaluable in raising the profile of the issue and helping to institutionalize road safety programmes within middle-income and low-income governments and organizations. As we have seen in the powerful response to climate change and environmental protection following the first Rio summit in 1992, and in the united focus on achieving the Millennium Development Goals that was the major outcome of the Johannesburg Summit in 2002, the priorities agreed at these international fora do set the global agenda and issues that are absent from the agenda are subsequently neglected and under-funded.

The priorities agreed at international fore like Rio+20 set the global agenda and issues that are absent from the agenda, subsequently neglected and under-funded. This is why it is so important to undertake action to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport to be included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference. The absence of road safety from the agenda of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, and the consequent neglect of this issue in international development fore, has arguably contributed to the growing toll of death and disability on the world's roads. The vast majority – more than ninety per cent - of these casualties are occurring in middle-income and low-income countries where road safety awareness and the capacity to tackle the problem is low, and where both traffic levels and road casualties are rising rapidly (Global Status Report on Road Safety, WHO, 2009).

Many developing country governments and large institutions are beginning to recognize the need to prioritize road safety in the context of a sustainable transport system. But progress is slow. The gap between an institution acknowledging the issue and achieving sustained action can be bridged if road safety is included within the framework of a major international sustainability conference.

Despite the absence of road safety from the mainstream sustainable development agenda there is now a global mandate for action to reduce global road traffic injuries. UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/64/255 has established the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 with a goal to 'stabilize and reduce' road deaths by 2020. Our Commission estimates that if this ambitious goal can be achieved up to 5 million lives and 50 million serious injuries could be prevented over the course of the Decade ('Make Roads Safe: A Decade of Action for Road Safety', Commission for Global Road Safety, 2009).

Until road safety can be integrated into the mainstream of sustainability policy, millions of people will be condemned to unnecessary and preventable violent, painful deaths, or lives blighted by severe disability. This is why it is so important that action to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport is included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference.

The time to act has arrived and it should not be missed any chance to prevent road fatalities and their cruel consequences!

## Automóvil Club del Ecuador ANETA

### Safer Roads at Rio+ 20 / Carreteras más Seguras en Rio+ 20

Los accidentes de tránsito están matando cada año más de 1.3 millones de personas y causando lesiones de 20 a 50 millones, cifras superiores a las causadas por la malaria.

El 90% de la víctimas por accidentes de tránsito provienen de países de ingresos medios y bajos. Cada año 260.000 niños mueren en las calles y carreteras y 1.000.000 sufren lesiones serias quedando con frecuencia discapacitados para el resto de sus vidas.

El Ecuador no escapa de esta tragedia y en el cuadro siguiente se puede comprobar la gravedad de esta verdadera endemia, a lo cual había que agregar el elevado porcentaje de discapacitados por accidentes de tránsito y las pérdidas económicas anuales.

Del total del número de muertos en el Ecuador, los accidentes de tránsito representan un gran porcentaje los mimos que detallamos en la siguiente tabla:

Año	% de Muertes por Accidentes Tránsito	Causalidad
2007	19,50%	<b>Segunda Causa de Muerte en el Ecuador</b>
2008	19,50%	
2009	22,70%	
2010	23,30%	

En la siguiente tabla podemos ver como severamente aumentan las cifras de muertos

## **AÑO ACCIDENTES HERIDOS MUERTOS REFERENCIA Total Niños**

2007 19.347 10.530 1.780 Del total de muertos 17 son niños, uno de cada 106

2008 19.667 12.749 1.529 Del total de muertos 80 son niños, uno de cada 19

2009 21.528 14.869 2.088 Del total de muertos 174 son niños, uno de cada 12

2010 25.588 2.313 2.172 Del total de muertos 145 son niños, uno de cada 15

por Accidentes de Tránsito en el Ecuador, incluyendo la muerte de niños.

• Fuente: Inec

ANETA conjuntamente con la Vicepresidencia de la República el 20 de agosto de 2009 decidieron concentrar sus esfuerzos para cumplir el eje **N.- 2 del Plan de Acción de Naciones Unidas**: "Crear una responsabilidad de todos los usuarios viales a través de la educación escolar y no escolarizada, mediante la suscripción de un documento por parte de organismos públicos y privados de adhesión a la "Década de Acción para la Seguridad Vial 2010-2020".

A continuación detallamos los PROGRAMAS DE EDUCACION VIAL, AUTOMOVIL CLUB DEL ECUADOR ANETA.

### **1) PROGRAMA NACIONAL ITINERANTE DE PREVENCIÓN DE ACCIDENTES DE TRANSITO**

#### **Objetivos: GENERAL:**

• Contribuir a reducir la alta siniestralidad en la población

Ecuatoriana, a consecuencia de accidentes de tránsito.

• Fomentar la Educación Vial como estrategia preventiva ante los accidentes de tránsito.

#### **ESPECIFICOS:**

• Dictar cursos de Educación y Seguridad Vial a niños y jóvenes mediante el desplazamiento de la Unidad Móvil a las diferentes ciudades del país, con el propósito de formar una Cultura Vial y una responsabilidad ciudadana como usuarios viales.

• Mejorar la calidad de vida de los ecuatorianos.

• Disminuir los costos y gastos en la atención a víctimas de accidentes de tránsito.

#### **Mecanismo de Operatividad**

ANETA puso en marcha a partir de julio del año 2005 una Unidad Móvil que recorre varias ciudades del Ecuador.

Su misión es recorrer el país capacitando en teoría y práctica, y sin costo alguno, a niños en edades comprendidas entre 6 a 12 años, y jóvenes de

13 a 17 años, en temas de educación y seguridad vial. Esta formación se realiza en horario continuo de mañana y tarde, de lunes a domingo.

El número total de personas que se capacitan es de 30.000 al año, aproximadamente.

#### **Aula de Conferencias**

La Unidad está adecuada con la mejor tecnología: pantallas, baños, aire acondicionado, escalera eléctrica para personas discapacitadas, oficinas administrativas, bar y un aula donde se dictan clases y se proyectan videos.

#### **Parque de Educación Vial**

• La Unidad está provista de un Parque de Educación Vial de aproximadamente 400 m2.

• Los niños, dirigidos por tutores, practican lo aprendido con el uso de carros de pedal, bicicletas y realizando caminatas, a fin de familiarizarse con las normas horizontales y verticales de tránsito que todo usuario vial debe aplicar.

#### **Metodología y Ubicación**

Las instalaciones se ubican en un lugar de máxima representación en las ciudades elegidas entre Aneta y los municipios, con una permanencia de una a dos semanas, por ejemplo:

• Quito: Plaza de San Francisco

• Guayaquil: Malecón 2000

#### **Actividades:**

• Presentación del Programa a los medios de comunicación: rueda de prensa.

• Desarrollo de Cursos.

#### **Inauguración**

- La inauguración de la Escuela Itinerante de Educación Vial ANETA se llevó a cabo en las ciudades de Quito y Guayaquil, a través de una rueda de prensa con los medios de comunicación locales: Prensa, Radio y Televisión.

- Los asistentes a la rueda de prensa fueron:

- Alcaldes

- Representantes de ANETA

- Representantes de los patrocinadores

- Invitados especiales

#### **Contenido del Programa**

##### ***Alumnos de Primaria***

#### **1. El peatón y la Ciudad**

1.1 Peatón de carretera

1.2 Peatón de Ciudad

#### **2. La seguridad en el transporte**

2.1 Escolar

2.2 Privado

#### **3. La seguridad como conductor**

3.1 Uso del casco

3.2 Revisión de las bicicletas

#### **4. El Policía local y las señales de tránsito**

4.1 Funciones de la autoridad de tránsito

4.2 Señales verticales y horizontales

#### **Contenido del Programa**

##### ***Jóvenes y Adultos***

1. Uso del Cinturón de Seguridad

2. Importancia de los elementos de visibilidad

3. Neumáticos, puntos vitales del automóvil

4. Conducción ecológica y responsable

5. Importancia de los sistemas de seguridad

5.1 Air- Bag

5.2 ABS

5.3 Sillas de retención infantil

6. Alcohol y drogas en la conducción

7. Fatiga y conducción

8. Preguntas y respuestas

#### **2) CAMPAÑA DE EDUCACION VIAL “PILAS AL VOLANTE” Antecedentes**

En el transcurso de Enero a Julio del presente año, en el Ecuador se han producido 9.187 accidentes de tránsito que ocasionaron 7.719

heridos y 1.136 muertos en el país; cifras por demás alarmantes e impactantes.

#### **Objetivos**

##### **Generales.-**

Contribuir a disminuir los accidentes de tránsito y orientar a las personas a conducir con responsabilidad.

##### **Específicos.-**



- Entregar un mensaje positivo y educativo a los conductores con el objetivo de prevenir accidentes de tránsito.
- Concientizar a las personas sobre 3 ejes (impericia e imprudencia, exceso de velocidad y consumo de alcohol) que constituyen las principales causas de accidentalidad en nuestro país.
- Informar las sanciones y riesgos que los conductores se exponen al cometer infracciones de tránsito.

#### **Mecanismo de Operatividad**

La campaña se iniciará con una actividad de BTL utilizando Mimos en las principales intersecciones de las principales ciudades del país.

#### **Descripción:**

Cada Mimo realizará una interpretación de las 3 causas principales de accidentes de tránsito en el Ecuador, enfatizando lo que no se debe hacer al momento de conducir. Además, presentará un cartel con el logo de la campaña y el mensaje de Educación Vial.

Adicionalmente, para reforzar la campaña se utilizará cuñas radiales que comunicarán los conceptos y mensajes de la misma, en varias radios con alcance a nivel nacional.

#### **ARTES DE LA CAMPAÑA**

Gracias por su atención.

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## **Aviva**

### **Convention on Corporate Sustainability Reporting**

A policy proposal for corporate sustainability reporting to be mandated for the advancement of a Green Economy for The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

- Aviva is the world's sixth largest insurance group. We provide 44.5 million customers with insurance, savings and investment products with total worldwide sales in 2010 of £47.1 billion. We are the UK's largest insurer with over 14 million customers. Our combination of life, health and general insurance is unique in its scale and breadth in the UK market. Aviva plc are in the top 10% of socially responsible companies globally in the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index.
- Aviva Investors is the global asset management business of Aviva plc. The business delivers investment management solutions, services and client-driven performance to clients worldwide. Aviva Investors operates in 14 countries in Asia Pacific, Europe, North America and the United Kingdom with assets under management of £269 billion at 30 June 2011.
- We are calling on all United Nations member states to commit to develop a Convention that mandates company boards to consider sustainability issues, and to integrate those issues that they consider to be material within the reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts – or explain why if they do not. We are also looking for effective mechanisms for investors to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance, an advisory vote at the AGM.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

- Governments first referred to environmental reporting at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992.
- A large number of companies now report on their environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance and it has been demonstrated that there is a direct correlation between sustainable business practices and the longer-term financial success of that company.
- At present however, there is no globally accepted rule requiring reporting of ESG performance. Despite the large number of companies publishing such reports, the vast majority of companies fail to do so.
- We proffer that a requirement for a company to consider and report on a sustainability issues will create the right kind of discussions within boardrooms, throughout firms and encourage investors to think about the sustainability of the firm. This will help capital to be allocated to more sustainable, responsible companies and strengthen the long term sustainability of the financial system.
- If a Sustainable Green Economy is to be reached, the time has now come for sustainability reporting to become standard practice. This can be achieved by the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) conference committing to develop a Convention on Corporate Sustainability reporting.
- It is now almost twenty years since the first Earth Summit, as such we believe next year offers a momentous opportunity to move this agenda forward at a global level.

#### **Progress**

Governments first referred to environmental reporting at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. In Agenda 21 of the Conference, governments agreed that business and industry should be 'encouraged to adopt and report on their environmental records, as well as on the use of energy and natural resources'.

We recognise and support the considerable progress that has been made since then.

There have been a number of initiatives under the UN umbrella promoting sustainability reporting. Such initiatives include UN Global Compact, United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) and the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI).

There has been progress in company policy, for example, since its launch in 2000, over 8,700 companies have signed up to The United Nations Global Compact, which covers the areas of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

There has also been progress in guidance for companies from Governments – such as through the recent further strengthening of the OECD guidelines for multinational

enterprises.

And progress by investors – more than 900 institutional investors from 48 countries with over \$30 trillion in assets signed up to the United Nations-backed Principles for Responsible Investment. They were launched just five years ago. All of these investors recognise that that environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) issues can affect the performance of investment portfolios.

However, despite this progress, we are still a very long way indeed from the ultimate aim of transparency, comparability and relevance of corporate sustainability reporting.

In other words, these progressive voluntary initiatives have not been enough - for example so far less than two per cent of listed companies have opted into the Global Compact.

#### The Transparency and Accountability Gap

Sustainable Stock Exchanges, an initiative by UNPRI, UNCTAD and Global Compact has been urging all stock market listing authorities to make it a listing requirement that companies consider how responsible and sustainable their business model is and put a forward-looking sustainability strategy to the vote at their AGM.

Aside from a few notable examples such as the Singapore, Johannesburg and Istanbul Exchanges, there has yet to see a serious commitment from stock exchanges to make changes to their listing rules. This is reflected by analysis which indicates that at present more than 75% of the companies covered by Bloomberg do not currently disclose their sustainability performance.

It is our belief that stock markets require the support from governments and regulators. This is why we believe this is a relevant issue for the global forum of the Earth Summit.

#### The business case for sustainability reporting

According to a recent McKinsey survey, more than 50 percent of executives consider sustainability “very” or “extremely” important in a wide range of areas, including overall corporate strategy.

The internal and external value that companies have found in sustainability management and reporting is widely documented. Sustainability reporting increases innovation and competition and at the same time makes organisations more accountable for their impacts. The evidence for the business case is building as uptake of reporting increases. To cite two examples:

Goldman Sachs is one of the firms to have carried out analysis of the relationship between how companies address ESG issues and the returns they generate. It contends that in a number of sectors there is a direct correlation between sustainable business practices and the longer-term financial success of that company.

WestLB also published a study of the materiality of extra-financial factors based on a sample of 540 European firms. It found evidence of a link between extra-financial risk, cost of capital to a firm and shareholder value. The report suggested that compiling a sustainability report was among the most important catalysts for change – contributing to accumulation of knowledge, questioning of processes and the establishment of suitable structures and practices.

Some organizations are now producing integrated reports, a form of corporate report that brings together financial performance data with material information about an organization's strategy, governance, performance and prospects in a way that reflects the economic, political, social and environmental context within which it operates. An integrated report provides a clear and concise representation of how an organization creates value, now and in the future. In August 2010, the International Integrated Reporting Committee (IIRC) was established to create a globally accepted framework for integrated reporting. The objective is that through integrated reporting many more companies and their stakeholders will become aware of sustainability performance measurement and disclosure and start acting on this information.

#### The market case for sustainability reporting

Markets are driven by information. If the information they receive is short term and thin then these characteristics will define our markets. If companies do not provide an assessment of the broader Environmental, Social and Governance risks and opportunities to which their business model is exposed, then how can the market assess the sustainability of that company's growth?

Recent years have seen an increasing interest from markets in sustainability performance data disclosed in reports. There is considerable evidence that investors require this information and there has also been seen some major investment such as Thompson Reuters and Bloomberg adding to the data set that they provide investors, while rating agencies such as Standard & Poors have created ESG indices for India, Egypt and the MENA region.

Within 60 days after the launch of the product on Bloomberg terminals 11.5m hits on the ESG data points were recorded. At the time of writing, Bloomberg estimates that about one thousand users now use Bloomberg just for ESG analysis. They also report that the number of users is increasing with more conventional asset managers approaching Bloomberg regarding the product.

While the number of reporters is growing, including in emerging economies such as Brazil, China and India, and the quality of reporting improves, sustainability reporting far from achieving its full potential.

At the current rate it would take decades before sustainability reporting is common practice across global markets. This means that regulators, investors and stakeholders know little or nothing of the sustainability practices and impacts of the vast majority of the world's large companies.

Markets will not routinely use sustainability information as long as only a minority of companies report. A critical mass of sustainability information is needed to inform markets and enable performance benchmarking and analysis. Companies that do not report withhold from the markets information that is important for the assessment of medium to long term risk and value. By leaving information gaps and creating asymmetries of information, non-reporting companies impose a cost on the markets and undermine its effective functioning.

The world needs to move from the innovative and pioneering approach of a minority of companies to a true global mainstream practice for all companies.

#### A CONVENTION ON CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

We are calling for the member states at the United Nations 2012 Earth Summit to:

- Acknowledge the growing practice of sustainability reporting and its current and potential contribution to the transition towards a Green Economy.
- Note that the increased quantity and quality of data available through sustainability reporting can be a powerful tool to help markets work more efficiently.
- Commit to develop a global policy framework requiring of all listed and large private companies to consider sustainability issues and to integrate material sustainability information within the reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts – or explain why if they do not.

The global policy framework (which can take the form of a Convention) should adhere to three key principles:

- Report or Explain – establish a report or explain approach to sustainability reporting policy
- Transparency – enhance transparency by requiring national measures which would mandate the integration of material sustainability issues within the company reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts;
- Accountability – provide effective mechanisms for investors and all stakeholders to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Corporate boards should be required to consider the future sustainability of the firm that they govern. The sustainability strategy should include performance targets; recent trend data and some level of external assurance. We would expect it to consider factors such as: use of natural resources; levels of workforce training; impact on local communities; the business model and the regulatory context. Companies will also have the option of publishing the explanation as to why the board considers such a strategy to be unnecessary.

Importantly, this initiative is a market based mechanism that promotes enhanced self regulation within the market. individual nations would be free to choose whether to implement this in primary legislation, in their regional Company Law, or via the listing authorities.

#### APPENDIX A - POLICY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

##### 1. Are you setting out a standard that all companies must adopt?

No. We merely ask for the support of governments to make corporate sustainability reporting a "report or explain" requirement and for this report or explanation, in whatever form it takes, to be put to shareholder approval at the AGM. However, we are not dictating the form it should take. This will provide corporations with the freedom to define their own reporting and where they determine that it is not necessary, outline why. This will also ensure that the report is based on the board's best thinking.

Those companies yet to explore reporting in this area may review the excellent work already done in this area by the Global Reporting Initiative, the Global Compact, UNCTAD, and the International Integrated Reporting Committee - all of whom have produced useful guidance on reporting on ESG issues.

##### 2. Why have you focused on asking boards to publish their thinking rather than for example proposing a sustainability reporting regulation?

We do not think it possible to craft a regulation that specifies a sufficiently detailed reporting template on the rich diversity of corporations around the world. Consequently, we have decided against proposing heavy handed regulation that tries to enforce one reporting template. This is also because regulation is often slow moving, lags the market, and encourages a minimum compliance mentality within the company. We are seeking to stimulate a substantive board discussion on the risks and opportunities to a company arising from sustainable development, as well as the creation of their strategic response. We are also anticipating that some companies will seek to compete on the quality of their disclosure in this area (as, indeed, is already the case).

Equally, however, we do not have blind faith that markets will self regulate toward sustainability. The evidence for spontaneous progress on a purely voluntary basis is that it will be slow.

##### 3. What needs to change within the system if it were to adopt your recommendation?

This will vary for different jurisdictions. For example, where the regional code of Corporate Governance is embedded within the listing rules then this document could be updated, requiring the support of all the bodies that govern this code. Where it is guided by the exchange itself, then the exchange can update the code itself. Where guided by primary legislation, then this will need to be changed.

Could a principle-based international reference framework for reporting on Sustainability improve the comparability and relevance of CSR reporting?

Yes. We believe in four principles:

1. Transparency - that all companies should be required to integrate a sustainability strategy into their report and accounts – or to explain to the market why they can not do this
2. Accountability - This report or the explanation should be put to an investor vote. This vote should encourage investors to read the information, form an opinion, and provide feedback to the company.
3. Responsibility - Board duties should explicitly include setting the company's values and standards and ensuring that its obligations to its shareholders and other stakeholders are understood and met.
4. Incentives - Companies should state in remuneration reports whether the remuneration committee consider ESG factors which are of material relevance to the sustainability and long term interests of the company when setting remuneration of executive directors; aligning remuneration with the interests of shareholders and other key stakeholders, including customers and employees.

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## Baha'I International Community

Expectations for the quality of the process:

To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, the intergovernmental preparatory and follow-up processes associated with the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development must be ethically-oriented, forward-looking and focused on finding unified yet locally- and regionally-appropriate approaches toward achieving equitable and effective solutions.

#### PROPOSED ACTION:

- The principles that guide the participatory and consultative processes leading up to and during the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, as well as the principles that will underlie the mandate of any resulting institutional and governing instruments and agencies, should include trustworthiness, integrity, transparency, solidarity and inclusiveness, and should prioritize the concerns of the most vulnerable communities.

Poverty

A transition to a green economy requires the elimination of extremes of wealth and poverty. The persistent rise of inequality and poverty is fuelled by inequitable access to resources, to knowledge, and to meaningful participation in society.

PROPOSED ACTION:

- Secure a global commitment to multifaceted and lifelong education that recognizes the inherent potential in every human being, promotes the equality of women and men, supports universal access to science and technology, and upholds the right of every individual to participate in generating and applying knowledge—including local and traditional knowledge—for the betterment of the world.

Education:

Women, men, girls, and boys must be given the access to knowledge and opportunity to contribute to the social and economic transformation process that leads to a green economy, empowering them to fulfill their rightful roles.

PROPOSED ACTIONS:

- Formal curricula in schools as well as informal learning processes should address the material, social and spiritual dimensions of human development. By building human capacity to address contemporary problems in a manner that harmonizes all dimensions of human development, schools can become engaged in processes of positive social transformation.

- In their fullest sense, educational processes must provide the space for lifelong, values-based learning aimed at achieving global sustainability, peace and prosperity. Furthermore, education should foster ethical conduct and sustainable lifestyles. - Both formal and informal education should employ a framework of learning that encourages the generation of knowledge through a cycle of action, reflection on insights gained, and consultation to determine next steps.

Gender Equality:

Achieving the full equality and participation of women and girls is a prerequisite for the transition to a green economy.

PROPOSED ACTION:

- Any plan of action for the transition to a green economy must challenge behaviors and attitudes which perpetuate discrimination against women and girls. Such plans must foster a fundamental change of belief about the roles of women and men and lead to the advancement of women in areas such as governance, politics, science, and commerce.

Governance

The reform of institutional frameworks must consider more explicitly how to create a multilevel system of governance, where local and national governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society, entities from social and economic sectors, and other stakeholders each play their part in achieving a common goal.

PROPOSED ACTIONS:

- Prioritize the establishment of a common vision and purpose among all stakeholders, as the basis for achieving agreements and determining a plan of action.

- Monitoring mechanisms must be established such that the moral, ethical and spiritual principles outlined in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Rio Declaration, and other instruments and covenants, are fully respected and acted upon.

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## Banque Agricole Gabonaise (BAG)

Subject : Inputs for Computation Document

Resume

The present energy policies in industrialized countries are primarily determined by the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. However, the measures adopted under Japan to mitigate the effects of energy production on climate change failed to take into account the full consequences of climate variability more important: These include floods, seasonal droughts, increased storms, landslides, extreme wind speed, ice conditions and heat waves. It is therefore an urgent need to implement adaptation efforts, and this not only in geographically already vulnerable such as Somalia, Central Africa or the low-lying islands like Tuvalu, but, given the nature global climate change around the world.

In comparison with the mitigation measures, there are no parameters and now widely accepted indicators for comparing adaptation needs and the effectiveness of adaptation measures. Given the importance of energy for the economy and development efforts of all countries, it is vital to achieve substantially reduce vulnerabilities in the energy sector itself. Adaptation measures are also suggested to promote the objectives of the eco-development if we want to achieve in conjunction with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which is why it is necessary to develop and test criteria and indicators for energy systems—that is to say, to use a metric to assess the adequacy of proposed measures.

Climate change and energy systems

Climate change is underway, regardless of efforts to reduce emissions that consent states in the future. It is the result of many converging factors that interact in different ways, creating a new humanity to unprecedented challenge in terms of complexity and severity. In this context, the concept approach "anti-climatic risk" needs to evolve an approach for the protection of human extreme weather conditions, an approach to reducing exposure to impacts of climate change. We must therefore adapt to this change, including changes in rainfall patterns and extreme weather events. Given the importance of energy in the economy and the continued eco-development it is vital to reduce vulnerabilities in the energy sector.

Energy systems are adapted to withstand the expected climate change and its effects. This can be achieved by increasing the resilience of an energy system, for example by increasing the strength of its technical equipment, diversifying its sources of energy supply, by locating more appropriately its energy equipment, developing relationships with other regions, by planning disaster preparedness, managing demand and investing in technological change, renewable energy, energy efficiency, energy management, to further develop the portfolio of options.

Given the low capital turnover in the energy sector and the long life of equipment, it is essential that energy providers, policy makers and citizens are well informed about the

potential impacts of climate change on the sector energy so that mitigation and adaptation required to be taken in due course.

Unfortunately, in discussions at national level on energy future, the subject has traditionally been addressed mainly in terms of security of energy supply in terms of quantity and ways to improve it. Policies formulated around the broader context of reducing the vulnerability of energy systems through integrated eco-development strategies, that is to say dealing simultaneously environmental, social, economic, technical and civic, are more sophisticated and still scarce.

Assess the vulnerability and resilience of energy systems .

In order to better understand the best way to create and sustain positive synergies, GABONESE AGRICULTURAL BANK has developed a methodology and a simple and transparent set of indicators to assess the vulnerability and resilience of national energy systems to climate change. Applying the indicators for energy systems, GABONESE AGRICULTURAL BANK seeks to promote the identification of policies and measures (P & M) best able to facilitate and support adaptation activities.

Vulnerability indicators - Adaptation - Energy Resilience (VAR) measure:

1. The vulnerability of energy systems;
2. The effectiveness of adjustment efforts in the energy sector.

These indicators were developed in line with the principle that the underlying metric, that is to say, so far as the statistics actually used, would generally be available for the majority, if not for the whole country. If calculations are required to obtain an indicator, they should be as simple as possible.

Impacts on energy systems and climate-induced vulnerabilities associated.

Climate change is likely to have diverse impacts. The average climatic parameters and the frequency of extreme weather events are likely to change for example. Moreover, these impacts can be applied to other climate parameters such as precipitation, wind speed and sunshine. The effects may be direct or indirect, the latter being frequently more marked. An increase in temperature, for example, is unlikely to destroy an energy infrastructure. For cons, the melting of glaciers caused by the growth temperature can have dramatic impact on hydroelectric systems in terms of damage to infrastructure in the form of flooding and siltation, landslides, and thus production capacity. Changes in weather variables will affect the transmission and use of energy irrespective of how it is produced. Extreme events may increase the risk of destruction of transmission lines and, consequently, reduce the demand due to the physical elimination of consuming entities, that is to say, industries, businesses and households.

Vulnerability at the country level

During discussions at national level on energy future, the subject has traditionally been addressed mainly in terms of security of energy supply and ways to improve it. Policies formulated around the broader context of reducing the vulnerability of energy systems through integrated eco-development strategies, that is to say dealing simultaneously environmental, social, economic, technical and civic, are not very many.

If it is desired that the policies and measures proposed to be effective, it is essential to quantify the state of overall vulnerability of the country, so the first set of indicators measuring GABONESE AGRICULTURAL BANK overall vulnerability of a country.

Vulnerability Energy Systems

Climate change will have a direct impact on demand as the supply of energy. How it will be affected is less obvious. In view of the central role of energy is crucial to be able to assess the vulnerabilities of each of the major energy systems. Once vulnerabilities are identified, it becomes Possible to design and implement appropriate adaptation measures. This process must be applied to existing facilities and their planned evolutions.

Indicators measuring the ability to adapt interventions resulted in increased resilience.

The level of resilience of a system based on its ability to adapt. Adaptation measures can be divided into technical measures, such as infrastructure, and social responses in terms of behavior.

- Technical changes to try to make infrastructure invulnerable to long-term changes in meteorological variables and extreme events.
- The behavioral adaptations intended to adapt the mode of operation of the infrastructure, whether new or old, and location of new infrastructure, to minimize potential damage. In the context of developing countries, these capabilities need external support, for example from the financial mechanisms available under the regime of international policies on climate change. In order to avoid spending money, already small, inefficiently, a set of criteria were developed to measure the effectiveness of adaptation efforts.

Recommendations and conclusions

Even if the first application of indicators VAR is far from perfect, a first application in sub-Saharan Africa has produced a number of vital information. The evaluation process has generated a number of recommendations:

- Evaluation and systematic monitoring of energy systems to ensure they are sufficiently robust and scalable to adapt to climate impacts expected.
- Introduction of new evaluation criteria for energy systems.
- Development of a strategy for medium to long term to ensure a system of energy supply more secure, decentralized, low carbon emissions.
- Use of energy demand management as an accommodation.
- Development of local capacity to assess and meet the energy needs in a climate perspective.
- Establishment of procedures for technology transfer and financing transparent.
- Development of participatory governance energy to get first hand information about the actual energy needs and to mobilize support from the beneficiaries.

The level of resilience of a system depends on the strength of its location. It is therefore not enough to simply assess the impact of a plant on the environment should also determine the impacts of the changing environment of the installation. In addition, a resilient energy sector is the foundation for better community resilience. The energy allows the provision of essential services such as food, health and education. Thanks to its use in trade and business, it also promotes job creation and improved standards of living. Therefore, to properly assess the best way to increase the resilience of an energy system, it is necessary to study in the broader context of eco-development

Naulin MOMBO

PRESIDENT

## Batool Welfare Trust (BWT)

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

As we all know that Rio+20 is a continuation of the Earth summit held in 1992. It is largely assumed that the objectives of the earth summit have not been achieved in its true spirit. And in past 20 years environment has become the top list issue of the world. So there are huge expectations from Rio+20 conferences.

Proposals:

- ☐ To make developed world understand that they are the major source of Global environmental issues, hence they should be compel to take major responsibility as well.
- ☐ More proactive role of UN and its all entities in addressing Global environmental issues.

Possible structure of the outcome document

- ☐ Preservation of natural resources (forest, fresh water, wet lands, Biological Biodiversity, ecosystem, marine life etc)
- ☐ Environmental legislation and its implementation.
- ☐ Strong liaison between developed and developing (including LDCs) world in order to cope with alarming environmental situation.
- ☐ Effective coordination between UN and the stake holders across the globe.

#### **b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

Of course Green economy is the future of the globe which includes Green production, Green consumption, Green jobs etc.

Framework for action: the first and foremost action needs to be imitated is to convert conventional industry to Green industry. Massive awareness campaigns across the globe especially in LDCs regarding environmental issues.

Sustainable development goals: To preserve natural resources for future generations, utilization of renewable energy. Implementation of industrial laws to keep industrial pollution under check.

Revitalized global partnership for sustainable development: There is a visible amount of tension between developed and developing (including LDCs) world on the responsibility/cause of environmental issues. In order to overcome this issue there has to be an effective and immediate coordination between both.

At the same time at regional level, coordination between UN and local stakeholders should be reinforced.

#### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

Role of Government

- ☐ Governments should be compelled to enforce environmental laws.
- ☐ Governments of the member states should be directed to develop a strong mechanism among Government line departments, ministries, decision/policy makers, NGOs/civil society, social sector and other stakeholders.

☐ There has to be an effective liaison among the Specific Major Groups to disseminate information and ideas to tackle environmental issues and ensure sustainable development.

UN system:

- ☐ More proactive role by UN system regarding mobilization and empowerment of local stakeholders.
- ☐ Comprehensive coordination among UN regional system and specific major groups and stakeholders in order to ensure sustainable development.

IFIs:

- ☐ They should ensure equal distribution of wealth.
- ☐ IFIs should encourage Green industry by providing funding.
- ☐ To provide technical assistance in order to ensure sustainable development.

#### **d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

Cooperation Mechanism:

- ☐ Effective cooperation among developed, developing and LDCs in order to achieve sustainable development.
- ☐ Cooperation among UN System and Major Groups and regional/local stakeholders.

Partnership arrangements:

- ☐ Developed countries among member states should be directed to facilitate developing and LDCs in order to cope with environmental issues.
- ☐ UN system and NGOs/Civil Society and other major groups and stakeholder should coordinate closely with each others.

Implementation tools:

- ☐ UN System should work as a watch dog on member states regarding the implementation of charter of RIO+20 regarding Sustainable Development.

Proposed Time Frame:

- <sup>[6]</sup> As RIO+20 is taking place after 20 years of the Earth Summit which is too long to address such globally emerging challenges and issues.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Rio+20 should come up with initial five years implementation plan and make sure its timely accomplishment for real sustainable development.

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

No comment

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

Green economy and three dimensions of sustainable development mainly Economic, Social and Environmental can be a great source of poverty eradication through Economic aspect:

- <sup>[6]</sup> The cost effective (renewable) energy and less raw material.

Social aspect

- <sup>[6]</sup> Green economy is worker friendly as compare to conventional industry.

Environmental aspect

- <sup>[6]</sup> Less harmful for living beings, renewable raw material and reduction of toxic substances.

Added value:

The biggest added value or advantage of green economy is its being environment friendly.

Experience to date:

China being the largest population of the world has shown keen interest towards sustainable development and to green economy in its recent five year national economic and social development plan, which is evident of the emerging trends towards green economy and sustainable development.

Challenges:

- <sup>[6]</sup> One of the major challenges is that renewable energy is expensive and its generation is limited.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Green growth results in less agricultural productivity as compared to conventional agricultural mechanism.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Reluctancy of developed world towards adoption of green economy.

Opportunities:

- <sup>[6]</sup> Green economy provides far better living standards through green jobs.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Green economy safeguards the fundamental human right of pollution free environment.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Green economy ensures sustainable development.

Possible elements of outcome document:

- <sup>[6]</sup> Time frame to convert conventional economy to green economy.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Strong legislation and implementation of environmental laws among member states.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Creation of green jobs across the globe.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Initiatives to make renewable energy cost effective.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Global partnership and coordination among member states and global major groups.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Effective monitoring and evaluation of the proposed action plan.

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

- <sup>[6]</sup> TO strengthen the three pillars of sustainable development, Economic, Social and Environment following measures shall be incorporated.

Economic

- <sup>[6]</sup> In order to provide better and sustained living standards to people across the globe, Green growth/production etc shall be adopted.

Social

- <sup>[6]</sup> More regional and global cooperation will be required to combat current environmental issues, which will ultimately result in global harmony and cultural diversity and over all socially better world.

Environment

- <sup>[6]</sup> Emergence of green economy, e.g. green growth, green consumption etc is the only way forward towards a clean, green pollution free and sustainable environment.
- <sup>[6]</sup> Priorities and Proposal for strengthening integration of three pillars

Local Level:

- <sup>[6]</sup> Integration of government line departments with NGOs, civil society and other stakeholders for effective dissemination of information and knowledge.

National Level:

- <sup>[6]</sup> In the context of Pakistan, after the 18th amendment in constitution most of the federal ministries have been shifted to provinces including environment as per devolution plan. So it was the need of the hour to have an effective executive body at federal level to coordinate and integrate among all environmental entities at national level. Although a new ministry, "National disaster management" has been established recently, but it is required to play a proactive role to ensure sustainability of environment and sustainable development.

Regional Level:

<sup>84</sup> UN system at regional level shall form a strong liaison among the regional countries and present their environmental issues at global level.

International Level:

<sup>85</sup> Member states shall be given some certain responsibilities and they shall be accountable after a given time frame.

<sup>86</sup> Global major groups shall have an effective liaison and mechanism to share expertise, knowledge and information with each other to ensure sustainable development.

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Proposal for refinement:

As per Batool Welfare Trust the core objective and theme of Rio+20 shall be focused on, "Refinement of Environment/Pollution free World/reversal of Environment", rather than split emphasis on

- 1) Green Economy
- 2) Sustainable Development
- 3) Poverty Eradication.

We do not disagree with this chain that, "Green Economy will result in Sustainable development and it will result in Poverty Eradication".

Our prospective is that Poverty Eradication is purely associated with humans whereas; "Refinement of Environment/Pollution free World/Reversal of Environment" will ensure the sustainable future of all living beings including biological biodiversity, Ecological system, Sea and Marine life etc.

## **Batool Welfare Trust**

### **Inputs on Rio+20**

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

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Biodiversity, ecosystem, marine life etc)

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**Local Level:**

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#### Batool Welfare Trust's Profile:

**Batool Welfare Trust®** (BWT Acronym) is an established organization since 2002 and has been registered on 21st, May, 2007 as a non-profitable organization

Working for the sustainability, promotion of green economy, sustainable development. Batool Welfare Trust is enjoying UN (ECOSOC) "Special Consultative Status".

We have Participated in, "12th Major Groups and Stakeholders Conference" at UNEP headquarter Nairobi, Kenya as a member organization of UNEP Global Major Groups and Stakeholder Forum (GMGSF).

Batool Welfare Trust has also participated GC-26/GMEF at UNEP headquarter, Nairobi, Kenya.

Batool Welfare Trust has also organized side event in UNEP Greenroom on, "Environmental Conservation".

UNEP has also awarded certifications to Batool Welfare Trust on Billion Tree Campaign

& PLANT FOR THE PLANET.

Batool Welfare Trust is leading organization of Pakistan contributed and promoted the mandate and chartered of UNEP, UNCSD, ECOSOC and its subsidiaries bodies.

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## Beyond 2015

Text not available.

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## Biofuelwatch

A Green Economy Cannot Run on Biofuels or Bioenergy Submission to Rio Plus 20 Zero Draft, from: Biofuelwatch, Global Forest Coalition, Global Justice Ecology Project, EcoNexus, Biomass Accountability Project, Partnership for Policy Integrity, PT AirWatchers (Port Townsend, Washington), Ozark Riverkeepers Network.

Bioenergy including liquid biofuels for transportation as well as the combustion or gasification of biomass, wastes etc. for heat and electricity, (and various other biomass substitutions for fossil energy) feature prominently in many visions of a green economy. They are a crosscutting issue because of their relevance to energy, transportation, agriculture, food and water, soils, and forests and jobs and income. In sum, decisions about bioenergy are key on many fronts relevant to the mission of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) and the goals of RioPlus20.

There is no question that fossil fuels are a leading cause of biosphere degradation, and weaning off of these fuels is critical. However, attempts to develop alternatives based on plant (or waste) substitutes worsen rather than resolves the problems. Abundant and irrefutable evidence demonstrate that commercial and industrial scale biofuels are failing to reduce emissions, while simultaneously contributing to a host of ills increasing hunger, land grabs, ecosystem degradation, air and water pollution and more.

The UNCSD must reject commercial and industrial scale bioenergy and the subsidies and targets for it, and commit to a focus first and foremost on dramatically decreasing energy consumption in developed countries, while supporting the scale-up of truly clean and renewable energy sources: those which put minimum pressures on lands, water and soil resources, and do not involve polluting combustion.

1) Various studies have shown that, once direct and indirect land use-related changes in carbon stocks, including the time-lag between biomass combustion and sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub> by new trees planted are taken into account, combustion of wood and other biomass for electricity and heat can result in substantial carbon and overall greenhouse gas emissions and translate into a carbon debt of decades or centuries, compared to equivalent amounts of energy generation from fossil fuels. Land use change related to large-scale production of crops and trees for bioenergy is associated with a wide range of very significant negative impacts (iiiiiiiv) on ecosystems and biodiversity.

2) Estimates of biomass availability are grossly overestimated. References to large areas of available marginal lands is fictional and based on devaluation of the many uses of lands by indigenous peoples, peasant farmers, pastoralists, and for biodiversity, water (v) and soil protection. In their submission to the Rio Plus 20 zero draft, North American Indigenous Peoples point out: A world-wide bio-economy is proposed as the solution to climate change and sustainable development. Again, as in proposals for market based solutions to climate change, the Earth's biological resources are the target for this new green economy and the markets that it will create. The very basis of life, genetic material, both plant and animal, become potential markets in this formula. The experience of Indigenous Peoples, particularly those that inhabit bio-rich environments, is that their lands, territories, waters and total environments are targets for the new technologies, industrialized agriculture and the concentration of productive lands, their lands, in the hands of the private few, for the production of so-called renewable resources.

3) Attempts to gain access to lands to grow large quantities of biomass, as well as for food, are resulting in market speculation and investment in land - land grabs around the world. Recent research from International Land Coalition indicates about 44% of (vi) land grabs have been for the purpose of growing bioenergy crops. There is growing evidence that the increasing global demand for and trade in woodchips and wood pellets will lead to similar land- (viiiixxi) grabs as is the case with biofuels today. 4) Different sectors transportation, electricity, aviation, the military, chemicals production, plastics, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing and processing - are all seeking biofuel and biomass derived alternatives. When viewed in sum, this bioeconomy is massive in scope, and the full magnitude of demands for land (soils, water, forests) have not been adequately evaluated and (xii) recognized.

5) Demand for biomass is driving expansion of industrial monocultures, deforestation, replacement of natural forest with (xiii) industrial tree plantations, biodiversity loss, draining of water resources and soil degradation, and resulting in increased use of (xiv) agrichemicals and fertilizers. The lack of distinction between natural forest and tree plantations, (for example in the FAO formal definition of forest), results in incentives to replace natural forest with fast growing tree plantations, including exotic species, for pulp and biomass.

6) Escalating demand for biomass is contributing to rising food (xv) prices and worsening hunger.

7) Failure to accurately account for emissions from combustion and from direct and indirect land use change associated with (xvi) bioenergy is resulting in subsidies and supports intended for clean renewable energy being misused to fund dirty practices that worsen climate change, (in many cases emitting more CO<sub>2</sub> per (xvii) unit of energy generated than coal or natural gas) as well as (xviii) hazardous air pollutants and also soot.

8) Fast paced development of risky new technologies including synthetic biology (to develop microbes for production of cellulosic fuels, for example), nanotechnology and genetic engineering of trees are too risky, cannot be adequately regulated and should be (xx) halted.

8) Attempts to geo-engineer the climate by burying charcoal (biochar) would create massive additional demand for plant biomass. Claims made about the efficacy of biochar for carbon sequestration and improving soil fertility are not supported by (xxi) science. Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Sequestration (BECCS), proposed as a carbon negative technology, faces the same problems inherent to all other proposals requiring large quantities of biomass, (as well as problems associated with costs, energy requirements and reliability of CCS).

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

>End subsidies and targets that are artificially supporting development of biofuels and bioenergy (including waste to energy).

>Focus policies and supports on significantly reducing energy use and fulfill remaining demand from energy sources that minimize requirements for land, water, and soils and do not entail ongoing emissions of carbon or other pollutants, and respect the rights and basic needs of communities.

>Make protection and restoration of lands, ecosystems, soils and waterways a top priority, not compromised by increased additional demands for biomass for energy generation.

>Amend the formal definition of forest used by FAO and others to ensure that tree plantations are not considered (hence supported, subsidized etc.) as forests, as requested in an open letter from (xxii) scientists around the world.

>Support recycling and zero waste strategies that eliminate waste rather than combusting it for energy generation.

>Ban release the of genetically engineered microbes and trees

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Unintended Environmental Consequences of a Global Biofuels Program, Jerry M. Melillo et al, MIT Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change, Report No. 168, January 2009, [www.calepa.ca.gov/cepc/2010/AsltonBird/AppAEx13.pdf](http://www.calepa.ca.gov/cepc/2010/AsltonBird/AppAEx13.pdf) ) used a computable general equilibrium model of the world economy, the MIT Emissions Predictions and Policy Analysis Model and the Terrestrial Ecosystems Model to explore environmental consequences of an aggressive global cellulosic biofuels program up to 2050. A large-scale cellulosic biofuel programme would require similar or the same types of solid biomass feedstock as would be used for a large-scale biomass combustion with CCS programme. The study looked at two scenarios: One in which there were no restrictions on deforestation and in which any land would be available for biofuel production as long as it was economically viable ('deforestation scenario') and the other in which the conversion of natural forests and other 'unmanaged land' was limited to recent regional land conversion rates ('intensification scenario'). The study concluded that the total (direct and indirect) carbon debt from the first scenario would be up to 103 billion tonnes by 2050 and that from the second scenario up to 34 billion tonnes. The study also concluded that the more optimistic 'intensification scenario' would see the loss of 3.4 2 million km of grasslands currently used for grazing, 38% of the natural forest cover and 38% of wooded savannah in sub-Saharan Africa based on 2000 figures. In Latin America, the same scenario would be associated with the loss of 20% of natural forests and savannah in Latin America. According to the authors: These losses [in both scenarios] have the potential to put thousands of endemic plant and animal species at risk across the globe, especially in the sub-tropical and tropical regions... The increases in co-opted NPP coupled with the loss of biodiversity have the potential to diminish the capacity of terrestrial ecosystems to deliver many of the support services that humans rely on, such as the cleansing of air and water. We currently do not understand the relationships between ecosystem structure and function well enough to predict when such disturbances in a region will move it beyond a critical threshold for delivering one or more essential ecosystem service (Carpenter, 2003; Walker and Meyers, 2004; Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005).

ii

The upfront carbon debt of bioenergy, Joanneum Research, May 2010, [www.birdlife.org/eu/pdfs/Bioenergy\\_Joanneum\\_Research.pdf](http://www.birdlife.org/eu/pdfs/Bioenergy_Joanneum_Research.pdf) T his study looks at the greenhouse gas balance of bioenergy from wood sourced from "sustainably managed" European Forests. It finds When the raw material is wood, the time needed to re-absorb the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted in the atmosphere can be long, depending very much on the source of wood. This delay can create an upfront carbon debt that would substantially reduce the capability of bioenergy to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in the atmosphere in the short to medium term...Additional fellings for bioenergy can produce a decrease of the overall carbon stock in the forest that significantly affects the GHG balance of the bioenergy material. In the short-medium term (20-50 years), additional fellings could produce more emissions in the atmosphere than a fossil fuel system (CN<0). In such a case, the use of additional fellings would produce only very long term benefits, in the order of magnitude of 2-3 centuries.

iii

Fixing a critical climate accounting error, Timothy D. Searchinger et al, Science, Vol. 326, October 23, 2009, [www.princeton.edu/~tsearchi/writings/Fixing%20a%20Critical%20Climate%20Accounting%20ErrorEDITED-tim.pdf](http://www.princeton.edu/~tsearchi/writings/Fixing%20a%20Critical%20Climate%20Accounting%20ErrorEDITED-tim.pdf)

T his article provides a critique of the assumption that bioenergy can be routinely classed as 'carbon neutral', one which lies at the heart of the concept of 'carbon negative' bioenergy. The authors point out that The accounting now used for assessing compliance with carbon limits in the Kyoto Protocol and in climate legislation contains a far-reaching but fixable flaw that will severely undermine greenhouse gas reduction goals (1). It does not count CO<sub>2</sub> emitted from tailpipes and smokestacks when bioenergy is being used, but it also does not count changes in emissions from land use when biomass for energy is harvested or grown...Several recent studies estimate that this error, applied globally, would create strong incentives to clear land as carbon caps tighten. ...If bioenergy crops displace forest or grassland, the carbon released from soils and vegetation, plus lost future sequestration, generates carbon debt, which counts against the carbon the crops absorb.

iv

Implications of Limiting CO<sub>2</sub> Concentrations for Land Use and Energy, Marshall Wise et al, Science 324, 1183, May 2009

This study models expected impacts of a climate change mitigation policies which put price on fossil fuel carbon only and ignore all emissions linked to bioenergy. The authors find: As the use of bioenergy increases, land uses shift from food and fibre crops, forests, and unmanaged ecosystems to dedicated biomass crops. This in turn increases terrestrial carbon emissions globally—a perverse result of curbing energy and industrial emissions...Placing an increasingly stringent tax on only the fossil fuel and industrial carbon emissions without placing any corresponding tax on terrestrial carbon (i.e., the FFICT [Fossil fuel and Industrial Emissions Carbon Tax] regime) causes land-use change emissions to increase to a peak greater than 10 Pg C per year, as lands are converted to meet the growing demands for purpose-grown bioenergy crops in a growing but decarbonising energy system (Fig. 1)...The result is that in the FFICT regimes virtually all land that is not required for growing food and forest products is used for growing bioenergy (Fig. 2). In other words, a policy to significantly reduce fossil fuel emissions whilst classing all bioenergy as carbon neutral (the presumption behind BECS being 'carbon negative') will result in the destruction of virtually all remaining natural ecosystems, including natural forests and grasslands by the second half of the 21 century.

v

Agrofuels and the Myth of Marginal Lands: Gaia Foundation, African Biodiversity network, Biofuelwatch, Salva La Selva, Watch Indonesia, EcoNexus, 2008 Briefing.

A 2006 study by David Tilman et al estimates a high bioenergy potential from low-input cultivation of biodiverse, native perennial grass. This, the authors suggests, could become a feedstock for "carbon negative" second generation agrofuels. They did no research on how much "marginal land" is available. Instead, they relied on earlier estimates by different authors of how much "abandoned cropland" was available "at least 500 million hectares, they, and other authors, claim. The term marginal land appears to have been merged with the abandoned cropland concept, which lies at the heart of many of the bioenergy feasibility studies that provide the scientific basis for governments' biofuel policies. Many of those, in turn, rely on earlier crude estimates of how much land could be made available, not for biofuels but for carbon sinks, including tree plantations "which is where the 500 million hectare figure originates. They look at abandoned cropland which includes large areas of land where tropical forests were destroyed for plantations and cattle ranching and where soil degradation and water depletion now make agriculture difficult. As Goeren Berndes, who has reviewed 17 bioenergy feasibility studies remarks: Land reported to be degraded is often the base of subsistence for the rural population. One example of how estimates for abandoned cropland useable for bioenergy are derived is a 2008 study by Christopher Field et al who suggest that 386 million hectares of such land exist. Any land believed to have been used as cropland at any time since 1700, and which satellite images don't show as being cropland today is classed as abandoned unless it is currently forested or part of urban settlements. There has been no critical review to assess the extent to which satellite-based mapping ignores small-scale mixed farming by communities, but it is clear that other community uses, including the use of land for pasture, are ignored when abandoned cropland is defined.

vi

Future Agriculture Consortium: Land Grabbing in Africa: The New Politics of Food: 2011. [http://www.future-agricultures.org/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=1427&Itemid=510](http://www.future-agricultures.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=1427&Itemid=510)

vii

Biomass energy: another driver of land acquisitions? IIED briefing, August 2011. <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/17098IIED.pdf>

As governments in the global North look to diversify their economies away from fossil fuel and mitigate climate change, plans for biomass energy are growing fast. These are fuelling a sharp rise in the demand for wood, which, for some countries, could outstrip domestic supply capacity by as much as 600 per cent. <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/17098IIED.pdf>

viii

Future Agriculture Consortium: Land Grabbing in Africa: The New Politics of Food: 2011. [http://www.future-agricultures.org/index.php?option=com\\_docman&task=doc\\_download&gid=1427&Itemid=510](http://www.future-agricultures.org/index.php?option=com_docman&task=doc_download&gid=1427&Itemid=510)

ix

GRAIN: Seized! The 2008 land grab for food and financial security.

[www.grain.org/g/a/93](http://www.grain.org/g/a/93)

x

World Bank: Rising Global Interest in Farmland: Can it Yield Sustainable and Equitable Benefits? Sept 2010. Near 45 million hectares in land deals by 2009, mostly in Africa. Approximately 20% of those were made with intent of growing biofuel feedstocks.

xi

Biomass energy: another driver of land acquisitions? IIED briefing, August 2011. <http://pubs.iied.org/pdfs/17098IIED.pdf>

As governments in the global North look to diversify their economies away from fossil fuel and mitigate climate change, plans for biomass energy are growing fast. These are fuelling a sharp rise in the demand for wood, which, for some countries, could outstrip domestic supply capacity by as much as 600 per cent.

xii

The New Biomasssters: Synthetic Biology and the Next Assault on Biodiversity and Livelihoods. ETC Group, 2010.

xiii

Gibson et al. 2011, Primary forests are irreplaceable for sustaining tropical biodiversity. Nature 458: 378-381.

The rapid conversion of tropical forests for agriculture, timber production and other uses has generated vast, human-dominated landscapes with potentially dire consequences for tropical biodiversity.

xiv

Ibid

xv

Price Volatility and Food Security: FAO: High Level Panel of Experts, Report 1. July 2011: Biofuel support policies in the United States and the European Union have created a demand shock that is widely considered to be one of the major causes of the international food price rise of 2007/08. & Given the major roles played by biofuels in diverting food to energy use, the CFS should demand of governments the abolition of targets on biofuels and the removal of subsidies and tariffs on biofuel production and processing.

xvi

Biomass Electricity: Clean Energy Subsidies for a Dirty Industry. Biomass Accountability Project. June 2011. <http://www.nobiomassburning.org/BAP/Home.html>

Billions of dollars in taxpayer money is going to build dirty biomass incinerators, while health, environmental, community and fiscal watchdog groups fight them at the local, state and national levels. Dozens of communities have rejected proposals for biomass combustion power and many more are actively fighting them. These subsidies are intended for clean energy but biomass is one of the most expensive, inefficient, and polluting forms of electricity generation.

xvii

<http://www.pfpi.net/carbon-emissions>

It's often claimed that biomass is a low carbon or carbon neutral fuel, meaning that carbon emitted by biomass burning won't contribute to climate change. But in fact, biomass burning power plants emit 150% the CO<sub>2</sub> of coal, and 300 % 400% the CO<sub>2</sub> of natural gas, per unit energy produced. These facts are not controversial and are borne out by actual air permit numbers.

xviii

<http://www.pfpi.net/air-pollution-2>

Burning biomass emits large amounts of pollutants, just like burning other solid fuels such as coal. Burning organic material emits particulate matter (PM), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), lead, mercury, and other hazardous air pollutants (HAPs).

xix

The UNECE's Executive Body for the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution has set up a dedicated expert group to tackle Black Carbon [tinyurl.com/6dlwaw](http://tinyurl.com/6dlwaw) In 2009, the Executive Body of the Convention recognized that black carbon poses significant risks to human health and the environment. It has a significant climate forcing impact, leading to increased warming, particularly in areas covered by snow and ice, such as the Arctic. Official greenhouse gas balances used for bio- energy and 'energy from waste' take no account of the warming effect of black carbon and are therefore underestimating the climate damage resulting from biomass, bioliquid combustion (and waste) incineration.

xx

xxi

Biochar: A Critical Review of Science and Policy. Biofuelwatch 2011

<http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/2011/a-critical-review-of-biochar-science-and-policy/> Provides a review of science from field studies. Data show that biochar additions may not result in any overall increases in soil carbon (Fate of soil-applied black carbon: downward migration, leaching and soil respiration, Julie Major at al, Global Change Biology, Volume 16, Issue 4, April 2010; Long term effects of manure, charcoal and mineral fertilization on crop production and fertility on a highly weathered Central Amazonian upland soil, Christoph Steiner et al, 2007, Plant Soil DOI 10.1007/s11104-007-9193-9 AND Nitrogen Retention and Plant Uptake on a highly weathered central Amazonian Ferralsol amended with Compost and Charcoal, Christoph Steiner et al, J. Plant Nutr. Soil Sci. 2008, 171, 893899) or that soil carbon sequestration from biochar may be no greater than that from common organic fertiliser use (See figures in Stability and stabilisation of biochar and green manure in soil with different organic carbon contents, Joseph M. Kimetu and Johannes Lehmann, Soil Research 48(7) 577585, 29th September 2010). Published field trials show that using different rates of the same type of biochar in the same region can have impacts on crop yields which vary from negative to neutral to positive, even over a short period (See for example: Biochar amendment techniques for upland rice production in Northern Laos, 1. Soil physical properties, leaf SPAD and grain yield, Hidetoshi Asai et al, Field Crops Research 111 (2009) 81:4). Similarly, biochar impacts on mycorrhizal fungi have been shown to vary from positive to neutral to negative and biochar-fungi interactions are not fully understood at present (Mycorrhizal responses to biochar in soil - concepts and mechanisms, Daniel D. Warnock et al, Plant Soil (2007) 300:9-20). Like other biomass based technologies, conversion of large areas of land to provide feedstocks is concerning. A recent assessment of a global biochar potential shows that sequestering 12% of annual anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions would require conversion of about 556 million hectares to dedicated biomass plantations, as well as the large-scale mobilization of forest and agricultural residues. Sustainable biochar to mitigate global climate change, Dominic th Woolf et al, Nature Communications 1, Article 56, 10 August 2010.

xxii

Open Letter to the FAO from Scientists: World Rainforest Movement, Sept 21 2011.

[http://wrm.org.uy/forests/letter\\_to\\_the\\_FAO.html](http://wrm.org.uy/forests/letter_to_the_FAO.html)

FAO defines forest as land spanning more than 0.5 hectares with trees higher than 5 meters and a canopy cover of more than 10 percent, or trees able to reach these thresholds in situ. (\*) Under this definition, it has been possible to replace primary forests with monoclonal plantations of genetically engineered exotic tree species, without this being considered as deforestation. This definition has also made it possible to use the term forest to refer to the industrial monoculture tree plantations that are expanding at the expense of the destruction of other ecosystems. Matters are made worse by the fact that other UN organizations and initiatives, such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, as well as numerous national governments, implement this definition in negotiations, pro- grammes and policies.

## BioRegional Development Group

One Planet Living - a Proposal for Rio+20 UNCSD 2012 submitted by BioRegional and Partners

This submission is structured in three parts:

1. Introduction and background
2. Executive Summary of the Proposal

### 3. Detail of the Proposal and Signatories

Comments and questions should be addressed to [freya.seath@bioregional.com](mailto:freya.seath@bioregional.com) +44 (020)8404 4884

#### 1. Introduction and background

This practical proposal is submitted by BioRegional Development Group and thirteen other civil society partners who have been working to implement sustainable communities and businesses around the world using the one planet living framework. There is increasing support for this proposal with a further eleven organisations expressing their support as part of this submission.

#### One planet living – a proven framework

One planet living is a simple way to communicate and implement sustainability. It is based on ten guiding principles and can be used cross-sectorally and at different scales. It has been proven to get results and is being used by the partners in this proposal in 11 countries: Australia, Canada, China, France, Greece, Ireland, Mexico, Portugal, South Africa, UK, United Arab Emirates and USA . These organisations employ more than 80,000 people and have annual revenues of \$25 billion. Sustainable communities to a value of £30 billion are in development using the approach. In addition, a free toolkit has been used in 51 countries.

Many people find that one planet living is an easy way to understand and implement sustainability because it encompasses messages and concepts to which they can relate:

- a) Equity and the scale of the problem; we are currently producing pollution and consuming resources at a rate forty per cent higher than the planet can absorb or replenish annually and exceeding planetary boundaries. In addition, resources are not being consumed equitably. If everyone lived the global middle class lifestyle we would need three planets to support us, but millions live on less than a tenth of this and don't have enough.
- b) A positive vision One planet living is a positive, appealing and easy to understand vision of what a green economy should aim to deliver; a world in which we live happy, healthy lives within the natural limits of the planet, wherever we live in the world, and leave sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness.
- c) Sustainable Development Goals, with targets and indicators, which guide action; based on contraction and convergence of ecological and carbon footprint, clean production and zero carbon (in building energy use), zero waste, transport, materials, food, water, land use & wildlife, culture & community, equity, fair trade & the local economy, health & happiness.
- d) A process which engages people and implements sustainability and a green economy. The science based and participatory process highlights major impacts and what should be prioritised. Outputs include Action Plans to implement sustainability with time-bound trajectories and creative solutions e.g. resource efficiency, new products, technologies and business models.
- e) A common language for sustainability which is cross-sectoral and scaleable. Originally designed for planning sustainable communities in 1998, it has been found to be scaleable and adaptable to different sectors and audiences e.g. London 2012 Olympics, home retail store customers, food, products, an individual, a local authority, a city, a country.
- f) Real-life examples of a next generation, resource-efficient lifestyle for 7-9 billion people. The sustainable communities and businesses of the partners submitting this proposal are starting to show how we can achieve one planet living, technically and cost effectively.

At Rio+20 we will showcase the one planet living case studies and launch an open-source toolkit and training. The concept of one planet living and ten principles are freely available for anyone to use.

We propose that at Rio+20 the simple concepts and approaches of one planet living could be adopted or adapted, in conjunction with existing proposals, as an effective way to renew political and civil society commitment to sustainable development and implement a Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. The paper explains our practical proposals to this end.

#### 2. Executive Summary - One Planet Living, a Practical Proposal for Rio+20

Submitted by BioRegional and Partners and informed by their experiences of implementing sustainable communities and businesses around the world using the well-proven one planet living framework.

##### A. Objective of the Conference

In order to secure renewed political commitment to sustainable development, implement remaining gaps and address new challenges, at Rio+20 the UN and civil society will:

- Make a statement recognising environmental limits and planetary boundaries in a world with a large, growing human population;
- Present a simple ambitious vision of a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication that citizens can get behind and feel motivated to achieve. "One planet living" is suggested as that vision. That is, a world in which people can live happy, healthy lives within the natural limits of the planet, wherever we live in the world, and leave sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness" together with a set of Sustainable Development Goals.
- Commit to take action to enable the world to deliver one planet living and a fair and green economy within the timeframe that science and morality tell us is necessary.

##### B. Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

1. Roadmaps with Action Plans at a global, national and civil society level. We support existing proposals for flexible and simple Roadmaps, Action Plans and Sustainable Development Goals as a main operational outcome of Rio+20. It is proposed that Action Plans or Roadmaps include:

- a) A Vision - in line with the Objective of the Conference - to enable citizens to achieve one planet living and a green economy and live happy, healthy lives within the natural limits of the planet, wherever we live in the world, and leave sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness. b) Principles drawn from existing international agreements, see Principles for a Green Economy.
- c) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Indicators. Based on Sustainable Consumption and Production, what citizens need and contraction and convergence of resource use to one planet living. SDGs could include: sustainable energy; sustainable transport; zero waste to landfill through circular economies; sustainable materials; food security – sustainable and humane agriculture and fisheries; sustainable water; biodiversity and land use; culture & community; Green Economy – equity, fair trade and the local economy; and health & happiness.
- d) Process to develop them in partnership with civil society.

e) Education and training based on Vision & SDGs. One Planet training will be launched at Rio+20.

f) Support of "Intergovernmental Panel(s) on Resources" to provide scientific evidence of resource availability, resource consumption and safe planetary boundaries and a "Solutions Bank" of peer reviewed solutions for sustainability.

2. Prototyping of Roadmaps by pioneer nations and civil society in 2012 for adoption in 2015.

3. Sectoral proposals necessary if we are to achieve the SDGs:

a) Renewable energy – proposals to encourage uptake include grid connection, diverse ownership, actuarial based carbon price, removal of subsidies for fossil fuels and Feed in Tariffs;

b) Human settlement and urbanisation Planning policies to promote walk-able & cycle-able cities; c) Circular economies – incentives towards circular resource efficient and zero waste economies;

d) Biodiversity and natural capital – agreements and financial and regulatory mechanisms to enable net zero deforestation and protection of peat bogs;

e) Economic and Monetary Policies including an expert UN Economic and Monetary Panel; supranational reporting and enforcement mechanisms under the IMF; treaties to avoid liquidity and capital flow crises and local currencies.

#### C. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

We support proposals to strengthen this in particular; a Council on Sustainable Development; the elevation of UNEP as a specialised agency; Framework Conventions on Corporate Social Responsibility and on Access to Information, Participation and Decision-Making Process; and for the Ombudsperson for Future Generations.

#### 3. One Planet Living – Detail of Practical Proposal for Rio+20

##### A. Objective of the Conference

In order to secure renewed political commitment to sustainable development, implement remaining gaps and address new challenges, we propose that at Rio+20 the UN and civil society:

- Make a statement recognising environmental limits and planetary boundaries in a world with a large, growing human population.

- Present a clear, bold, simple, ambitious vision of a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication which it is easy to see if it is on track or has succeeded, that politicians and citizens can get behind, feel pride in and feel motivated to achieve. We suggest "one planet living" a world in which people can live happy, healthy lives within the natural limits of the planet, wherever we live in the world, and leave sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness" and a set of simple Sustainable Development Goals.

- Commit to take action to enable the world to deliver one planet living and a fair and green economy within the timeframe that science and morality tell us is necessary.

##### B. Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

We support existing proposals for Roadmaps, Action Plans and Sustainable Development Goals as a main operational outcome of Rio+20, including those of the European Union<sup>iii</sup> Switzerland<sup>iv</sup> Columbia and Guatemala, and Kazakhstan<sup>v</sup> and the WBCSD's Vision 2050<sup>vi</sup> proposal. We agree that the framework be flexible and simple to enable nations to adapt to their own circumstances and develop their own approaches in line with the proposals of The People's Republic of China.

1. We support Roadmaps with Action Plans and propose that they are taken up at a global, national and civil society level and include the following elements based on our practical experience in the one planet living initiative<sup>viii</sup>:

a) Vision as per the Objective of the Conference; to enable all citizens to achieve one planet living and a green economy where they live happy, healthy lives within their fair share of the world's resources, wherever they live in the world and leave sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness.

b) Guiding Shared Values and Principles drawn from existing international agreements, we suggest the fifteen Principles for a Green Economy published in March 2011<sup>ix</sup>.

c) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Indicators. We propose that the SDGs and indicators be based on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), on Clean Production<sup>x</sup>, on what citizens need for a good quality of life and contraction and convergence of resource consumption based on ecological and carbon footprint and scientific advice of Intergovernmental Panels (point e). One planet living is the same goal for all, for some it means becoming more resource efficient, for others it means growing in a sustainable way. This also supports the Millennium Consumption Goals proposal. SDGs could include:

1. sustainable energy –including zero carbon emissions from building energy use

2. sustainable transport and reducing the need for transport

3. zero waste to landfill through circular economies

4. sustainable materials

5. food security – sustainable and humane agriculture and fisheries

6. sustainable water

7. biodiversity and land use

8. culture and community

9. Green Economy – equity, fair trade and the local economy

10. health and happiness

d) Process to develop plans in partnership with civil society. National good living, consumption- based roadmaps will provide visibility to individuals and business that Governments are committed to creating a better life for their citizens in a resource-efficient green economy. With national commitments in place, business will respond by working with its suppliers to improve resource efficiency and help consumers to lead one planet lifestyles.



e) Education and training based around the implementation of the Vision and SDGs for decision-makers in the UN, nations and civil society. This could be linked to the adoption of the Ten Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP on SCP), which we would like the UN to ratify at Rio+20. One Planet Partners will launch training at Rio+20.

f) Be supported by resources which could include:

i. "Intergovernmental Panel(s) on Resources" to provide advice to decision-makers based on scientific evidence of resource availability, resource consumption and safe planetary boundaries. The IPCCxii and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services IPBES xiii could be expanded to include all Resources such as minerals.

ii. A "Solutions Bank" of peer reviewed solutions for sustainability, measured against the SDGs, with clear explanations of the solution, how to implement it, progress, measured results and impacts. This could begin with case studies showcased at Rio+20.

2. We propose that Roadmaps be prototyped in 2012 for adoption in 2015. Pioneer nations from the developed, emerging and least developed countries can prototype Action Plans or Roadmaps in the coming months and showcase the idea at Rio+20. They could develop the detail during 2012-2015 for other nations to adopt.

3. Sectoral Proposals relevant to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. There are some sectoral issues at a multilateral level which partners in the one planet living initiative find stops us from implementing the SDGs and one planet living and need to be addressed at a national or multilateral level. This could be informed by science-based Intergovernmental Panels on Resources.

a) Renewable energy – fossil fuels used for energy account for half of our ecological footprint. Our experience is that national regulations make introducing renewable energy difficult in many countries. Suggested measures, based on our experience are:

1. enable new renewable energy to connect to the national electricity grid
2. enable more diverse and local ownership of energy companies
3. introduce an actuarial based carbon price
4. remove subsidies for fossil fuels, if necessary adjust fiscal policies to avoid fuel poverty
5. Feed in Tariffs to incentivise uptake of renewable energy.

b) Human settlement and urbanisation – we propose all nations introduce planning guidance to promote walk-able and cycle-able cities with good public transport and which discourages cars, car-parking and construction of roads for cars.

c) Create circular economies towards resource efficient and zero waste economies: Materials must be dealt with more efficiently by designing products to ensure waste becomes raw material for new products – completing the cycle. We ask governments to embrace the closed loop model and take action by providing the right incentives.

d) Biodiversity and natural capital

1. Net zero deforestation - deforestation rates are not slowing down, with 12-15 million hectares of forest lost each year. Forest loss is not just an environmental issue, as pressure on the availability of timber over the next 5-10 years is one of businesses biggest supply chain challenges. Deforestation and illegal logging distort global markets and timber prices. Despite many excellent initiatives there is little or no firm international agreement. We propose an agreement at Rio+20 to net zero deforestation.

2. Protect peat bogs through financial or regulatory mechanisms to make the sustainable choice the affordable choice. The experience of business is that trying to move away from using peat as a base for compost towards a lower impact alternative is hampered by the economics of an established mining industry against those incurred by a new entrant.

e) Economic and monetary policies - sustainable development and the eradication of poverty is threatened by the failure of markets and restricted flows of capital as in recent and continuing global economic crises. The just management of the finite natural capital of the planet also requires the just regulation of the economic capital of the international financial markets. There is a need for regulatory frameworks and reporting mechanisms to ensure monetary transparency and avoid over-exploitation of both natural and economic capital. We agree with the underlying analysis of the globalised financial systems and the need for their reform outlined in the "Note on financial reform" from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace issued 24th October 2011. This identifies that:

<sup>FN</sup> In its annual Report of in 2007, the International Monetary Fund recognized the close connection between an inadequately managed process of globalization on the one hand, and the world's great inequalities on the other.

<sup>FN</sup> Already implicit in the Statutes of the International Monetary Fund is a commitment to create some form of global monetary management.

To this end, we therefore propose:

1. A reinforced commitment to global monetary management and the establishment of its mechanisms.
2. A new expert "UN Economic and Monetary Panel", to monitor and inform international financial and regulatory frameworks, by which transparency can be assured within the mechanisms of international monetary and liquidity transactions.
3. Establish Supranational reporting and enforcement mechanisms under the IMF for regulatory and systemic breaches on monetary management, capital and liquidity ratios and the illegal use of international tax havens and associated special purpose vehicles.
4. UN and IMF encouragement of legally binding international treaties to avoid liquidity and capital flow crises and ensure both developing and developed nations can access opportunities to grow economically within planetary boundaries.
5. Allow regional and local authorities to issue their own local currencies to promote local, sustainable trade and enable greater liquidity in a time of capital constraints.

C. Institutional Framework

With our strong belief in good governance, where accountability, participation, transparency and access are central and important elements, BioRegional do support a number of efforts to strengthen the institutional architecture at the intergovernmental and governmental level. BioRegional would like to lend its support to the many proposals that call for strengthened and reformed structures around environmental, social and economic issues and in that the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio decides to:

1. Establish a Council on Sustainable Development as a subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly, on par with the newly established Council on Human Rights.
2. Elevate the United Nations Environmental Programme to a specialised agency and give the new specialised agency a strong mandate.
3. Agree on developing a Framework Convention on Corporate Social Responsibility. 4. Agree on developing Principle 10 of the Rio Principles into a Framework Convention on Access to Information, Participation and Decision-Making Process.
5. Agree to develop the intergenerational principle on environmental issues and establish an Ombudsperson for Future Generations.

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- ii  
Principles for a Green Economy, Stakeholder Forum, BioRegional & Earth Charter <http://tinyurl.com/69esr56>
- iii  
Council of the European Union Rio+20 10 October 2011 <http://tinyurl.com/6e4utk8>
- iv  
Switzerland's statement at the 2nd Preparatory meeting of the UN CSD <http://tinyurl.com/6fhscop>
- v  
Kazakhstan's green economy proposals for Rio+20 <http://tinyurl.com/6ckbv3s>
- vi  
World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Vision 2050 <http://tinyurl.com/lmn6fq>
- vii  
Chair's summary, High Level symposium on the UN CSD, 8-9 Sept 2011, Beijing, China. <http://tinyurl.com/66u6rlv>
- viii  
BioRegional Development Group, One Planet Living <http://tinyurl.com/66k9x6n>
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- x  
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- xi  
Millennium Consumption Goals <http://www.mohanmunasinghe.com/pdf/Island-MCG-1Feb20112.pdf>
- xii  
Remit of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) <http://tinyurl.com/6kawahd>
- xiii  
Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem services (IPBES) <http://ipbes.net/about-ipbes.html>

#### Signatories

BioRegional Development Group submit this Proposal on behalf of the following organisations who are all implementing one planet living through their businesses or in sustainable communities:

1. Asani LLC – real estate and green construction <http://www.asanillc.com/> (USA)
2. B&Q plc - home improvement and garden retailer <http://www.diy.com/> (UK)
3. BioRegional Development Group (UK) & BioRegional organisations and offices in Australia, Kenya, Mexico, North America and South Africa - social enterprise <http://www.bioregional.com/>
4. BioRegional Quintain Ltd - property developer <http://www.bioregional-quintain.com/> (UK)
5. China Merchants Property Developers Ltd - property developer <http://www.cmpd.cn/> (China)
6. Coddling Enterprises real estate, construction and energy <http://www.coddling.com/> (USA)

7. Cundall Engineering Services <http://www.cundall.com/> (International)
8. Imbera Ltd - refrigeration supplier <http://www.alpunto.mx/en/imbera/about-us> (Mexico)
9. Kingfisher plc - home improvement retailer <http://www.kingfisher.com/> (International)
10. London Borough of Sutton - local authority [http://www.sutton.gov.uk/\(UK\)](http://www.sutton.gov.uk/(UK))
11. Pelicano - property developer <http://www.pelicano.pt/> (Portugal)
12. A.G. Spanos - real estate <http://agspanos.com/> (USA)
13. Stedone Homes - real estate and construction <http://www.stedonehomes.co.za/> (South Africa)
14. Windmill Development Group - real estate & green construction <http://www.build-green.com/> (Canada)

This Proposal is also supported by:

15. BNIM Design <http://www.bnim.com/> (USA)
16. Centre for Environment & Development <http://centreforenvironmentdevelopment.blogspot.com/> (Sri Lanka)
17. Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios - architects <http://www.fcbstudios.com/> (UK)
18. Foster & Partners - architects <http://www.fosterandpartners.com/> (UK & International)
19. Global Footprint Network <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/> (International)
20. Kema - engineering services <http://www.kemabrasil.com/> (Brasil)
21. One Earth <http://oneearthweb.org/> (Canada)
22. Professor Mohan Munasinghe, MIND <http://www.mohanmunasinghe.com/> (Sri Lanka)
23. Population and Sustainability Network [http://www.populationandsustainability.org/\(International\)](http://www.populationandsustainability.org/(International))
24. Stakeholder Forum <http://www.stakeholderforum.org/sf/> (International)
25. World Society for the Protection of Animals [http://www.wspsa.org.uk/\(International Federation\)](http://www.wspsa.org.uk/(International Federation))

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## Biovision – Foundation for ecological Development

The following statement is signed by more than 100 CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS. A full list of supporting organizations is available online at: <http://www.timetoactrio20.org/en/list-of-signatories>

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### SUMMARY OF JOINT STATEMENT

#### AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY AT RIO+20

#### WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS WHEN "BUSINESS AS USUAL" IS NOT AN OPTION?

20 years after the Rio Earth Summit, the planet is in a deeper environmental, energy and financial crisis. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 (hereinafter referred to as "Rio+20") needs to strengthen an agricultural system that substantially diminish hunger and poverty, drastically reduces climate change and its impact, and restores biodiversity, soil fertility and water resources. Rio+20 has a historical opportunity to make important decisions and agree on actions that actually do eradicate hunger and poverty, and save the environment. We, the undersigned civil society organizations, agree that IT'S TIME TO ACT!

#### PART I - OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE

Ensure that agriculture in all its dimensions is a core issue at the UNCSD in Rio and subsequently in global policy and practice;

Give strong and increasing support to small scale, agroecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological and humane food production;

Mandate a UN agency to develop a work plan for implementing the decisions of UNCSD 2012 and the findings of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD).

#### PART II – ELEMENTS FOR AN OUTCOME DOCUMENT IN RIO

We, the undersigned civil society organizations, agree on the following ELEMENTS OF AN AGREEMENT in an outcome document e.g., on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and strengthening "institutional frameworks for sustainable development" (More details are provided in the Annex).

1. Ensure that agriculture in all its dimensions is a core issue at the UNCSD in Rio and subsequently in global policy and practice;
2. Give strong and increasing support to small scale, agroecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological and humane food production, research in this area and enabling conditions, to ensure a shift away from environmentally and socially destructive industrial food production in order to produce enough and healthy food for the projected 9 billion people or more; create employment, vibrant communities and fair economies for billions of people; help reduce climate change; maintain and enhance ecosystem functions, landscape, biodiversity and other natural resources;
3. Regulate, encourage and support the transformation of industrial and other forms of unsustainable agriculture towards smallholder based agroecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological, low energy food production;
4. Support food sovereignty as the overall framework for food and agricultural policies;

5. Recognize the central role of women in small scale agriculture and in achieving food security;
6. Emphasize the important role of the organizations of small scale food producers;
7. Welcome the reformed UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS);
8. Give the CFS a mandate to identify current deficiencies and shortcomings impeding the implementation of existing plans and proposals on sustainable agriculture and food;
9. Give the CFS a mandate to develop a work plan for implementing the decisions of UNCSD 2012, the findings of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD);
10. Call for all countries to establish their own structures/mechanisms for following up the implementation of the findings on the IAASTD);
11. Support the adoption of a UN Declaration on Peasant Rights;
12. Support the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
13. Ensure that food and water are not used as instruments of intimidation in situation of conflicts;
14. Resist the commodification and commercialization of natural resources and carbon trading such as REDD+, the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)
15. Condemn multi-genome patent claims and encourage governments to block or rescind such claims;
16. Establish a new, broad, participatory and transparent UN environmental network;
17. Commit the UN - in 2012 to a negotiating process leading to an international technology assessment (bio, nano and geoengineering) and information mechanism;
18. Assert the integrity of the multilateral community over technologies intended to address climate change;
19. Underline that the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities must be respected

### PART III –POLICIES RIO+20 CAN ADOPT IMMEDIATELY

We, the undersigned civil society organizations, agree on the following PRACTICAL POLICY OPTIONS that can be implemented now that will immediately strengthen food sovereignty, reduce environmental damage and support the innovative work of peasants / small scale food producers and providers. The numbers in brackets refer to further information provided in the full document in the Annex.

A. POLICIES TO DEAL WITH THE FOOD CRISIS: Restore public support for agriculture to address the food crisis (1); convert "land-grabs" to peasants' fields (2), and biofuel land to food (3). Adopt policies that reduce soil erosion and combat desertification (5) and that reduce food losses (6) and freshwater waste in food and beverage processing industries (11).

B. POLICIES TO TRANSFORM THE FOOD CHAIN INTO A FOOD WEB: Strengthen the food web and break up the food chain (7); advance the rights of women food producers (8); Diversify food processing and retailing (9); Ban Terminator-type agricultural technologies (10);

C. POLICIES TO SHRINK AGRICULTURE'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT AND IMPROVE HEALTH: Improve health and reduce environmental damage (12); Reduce OECD meat and dairy consumption (13); Eliminate waste and environmental devastation in the fisheries industry (14); Strengthen urban and peri-urban food systems (15).

D. POLICIES TO ENCOURAGE INNOVATION AND DIVERSIFICATION IN THE FOOD WEB: Support in situ peasant conservation strategies (16); Encourage breeding and production of underutilized crops (17); Restructure research priorities to support peasant breeding (18). Promote resilient livestock breeds and species diversity; and re-introduce traditional and local animals on farms (19); conserve and promote marine and freshwater fishing (20).

----- ANNEX I: FULL DOCUMENT

### RIO+20: WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS

#### WHEN "BUSINESS AS USUAL" IS NOT AN OPTION?

In his preface to the World Economic and Social Survey 2011, BAN KI-MOON, Secretary-General of the United Nations argues that humankind's progress has come at the lasting cost of degradation of our natural environment. He further notes that the publication of this 'Survey' capturing this disturbing state of affairs "is especially timely as the world prepares for next year's Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development" Ban Ki-Moon highly recommends it to policy-makers, non-governmental partners, business executives and concerned.

Quote from the report:

'Business as usual' is not an option..

While humankind has made enormous progress in improving material welfare over the past two centuries, this progress has come at the lasting cost of degradation of our natural environment. About half of the forests that covered the earth are gone, groundwater resources are being depleted and contaminated, enormous reductions in biodiversity have already taken place and, through increased burning of fossil fuels, the stability of the planet's climate is being threatened by global warming. In order for populations in developing countries to achieve a decent living standard, especially the billions who currently still live in conditions of abject poverty, and the additional 2 billion people who will have been added to the world's population by mid-century—much greater economic progress will be needed.

Continuation along previously trodden economic growth pathways will further exacerbate the pressures exerted on the world's resources and natural environment, which would approach limits where livelihoods were no longer sustainable. Business as usual is thus not an option".

... and Governance as usual is not an option

We, the undersigned civil society organizations, agree on the now popular mantra in major reports (UNEP, WESS, IAASTD) on the road to Rio, that "Business, as usual, is not an option" - a repetition of the theme made famous by Barack Obama. The pertinent policy point for civil society, however, is the fact that while business as usual is not an option, neither is 'governance, as usual!'

### TIME TO ACT

20 years after the Rio Earth Summit, the planet is in a deeper environmental, energy and financial crisis. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) in Rio de Janeiro in 2012 might be just another high-level conference stating the need to eradicate hunger and poverty, stop climate change, the loss of biodiversity, soil erosion and other serious environmental problems – and then, after the conference, life goes on as before. But it can be different. It has a historical opportunity to make important decisions and agree on actions that actually do eradicate hunger and poverty, and save the environment. It's time to act!

AGRICULTURE – A MAIN PROBLEM ...

Industrial food systems and other unsustainable practices are causing dramatic environmental damage, including reduction of biodiversity and soil fertility, overuse and pollution of water, and are substantially contributing to climate change. These kinds of food systems and food production undermine the possibilities for producing enough and healthy food for actual and future generations. At the same time these industrial food systems impoverish millions of small-scale food producers, are creating increasingly bigger waves of poverty, hunger and migration, and are causing health problems at a large scale. There are one billion people food insecure but at the same time abundant unhealthy foods and diets are affecting at least 2 billion people, causing obesity, heart disease, cancer, type 2 diabetes and other diseases, and serious pandemics are likely to occur in the near future.

... WHILE BEING THE MAIN SOLUTION

Viable food systems do exist. They have evolved and adapted over millennia in traditional forms of agriculture and are now more relevant than ever. They can be combined, if appropriate, with latest knowledge on agro ecology and other forms of sustainable production. Small scale food producers provide the food for about 70 percent of the population today, and small scale agroecological and other forms of sustainable agriculture and food production, developed in the framework of food sovereignty, can

- substantially diminish hunger and poverty,
- drastically reduce climate change and its impact,
- restore biodiversity, soil fertility and water resources,
- improve livelihoods and provide rewarding employment for billions of people,
- produce enough, high quality, diverse and nutritious food for 9 billion people or more.

UNCSD IN RIO 2012 SHOULD

1. Ensure that agriculture in all its dimensions is a core issue at the UNCSD in Rio and subsequently in global policy and practice. Agriculture and food are both a main causes of and potential solutions to the world's environmental, climate and social problems. Industrial food production is a key cause of environmental and social harm and needs urgently to be reduced in size and impact. The solution is in smaller-scale, ecological food production systems, currently practiced by millions food producers, whom if supported can substantially increase availability of food, contribute to the elimination of hunger and poverty, increase equity and reverse environmental degradation. These systems, which currently deliver food for 70% of the world's peoples and could provide more, if supported and protected, are mainly sustainable, resilient, (agro)ecological and bio-diverse. They are essential for the survival of humankind, for the preservation of biodiversity, helping reduce climate change and for socially fair and ecologically sustainable development and poverty eradication. However in order for agriculture to be a viable livelihood practice rural areas need to become attractive and livable spaces with access to education, health and a healthy environment.
2. Give strong and increasing support to small scale, agroecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological and human food production, research in this area and enabling conditions, to ensure a shift away from environmentally and socially destructive industrial food production in order to produce enough and healthy food for the projected 9 billion people or more; create employment, vibrant communities and fair economies for billions of people; help reduce climate change; maintain and enhance ecosystem functions, landscape, biodiversity and other natural resources.
3. Regulate, encourage and support the transformation of industrial and other forms of unsustainable agriculture towards smallholder based agroecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological, low energy food production. Governments should in cooperation with farmers' and peasants' organizations develop policies and concrete actions necessary for such a transformation thus providing small farmers access to land, water, local seeds, local markets, credit, agroecological technologies and participatory education schemes. Governments should regulate and make the industrialized agriculture pay for its negative environmental and health impacts.
4. Support food sovereignty as the overall framework for food and agricultural policies and encourage communities, peoples, states and international institutions to recognize and realize food sovereignty. Food sovereignty puts the right to sufficient, healthy and culturally appropriate food for all individuals, peoples and communities at the center of food, agriculture, livestock and fisheries policies, rather than the demands of markets and corporations that prioritize internationally tradable commodities. It localizes food systems and values the knowledge and skills of small-scale food providers, and works in harmony with nature through using smaller-scale, ecological forms of food provision.
5. Recognize the central role of women in small scale agriculture and in achieving food security Women play major roles in food production, processing and preparation, and yet a majority of the one billion food insecure are women. The future of agricultural and food systems has to be built on the firm foundation of women's empowerment for it to be sustainable and equitable.
6. Emphasize the important role of the organizations of small scale food producers.

Strong social movements are vital for making the changes in policies and practices which are needed, as well as for democratic and sustainable development of societies. It is therefore of utmost importance to support and help strengthen the organizations of peasants / small scale food producers and food providers, and especially to strengthen the participation and role of women. It is also important to pay special attention to and support active participation of youth and women in these organizations. The organizations of peasants / small scale food producers and providers must be consulted on all relevant issues and given a leading role in defining policies and actions for food and agriculture.

7. Welcome the reformed UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) as the governing body for food, agriculture and rural development policy and related financial issues, and as the interlocutor on these issues within the proposed new UN environmental network (see no 12);
8. Give the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) a mandate to identify current deficiencies and shortcomings impeding the implementation of existing plans and proposals on sustainable agriculture and food.
9. Give the UN Committee a mandate to develop a work plan for implementing the decisions of UNCSD 2012, the findings of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IASTD, ) and the recommendations on agroecology by the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on the right to food in his annual report 2010 submitted to the Human Rights, as well as a relevant part of Chapter 14 of Agenda 21 and UNCSD 16/17, making sure that the views and concerns of small scale food providers are taken into account and responding to their mandate to increase food security
10. Call for all countries to establish their own structures/mechanisms for following up the implementation of the findings of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IASTD) with full participation of women and men, small-scale farmers, peasants, pastoralists, fishers, indigenous people and other relevant stakeholders
11. Support the adoption of a UN Declaration on Peasant Rights Across the world, peasants and small farmers, agricultural workers and landless people are victims of violent oppressions, criminalization, discrimination, expulsion from their lands and alienation from their livelihoods. In order to address these unique patterns of violations, there is a need for specific provisions and mechanisms to fully protect the rights of peasants. An international instrument to respect, protect, fulfill, and uphold peasants' rights should

therefore be created within the UN.

12. Support the implementation of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Across the world, Indigenous communities and pastoralists are victims of discrimination, oppression and most importantly expulsion from their home lands and alienation from their livelihoods. . Rio plus 20 should recognize that sustainable development is only if the right to food and right to water obligations to these communities are met through the realization of Rights of Indigenous Peoples

13. Ensure that food and water are not used as instruments of intimidation in situation of conflicts....

14. Resist the commodification and commercialization of natural resources and carbon trading, such as REDD+, the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM). Such mechanisms do not address the root causes of greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture but tend to provide perverse incentives to polluters and benefit the emitters;

15. Condemn multi-genome patent claims and encourage governments to block or rescind such claims. Governments must also develop a clear intergovernmental process for examining the impact of intellectual-property regimes on living materials and processes;

16. Establish a new, broad, participatory and transparent UN environmental network. Within this network, Southern governments, backed by civil society, can coherently address the full range of climate, environmental and social issues currently covered by a variety of treaty bodies, funds and offices;

17. Commit the UN - in 2012 to a negotiating process leading to an international technology assessment (bio, nano and geoengineering) and information mechanism that strengthens national sovereignty and choice and respects the Precautionary Principle and builds the capacity of developing countries and communities to assess the health, environmental, economic and social impacts of new and emerging technologies;

18. Assert the integrity of the multilateral community over technologies intended to address climate change. This requires the establishment of a legally-binding prohibition on all forms of geo-engineering;

19. Underline that the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities must be respected. Industrialized countries should pay their ecological and climate debt to developing countries, including payment for the damages caused by their historical greenhouse gas emissions.

## 20 POLICIES RIO+20 CAN ADOPT IMMEDIATELY

Below are practical policy initiatives that can be implemented now that will immediately strengthen food sovereignty, reduce environmental damage and support the innovative work of peasants / small scale food producers and providers.

### POLICIES TO DEAL WITH THE FOOD CRISIS:

1. Restore public support for agriculture to address the food crisis. Corporate concentration in the food chain has, since at least the 1970s, severely reduced public-sector support for both research and rural development. Agricultural assistance declined from \$8 billion in 1984 to \$3.4 billion in 2004 . Governments should cooperate to place an annual \$5 billion surtax on the food oligopolies over at least the next 25 years to recoup a portion of these losses. The recovered funds should go directly to peasants' organizations to support their initiatives.

2. Convert "land-grabs" to peasants' fields. There is growing international recognition that public or private internal or cross-boundary land grabs are destructive of the environment and food security. The at least 80 million hectares of land involved in these transactions should be made available to peasants and converted into 26.7 million farms of roughly 3 hectares each.

3. Convert biofuel land to food. In 2007, both the US and EU devoted \$11 billion to state subsidies and tariffs in support of biofuel production. As of 2006, 14 million hectares (1%) of all arable land was being used for biofuel production (providing only one half of 1% of global primary energy use.) New policies should transfer biofuel land to landless or land-poor peasants (4.6 million families could get 3 hectares each) – potentially doubling farm production (average farm size in Africa and Asia is currently 1.6 ha.) The \$11 billion annual subsidy should support agro-ecological developments on the farms.

4. Secure sufficient, nutritious and appropriate food for at least 9 billion people by 2050. Today, the cereals used for animal feed could meet the annual caloric needs of more than 3.5 billion people. The current world population is just under 7 billion. There is no technological barrier to meeting our future food needs.

5. Adopt policies that reduce soil erosion and combat desertification Today, the industrial food chain leads to an annual loss of topsoil amounting to 75 billion tonnes and costs the world \$400 billion. An oligarchy of ten global fertilizer companies discourages good soil management. Peasant soil conservation systems utilizing naturally occurring soil microorganisms are responsible for fixing 140-170 million tonnes of nitrogen – equivalent to \$90 billion in chemical fertilizers. Policies must support these conservation strategies. Improved land management, especially using peasant techniques, could increase agricultural GDP between 3% and 7%.

6. Reduce crop losses: Today, annual food losses equal more than half of the world's cereals crop (2.3 billion tonnes), meaning unnecessary production of roughly 500 million tonnes of GHG. Food losses in industrialized countries range between 90 and 111 kg per person per year. New policies should immediately lower OECD crop losses by 90% – at least to sub-Saharan African and South Asian levels of 9–11 kg per person per year.

### POLICIES TO TRANSFORM THE FOOD CHAIN INTO A FOOD WEB:

7. Strengthen the food web and break up the food chain. Oligopoly in agricultural inputs reduces efficiency and discourages the resiliency necessary to respond to new health and environmental challenges. Today, six corporations (Monsanto, DuPont, Syngenta, Dow, Bayer, and BASF) control 71% of crop chemicals, 58% of commercial seed sales; and (with their biotech partners) control 77% of the world's so-called "climate-ready" crop patent claims. The 6-company oligopoly stifles innovation, encourages energy waste and promotes polluting chemicals. Competition policies must break up the food chain. New policies must encourage market diversity and research support for agro-ecological systems. Market diversification, for seeds alone, could reduce prices by at least 30% saving the world's peasants more than \$9 billion per annum.

8. Advance the rights of women food producers: Women account for 60 to 80% of peasant growers and produce 90% of food in Africa and about half of all food worldwide. Yet in sub-Saharan Africa, only 15% of landholders are women and they receive less than 10% of credit and 7% of extension services. Policies that address gender inequalities could, conservatively, increase yields on women's farms by 2.5% to 4%.

9. Diversify food processing and retailing. Today, the largest supermarket oligopolies control 40-50% of the food market in Latin America, 10% in China, 30% in South Africa and 50% in Indonesia. The leading 100 processors control 77% of global packaged foods and 10-11% of world retail food sales. Peasant systems feed 70% of the world – including the most vulnerable. Competition policies should eliminate oligopolistic practices. New policies must diversify consumer options, including fair-trade and reduce the need for processing and support local food storage and distribution. .

10. Ban Terminator-type agricultural technologies. Although there is a global moratorium on Terminator technologies, there are moves by some governments to overturn this moratorium in 2012. Rio+20 must establish a global ban. In Ethiopia, approximately 90% of the total wheat area is planted in farm-saved seed. If Terminator seeds were

commercialized and Ethiopian wheat growers were forced to buy new seed every time they planted, it would cost an estimated \$66 million per year. Brazilian soybean growers who now save and re-use soybean seeds would be forced to spend an estimated \$407 million per year if the Brazilian ban on Terminator seeds were lifted. In the Philippines, an estimated 59% of the rice crop is planted with peasant-saved seeds. If these rice growers were forced to buy new seed every time they planted - they would spend an estimated \$172 million per annum. If Canadian wheat growers (who now grow wheat on 8.36 million hectares with peasant-saved seed) were forced to buy Terminator wheat seed, the total cost per annum would be \$85 million.

11. Reduce freshwater waste in food and beverage processing industries. Five global food and beverage corporations – Nestle, Danone, Unilever, AnheuserBusch, and Coca-Cola-consume enough water to meet the daily domestic needs of every person on the planet. Today, it takes, for example, 12,000 L of water to produce and process a half kilo of chocolate. The water required to produce 65 million kgs of ground beef – the amount recalled and destroyed due to food safety violations in the US in 2008 – was equivalent to the water required to irrigate 100,000 hectares of dry land for a year. Peasant production models that privilege local consumption waste little or no water. Policies must prioritize local consumption and heavily tax wasteful processing companies.

#### POLICIES TO SHRINK AGRICULTURE'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT AND IMPROVE HEALTH: 12. Im

prove health and reduce environmental damage. Today, the average adult in an OECD country eats an unnecessary and unhealthy extra meal each day (roughly an extra 750 Cal). About 25% of the energy and water – and the associated greenhouse gas produced used in OECD countries goes to “waste food.” At least 50% of OECD adults are overweight or obese. Obesity costs the OECD states almost \$300 billion per year – an amount that is more than enough to meet all of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, with around \$100 billion leftover.

13. Reduce OECD meat and dairy consumption. According to UN estimates, demand for meat and dairy products will double by 2050. Per capita OECD meat consumption is 10 times that of the global South. A 25% reduction in livestock product consumption worldwide would reduce our GHG emissions by 12.5%.

14. Eliminate waste and environmental devastation in the fisheries industry. Today, industrial fish farming takes 6 tonnes of wild fish to produce 1 tonne of fishmeal and between 1.5 and 3 tonnes of meal to harvest 1 tonne of farmed salmon. Peasant fishers and family fishponds recycle nutrients and have almost no waste. Policies must incorporate this waste into industrial fish farm taxes.

15. Strengthen urban and peri-urban food systems. Today, British consumers throw away 243 L of water per person per day in wasted food. This amounts to 6% of total UK water usage and one and a half times more than personal daily fresh water needs. Today, 25 to 30% of fresh water – about 45 billion litres – in urban areas is lost through leaky pipes costing municipalities \$14 billion a year. The urban water wasted through leaky pipes could provide the water needs of 200 million people or 4.5 million urban micro-gardens. If the 243 L of water lost each day from food thrown away were available to urban gardeners it could produce 18,000 tomatoes per annum, 3,240 lettuces every 60 days, 900 cabbages every 90 days or 9,000 onions every 120 days. Policies should promote urban agriculture (including its access to safe water) that will improve water efficiency, recycle wastes, and support local nutrition.

#### POLICIES TO ENCOURAGE INNOVATION AND DIVERSIFICATION IN THE FOOD WEB:

16. Support in situ peasant conservation strategies. There is general agreement that the adaptation of agriculture to climate change will depend upon the conservation and introduction of crop wild relatives. Current efforts, however, are only collecting 700 species. Peasants conserve 50-60,000 species of wild relatives. Their in situ conservation and community breeding must be supported.

17. Encourage breeding and production of underutilized crops. Today, the industrial food chain concentrates on 150 species with almost all research going into 12 species. The peasant food web breeds and nurtures 7,000 food crops, offering enormous potential to respond to climate change. Policies must strengthen their efforts to diversify the food web.

18. Restructure research priorities to support peasant breeding. Over the last half-century, industrial breeders have produced about 80,000 plant varieties (including 7,000 from international research centres). Almost 60% of private commercial breeding has been ornamental. Over the same time, peasants have contributed close to 2.1 million food and feed varieties. Policies must surrender breeding direction to peasant organizations, duplicate gene bank accessions for peasant breeding and inter-farm exchange, and eliminate monopolistic regulations that inhibit innovation. Public spending on research on agriculture must increase and the bulk of research should be refocused to agroecological solutions for the challenges ahead by promoting biodiverse and resilient farming systems.

19. Promote resilient livestock breeds and species diversity; and re-introduce traditional and local animals on farms. Today, 3-4 multinationals control breeding stock for each of the four key livestock animals (cattle, pigs, broiler chickens, laying hens and turkeys). In total, about 100 breeds account for almost all commercial meat and dairy production. Furthermore, three agribusinesses account for 43% of veterinary medicines and three others control 25% of industrial feeds world-wide. While the industrial food chain continues to narrow the range of species and breeds available to meet climate changes, peasants maintain 40 livestock species and 7,616 breeds that may otherwise become extinct. Policies must support peasant conservation and breeding of these animals and the rights of traditional livestock keepers. Grass-fed meat and dairy and animal feed production on farm or locally should be promoted. All not therapeutic use of antibiotics in animal production should be eliminated.

20. Conserve and promote marine and freshwater fishing. Today, industrial fisheries commercialize 363 species and the industrial system has wiped out 20% of all freshwater species while overfishing virtually all popular marine species. Peasant fishers protect and harvest more than 22,000 freshwater species alone. Policies must strengthen support for peasant fishers.

#### COMMENTS AND SUPPORT

If you have comments and suggestions for changes in this document, and if your organization wants to support the document, please send a mail to [rio2012agcso@gmail.com](mailto:rio2012agcso@gmail.com). A new version of the document will be produced in October 2011 based on inputs and discussions.

The document in French, Spanish and German; and a version of it with references is available on [www.eradicatehunger.org/Rio+20](http://www.eradicatehunger.org/Rio+20)

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## BlindSpot global revival think-tank

Text not available.

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## Blue Marine Foundation

Blue Marine Foundation Submission for the preparation of zero draft for an outcome document for Rio + 20

## A Blue/Green initiative for the Oceans

Some of the most important threats to sustainable development to emerge in the decade since WSSD in Johannesburg have been in the oceans. So there will be a strong public expectation that Rio+20 will address and improve man's stewardship of the watery commons that cover 70 per cent of the Earth's surface.

In the past decade we discovered that catches of wild fish peaked in the late 1980s and have since been in decline; that on our present trajectory there will be few sustainable fish stocks left by 2050; and that there are major new threats to the oceans which include acidification and mining of the deep sea. It was the decade of the Census of Marine Life, which showed that areas thought to be barren because they were too cold or too dark actually teemed with life - raising concern about how to protect it from exploitation.

The Blue Marine Foundation (Blue) is a charity which was formed as a result of public concern in that period of discovery. It is the culmination of first a book, *The End of the Line*, and then a film of the same name (shown at the UN General Assembly in Feb 2010) – which in October 2011 won the inaugural Puma award for a documentary that had the most impact on society. Blue was formed to address the concerns raised in the book and film. Its major achievement to date has been to pay the British government to create the largest marine reserve in the world in the Indian Ocean.

Blue believes the explosion of public interest and concern about the oceans needs to be met with action at Rio + 20, not only in the Blue Economy section of the existing proposals but as part of a revitalised partnership for sustainable development that includes new, stronger governance structures for areas outside national jurisdictions.

Another compelling reason for action is that the crisis in the oceans, at least in terms of our exploitation of the species within it, is one of the most solvable of all environmental problems.

## Proposals

- Recognise that food security and biodiversity conservation fit together as never before. A World Bank report showed that \$50 billion a year is being wasted through the illegal or unreported over-exploitation of fisheries. The linkages between food security in a world of greater human population and marine resources need to be made explicit and waste eliminated.
- Accelerate the creation of the network of marine protected areas called for by WCSD, ensure that they are large enough to protect biological productivity, and tackle the international governance problems raised by their creation. Protecting such areas as the Sargasso is limited by the powers granted to Regional Fisheries Management Organisations. These need reform. The EU and G77 have called for a new treaty for high seas biodiversity conservation as part of UNCLOS.
- Establish improved spatial management of the oceans, for example by zoning areas where deep sea mining is acceptable and where it is not by using the precautionary principle.
- Improve enforcement of fisheries covered by UN resolutions 61/105 and 64/72 on deep sea bottom trawling.
- Improve the coverage and scope of RFMOs so they become responsible for conservation as well as fishing. Establish common practice in the ending of discards, and the promoting of more selective gears, and greater efficiency in the harvesting of fish and fish proteins.
- Establish global standards for open-ocean aquaculture.
- Address IUU fishing by improving global fisheries transparency through a Global Record of fishing vessels and binding international standards for Flag State performance.
- Establish a process, through UNEP or its successor body, to monitor and report on the process of ocean acidification.

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## BOND-Development and Environment Group (BOND-DEG)

### BOND-DEG - UK NGOs Joint Rio Narrative

"You never change things by fighting the existing reality. To change something, build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete." -R. Buckminster Fuller

#### 1. Introduction

Our vision is of a Green and Fair Economy.

This must be achieved through a just transition. It must deliver a better quality of life for all within environmental limits, now and into the future.

Humanity faces critical decisions. The scale of our current economic crisis will soon be overshadowed by the impending environmental crisis in both impacts and costs. Over the past 50 years our current global economic model has failed to deliver the sustainable society that we need.

The concept of sustainable development that was elaborated at the first Earth Summit in Rio in 1992 still provides a compelling vision of the transformation that needs to be made. But implementation of that vision has fallen far short.

Operating within planetary boundaries is a necessary precondition for sustainability. But at present the world is pressing harder against ecological limits and we have already breached the safe operating or boundaries for three of nine key planetary systems (climate change, biodiversity loss and excess nitrogen and phosphorus production).<sup>2</sup>

At the same time inequality and unfairness is growing between and within countries. Poverty has increased in absolute terms, and the gap between rich and poor is growing. Furthermore, the world's population is increasing rapidly (a projected 9 billion by 2050 from 7 billion now) increasing the demand for resources and adverse impacts such as pollution and waste.

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) to be held in Rio in June 2012 (Rio + 20) presents world leaders with a unique opportunity for change. We need to revive the original Rio momentum and launch the transformation towards a truly sustainable global economy that promotes true prosperity for all in a socially just and equitable way now and into the future, while acknowledging and respecting environmental limits; that is the Green and Fair Economy. This will require bold political leadership and engagement of all parts of society to bring about the necessary transformation of the global economy. It will require fundamental reforms in political systems and institutions and a shift in values and behaviours.

Minor modifications of present policies within an essentially business as usual model of the economy cannot bring about the scale of transformation needed. Developed countries such as the UK need both to transform their own economies by creating more sustainable pathways for the future; and help developing countries find a greener and more equitable pathway for their own future development.



All parts of society need to be engaged in the transition, and will be affected by the changes. So the transition must be managed in an open and co-operative way that ensures a just and fair transition to the sustainable green economy. We need common value and language and new politics to shape and guide the transition in a harmonious and equitable way. Only then will we create the trust required to build socio-environmental security and resilience, now and into the future.

## 2. The Green and Fair Economy

The Green Economy needs to be a fair one, with all that this implies. To this end, the social dimension of sustainable development needs to be given greater emphasis. The basic preconditions for this are: social cohesion, fairness, including inter-generational fairness, fair redistribution and solutions for social problems such as growing inequality, lack of access to a whole range of resources, poverty and unemployment.

The Green and Fair Economy should not be used as a euphemism for green growth to promote the business as usual agenda of growth at all costs. Rather we must acknowledge key environmental limits/planetary boundaries, and this does require us to rethink our growth pattern and help define pathways for sustainable development.

The transition to a Green and Fair Economy and a sustainable future is fundamental to the process of change, in developed and developing nations. Seeing it as a just transition is about recognising and planning fairly and sustainably for the huge changes that climate change policies will have for the whole economy. There are key conditions to ensuring a just transition to a green and fair economy, these include:

- Access to Information and Stakeholder Engagement - In line with Rio Principle 10 and the Aarhus Convention, all individuals should have access to environmental information, be able to participate in decision-making processes and have effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings. This includes inclusive and effective consultation processes between all stakeholders (government, business, trade unions, voluntary, development and environmental organisations) on the changes required in transitioning to a green and fair economy.
- Investing in People - The transition must also ensure the creation of quality jobs and decent work, investments in communities, investments in relevant education/training and skills programmes and strong and efficient social protection systems in the transition to a sustainable economy. General Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) programmes must be given higher priority and support.
- Respect for Labour and Human Rights - Democratic decision-making and respect for human and labour rights are essential in order to ensure the fair representation of workers and communities' interests.
- Improving Financing and Investment for Sustainable Development - Financial decisions and investments must begin to flow towards restoring our environment and generating a better quality of life for all. This means reforming subsidies, taxation and public sector financing to meet environmental and societal needs rather than just GDP growth; driving investment towards new private sector markets; and putting an end to short-term market speculation.
- An Earth-centred Governance Approach - For development to be truly sustainable it needs to be founded on Earth-centred principles which promote the long-term health and integrity of the Earth, recognising that Earth has limits within which humans must live, and respecting the inherent rights of all life on Earth of present and future generations.

The Green Economy means many different things to different people. The broad spectrum can create confusion. However, a singular definition will be next to impossible to agree with such a large, diverse group of stakeholders. Furthermore, the economic, political, cultural and environmental context of each country needs to be taken into account, and there is no one prescriptive model. Instead, principles for a Green and Fair Economy should be agreed, and which will act as a decision-making framework in practice. Underpinning measures/mandates for greening the global economy should also be discussed and agreed at Rio+20. These should include:

- Measuring progress in the just transition;
- Educating for the green and fair economy;
- Fiscal measures for the green and fair economy;
- Investing for the green and fair economy;
- Regulating for the green and fair economy;
- Targets and goals for sustainable development in different sectors of the economy that can feed into the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) review in 2015, and any new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs - see Section 2 below for further details). Specific initiatives to be put forward at Rio+20 on the Green and Fair Economy include:
  - Beyond GDP - The current reliance on economic growth and GDP as an indicator of success has led to perverse outcomes. It has not delivered fair levels of well-being for society or individuals. GDP is an inadequate metric through which to gauge well-being over time. Instead we need to reassess our common values, making decisions that lead to a green and fair economy around what we really value. There is an important distinction between assessing current well-being and assessing sustainability.
  - Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Capitals - The poor management and regulation of natural assets and ecosystems leads to increasingly frequent and severe regional and global crises, and is a major factor behind food, water and energy insecurity (see Section 3 below for further details on these securities). Outcomes from Rio+20 must ensure that national development strategies take full account of the state of natural assets and ecosystems and their role in sustaining human and animal well-being and economic activity; actively investing in their conservation and enhancement to avoid a devastating and irreversible global crisis.
  - Fiscal Reform - True environmental costs of production and consumption must be internalised into accounting models in order to address the causes rather than simply the symptoms of environmental degradation. The polluter pays principle should be adopted in practice in standard accounting and reporting practices for both business and governments, so that these costs can be reflected in market valuations and environmental impact assessments. Furthermore, green taxes should be used to incentivise positive behaviours and discourage harmful ones. For example, an internationally agreed mechanism to raise finance from international transport. A global Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) should be implemented, with a significant proportion of the revenue raised used to support long-term efforts to fight climate change in developing countries and implementing sustainability programmes. Lastly, all subsidies that undermine sustainable development should be eliminated, particularly those underpinning fossil fuel use and unsustainable agricultural and fishery practices.
  - Sustainable Public Procurement - Governments must use public procurement as a leadership and leveraging tool to promote the green and fair economy. All public procurement contracts should include specifications for labour and environmental sustainability standards.
  - A Declaration on Planetary Boundaries - Rio+20 is an opportunity to formally recognise key environmental limits - such as planetary boundaries - within which we must remain, and the thresholds that we must respect in order to maintain the sustainability of our planet. Rio+20 should begin the process of creating a Declaration on Planetary Boundaries which outlines key principles and shows political commitment by attendees to this concept.

- A Convention on Corporate Sustainability - All corporations must be mandated to report on their environmental impacts and contribution to wellbeing, or explain why they are not doing so. There should be a commitment at Rio+20 in the form of a Convention on Corporate Sustainability to develop national regulations which mandate the integration of material sustainability issues in the Annual Report & Accounts; and therefore providing effective mechanisms for investors to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures.

- Global Convention on Rio Declaration Principle 10 iV Access to environmental information, participation in transparent decision-making processes, and access to judicial and administrative proceedings should be basic rights for all, at all levels of decision-making, including local, national and international processes. Rio+20 should support a proposal for a Global Convention on Access to Information based on Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration. There could also be regional replications of the Aarhus Convention in other parts of the world.

### 3. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

It is vital that form must follow function for any reform of the institutional framework for sustainable development. It is important that Rio+20 should seek to improve the integration of the different elements on sustainable development; social, environment and economic. Furthermore, a renewed emphasis must also be place on Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration. Transparency, access to information, public participation in decision-making, accountability and access to justice are fundamental and necessary elements for effective and legitimate governance.

Integration of the different sustainability pillars could be effectively achieved through the creation of a Sustainable Development Council (SDC) at the top of the UN system. It would report directly to the General Assembly (on the same level with Security Council), and integrate and strengthen the work currently done separately in the UN's Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). It should be charged with driving forward global action on all aspects of sustainable development, promoting the transition to a green and fair economy, and initiating action on new and emerging issues such as food and energy security. Below this, a Sustainable Development Board (SDB), answering through ECOSOC to the new SDC, would merge the boards of UNDP/the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food programme (WFP), bringing those agencies together in engaging individuals, allocating funding, delivering programmes and most importantly scrutinising outcomes against the criteria of both sustainable development and wellbeing. Horizontally linking nations, the SDB would facilitate an exchange of information from North to South, engendering co-operation, while also de-linking the concepts of well-being and material wealth.

In addition to the horizontal integration of sustainable development across the UN (and national) structures, there is also a need to strengthen the environmental pillar of sustainability giving it equal political weight to social and economic pillars within the UN system. Rio+20 must consider either strengthening the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), or upgrading it to either a UN Environment Organisation (UNEO) or World Environment Organisation (WEO). Either way, this reformed/upgraded UNEP must have universal membership with civil society represented on the governing body. It must also be given greater powers and an additional mandate to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. Its portfolio and funding must also be expanded to support sustainable development activities and partnerships at the regional levels.

Specific initiatives to be put forward at Rio+20 on the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development include:

- Sustainable Development Goals iV In August 2011, Colombia submitted a proposal to the UN to introduce Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It sees these as a possible foundation for building international political commitment at Rio, providing measurable tangible goals for the sustainable development debate. The SDGs would address the Agenda 21 aims produced at Rio 20 years ago. The SDGs would apply in all countries, and therefore act as a complementary, successor framework to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which end in 2015 and focuses mainly on the Global South. Furthermore, SDGs would also shift the centre of gravity away from the economic (poverty reduction) pillar of the MDGs and more towards the environmental and social pillars of sustainable development. For example, by providing measurements against metrics of planetary boundaries, and a strong focus on consumption patterns in the Global North. However, the SDGs should not detract from the urgent need for a post-2015 framework that focuses on poverty or from funding for that agenda.

- National, Local and Regional Governance iV National Sustainable Development Strategies need to be revived and refreshed with full engagement and support from business and all parts of civil society. These strategies should be underpinned with route maps outlining national actions towards a green and fair economy. Advisory bodies such as Councils for Sustainable Development need to be adequately resourced to play their full part in bringing forward new thinking and maintaining pressure for progress.

- Reform of International Financial Institutions iV There must be better incorporation of sustainable development parameters in the existing International Financial Institutions, particularly in terms of funding, operations, strategic plans, objectives and implementation. Additionally, Rio+20 should pursue further reforms to strengthen the efficiency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

- Planetary Boundaries Institution iV As part of the Declaration on Planetary Boundaries, a Planetary Boundaries Institution (PBI) should be given the role of promoting and developing the principles of the Declaration.

- High Commissioner/Ombudsperson for Future Generations - The needs of future generations are a crucial element of sustainable development, but are not represented in the relevant decision-making processes. In order to remedy this situation and ensure that long-term interests are heeded, it is proposed that a High Commissioner/Ombudsperson for Future Generations be created at UN and national levels.

- International Court for the Environment iV Environmental problems extend across international boundaries, but there are few effective international institutions to deal with them properly. Strengthening international environmental law mechanisms are essential to securing sustainable development. The Rio+20 outcome document should accordingly recommend the establishment of an International Court for the Environment (ICE). This would build trust, harmonise and complement existing legal regimes and provide clarity and access to justice as well as redress.

### 4. Sectoral Issues

There are also specific sectoral and thematic issues that must be discussed at Rio+20. These issues have reached a point of urgency and require immediate attention. The issues include, but are not limited to:

- The water, energy and food securities nexus iV Global trends such as population growth and rising economic prosperity are expected to increase demand for energy, food and water, which will further compromise the sustainable use of natural resources and equitable access. This pressure on resources could ultimately result in shortages which may put water, energy and food security for the people at further risk, hamper economic development and poverty reduction, lead to social and geopolitical tensions and cause lasting irreparable environmental damage.

Ensuring the resilience of basic ecosystems services through the integration of common challenges and solutions of these securities is vital; which should be coupled with principles of fair and secure access to water, energy and food for all people.

- The Blue Economy - Healthy oceans provide tremendous economic, social, and environmental benefits that directly support livelihoods around the globe, and further support life-sustaining processes for the planet. Consideration and inclusion of these services at Rio+20 is imperative to ensure the global community can continue to rely on the marine environment on which it so essentially depends.

- Sustainable Agriculture and Food - Rio provides a key opportunity to set us on a new global course for food and agriculture. There is a need for urgent, radical reform of the global food system. As climate change is predicted to be a major driver of future food poverty, it is the duty of the planet's decision makers to take steps to avoid this coming catastrophe. This requires an understanding of the complexities of our planet's ecosystem services, the way in which they interact with one another and our impacts on them.

While these issues are seemingly environmental, they are, at heart, issues of fairness. Our current activities (e.g. fossil fuel and water consumption, use of chemicals and forest clearance) are reducing the planet's ability to sustain life. Our current food system is broken in that it allows widespread hunger, obesity, obscene waste, animal cruelty and appalling environmental degradation. It is a system that was set up with the primary purpose to deliver profit for an elite few. Through increased efficiency, reducing wastage and sharing best practice we have the ability to feed everyone on the planet without devoting any more land to food growing. Yet, at the moment estimates state that one in seven people on the planet go hungry everyday. So not only are we destroying our own only life support system, we are doing so in a highly inequitable manner.

UN policies and programmes and Rio+20 provide an opportunity for global leaders to agree on humane and sustainable agriculture policy and practice, with a focus on agro ecological approaches and recognising the fundamental role of small scale farmers in providing food for those most in need, the majority of which are women. In addition to improving the efficiency of food systems and reducing waste, a focus should be on improving production. These goals can be achieved in part through sharing of knowledge, best practice and technology.

Animals are important to biodiversity and they have an important role in maintaining the healthy balance of life on earth. Rio+20 outcomes must acknowledge the role of animals and their welfare within greener agriculture systems and wider society.

- Renewable Energy - Our current models of energy production are driving dangerous climate change. Addressing energy access through locally appropriate renewable technologies therefore enables development and catalyses a global shift away from fossil fuels. By installing enough renewable energy, the cost of investment will continue to fall until it becomes competitive with fossil fuels, thereby making renewables the default choice. The necessary levels of investment will not be delivered by market forces alone, especially around the decentralised systems the International Energy Agency predicts will dominate future spending, meaning public policies and investment will play a pivotal role.

UN initiatives and Rio+20 are both opportunities that should not be missed, and policies should be based on the extensive research that exists on the most effective way to catalyse the uptake of renewable technology. Meanwhile, outcomes must ensure that the necessary energy transformation respects the principles of a green and fair economy. Communities and civil society must be central to all policies at each stage and on all levels (global, national and local level). This provides legitimacy and longevity through local ownership, as well as protection from environmentally and socially harmful technologies and practices which would not deliver sustainable development.

The installation, operation and maintenance of renewable energy is far more labour intensive than our large-scale, centralised fossil fuel-powered energy systems. Therefore pursuing a policy of renewable energy access that respects labour and human rights can create the quality of jobs and training programmes that are necessary for a sustainable economy in both the Global North and South.

„h Population dynamics and lack of access to sexual and reproductive health and rights ;V Population dynamics, including growth, urbanisation and migration, interact with the environment to influence availability of natural resources, biodiversity, climate change and other key Rio+20 priorities. Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health programmes that respect and protect human rights would enable all women and couples to plan and space their children as they wish, offering scope to achieve population stabilisation and contribute to poverty alleviation, gender equality, environmental sustainability and other important aspects for sustainable development.

- Urbanisation and Planning ;V Taking population dynamics into account, including population growth, urbanisation, migration and ageing, will help focus the sustainable development agenda. Between 1995 and 2005, the urban population of developing countries grew by an average of 1.2 million people per week, or around 165,000 people every day. By the middle of the 21st century, it is estimated that the urban population of these countries will more than double, increasing from 2.5 billion in 2009 to almost 5.2 billion in 2050.<sup>3</sup> In 2008, developed nations were about 74 percent urban, developing nations were 44 percent urban and for the first time the world's population was evenly split between urban and rural areas. The urban areas of the world are expected to absorb almost all the population growth expected over the next four decades while at the same time drawing in some of the rural population.<sup>4</sup> While the overall proportion of the world's population living in slums has fallen in the last decade from one quarter to one third,<sup>5</sup> the population of slum dwellers in absolute numbers has continued to rise to 1 billion today.<sup>6</sup> Efficient and inclusive urban mobility is essential for economic and social development since it enables citizens to access goods, services, jobs, markets, education opportunities and social contacts. Yet, urban planning and management has been unable to either cope with the growth thus far or address urban challenges. So without improved capability for urban planning and greater political vision and support, this future increase is likely to cause significant socio-environmental problems for our cities and towns. The rapid urbanisation and growth of cities must be addressed so that there is fair access to resources as well as sustainable resource use. This means green and low impact development in cities, growing urban food networks, increasing urban biodiversity, reducing pollution, recycling resources, and managing land-use through robust and inclusive planning systems focussed on the delivery of sustainable development, operating within environmental limits and enabling social justice.

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## Boston University, Pardee Center

Rio+20: Accountability and Implementation as Key Goals

Adil Najam and Miquel Muñoz

About the authors Prof. Adil Najam was recently appointed Vice Chancellor of the Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) in Pakistan and was until recently the Director of the Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future. He works on issues of international diplomacy, sustainable development, and human well-being, with a focus on developing countries.

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Sustainable Development Insights is a series of short policy essays supporting the Sustainable Development Knowledge Partnership (SDKP) and edited by Boston University's Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future. The series seeks to promote a broad interdisciplinary dialogue on how to accelerate sustainable development at all levels.

For more than two decades the Global Environmental Governance (GEG) system has been a story of growth, and there is much progress to celebrate: scores of new international institutions; a proliferation of legal instruments, declarations, and financial mechanisms; growing public interest; multiple layers of national structures; an impressive knowledge economy serviced by multitudes of experts in governments, academia and in civil society. Most importantly, perhaps, the idea of sustainable development is now firmly ensconced as the very central goal of all environmental governance. Arguably, environmental governance can now only be understood within the

context of the sustainable development imperative.

Despite the fact that there is much to be justifiably proud of in this growth in the infrastructure of governance, the global challenges have in fact multiplied in both number and intensity. This is partly because our understanding of the extent and nature of many of the challenges has itself grown, and many of the problems have proven to be far more complex and difficult to deal with than we had once assumed. But it is also evident that while much of the global effort has focused on negotiating agreements, there has been little focus on implementing the agreements or holding international actors accountable for their global commitments. One does not wish to be harsh in this assessment, since we are still in the relatively early days of this global enterprise. However, as we prepare for the forthcoming 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (known as "Rio+20"), an accountability and implementation deficit now stares us squarely in the face. And Rio+20 would be a very good moment to start seriously addressing this deficit.

Stakeholders at all levels are aware of the urgency for the GEG system to deliver on its promise of implementation. However, there are obstacles to achieving this goal, none more important than a widely prevalent 'culture of unaccountability.' For years, talk of accountability was feared by many who considered it a threat and resisted by others who saw it as a distraction from 'real issues.' We believe that this is no longer the case. There is a growing realization of the costs of unaccountability, an evolution of norms in related governance areas, and a recognition that accountability is a key lever for implementation. Importantly, Rio+20 and its focus on the institutional challenges to sustainable development provide an opportunity to bring the issues of accountability and implementation to the forefront.

This paper seeks to develop a practical agenda for institutional reform to improve implementation by identifying a set of incremental and plausible steps in two areas: (a) strengthening the mechanics that cultivate accountability, and (b) putting into place the institutional arrangements that nurture these mechanics. A first and important step, however, is to recognize the aforementioned 'culture of unaccountability.'

#### The Culture of Unaccountability

A 'culture of unaccountability' is perhaps the most significant enabler of unaccountability and, thus, lack of implementation in GEG. It is important to understand why the culture of unaccountability has become such a pervasive feature of the GEG system. Our previous work (Najam and Halle 2010) identified several reasons.

Global environmental governance is declaratory in nature, relying on values-based and knowledge-based persuasion, in contrast to other 'rules-based' areas of international governance. The dominant culture is one of moral persuasion — GEG efforts are generally based on the premise that if all countries do the 'right thing,' this is good not only for them, but for everyone else. This approach, however, leads to the classic free-rider problem. Rulesbased GEG exists — e.g. ozone and CITES — but, as best exemplified by the Kyoto Protocol, rules-based GEG has severe accountability and compliance deficits.

The GEG system has evolved within a negotiation paradigm, rather than an implementation mindset. The accelerated growth in the number and intensity of GEG negotiations during the last two decades has resulted in an over-heated, neverending negotiation system that can sometimes see negotiation as its primary function and goal.

Environmental institutions have morphed into — and see themselves as — negotiation support services. As a result, GEG efforts are measured by negotiation metrics rather than by actual environmental improvements.

Often, implementation stakeholders have little ownership of the treaties that they inherit from the negotiators. Developing countries' few resources are siphoned off to servicing the appetites of international negotiation, at the expense of domestic implementation.

Global realities are being shaped by forces beyond the nation-state, yet key actors remain unrepresented in the GEG system. Despite wellmeaning yet token participation, most non-state actors — whether civil society groups, business interests, or local communities — have no real tools to hold the international system accountable for its actions (or inaction); nor does the international system have any real tools with which to engage with civil society.

Beyond shaming, there is no disincentive for failing to implement.

Shaming itself becomes less effective as repeated failure leads to an increased culture of unaccountability, where the norm seems to be that implementation of commitments is optional, rather than mandatory. In addition, there is a short institutional memory of who committed or failed to implement what, which leads to further impunity for failing to implement, even for the soft standards of naming and shaming.

#### Towards More Accountability: A Pragmatic Agenda

It is impossible to undo the culture of unaccountability with the stroke of a pen. As any large organization knows, institutional cultures cannot be changed overnight, and changes require long-term dedicated toplevel commitment. What is needed is a set of 'radically incremental' steps to begin creating an alternative culture of accountability that refines, reinforces and rewards the habits of accountability within the international system, while discouraging unaccountability.

This can be done by identifying those elements within the GEG system that are doable today and will begin developing a culture of accountability, steering the system in the right direction. These steps include enabling accountability mechanics and enabling institutional arrangements, both of which are discussed in greater detail below.

#### Enabling Accountability Mechanics

We define accountability mechanics as those measures that cultivate and facilitate accountability. These include metrics and reporting, transparency, compliance, and capacity building.

##### 1. Improved Metrics and Reporting Mechanics

Effective mandated reporting requirements must be defined to gauge progress against obligations and commitments, using agreed upon sets of performance indicators. Improved metrics are required, especially metrics that measure actual progress in environmental matters, rather than effort. In physics, moving a single brick represents more work than pushing a wall for days. In a fitting analogy, for the GEG system we want to know how many environmental bricks have been moved, not how many years governments spent pushing against walls. Particularly relevant are metrics reflecting bottom-up and local approaches. After all, action and implementation are ultimately local affairs.

It is important to emphasize that good indicators and reporting cost money, both for monitoring and data collection, and for the actual preparation and submission of reports. For instance, the cost of preparing a single national report on implementation for the UN Convention to Combat Desertification has been estimated at approximately US\$56,000. Even such modest estimations, if spread across the spectrum of multi-lateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and the GEG system, quickly escalate to significant amounts. Thus, improved metrics and reporting requirements cannot be slapped into an agreement as an afterthought, but need to be conceived and endowed with appropriate resources.

Importantly, there are synergies and economies to be had if reporting metrics for different MEAs are coordinated and cross-learning is encouraged.

In addition to being appropriately funded, reporting needs to be more effective in conveying meaningful information. Volume after volume after volume of reports may keep their authors busy, but mostly go unread and join their predecessors in the ever-growing pile feeding the global data overload. We need better reporting, not more reports. Effective reporting places asymmetrical requirements on different countries.

Developing countries will require assistance for capacity-building and other enabling measures, while developed countries need to take the lead with clear and accurate reporting, including on fulfillment of existing commitments. Reporting, particularly self-reporting, also has asymmetrical consequences, where weaker parties can be penalized (for example by donors) for reporting failure, while more powerful countries face no repercussions. This needs to be recognized and addressed if effective reporting is to be achieved.

#### Accountability in the GEG System

There are at least three different types of accountability in the GEG system that need to be addressed separately: Accountability to mandate. Is an international organization accomplishing what it was created to accomplish? Businesses are most clear on this type of accountability, which is measured by their bottom lines. International organizations are surprisingly silent on this. For example, a treaty secretariat or national representative is more likely to tell you how many meetings were held and how many decisions were made than to say whether, how, and to what extent the purpose of the treaty was advanced because of these meetings and decisions.

Institutional accountability. Is an organization well- managed? Managerial processes, such as hiring, staff performance and reward, budgetary controls, etc., have occasionally become the subject of public discussion, but usually only when they become 'scandals,' raised by those who wish to discredit the GEG system. Supporters of the GEG system often choose to wink, nod, and ignore blatant managerial abuse in international organizations, thus being complicit in a conspiracy of silence, just because they do not wish to strengthen the hands of those out to 'cut the system down to size.'

Accountability to constituency. Whom are international organizations accountable to? This gets straight to the power politics of institutions, including inter-state, intra-state and non-state actor politics. It can be argued that global citizenry is the constituency of global environmental institutions, with Member States acting as custodians. While global citizenry interacts with global institutions through the state apparatus, in doing so it does not cede its right to hold these institutions and their actions accountable.

#### 2. Improved Transparency Mechanics

Transparency is a key element of accountability, especially with regard to review and monitoring programs. There are different review models, each with their advantages and drawbacks. The essential element is that the monitoring of GEG performance becomes independently verifiable and allows the involvement of third parties. Existing review mechanisms include those based on self-reviews, third-party reviews, and peer-reviews. An example of third-party review is the OECD's Environmental Performance Review (EPR) Programme, while a review based on voluntary national presentations is exemplified by the MDG Annual Ministerial Review.

Peer-reviews are a growing area of interest, with examples found in OECD DAC peer reviews, NEPAD's African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), or nationally-initiated peerreviews, such as France's peer-review of National Sustainable Development Strategies. Other review approaches are being explored, including UNEP's work on MEA review methodology, or bottom-up approaches based on local review mechanisms. Review mechanisms have to be conceived and understood as collaborative efforts in the context of eradication of the culture of unaccountability, rather than as an impingement on sovereignty or stepping into some other agency's mandate.

Environmental leaders need to set this culture in motion by voluntarily initiating such performance reviews to establish themselves as the purveyors of best practice. Once enough of them take the lead in this, it will become more and more difficult for other actors not to follow suit.

Monitoring is a task where NGOs and whistle blowers have traditionally been active, either in a collaborative way, such as the civil society-led wildlife trade monitoring network, TRAFFIC, or through a more aggressive approach, such as the Environmental Intelligence Agency.

The internet and information technologies open a new range of possibilities for monitoring and transparency. From a top-down or centralized perspective, the possibility of transmitting and revealing large quantities of information at the click of a mouse allows for centralized transparency or 'raw' accountability.

Wikileaks has already had an impact on climate change and other MEA negotiations. While the jury is out on whether such data dumps are good or bad for the overall health of the system, the number of similar episodes is likely to grow. Given the predictable recurrence, it would be wise to conceptualize ways in which the impact of such 'leaks' can be positively channeled towards accountability and implementation.

#### 3. Improved Compliance Mechanics

An effective set of compliance incentives entails a delicate balance of 'sticks' and 'carrots.' The problem of accountability is not only that the system does not punish bad behavior, but also that it does not reward good behavior. A system of incentives for better performance with rewards for good behavior and early action is needed to complement monitoring and penalty-based approaches.

Rewards for countries who live up to their commitments, for example, could include trade preferences, or preferential access to international credit or to global support funds such as the Global Environmental Facility (GEF). There is ample precedent of needs-based preferential treatment, so perhaps it is also time for performance-based preferential treatment. It must be stressed that a country's performance should not only be compared to that of similar countries, but, most importantly, against itself. Is a country doing better over time?

The transparency mechanisms discussed above should be linked directly to compliance. The key element is for the information to clearly show whether agreements are being complied with or not. Such information, when available across countries, will itself become a source of real pressure on countries to improve their image — i.e., be seen to be compliant to, rather than deviant from, their global responsibilities.

#### 4. Capacity Building

The need for more and better capacity building in developing countries is a permanent demand in the GEG system. The lack of capacity in developing countries is a real and urgent problem that, among its many consequences, perpetuates the lack of accountability (for both developed and developing countries) and makes implementation more difficult, and sometimes impossible. The role of capacity building in improving accountability and implementation cannot be underestimated. However, the key question — as in so many capacity building issues — is capacity for whom and capacity for what? To begin with, capacity enhancement for improved reporting, transparency, and compliance is needed. Moreover, it is needed at the national (and sometimes local) levels. In essence, we are talking about the capacity to implement and the capacity to be able to account for implementation.

The creation of structural and permanent capacity in developing countries to monitor, report, and analyze information related to implementation is an urgent need.

Importantly, such capacity is needed in governmental as well as nongovernmental institutions so that effective networks for accountability can be created and sustained.

#### Enabling Institutional Arrangements

Institutional arrangements are needed to nurture accountability mechanics and foster a culture of accountability, including by strengthening the habits of accountability and reinforcing these habits in a positive fashion. Institutions are important, but they will only succeed to the extent that they manage to change the culture of unaccountability, thus ensuring accountability and implementation in the longer-term.

#### High-Level Brainstorming Session:

“Accountability and Implementation:

The Keys to Sustainable Development”

The Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future at Boston University co-hosted a side event on “Accountability and Implementation: The Keys to Sustainable Development” at the Second Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) on March 8, 2011. The event, supported by the Nordic UN Missions of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden to the United Nations in New York, was attended by senior diplomats, nongovernmental experts, and scholars, and served as a high-level brainstorming session to identify key steps towards accountability and implementation in the global environmental governance system. The session was chaired by Amb. Carsten Staur (Denmark), facilitated by Prof. Adil Najam (BU Pardee Center), and included presentations by Sen. Elizabeth Thompson (Barbados), Dr. André Aranha Corrêa do Lago (Brazil), Dr. Asad Khan (Pakistan), Amb. Irene Freudenschuss-Reichl (Austria), and Dr. Bradnee Chambers (UNEP).

The brainstorming session with senior practitioners provided valuable input into the ideas presented in this paper. The session highlighted the fact that accountability is now clearly seen as a key challenge for all global governance, including for governance in pursuit of sustainable development, and especially in the context of Rio+20 discussions. While there is wide support in both North and South for addressing accountability concerns, the preferred approaches of various actors range from largely voluntary initiatives to more mandatory measures. The urgency for a meaningful response, however, seems shared by all.

#### 1. Compendium of Best Practices

One component of encouraging a cultural shift away from unaccountability is to establish a compendium of best practices in accountability. Despite the prevailing culture of unaccountability in GEG, throughout the system there are cases and examples of good practice. These cases need to be documented and understood, both to avoid reinventing the wheel and to increase the levels of expectation. Recognizing and rewarding (even if just by acknowledging) good practice will likely foster replication and nudge the system towards a culture of accountability.

The compendium should not be conceived as one more publication. After all, as mentioned above, what is needed is better information, not more reports. The compendium of best practices, then, should be conceived as a dynamic learning process, where best practices are not only compiled, but also dissected and analyzed, providing the added value of highlighting what worked where, when, and why. Within this framework, a publication providing a yearly snapshot could be presented at the annual meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) with the main goal of celebrating and acknowledging good practice, thus reinforcing a system of positive rewards. Different from other reports, such a compendium could ‘live’ on the internet — in a manner that allows it to be dynamically accessed as well as updated. Any such compendium would be greatly strengthened if it also included information on ‘bad practice,’ if only as exemplars of what is to be avoided. Knowing best practice helps us to avoid reinventing the wheel; knowing bad practice prevents us from stumbling twice against the same stone. The idea should not be to shame, but to outline a clear sense of what is not desirable and why.

#### 2. Registry of Commitments

With very few exceptions, every conference of the parties (CoP), subsidiary body, and any other GEG meeting results in decisions, conclusions, declarations, plans of action/implementation and a myriad of other agreements that ultimately boil down to commitments. How many commitments, by whom, and on what? Which ones have been fulfilled? No one really knows, as many commitments are already forgotten by the time the next meeting is held and most remain unimplemented.

There is an urgent need for a centralized registry of commitments that keeps track of which country or institution has agreed to do what, and the extent to which that commitment has been fulfilled.

Having an open, transparent, and easily accessible record of all commitments will have a healthy effect on the system and keep negotiators from re-inventing the wheel over and over again. With the register of commitments, negotiators will have a handy reference to existing agreements and an incentive to make only those commitments that countries have the intention or capacity to fulfill. Most importantly, such a register will move the focus away from the need to be seen to reaching agreement on ‘new’ commitments (even when they are not new at all) and towards a discussion of how well we are doing — or not — in fulfilling ‘old’ commitments.

The proposed registry could quickly evolve from a mere compilation of commitments to a system of commitment tracking and reporting.

Similar mechanisms are being developed in an ad hoc basis for specific issue-areas, such as climate finance, but no GEG-wide registry system is in place. Examples include OECD’s tracking of development financing, or the proposal for GEG finance tracking (Najam and Muñoz 2008). Institutionally, UNEP would perhaps be best placed to host this register since it has the institutionwide mandate for information gathering and knowledge creation.

Indeed, placing such a system within UNEP would also serve to strengthen UNEP in other significant ways. For example, it would provide a renewed reason for better inter-institution coordination, especially between MEA secretariats and UN agencies and programmes.

#### 3. (Re)New(ed) Focus for CSD

Recent events at the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) have again highlighted the fact that it is an institution with a forever uncertain future. Constrained by the straight jacket of a rather inflexible 14 year Programme of Work, its negotiation role severely weakened by an inability to deliver, the CSD clearly needs to rediscover itself again. Born from the Rio Earth Summit 20 years ago, CSD has the perfect opportunity at Rio+20 to reach back to its roots and renew itself as the agency it was originally designed to be.

Revisiting the original mandate of CSD provides useful inspiration, particularly in terms of how important the accountability and implementation role was in the original design of this platform. For example, the original architects of the CSD had envisaged its role as including:

“monitor progress in [...] activities related to the integration of environmental and developmental goals throughout the United Nations system through analysis and evaluation of reports from all relevant organs, organizations, programmes and institutions of the United Nations system dealing with various issues of environment and development;” and “consider [...] information regarding the progress made in the implementation of environmental conventions.” Thus, we propose that the CSD returns to its original purpose, and becomes a reporting and assessment hub, the place where the world meets once a year to assess and to report on progress towards sustainable development, including on environmental issues. It would thus cease to act as a negotiating forum and embrace its original design more wholeheartedly than it has in its first two decades. Accountability of GEG (as well as the other dimensions of Global Governance for Sustainable Development) would become the key function of the CSD.

We envision a reporting process where secretariats would be tasked (and given the necessary tools and mandate) to assess progress towards the respective goals of their organizations, and to develop their reports based but not dependent on national reporting. The focus would be measuring actual progress, rather than effort, as illustrated earlier with the 'pushing the wall' analogy. Importantly, the idea is not that agencies report 'to' the CSD, but that they report 'at' the CSD. This is a key distinction. The idea here is for the CSD to return to its conception as a forum that brings together the key actors in GEG to take stock of where we are in our global commitment to sustainable development, what have we achieved, and what still remains to be done. The idea is not to give the CSD a punitive or regulatory role, but rather to turn it into a venue for an ongoing assessment of the global progress towards sustainable development.

#### 4. Towards a Global Instrument ('A Global Aarhus')

Ultimately we are ready to move towards the next step of creating a global legal instrument to enhance greater accountability in environmental governance. The Economic Commission for Europe's Aarhus Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters is a working model that has been widely cited as a success.

The Aarhus convention, however, is regionally limited in scope. It may be time for a global instrument, a global version of the Aarhus Convention, to improve the GEG system and move it towards a new culture of accountability. As we begin preparations for the 2012 Rio+20 conference, negotiation of such a global instrument might be a goal that Rio+20 sets for itself. If the great achievement of the Rio conference in 1992 was that it triggered a surge of global environmental negotiations and environmental instruments, it would be a fitting goal for Rio+20 to put together a robust system of accountability around these negotiations and instruments. Such an instrument clearly would be Aarhus-plus. Not only because it would be global, but more importantly because it could incorporate the type of steps and recommendations outlined in this paper: an umbrella agreement which brings together a system of better accountability for better implementation in GEG.

#### Sustainable Development Knowledge Partnership (SDKP)

brings together governments, individuals, institutions, and networks engaged in the production and dissemination of knowledge on sustainable development, including research institutions and sustainable development expert networks. Its aim is to organize knowledge on sustainable development and make it available to policy makers and practitioners. The Partnership is supported by the Division for Sustainable Development of the United Nations. Sustainable Development Insights is a contribution of The Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future at Boston University to the SDKP. The Frederick S. Pardee Center for the Study of the Longer-Range Future at Boston University convenes and conducts interdisciplinary, policy-relevant, and future-oriented research that can contribute to long-term improvements in the human condition. Through its programs of research, publications and events, the Center seeks to identify, anticipate, and enhance the long-term potential for human progress, in all its various dimensions.

#### Sustainable Development Insights

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## Brazilian Chemical Industry Association - Abiquim

### BRAZILIAN CHEMICAL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (ABIQUIM) INPUT FOR UNCSD 2012 COMPILATION DOCUMENT

01/11/2011

#### Introduction

1. Sustainable Development is the foundation upon which all human activities should be based. The Brazilian Chemical Industry Association (Abiquim) participated at the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, and has played an active and significant role in subsequent intergovernmental initiatives to promote safer chemicals management at national, regional and international levels, on its own right or as part of the chemical industry community lead by the International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA). Abiquim develops its Responsible Care® initiative, called Atuação Responsável®, since 1992, and is fully committed to promoting sustainability and the safe management of chemicals throughout their lifecycle, both inside and outside the Country.

2. As an ICCA member, Abiquim participated in the development of ICCA's input for UNCSD 2012 Compilation Document and fully supports its contents. Abiquim's document reinforces ICCA's positions and provides some specific views from a chemical industry located in a developing country.

#### Objectives for UNCSD 2012

3. Likewise the ICCA, Abiquim sees UNCSD 2012 as a valuable opportunity to take stock of progress made since the 1992 Earth Summit, and to develop policies and responses which address new and existing challenges, particularly in developing countries, the ones where sustainable development can make the greatest change and positive impact. UNCSD should focus on outcomes that recognize all three pillars of sustainable development as essential components of recommended policies and solutions, whose implementation should be carried out in a balanced manner, taking into account the capacities and priorities of all parties involved.

4. To the chemical sector, the UN Conferences on Sustainable Development have been particularly important to advancing sustainable management of chemicals. Abiquim

believes that, while many challenges remain, significant advances have been made since 1992. Internationally, this includes legally binding instruments focused on the key global elements of chemicals management (e.g. the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions, and the new instrument under negotiation on mercury); innovative multi-stakeholder voluntary based partnerships such as the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM); and industry-led initiatives such as the Global Product Strategy and the Responsible Care Global Charter. Additionally, at regional and national levels, regulations and voluntary industry initiatives (e.g. the Brazilian Responsible Care Program – Atuação Responsável) have been introduced (or improved) aiming at securing adequate levels of chemical safety management.

5. In 2002, at the WSSD, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI), in its paragraph 23, called on stakeholders to renew the commitment advanced in Agenda 21 to sound management of chemicals and to achieve, “by 2020, that chemicals are produced and used in ways that lead to the minimization of all significant adverse effects on human health and the environment” . The JPOI launched the SAICM, whose development was concluded in 2006 and approved at the first International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM 1). Since then, the global community has used the ICCM process, with very good results, to find the best alternatives to meet the WSSD’s “2020 target” for sound chemicals management.

6. Abiquim has been actively engaged with the SAICM at national, regional and international levels (here as part of ICCA). As an ICCA member, Abiquim fully supports the strengthening of SAICM as an outcome from UNCSD and does not support calls for the development of a new international regime on chemicals and hazardous substances. In particular, Abiquim does not view a “framework convention” on chemicals as being appropriate at this time: it would increase the administrative and bureaucratic overhead of international efforts to promote sound chemicals management, and, by excluding non-governmental stakeholders from direct participation in decision making, undermine the innovative and constructive example set by SAICM. The mandate to promote sound chemicals management set at WSSD runs through to 2020, and UNCSD should focus on assessing progress towards the 2020 goal and providing recommendations to help facilitate further progress, in particular with regards to the provision of adequate resourcing for SAICM activities and the functioning of its Secretariat, thus enabling the ICCM to achieve its mandate.

#### Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

7. A green economy, regardless of the absence of a precise and internationally agreed definition of the term, presupposes the existence of greener products and services, produced and consumed sustainably. Abiquim understands that the chemical sector is enabled to provide key contributions to a green economy, and reinforces that the Brazilian chemical industry is publicly committed to developing, producing and delivering greener products and services, in partnership with other sectors and parties.

8. Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP), built around life-cycle thinking, sound economics and scientific understanding, should guide the market to achieve sustainable development. Discussion should consider that production will follow consumption and, though the private sector must take sustainable production seriously, exploring paths to a different, not less, consumption regime is expected to generate better results.

9. The chemical sector considers that green, sustainable chemistry is an indispensable contributor to accomplish sustainable production. Sustainable chemistry is key to ensuring the best use of scarce natural resources as the world’s societal demands increase. This improved chemistry is based on sound and inclusive science, applied in new or improved technologies which lead to innovation and the deployment and diffusion of greener products. To strive, it depends on the application of policy frameworks which enhance sustainable outcomes (for example, incentives for research and development).

10. Since its early days, the chemical industry has been closely related to the energy sector, in particular to the coal and oil industries. This relationship results from the need to use fuels for heating purposes in many chemical processes and from the fact that some of the same fuels and other materials generated by the energy sector have been used as feedstocks for chemicals production. As demands for biofuels increase, new renewable feedstocks have become available as alternative feedstocks for the chemical industry. In Brazil, for example, the opportunity to use biomass as feedstock, in a sustainable chemistry approach, has boosted scientific and technological development both in agriculture and industry, and has already resulted in commercial production of chemicals from biomass. More is in the pipeline, since there is a clear demand for such chemicals for their environmental and social positive impacts. Abiquim understands that UNCSD should promote discussions on incentives to renewable chemicals in order to promote sustainable production within a green economy.

11. Because of its unique position, the chemical industry operating in developing countries has a critical role to play in advancing sustainable chemistry while it supports local sustainable development strategies. Abiquim defends that poverty eradication in developing countries can be accomplished faster and more efficiently by promoting responsible industrialization strategies for their national economies, aiming at achieving sustainable patterns of production and consumption, in line with green economy principles. Properly conducted, industrial sustainable development strategies provide many direct benefits such as good and well paid jobs, improved infrastructure and better education for workers; as well as indirect benefits such as higher social incomes and improved urban conditions. The chemical industry is globally recognized as a good employer and through its investments and high value products, a great contributor to poverty eradication in the countries where it operates. Every job in the chemical industry generates five others in the value chains it participates, not including the ones in universities and research centers, making this industry a catalyst for social and economic development, in a green economy context.

12. Investments in responsible industrialization in developing countries should be a priority in a green economy. The capital applied in industry raises the living standards of all segments in any society, heavily contributing to free millions from illness, hunger, lack of decent housing and violence – well known consequences of poverty. Investors should be stimulated to use their financial resources in supporting sustainable production, particularly in developing countries, as a way to earn fair returns and to contribute to reduce the risks of global financial crises. Policy frameworks to stimulate investments need to be clear, stable and predictable to give investors and financiers the confidence to foster innovation-led green development which address all three pillars (economic, social and environmental) of sustainable development.

13. Open trade, functioning under international accepted rules, is indispensable for growing a green economy. Efforts to advance the green economy, including public-private partnerships, should work within market systems and not distort markets or limit market access, with an appropriate balance between public and private sector roles. Government policies should promote greener products and technologies without establishing tariffs or other trade barriers that could hinder their application to greening economies worldwide. Of particular importance is secure and cost-effective access to key renewable raw materials for chemical production. The global development and diffusion of simple and viable technologies on one hand, and state of the art technologies on the other, which will be crucial to progress towards a green economy (e.g. on issues such as climate change), depends heavily on free and open trade.

14. A global culture which fosters sustainable values and life-styles is the foundation of a green economy. Public at large should know more about the science which supports sustainable development, and governmental authorities and officers, industry professionals and other decision makers should be educated through capacity building initiatives related to sustainability, particularly in developing countries. A global culture based on sustainable values cannot tolerate social disruptors such as the traffic of drugs, corruption, terrorism and wars. A rigorous fight against them is vital to allow green economy and sustainable development to flourish.

#### Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

15. Abiquim subscribes ICCA’s positions regarding the need to enhance the current institutional framework for sustainable development, which has a number of shortcomings. The failure of CSD-19 to agree on an outcome is an important illustration, highlighting the way that negotiated text has taken priority over the identification of practical mechanisms for advancing sustainable development. ICCA and Abiquim strongly believe that the focus of discussions on the institutional framework at UNCSD must be on pragmatic reform to ensure a more integrated approach to sustainable development at the inter-governmental level.



16. Institutional frameworks should foster sustainable development rather than constrain it, and form must follow function. Relevant activities should be grouped together in clusters, without establishing additional layers of bureaucracy. Efficiencies should be pursued in all instances where they can help to promote sustainable outcomes. The private sector has technical and implementation-related expertise that can help inform policy decisions and improve the effectiveness of implementation.

17. As part of the ICCA, Abiquim supports the strengthening of UNEP to enable it to more effectively coordinate and address environmental issues within the overall context of sustainable development. Reform must, however, extend beyond that to include key global institutions covering all three pillars of sustainable development. These institutions should be integrated into the priority-setting process, and concentrate on their specific added value. Two concrete steps should be implemented to assist in setting priorities and ensuring that resources are appropriately deployed:

(a) Strengthening the science-policy interface within international institutions, with the full and meaningful participation of developing countries. This must also include channels for incorporating credible and robust science from stakeholders, including business and industry;

(b) Links between policy frameworks and the financing for relevant institutions also need to be strengthened. Government resourcing for international institutions should be more strategic, and the institutional framework should provide for vigilant oversight of resources contributed.

18. The institutional framework for sustainable development should also help build capacity and develop institutions that support implementation at the national level. National and regional differences mean that imposing a top-down global model for sustainable development is unlikely to effectively address underlying problems and challenges. Taking ownership of sustainable development through national institutions (with appropriate international support) is the most likely means of securing real impact at the national level.

19. Finally, sustainability challenges cannot be adequately addressed by governments alone. The challenges of globalization require active collaboration between governments and other stakeholders. In this regard, private-public partnerships can supplement inter-governmental activities and act as a catalyst for improved implementation. SAICM provides an innovative model of how multi-stakeholder frameworks can help advance sustainable development objectives. Any reforms to the institutional framework for sustainable development emerging from UNCSD must recognize the contribution of non-governmental stakeholders, including business and industry, and ensure an appropriate role for these groups in the pursuit of sustainable outcomes.

## Brazilian Society of Ecological Economics (ECOECO)

The Brazilian Society of Ecological Economics-ECOECO, founded in 1994, is a regional society affiliated with the International Society for Ecological Economics – ISEE. ECOECO is a nonprofit scientific society, whose aims are to build ecological economics as a field of study and transdisciplinary understanding on the interactions between society and nature, motivating academic debate and interaction with public policies. ECOECO held its 9th Biennial Conference in Brasília from Oct. 4-7, 2011, having as one of its principal lines of discussion, the potential for transition to a “Green Economy”. This synthesis reflects on the discussion and makes recommendations for consideration during UNCSD (“Rio+20”).

### 1. Definitional issues: the “Green Economy” and Decoupling in focus

1.1 In our view, Green Economy is not exactly a new concept, but rather a toolkit for sustainable development: it should be understood as a pragmatic effort to change the real economy so as to be in alignment (with) and serve as a promoter (for) sustainable development.

1.2 From the Ecological Economics perspective, the Green Economy is based on the “Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC)”. As a reiteration of “old” ideas in new clothing; it is a proposal to put in practice the technological effects and (sectoral) composition that it is supposed may be able to compensate for the “scale” effect of economic growth in a finite world. An important difference from the EKC, is that it proposes political activism to accelerate the transition, to induce the construction of a “tunnel” under the EKC, so as to improve human wellbeing and social equality and at the same time as it would significantly reduce the risks of environmental damage and limitations (UNEP, 2011).

1.3 Preoccupation with “sustainable scale” is included in the green economy “toolkit” in a very limited form, through the valuation of ecosystem services, internalization of environmental externalities and revision of the system of national accounts to signal tendencies of depletion of natural resources and loss of environmental quality. It would thus act as an “Early Warning System” of potential collapse.

1.4 The transition to a Green Economy is not spontaneous: it is clear that “business as usual” will be incapable of conducting the transition toward a green economy. On the contrary, such a transition will require substantial effort and engagement of all segments of society, in particular governments and private sector agents. It would demand, on the part of governments, that they level the playing field for “greener” products through removal of perverse incentives, revision of policies and incentives, introducing new market and regulatory mechanisms, redirecting public investments and public acquisitions. On the private sector side, it is necessary to respond to these policy reforms through increased financing and investment, as well as capacity building and the ability to innovate to take advantage of the opportunities opened up by the green economy.

1.5 Decoupling: implies a significant separation of rates of economic growth and welfare improvement from rates of resource consumption and associated negative environmental impacts – combined with resource productivity enhancement and increased eco-efficiency. These are resultant processes from the application of instruments proposed for the “Green Economy Initiative”; that is, decoupling will arise from a profound change in the structure of economic incentives present in a given country.

### 2. Policy dimension: potential North-South, South-South and domestic conflicts

2.1 The context of systemic crisis as an opportunity: as a consequence of a series of simultaneous crises (financial, economic, climatic, food security, energetic, ethical...), that configure a systemic crisis, debates and reflections have arisen throughout the world about the need for a new economy. This is an opportune moment to finally introduce into the economy.

2.2 Recognition that the transition for a green economy will not be neutral, since there will be losers: despite the multiple synergies and focus on measures that can generate win-win outcomes, it should be recognized that the green economy also implies losses for some actors. It is necessary to undertake measures that protect workers and smooth the way toward green jobs.

2.3 North-South conflicts that can be stimulated by the Green Economy: since currently green technologies are the domain of only a few developed countries, it is important to be attentive that the green economy not be a source of increased international disparities. Some developed countries possess a series of advantages, such as human resource capacity, technological infrastructure, high R&D investment, consolidated and long-term finance mechanisms and existing economic incentives, etc. International cooperation and new and additional financing should be considered as mechanisms to impede that the green economy serve to introduce new sources of disparities. The transition to a green economy must become a strategy of endogenous development in less developed countries.

2.4 The impact of green technologies along the social dimension: our concern here is with the complementarity or conflict between technological market solutions (protected by intellectual property rights) and “environmental social technologies” (adaptive, less sophisticated solutions in the public domain). It is necessary to evaluate carefully the

impact of new green technologies on employment, both nationally and internationally so as not to exacerbate preexistent inequalities.

2.5 South-South conflicts that the Green Economy can generate: Southern nations are more and more heterogeneous. Brazil has moved closer to the BRICS and further from Latin America. It is necessary to create a means to favor the transition globally and minimize consequent losses.

2.6 Domestic conflicts that can be generated by the Green Economy: changes in the incentive structure of a country can benefit some and harm others. Losses must be minimized. How can Decoupling be conciliated with a commodity boom? How to internalize environmental costs without losing competitiveness?

The "Green Economy Initiative" involves economic interests through the market for environmental technologies, but should not be confused with a proposal for economic liberalism; on the contrary, it should be clearly recognized the need for regulation, governmental interventions that allow a break with given existing technological trajectories to give space to new ecological technological trajectories.

The green economy has different meanings for developing and emergent economies. For the emergent, it means not only to continue growing with low impact, but also as an opportunity for endogenous development. In this sense, the obligations of Northern countries with those in the South in the name of the common good should contemplate technology transfer not as a return to neocolonialism, but involving an awareness of responsibility for environmental service payments as an ecological debt.

The operational dimension: how to promote transition for a green economy in Brazil

Transition policies should have as a goal the creation of instruments with the objective to change the structure of incentives, but also, disincentives, so as to induce agents to consider environmental effects in their production and consumption decisions (internalize the externalities).

Education has to be a highest priority, principally basic education (fundamental and high school levels), including technical training. With regard to environmental education, its principal focus should be to influence demand, that is, to educate the consumer.

Economic policy should orient investment in pro-transition sectors in which Brazil has competitive advantages, and to define special public policies that for micro and small businesses, since large enterprises react to investor pressures and regulatory rules. For this, it is necessary to create incentive and eco-innovation mechanisms, which would have as a basis the conception of innovation mobilized by profits. Some strategies in this sense include: investment in win-win-win (social, economic and environmental) strategies; investment in social technologies – already available, at low cost, with great local potential; promotion of policies of endogenous technological innovation and reverse logistics; and creation of a robust system of indicators that consider the environmental dimension.

Contribution of the scientific community (ECOECO)

The integration between scientific knowledge and development of new products, the articulation of scientific knowledge with theoretical-methodological qualification in the involved concepts are mechanisms that contribute to generate academic products consistent with reality and the needs of the economy as a whole. Examples of this are the TEEB and Green Economy studies conducted by UNEP; and studies on the costs and benefits of different market instruments and public policies that enable a transition to a green economy. Such engagement of ecological economics practitioners should be stimulated.

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## Building Sustainable Cities

A Rio+20 e a construção de cidades sustentáveis

Contexto

O mundo está se urbanizando rapidamente. Hoje mais da metade da população mundial vive em cidades. No caso latino-americano, 80% da população vive em cidades. Em países como Argentina, Brasil, Chile e Uruguai trata-se de porcentagens maiores de 85% da população. Esta transformação demográfica altera profundamente o modo como o mundo se governa. Já não somos populações rurais dispersas com capacidade de decisão política, econômica e social apenas nas capitais. O próprio mundo rural, hoje em dia, encontra-se articulado com as cidades regionais e locais. As cidades, com o seu entorno rural, tornaram-se as unidades básicas de gestão do território e da sociedade.

A Rio+20 não será mais uma conferência de proclamação de metas planetárias. Estas estão suficientemente definidas na Agenda XXI cujos aportes devem ser aproveitados, mas também na Carta da Terra, nas Metas do Milênio, e tantos outros documentos. Os avanços impressionantes dos últimos anos na nossa capacidade de organizar e disponibilizar as estatísticas do planeta tornam dispensáveis a reapresentação das ameaças que se avolumam. O desafio da Rio+20, não está mais no buscar os objetivos, mas na definição dos processos decisórios da sua implementação.

O fato maior no que tange à implementação das políticas é a virtual inexistência de mecanismos multilaterais de gestão. Siglas como FMI, BM, OMC continuam sem dúvida significativas, mas simplesmente não estão à altura. A própria ONU, parceira indispensável das mudanças, encontra-se profundamente fragilizada. A impotência planetária frente à crise financeira apenas reforça esta compreensão. Os problemas são planetários, mas a gestão que temos, gostemos ou não, está fragmentada nos 193 governos de estados realmente existentes. É a governança que temos, e portanto as grandes políticas deverão se traduzir em planos nacionais de desenvolvimento sustentável. Com isto, a Conferência que se prepara, mais do que reafirmar ou atualizar compromissos globais, deverá traçar o roteiro para que os governos apresentem as suas formas diferenciadas de resposta aos desafios.

As políticas nacionais, por sua vez, terão de se apoiar nas cidades. Ao evoluirmos do "o quê fazer" para o "como fazer", as cidades passam a desempenhar um papel especial. Basicamente, é neste nível que as populações podem participar de maneira organizada da resolução dos seus problemas, da construção da qualidade de vida, segundo os desafios concretos que enfrentam. Os desafios podem ser planetários, e as políticas precisam ser nacionais, mas as realizações devem ao fim e ao cabo mudar os equilíbrios ambientais e a qualidade de vida nos locais onde as populações podem se organizar em torno aos seus objetivos. O tradicional tripé da sociedade economicamente viável, socialmente justa e ambientalmente sustentável precisa claramente ser complementado pela dimensão democrática e participativa da implementação.

A dimensão democrática e participativa tanto faz parte do direito das pessoas de construírem socialmente o seu destino, como é condição da implementação eficiente. A cidade, com seu entorno rural, constitui o espaço por excelência do processo democrático de decisão. É o nível em que as pessoas enfrentam desafios comuns, podem conhecer-se umas às outras, reunir-se, assegurar a eficiência dos programas nacionais. É onde as pessoas conhecem melhor a situação, e podem organizar as indispensáveis parcerias entre iniciativas públicas, empresas, sindicatos, organizações da sociedade civil. Décadas de projetos mal sucedidos nos ensinaram que a apropriação das políticas pelas populações interessadas constitui o principal fator do seu sucesso. Para existirem de verdade, as transformações que o planeta exige precisam se enraizar nas condições concretas de vida das pessoas.

Demasiada atenção tem sido dada à dimensão global dos desafios, e insuficiente ao nível onde são efetivamente implementadas. Em cada cidade encontramos situações de

pobreza crítica, e os programas sociais correspondentes precisam identificar cada família, com endereço concreto, e análise das situações diferenciadas e das medidas necessárias. As políticas de saneamento básico, de destino final de resíduos sólidos, de recuperação de solos, de democratização de acesso às políticas sociais, de articulação da cidade com o seu cinturão verde, de construção sustentável, de arborização, de segurança, de comunicação local, de mobilidade, de educação ambiental, de esporte e tantas outras passam, inevitavelmente, por políticas locais integradas. As pessoas querem viver melhor. Mobilizar o anseio das comunidades por uma vida melhor é essencial para que as políticas de sustentabilidade tenham lastro e profundidade.

Vivemos em um mundo conectado, onde quase todas as cidades estão ligadas pela internet, ou estarão no decorrer desta década. Isto significa que a gestão da sustentabilidade já não se limita a pirâmides verticais de autoridade. Cidades em rede estão aprendendo umas com as outras, consórcios intermunicipais, comitês de bacias hidrográficas, redes de municípios com vocações semelhantes ou complementares estão se organizando nos países e no plano internacional. Com a conectividade atual, já não se discute sobre municípios mais ou menos viáveis, pois a viabilidade econômica depende diretamente das articulações que se formam. A multiplicidade dos poderes locais no planeta não constitui um problema, e sim uma oportunidade de gerar um processo colaborativo planetário de territórios articulados.

As cidades constituem a unidade básica de gestão social e o elo chave da articulação política. Em inúmeros países, os prefeitos estão organizados em redes, federações, entidades regionais, nacionais e internacionais. Constituem um interlocutor essencial para a definição das políticas concretas a serem implementadas. A participação efetiva das cidades na Conferência Rio + 20, através de formas concretas de representação – governamental e não-governamental - é essencial para que os desafios que se manifestam no nível final de implementação das políticas afluam nas discussões e nas decisões finais.

#### Propostas para a ONU

- A ONU e os governos nacionais devem promover políticas de financiamento descentralizado e direto aos poderes locais para projetos de sustentabilidade;
- A ONU e os governos nacionais devem fortalecer a representação das autoridades locais no conjunto do sistema multilateral de decisão;
- Reforçar, no quadro das Nações Unidas e numa visão ampliada da função de Habitat, a organização de um sistema facilitador de intercâmbio científico e tecnológico visando a aprendizagem das cidades, umas com as outras, na construção de políticas de sustentabilidade;
- A ONU deve orientar a dinamização de políticas nacionais e regionais de formação de quadros em desenvolvimento local integrado e sustentável
- A ONU deve adotar (e apoiar a sua implantação em escala mundial) sistemas locais de indicadores sociais, ambientais, políticos, econômicos e culturais que mensurem a qualidade de vida nas cidades, permitindo às populações locais participar e avaliar as políticas de sustentabilidade implementadas;
- A ONU deve disponibilizar informações por meio de plataformas abertas, visando facilitar o acesso democrático a estas, promovendo e apoiando sistemas locais de informação e comunicação. Deve-se ainda, engajar os sistemas nacionais e internacionais de produção de informações, sejam do setor público, organizações não governamentais e setor privado. Uma cidadania informada é essencial para a construção de um processo sustentável de desenvolvimento e, para tanto, todos os atores devem ser envolvidos.

#### Propostas para os governos

I – Realizar gestão estratégica da ocupação do território com vistas ao uso sustentável dos recursos naturais e garantia de qualidade de vida para todos os seres humanos.

II - Reconhecer diferentes modos de vida existentes no território e criar políticas para valorizar essa diversidade.

III – Atuar fortemente na adaptação às mudanças climáticas com foco na diminuição de vulnerabilidade e danos e na geração de impactos positivos, priorizando as medidas que têm co-benefícios imediatos na saúde pública.

IV – Políticas de direito à cidade sustentável e democrática

• Evoluir de políticas setoriais de direito à moradia para políticas de direito à cidade (“construir bairros e cidades, e não apenas casas”), aliada com a eliminação da pobreza, promoção da inclusão social, diminuição das desigualdades, promoção à saúde através de práticas de atividades físicas e esportivas e incentivo à inovação (tecnológica, de gestão e de governança participativa nas cidades).

V - Construir Cidades sustentáveis e democráticas:

- Induzir a formulação de políticas de desenvolvimento urbano que tenham o direito à cidade, a sustentabilidade e a democracia como valores centrais.
- Incentivo à formação de sistemas integrados de cidades, nas escalas nacional, regional e municipal;
- Implantar sistema de indicadores sociais, ambientais, econômicos, políticos e culturais para mensurar a qualidade de vida, garantir a transparência das informações públicas e proporcionar o monitoramento da sociedade sobre as políticas públicas;
- Instituir legislação que estabeleça Planos de Metas para cada gestão, baseados em indicadores e articulados aos Planos Diretores, em todos os municípios;
- Criar e implantar políticas para os diferentes tipos de cidades, particularidades e formas de ocupação existentes no território.
- Fomentar a instalação de estruturas participativas de governança metropolitanas e de revitalização de centros urbanos.
- Garantir amplo acesso à educação, ao esporte e à cultura para crianças, adolescentes e jovens, promovendo a formação profissional, o desenvolvimento pessoal e a capacidade de reflexão sobre os valores que orientam a vida em sociedade com preservação e recuperação da natureza;
- Promover a integração e articulação de políticas de habitação, saneamento, mobilidade, adaptação às mudanças climáticas, proteção de mananciais, promoção do desenvolvimento e do bem-estar humano.
- Articular o acesso ao saneamento básico às ações de superação do déficit habitacional e de promoção da saúde.
- Implementar políticas nacionais de regularização urbanística e fundiária e urbanização de favelas e outras formas de ocupações.
- Aprimorar mecanismos de financiamento, subsídios e arranjos institucionais para suprir déficits e garantir inclusão e acesso a cidades saudáveis.
- Criar políticas de acesso à água potável e proteção aos mananciais de abastecimento de água, incorporando a saúde humana, a qualidade da água e uso sustentável como valores centrais na cadeia de produção da água para abastecimento.
- Ampliar o tratamento, disposição e reutilização de resíduos industriais e inertes, foco especial nas cidades com processos acelerados de crescimento e expansão e

resíduos provenientes da construção civil

- Implantar programas estruturados de coleta seletiva e reciclagem, visando o desenvolvimento de sua cadeia de produção com a inclusão dos catadores e cooperativas.
- Orientar e estruturar o crescimento e mobilidade nas cidades, visando sistemas adequados aos diferentes tamanhos e tipos de cidades existentes no território.
- Incentivar a bicicleta como meio de transporte e criar condições para seu uso seguro (ciclofaixas, ciclovias, ligações intermodais).
- Descentralizar a gestão energética e promover o estabelecimento de diretrizes e legislação local que incentive a utilização de energias renováveis e os ganhos progressivos de eficiência energética.
- Desenvolver políticas para a substituição da matriz energética baseada no petróleo, incentivar a adoção dos combustíveis mais limpos, priorizar o transporte público no sistema viário das cidades e estabelecer limites de emissões de poluentes segundo a Organização Mundial da Saúde.
- Dar ampla visibilidade às boas práticas de sustentabilidade urbana já implantadas nas mais diversas áreas em muitas cidades do mundo, promovendo a socialização das experiências, tecnologias e processos para todas as cidades do planeta.
- Promover a educação para a cidadania, engajando escolas públicas e privadas em programas sobre políticas públicas e democracia;
- Viabilizar políticas públicas em defesa da fauna e flora urbanas.

Esta proposta foi desenvolvida pelo GT "Construindo Cidades Sustentáveis" e contou com a colaboração de vários parceiros.

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## Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland

A commitment to sustainability beyond Green Economy

BUND/Friends of the Earth Germany's contribution to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, June 04-06, 2012

"Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. It contains within it two key concepts:

1. The concept of "needs", in particular the essential needs of the world's poor, to which overriding priority should be given, and
2. The idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organisation on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs."

(WCED 1987, p. 43)

Twenty years after the UN conference on environment and development in 1992 - and thus one summit various avowals and action plans later - we are still far away from the guiding principle of sustainable development. The environmental crises and increasing social inequalities have not been mastered, but rather aggravated. While our understanding of ecological interrelations between the climate and biodiversity crisis - and of the limits of our knowledge - has increased since the first Rio conference, the political answers do not reflect the acknowledged need to act. Nevertheless, almost no time is spent on critical accounting of what has been promised since 1992 and (not) achieved in the preparatory process up till now.

Rio 2012 is supposed to renew the political commitment to sustainable development. Whether it will work or not essentially depends on the commitment of all countries.

Our core aims for sustainable development

are based on the Brundtland Commission's definition: We want a human development - not solely orientated towards poverty reduction but also towards an intra- and inter-generational justice - with economic means within the ecological limits of our planet, achieved by all actors within the scope of regulations set by the states (primacy of politics, creative power of communities as well as of individuals). Every proposal to the UNCDS is to be measured by these basic principles of sustainability.

### 1 Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty reduction

Green Economy will be one of the two defining topics of the conference. It is asserted that Green Economy creates markets for the solution to the environment crises, security of resources, new jobs and more economic growth. Green Economy is not supposed to replace the guiding principles of sustainable development, as the governments continue to emphasise, but to refer to the importance of economy as the main instrument for their realisation and especially to help developing countries to make the leap into green industrial development. There is no mention of an orientation of the economic activity towards human needs, especially of the poorest. The orientation towards maximum profit without public service obligations remains untouched; poverty reduction is one of the objectives, but the respective contribution of Green Economy is hardly designated and thus only appears as a welcomed side effect.

Without question, many of the components of a green economy are important and have been long since demanded by the environmental and development NGOs - for instance, the improvement of energy and resource efficiency by means of ecological tax reforms and the abolishment of environmentally harmful and socially unnecessary subsidies, more recycling, a transition to renewable energy in industry as well as in so-called developing countries, and more. But the decoupling of resource use and economic growth, the transition to green technologies, and ecological modernisation have been propagated for more than 30 years and their economic potential has been underlined: Efficiency pays off for companies. If the universal win-win-potentials are that high, then the previous failure in their realisation is none of the most considerable market failures ever. So why do we keep believing that even more would solve the problems? Will the structural difficulties and resistance of lobbies which have hindered this transition up till now, be resolved if we call it Green Economy?

Green Economy has a great deal of potential to contribute to more sustainable economic but it clearly has its limits:

Green Economy in everyone's sole discretion

What is Green Economy - and what is it not? A universally valid definition of how a sustainable economy could look in different countries is not possible. But the positive nimbus of the Green Economy must not contribute to the legitimisation of highly precarious technologies like CCS, nuclear power, and genetic engineering. The reasoning that such technologies would be necessary to achieve a low-carbon energy supply and food security conceals the fact that there are other less risky solutions.

A consensus must be developed, independent from economic interests, in respect to which technologies should not be funded as "green technologies" or counted as contribution to a green economy - as nuclear power, genetic engineering and carbon capture and storage, deepwater oil drilling and shale gas production.

## Mercantilisation of nature and ecosystem services

UNEP sees the current crisis as an expression of a fundamental error of our economic management and the misallocation of capital. The corresponding political answer is to perform the change towards a Green Economy mainly by means of economic instruments. Some of these, e.g. an ecological tax reform and the abolishment of environmentally harmful subsidies are urgently necessary. However artificial markets for public goods, as we currently experience, offer no effective protection but rather create new risks for humankind, nature and the environment, as seen in emissions trading and the REDD mechanism. If the relevance of ecosystems and biodiversity is accepted in the community of states, as assured by UNEP, then it can also be guaranteed that they are effectively protected.

1. The community of states should look at economic instruments in environmental and resource protection in a more differentiated way. Providing economic incentives is theoretically a sensible approach, but in practice it may have opposite consequences and bring with it insurmountable difficulties. Of paramount importance for the large-scale implementation of economic instruments, aside from their ecological effectiveness, is their impact on poverty and social justice. Economic instruments are not in general superior in all three criteria to others, such as regulatory instruments.

## Blindness to planetary limits

Green Economy relies on efficiency yet disregards sufficiency aspects. The idea of limits, which is still contained in the Brundtland definition, takes a backseat. A complete decoupling of resource use and economic growth, and complete reuse of raw materials are unrealistic. And since efficiency accelerates growth, savings in a single product are often overcompensated by increasing production. Under these circumstances, achieving a reduction CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the industrial countries without streamlining the economy seems unrealistic. Furthermore, the raw materials on which the green economy technologies are based are limited. How should the "planetary limits" - which are indeed acknowledged - be observed if the concept of green economy is unconditionally based on economic growth?

2. Besides the global funding of efficient and green technologies, the change towards a steady state economy must also be accomplished, in which the economy needs 89-90% fewer resources and no longer depends on growth. This requires new models of work production, and service, but first and foremost a remodeling of social systems. There are still no answers to many questions, and little experience to build upon. Here, research and pilot experiments must be pushed. Introducing new indicators beyond the GDP would be an important first milestone, which is not able to express sustainable development.

## Blindness to social justice

Which social and developmental model does Green Economy comprise? Aside from environmental and resource protection, poverty reduction and intra- and inter-generational justice are also part of sustainable development. Today, jobs in the green sector are often paid below the negotiated wages. This is why ecological modernisation must be linked to the vision of a participatory welfare state, as correctly done by UNEP; with humane work with proper payment, renunciation of child labour, health and occupational safety standards, social security, and freedom of assembly as well as promotion of social and economic participation in society for all population groups. Poverty reduction is stated as the goal of a Green Economy, but not which specific measures are to contribute to poverty reduction. In the same way, questions concerning distributive justice remain neglected.

3. If Green Economy is also to be accepted in the population, it must contribute to closing the ever growing gap between poor and rich, to create jobs under proper conditions, to provide social security, and to bring more fairness in value chains between and within societies. A Green Economy must explicitly be an Equitable Green Economy.

Many actors, especially in the global south, criticise the focus on Green Economy as a one-sided concentration on environmental issues at the expense of the efforts undertaken for economic and social development. They see it as an attempt of the industrial countries to establish green protectionism and to hinder the southern countries' economic development with their environmental agenda. This criticism must be taken seriously and common solutions must be found.

The concept of Green Economy can contribute to boosting the advancement of green technologies and production patterns more systematically than it has been done so far. Therefore, especially the industrial and emerging countries have to approach the modification of their economy more consistently - the funding of the green sectors is desirable but also the "brown" industries must be phased out. The reduction of environmentally harmful subsidies must be pushed forward and national capital spending, research, and education policy as well as public procurement must be aligned in an ecologically sustainable and socially just way. To demand and fund "Leap-frogging" in developing and emerging countries, nor on the principle of common but differentiated responsibility.

That environmental protection is by now also seen as having economic potential represents a turning point in debate, and that definitely is a success. Many of the planned individual measures are welcomed as ecological progress, but the fixation on technology and the neoclassical growth orientation as the Janus faces of Green Economy. If the currently dominant interpretation of sustainability, especially the three-pillar model of so-called weak sustainability, is already intellectually incorrect and politically misleading, the Green Economy threatens to further curtail this definition.

The transition to a green, socially (intra- and inter-generationally) just economy in the development of sustainability and social justice requires an agreement on specific guiding principles and rules for individual economic sectors from the community of states and from the member states:

### 1.1 Agriculture and Soil Conservation

- The focus of all relevant policies on sustainable agriculture, serving the threefold goal of food security/the fight against hunger, agricultural biodiversity, and climate protection.
- The express support of small-scale farming with plant varieties and animal breeds adapted to particular environments to promote food sovereignty (see the 2008 International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD))
- The focus on agricultural methods powered by energy from the sun, as opposed to industrialised fossil fuel-dependent methods.
- The adaptation of agriculture to climate change through a combination of traditional and ecological, science-based agricultural methods, especially in the countries in which climate change has the largest impact.
- The cultivation of biomass, agro-fuels and feedstuff should neither threaten food security nor lead to transformation of valuable ecosystems into cropland, be it directly or indirectly.
- Restriction of crop speculation, in that limitations on the amount of raw agricultural products traded in exchanges are reinstated.
- Limitation of the growing global demand for farmland due to so-called "land grabbing" or foreign direct investment in farmland, through the previously mentioned support of small-scale farming. In addition, internationally recognised socio-ecological guidelines or a code of conduct must be proposed; this can then expand upon the process begun by the FAO.

- The limitations of the power of agribusiness, especially in regards to the patenting of seeds and other agricultural inputs.
- Liberalisation within the framework of world trade agreements has not lead to an increase in food security. Countries must be able to decide for themselves whether to use tariffs to protect domestic food markets. In addition, direct and indirect export subsidies must be fundamentally discontinued.
- The introduction of social, environmental, and animal protection criteria based on the Eco-Fair-Trade guidelines.
- The award of a mandate for a legally binding world soil convention for the global protection of soil.
- The reduction of meat production in the EU: cultivation of native food crops instead of large-scale feedstock imports from southern countries, an end to industrial livestock farming.

## 1.2 Water

- The explicit commitment of the international community to implement the human right to water and sanitation, and to ensure universal access to safe fresh water and sanitation, especially through the support of communal water utilities, rather than multinational corporations.
- Consideration of the water demands of ecosystems, the use of surface and ground waters only in quantities not harmful to the environment and at a rate less than or equal to the natural rate of replenishment. Protection of watersheds, and of wetlands in particular.
- Development and distribution of water efficiency technology in agriculture, industry, and in households.
- Allocation of existing water resources to achieve the greatest possible social utility and the guarantee of ecological sustainability.
- The limitation of construction of large dams, and commitment to the guidelines of the World Commission on Dams (see also "Energy"). Although often socially and ecologically devastating, plans for large dams continue to advance, oftentimes with the support of multilateral development banks and development aid funds.

## 1.3 Energy

- The voluntary agreement of the international community to the following goals by 2030: 30% of total energy from renewables (excluding large hydropower), 40% reduction of energy use, and universal access to sustainable energy service.
- More consistent development of renewable energies, with wind and solar power taking precedence over hydropower. Large dams may only be constructed in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the World Commission on Dams. Biomass and agro-fuel production should not compete with food production for land.
- The end of the age of fossil fuels as soon as possible, no new construction of oil and coal power plants. Natural gas combined heat and power plants may be constructed as a transnational solution for power production.
- No construction of new or replacement of nuclear power plants and the quickest possible phase-out of nuclear power; due to the unmanageable risks associated with it, nuclear power does not present a "green", climate-friendly energy solution.
- Development of binding national timetables for the dismantling of environmentally harmful direct and indirect energy subsidies, especially those for nuclear power and fossil fuels; the funds freed in this transition should be used to help launch renewable energies and energy efficiency in the market.

## 1.4 Biodiversity and Ecosystems

- The implementation of the Aichi Targets of the CBD's new strategic plan during the UN Decade on Biodiversity, including the dismantling of harmful subsidies, reduction of the global carbon footprint, and the end of overfishing in the world's oceans.
- Mobilisation of sufficient capital for the protection of biodiversity, including funds freed from dismantled subsidies. When dealing with the preservation of our livelihood, market-based approaches are not a substitute for good legislation and secure, direct financial support that must be oriented towards the common good.
- Swift ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol (ABS Protocol) on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilisation.
- Implementation of REDDplus solely as a funds-based mechanism with effective safeguards. Forests are more than carbon sinks; they are a living space for humans, complex systems of great biodiversity and an indispensable element in water cycles. At the same time, forests as the 'green lungs' of our earth, are one of the fundamental factors in climate protection. Hence, all instruments of forest conservation policy need to take into account the protection of human rights, of biological diversity and of the climate. Market-based mechanisms do not achieve this.
- Protection of the last old-growth forest from development of any kind, including certified logging. Promotion of stricter international standards for wood products, especially in regards to proof of origin.

## 1.5 Marine Conservation

- Development of a comprehensive international network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in international waters, outside of national borders of 200 nautical miles, in which all economic activity, such as fishing and the utilisation of resources, is prohibited (no take zones). The MPAs must cover at least 30% of the ocean, since the oceans will only have a chance to recover if one third of the worldwide marine biodiversity is comprehensively protected.
- Development of a system of environmental impact assessment for all types of intervention in international waters. The assessment of ecological consequences for marine environments should follow the precautionary principle and the ecosystem approach as basic principles and should be carried out by an independent authority.
- Implementation of global sustainable fisheries, most importantly the reduction of fishing capacities of large trawlers.
- Effective reduction of rubbish pollution in the oceans. In order to achieve this, the amount of rubbish collected on beaches - an indicator of marine pollution levels - must be reduced by 50% before 2020. Rubbish in the ocean kills 1 million birds and 100,000 marine mammals die each year, and pollutes the food chain with toxic materials.
- Clear and ambitious movement towards a green economy that favours and incentivises long life, biodegradable and sustainably sourced goods and packaging in order to protect our oceans against the rising amount of disposable and single use goods that are ending up in the marine environment. Actions to encourage such an economy will have multiple economic and social benefits due to the reduction in costs associated with the damage caused to coast tourism and other marine industries.

## 1.6 Green Technology

- Technologies with a high societal risk such as CCS, nuclear energy and genetic engineering cannot be promoted as "green technologies" or be counted towards of sustainable development.

- The community of states should make technologies that support sustainability public goods by buying up the patents and sharing the technologies throughout the world free of charge. If companies refuse to sell the patents, the worldwide availability of technologies could be enforced by legal means, as in the case of AIDS medication.

## 2 Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

There is an obvious implementation deficit of the Rio resolutions, just as the coordination problems within the UN have not yet been solved after the UN reform, especially in the environmental but also in the development sector. There are numerous suggestions to improve the international environment and sustainability architecture, in governments as well as from actors in civil society. It remains to be seen whether those, who are ultimately capable of consensus, will be sufficiently ambitious.

The main demands of the BUND/Friends of the Earth Germany are:

1. Both the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the Commission for Sustainable Development (UN CSD) must be substantially upgraded regarding budgeting and mandate.
2. The basic principles of sustainable development must become guidelines and objectives for other political fields and institutions as well. Especially international financial institutions (IFIs) and the world trade regime must be obligated to pursue ecological goals, or to bindingly take the regulations of environmental agreements into consideration through other UN institutions and processes, and above all international institutions and processes outside the UN. (end of 7)
3. Governments have to commit to more transparency, accountability, and liability in international contracts and agreements, including by means of a monitoring mechanism in the UN-system.
4. In addition to the Millennium Development Goals, a mandate for sustainable development goals should be issued. These goals need to embrace concepts of basic needs and social justice as well as planetary boundaries, and should apply for all countries.
5. Since sustainable development ultimately takes place on the local level, the interests of sustainability must also be reinforced on the local and national level
6. The participation of the Major Groups within the scope of the CSD as well as within the rest of the UN environment and development architecture and down to the national level must be reinforced.
7. New indicators for the measurement of social prosperity must be found - the GDP is not suitable to measure progress on sustainable development.

### 2.1 Upgrading the UNEP

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) is currently financed solely through voluntary payments of single countries and other UN organisations and is thus permanently underfunded. Moreover, further coordination is required between the UN institutions that are responsible for environmental tasks and the international agreements with their offices beyond the existing Environmental Management Group under the aegis of UNEP. In the end, the specific implementation of programmes and agreements in the member states are hindered due to the lack of human resources on the side of UN institutions and national administrations and to the high requirements of coordination on national level. An upgrade of the UNEP should reach for the following goals: 1) creating more coherence in the environment architecture of the UN system, 2) strengthening the environment pillar in comparison to other areas by means of bundling.

. The UN environmental programme should be transformed to a specialised agency of the UN, with a proper and binding budget and an extended mandate. As specialised agency, a UNEO, would have the universal membership of all UN member states together. If that is not possible, the attempt should be undertaken to achieve a universal membership and better budgeting within the existing UNEP.

. As the central UN authority for the environment, a UNEO must also stand for the contribution of the environment to social development. It is often the poorest who are most dependent on nature and the immediate right to use natural resources for their livelihoods.

. Furthermore, it must stand for the conservation of value of the natural livelihoods, also beyond economic rationales and profitable interests.

. In its new role such a UNEO should undertake the coordination between the different environmental agreements (MEAs) without constraining the ability of the offices to act. It can thereby monitor the execution as a central authority and help to work more effectively on points of intersection.

. As a Clearing House Mechanism, a UNEO should bundle the information and data from monitoring programmes and organisations in respect to environmental trends and make these accessible to politics, research and the public.

. A UNEO should coordinate the environmental work of the UN, especially on the level of the member states, in order to redress an unraveling into many small interventions and to not unnecessarily burden the national administrations.

### 2.2 Upgrading the CSD

Since 1992, the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (UN CSD), being a permanent member of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), has been in charge of supervising the implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Action as well as the continuation of the Rio process.

. The UN Commission for Sustainable Development (UN CSD) should be upgraded either through a merger with the ECOSOC or by establishing a council for sustainable development modeled on the Human Rights Council which is directly subordinated to the UN General Assembly.

. In any case, stronger involvement of the Major Groups should be provided through the right to speak and the power of initiative.

. Its members should include high-ranking or elected government officials so that ambitious, binding decisions can be made.

. The Major Groups should gain the right to speak and the power of initiative in a reformed sustainability council; similarly, involvement within environmental organisations should be arranged.

. The Major Groups should also be formally involved regarding formulation, realisation, and monitoring of sustainability strategies and goals on the national level. To consider the impacts on people and the environment in third world countries, a consultation with third country delegates could take place prior to the passage of sustainability strategies, as already implemented in France.

### 2.3 Integration of Sustainability into other Policy Areas and Institutions

Considering sustainable development as an international goal, decision making may not be limited to specific conferences and institutions. The underlying principles of sustainable development must also become the guidelines for other policy areas and institutions. International financial institutions and the global trade regime in particular must be obligated to pursue social and ecological goals.

. These basic principles must be anchored in the catalogue of targets of the international financial institutions, and have to be further considered in the allocation of financial resources and consulting services.

. Terms of the national and international environmental law have to be given more weight in comparison with other legally protected goods within the multilateral WTO negotiations as well as in bilateral peace and investment agreements.

. In order to create the necessary framework for social welfare and ecological sustainability, financial markets in particular have to be more strongly regulated and the speculation with foodstuff and natural resources on the international market have to be contained.

### 2.4 UN Parliament

State parliaments have little to say during the negotiations of international treaties and conventions. In order to give international treaties broad social support this should be changed and an advisory parliamentary assembly should be established within the UN. This would not replace the Security Council, the UN General Assembly, the Bretton-Woods financial institutions or other UN bodies. It would be an additional institution to integrate parliamentarians more effectively into global governance.

### 2.5 Reinforcement of Sustainability on the national and local Level

While important decisions concerning cooperation and determination of goals are made on a global level, the realisation of sustainable development occurs on the national and local level. The international conference on sustainable development should therefore also give an impulse for the enhancement of sustainability interests on the national and local level.

This could be achieved amongst others by extending the mandates of national sustainability councils and formally involving Major Groups in the formulation, realization and monitoring of sustainability strategies. To consider the impacts on people and the environment in third world countries, a consultation with third country delegates could take place prior to the passage of sustainability strategies, as already implemented in France.

### 2.6 Participation, Access to Information, and legal Protection

During the Rio Convention of 1992 the nations already recognised the importance of different groups of society in contributing to a sustainable development. The contribution of these nine Major Groups to the political organisation of sustainability has to be fostered on a national as well as international level.

. Municipal administrations in particular should be involved in high-level decision-making in areas on which cities can have a great impact, such as energy, water, traffic, and construction. Coalitions like the ICLEI and the Covenant of Mayors highlight the potential for action on the municipal level.

. Meaningful participation requires access to information. In Europe this principle of the Rio Declaration has already been codified in European law through the Aarhus Convention. The right to access to information concerning the environment from government agencies should be anchored on a global level, and complemented by the right to access to information related to the environmental impacts of corporations.

. In addition, the right to access to jurisdiction of environmental relevance which has been acknowledged by the Aarhus Convention should be extended to the global level so that governments as well as corporations can be held responsible when breaking national and international environmental law.

. Multinational corporations have massive influences on humans and the environment. During the financial crisis the social answer was to socialise the damages –against the polluter pays principle –and to save the enterprises believed to be “too big to fail”. Thus a mandate for a convention should be issued to hold businesses responsible, which –beyond the definition of corporate liability to protect environment and society (like environmental impact assessments) –will also hold them responsible to full liability and the right to indemnity for affected people according to the causative principle.

### 2.7 Measurable Goals of Sustainability

The lack of concrete, time-bound goals at the 1992 summit in Rio has contributed to the non-compliance of various claims of the Rio and Johannesburg summits. BUND /Friends of the Earth Germany therefore welcomes Columbia's proposal following the Millennium Development Goals to adopt international Sustainable Development Goals.

. The goals have to be time-bound and measurable, and further supplemented by an effective framework to ensure monitoring and accountability.

. They must take into consideration the challenges for sustainable development in all countries –developing countries, emerging nations, and industrial countries. This includes in particular ecological thresholds, comparable to the goal to halt global warming at maximum 2°C, framework conditions for life in dignity, inter- and intra-generational justice and sustainable lifestyle.

. They must tie in with the definition of sustainability from the early 90s (Brundtlandt) or the WBGU of recent years.

. SDGs should neither water down existing environmental goals and responsibilities nor undermine existing actions (UN FCCC, CBD etc.).

. An independent and effective authority must be established that is responsible for monitoring and compliance.

### 2.8 Indicators

As long as we measure social prosperity with the GDP, we will hardly be able to measure whether we approach our goal of sustainable development. It is equally important to capture consumption and regeneration of our natural resources and of social factors, and to consider them equally in politics. The Human Development Index is a useful measure for social development, however it is more useful to regard its elements one by one. The consumption of nature by society should be captured in real numbers through the resource use indicator. Here, the enviro-economic total account or the UN-Stats System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting could serve as starting points.

In Rio, the member states should agree on a collective plan for the establishment of such comprehensive indicators.

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## Business and Industry

Business Action for Sustainable Development 2012

Contribution for Rio+20 Compilation Document

1 November 2011

Note: this BASD 2012 submission consists of a main chapeau text on the two main themes of the Rio+20 Conference, complemented and supported by submissions from BASD partners and convenors highlighting their specific contribution to Rio+20. These wide range of private sector expert inputs illustrate the collaborative effort of BASD 2012 partners, conveners, and their respective memberships.

The private sector has a key role to play in helping achieve the goals of sustainable development, in particular poverty eradication. This fact has been noted in Agenda 21 and at many United Nations conferences including the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development (UNCSD). In addition, many around the world are part of the "private sector", whether as self-employed, entrepreneurs, farmers, or small and medium sized as well as large multi-national enterprises. The private sector generates most of the goods and services that are utilized every day and must actively be engaged to address the implementation gaps that have limited achievements of the sustainable development goals.

### Introduction

1. In June 2012, world leaders will meet in Rio for the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Rio+20). The objective of the Conference is to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess the progress to date, as well as the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, and address new and emerging challenges.
2. Since 1992, business has been deeply and constructively engaged in the many United Nations and other international conferences that have identified the crucial components of a global partnership for sustainable development. Together the outcomes of these conferences reflect a global consensus on the challenges facing humanity and set out a roadmap for cooperative action required by all actors in society – governments, business, civil society and consumers.
3. A growing number of companies around the world have already put sustainability at the forefront of their agenda, recognizing the growing relevance and urgency of global environmental, social and economic challenges. Engagement by the private sector can help ensure that the Rio+20 Conference is a launching ground for widespread global action in support of sustainability, green growth and poverty eradication.
4. Regardless of company size or location, corporate leaders understand how sustainability issues affect the bottom-line and, thus, are looking beyond traditional business and financial factors. For example, market disturbances, civil unrest or ecological strains which are happening nearby or far away can have wide-ranging and material impacts through the value chain, capital flows, public opinion or employee productivity.
5. Companies view sustainability issues from both, a risk management perspective, and the increasingly evident and appealing benefits and opportunities – particularly associated with green growth and poverty alleviation. In short, the business case for sustainability has strengthened as a response to the deep interdependencies in today's globalized world.
6. Business has already made significant contributions and developed a wide range of tools and applications to measure environmental, social, and governance impacts and help assess response measures, such as:
  - Voluntary sustainability principles based on frameworks and conventions supported by all governments, such as those of the United Nations Global Compact;
  - The International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Business Charter for Sustainable Development – which provides companies (large and small) with the basis for sound environmental management, as well as its systems conditions for a transition towards a green economy;
  - Long-term visions such as the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Vision 2050;
  - Capacity-building activities for small and medium-sized enterprises via the ICC World Chambers Federation (WCF) network;
  - Sectoral approaches, e.g. the chemical industry's "Responsible Care", the WBCSD's Cement Sustainability Initiative (CSI), the International Council on Mining and Metals "Sustainable Development Framework", the Global Gas Flaring Reduction partnership (GGFR), the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles (PCFV), WBCSD's Tire Industry Project, or the aviation industry's sector-wide climate change targets.
7. Business is willing to step up its efforts to raise more awareness about its existing commitments and achievements already made. We will also continue to broaden and deepen our thinking towards Rio+20 on key themes of the conference. BASD 2012 via the member companies and associations stand ready to support, build, scale up, and accelerate cooperative initiatives in Rio+20 and beyond to achieve the objectives of sustainable development.
8. It is in this context that the temporary coalition of the Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) has been re-established to coordinate the participation of the private sector to the Rio+20 Conference and enhance its contribution to sustainable and inclusive markets.
9. BASD 2012 thus welcomes this opportunity to submit input to the compilation document for Rio+20 and establish leading priorities for governments to maximise the contribution of business, not only at Rio+20 but beyond. While this document will focus on the two themes of Rio+20 - a) green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and b) institutional framework for sustainable development - BASD 2012 has and will continue to bring forward a wide range of private sector experiences and expertise on specific topics which can be found in the appendix such as:

a) Access to Energy

- b) Agriculture and Food Security
- c) Ecosystems and Biodiversity
- d) Food - Water - Energy Nexus
- e) Science, Technology, and Innovation
- f) Social Development, Human Rights, and the Role of Business
- g) Resource and Materials Management
- h) Transformational Partnerships
- i) Urbanization
- j) Water for Green Economy and Poverty Alleviation

Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

10. Business expects the Rio+20 outcome to focus on the following key deliverables to catalyse private sector action towards a green economy:

- Take stock of progress since the 1992 Earth Summit, and develop policies and approaches that address new and existing challenges, recognizing the economic, social, and environment pillars of sustainable development as essential components of recommended policies and solutions.
- Encourage widespread adoption and uptake of sustainability principles by businesses of all sizes, sectors and regions.
- Provide the enabling environment necessary to accelerate and intensify the practice of corporate sustainability so that business can fully contribute to sustainable development. Combating corruption and ensuring peace and security will be critical to diffuse corporate sustainability practices. The private sector is committed to work collaboratively with the public sector and civil society to create incentives and remove barriers to achieve green economies.
- Embed the "green economy" concept in the broader sustainable development concept. The business community believes that the term "green economy" is embedded in the broader sustainable development concept. While business would rather speak about "greener economies" to acknowledge the many opportunities and risks for its sectors, value chains, and different national contexts, for the purpose of the Rio+20 Conference, we acknowledge the term "green economy" and view it as a unifying theme to articulate the "sustainable development direction" in which all global economies need to move albeit the existing tensions and global economic turmoil.
- Recognize that in order to move forward, it is crucial to green all sectors in all countries and advance resource efficiency and life cycle approaches. We consider improvements of existing processes (manufacturing technologies, jobs, logistics, research, etc.) to be as important as launching new products and technologies. Both approaches should be pursued simultaneously for a step change. It should be noted that business operates across global supply and value chains and greening all stages along the life cycle of its products and services is becoming a guiding principle for many leading companies and sectors. The actions needed to transition towards a green economy vary from sector to sector, value chain, and from country-to-country, depending on national circumstances, for example near term priorities may differ significantly especially for least developed countries.
- Recognize that collaboration and collective action is needed to operationalize and mainstream the concept of a green economy. The transition towards a green economy is a shared responsibility by all actors in the value chain. No one stakeholder group, whether business and industry, governments or society, can do this on their own. Collaboration and collective action on innovation and technology development and their appropriate deployment via sustainable production and consumption (SCP) concepts are at the heart of greening economies. It should also be noted that education is the cornerstone of any strong and competitive 'green economy' and a skilled workforce is a prerequisite. Stepping up education efforts will foster the mindsets and behavioural changes needed to drive the required innovations into the direction of a 'green economy'. Public private partnerships can hereby play a major role in building the essential knowledge and skills required for the transition to a green economy.

11. The "green economy" is described as an economy in which economic growth and environmental responsibility work together in a mutually reinforcing fashion while supporting progress on social development. Business and Industry thus has a crucial role in delivering economically viable products, processes, services and solutions required for the transition to green economy. A green economy should integrate the three pillars (social, economic, environment) of sustainable development. Efforts by all actors need to look beyond short-term pressures and focus on the development of long term shared value.

Therefore, business and industry believes that the Rio+20 outcome should outline high level system conditions, including the following core items (please see appendix for a detailed description) which seek to describe what is required to transition a green economy, from both business and governments:

Social innovation

- 1. Awareness
- 2. Education and skills
- 3. Employment

Environment innovation

- 4. Resource efficiency and decoupling
- 5. Life cycle approach

Economic innovation

- 6. Open and competitive markets
- 7. Metrics, accounting, and reporting
- 8. Finance and investment

Mutually enforcing cross-cutting elements

9. Integrated environmental, social and economic policy and decision making

10. Governance and partnerships.

Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

12. Green economy and international institutional framework for sustainable development should become mutually reinforcing, as there is a need for structural change in institutions. Improving these institutions and their ability to enable the right frameworks are critical so that all actors can deliver on their shared responsibility and ensure better coordination and policy implementation.

13. BASD believes that the following key points should be considered in the Rio+20 compilation document:

- A system-wide strategy for sustainability across the United Nations system, including strengthening synergies across the various bodies involving the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development. Sustainability challenges, such as climate change, food, resource scarcity, water, energy, waste management, corruption and social inclusion, poverty eradication, awareness, employment, education, call for an integrated, strategic approach and collective United Nations vision. We encourage the development of synergies between compatible multilateral environmental agreements, while preserving and complementing the independence and tailored nature of multilateral agreements should be a priority.
- Enhancement of the engagement of business and business organizations at global, regional, and national levels; business is a primary contributor to prosperity as recognized in Agenda 21, article 30.1.
- Strengthening the science-policy interface within international institutions, with the full and meaningful participation of developing countries. This must also include channels for credible and robust science from stakeholders, particularly from business and industry.
- Identification of priorities by United Nations institutions and concentration on their specific expertise. In the past two decades, a number of new challenges to sustainable development have surfaced which have required the international community to develop collaborative, global efforts. Climate change, the loss of biodiversity, water management, the spread of desertification and land degradation, damages to marine life, all these issues have been taken by the United Nations in an effort to offer concerted solutions. A clear process leading to a thorough assessment of emerging issues would assist in the allocation of tasks and responsibilities amongst a variety of actors within and outside the United Nations.

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Appendix

Contribution for Rio+20 Compilation Document

Draft Ten Systems Conditions for a Transition towards a Green Economy

Author: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

The ICC Green Economy Task Force has defined the term "Green Economy" as follows: "The business community believes that the term "Green Economy" is embedded in the broader sustainable development concept. The "Green Economy" is described as an economy in which economic growth and environmental responsibility work together in a mutually reinforcing fashion while supporting progress on social development. Business and industry has a crucial role in delivering the economically viable products, processes, services, and solutions required for the transition to a green economy."

The Task Force undertook extensive analysis and global consultation to determine what is required to further a transition towards a Green Economy, including the development of the following ten high level systems conditions that will form part of a longer term ICC Green Economy Roadmap.

The Ten Green Economy Systems Conditions

Social innovation

1. Awareness

The shift towards a Green Economy requires awareness about the depth of global economic, environmental and social challenges as well as new opportunities. Awareness and understanding are pre-requisites for setting priorities and action and require a shift in the global debate. It is a shared priority and challenge for all actors, whether government, inter-governmental bodies, business or civil society and consumers.

2. Education and Skills

Education is paramount for the operationalization of the Green Economy. Education must be enhanced by policy makers, academia and business in order to build the skills and entrepreneurship needed for implementation. All skill requirements will be affected from continuously evolving environmental and scientific understandings. A Green Economy should seek to develop the necessary skills in STEM and inter-disciplinary disciplines, in human and natural capital, sustainable livelihoods, capacity building.

3. Employment

Employment is a critical element to the economy, the environment and social development. A Green Economy provides decent and meaningful employment and promotes employment throughout the world, especially as a means to overcome poverty. Policies aimed to create so called "green jobs" should not come at the cost of a net reduction of jobs across the overall economy. A distinction between "green" and "brown" jobs must be avoided as all jobs contribute to green all aspects of the economy.

Environmental innovation

4. Resource Efficiency and Decoupling

A Green Economy recognizes that the world's resources are finite and must be managed with scarcity in mind. It enhances the resource efficiency of materials flows through the principle of "more from less". It also seeks to take into account the economic value of natural capital and ecosystem services. Over the long term, Green Economy strives to increase economic, social, and environmental benefits to achieve sustainability while decoupling economic activities and societal developments from negative environmental impacts.

5. Life Cycle Approach

A Green Economy adopts a life cycle approach which involves further minimizing the environmental footprint of all economic activity through applying science and acknowledging emerging knowledge. The life cycle of a product starts at raw material extraction, research on conceptual design and development of products and services, manufacturing, distribution, use and end of life treatment options such as recycling, recovery and re-use or re-manufacturing. At every stage of the life cycle of a product, process, technology or service, critical questions about costs, benefits, environmental responsibility and social impact are being addressed. A life cycle approach also helps identify hidden opportunities and accounts for unintended consequences, spillover implications, and competition for resources.

#### Economic innovation

#### 6. Open and Competitive Markets

A Green Economy emphasizes the importance of sustainable growth and access to open, well-functioning, and efficient markets. It recognizes that relying on markets is indispensable to the evolution of both societies and companies toward greener economic activity and prosperity. In order to become a functional economic system, Green Economy needs to become ingrained in international and global markets and operationalized in the market and business balance sheets. Economy-wide approaches should be adopted that include receptive markets for delivering business value and commercially viable products and services along the value chain.

#### 7. Metrics, Accounting, and Reporting

For a Green Economy to become operational, indicators, metrics, accounting measures and better disclosure and reporting must be developed that make sense in economic terms while ultimately including the cost for externalities. This entails the simultaneous pursuit of developing operational green growth measures at company level (bottom up) and strategic macro-political accounting standards and economic indicators at the system level beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP; top down). A flexible approach which balances the cost-benefits remains critical for success; flexibility will also be essential to incorporate new knowledge and scientific understanding in coming decades.

#### 8. Finance and Investment

A Green Economy actively drives innovation in private and public finance and investment into the direction of sustainable development. To succeed, it should set supporting policy and regulatory frameworks that promote informed investment decisions for both public and private investors. It stimulates new demand for innovative and responsible businesses and government services through transparency. It also provides appropriate public-private engagement mechanisms that look beyond short-term pressures and focus on the development of long term shared value.

#### Mutually enforcing cross-cutting elements

#### 9. Integrated environmental, social and economic policy and decision making

A Green Economy has a holistic approach to decision making. It integrates and balances policies with respect to environmental, social and economic priorities by considering the intended and unintended consequences of interlinked policies that may result in synergies or barriers and promote or hinder economy-wide, greener growth. Consequently, it will be essential to enhance scientific input and consider perspectives from a variety of stakeholders to assess policy pathways and to improve processes moving forward.

#### 10. Governance and Partnerships

A Green Economy is based on governance structures that allow all actors can meet their shared responsibilities. Governance structures at local, regional, national and global level need to be aligned and mutually reinforce each other for innovation to occur. Elements include but are not limited to multilateral rules-based trade and investment, a stable economic environment governed by the rule of law, including effective intellectual property rights protection, strong contractual arrangements, and safe and stable communities. A key modus operandi of a Green Economy is working through new approaches that facilitate innovative collaborations and partnerships between business, government and civil society. Such collaborations can take many forms including public private partnerships, business value chain engagements and alliances with academia and consumers. No one can do this alone.

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#### Specific topic contributions

As outlined in point 9 above, please find following a wide range of private sector expert inputs provided by BASD conveners and partners. Please note that contributions are regularly posted on the BASD website [www.basd2012.org](http://www.basd2012.org).

#### a) Access to Energy

Lead Authors: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), UN Global Compact, and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

Access to reliable, affordable, economically viable, socially acceptable and environmentally sound energy is fundamental to economic growth and sustainable development. Energy poverty induces poor living conditions in many developing countries and global poverty. In this context, providing access to modern energy services and reducing greenhouse gases (GHG), are key challenges for society.

#### Key Messages

- Businesses stand ready to work with the United Nations Secretary-General's initiative on Sustainable Energy for All.
- All energy options will be required to meet the challenges outlined above and must remain open to meet pressing demands for access to and security of energy while reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- Substantial progress needs to be made on reducing energy poverty if the Millennium Development Goals are to be achieved. Priority should be given to reduce energy poverty by deploying renewable sources of energy, where appropriate, as this can reduce the exposure of poor communities to volatility of energy prices.
- Diversification of energy mix and infrastructure needs to be supported through enhanced technology development and deployment. In order to accelerate the development and deployment of key technologies, new financing approaches will be required. Carbon financing will bridge some of the gap, but multilateral development financing and other policy incentives will help accelerate deployment.
- Also innovative business models demonstrate how the private sector is already succeeding in expanding energy access by providing more affordable and reliable products and services; overcoming key market barriers or failures; and increasing the profitability and scalability of sustainable engagement in low-income energy markets. There is significant scope for these new business models to be scaled and replicated.

- Energy efficiency needs to be significantly increased both on the demand and supply side in order to optimise emissions, reduce resource use and improve affordability particularly for low-income consumers.

#### Narrative

Business is the primary solution provider for expanding access to energy, and will work with key stakeholders to forge ahead and to pursue sustainable and scalable market solutions to help deliver universal energy access. This role includes not just extending the reach of energy services, but also supporting the quality and reliability of the services that are delivered, which significantly increases the benefits that energy access has for low-income consumers and producers. These efforts can be enhanced and accelerated by effective government efforts to support market solutions, provide incentives, and address risk and regulatory issues.

Public and development finance mechanisms should be specifically designed to leverage additional private investment that is needed to achieve universal access. The broader financing architecture must be well-designed with appropriate consideration to the quality of the regulatory and investment climate, which significantly drives the risks and returns associated with these investments.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) estimates that the 17% (USD 46 trillion) increase in energy investment required globally between 2010 and 2050 to deliver low-carbon energy systems would yield cumulative fuel savings equal to USD 112 trillion (IEA, 2010). The private sector has already taken concrete actions in all sectors towards green growth, from reducing environmental impacts across value chains, to increasing energy and resource efficiency, investing in low-carbon and renewable energy, utilizing ICTs to limit energy use, manage scarce resources and reduce waste.

#### Policy Recommendations

- Energy security, economic growth and development are interwoven, so energy and development policies should be addressed in an integrated way. Coordinated international effort is needed to ensure an enabling framework and markets.
- To meet growing demand, all energy options should be kept open. Public policy should establish criteria and guidelines for safe, cleaner energy supply and responsible use of resources. Energy efficiency should be a key focus and needs to be further promoted.
- Business is already succeeding in expanding energy access by providing more affordable and reliable products and services; overcoming key market barriers or failures; and increasing the profitability and scalability of sustainable engagement in low-income energy markets. There is significant scope for these new business models to be scaled and replicated. Thus, policy measures should support market-based innovation to promote energy access through diversification of supply and introduction of more efficient supply and end-use technologies as well as enable new and innovative business models. Strong research, development and deployment policies and programmes must be fostered and maintained.
- Governments should establish stable, long-term energy policy, recognizing the need for open, competitive markets supported by reliable legal, fiscal and regulatory frameworks to encourage energy investment and innovation that responds to and marshals market forces taking into account that sector-wide changes can take decades. The quality of the regulatory and investment climate significantly drives the risks and returns associated with these investments.
- Partnerships and cross-sector collaborative approaches between key stakeholders are essential to make all of these opportunity areas successful. Effective public private partnerships (PPPs) will be particularly important drivers of progress toward universal access to energy. National and international governance infrastructure should enable a global open market trading system in energy, energy feedstocks, and energy intensive goods. A variety of market mechanisms fit for national/local circumstances have to be identified.

#### b) Agriculture and Food Security

Lead Author: CropLife International

As a sector, agriculture plays a key role in supporting the economic development and well-being of societies. With a predicted 9 billion people by 2050, agricultural production will have to increase to meet new demands for food, feed, fuel and fibre. Agriculture must not only meet demand – it must also do so while minimizing its environmental footprint and creating sustainable livelihoods for farmers and others along the supply chain, while helping mitigate and adapt to climate change.

In a time of food insecurity where the poorest people are most vulnerable, the world must proactively leverage the potential of agriculture to positively contribute to the triple goals of a secure food supply, poverty reduction through improved rural livelihoods, and environmental sustainability. Food sufficiency, quality, availability and environmental footprint must be central elements of any political commitment directed toward the green economy and poverty eradication. Rio+20 outcomes should reflect a continued and long term commitment to achieving food security through increased productivity in agriculture and sound natural resources management.

However, agriculture by nature represents a mosaic of solutions and practices, with no silver bullet and no single 'best practice' able to meet the needs of all farmers. In addition, sustainability is a moving target towards which farmers in different geographies and farming systems are already progressing and they will all need support to continuously improve. Whatever type of agriculture a farmer chooses to adopt, they must be supported by availability of tools, appropriate technology and knowledge, which can be employed under 'good agricultural practices' to optimise productivity, while minimising any adverse impact.

#### Key Messages

- Rio+20 outcomes should be focused on the goal of sustainable intensification of food production, and support the role of knowledge, science and technology in achieving this goal. Rio+20 outcomes should endorse the notion that agriculture in a green economy means a broad-based, knowledge-centred approach to development through agriculture.
- Poverty reduction: Make agriculture a driver for poverty reduction by ensuring policies link producers, in particular smallholders, to markets and enable value to be created throughout the supply chain to help create income opportunities and diversify rural activities.
- Focus on enhancing sustainable production and productivity of all farmers: the world will need to produce more with less to meet demand and reduce its environmental footprint. Increasing production and productivity should be a priority to protect natural resources while meeting demand for food, feed, fuel and fiber.
- Invest in agricultural research and development, capacity building, knowledge sharing, to close the uptake gap for existing tools; ensure new solutions are available for today and tomorrow by incentivising and supporting both public and private innovation.

#### Narrative

#### Reducing Poverty

Agriculture can be a potent driver for poverty reduction. The World Bank estimates that GDP growth from agriculture generates at least twice as much poverty reduction than

any other sector. Currently 65 percent of people in developing countries are involved in agriculture, and 1.3 billion are small farmers with limited access to inputs, infrastructure and markets. In countries where agriculture represents one of the primary livelihoods, concerted efforts to improve productivity through sustainable practices as well as access to food through improved markets could change the lives of millions, by raising incomes and addressing food security needs.

A dynamic and productive agriculture sector is also essential for the urban sector. In 2010, for the first time ever, more people lived in urban areas than in rural areas globally. Urban populations are dependent on the agricultural sector for most of their consumption, so improving local production and trade is crucial; but it also means a world of opportunities for farmers who can reach the urban market.

Making agriculture a dynamic sector will require the adoption of supportive frameworks and investment in infrastructure and markets. Farmers need to be able to access markets at the local, regional and global level in order to sustain a livelihood from their activities. In some areas, this means improving access to transport, storage and market facilities. In Tanzania, US\$2.4 billion of investment is being directed towards tripling the area's agricultural output and maximising the trade potential of the Dar-es-Salaam port for Tanzania's neighbouring landlocked countries. Through the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania project (SAGCOT), both public and private sector organisations are supporting 20,000 smallholders to become commercial farmers to bring in annual revenues of an estimated US\$1.4 billion into the country.

Access to weather and price information and risk management tools also helps farmers grow better crops, improve their production practices and sell at better prices. For example, in Zambia, the Zambia National Farmers Union market information system (ZNFU 455) allows farmers to find out the current prices being offered for a commodity by sending an SMS. They receive a response listing prices and buyer codes and they can then make an offer to the best buyer directly by using SMS. In Kenya, another scheme using cell phones offers banking services to farmers as well as support for a crop and input insurance scheme. Farmers can insure a kilogram of maize seed or of fertilizer against drought with an index insurance product. They buy the insurance at a local agro-dealer and receive confirmation of purchase and of any payout through the M-PESA service on their phones. Going forward, the use of ICTs could be expanded to supporting pest control and other extension services.

Enhancing sustainable productivity Improving the footprint of agriculture while increasing production needs a concerted effort in two areas: first closing the uptake gap of existing best practices and technologies by focusing on capacity building and knowledge sharing and creating supportive public and private extension services networks; and second investing in agricultural research and development and supporting innovation to provide the solutions for tomorrow and ensure a supportive, science based regulatory framework and policies.

Enhancing sustainable productivity must be the centre of efforts to make agriculture both environmentally sound and economically dynamic— we need to achieve more crops per drop of water, per acre of land, per measure of inputs. This is essential to ensure the surface of land under cultivation does not expand, in order to preserve biodiversity and natural carbon sinks. While productivity is a concern for all farmers, specific attention to address the challenges faced by smallholder farmers in raising their productivity is also required.

Climate change is expected to have severe negative impacts on agriculture, both through the intensification of severe weather events (such as droughts and floods) as well as changing weather patterns, increased pest prevalence and generally greater uncertainty. Improving the resilience of farming systems will be crucial to any strategy to address not only long term productivity but also to reduce food price volatility.

The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification estimates that by the year 2050, half of the current arable land will become unusable. Improved seeds will help to maintain yields under drought conditions and prevent erosion. The 2009 Keystone 'Field to Market' research found that gains in yield per acre in the past 20 years in the USA had also been accompanied by significant improvements in the overall efficiency of resource use. The project looked at key crops such as soybean and maize and found reduced use of irrigated water, reduced soil loss, reduced habitat loss, reduced energy use, and lower carbon emissions. The Field to Market study clearly showed that progress has been made by farmers in the path to increased sustainability while enhancing their productivity. Producers need to be integrated in value chains and new activities need to be developed in processing and other sectors to improve rural incomes and ensure that growth in productivity translates into better livelihoods. In this context, specific attention should be paid to the challenges faced by smallholder farmers in accessing markets and securing adequate value from their participation.

Additionally, efforts should be increased to promote sustainable agri-food systems throughout the lifecycle. In 2010, FAO estimated that poorly developed systems for handling, storage, packaging, transportation, and marketing of agricultural products in developing countries results in post-harvest losses ranging from 15% to a staggering 50%. Investment in food infrastructure and handling could reduce losses and improve food safety as well as help reduce price volatility by improving stocks. Developed countries also face losses due to food waste from harvest, through delivery to food services, and in households. Waste is worst in fresh produce which delivers vital nutrients to humans around the globe.

Finally, improving farmers' access to inputs and supporting technology uptake and diffusion is essential. In some areas, creative strategies that enable access to existing knowledge networks can make real differences to farmers. For instance, in India, a late December harvest of mustard seeds was causing up to 30 percent of crop to be lost to frost, so breeders worked on a seed with a shorter duration period. This enabled farmers to harvest in early December, avoiding the issue of frost. Farmers also benefited from better prices as they were able to bring their seeds to the market before the usual excess occurred in January.

Research, Innovation and Capacity Building Agriculture is a knowledge-intensive sector. Farmers need to have access to training, services, capacity building, and sharing of traditional knowledge that can encourage the production of abundant and nutritious crops and mixed diets. Knowledge helps farmers adopt practices that maximize the efficiency of the inputs they use and help protect the natural resources they depend on. Training programmes should specifically involve women and young farmers in developing countries as essential partners for household nutrition and welfare.

Providing this education to rural communities in a systematic, participatory manner that is maintained, rather than a 'one-off' activity, is essential to improving their production, income and quality of life. Extension services disseminate practical information related to agriculture, including correct use of improved seeds, integrated pest management, including the use of pesticides, fertilizers, farm implements, tillage practices, water management, livestock management and welfare, marketing techniques, and basic business skills to address poverty. Extension is also an essential pillar for rural community progress including support for the capacity building at farm level.

Farmers must constantly adapt, and the challenge of climate change is making that need ever more acute. Investing in research and development, in both public and private sector, is essential to ensure farmers have the tools they need in the future and that the gains obtained in productivity and footprint are not undermined.

Targeted investment in research, combined with supportive frameworks for the roll out, diffusion and uptake of new improved technologies and the products are essential to support continuous improvements in agricultural sustainability. Governments need to support both public and private research by creating supportive regulatory and incentive frameworks that promote not only innovation but collaboration. Global alignment of regulations and these frameworks is vital to support freedom to operate and important trade. Specific efforts to localise and adapt existing scientific knowledge to serve the needs of small farmers in different geographies are also required. In this area, public-private partnerships can play a role but localisation and technology adaptation need to be supported by strong national and regional scientific capacity and active efforts to create markets in order to spur private investment, not only in farming itself but in the agro-food industry that surrounds it.

#### Policy Recommendations

a) The outcomes of UN CSD17 represent agreed negotiated language by the same Parties that are involved in Rio+20 and as such should represent the basis for any

outcome on agriculture for Rio+20.

- b) Reaffirming the importance of agriculture as a key sector for both poverty reduction, food security and environmental sustainability,
- c) Recognizing that agriculture policies must be tailored to local conditions in order to be effective and sustainable,
- d) Emphasizing the need to proactively support the agriculture sector in efforts to adapt to and mitigate climate change as a pre-requisite for sustainability and food security,
- e) Expressing deep concern for the risks posed by ongoing food price volatility for the livelihoods of farmers and consumers around the world,
- f) Recognizing the specific challenges faced by smallholder farmers,
- g) Governments commit themselves to fulfilling the pledges made at CSD17 and through other forum, including the L'Aquila Commitments, in the five following areas:
  - a. Enhancing agriculture production, productivity and sustainability.
  - b. Create a strong enabling environment for sustainable agriculture.
  - c. Manage sustainably competing uses of water and land resources
  - d. Develop sustainable agricultural value chains and improve farmers' and agro-industry enterprises access to and participation in markets.
  - e. Provide secure access to food and social safety nets.

#### c) Ecosystems and Biodiversity

Lead Author: World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

Biodiversity is the variability among living organisms within species, between species, and between ecosystems.

An ecosystem is a dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment, interacting as a functional unit. They make up the environment around us and are effectively habitats for example, coral reefs, forests, grasslands, rivers, farmland and urban parks, that support various species.

#### Key Messages

- Support for the key principle of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) report for policy makers; namely, that biodiversity and ecosystem values should be integrated more consistently and effectively into policy and regulation
- Businesses have a strong interest in ensuring ecosystems continue to function properly to deliver both business and societal value. To this end, businesses are already helping to deliver improved conservation outcomes through their own actions including through investment in conservation-related research and development, through the creation and strengthening of sustainable supply chains and through programs which build capacity, transfer technology and enhance monitoring and reporting performance.
- Businesses are keen to work more closely with policy makers on the design and implementation of biodiversity and ecosystem related policy and this collaboration can significantly improve the chances of delivering policies that work.

#### Narrative

The current rate of loss of biodiversity, induced through human activity, is at unprecedented levels. Over the next 40 years, ecosystems will be altered faster and more extensively than ever before – posing significant business risks as well as bringing opportunities for new eco-efficient goods, services and technologies. Meeting the vision for the sustainable management of ecosystems in 2050 requires that all stakeholders, including business, recognize the real benefits of ecosystems and the true value of ecosystems services and account for them. A key must-have is thus to integrate the value and sustainable management of ecosystems into economic planning and decision-making. Policy makers also have a key role to play in setting up smart policies that include flexible, innovative, market-oriented approaches. Key Elements:

- Deeper local & environmental understanding
- Incentives for behavior change
- Global, local & corporate leadership
- Infrastructure investment
- New measures of success
- Commitment to true value pricing
- Removal of subsidies
- Freer & fairer trade
- Global carbon price

**Business and ecosystems interdependency:** Business depends and impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem services. Consequently, ecosystem degradation will affect how business operates. Business cannot function if the ecosystem services it relies on are degraded or out of balance.

**Assessing and valuing ecosystems:** There is the need to recognize the full value of ecosystems and their services to ensure their sustainable use. Ecosystem assessment and valuation can help business manage risk and consider new business opportunities, while valuing ecosystem-related impacts and dependencies helps business make better decisions. Ecosystem valuation will increasingly be considered by governments, finance sector and business-to-business customers.

**Policy responses:** Current responses from business and existing policy measures have not been sufficient to halt biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. Good policy ideas exist – these need to be recognized and then implemented and enforced more widely: in many cases policy is already adequate but enforcement is poor. Ecosystem and biodiversity policies need to have clearly-defined goals, supported by targets which are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time-bound (SMART); many businesses are willing to work with policy makers, which can improve policy effectiveness, and some businesses are already positively responding to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity's 2010 Aichi targets.

Business responses: Business has an important role to play in achieving biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and this role goes beyond financial support. The business community should proactively:

- i. Measure, manage and mitigate risks and impacts
- ii. Improve decision-making by undertaking corporate ecosystem valuation to quantify business risks and opportunities
- iii. Innovate and help develop new markets for ecosystem services and eco-efficient goods, services & technologies
- iv. Encourage suppliers & purchasers to adopt best practices
- v. Enter into local partnerships to address on-the-ground issues
- vi. Promote “smart” ecosystem regulation that leverages market forces and business solutions that halt degradation and “levels the playing field” for companies competing in the same markets, or to use the same resources

#### Policy Recommendations

a) Establish guiding principles for policy and regulatory frameworks:

- Set realistic but challenging targets and clearly assign accountability for their delivery.
- Provide clear policy signals into the future (at least 5-10 years and longer where policy will influence long term business decision making).
- Establish a level playing field both for companies competing in the same markets, and for companies competing to use the same resources.
- Respect, protect or assign property rights.
- Be cognizant of and commensurate with relative ecosystem value wherever possible.
- Be aligned with specific and clearly stated policy objectives and create the right incentives for the delivery of those policy objectives.
- Deliver stated policy objectives at the lowest economic and social cost or with the greatest economic and social benefit.
- Provide incentives as directly as possible to resource managers to maintain and enhance the provision of valuable ecosystem services.
- Seek to achieve consistency between nations to assist in the management of trans-boundary issues.
- Internationally relevant proposals should allow sufficient flexibility to reflect cultural differences when they are implemented at a national level.

b) Establish a framework for closer collaboration between business and policy makers on biodiversity conservation is needed. This framework should include a more defined role for business within the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as in other multilateral environmental agreements. The Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) could be another platform for engagement.

c) Much biodiversity and ecosystem policy and regulation relies on the private sector in its implementation, and in any event, it is often the private sector which has the resources and flexibility to develop and implement solutions at scale. For these reasons, as part of increased involvement from business it is essential that overarching objectives and targets are designed to be relevant for business.

d) New biodiversity and ecosystem policy and regulation should draw from successful examples from other policy fields and should seek to build on and scale up successful private sector voluntary initiatives in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation.

e) New biodiversity and ecosystem policy and regulation should also be based on sound principles, and input from business to inform these. Principles should include providing clear signals for business, creating a level playing field, recognizing the importance of property rights, being mindful of potential economic and social impacts and adaptable to cultural differences between nations.

f) It is important to note that in many cases it is not new policy and regulation that is required, but the capacity and resources for more effective implementation and enforcement of existing policy and regulation.

g) Beyond policy and regulatory reform, governments can take a leading role in the implementation of measures to enhance biodiversity and ecosystems by using their direct influence over state owned enterprises to drive the implementation of such measures.

d) Food - Water - Energy Nexus

Lead Authors: Croplife International and World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

Food, Energy and Water security , sustainability of resource use – in particular water - and the availability of energy are key issues that underpin the availability of societies to function and are fundamental to the challenge of sustainable development. Water, food and energy are interlinked and interdependent so understanding the connection between these three areas is essential in order to support integrated approaches to these issues.

The sustainability of food, water, and energy - and the security of these resources - underpins the ability of societies to function. Food, water, and energy also are interlinked and interdependent. Understanding the connections between these three resources is essential to support integrated approaches to addressing sustainable development.

#### Key Messages

- Water, energy and food are increasingly and intrinsically related, and essential component of sustainable development strategies
- Employing an integrated, cross-sectoral approach to planning and managing these resources is critical to sustainable development
- Research, innovation, knowledge sharing, and access to improved technologies are essential to efforts to tackle the challenge of efficient use and equitable distribution

#### Narrative

Meeting the Resource Efficiency Challenge: By 2050, the world's population will have reached an estimated 9 billion people, with global demand for water, energy and food



rising dramatically. By 2030 it is predicted that the world will need 40 percent more available freshwater and 50 percent more food and energy.

Climate change, urbanization and increasing prosperity in certain regions of the world will also impact the availability, affordability, access and use of these resources. These three areas are closely interdependent and policies need to address these challenges in an interlinked and coherent manner.

Managing natural resources such as land, water, and energy need to be at the core of the way in which sustainable development issues are considered because they underpin the ability of all activities to succeed over time. Water and energy are interlinked in many sectors, such as manufacturing, waste management, recycling, and energy production. The primary energy sector is becoming more water intensive. With a significant projected increase in electricity demand, a significant increase in water withdrawal and/or consumption is expected, in both water and energy use is critical and often underestimated.

Agriculture and the broader food value chain are one of the sectors in which water and energy are essential dimensions of sustainability and for which the water-food-energy nexus is the most central. As one of the main user of water, provider of food and potentially both a consumer and producer of energy, agriculture needs to be a focus area for managing this three thematic resource challenges. Each issue goes beyond the production (growing) phase however. The processing, transformation, packaging, distribution and trade of agriculture-based products also involve the use of both water and energy sources. Water and energy use for food production are indeed essential elements in determining the sustainability of agriculture and food production systems.

Biofuels exemplify the connection between food, energy and water in a vivid manner. The sustainability of biofuels depends on the ability to use input resources efficiently, such as water, so as to ensure the footprint of biofuels is acceptable. But it also depends on the ability to not compete with food production to avoid affecting food security.

Going forward, we need to increasing resource efficiency in a way that will also generate benefits and creating new opportunities that go beyond the ability to simply cope, including creating more jobs and stimulating broad economic development.

Water, energy and food are intrinsically inter-related. Producing more food requires more water, and so too do many forms of energy production; we need water to cool power plants, refine crude oil and produce biofuels. Managing water poorly can have a detrimental impact on energy supplies and agricultural production, and vice versa. We also need to be aware that global warming, increasing urbanization and growing consumption of water, energy and food continue to disrupt our already fragile ecosystem. For example, water provides important ecosystem services. It serves as a non-substitutable input for all biomass growth, which in turn supports climate regulation, carbon sequestration and other critical ecosystem services.

Finding new ways to minimize waste both in the production and consumption phases of the value chain is important. In addition, managing uncertainty and risks (such as floods), particularly due climate change-induced weather variations, will require increased planning, advance warning systems and careful coordination.

1. Employing an integrated, cross-sectoral approach to managing these resources is critical. 'Silo' planning is no longer practical given the complex relationship between water, food and energy. There is a need for collaborative planning, as demonstrated by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which in 2008 announced an inter-agency agreement between the offices of air and water to collaborate on energy and climate efforts at water utilities. Cities, industry, businesses and the public sector all need to act to address shared risks and opportunities.

2. Research, innovation, knowledge sharing and access to improved technologies are essential to tackle the challenge of efficient use and equitable distribution. This ranges from promoting efficient irrigation and farming practices to providing the best available seeds (including drought- and stress-tolerant plants) to training farmers to optimize fertilizer use and employ stress management techniques. For example, when Indonesian farmers sowed pre-germinated rice seeds directly into the wet mud of their rice paddies, they could avoid flooding and shorten growing cycles through this direct seed technology. This has increased yields, and has limited methane gas emissions as well as reducing water use by 20 percent. Second generation biofuels produced from agricultural waste can maximize the efficiency of the use of resources put into growing a crop and minimize competition with food crops.

Risks of Inaction: Inaction in this area will profoundly impair the ability of communities to develop sustainably and risk creating a vicious circle of poverty, resource depletion and food insecurity. Energy poverty is a major obstacle to the ability of communities, in particular rural communities, to improve their livelihoods, access services and pursue economic opportunities. Water scarcity is an issue across the globe but threatens the most vulnerable communities in disproportionate and life threatening manner through drought and desertification. Food security is one of the primary concerns of millions of people around the globe, whose livelihoods are compromised by inadequate access to a secure supply of nutritious food which impairs not only adults lives but also children's with long term consequences for their development. The challenges and threats may be different in other circumstances but fundamentally sustainable development cannot occur on the basis of an unsustainable use of water, insufficient production of food, and lack of access to sustainable energy.

#### Policy Recommendations

- a) Recognizing the interlinked and interdependent nature of water and energy use, and their centrality in several sectors, in particular with regards to achieving food security
- b) Recognizing the importance of coordinated and cross-sectoral approaches to managing natural resources
- c) Emphasizing the central nature of both food, water and energy to the realization of sustainable livelihoods Governments should commit themselves to:
- d) Improving data collection and research into the issue of water management, energy production and availability, agricultural productivity and footprint, and in particular with regards to how the three dimensions are interconnected, to assist in informing policies at all levels
- e) Encouraging collaborative and cross-sectoral approaches, as well as public-private collaborations to improve resource management, risk prevention and reduce the footprint of different activities
- f) Increase funding and support for both public and private research in the areas of energy, water and food production e) Science, Technology, and Innovation

Lead Author: Digital Energy Solutions Campaign

Innovation, and scientific and technological advance in particular, are neither a luxury nor an accessory, nor things to be feared or muted. Rather they constitute an exciting and essential element of our transformative journey to future sustainable development and growth.

Acknowledging that the world population will keep growing in the coming years and decades, particularly in urbanized areas and in developing and emerging countries, and that the earth's resources are finite, and in some cases already reaching a level of scarcity, it becomes obvious that improvements in efficiencies of all types will be keys to addressing sustainability challenges, enabling us to do more with less. This will be accomplished through regular, continuous improvement of existing technologies and through the entry into service of reliable breakthrough technologies.

#### Key Messages

- Science, technology, and innovation are essential enablers to future sustainable development and growth, and especially to the goals to which Rio+20 aspires.
- Sustainability will increasingly depend on the capacity to generate, access and leverage science, technology, and innovation to ensure society makes the best use of scarce resources as the world's population grows.
- Business will play a leading role, but expects to -- and must -- do so in partnership with governments and policy makers, and in a policy and regulatory environment that encourages sustainability innovation and scientific and technological advances.
- This policy and regulatory environment needs to include both public and private investment in research and development, as well as supportive regulatory frameworks (i.e. stable and enabling investments in long-term research), including adequate protections for intellectual property rights and support for small business.
- Governments should seek international cooperation and public-private partnerships that both (i) help ensure innovation and scientific and technological advance, and (ii) strengthen the capacity of developing countries to absorb, adapt, and utilize these advances where appropriate.
- Information and communications technologies will be critical enablers of healthy communities, and increased access to them must be facilitated.

#### Narrative

To achieve sustainable development and growth, we need major technological transformations. These transformations will require infrastructure, education, and enabling policy environments that put a premium on smart creativity and innovation, and that support the rollout and uptake of technology. These will become crucial preconditions for achieving the goals set at Rio+20. The sustainability successes of governments, business, and individuals around the globe will increasingly depend on their capacity to generate and access science, technology, and innovation.

Business plays a leading role in harnessing the enabling potential of innovation and scientific and technological advance. However, business will only be able to do so in partnership with governments and other stakeholders, and in a policy environment that both encourages innovation as well as scientific and technological advance, and that strengthens the capacity of developing countries to absorb, adapt, and utilize these advances to their local settings.

There is no single policy that, by itself, will ensure success, but rather comprehensive policy approaches are required to create regulatory and policy environments that fosters innovation and scientific and technological advances, both in local settings and globally. Governments should avoid policies that could impede innovation and technology adoption, and should instead adopt supportive policies, such as: investment in education and skills; investment in research and development, conducted in partnership with business and the scientific community; investment in infrastructure; investment in mechanisms that support knowledge transfer; protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights; promotion of competition; support for entrepreneurship, small business, and the creation of new firms; open markets; regulatory transparency and long-term thinking; support for voluntary, global, market-driven technology standards; and, promotion of and access to information and communication technologies.

The public at large should know more about the science and technology that supports sustainable development and growth; governmental authorities, industry professionals and other decision makers should be educated through capacity-building initiatives.

While business plays a key role in developing new science and technologies, it is clear that diffusion and adoption remain a challenge in many countries. The private sector, through collaborations with governments and through public-private partnerships can help bring solutions to this issue. However, adequate market and regulatory conditions combined with available local knowledge and capacity remain an essential factor in the success of technology diffusion and adoption. Governments can play a key role in this arena, which also then facilitates local businesses' own learning curve and innovation so that technology development can become localized and appropriate to the needs of local actors. Global efforts of this nature are already taking place through a variety of mechanisms, such as the Asia-Pacific Partnership (APP) on Clean Development and Climate, now continued through the Global Superior Energy Performance Partnership (GSEP) and the Telecommunication Technology Centers as well, as a host of partnerships. At the meta-level, current negotiations on the creation of a 'technology mechanism' under UNFCCC are also a cornerstone for a global effort to improve technology development, diffusion and uptake in areas critical to sustainable development. Rio+20 outcomes should reinforce these efforts and recognize the need for localized solutions based on the participation of public and private sectors.

Organizations around the world continue to cite the importance of information and communications technologies to healthy communities, and stress the desire for greater access to these technologies. Policy Recommendations

- a) Recognize that innovation and scientific and technological advance are essential enablers to achieving the goals for sustainable development and growth that Rio+20 is targeting
- b) Encourage all governments to adopt policies that foster transformational innovation and scientific and technological advance, with special attention to policy frameworks that provide adequate protection for intellectual property rights and increased public support for sustainability-enhancing research and development.
- c) Call on the private sector to both provide sustainability innovation and scientific and technological leadership, and to partner with governments towards these ends.
- d) Agree to seek mechanisms for international cooperation and public-private partnerships that help spur the innovation and scientific and technological advances needed to meet the Rio+20 goals, and that strengthen the capacity of developing countries to absorb, adapt, and utilize these advances to their local settings.
- e) And finally, call for improved access to information and communications technology to facilitate growth towards healthy communities in every sense – civic engagement, health, education, food security, clean and efficient energy, and stability.
- f) Resource and materials management

Lead Authors: Aquafed, International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM), World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

As populations grow and lifestyles develop, the consumption of materials and natural resources is increasing, in many cases exponentially. This means that there will be increasing stress on the supply of many of the natural resources and substances that are required to sustain societies, the economy and the environment. In some regions and for some substances, the lack of materials or resources is already, or will shortly, constrain Green Growth and Poverty Alleviation efforts. A variety of existing concepts seeks to minimise this problem and extend the "carrying capacity" of the earth sustainably into the future. These include; sustainable consumption and production, sustainable value chains, the circular economy, and sustainable materials management. Each of these approaches has advantages, but individually none provide a unique or complete solution, because each has real and practical limits. A more productive way forward is to address all of these lifecycle approaches together to combine the strengths of each. Promoting Green Growth and establishing Green Economies requires action by all stakeholders throughout the lifecycle of materials and products, including consumers, producers, and governments. A combination of behaviour and regulatory policy changes will be required.

#### Key Messages

1. An "ideal" green economy would be one where there is a complete decoupling of development from the depletion of natural resources, and where all the materials originating from biological sources return to the biosphere after use and all those originating from mineral or non-renewable sources are recycled. This vision of a circular economy is unrealistic, but sets a target for resource and materials management.
2. Existing approaches to products and services need to be reviewed to reduce or eliminate their demand for natural resources. New business models and societal expectations with corresponding products and services need to be defined that decouple growth and material consumption.
3. Recognising this, increased knowledge of the magnitude and effect of the strategy of the 3R's (reduce, reuse, recycle) needs to be incorporated into macro-economic models and indicators, to guide consumer, industrial and government behaviour, decisions and actions.
4. The change from a product-consumption economy to a product-service economy, which replaces the sale of products and services with the marketing of their use, is one way to achieve the decoupling of growth and material consumption.
5. Any approach to decoupling (both absolute and relative) must address the current limitations of recycling efforts and the unsustainable rates of primary resource consumption, with the understanding that a major change to material usage patterns will be required urgently.
6. Integrated materials management policy frameworks are required at all levels to ensure that natural resources are used/reused productively and sustainably throughout their lifecycles. This requires a holistic lifecycle approach to the design, production, use, and recycling of products and services. In addition, different materials will require different management approaches to ensure a sustainable resource base for society.
7. Collaboration between businesses, consumers, policy makers and civil organizations can help create the enabling environment necessary to support a more sustainable consumption and production model. To facilitate this, standards for measuring and assessing the sustainability impacts of material use in value chains are required.
8. Policy makers can accelerate progress toward more sustainable consumption and production models, by focusing on specific areas: market-based mechanisms and economic instruments, regulatory structures, encouraging development of technology and innovation, promoting and supporting efficient use and recycling of materials, collection and sharing of information on materials and material flows, and promoting research into human behaviour to encourage sustainable consumption and production.

#### Narrative

Escalating public and governmental concerns about poverty, climate change and biodiversity loss are linked in many ways to how we use natural resources. Society as a whole uses vast amounts of materials that come from and return to the Earth such as wood, minerals, fuels, chemicals, agricultural plants and animals, soil and rock. The scale of this use is such that associated impacts are beginning to pose serious threats to the health of ecosystems and overdraw Earth's natural capital.

A central objective of Green Growth and establishing Green Economies is the decoupling of development from the depletion of natural capital and resources. Decoupling has two aspects that must be implemented together to be successful. Absolute, decoupling restrains the growth in total consumption of raw materials, while relative decoupling reduces the share of primary (virgin) resources in the total consumption of materials. This objective drives the three 'R' approach, "Reduce" (the amount of natural resources required – Absolute decoupling), "Reuse" (extend the life or the number of times a product or service is used – Relative decoupling), "Recycle" (turn materials that would otherwise become waste into valuable resources – Relative decoupling).

Currently governments and the private sector are tackling these challenges through a number of common but often independent policy and operating frameworks. These include natural resource management policies, product policies and waste management policies. Within each of these areas, decision-makers have a variety of options for exercising economic, physical, or operational influence upon material flow patterns. However to successfully manage and reduce negative impacts and maximize benefits a more integrated, lifecycle-based approach is required. Governments in the developed world are beginning to consider this as seen in the emerging policy discussions on Sustainable Materials Management at the OECD. Emerging economies are also well suited to rapid assimilation of integrated materials management approaches (e.g. China's policy on the circular economy).

The production and use of materials involves energy and water inputs at key stages in the materials lifecycle. This interrelationship is at the root of the ecological footprint associated with industrial economies. However, this also denotes that any changes in material usage may inadvertently trigger changes in the consumption of energy, water, or other critical resources in other parts of a materials lifecycle. It is therefore imperative that an integrated materials management approach is taken at the global level to ensure that natural resources are used/reused productively and sustainably throughout their lifecycles.

Increased competition for raw materials and markets coupled with sustained growth in emerging economies has given rise to two major materials sustainability issues: access to raw materials and resource efficiency. Part of the answer is to progressively move towards a circular economy. This is an economy in which today's primary resource is tomorrow's secondary resource. To achieve this in today's global economy a fuller lifecycle-based understanding of material flows within and between economic domains is vital. This is necessary to manage system-wide impacts effectively and to ensure net-positive outcomes for man and the environment.

Materials are the building blocks of industrial society from which products are manufactured and services derived. Products, including both goods and services are developed and created to serve societal needs. Society obtains the materials it needs from natural resources. The interdependence between resources, materials and products needs more detailed understanding and differentiated yet integrated management approaches. Different materials need different management approaches to build a more sustainable resource base for society. To focus on the "source" of resources without acknowledging the role that society plays in extracting, refining, utilizing and re-utilizing materials from natural resources is short-sighted. It diminishes the opportunity for policy makers, businesses and users to maximize the eco-efficiency of goods and services.

Lifecycle thinking is essential to sustainable development. The main goal of lifecycle thinking is to ensure consideration of socio-economic and environmental impacts associated with goods and services throughout their lifecycles and to improve performance of resources and materials. This requires effective links between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the entire value chain. To achieve these linkages the principles of sustainable development need to be applied to the conception of products and services and to supply chain management. All business levels need to identify opportunities, manage risks and determine responsibilities throughout the value chain.

#### Policy Recommendations

1. Develop policies to decouple development from resource use, recognising the need to employ both absolute decoupling and relative decoupling.
2. Encourage a shift in society towards norms of sustainable consumption and production.
3. Develop social and economic incentives to reduce the demand for natural resources.
4. Develop regulation to improve the management of supply and demand for natural resources.
5. Build an integrated lifecycle-based approach to materials management at the local, national, regional and global level.

6. Promote lifecycle thinking within supply chains to improve economic, social and environmental performance of resources and materials.
7. Recovering value from and creating markets for the materials and energy produced from used products and waste have to become key policy targets.
8. Develop macro-economic models and indicators that incorporate and advance knowledge on the magnitude and effect of policies aimed at the 3R's (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle).
9. Establish at both global and national level a system of materials/resource accounting to track the sustainability of prime resources against the three measures of: i) total consumption growth rate (recycled and primary materials), ii) rate of growth of net additional stock, iii) recycling rate.
10. Create a fuller lifecycle-based understanding of material flows and seek to develop closed-loop systems.
11. Develop integrated planning for significant levels of recycling of materials and resources
12. Address the need for restoration of ecosystem resources as part of sustainable consumption and production efforts

#### g) Social Development, Human Rights and the Role of Business

Lead Author: International Council of Mining and Minerals (ICMM)

States bear the primary duty for social development, poverty alleviation and ensuring the protection and realization of human rights. They also have responsibility for the effective management of the natural resources on which development often depends. These aspects are closely interlinked and require a vibrant and well-functioning private sector, working together with government and stakeholders, to enable significant progress against the Millennium Development Goals, and the realization of economic, social and cultural rights. At the same time, states also have a duty to ensure that the enjoyment of these rights is supported by progress against civil and political rights.

#### Key Messages

- Recognizing that the primary duty for social development, poverty alleviation and the protection and realization of human rights lies with states, and that states also have responsibility for the effective management of the natural resources on which development depends,
- Acknowledging that the Millennium Development Goals' (MDGs) vision of sustainable environmental, social and economic progress provides a foundation for, or explicitly addresses, many of the human rights set out in the International Bill of Human Rights,
- Recognizing that business has a responsibility to respect human rights – meaning to not infringe on the enjoyment of rights by others and remediating negative impacts with which they are involved,
- Acknowledging that many business organizations have formally established or embraced principles and codes of practice that set an expectation for business to behave in an economically, socially and environmentally responsible manner,
- Emphasizing that business has an extraordinary potential to enable and contribute to social development, poverty alleviation and the realization of rights in a variety of ways,
- Acknowledging that a vibrant private sector – and effective stewardship of the natural resource base – is essential to achieve significant social and economic progress against the MDGs and broader realization of many economic, social and cultural rights,
- Emphasizing that no one development actor can deliver the MDGs in isolation, and that significant progress is dependent on engagement and various forms of collaboration (including partnerships) between states, business and other stakeholders.

#### Narrative

The primary responsibility for social development, poverty alleviation and the protection and realization of human rights lies with individual states. It is states that have ratified a range of international conventions and have adopted UN resolutions relating to human rights, poverty alleviation, development and environmental protection. States are also responsible for developing national legal frameworks in support of social and economic development and the effective management of natural resources, as well as protecting the rights of their citizens. However, business has a responsibility to respect human rights and an important role to play in contributing to social development and poverty alleviation.

In 2000, the then 189 member states of the United Nations established the Millennium Development Goals' (MDGs): eight time-bound objectives to reduce poverty and improve people's lives by 2015. The MDGs vision of sustainable environmental, social and economic progress – in areas such as poverty alleviation, food security, water and sanitation, health, education and environmental protection – address many of the rights set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and elaborated on in the International Covenants on Civil and Political Rights and on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights of 1966. They also explicitly recognize that sustainable social and economic progress is critically reliant on protecting the natural resources on which development depends. This includes clean water, productive lands, biodiversity and the many services it provides that benefit mankind.

The basic responsibilities of business are set out in the legal frameworks of the states within which they have activities, and include compliance with laws relating to labor rights and environmental protection at a minimum. At the international level, a number of voluntary guidelines or codes have also been developed (notably the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Global Compact) which set out expectations for responsible business behavior. In addition, many business organizations have formally established or embraced principles and codes of practice that set an expectation for business to behave in an economically, socially and environmentally responsible manner. At the international level, the consensus agreed at the Human Rights Council in 2008, and supported by major industry associations, is that business has a responsibility to respect human rights – to not infringe on the rights of others and to remediate any negative impacts with which they are involved. This responsibility is articulated in the UN's "Protect, Respect and Remedy Framework", and elaborated on in the UN's "Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights".

Business also has an extraordinary potential to enable and contribute to social development, poverty alleviation and the realization of human rights. For example, business plays a significant role in producing the basic materials and developing and operating essential infrastructure that enables social and economic advances. In many post-conflict situations and fragile states, business has been essential in kick-starting economic and social progress, helping to sustain peace-building efforts as well as encouraging respect for the rule of law. Where governments embrace a market-economy and create the enabling environment for business to flourish, progress against the MDGs can be accelerated. In parallel, opportunities for the realization of many human rights are enhanced.

The reality is that without a thriving competitive private sector, significant social and economic progress against the MDGs is unlikely to be achieved and impossible to sustain. A healthy business environment — where companies make investments, create jobs, deliver services and improve productivity—helps alleviate poverty by contributing to economic growth, increasing employment and enhancing people's incomes and opportunities. However, states effectiveness in enabling development depends

on good governance and on the quality of its institutions – social, political and economic. States need to: create an enabling environment that incentivizes businesses to expand their productive capacity in a responsible manner; provide social protection for the most vulnerable and strengthen their capacity to sustain livelihoods; and encourage collaboration between the state, business and other stakeholders in support of enhanced developmental outcomes.

To create a healthy business environment, states must ensure that markets and entrepreneurial activity are not stifled by excessive regulation and taxation, unfair competition, corruption, or an unstable policy environment. They must establish rules that: clarify property rights; reduce the cost of resolving disputes; increase the predictability of economic interactions; and provide contractual partners and investors with certainty and protection against abuse. This is the conclusion of the World Bank/International Finance Corporation's Doing Business series over the past eight years (<http://www.doingbusiness.org/>). At the same time, states also have an important role to play in ensuring that business behaves responsibly, in a manner that respects human rights, supports rather than undermines the natural resource base, and contributes to sustainable social and economic progress. Part of this is about incentivizing responsible practices and players – and part is about creating strong disincentives for irresponsible behaviors.

If those already living in poverty are to enjoy the benefits of an improved business environment, they must be able to actively participate in the potential opportunities that this brings. To do so, requires investments in social and economic infrastructure – notably health, water and sanitation, and education – but also access to training, energy and credit without discrimination. It also requires specific attention to empowering women through access to education and healthcare. In addition, it involves a sustained focus on governance reforms, particularly those that focus on promoting transparency and eliminating corruption. Corruption exacerbates poverty by impairing service delivery, constraining responsible investment, reducing incomes of the poor and undermining programs designed to address their basic needs, such as sanitation and healthcare.

#### Policy Recommendations

Sustainable social and economic progress critically depends on states taking steps to:

- a) Fulfil all of their human rights obligations in support of sustainable social and economic progress, with particular emphasis on those at risk of being vulnerable and marginalized, and in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, set out clearly the expectation that that business respects human rights through the conduct of effective due diligence
- b) Ensure the effective management of land, water, biodiversity and other natural resources on which development depends, through adequate planning, protection and enforcement
- c) Create the conditions necessary to encourage responsible investment (domestic or foreign), job creation, and improved productivity in support of economic growth and poverty alleviation, to ensure that business expands rather than constrains social and economic development progress
- d) Empower poor and potentially vulnerable or marginalized people to participate in economic opportunities, through investments in health, education, and gender equality, while addressing governance issues (particularly corruption) which can have a disproportionate impact on the poor
- e) Effectively use the revenues from natural resource endowments and other economic activities in support of enhancing social capital, the rule of law, the protection of human rights, establishing social and economic infrastructure, and fostering participatory development and economic diversification
- f) Engage with international institutions, business and other stakeholders on the effective delivery of services and products in support of social and economic progress, through partnership approaches or other forms of collaboration where appropriate g) Encourage business to apply ethical principles, practices and effective systems of corporate governance, in support of state-led efforts to address corruption
- h) Encourage business to integrate sustainable development considerations within corporate decision-making processes, and seek continuous improvement in sustainable development performance – social, environmental and economic – and report progress in a systematic and credible manner that engenders the trust of relevant stakeholders
- i) Create incentives for business to expand economic opportunities along their value chains, either through involving the poor within the value chain (as employees, suppliers, customers, etc.) or through developing their human capital j) Create incentives for business to contribute to the social, economic and institutional development of local communities, in addition to mitigating any adverse impacts that business might have

#### h) Transformational Partnerships

Lead Author: UN Global Compact

While businesses can make significant contributions to sustainable development independently, partnerships can often contribute to enhancing impacts. There are many systemic challenges that can only be addressed with the coordinated efforts of a wide variety of actors. The convergence of interests between the public and the private sector has provided an opportunity for exploring innovative models for collaboration that achieve greater impact and scale.

#### Key Messages

- Transformational partnerships are necessary to address systemic challenges. Solving complex global development challenges requires systemic change which is only possible with the coordinated efforts of a wide variety of actors.
- Transformational partnerships can address fundamental market or governance failures in an integrated manner.

#### Narrative

In the past, partnerships with the private sector were often conceived of only as fund-raising activities. Today, however, it is widely recognized that many of the most effective and sustainable partnerships leverage the core competencies of all partners. Both the public and private sectors have come to realize that the real potential in partnering lies in the synergy and scalability of competencies, resources and expertise that drive successful initiatives.

As an outcome of Rio+20, and building on the legacy of Johannesburg in 2002, Governments are asked to continue to encourage partnerships as voluntary and collaborative relationships between various parties, both public and non-public, in which all participants agree to work together to achieve a common purpose or undertake a specific task, and to share risks, responsibilities, resources and benefits. From philanthropic and strategic partnerships to broader issue-based networks and advocacy partnerships, there are a wide range of partnerships that have the capacity to contribute to sustainable development.

Governments are also asked to support the development of more transformational partnerships which have the potential to transform the ways in which we realize development goals. Transformational partnerships have the following characteristics:

- Address a systemic issue: Solving complex global development challenges requires systemic change which is only possible with the coordinated efforts of a wide variety of actors. Transformational partnerships should address fundamental market or governance failures in an integrated manner.

- Involve all stakeholders who play a necessary role and pertain to the relevant geographies, and do not involve any who fail to meet the criteria.
- Leverage the core competencies of all partners – such as convening power, resources, local presence and technical expertise – to address the systemic issue across all relevant value chains.
- Have an in-built capacity to reach scale and leave a lasting impact – which requires long-term efforts towards instituting new policies and rules, correcting market failures and shifting behavioural norms. Incentives and funding are designed to drive scale and sustained impact.

The challenge of sustainable development requires the participation of all sectors and actors in society. Partnerships can play a key role in helping meet some of the more complex sustainable development needs and should be recognised by governments in Rio as a key mechanism to be supported and leveraged.

#### Policy Recommendations

- a) Partnerships can play a key role in helping meet some of the more complex sustainable development challenges and should be recognised by governments as a key mechanism to be supported and further leveraged.
- b) Governments should support the development of transformational partnerships which have the potential to transform the ways in which we realize development goals given they address systemic issues; involve all relevant stakeholders; leverage the core competencies of all partners; and have an in-built capacity to scale.

#### i) Urbanization

Lead Author: World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

By 2050, the global population will reach 9 billion, with more than 6 billion living in cities. A thoughtful and integrated approach to urban challenges is necessary in order to meet the basic needs of this urban population, enable dignified lives, and support meaningful roles for people in their communities.

#### Key Messages

- Sustainable urban development requires an integrated approach, inviting all relevant and concerned stakeholders at all stages and balancing resource efficiency, competitiveness, social equity, environmental impacts, with many other social and economic factors.
- Involving business early in the urban planning process will help create a cross-cutting strategy and provide competitive and effective solutions.
- On our way to sustainable urbanization, a broad understanding of 'green' is necessary, adequately addressing social, economic and ecological dimensions of sustainability. 'Green' is not a final state but a process, and support of 'green' cities, industries, and jobs goes hand-in-hand with efforts toward 'greener' cities, industries, and jobs.
- Education is an important lever to foster understanding of 'greener' urbanization.
- The Rio+20 process should aim at improving ways and structures to strongly promote 'greener growth' in urban areas worldwide. Existing targets can best be reached by prioritizing actions adjusted to local/regional circumstances.

#### Narrative

With the population of cities swelling by three million a week, the case for sustainable urban environments becomes more compelling: it offers citizens better lives by lifting people out of poverty and providing appropriate services. Integrated urban management must become the norm, and be based on good governance, in order to achieve the progress necessary to reach sustainability. Involving business early in the urban planning process will help create a cross-cutting strategy and provide competitive and effective solutions. Urban sustainability requires a system-wide view of the interlinked challenges, and a balanced, integrated approach tailored to local circumstances.

#### Policy Recommendations

- a) Sustainable urban development requires an integrated approach, inviting all relevant and concerned stakeholders at all stages and balancing resource efficiency, competitiveness, social equity, environmental impacts, with many other social and economic factors.
- b) Sustainable urban development requires innovation, improved technology - including access to technology - and competitiveness as prerequisites for sustainable and 'greener' cities. Governance and finance priorities need to be set accordingly with a clear definition of roles and responsibilities of all actors. Involving business early in the urban planning process will help create a cross-cutting strategy and provide competitive and effective solutions.
- c) The Rio+20 process should aim at improving ways and structures to strongly promote 'greener growth' in urban areas worldwide. Existing targets can best be reached by prioritizing actions adjusted to local/regional circumstances.

#### j) Water for Green Economy and Poverty Alleviation

Lead Author: Aquafed

To succeed with the development of a green economy and the eradication of poverty, significantly more attention must be paid to water policy. This is essential to ensure that the economic, social and environmental dimensions of water management can be satisfied and they are integrated with the other essential and interrelated elements of natural and man-made capital. At present, water is under-estimated and consequently under-resourced in green growth policies at all levels. We single out three major policy issues concerning water, green economy and poverty alleviation:

- The serious shortfall in the delivery of water and sanitation to meet the requirements of the Human Right to Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation, which are more precise and demanding than those set out in the MDGs.
- The recognition that it will be very difficult to feed the growing world population unless there are significant improvements in water and energy productivity in agriculture.
- The current lack of treatment of polluted water needs to be overcome to ensure that water can be used multiple times as a means of overcoming forecast water stress and meeting future needs of societies, the environment and economies.

#### Key Messages

- Management of water resources and provision of water services are fundamental elements without which developing a green economy and meeting the poverty alleviation targets of the MDGs are impossible.

- Population growth, economic development and improving lifestyles are all placing heavy pressures on water resources. These pressures are causing demand to increase at least twice as fast as population growth. At the same time the stress on the finite resources of water are increasing as a result of mismanagement, pollution and climate change.
- Current data and monitoring processes are inadequate and grossly understate the scale of the problem of inadequate water and sanitation services. The number of people currently suffering from a lack of water services that satisfy all aspects of the Human Right to safe drinking water and sanitation at their dwelling place exceeds 3 billion. This is significantly more than the numbers reported by the MDG monitoring process. The number of people in urban settlements who do not have access to satisfactory water and sanitation services as defined by the MDG target is increasing instead of diminishing. This situation is morally unacceptable and extremely costly in social, economic and environmental losses and externalities. It is a serious concern to business, which sees the impact in reduced productivity of human resources and diminished purchasing power in marketplaces.
- Today 80% of the used water worldwide is discharged to the environment without treatment. This is seriously degrading the environment, threatening human and environmental health and making water unusable for downstream users. Collecting and treating water after use to make it available for subsequent uses is a realistic option for increasing the amount of water available and protecting resources and the environment to permit economic growth and poverty eradication.
- Currently agriculture is the largest user of water resources, often with low levels of efficiency. To meet the significant increase in the demand for food to feed the growing world population the water use efficiency of agriculture will have to improve substantially. This will require improved agricultural processes and practices where rain-fed agriculture is concerned. It will require a combination of agricultural and water management actions where "blue water" is used for irrigation.
- While agricultural is the largest user of water resources, the provision of energy to support development is becoming increasingly water intensive, creating competition for a scarce resource in some parts of the world. To meet the increasing demand for energy, fresh water productivity in the energy sector will have to improve significantly. This may require the increased use of non freshwater resources like sewage effluent, saline or brackish water.
- Business manufacturing and services also use significant amounts of water, either directly or through their supply chains, and also contribute to water discharge. Improvements by both public and private water users and providers are therefore also important with respect to achieving water sustainability.

#### Narrative

Water is a "fundamental" that underpins all sustainable development and the green economy.

Water, with the environmental, social and economic services that are derived from it, forms part of the platform, on which life of all kinds, all societies and all economies are dependant. Combined in complex ways with the atmosphere, land and energy, water is a fundamental part of the global system on which everything else is built and is dependent. This means that there is vast array of questions that need to be asked and relationships developed between water and the green economy and poverty alleviation.

Since the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, water has been accorded less importance than climate change. The links between the two are now becoming ever more apparent and the need to give equal importance to water as to the atmosphere is becoming evident. It is now seen by many that including a deep examination of water issues and water policy in the Rio 2012 discussions is an absolute imperative.

However, there are so many dimensions to the water challenge, that it is considered impractical and ineffective to attempt to deal with them all. For that reason, we are proposing that States focus on three particularly important policy areas.

- Water and sanitation
- Water productivity in agriculture
- Treating polluted water as a resource

These are described briefly in this paper and some key messages and policy recommendations are outlined.

Why the three themes have been selected: We have suggested the focus on the three themes because it is believed that these are particularly pressing issues that offer very significant potential to meet the objectives of the Rio 2012 conference and make a significant contribution to the future well being of mankind and the environment.

Other parts of this submission raise other aspects of water as it links with sustainable development, green growth and poverty alleviation. These are notably;

- The Energy - Food - Water Nexus
- Agriculture
- Urbanization
- Oceans

It would be possible to highlight links between water and most if not all elements of sustainable development.

#### Policy Recommendations

a) The scale and cost of the lack of adequate water and sanitation services to about half of the world's population needs to be recognised. In the context of green growth, poverty alleviation, social equity and environmental protection, the international community, national and local governments must take urgent steps to remedy the situation.

- Global Review and Revision of Water and Sanitation targets
- International policy commitments to achieving and sustaining access to water and sanitation to meet the requirements laid out by the UN Human right to safe drinking water and sanitation by a specific date.
- National policy commitments to developing country level targets, plans and resource allocation to enable the above.
- Local action to ensure the investment and operation of sustainable water and sanitation services in an economically and socially sustainable way.
- Particular attention must be paid to establishing a sound and sustainable economic basis for water and sanitation services. This can be achieved by using the tools of Strategic Financial Planning and Sustainable Cost Recovery.

b) To reduce the stress on finite water resources, it is essential that the water productivity of agriculture, which globally uses 70% of available water, is increased substantially.

- International and National policies and incentives to improve water productivity of agriculture to be developed.
- Set up national and international monitoring, analysis and reporting of water use and efficiency in agriculture, and also in business manufacturing and services.
- Review of the economics and pricing of water for irrigation to ensure the optimum investment and operation of public and private irrigation infrastructure.
- Develop public and private investment in the research and development of improved technologies for water use in agriculture and the water productivity of crops.

c) A way to support the growth in demand for water from the finite resources available is to ensure the successive uses of water by different users in the same catchment. This can be done by reducing pollution and by collecting and treating used water to enable its subsequent use by others.

- National policy objective to be devised to support the recovery and recycling of water after use.
- National incentives to encourage municipalities and the economic sectors to develop the recovery and recycling of water after use.
- Policies to enable the reuse of used water after treatment for secondary purposes that are consistent with public and environmental health.
- Investment in, or active encouragement of, research, innovation and development in reuse and recycling technologies.

\*\*\* Business Action for Sustainable Development 2012 (BASD 2012) is the official United Nations coordinator of business and industry at the upcoming Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in Rio de Janeiro on June 4-6, 2012. A temporary coalition of business organizations, BASD 2012 will ensure the voice of business is heard at the event and during the preparatory process. This initiative is convened by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and is being expanded with a number of sectoral international business organizations.

BASD 2012 will:

- Provide constructive policy input to the Rio+20 preparatory processes and coordinated business input to the formal United Nations Rio+20 Conference.
- Demonstrate business' commitment to delivering market-based solutions and showcase its active engagement in initiatives and partnerships to promote sustainable development. Market-based solutions are essential to move toward a more sustainable world.
- Represent business and industry at the UN DESA Major Groups Program aimed at enhancing Major Group participation in the Rio+20 process.
- Emphasize business solutions to sustainable development that deliver results and expand the concept to embrace poverty alleviation, job creation, environmental stewardship and social empowerment.
- Express global business positions on key sustainability issues to assist governments in making decisions that allow for a sustainable global business engagement.

The ultimate objective of BASD 2012 is to strengthen the overall contribution of Rio+20 to sustainable and inclusive markets and promote joint action between stakeholders – business, government, civil society and consumers – toward green growth.

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## Business School Lausanne

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

50+20: Management Education for the World  
Educating Leader of a Sustainable Future

Our call to service:

We call on all stakeholders (education governments, business and international accreditation agencies, youth and parents) to make the primary focus of business schools to serve society by focusing their research and teaching to enable the development of a business system and corporations which deliver a sustainable world.

The future license to operate any management education organization will depend on its contribution first and foremost to the world achieving environmental sustainability and social justice. This means policy frameworks for management education throughout the world which will transform business education organizations to become custodians of the future of sustainable corporations and a sustainable business system on behalf of society.

Concrete proposal:

We will propose a daring vision and concrete roadmap to implement a radically new management education FOR the world. A fundamental re-thinking of business- and management education in order to create globally responsible leaders equipped with required competences to embrace emerging environmental, societal and economic challenges. Such leaders will be needed in business, in government, NGO and social entrepreneurship ventures.

Who are we:

50+20 is a coalition of three organizations dedicated to ensuring relevant management education: the World Business School Council of Sustainable Business (WBSCSB), the Globally Responsible Leadership Initiative (GRLI), and U.N. backed PRME (Principle of Responsible Management Education). [www.50plus20.org](http://www.50plus20.org)

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

We need to include education of future leaders FOR a sustainable future in the core of any and all action. We need to educate the next generation and to re-educate those in and approaching positions of power.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

Implementation:

We will propose 4 different avenues of action:

- a) Creating a model business school in every major region of the world (supported by major foundations)
- b) Proposing concrete avenues for change to existing business schools (sharing emerging practices and recommendations)
- c) A manifesto for government and international agencies to work on a legislative and regulatory level
- d) Raising awareness in the general public with a book, articles, and a video, targeted for them through various channels.

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

We (GRII, WBSCSB, PRME) have formed the 50+20 coalition in order deliver this vision and concrete roadmap to the RIO+20 conference. It is critical to be able to present this vision to all relevant stakeholder groups (government, business, youth, women, the bottom 4bn) and to ensure that education of leaders for a sustainable future is an integral part of what is a successful and hopefully ground-breaking outcome of RIO+20.

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

A safe and powerful approach to educate leaders that are equipped to act for a sustainable future. Such leaders are required in business, government, NGO, and social entrepreneurship ventures of all scales and in every nation of this world.

We need a large scale political commitment for this based on the understanding that we can only save this planet if we completely re-think how we educate leaders, so that they can build a sustainable future in every function they may occupy anywhere in this world.

We need a resolution that every government and international accreditation agency adapts and agrees on as the required minimum standard and sets of outcomes and criteria at which leaders are educated.

We know the problems of this world – we need to create people, citizens around the world who can work on resolving them by embracing the three pillars of sustainable development.

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

Educating leaders equipped to shape a sustainable future is a critical element of creating a green economy that serves the world and achieves a balanced contribution to social, environmental and economic demands.

Developing course materials and case studies for integration of sustainability concepts, practices and values, into core business school courses in Finance, Accounting, Marketing, Information Systems, Operations management and strategic Management.

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

Fundamentally re-thinking business and management education is a key to success. Global responsibility and sustainability must be built-in and not bolt-on.

Getting business school accreditation agencies (AACSB, ACSP, EFMD, etc..) and government education regulatory bodies to incorporate sustainability performance parameters into their curriculum requirements, faculty appraisal, and over Business School performance.

Business school and management institutes can make a difference at a local, national, regional and international level. Business studies have become the most popular topic of undergraduate studies world-wide: we must ensure that we educate the next generation to have the competences needed to address societal, environmental and economic challenges in a balanced and effective way FOR the world.

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

- Educating the bottom 4 billion of the world to ensure that they have the right frame of mind as well as tools to start and sustain entrepreneurial actions that serve their societies and the world.
- Educating the next generation to embrace and resolve societal, environmental and economic challenges in a balanced and effective way FOR the world.
- Re-educating current and emerging leaders to balance societal, environmental and economic challenges in the best interest of the common good (a societal contract).
- Designing poverty alleviation programs in ways that get active engagement of business schools, their faculty and students.

50+20 - Management Education for the World

About the 50+20 Project

The Challenge

The world is demanding a mindful, sustainable approach to the planet's finite resources. Societies are stressed to the point of fracture by shifting demographics, poverty and the rapidity of change itself. Global-thinking citizens are seeking purpose rather than consumption. Business is being challenged to expand its purpose beyond mere profit-making to value-added contributions to society and the world. Business leaders are being called upon to reconcile this panoply of competing urgencies and to lead responsibly in a time of runaway uncertainty and complexity. But how?

More daunting still are the challenges brought to bear by this new scenario on today's business schools. These towers of expertise and tradition are being compelled to re-think the very nature of management education. They are faced with an imperative to set aside what for decades they have done with near exquisite efficiency in favour of something altogether tentative, unmapped and risk-laden. The new reality is calling for wholly innovative, safe and powerful new learning environments capable of inspiring and equipping a new generation of leaders with the skills and competences they will need to bravely and responsibly "step and stumble" their way forward as they address the challenges of an unknown future. Currently, B-Schools are a long way from being able to do this. But time has run out. The future is here.

#### The Context of 50+20 and Emerging Action beyond

To this day business and management education efforts at large function in line with an agenda that was set during the 1950s when the world was a very different place from the one we know today. It has therefore been 50+ years since the agenda for management education has been reset. The upcoming RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (June 2012) will mark the 20th anniversary of the 1992 Rio Earth summit. It has therefore been 20 years since Governments have been collectively urged to rethink economic development and find ways to halt the destruction of irreplaceable natural resources. It is at this juncture in history where the 50+20 project takes action to reset the management education agenda.

Management education of the future provides education and research that is relevant & applied, holistic & integrative, responsible & sustainable, inter-disciplinary & multi-level, and, of course, learning-oriented. The 50+20 project seeks to achieve this through:

- The 50+20 report will serve two purposes:

■ A summary agenda that highlights the vision, the challenges and the emerging solutions that will be presented at the RIO+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012.

■ A comprehensive book for the inspired managers, business students and general public outlining the future business school in pragmatic and captivating language (publishing the report after June 2012)

- Emerging projects at participating business schools around the globe, showcasing emerging practices and pioneering solutions of a responsible & relevant business education.

- Creation of five new business school initiatives in different geographic areas (Asia, Europe, South America, Africa, North America) as leading pioneers to showcase enlightened new models of b-schools.

#### The Ultimate Goal

To provide ground-breaking work for a new paradigm of business schools that embrace the challenges future leaders face when dealing with the world's emerging big issues. A pragmatic, pioneering effort envisioning what a future business school could and should look like. A new paradigm, a quantum leap without comprises, a stick in the ground marking a new era of possibilities to be explored and discovered together.

This paradigm of a new business school seeks to inspire and trigger:

- Multi-stakeholder discussions about where business schools should be heading in the coming decades

- Fundamental and/or incremental change at existing business schools, both the top accredited schools as well as the 10'000 non-accredited schools out there, all of them contributing to educating leaders.

- Business students to take an active part in their education, becoming co-creators in their learning journey

- Accreditation agencies to review and adapt step-by-step their criteria towards a new paradigm

- Inter-stakeholder collaboration between business schools and other fields (coaching & training organizations, societal actors, environmental activists, social & other sciences, emerging business leaders)

- Interdisciplinary discussions in the field of business education – from finance to marketing to strategy, human resources and back to ensure a fundamental re-thinking of how these silos can be overcome.

#### The Rio+20 Milestone

Presenting our vision at the U.N. Earth Summit RIO+20 in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 represents a first small step of the business school community to participate in and contribute to the public dialogue on the challenges the world (the earth, society, citizens and business) faces in the coming decades.

The agenda will include both a new paradigm – a vision yet to be realized – as well as relevant examples of existing examples and emerging best practices of how business schools are taking action today already towards the new paradigm.

#### The momentum is building

A leadership team of two dozen deans and professors of business schools around the globe and thought-leaders of key stakeholders have started on this path less travelled, a journey towards a better world.

#### The 50+20 Steering Committee

■ Mark Drewell, Chief Executive, GRI

■ Thomas Dyllick, Delegate for Responsibility & Sustainability, University of St Gallen, Co-founder WBSCSB

■ Derick de Jongh, Director, Albert Luthuli Center for Responsible Leadership at University of Pretoria

■ Katrin Muff, Dean Business School Lausanne, Co-founder WBSCSB

■ John North, Albert Luthuli Center for Responsible Leadership at University of Pretoria

■ Paul Shrivastava, Director, D. O'Brien Center for Sustainable Enterprise, Co-founder WBSCSB

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## C40 Climate Leadership Group (C40)

### An 'Alternative Approach for Cities'

#### C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group Submission to Rio+20

#### Background

1) Today, over half of the world's population lives in cities, a share that is likely to reach 75 per cent in 2050

2) Cities and urban areas currently account for over two-thirds of the world's energy consumption and account for 70 per cent of global CO2 emissions. The world's 50 largest cities generate about 2.6 billion t CO2e annually, more than all countries, except the United States and China.

3) The urban population is expected to double by 2030 and the global built-up area is expected to triple during the same period. Massive construction of buildings and infrastructure in developing countries will lock in conventional energy efficiency and GHG emissions for many decades to come. Poorly managed cities exacerbate enormous

new demands for energy and infrastructure investment. It is a big challenge for sustainable development to shift buildings and infrastructure to low emission and it should be the first priority in a green economy.

4) In order to establish sustainable societies, and truly mitigate against the impacts of global climate change, it is crucial to shift every aspect of the society to low carbon. This 'Paradigm shift' to a low carbon society creates new investment, new consumption and new jobs. The construction of low carbon cities will form a large portion of the green economy. It will spur investment and entrepreneurialism, foster new technologies and innovations, increase income through reforming the economy and improve the human habitat. Cities and societies are still dependent on energy and natural resources from distant locations. The future indicates an increase of local energy generation and smarter grids to improve efficiency. Cities will be the engine that fuels a green economy and thus are a major stakeholder in sustainable development.

5) Cities have emerged as a leading force for global action on climate change. With global protocols and treaties unable to bring about significant reforms, cities are strongly positioned to generate real change, and in fact are already taking significant action. The facts on the ground bear up: Rio, New York, Sao Paulo, London, Tokyo and Jakarta are just some of the world's megacities that are working to transform their policies and infrastructure to improve energy efficiency and other resource use. While national treaties and global protocols have struggled to generate meaningful change, cities continue to have an impact.

6) A greener economy demands actions to promote economic growth with social inclusion. Informal settlements and disorganised urban sprawling are two of the major challenges from urbanisation with a large impact on the health of the population and the environment. Effective policies to promote sustainable development will come alongside improving the standard of living for all city inhabitants. As such, this is not only a matter of addressing climate change and promoting economic growth. These actions also have a significant impact on the general public health.

#### C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group

7) The C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40) is a network of large and engaged cities from around the world committed to implementing meaningful and sustainable climate policies and actions locally that will help address climate change globally. 40 large cities and 18 other cities are working together to exchange ideas in order to accelerate climate actions. The C40 has developed networks of cities to work together on key areas such as energy efficiency, waste, water, transportation and adaptation and to hold workshops and seminars to exchange best practice. A biennial mayoral summit convenes member cities to discuss the implementation of new initiatives and opportunities for further collaboration. The summit allows cities to work together on implementing meaningful climate change solutions. This cooperative approach leverages the best practices and lessons learned by cities that are taking action.

8) C40 cities are already taking significant climate action. A recent survey showed that C40 cities across the world have taken 4,734 climate related actions to date. Over 80% of these actions were taken initiated after participating cities joined the C40. Additional key findings were;

- \* C40 Mayors and Governors lead by example, retrofitting municipally-owned buildings and vehicles
- \* C40 Mayors and Governors are leveraging powers over buildings to reduce energy demand and encourage distributed renewable energy supply generation
- \* 75% of C40 Mayors and Governors have direct and strong powers over city roads, where on average 35% of emissions occur
- \* In addition to the 4,734 climate related actions already taken 1,465 more were under consideration.

#### Examples

Energy demand in buildings - Energy efficiency retrofit programmes have been implemented for existing buildings in 20 cities. Installing energy efficient light bulbs or other smart lighting mechanisms is the one of the most popular programmes. 12 cities have implemented Building Rating and Reporting programmes for existing buildings to set standards in order to create a market for energy efficient building. A city-wide cap-and-trade program is also being implemented to motivate public and commercial buildings to invest in energy efficiency. 15 cities are introducing Building Standards for energy efficiency for new buildings which is very effective for constructing a low carbon city.

Transportation - 10 Cities have already delivered bus rapid transit systems. Of the 16 mayors with direct power over 1.4 million taxis, 4 mayors are piloting electric taxis and 5 are taking policy measures to introduce hybrid taxis. 22 mayors have taken action to improve the cycling infrastructure starting with over 9,370 km of cycle lanes.,

Waste management - 12 mayors are implementing waste to energy facilities within their cities, harnessing existing resources and utilising powers in creative ways; and 13 have programs to capture methane gas emitted from their landfills.

#### Green Economy

9) Through the actions already being taken by the C40 cities, low carbon investment and consumption are already being promoted, and these will play a key role in stimulating a green economy. These actions will create new jobs, improve the human habitat and contribute to reducing poverty in developing and emerging countries.

10) The leading actions that cities are already taking ahead of nations will demonstrate what a low carbon society is like and how a green economy creates our future. Cities are already demonstrating models that realise emission reductions and economic growth at the same time. The programmes foster understanding among developing and emerging countries and help us to achieve international agreement on a framework for climate change solutions.

11) While international negotiations struggle, global warming proceeds day by day. The endeavour to achieve international agreement for new climate change framework is needed; however, we need an 'alternative approach' to address climate change as well; we should make cities go first.

Therefore, the C40 calls on international society for the following;

- \* International society should recognise the importance of cities' role in combating climate change and adopt a new concept of alternative approach to make cities lead the way. To tackle climate change and mitigate its effects also leads to an increase in the well being of citizens all over the world. The outcome of Rio+20 should include clear statements that emphasise cities' role.
- \* United nations and international financial organisations should develop programmes for low carbon financing designated for cities' low carbon and sustainable projects. Also they should develop programmes to share the advanced efforts of cities with the world and support international cooperation between cities.
- \* Technology transfer should be facilitated, with sufficient funding commitments given to cities in developing countries, so that they can achieve sustainable human development by making progress in developing renewable energy sources and increasing energy efficiency.
- \* National government, financial institutions and business entities should work together to develop finance models that are aimed at financing longer-term sustainable infrastructure projects in cities.
- \* Representatives of cities and local governments should have an official seat in the new international negotiating platform for sustainable development and should participate

in the design process of the Green Economy Roadmap.

\* The new UN organisation to be established for sustainable development should have a division that supports, coordinates and optimises the climate actions of cities.

\* The "toolbox" of the best practices of cities<sup>1</sup>; climate actions should be developed. The C40 can contribute by providing best practices of C40 cities

\* The new UN organisation to be established for sustainable development should have a division that supports, coordinates and optimises the climate change actions of cities.

For more information about the C40, please visit [C40.com](http://C40.com)

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## Calvert Investments, Inc.

### CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING COALITION

The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Coalition (CSRC) represents financial institutions, professional bodies, NGOs and investors with assets under management amounting to a Global AUM of US\$2 trillion.

<sup>EN</sup> We believe progressive companies understand that long-term value is enhanced by embedding long-term sustainability considerations into their business strategy and by fully disclosing their progress to investors. This is why the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Coalition was founded.

<sup>EN</sup> The Coalition is collectively calling on all United Nations member states to commit to develop a Convention that mandates company boards to consider sustainability issues, and to integrate those issues that they consider to be material within the reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts – or explain why if they do not. We are also looking for effective mechanisms for investors to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance, an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

<sup>EN</sup> Governments first referred to environmental reporting at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992.

<sup>EN</sup> A large number of companies now report on their environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance and it has been demonstrated that there is a direct correlation between sustainable business practices and the longer-term financial success of that company.

<sup>EN</sup> At present however, there is no globally accepted rule requiring reporting on ESG performance. Despite the large number of companies publishing such reports, the vast majority of companies fail to do so.

<sup>EN</sup> We proffer that a requirement for a company to consider and report on a sustainability issues will create the right kind of discussions within boardrooms, throughout firms and encourage investors to think about the sustainability of the firm. This will help capital to be allocated to more sustainable, responsible companies and strengthen the long term sustainability of the financial system.

<sup>EN</sup> If a Sustainable Green Economy is to be reached, the time has now come for sustainability reporting to become standard practice. This can be achieved by the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) conference committing to develop a Convention on Corporate Sustainability reporting.

<sup>EN</sup> It is now almost twenty years since the first Earth Summit, as such we believe next year offers a momentous opportunity to move this agenda forward at a global level.

Progress Governments first referred to environmental reporting at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. In Agenda 21 of the Conference, governments agreed that business and industry should be 'encouraged to adopt and report on their environmental records, as well as on the use of energy and natural resources'.

We recognise and support the considerable progress that has been made since then.

There have been a number of initiatives under the UN umbrella promoting sustainability reporting. Such initiatives include UN Global Compact, United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) and the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI).

There has been progress in company policy, for example, since its launch in 2000, over 8,700 companies have signed up to The United Nations Global Compact, which covers the areas of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

There has also been progress in guidance for companies from Governments – such as through the recent further strengthening of the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises.

And progress by investors – more than 900 institutional investors from 48 countries with over \$30 trillion in assets signed up to the United Nations-backed Principles for Responsible Investment. They were launched just five years ago. All of these investors recognise that that environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) issues can affect the performance of investment portfolios.

However, despite this progress, we are still a very long way indeed from the ultimate aim of transparency, comparability and relevance of corporate sustainability reporting.

In other words, these progressive voluntary initiatives have not been enough - for example so far less than two per cent of listed companies have opted into the Global Compact.

### The Transparency and Accountability Gap

Sustainable Stock Exchanges, an initiative by UNPRI, UNCTAD and Global Compact has been urging all stock market listing authorities to make it a listing requirement that companies consider how responsible and sustainable their business model is and put a forward-looking sustainability strategy to the vote at their AGM.

Aside from a few notable examples such as the Singapore, Johannesburg and Istanbul Exchanges, there has yet to see a serious commitment from stock exchanges to make changes to their listing rules. This is reflected by analysis which indicates that at present more than 75% of the companies covered by Bloomberg do not currently disclose their sustainability performance.

It is our belief that stock markets require the support from governments and regulators. This is why we believe this is a relevant issue for the global forum of the Earth Summit.

## The business case for sustainability reporting

According to a recent McKinsey survey, more than 50 percent of executives consider sustainability “very” or “extremely” important in a wide range of areas, including overall corporate strategy.

The internal and external value that companies have found in sustainability management and reporting is widely documented. Sustainability reporting increases innovation and competition and at the same time makes organisations more accountable for their impacts. The evidence for the business case is building as uptake of reporting increases. To cite two examples:

Goldman Sachs is one of the firms to have carried out analysis of the relationship between how companies address ESG issues and the returns they generate. It contends that in a number of sectors there is a direct correlation between sustainable business practices and the longer-term financial success of that company.<sup>4</sup>

WestLB also published a study of the materiality of extra-financial factors based on a sample of 540 European firms. It found evidence of a link between extra-financial risk, cost of capital to a firm and shareholder value. The report suggested that compiling a sustainability report was among the most important catalysts for change – contributing to accumulation of knowledge, questioning of processes and the establishment of suitable structures and practices.<sup>5</sup>

Some organizations are now producing integrated reports, a form of corporate report that brings together financial performance data with material information about an organization’s strategy, governance, performance and prospects in a way that reflects the economic, political, social and environmental context within which it operates. An integrated report provides a clear and concise representation of how an organization creates value, now and in the future. In August 2010, the International Integrated Reporting Committee (IIRC) was established to create a globally accepted framework for integrated reporting. The objective is that through integrated reporting many more companies and their stakeholders will become aware of sustainability performance measurement and disclosure and start acting on this information.<sup>6</sup>

## The market case for sustainability reporting

Markets are driven by information. If the information they receive is short term and thin then these characteristics will define our markets. If companies do not provide an assessment of the broader Environmental, Social and Governance risks and opportunities to which their business model is exposed, then how can the market assess the sustainability of that company’s growth?

Recent years have seen an increasing interest from markets in sustainability performance data disclosed in reports. There is considerable evidence that investors require this information and there has also been seen some major investment such as Thompson Reuters and Bloomberg adding to the data set that they provide investors, while rating agencies such as Standard & Poors have created ESG indices for India, Egypt and the MENA region.

Within 60 days after the launch of the product on Bloomberg terminals 11.5m hits on the ESG data points were recorded. At the time of writing, Bloomberg estimates that about one thousand users now use Bloomberg just for ESG analysis. They also report that the number of users is increasing with more conventional asset managers approaching Bloomberg regarding the product.

While the number of reporters is growing, including in emerging economies such as Brazil, China and India, and the quality of reporting improves, sustainability reporting far from achieving its full potential.

At the current rate it would take decades before sustainability reporting is common practice across global markets. This means that regulators, investors and stakeholders know little or nothing of the sustainability practices and impacts of the vast majority of the world’s large companies.

Markets will not routinely use sustainability information as long as only a minority of companies report. A critical mass of sustainability information is needed to inform markets and enable performance benchmarking and analysis. Companies that do not report withhold from the markets information that is important for the assessment of medium to long term risk and value. By leaving information gaps and creating asymmetries of information, non-reporting companies impose a cost on the markets and undermine its effective functioning.

The world needs to move from the innovative and pioneering approach of a minority of companies to a true global mainstream practice for all companies.

## A CONVENTION ON CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Coalition (CSRC) calls for the member states at the United Nations 2012 Earth Summit to:

<sup>[4]</sup> Acknowledge the growing practice of sustainability reporting and recognize that, improving corporate management and performance, facilitating stakeholder engagement, driving innovation and competitiveness represents an essential contribution to the transition towards a Green Economy.

<sup>[4]</sup> Note that the increased quantity and quality of data available through sustainability reporting can be a powerful tool to help markets work more efficiently.

<sup>[4]</sup> Commit to develop a global policy framework requiring boards of all listed and large private companies to consider sustainability issues and to integrate material sustainability information within the reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts – or explain why if they do not.

The global policy framework (which can take the form of a Convention) should adhere to three key principles:

- Report or Explain – establish a report or explain approach to sustainability reporting policy
- Transparency – enhance transparency by requiring national measures which would mandate the integration of material sustainability issues within the company reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts;
- Accountability – provide effective mechanisms for investors and all stakeholders to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

This is a modest, market-based proposal that we believe represents the next step towards sustainable capital markets.

## APPENDIX A - POLICY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Are you setting out a standard that all companies must adopt? No. We merely ask for the support of governments to make corporate sustainability reporting a “report or explain” requirement and for this report or explanation, in whatever form it takes, to be put to shareholder approval at the AGM. However, we are not dictating the form it should take.

This will provide corporations with the freedom to define their own reporting and where they determine that it is not necessary, outline why. This will also ensure that the report is based on the board’s best thinking.

Those companies yet to explore reporting in this area may review the excellent work already done in this area by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) that produces a comprehensive Sustainability Reporting Framework that is widely used around the world, to enable greater organisational transparency and the current discussions in the International Integrated Reporting Committee. It is important to reference the normative frameworks for sustainability offered by UN Global Compact and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, as well as the contribution of ISO, PRI, UNCTAD and UNEP. .

2. Why have you focused on asking boards to publish their thinking rather than for example proposing a sustainability reporting regulation?

We do not think it possible to craft a regulation that specifies a sufficiently detailed reporting template on the rich diversity of corporations around the world. Consequently, we have decided against proposing heavy handed regulation that tries to enforce one reporting template. This is also because regulation is often slow moving, lags the market, and encourages a minimum compliance mentality within the company. We are seeking to stimulate a substantive board discussion on the risks and opportunities to a company arising from sustainable development, as well as the creation of their strategic response. We are also anticipating that some companies will seek to compete on the quality of their disclosure in this area (as, indeed, is already the case).

Equally, however, we do not have blind faith that markets will self regulate toward sustainability. The evidence for spontaneous progress on a purely voluntary basis is that it will be slow.

3. What needs to change within the system if it were to adopt your recommendation?

This will vary for different jurisdictions. For example, where the regional code of Corporate Governance is embedded within the listing rules then this document could be updated, requiring the support of all the bodies that govern this code. Where it is guided by the exchange itself, then the exchange can update the code itself. Where guided by primary legislation, then this will need to be changed. For this reason we adopted a report or explain approach that would set the principle and leave flexibility to national regulators.

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## Canadian Earth Summit Coalition

Dear UNCSD 2012 Bureau Members,

Re: Input for Zero Draft compilation document

It is with great pleasure that we submit ideas and recommendations for inclusion in the compilation document for your consideration that will serve as basis for the preparation of the Zero Draft. Specifically, we ask you to include the following five issues:

1. Committing nation-states and the United Nations to Principle #10 of the Rio Declaration on access to information, transparency, public participation and access to justice;
2. Reflecting that the overarching goal of a green economy should be defined in the context of sustainable patterns of consumption and production that are built on a fair and socially just economic system that meets the needs of all people and respects animal welfare within the ecological carrying capacity of the planet;
3. Measuring what matters: moving beyond GDP;
4. Getting the prices right: eliminating fossil fuel subsidies and pricing carbon; and
5. Making trade fair: committing to public procurement of fair trade certified products We are making this submission on behalf of the partners of the Canadian Earth Summit Coalition, a self-organized, independent and informal civil society network of non-governmental, non-profit, academic and research organizations created to push for Canadian leadership at the Rio+20 conference, as well as reach out to Canadians on the important question of sustainability through the coalition's bilingual public engagement initiative, "We Canada". The initiative's website, [www.earthsummit.ca](http://www.earthsummit.ca) serves as a venue to share innovative ideas, actions and policy recommendations with a wider audience; to promote Canadian initiatives organized in the context of the conference; and to gather voices and amplify the existing movement around sustainability.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our deep disappointment for not having been consulted by the Federal Government of Canada on the development of its own submission to the Zero Draft on behalf of all Canadians. This lack of consultation goes against a long-standing Canadian tradition dating back to the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 of engaging with civil society on important issues including sustainable development.

In the lead-up to, and during, the UN World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, for example, the Canadian Government established an exemplary public participation and engagement process<sup>1</sup>, which contributed to the determination of Canada's areas of focus at the Summit. Since Rio, Canada has been one of the few UN-member states to include civil society representatives as part of its official delegation to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development; we are concerned that Canada will no longer pursue this valuable form of collaboration with Canadian civil society, particularly since we have just learned that the Federal Government of Canada has declined core funding to the Canadian Environmental Network (RCEN) after having provided such critical support for 34 years. The RCEN has been a key stakeholder in ensuring civil society representation on delegations for UN events. We are advocating for the reinstatement of RCEN funding and for a commitment to include a civil society and youth representative on the Canadian delegation to Rio +20.

The attached note details the ideas that the Canadian Earth Summit Coalition is putting forth to the United Nations. In addition to some comments more general in nature that we will be making, such as ensuring that the green economy is defined along the lines of sustainable consumption and production patterns and includes social justice and wellbeing considerations, we emphasize three specific policy areas that we feel require particular attention and that should be featured in a green economy's roadmap or framework for action:

- o "Measuring what matters: Beyond GDP": Complementing the ubiquitous gross domestic product (GDP) with full-cost accounting, measures of capital stock depletion, and well-being indicators.
- o "Getting the prices right: Eliminating fossil fuel subsidies and implementing carbon pricing": Eliminating fossil fuel market-distorting subsidies and putting a price on carbon by implementing an ecological tax reform (taxing the "bads", not the "goods"). Carbon pricing should also be based on eight principles outlined below.
- o "Fair Trade procurement policies": For guidelines pertaining to cotton uniforms, food items, and beverage products which bear the Fairtrade Certified Mark<sup>2</sup> as part of green procurement and sustainable development strategies.

We look forward to working with you in the coming months, and would like to emphasize our commitment to making Rio+20 the success and historical turning point that it deserves to be.

Respectfully yours,

Aleksandra Nasteska, and Marie-Pierre Daigle,

National Co-Director National Co-Director

Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20

The Canadian Earth Summit Coalition expects that the UN Conference on Sustainable Development will lead to:

- o A bold vision of a sustainable future for humanity that will inspire people from around the world – a future we want.
- o A short politically-binding outcome document that includes an appendix of countries' own commitments to sustainable development, including the further implementation of existing documents, including Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, with provisions for monitoring, compliance and reporting.
- o A green economies' roadmap that sets out clear, mutually-agreed upon sustainable development goals and targets (to complement and build on the Millennium Development Goals) accompanied by a timeline to undertake the great global transition to sustainability.

General comments on the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

The Canadian Earth Summit Coalition puts forth the following remarks on the green economy:

- o The concept of the "green economy" should not replace "sustainable development"; although greening economies plays an important role in achieving sustainable development, current definitions of a green economy ignore or gloss over the central questions of fairness, social justice and the rights of both humans and non-humans.
  - o The overarching goal of the green economy should be defined in the context of sustainable patterns of consumption and production that are built on a fair and socially just economic system that meets the needs of all people and respects animal welfare within the ecological carrying capacity of the planet.
  - o A green economy calls us to:
    - Make sustainability a political priority
    - Think in terms of systems, and act on the high leverage points (structures and mindsets)
    - Develop a bold, new economic vision that plans for the long term and provides for future generations
    - Live within safe ecological margins, and redefine our relationship to the natural world and to each other
    - Address unjust disparities of wealth and income
    - Prioritize meeting the needs of the world's poor (in both high- and low-income countries) while simultaneously reducing the unsustainable Ecological Footprint of the world's rich along a global framework of 'contraction and convergence'
    - Redefine prosperity in more than simply economic and consumptive terms, and adopt new measures of progress and wellbeing
    - Recognize that a country cannot "go it alone", and that reciprocity and cooperation is a key pillar of global wellbeing
  - o Examples of specific, high-leverage policies to be implemented for a green economy:
    - Instituting a socially fair carbon tax or equitable cap-and-trade system
    - Phasing out of subsidies and investments for unsustainable, inhumane systems
    - Freeing up the length of the working day, week and year to reflect a work-life balance that promotes well-being
    - Reforming our banking system in support of a larger diversity of communitybased savings, lending and investment
    - Putting a stop to urban sprawl through increased densification in existing urban centres
    - Discouraging car use, especially in urban areas, and investing heavily in efficient and comfortable public transportation options and self-propelled infrastructure (i.e. car-free spaces)
    - Retrofitting existing buildings to a minimum of PassivHaus norms
    - Implementing choice editing to remove unsustainable options from the market place by industry and government
    - Maximizing public purchases through green and fair-trade procurement
    - Reforming the World Trade Organization so that it serves to promote fair trade
- Three overarching policy recommendations around which UN-member States should develop targets and timelines

The Canadian Earth Summit Coalition would like to highlight three overarching and cross-cutting policy areas that it feels need to take centre stage at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development:

1) The adoption of new measures of progress and well-being to measure social and ecological progress towards sustainability:

- o It is time to "measure what matters", which means complementing the ubiquitous gross domestic product (GDP) with full-cost accounting, measures of capital stock depletion, and indicators of well-being.

The development of a green economy that is sustainable and works toward eradicating poverty demands that nations move beyond simply measuring GDP, as called for in Section IV, Chapter 40 in Agenda 21. Science-based indicators of progress and development that account for human and environmental well-being will give policy makers more complete data they need to encourage green and sustainable development. They also allow for a deeper understanding of progress, not just in terms of dollars, but also in terms of the quality of life enjoyed, and the health and resiliency of the natural environment

2) The elimination of market-distorting subsidies to all fossil fuels and putting a price on carbon:

o "Getting the prices right" and making the markets work for sustainable development requires, inter alia, eliminating fossil fuel market-distorting subsidies and putting a price on carbon by implementing an ecological tax reform. Furthermore, no matter the instruments, a carbon-pricing policy should be:

- 1) Comprehensive, without exemptions
- 2) Nation-wide
- 3) Simple and readily implemented
- 4) Transparent and accountable
- 5) Complemented when a price signal alone is insufficient

The carbon price itself should be:

- 6) Environmentally effective
- 7) Ultimately comparable to that in other countries and

8) Predictable but adaptable<sup>3</sup> The elimination of harmful subsidies and reflecting true social and ecological costs in the price of goods and services by putting a price on carbon are the starting point and the condition sine qua non to shifting towards a green economy. One of the objectives of the Rio+20 Conference is to secure renewed international political commitment for sustainable development. Countries must show real commitment to making the markets work for sustainable development by using effective levers such as taxes, subsidies and procurement to discourage ecologically damaging activities and promote healthy and socially progressive alternatives. A system that eliminates harmful, market-distorting fossil fuel subsidies and that partly shifts taxation systems from "goods" (i.e. employment) to "bads" (carbon emissions) would constitute a significant step to making the markets work for sustainable development without unnecessarily jeopardizing the economy.

3) The implementation of national sustainable procurement policies that includes sourcing products bearing the Fairtrade Certified Mark:

o Fair Trade procurement guidelines pertaining to cotton uniforms, food, and beverage products need to be included in the traditional government procurement policies, and complement green procurement at the national and sub-national scale.

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation calls on relevant authorities at all levels to "promote public procurement policies that encourage development and diffusion of environmentally sound goods and services" (Ch. III, 19 c.). Rio+20 must go beyond promoting simply "green" procurement, and must include social considerations. Fair Trade procurement runs in concert with the objectives of the Rio+20 Conference as large-scale purchasing of Fair Trade products can lift thousands of producers out of poverty and greatly improve living conditions in farming and artisanal communities around the world. Fair Trade addresses environmental concerns such as soil erosion and climate change while tackling emerging challenges in human trafficking by rooting out child labour.

This submission is supported by the following organizations, partners of the Canadian Earth Summit Coalition:

[www.fairtradevancouver.ca](http://www.fairtradevancouver.ca)  
[www.oneearthweb.org](http://www.oneearthweb.org)  
[www.davidsuzuki.org](http://www.davidsuzuki.org)  
[www.wspa.ca](http://www.wspa.ca)  
[www.villagevancouver.ca](http://www.villagevancouver.ca)  
[www.mysustainablecanada.org](http://www.mysustainablecanada.org)  
[www.syc-cjs.org](http://www.syc-cjs.org)  
[www.studentsonice.com](http://www.studentsonice.com)  
[www.otesha.ca](http://www.otesha.ca)  
[www.biodiversitymatters.org](http://www.biodiversitymatters.org)  
[www.eya.ca](http://www.eya.ca)  
[www.sustainablebuildingcentre.com](http://www.sustainablebuildingcentre.com)  
[www.fallsbrookcentre.ca](http://www.fallsbrookcentre.ca)  
[www.grandriverkeeperlabrador.ca](http://www.grandriverkeeperlabrador.ca)  
[www.aseq-ehaq.ca](http://www.aseq-ehaq.ca)  
[www.vofa.ca](http://www.vofa.ca)  
[www.sustainablecities.net](http://www.sustainablecities.net)  
[www.janegoodall.ca](http://www.janegoodall.ca)

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## Caribbean Policy Development Centre

The Caribbean Policy Development Center – a coalition of NGOs of Caribbean SIDS, look forward to a renewed commitment to the intent set out Agenda 21 in which, nations small and large, commit to greater emphasis on the needs of the diverse groups of people who make up their populations, and to the best stewardship of the earth, especially in the context of the intersection between climate change and the global financial crisis. CPDC therefore seeks the inclusion of the following Specific Elements:

1. Link between climate change, more frequent disasters and the livelihoods of small farmers, small fishers, and poor women in the Caribbean Small Island Developing States

Links must be made between climate change and more frequent, more intense and more varied natural disasters on human health, agriculture, food security, and livelihoods in Caribbean SIDS. The negative consequences of global warming and sea level rise on the region's tourism, water quality and quantity, human settlements and real GDP must be addressed from the perspective of a global partnership.

i. Food and Nutrition Security Food Security is at the heart of the wellbeing of households, communities and nations of Caribbean SIDS which were once net exporters of food and have become net importers with the food import bill reaching out of proportion particularly with recent sharp increases in food prices.

CPDC and members propose that Caribbean SIDS adopt the strategy of Sustainable Community Food Systems to guarantee, particularly for persons living in poverty, food and nutrition security and sovereignty. Inherent in this system is women's access to and ownership of arable land and adequate inputs to maximize their roles as producers, processors and distributors of food. CPDC NGOs propose the adoption of state policies that reserve and protect agricultural land for diversified local food production



balanced with production for export. CPDC proposes the end of patenting of plant and animal genetic material which brings about much degradation of the natural environment and robs small farmers who are primary the producers for local consumption of the benefits of the land.

## ii. Sustainable Consumption and Production

Prudent management of ecosystems in Caribbean SIDS is required of because of the fragile and limited nature of natural resources. Caribbean SIDS therefore need to rethink patterns of consumption and production which are influenced by global trends and practices.

## iii. Biodiversity loss

This is affected by inappropriate land, unpredictable weather patterns and invasive species. Caribbean SIDS must plan infrastructural development which is appropriate for its natural ecosystems taking into account issues of mitigative climate change approaches. Caribbean SIDS must ensure protection of its borders from invasive species which are an extreme threat to biodiversity.

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# Caritas Oceania

Caritas Oceania Contribution to Rio +20 conference on Sustainable Development

Caritas Oceania is a region of the Caritas International Confederation with a coordinating function for the various national Caritas organizations of the region (Aotearoa New Zealand, Australia, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and Tonga). We also work alongside Catholic and other justice and development agencies in the south Pacific.

Both Caritas Internationalis and Caritas Oceania have put on record our concerns about climate change and sustainable development. We base our view of the world on an understanding of human beings, the earth and the universe as gifts of God. From this point of view every human being has an innate dignity and worth from the beginning to the end of life. Likewise the earth is a gift of God that must be valued and respected in itself before it is an object for human use or exploitation. The members of the Caritas network are committed to eradicating poverty, advocating and organising around issues of poverty and development, promoting stewardship of the earth and its resources in the service of all humanity.

Individual members of the network in the South Pacific work in these areas educating, advocating, and supporting projects to sustain communities and mitigate the effects of extreme poverty and climate change. Caritas Oceania has a particular commitment to the issue of climate change as it is already having a devastating impact on the region, particularly for small, low-lying island states.

As a region Caritas Oceania has also worked together on disaster risk reduction and preparedness programmes. The need to cooperate in addressing such issues has become increasingly important due to the seasonal challenges (eg, typhoons) and because some of these disasters (eg, extreme weather events) are predicted to become more frequent and intense as a result of climate change, increasing the vulnerability of the communities we serve.

All the states of the Pacific face unique challenges not only as a result of climate change (to which most of these states have made little contribution in terms of per capita emissions) but also in terms of sustainable development. For smaller, more isolated states the challenge of employment for their people, especially the young, is great. For larger and more economically developed states the challenge can be models of development which may be unsustainable or environmentally damaging.

We have some brief submissions for the compilation document:

What are our expectations for the outcome of Rio+20?

a) We expect a stronger commitment to the development of a green economy, not just in name but in practice. We expect the major economic powers (states and companies) will resist this because it will challenge profits and power. We expect individuals and social groups to resist it because populations have become addicted to consumption in terms of what are seen as desirable lifestyles (eg, consumer items, imported food, etc).

Specific elements:

a) We support strong sectoral priorities being established, developed and launched at Rio+20. We especially look for these initiatives in the fields of energy, food security, oceans and biodiversity. As our region is predominantly a marine environment, so the care of the oceans as a climate regulator and source of food is essential. Likewise energy imports (eg, oil, petrol) are both costly and unsustainable. The dominant model of development elevates the value of imported products and foods at the expense of local produce.

With many small island nations in our area we ask that the human dignity of those living in these threatened states be prioritized on the international agenda. The peoples of these islands may be few in number relative to the total population of the world, but they have had a history of survival, independence and sustainable living in relatively isolated situations.

In more recent times they have often been drawn into a dependency on imported products and values which have drawn them away from their traditional practices and independence. This is not to say everything new is bad and everything "traditional" is good, however efforts to achieve sustainable development must necessarily attempt to restore some of what has been lost, culturally, economically and socially. Particularly important is developing sustainable employment opportunities which can offer possibilities for young people to stay in their communities and on the land. Projects that bring together care of the earth, indigenous cultural values and employment opportunities for the young are valuable.

c) Institutional framework for sustainable development:

We do not wish to negate the value of the political, economic and social commitments that the conference is working on and which is central to the work of the UN. We applaud that commitment and support it. However, coming as we do from a religious background, we see spiritual and ethical questions which must accompany the other aspects of the debate: What must we do to make the world a better, safer, healthier place? What must I do or not do to ensure that my brothers and sisters do not suffer poverty and exclusion? What can I/we do or not do to ensure that our grandchildren have a livable earth to inhabit?

From that perspective we want to see in the document an acknowledgement that the spiritual and religious traditions of the peoples of our planet are engaged as partners in the dialogue around sustainable development practices. There are strong religious traditions in the Pacific, many of which have dimensions that tie the local people closely into the environment as the world from which they come. These traditions can give insight into better ways of acting and motivation for change.

The Churches too can be influential in people's lives. As an organization dedicated to the eradication of poverty and environmental justice without engaging in proselytism we

see great possibilities in bringing together environmental awareness, sustainable development and the spiritual traditions of local peoples.

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## Catto Fellowship of the Aspen Institute

### SECOND NATURE

#### SUBMISSION TO UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ADVANCE OF THE RIO EARTH SUMMIT

#### GLOBAL DECLARATION ON PLASTIC POLLUTION

##### Introduction

##### Summary: Global Declaration on Plastic Pollution

For the past 60 years, society has been using plastics in everyday life with little concern or understanding of how to properly dispose of or recycle this material.

Plastic is a valuable, important, and useful material in applications across the value chain, but society must find a more sustainable way to maintain lifecycle responsibility for this non-renewable material so that it does not degrade our land, oceans, and human health.

Between 60 and 80% of marine debris is derived from plastic products. Enormous quantities of plastic are concentrated in the 5 largest gyres of our oceans, with possible grave consequences for the food chain and the human health and certain consequences for the well being of the animals that live in the oceans or rely on the oceans for habitat and food.

In its 2011 Year Book, UNEP identified oceans plastics pollution as "persistent, bio- accumulating and toxic substances", stating that "Research indicates that tiny pieces of plastic are absorbing and concentrating from the seawater and sediments chemicals, from polychlorinated biphenols, PCBs, to the pesticide DDT. [...] Many of these pollutants, including PCBs, cause chronic health effects such as endocrine disruption, mutagenicity and carcinogenicity."

Research indicates that cleaning up the existing stock is simply impossible; the areas are too large and the plastic too small and pervasive. And even if a way to clean up the plastic currently in the oceans was found, more plastic pollution is accumulating daily.

Therefore, bearing in mind the precautionary principle, immediate action is needed to prevent further plastic pollution in the oceans.

There are effective, immediately available options for reaching this result. The key areas of action are: infrastructure (providing the infrastructure to properly collect and recycle the plastic waste), consumer behavior (engaging consumers to reduce demand, recycle, and reuse, as appropriate), regulatory controls, and creation of markets for post-consumer waste. Experience shows that these solutions are effective and with the proper infrastructure in place, recycling rates can double within one year. Within this framework, Extended Producer Responsibility policies appear to be a promising instrument to accelerate the deployment of each of these solutions, particularly in financing infrastructure and involving producers of plastic products and packaging in end-of-life management.

Governments play a central role in mobilizing these solutions: governments can educate and incentivize consumers, help put in place infrastructure, and create markets.

And Governments have by definition a responsibility for protecting the common goods.

Therefore we propose a Global Declaration on Plastic Pollution.

##### Draft Global Declaration on Plastic Pollution

##### The Challenge

Whereas, plastic is a valuable, important, and useful material in applications across the value chain;

Whereas, for the past 60 years, society has been using single-use plastics in everyday life with little concern or understanding of how to properly handle this material throughout its entire life cycle;

Whereas, society must find a more sustainable way to handle this non-renewable material throughout its life cycle so that it does not degrade our land, oceans, and human health;

Whereas, the costs to manage and clean up single-use plastics are significant, and do not account for the environmental costs of plastic pollution;

Whereas, the impact of plastic pollution has been particularly significant on our oceans;

##### The Opportunity

Whereas, there are economically attractive solutions for mitigating global plastic pollution;

Whereas, key opportunities to make impact include: infrastructure, consumer behavior, creation of markets for post-consumer waste, and regulatory controls, these have yet to be widely adopted;

Whereas, governments can play a central role in mobilizing these solutions: regulate single-use plastics, educate and incentivize consumer behavior, create and maintain appropriate infrastructure, and support the development of market mechanisms;

Therefore we propose a Global Declaration on Plastic Pollution.

##### The Action

We hereby commit to reduce our nation's contribution to the problem of plastic pollution. Specifically, in accordance with precautionary principle we will immediately develop appropriate regulatory controls, market incentives, extended producer responsibility policies for single-use plastics, collection and recycling infrastructure, and other strategies to achieve specific source reduction targets aimed at decreasing the production of plastic materials (especially single-use items) most likely to end up as plastic pollution.

Supporters:

The Aspen Institute Catto Fellows

Natural Resources Defense Council  
The 5 Gyres Institute  
Californians Against Waste  
WeTap  
California Coastal Coalition  
Urban Semillas  
Environment Washington  
Surfrider Foundation  
Orange County Coastkeeper  
Inland Empire Waterkeeper  
Seventh Generation Advisors  
Clean Water Action  
Captain Charles Moore  
ChicoBag Company  
Sona Kalapura, Environmental Programs Manager, City of Manhattan Beach  
Manuel Maqueda  
Environment California  
Team Marine  
Heal the BayGreen Cities California  
The City of Santa Monica  
Save Our Shores  
Center for Oceanic Awareness, Research, and Education  
San Diego Coastkeeper  
Environment Oregon

#### About the Supporters

Aspen Institute Catto Fellows is part of the Aspen Global Leadership Network. The Catto Fellowship brings together a diverse and accomplished group of 20 professionals in the environmental field from the NGO, government, and business communities to discuss values based leadership and how we can move from success to significance in our individual and collective work to address global environmental issues. We, as the current class of Catto Fellows, have committed our collective energy to addressing the significant challenge of protecting the oceans from the buildup of plastic pollution.

Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), is an environmental advocacy organization that uses law, science and the support of our 1.3 million members and online activists to protect the planet's natural resources and ensure a safe and healthy environment for all living things.

5 Gyres Institute is a non-profit organization dedicated to researching plastic pollution in the world's oceans, and actively promoting solutions. With its scientific research, it engages policymakers, businesses, students, and communities around the world in solutions-based education. 5 Gyre's goal is to utilize first hand knowledge to stop the flow of plastic pollution to the world's oceans.

Californians Against Waste is recognized as one of the nation's leading non-profit environmental research and advocacy organizations focusing on resource conservation and pollution prevention through waste reduction and recycling. The organization's 34- year history and track record of accomplishments has demonstrated it to be principled, practical, creative and effective.

WeTap is a non profit that works toward improving and increasing the use of public drinking fountains and encouraging the protection and appreciating of municipal drinking water.

The California Coastal Coalition (CalCoast), is a non-profit advocacy group comprised of 35 coastal cities; five counties; SANDAG, BEACON and SCAG; private sector partners and NGO's, committed to protecting and restoring California's coastline through beach sand restoration, increasing the flow of natural sediment, wetlands recovery, improved water quality, watershed management and the reduction of marine debris and plastic pollution.

Urban Semillas is a social conscientious, reconnaissance and outreach, community- based watershed-driven organization. We work to educate underserved and monolingual (Spanish-speaking) communities about watershed and social justice issues, provide them with community-building skills and empower them to participate in local, regional and nationwide policies that impact their neighborhoods.

Environment Washington is a state-wide, citizen-based advocacy group. It works on protecting clean air, clean water, and open spaces. Combining independent research, practical ideas and tough-minded advocacy, Environment Washington seeks to overcome the opposition of powerful special interests and win real results for Washington's environment.

Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots, environmental non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's oceans, waves, and beaches through a powerful activist network. Surfrider Foundation's Rise Above Plastics program is aimed at reducing the impacts of plastics on the marine environment by raising awareness about the dangers of plastic pollution and by advocating for a reduction of single-use plastics and the recycling of all plastics.

Orange County Coastkeeper is Orange County's leading water quality organization dedicated to protect and preserve the region's marine habitats and watersheds through education, advocacy, restoration, research and enforcement. Founded in 1999, Orange County Coastkeeper is a member of the international Waterkeeper Alliance and remains dedicated to preserving and protecting water from polluters.

Inland Empire Waterkeeper is a grassroots, non-profit water quality organization dedicated to enhancing and protecting the quality of the waterways within the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed. Inland Empire Waterkeeper guards water quality in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties in southern California and strives to preserve and protect water from polluters.

Seventh Generation Advisors is a nonprofit environmental organization working to make a sustainable world, seven generations into the future. Like many Native American traditions, SGA believes we must consider--in all our actions--the consequences to future world generations. Currently, our programs focus on climate change, and plastic pollution issues.

Clean Water Action is a U.S. based national grassroots environmental organization that has been helping citizens and local communities hold polluters accountable and reduce water pollution at the source since 1972. Clean Water Action is developing cutting edge policies and programs in source reduction and producer responsibility to minimize plastic pollution.

Captain Charles Moore is an oceanographer and captain of the Oceanographic Research Vessel, Alquita. He is the founder of Algalita Marine Research Institute, Long Beach Organic, and the co-author of the new book Plastic Ocean, which details his discovery of the Eastern Garbage Patch in the North Pacific and his efforts to combat the ocean's plastic plague.

The ChicoBag Company's mission is to help humanity eliminate the unnecessary use of single-use paper and plastic bags by designing reusable bags to be unforgettable and fun to use. A reusable bag left at home or in the car does no good. Therefore, all ChicoBag products easily stuff or fold down into compact, pocket-sized stuff-sacks making it easy for people to say no to single-use bags, not just sometimes but every time. The ChicoBag Company also offers school fundraising programs, a custom promotional bag program and the infamous Bag Monster - a costume that represents the average American's annual consumption of single-use plastic bags.  
www.chicobag.com www.bagmonster.com

Sona Kalapura, Environmental Programs Manager, City of Manhattan Beach. Sona leads the development and implementation of the environmental programs for the coastal Southern California city of Manhattan Beach. Being a coastal city, this community has taken marine pollution very seriously, and it was at the request of its residents and youth that the City Council unanimously banned plastic bags in the city. The City was the recent winner in a July California Supreme Court ruling, earning the right to move forward with its plastic bag ordinance in spite of the 3-year legal battle brought by the plastic bag industry.

Manuel Maqueda is co-founder of Plastic Pollution Coalition, an international coalition of organizations working together to stop plastic pollution worldwide; and a participant in Midway Journey, a transmedia art project documenting the effects of plastic pollution on the remote island of Midway.

Environment California is a state-wide, citizen-based advocacy group. It works on protecting clean air, clean water, and open spaces. Combining independent research, practical ideas and tough-minded advocacy, Environment California seeks to overcome the opposition of powerful special interests and win real results for California's environment.

Team Marine is a multi-award winning eco-action group of teens dedicated to advancing environmental sustainability through research, multimedia, service learning, and community outreach. Their work focuses on raising awareness about the problems of and solution to climate change, ocean acidification, overfishing, and plastic pollution.

Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization with over 13,000 members dedicated to making southern California's coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy and clean.

Green Cities California is a coalition of twelve of California's largest and most environmentally progressive jurisdictions in the State. Our mission is to accelerate the adoption of sustainability policies and practices through collaborative effort. We have worked together as a coalition for the last two years to promote local single use bag bans, and commissioned the development of a Master Environmental Assessment on Single Use and Reusable bags toward that end, which is available here:  
<http://greencitiescalifornia.org/mea>

The City of Santa Monica is a coastal city in Southern California with a population of 90,000 residents. Over the past several decades the city has shown strong leadership for sustainability and the environment, notably with the adoption and implementation of its Sustainable City Plan, which began in 1994, and subsequent actions to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve water quality, and improve the quality of life for visitors and residents. As a coastal city Santa Monica has long been concerned with marine plastic pollution and has worked hard to address it. In 2008 the city became one of the first in the country to ban the use of non-recyclable plastic food service packaging and in 2010 it became one of the first cities in California to ban single use plastic bags.

Save Our Shores is the Central Coast leader in caring for the marine environment through ocean awareness, advocacy and citizen action. Over the last 30 years, Save Our Shores helped to establish the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, prevent offshore oil drilling and cruise ship pollution, and today focuses on educating youth about our local watersheds, tackling pollution on our beaches and rivers, implementing our renowned Dockwalker oil spill prevention program, and providing our community with educated and inspired docents in our Sanctuary Stewards program.

The Center for Oceanic Awareness, Research, and Education seeks to enlighten people, young and old, to the plight of the oceans, to change the way they think and act, and to encourage them to create positive and lasting change. COARE's purpose is to study our oceans and increase public awareness of the earth's marine environment through educational programs and outreach.

San Diego Coastkeeper protects the region's inland and coastal waters for the communities and wildlife that depend on them by blending education, community empowerment and advocacy.

Environment Oregon is a statewide, membership-driven environment advocacy organization dedicated to protecting clean air clean water and open spaces. We combine direct advocacy with grassroots organizing to deliver real results for Oregon's environment.

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## CEE Himalaya

Please find the submission for UNCSD Rio+20 Summit on behalf of CEE Himalaya:

With the 'Humanity' touching the 7 billion mark, we are now forced to consider the carrying capacity of our planet and how judiciously we are using our resources. Mountains, the water towers of earth and repository of natural resources cover about one fourth of planet's terrestrial landmass accommodating approximately 10 per cent of the world's population. More than half of the world's people depend directly or indirectly on mountains. The demand for goods and services from mountains is growing exponentially while the ability of mountain systems to provide essential goods and services is increasingly under threat from climate change, globalization, a chronic lack of investment and ongoing land degradation.

CEE Himalaya, the Himalayan Initiative of Centre for Environment Education (CEE), India was established in 2002 to coincide with the International Year of Mountains. It promotes environmental awareness on fragile mountain ecosystems and builds capacities towards sustainable development. CEE's primary objective is to develop and implement innovative programmes towards improving the quality of environment and the life. CEE undertakes demonstration projects in education, communication and development that endorse attitudes, strategies and technologies that are environmentally sustainable. CEE works in partnership with local governmental, non-governmental and community based organisations utilizing their complementary strength and avoiding duplication of efforts. Youth, women and students are the important target groups.

As a member of Mountain Partnership CEE recognizes that despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development of mountain regions, national and international development agendas still treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments. Due to lack of appropriate development mountain communities are still marginalized and poverty rates are higher than in non-mountain areas.

Development of mountain areas is important for mountain people as well as for people downstream. There is lack of knowledge about the mountain systems in developing

countries, which is a bottleneck for making development plans. Current understanding about socio-economics, institutional and biodiversity in mountain areas is still very limited. There are large gaps in knowledge about climate change, deforestation and exploitative agricultural, mining and tourism practices, development of non-agricultural opportunities, pollution, population growth, gender-related issues, armed conflict, the unique aspects of space and micro environmental variations and their implications on development, biodiversity, mountain genetic resources, landslides and soil erosion. Far greater efforts are needed to understand them.

CEE appeals for enhancing the global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions to provide direct benefits for poor mountain communities and indirectly humanity as a whole. Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, as well as low carbon technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

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## CEEweb for Biodiversity

Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the demand for goods and services from mountains has grown considerably. Moreover, the ability of mountain systems to provide essential goods and services for all of people and ecosystems is increasingly under threat from climate change, globalization, ongoing land degradation, a chronic lack of sustainable investment and unsustainable pattern of resource use.

The CEEweb for Biodiversity, a network of more than 60 NGOs in Central and East Europe, and Mountain Partnership members recognize that despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development of mountain regions, national and international development agendas still treat mountains as marginal environments. As a result, e.g. poverty rates and depopulation are higher than in non-mountain areas. In particular, mountains are increasingly threatened by unsustainable investments, e.g. in tourism infrastructure. After 20 years of declarations, there are only single but no concerted actions in place driven by the United Nations System or Governments responsible for mountain ecosystems.

In the context of a Green Economy, new opportunities for investments by the private sector are emerging in mountain regions, especially in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and ecosystem goods and services. However, innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to trigger governance models and decision support systems aiming at both the integration of the social, ecological and economic capital at all scales in mountain regions, as well as the actual mainstreaming of mountains into overall national and regional development and conservation processes, such as in the Carpathians and the Alps with a number of legally binding protocols (e.g. on tourism, biodiversity).

Enhancing the global political commitment that translates into increased sustainable investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit poor mountain communities and indirectly humanity as a whole. Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, as well as low carbon technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

In the past 20 years the global sustainable development process has become a unique policy making platform under the umbrella of the United Nations. Notwithstanding all the efforts made in its framework, there are several symptoms today, which warn us that we need more significant changes in the way we tackle socio-economic and environmental issues on global levels. We see worsening trends both in social and environmental fields. Since the world's carrying capacity was exceeded<sup>1</sup>, we have been accumulating ecological debt with many- decade-long payback period. This has led to the degradation of 60% of ecosystem services globally<sup>2</sup>, which, however, underpin wellbeing for all. Population boom, expected to result in a population of 9 billion people within four decades further lowers the chance of stepping to the path of sustainability within the current framework and poses far bigger challenges to tackle.

These phenomena prove that we manage our common goods (natural resources and land) in an unsustainable way and we cannot share the benefits arising from these resources equitably at national, as well as global levels. This has serious consequences not only for the global ecosystems, but also for poverty eradication, international relations, security or long term economic viability. Even though these problems have been apparent for many decades, our responses failed to tackle the problems within the current socio-economic framework. As the recent report of the International Resource Panel<sup>3</sup> points out, in order to tackle to resource overuse on global level and not to put further pressure on ecosystems, an absolute and radical reduction is needed. This requires new paradigms and holistic approach, since one cannot solve the problems with the same kind of thinking one used when creating them.

CEEweb's recommendations for the Rio+20 Conference outcome

1. The urgency of the global environmental and social problems shall result in a global deal on development, which can ensure that economic activities stay within the global carrying capacity, the access to resources and land is ensured to all, and the generated benefits are shared equitably. Such a global deal shall be translated into concrete actions underpinned by strong political will, and regularly monitored with an active involvement of the civil society. A green economy roadmap shall provide a framework for these actions.
2. The actions shall bridge implementation gaps through adopting a new paradigm. For this aim the Conference shall provide an assessment why previous efforts have failed to deliver global targets on sustainable development. While it is a common objective of countries to ensure and increase human wellbeing for all on the principle of equitability, we cannot solve this aim as long as we deal with economic, social and environmental issues separately, which was a main reason of past failures. The Conference shall reveal the complex interrelations among the only seemingly independent sectoral challenges. For this aim all aspects of the DPSIR<sup>4</sup> framework (drivers, pressures, state, impacts and responses) have to be considered within the context of these environmental and socio-economic problems. These challenges, such as growing social inequalities and the associated hunger and poverty, the financial and economic crisis and the fragility of the financial system and the economy, the environmental crisis including climate change and biodiversity loss, international disputes over trade, resource use and benefit sharing are all interrelated on the level of the cultural, institutional and structural levels of the drivers. Addressing them requires finding the most effective intervention points of the drivers, such as the regulatory framework of land and resource use, which can greatly contribute to tackling environmental, economic and social problems.
3. The assessment of the complex interrelations among environmental, social and economic issues helps redefining the concept of development globally. Societies, including economies, need to adapt to the environmental conditions and changing circumstances, which shall orient development pathways. Within a green economy current economic growth models need to be changed urgently.
4. The Rio principles and spirit, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and the precautionary principle should be the basis for the international community to strengthen cooperation and move forward on sustainable development. Actions shall be firmly based on sound science and ethics to fully take into account both environmental and social considerations.
5. Transition to a green economy requires that total environmental pressures (originating from resource use, land use and from pollution and alien genotypes) are absolutely limited and reduced to stay within the carrying capacity of the Earth. If this is not achieved, environmental degradation continues. For this aim changing the boundary conditions of the economy and more specifically reducing the resource use globally is inevitable in line with the recommendations of the International Resource Panel. This

shall be realised together with ensuring equal access to resources and equitable sharing of benefits for all.

6. Reducing resource use addresses the drivers on institutional level, while radically changes production and consumption patterns and the values of people. It also balances human and machine labour and thus increases employment. It results in a structural change in the global economy, and, if properly realised, can reduce social inequalities nationally and globally.

7. Actions to address production and consumption patterns shall include an energy quota scheme. This introduces an incentive system, which can ensure the access to resources, reduce the differences in resource use and help realising resource efficiency investments for all. It can also boost research, innovation and employment in sectors that contribute to the efficient and sustainable use of resources. The four pillars an energy use quota system<sup>5</sup> shall cover all non-renewable energy sources, and they should be applied on national and global levels:

- Resource use quota system introduced for countries on international level and for each individual, public and private consumer on national level. The quota system ensures the yearly reduction of all non-renewable energy resources on global level. Those, who save part of their allocated annual quotas, can sell their remaining quotas through the quota managing organization to those who have consumed more than their allocated quotas. The quota managing organization sells the quota in the national currencies, and buys the remaining quota for quota money.

- The market for environmental goods and services is an open market operating according to environmental and ethical rules including aspects of sustainability and market considerations. The quota money received from selling energy quotas could be exchanged to products in this 'eco-labelled' secondary market.

- The Revolving Fund provides the opportunity for everyone, both energy producers and consumers, to be able to achieve savings through energy efficiency and renewable energy investments. The Revolving Fund provides interest free loan in quota money with a payback period adjusted to the energy savings or income generation realised through the investment.

- The Support Service aims to provide advice on lifestyle, planning, social and environmental issues, as well as information on the functioning of the scheme to consumers.

8. The global quota scheme enables the necessary radical change in developed countries, as well as leapfrogging in developing countries. Applying the quota scheme at international level can generate funds for innovations, technology transfer and capacity building in developing countries from the trade of energy quotas.

9. Sustainable land management shall be another cornerstone of green economy as a basis of food security and agriculture, sound water management and improved resilience and disaster prevention among others. This shall also specifically consider the significant role of ecosystems (e.g. water related ecosystems (such as peatlands, lakes and marine habitats) and all forests) in climate change adaptation and mitigation due to their enormous capacity in carbon storage, and the need to make them part of national and international climate change policies. Actions to realise a green economy shall include effective measures to integrate green infrastructure in development planning.

10. Existing international governance arrangements are not up to the task in their current framework and thus cannot deliver implementation, integration and coherence among the various parts of the system. Within an improved structure increased coherence is needed among Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), intergovernmental bodies and international organizations to address sustainable resource and land use as the basis of green economy.

11. Current global governance and institutions for sustainable development need to be reformed and improved, including the upgrading of UNEP and the International Resource Panel to support its work and strengthening the Commission on Sustainable Development.

12. Regional cooperation needs to be strengthened for common policy responses, experience exchange, common projects and other means in order to realise international commitments.

13. Arrangements to improve participatory democratic governance at national and sub-national levels are essential to make global commitments work. New arrangements shall ensure that the voice of all stakeholders, including the civil society, NGOs and the private sector are heard. This also requires the active engagement and empowerment of underrepresented groups of the society such as women, youth, the unemployed and vulnerable.

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## Center for Environmental and Sustainability Education

CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AND SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION

FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

FORT MYERS, FLORIDA

PROPOSED INPUTS FOR COMPILATION DOCUMENT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

"The Rio+20 Opportunity: Higher Education's Contribution to Sustainable Development"

Speaking at the United Nations Academic Impact Forum<sup>1</sup> in August 2011, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon noted the relatively new view that governments and the United Nations alone cannot preserve the world's peace and advance the well-being of its people. He said, "As the challenges we face grow ever more complex and interconnected, the United Nations has opened its doors to a wide range of new, exciting and sometimes unexpected partners.... The academic community is among those key new partners injecting dynamism into our work and making such partnership the wave of the future." Ban emphasized sustainable development and climate change as urgent issues on which the academic community could make a difference. He said sustainable development has been his top priority, and called for a focus on the links among hunger, water, and energy. He asked the academic community to bring its ideas to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, or Rio+20) in 2012.

Higher education can use the Rio+20 process, including submissions to the Compilation Document, to reengage its commitment to sustainable development. A significant global intergovernmental conference at this level provides us with the opportunity to raise the key questions related to the conference themes and objectives on campuses. The Compilation Document draft should reference the vital role higher education could play in achieving the conference's objective of assessing "the progress to date and the remaining gaps." Assessment should include the implementation of education commitments from previous United Nations declarations such as the Stockholm Declaration (1972), Belgrade Charter (1975), Tbilisi Declaration (1977), Chapter 36 of Agenda 21 (1992), and Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002). This assessment could extend to other important documents, such as Our Common Future: The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland 1987), The Tailloires Declaration (1992), and the Earth Charter (2000).

The academic community can play a vital role in addressing the conference themes of a green economy within the context of sustainable development and the institutional framework for sustainable development. Higher education can use the Rio+20 process as a way to invigorate and refocus the education community on their commitment to a

sustainable future. We recommend, therefore, that the Rio+20 Declaration urge governments, the United Nations, and major groups to support the role of education for sustainable development in the following ways.

1. Affirm a strong sustainability framework, such as the Earth Charter. Adoption of an Earth Charter is part of the unfinished business of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit. Since 1992, too little progress has been made in implementing various commitments to sustainable development, and the need for a more comprehensive global ethical framework such as the Earth Charter has only increased. Consideration of sustainability ethics is essential to the development of a just and sustainable green economy.
2. Recognize the critical role of education for sustainable development and particularly higher education for sustainable development in advancing sustainable development. This includes reaffirmation of the need for strong outcomes of the Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and to elevate the importance of education, as a major group, in a strengthened UN institutional framework for sustainable development governance.
3. Assess the progress in higher education in supporting a sustainable future, realizing commitments made such as the Stockholm Declaration (1972), Belgrade Charter (1975), Tbilisi Declaration (1977), Chapter 36 of Agenda 21 (1992), and Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002). This assessment could extend to other important documents, such as Our Common Future: The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (Brundtland 1987), the Tailloires Declaration (1992), and the Earth Charter (2000).
4. Advance academic input into the two themes of the conference. Higher education is uniquely positioned to contribute practical and theoretical research to the emerging green economy and institutional framework for sustainable development. This includes research and development in technological, engineering, financial, and social science dimensions of the conference themes. Higher education plays a role in the formulation of economic and global governance policies.
5. Expand the capacity for youth to engage in infrastructure for sustainable development and the green economy through education. The participation of young people is a fundamental element of environmental governance for sustainable development, and education plays a vital role in this process. Students are at the forefront of promoting sustainable development values such as human rights and social justice.
6. Secure renewed academic commitment to sustainable development in curriculum, operations, research, service, and outreach. Higher education must move in the direction of strong sustainability. This change must be researched and shared in international, intergenerational, and interdisciplinary ways.
7. Address new and emerging challenges for the higher education sector in the transition to a green economy and a sustainable future.

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## Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL))

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments on the compilation document to serve as a zero draft for an outcome at the 2012 Earth Summit in Rio. The Center for International Environmental Law offers the following comments:

### I. Views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap

With respect to implementation, it is important to include not only the UN system and its associated nation states but also international financial institutions (particularly the Bretton Woods institutions, of which only the World Bank is recognized as a specialized agency of the UN), civil society (including the recognized major groups), and the international trade regime. Within the UN system, it is vital to consider not only the different UN agencies and multilateral environmental agreements but also the overall UN human rights system as an anchor component for sustainable development.

First, with respect to international financial institutions, any Rio+20 outcome should address the relationship between the UN and Bretton Woods institutions, such as the World Bank. Given that the World Bank is a specialized agency of the UN, the outcome should make clear that international instruments (including, but not limited to, multilateral environmental agreements such as the UNFCCC, CBD, and CCD; human rights obligations; and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) must be respected and supported by international financial institutions in the fulfillment of their mandates.

Second, within the UN system, UN agencies need to improve their institutional approaches to addressing and implementing international obligations. Opportunities in this area to address the implementation gap include supporting efforts by UN agencies to create and maintain institutional safeguards grievance mechanisms, consistent with relevant international obligations.

Third, as regards major groups, the 1992 Earth Summit was a landmark moment for the major groups recognized as integral stakeholders to negotiations. The ability of NGOs, women, youth, and others to take the floor alongside countries was formally recognized as a part of the Rio process and has had important implications for public participation generally. Likewise, improved access to information was an important outcome of Agenda 21. Implementation has had mixed success, with some fora increasingly opening participation to major groups while in others participation has been limited. The experiences of civil society should be recognized as relevant and vital contributions in any process. Rio+20 gives us a chance to reaffirm these important principles of transparency, access to information, and participation and support increased opportunities for civil society generally, and potentially impacted communities specifically, to engage in participatory monitoring and assist with reporting information to the global community.

Two themes crucially important to this implementation gap are accountability and finance.

#### a. Accountability

It is crucial that any discussions of institutional governance support enhanced accountability in the sense that institutions must be responsible for their actions (including unintended adverse impacts) and responsive to concerns raised in the implementation of activities. Accountability should cover the full panoply of actors. This includes governments and corresponding international obligations and compliance regimes. It also includes international organizations, including environmental and social safeguard policies, accountability mechanisms, and international dispute settlement mechanisms. Accountability also pertains to non-state actors, particularly corporations (including compliance considerations, corporate policies, and financial institutions) but also labor unions, certification organizations, NGOs, and others. Indeed, the rise of globalization and its associated empowerment of international corporations, means that increasingly non-state actors play a greater role in development with less historical accountability for its associated impacts.

For concrete actions related to accountability, at Rio 2012, Heads of State should: (1) recognize and emphasize the need for increased accountability - domestically and internationally - in order to address the serious problems facing human society and make progress toward sustainable development, in particular by increasing implementation and effectiveness of commitments and obligations, in a world of multiple actors and different types of commitments; and (2) strongly endorse domestic and international actions to achieve this. Additionally, Rio 2012 should provide space for dialogue to improve clarity on the application of extraterritorial obligations.

b. Finance Financial resources for implementation of obligations have fallen far short of what assessments indicate are required. Additional resources must be mobilized. For

example, the Parties to the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) identified an estimated \$4.5 billion USD needed for financial resources and technical assistance. However, the 5th replenishment of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF 5), the only financial mechanism of the Stockholm Convention, allocated merely \$375 million USD for POPs (U.S. \$425 for Chemicals overall). Given historical trends, this will typically leverage about \$700 million USD in co-financing. Recognizing the need for greater information regarding challenges on the implementation of treaty obligations, the funding gap is substantial and unlikely to be closed simply by a reduction of implementation barriers and inefficiencies. This funding gap is not unique to chemicals. For example, while costs for limiting global warming to a two degree target vary widely, annual amounts of \$100 billion USD have been identified as a minimum estimate needed, with delay compounding the cost of both mitigation and adaptation. A portion of the financing has been committed, but the timing, source and hence impact of these funds is still to be determined. Given resource limitations, integrating human rights considerations into the prioritization of resource allocation is essential.

## II. Specific Elements

### a. Objective of the conference

CIEL sees particular opportunities in the following sectors:

#### 1. Human rights

Earth Summit 2012 gives us a chance to consider rights and ecosystems together, both from an institutional governance perspective and in the green economy context. Institutionally, the UN system mandates a rights-based approach and any green economy must also respect human rights. The linkages between a green economy and environment mirror those that exist between governance and human rights. Accordingly, identifying and strengthening the links between the green economy and governance also calls for a deepening of the relationship between human rights and the environment. In this regard, Rio2012 has before it a binary choice: either it makes progress on the linkages between human rights and the environment or it will take a step back. A missed opportunity in Rio 2012 would be most regrettable, not only given the theme of the conference and the progress already made in identifying the human rights and environment linkages, but also because the planet requires the development of new tools to secure global environmental justice. Rio 2012 must take decisive steps toward the recognition of the right to environment.

#### 2. REDD+

Early on in the Rio+20 negotiations, REDD+ was cited as a unique area in which UN institutions and the World Bank are collaborating. Indeed, negotiation of a common approach to REDD+ between the World Bank, UN institutions, and other multilateral development banks, provided a novel opportunity to consider accountability and specific social and environmental protections in the context of institutional governance. Similarly, Rio+20 offers an opportunity to further address how UNFCCC obligations (including REDD+ safeguards), UNDRIP, CBD REDD safeguards, and human rights treaties can be respected throughout the implementation of REDD+. In addition to safeguards being elaborated within the UNFCCC, the CBD is also developing safeguards for REDD. Given that both the CBD and UNFCCC are Rio conventions, it is important to ensure coherence between these two conventions, particularly for REDD+. Biodiversity should not be adversely affected in efforts to address climate change and the safeguards developed by each regime should be mutually respected and supported to ensure sustainable development. Additionally, beyond the particular REDD+ safeguards, Rio+20 provides an opportunity for other institutions (such as the UNFCCC) to learn how the CBD has negotiated and implemented access to benefit sharing and FPIC/7P1C.

Regarding coherence and linkages across institutions related to REDD+ activities, CIEL believes that successful efforts to reduce deforestation require clear and equitable rights. We thus find troubling the statements by some actors within the UNFCCC that it is a climate convention and not a human rights convention. Nor does the World Bank directly respect human rights obligations. Unfortunately, that narrow focus and short-sighted perspective threatens to compromise results. There are very few places where we can have a discussion across these regimes on how rights should be respected. REDD+ efforts will benefit if we can improve the global understanding of-and support for-the rights of forest-dependent local communities. Rio+20 provides an opportunity to affirm the broadly recognized need to respect international obligations in the implementation of REDD+ and other sustainable development activities.

### b. Green Economy

Experience to date indicates that the economic pillar has historically outweighed the social and environmental pillars. Consequently, economic development has often had the effect of exacerbating inequality and creating human health risks by ineffectively addressing environmental risks. One way this has been addressed in the past is through safeguards systems' at international institutions, and particularly at the Bretton Woods institutions. The UN system has an opportunity to build on these lessons learned and to consider what institutional policies for UN agencies can minimize social and environmental harms while maximizing benefits. Specifically, UN agencies can develop institutional safeguards and improve internal accountability in order to enhance sustainable development outcomes. This will be discussed further in the institutional framework section below.

One particular sectoral element of the green economy that Rio+20 could consider is the use of technology to promote innovation in the developed world. The ability for intellectual property to serve as a barrier to the transfer of technologies to the global South on fair and reasonable terms is a highly sensitive issue and well documented in certain contexts. In addition, sensitivities also exist around the patenting of genetic resources and traditional knowledge originating with indigenous peoples, local communities, or the developing world at large. These issues not only risk the delay the transition to a balanced green economy, but also risk undermining the integrity of international conventions, for example if restrictions are used by intellectual property rights-holders to gain market share for higher-priced proprietary technologies. Temporary resolutions have emerged; however, broader reform of innovation policies is necessary to advance a green economy, by both maintaining incentives for innovation without sacrificing access to beneficial technologies. Rio+20 could contribute to the beneficial use of technologies for sustainable development by identifying and supporting options beyond intellectual property rights to spur innovation.

c. Institutional framework for sustainable development Promoting linkages across institutions and enhancing accountability within institutions should be a central theme to strengthening implementation and integration of the three pillars and at multiple levels. It is important to consider how these institutions, as well as the objectives and outcomes of the Rio+20 conference, will feed into the Millennium Development Goals.

We must avoid a "race to the bottom," in which the institutions with the weakest standards are the ones selected to implement sustainable development activities. The GEF, UNFCCC, and some UN agencies are now developing new safeguards and accountability systems (including grievance mechanisms). In this vein, Rio+20 provides an opportunity to consider safeguards as part of institutional governance discussions, and indeed safeguards have already been raised as a part of the 2012 Earth Summit negotiations. Generally speaking, UN institutions lack the detailed safeguards developed by the international financial institutions. Rio+20 has an opportunity to support enhanced safeguards systems at international institutions that respect rights and ecosystems. Notably, where this would apply within the UN itself, this kind of mandate would not require a treaty-level outcome to make it happen, which could facilitate implementation of such a decision.

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## Central Unitaria de Trabajadores (CUT)

A 20 años de la Cumbre de Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sostenible en Río de Janeiro: mensaje y propuestas de la Central Unitaria de Trabajadores.



El Mensaje de la CUT desde la perspectiva del desarrollo sostenible y el Trabajo Decente.

Ante la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible, que se realizará en la ciudad de Río de Janeiro el 2012 en Brasil<sup>1</sup>, La Central Unitaria de Trabajadores de Chile (CUT) junto a otros actores pertenecientes al mundo social hemos debatido y reflexionado acerca de los retos que se imponen con el deterioro permanentemente de los recursos naturales, la crisis energética, la pobreza y la desigualdad para el mundo del trabajo a nivel global, regional y nacional y sobre el papel que hemos desempeñado con todo el Movimiento Sindical Chileno para ayudar a hacer frente a esos retos y encontrar soluciones.

Entendemos que Río + 20, se convierte en la instancia para que el Movimiento Social junto al sindical y en particular la CUT renueve el compromiso de promover de forma activa y propositiva la integración plena de los tres pilares del desarrollo sostenible en las políticas públicas del país y, en las cuales, la Agenda de Trabajo Decente promovida por la OIT, suscrita oportunamente, hace su contribución fundamental en este contexto.

Esto porque se debe recordar que los tres pilares que forman parte de la visión del desarrollo sostenible son: el desarrollo económico, el desarrollo social y la protección del medio ambiente, que si bien son tres dimensiones interdependientes entre sí, se refuerzan mutuamente. De hecho para la CUT la integración entre estas dimensiones y el enfoque del Trabajo Decente, resultaría ser una base para formular nuevas políticas y asumir compromisos globales frente al imperativo energético; la problemática ambiental, incluido el cambio climático; la erradicación de la pobreza y la lucha contra todas las formas de discriminación y exclusión social.

En el marco de estos desafíos, la CUT se compromete a luchar para superar la pobreza y las desigualdades sociales y a contribuir a la reducción y mitigación de los impactos medioambientales de la economía en su conjunto, orientando con información y apoyando técnicamente a los sindicatos, a los trabajadores y sus comunidades, en el proceso de adaptación a las repercusiones del cambio climático en el mundo del trabajo en Chile.

La CUT viene sosteniendo su incorporación permanente en la lucha por un cambio climático más acorde al país que necesitamos. Concretamente previo a la realización de Río + 20, hemos decidido reanudar este compromiso aumentando sus capacidades institucionales mediante la creación, al interior de la Central, de una Secretaría Sindical relativa al Medio Ambiente y Energía, cuya pretensión es contribuir a la elaboración de una propuesta sobre Estrategia de Desarrollo Nacional, que le permita al país lograr transitar hacia un nuevo modelo de desarrollo garantizando el bienestar, la protección y la seguridad social de todos sus habitantes.

Al pensar esta Secretaría, nuestra Central busca reforzar su participación con miras al cumplimiento de los ocho Objetivos del Milenio (ODM)<sup>2</sup>, especialmente aquellos relacionados con la reducción de la pobreza y la sostenibilidad del medio ambiente, cuyas metas debieran ser alcanzadas por Chile en 2015. Además le propone al país aprovechar los retos ambientales, climáticos y energéticos para iniciar una transición hacia una economía sostenible centrada en la generación de empleos verdes con trabajo decente y con menores emisiones de carbono.

Es por eso que el mensaje de la CUT se orienta básicamente a convencer a los responsables de tomar decisiones en Chile, de la necesidad de establecer una política justa y limpia en el país hacia una economía baja en carbono, en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la promoción del Trabajo Decente definido por la OIT. En efecto, la CUT afirma que el tripartismo y el diálogo social son mecanismos claves para la cohesión social, ayudan a mirar hacia el futuro evaluando las lecciones extraídas de las experiencias del pasado, a la vez que permiten hacer propuestas para encarar estos desafíos para el mundo del trabajo.

El papel del movimiento sindical y la importancia del diálogo social para responder las consecuencias del cambio climático en el mercado laboral y al desafío energético en Chile

El debate sobre una política nacional energética en Chile esta comenzando, al margen de que los Gobiernos anteriores y el actual lo sitúan marginado de las opiniones de actores sociales. Recientemente, un conjunto de proyectos eléctricos han generado múltiples conflictos y un cuestionamiento público acerca de la necesidad de los mismos y también sobre los procedimientos de aprobación. La ausencia de una política de estado que permita a la vez diversificar la matriz energética, mejorar la sustentabilidad de desarrollo del sector y que respete el medio ambiente y la opinión de la comunidad, es claramente un déficit insoslayable y que no se puede postergar más.

Es en este ámbito donde hemos definido que el papel del movimiento sindical es clave para abordar las consecuencias sociales, económicas y ambientales del cambio climático sobre los medios de vida de los trabajadores y sus comunidades. Para ello, resulta necesario orientar a los sindicatos para que realicen sus aportes a la política ambiental, desde la perspectiva del mundo del trabajo, a fin de poner atención, especialmente, en aquellas políticas que puedan asegurar que los futuros empleos verdes sean también decentes.

Definimos que la voz y la participación de los sindicatos resulta esencial para debatir en torno a las causas que han ocasionado el complejo panorama energético que vive Chile y para proponer la necesidad de una política energética de largo plazo, a fin de cubrir la creciente demanda energética que necesitaría nuestro país para lograr desarrollarse de manera sostenible. Por ejemplo, aunque las emisiones de gases de efecto invernadero (GEI) emitidas a la atmósfera por Chile corresponden solamente al 0,23% del total mundial, ésta emisiones, a diferencia de otros países de la región en los cuales el aumento de emisiones de GEI se encuentra asociado al cambio de uso de suelo, en el caso de chileno éste porcentaje se asocia a proyectos de generación eléctrica, particularmente centrales termoeléctricas (CEPAL, 2010).

Dado que el tema de la energía resulta central para Chile, puesto que no sólo han aumentado las emisiones de GEI del país, sino también presenta problemas severos asociados al transporte, a la seguridad del suministro y a los altos precios del recurso, consideramos fundamental que la acción sindical logre desarrollar e implementar una política energética que aborde este tema de manera global, en concordancia con los desafíos de un desarrollo justo, participativo e inclusivo. Es indispensable modificar las actuales conductas de generación, distribución y transporte de energía eléctrica, y poner el acento en reducir la demanda energética, garantizando el suministro de energía a mediano y largo plazo, y diseñando un plan de acción que promueva la independencia, la seguridad energética y que tienda al autoabastecimiento de insumos energéticos en el país, sin que esto signifique negarse a la búsqueda de acuerdos audaces e imaginativos con nuestros países vecinos para asegurar el crecimiento y cooperación de la región.

Otro ámbito de acción para el movimiento sindical consiste en hacernos cargo de promover la reducción de las emisiones contaminantes tanto de fuentes fijas como del transporte público impulsando planes de descontaminación en las ciudades más afectadas del país, así como, aportando antecedentes y evidencia empírica para generar normas de emisión y tecnologías más exigentes para las termoeléctricas, que permitan reducir los efectos de la contaminación local y la emisión de GEI.

En la transición hacia una economía sostenible, la cooperación entre el Estado, las empresas y los trabajadores es fundamental a fin de aminorar tensiones, captar y asignar recursos financieros, conseguir una distribución equitativa de costos y beneficios, instalar tecnologías limpias y progresar en bienes y servicios ecológicos, entre otras iniciativas. El tema energético está estrechamente asociado al empleo, ya sea en transporte como en los procesos industriales, y por tanto aquí existe un vínculo efectivo con la implementación de empleos verdes.

De hecho la CUT considera pertinente la creación y el fortalecimiento de los espacios de diálogo tripartito en los que los interlocutores sociales pueden proponer y comprometerse con el diseño de políticas, programas y proyectos relacionados con la creación de una economía favorable al medio ambiente, con empleos verdes y un trabajo decente para todos.

Conclusiones y propuestas de la Central Unitaria de Trabajadores para su incorporación en el debate como un actor importante y fundamental.

Los sindicalistas tenemos la obligación, mas que ningún otro actor, de luchar por el trabajo decente, contra la pobreza y por un clima ausente de contaminación ambiental. Tenemos la responsabilidad de incorporar la justicia y la equidad en los procesos de adaptación y de mitigación del cambio climático actuando ante las políticas y desarrollo de la energía. Es muy importante y necesario que cumplan este importante papel en alianza con otros actores sociales. Es así que la CUT considera a la Cumbre de Río + 20 es un espacio de diálogo social oportuno y pertinente que abre múltiples posibilidades para encontrar una base común entre los empleadores y el gobierno con los trabajadores para establecer las políticas públicas necesarias que aseguren una transición justa hacia una economía más sostenible, a nivel global, regional y nacional.

A nuestro juicio, el desafío del movimiento sindical es forjar nuevos acuerdos y encontrar nuevas formas de cooperación, que superen los antagonismos y movilicen a la opinión pública, especialmente entre las generaciones jóvenes de la necesidad de establecer una actitud mas justa hacia una economía más sostenible.

Haremos forjar un papel del movimiento sindical para fortalecer la participación de sus miembros en sus organizaciones en cuestiones de cambio climático y energía.

El Movimiento Sindical en su plataforma de lucha debe incorporar nuevas demandas, además de las tradicionales, relativas al cambio climático y en especial en Chile por el desarrollo energético, como son: Protección de Seguridad Social. Con la realidad del calentamiento global, las generaciones actuales y venideras sufrirán nuevos desajustes ecológico-sociales que hacen preciso el fortalecimiento de los sistemas de protección social existentes en pensiones, desempleo, tercera edad, etc.

Solidaridad: Dar prioridad a los mas vulnerables. Los más pobres son los que sentirán los impactos del cambio climático, debido a razones físicas y socioeconómicas. Ser solidarios con las generaciones venideras es un deber inalienable de los actuales.

Nuevos derechos para los trabajadores: Nuestra lucha contra el cambio climático a través de la participación en los procesos con cuestiones medioambientales redundara mayor apoyo a los esfuerzos de mitigación y mejor implementación de las medidas adoptadas, ejerciendo los derechos a participar en decisiones, a conocer los riesgos en sus lugares de trabajo, a proteger a los denunciantes por informar los riesgos medioambientales, a negarse a realizar un trabajo peligroso y a negarse a realizar un trabajo que dañe el medio ambiente.

Diálogo Social. Los procesos de Dialogo Social también entiéndase como Negociación Colectiva u otro carácter de entendimiento entre partes como un instrumentos para tratar también los derechos y deberes de los trabajadores con el medioambiente y así resolver los problemas económicos y sociales para consolidar la paz y estabilidad social e industrial para el impulso económico, cuando las industrias y la producción de energía sufran procesos por los cambios estructurales del medio ambiente es un adecuado espacio para proponer medidas que pongan freno al cambio climático.

Para conseguir una política medio ambiental mas justa para los trabajadores y sus comunidades y caminar hacia un modelo de desarrollo sustentable, la CUT expresa algunas propuestas de acción que permitirán avanzar en esta dirección:

- Identificar los efectos – positivos y negativos – de las políticas y programas hacia una economía verde sobre el empleo y el trabajo.
- Asegurar medidas de protección social adecuadas que mitigan los efectos negativos de los cambios temporales y estructurales en la transición hacia la economía verde y los efectos en el empleo y los ingresos de los problemas medioambientales, como las sequías, las inundaciones o la elevación del nivel del mar como resultado del cambio climático.
- Asegurar acceso para hombres y mujeres, y los más vulnerables, a las oportunidades productivas y de empleo que presenta la economía verde al nivel local, regional y nacional
- Involucrar a los representantes de trabajadores y empleadores en un diálogo efectivo sobre el diseño y la implementación de políticas de economía verde y medidas para tomar decisiones informadas respaldadas por todos.

Finalmente, debemos decir que en los últimos años han aumentado la visibilidad y el numero de organizaciones sindicales que participan en el debate de los temas trascendentales para hoy y el futuro, ya que el proceso del medioambiente como el desarrollo energético en Chile no es prerrogativa exclusiva de los estamentos políticos y las organizaciones ecologistas, sino de toda la estructura de la sociedad incluyendo a las organizaciones sociales en especial los trabajadores. La matriz energética no es patrimonio del Gobierno ni del Parlamento, debe ser un consenso de la sociedad en su conjunto.

Queremos ser convocados para construir el Chile que queremos con un desarrollo energético sin contaminación ambiental y acercamiento definitivo al Trabajo Decente.

## Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD)

L'agriculture, au cœur des défis de la planète

Alors que la lutte contre la faim est le premier des objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement, les dernières données de la FAO confirment qu'un milliard de personnes souffrent toujours de ce fléau dans le monde. Les projections démographiques indiquent qu'à l'horizon 2050, la planète pourrait dépasser les 9 milliards d'habitants contre 7 aujourd'hui, avec une majorité dans les régions chaudes ou tropicales. Dans ces conditions, le risque de crises alimentaires, voire de famines majeures, n'est pas à exclure.

En 1992, le sommet de Rio a été le sommet de l'environnement. Trois conventions internationales ont été adoptées : lutte contre le changement climatique ; protection de la diversité biologique ; lutte contre la désertification. Les crises majeures qui ont depuis secoué la planète, en particulier les crises alimentaires révélées par les « émeutes de la faim » en 2008 dans nombre de pays en développement, ont fait resurgir le spectre de la faim. Alors que ce risque semblait mineur ou localisé, les opinions publiques comme les décideurs politiques et les organismes en charge du développement ont découvert à nouveau l'ampleur du défi de la sécurité alimentaire et d'une nutrition équilibrée.

Permettre aux plus pauvres d'accéder à l'alimentation, aujourd'hui et demain, est redevenu une priorité. Nourrir la planète exigera non seulement de produire plus, et aussi de tenir compte des nécessités environnementales : l'agriculture est au cœur des défis de demain !

En effet, le défi est d'autant plus complexe à relever que croissent les pressions sur l'accès aux terres agricoles pour produire de l'énergie et des biens industriels. A cet égard, la frontière entre agriculture et forêt soulève de nombreux débats : en cette année internationale des forêts, on ne saurait passer sous silence les enjeux qui leur sont liés, tant environnementaux (stockage de carbone et protection de la biodiversité) que de développement (emplois, nourriture, produits ligneux et non ligneux).

Les questions du volume des productions agricoles nécessaires, de la productivité et des surfaces à valoriser via l'agriculture restent au centre des enjeux. Produire davantage en utilisant moins de ressources naturelles (sol, eau...), en optimisant les intrants (énergie, engrais, pesticides), tout en dynamisant le fonctionnement biologique des agro-écosystèmes : tel est l'enjeu d'une agriculture « écologiquement intensive ». Une agriculture qui valorise les services écosystémiques des milieux agricoles comme des milieux naturels.

L'agriculture, au sens large, est bien plus qu'un secteur d'activité économique ; elle est le vecteur premier de la gestion des territoires. D'elle dépendent les ressources

biologiques et en eau, la fertilité, les stocks de carbone. D'elle dépend également la capacité à nourrir et faire vivre les hommes. Dans nombre de pays en développement et émergents, c'est en effet en milieu rural que se trouvent les plus grandes zones de pauvreté, que vivent certains des plus démunis. L'agriculture y est la source essentielle et principale d'emploi, de revenu, de richesse. C'est elle qui permet de vivre, de sortir de la pauvreté, de dépasser la survie.

Traiter de lutte contre le changement climatique, de conservation de la diversité biologique, de lutte contre la désertification, agir pour la sécurité alimentaire et la lutte contre la pauvreté, c'est aussi, voire d'abord, parler d'agriculture.

Les analyses et perspectives, comme Agrimonde pilotée par le Cirad et par l'Inra, montrent que l'augmentation de la production agricole est une composante essentielle de la sécurité alimentaire et d'une alimentation équilibrée pour tous, mais qu'elle n'est pas la seule. D'autres facteurs jouent un rôle prépondérant, comme la réduction des pertes et des gaspillages lors de la production, du stockage et de la distribution, comme l'évolution des modes de consommation et l'organisation des échanges locaux et internationaux. Sur ce dernier point, la volatilité des prix agricoles joue un rôle majeur, comme l'a montré le High Level Panel of Experts dans son rapport « Volatilité des prix et sécurité alimentaire », présenté à la FAO en octobre 2011.

La sécurité alimentaire est une équation complexe, à la croisée de l'environnement, de la santé, du développement économique et social et de l'énergie. Elle pointe le besoin d'agricultures à la fois productives, économiquement viables, socialement équitables et respectueuses de l'environnement. L'ouvrage récent des présidents de l'Inra et du Cirad (« 9 milliards d'hommes à nourrir. Un défi pour demain ») se situe dans ce cadre pour proposer des solutions.

Plusieurs organismes, internationaux, intergouvernementaux, nationaux, de la société civile, et des conférences et sommets ont analysé cette situation et les évolutions à envisager. La Prepcom de l'Assemblée générale des Nations unies de mars 2011 présente dans sa note « onf.216/pc/8 » les défis à relever pour un développement durable des Etats de la planète, et en particulier des pays en développement. Elle souligne l'urgence de mettre l'accent sur l'agriculture.

La préparation de Rio + 20, et la priorité que fait le G20 de l'agriculture et de la recherche agronomique, ont généré plusieurs conférences, parmi lesquelles :

- la conférence "Re-energising global agricultural productivity", séminaire du G20 sur l'agriculture organisé à Paris par la France et l'Australie en octobre 2011 ;
- la conférence du G20 sur la recherche agricole pour le développement, tenue à Montpellier en septembre 2011 ;
- la conférence "Greening the economy with agriculture" (GEA), tenue à Paris en septembre 2011 sous l'égide de la FAO ;
- la Global Conference on Climate Smart Agriculture organisée à Wageningen en octobre 2011

L'agriculture, de par sa nature multifonctionnelle, est un des piliers d'une économie verte mise au service du développement durable et de l'élimination de la pauvreté et de la faim. Les modalités d'évolution de l'agriculture auront un fort impact sur la réalisation des objectifs de la conférence des Nations unies pour le développement durable.

La recherche agronomique au service du développement durable

L'agriculture se situe au cœur des enjeux du développement durable. Ses évolutions font l'objet de questions complexes et renouvelées. La recherche doit faire peau neuve pour contribuer à les traiter, à éclairer les enjeux et à les résoudre. Business as usual is not an option!

C'est ainsi qu'est énoncée la principale conclusion de l'Evaluation internationale des connaissances, des sciences et des technologies agricoles pour le développement (EICSTAD, IAASTD). Ce processus de consultation à l'échelle internationale lancé par la Banque mondiale et l'Organisation des Nations unies pour l'alimentation et l'agriculture (FAO) visait à déterminer l'impact des connaissances, des sciences et des technologies agricoles passées, présentes et à venir pour réduire la faim et la pauvreté, améliorer les moyens de subsistance des ruraux et la santé humaine, et promouvoir un développement équitable, socialement, écologiquement et économiquement rationnel.

Approuvé lors d'une plénière intergouvernementale tenue en avril 2008, le rapport de synthèse intègre les résultats de l'évaluation mondiale et des évaluations régionales. Il analyse huit sujets majeurs : bioénergie ; biotechnologies ; changement climatique ; santé humaine ; gestion des ressources naturelles ; connaissances traditionnelles ; commerce et marchés ; rôle et place des femmes. Il fait ressortir en quoi la recherche (et en particulier la recherche agronomique, dans son acception la plus large de recherche pluridisciplinaire et polythématique) est une nécessité pour fonder une vision « viable » du développement durable.

La recherche sur l'agriculture et l'alimentation combine, à l'échelle mondiale, une multitude d'organismes de nature, de statut, mandats et de moyens variés : organismes nationaux publics ou parapublics (centres de recherche agronomique, universités, organismes d'appui au développement, services techniques, administrations...) ; des centres de recherche d'entreprises privées (semencières, phyto-sanitaires, production agricole...) ; des organismes privés et des ONG (WRI, WWF...) ; des organismes privés ou publics régionaux ou internationaux (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research...). Le financement des recherches est tout aussi diversifié, avec un rôle croissant des entreprises et des grandes fondations (comme la B&M Gates Foundation).

Au cours des deux dernières décennies, la recherche agronomique a profondément évolué, mais de façon différenciée selon les organismes et leur intégration dans les communautés scientifiques internationales. Dans les années 1970, il s'agissait de concevoir des itinéraires techniques, de produire des variétés améliorées et de les diffuser en milieu rural -- le modèle de la révolution verte qui a contribué à nourrir la population mondiale. La recherche agronomique a progressivement intégré dans une vision holistique les aspects biologiques, sociaux, économiques, environnementaux des productions agricoles, de l'alimentation, du développement territorial, en les replaçant dans des contextes de changements rapides et de risques accrus. Elle s'est adossée pour cela sur la révolution du numérique et des moyens de traitement et de diffusion de l'information et sur la mondialisation et l'internationalisation des échanges de toute nature. Petit à petit, emboîtant le pas à la modélisation du fonctionnement du climat, elle intègre la dimension globale des enjeux et ne se résout plus à la simple extension (scaling-up) de solutions techniques éprouvées localement.

La recherche agronomique vise toujours à apporter des informations pertinentes, compréhensibles et scientifiquement validées aux agriculteurs, aux décideurs politiques et aux acteurs économiques du monde agricole. Mais, de plus en plus, elle est à l'écoute et en interaction avec les grands enjeux sociétaux, environnementaux, sanitaires et, de ce fait, avec l'ensemble de la société.

La recherche agronomique est confrontée à quatre défis principaux.

Premièrement, elle doit refonder les bases d'une agronomie qui permette une intensification écologique de l'agriculture.

Deuxièmement, elle est devenue un nouvel espace d'interactions pluridisciplinaires entre chercheurs et au sein des organismes de recherche et de formation. Afin de mieux prendre en compte les questions et les défis d'une agriculture multifonctionnelle (au sens donné par l'OCDE), les thématiques de recherche se sont élargies et les disciplines se sont diversifiées. La recherche agronomique aborde aussi bien l'écologie microbienne, le séquençage du génome du cacao, les flux de carbone en forêt, ou le clonage des bovins, que les politiques tarifaires du commerce des produits agricoles, les stratégies de développement territorial ou la perception par les paysans des paiements pour services environnementaux. Dans un monde scientifique enclin à l'évaluation disciplinaire, le défi d'une recherche pluridisciplinaire ne va pas de soi.

Le troisième défi porte sur la place à accorder aux risques et crises, aux interactions entre local et global et à l'intersectoriel. Il est bien ici question d'une évolution des

concepts, des approches et des méthodes.

Enfin, le quatrième défi porte sur l'utilité sociale et politique de la recherche et de ses résultats. Il est nécessaire de renforcer les interfaces entre science et politique et d'adapter les recherches à une multiplicité d'acteurs et aux attentes de leurs mandataires, voire des populations. Le spectre des besoins sera ainsi mieux couvert. Et seront favorisés la complémentarité et le continuum entre recherche d'amont et recherche finalisée, entre recherche générique et recherche localisée, entre recherche disciplinaire et recherche pluridisciplinaire.

La recherche agronomique, dans sa diversité, est aujourd'hui plus que jamais un outil du développement durable, d'une économie verte et de la lutte contre la pauvreté.

Pour une orchestration mondiale de la recherche agronomique

La recherche agronomique pour le développement (Rad), tournée vers les pays du Sud, dits en développement, a longtemps été distinguée de la recherche agronomique internationale (Rai). Leurs institutions étaient différentes : pour la Rad, le CGIAR, les systèmes nationaux de recherche agricole (Snra) des pays en développement, et les organisations régionales et sous-régionales ; pour la Rai, les instituts de recherche avancée (advanced research institutes, Ari) des pays de l'OCDE ; et, entre les deux, précurseurs des évolutions en cours, quelques instituts des pays du Nord dédiés au développement de l'agriculture du Sud. La distinction entre Rad et Rai allait de soi, même si elle recouvrait d'autres frontières (tropical-tempéré, Nord-Sud, pays riches-pays pauvres, fondamental-finalisé...).

Depuis quelques années, Rad et Rai convergent, ce qui est un atout vu l'ampleur des défis à relever. Plusieurs facteurs expliquent cette convergence : la mondialisation des enjeux liés à la gestion du vivant et aux questions de développement ; la généricité croissante des connaissances scientifiques et technologiques ; les évolutions institutionnelles des organismes de recherche (transformation des dispositifs de recherche spécialisés en Europe, montée en puissance des organismes de recherche des pays émergents, réforme du GCRAI...); sans oublier la difficulté à classer les pays dans des catégories anciennes (en développement, industrialisés...). En effet, les équilibres entre pays se modifient.

Les pays émergents, Chine et Brésil en tête, investissent massivement dans la recherche agronomique. Ils acquièrent une capacité scientifique comparable à celle des institutions de recherche avancée, même si la production scientifique agronomique provient encore majoritairement des pays de l'OCDE. Certains pays intermédiaires parviennent à maintenir à flot un système national de recherche agricole avec un niveau scientifique significatif. Mais les disparités s'accroissent avec les PMA (pays les moins avancés), dont les capacités scientifiques s'effritent.

Alors que les moyens publics restent limités et que les problèmes à résoudre se complexifient et se globalisent, il devient urgent que les acteurs de la recherche agronomique, y compris les institutions à l'interface entre science et politique, coordonnent leurs actions. Il en va de l'utilité et de l'impact de la recherche. Les prémices d'une telle orchestration sont apparues ces dernières années : l'expertise collective de l'IAASTD ; la création du GFAR (Global Forum on Agricultural Research), de ses forums régionaux et des conférences mondiales de la recherche agricole pour le développement (GCARD), afin de faciliter les échanges entre la recherche et ses utilisateurs. Et, plus récemment, la transformation du Comité de la sécurité alimentaire de la FAO en un Comité mondial incluant toutes les parties prenantes et adossant sa réflexion à l'expertise scientifique. Lors du sommet de l'Aquila en 2009, le G20 avait d'ailleurs souligné combien une coordination mondiale de la recherche agronomique était nécessaire.

Estimer qu'une coordination est nécessaire ne signifie pas une programmation globale de la recherche agronomique mondiale ou la fin des compétitions entre équipes scientifiques (qui restent l'un des moteurs de la production). Il s'agit plutôt de concevoir et de mettre en œuvre des mécanismes pour coordonner, et peut-être réguler, les moyens investis dans des systèmes fragmentés de production de connaissances. Il s'agit surtout de réduire les asymétries qui se creusent en renforçant les capacités des PMA, afin que ces pays participent pleinement à la formulation et au traitement des questions de recherche. C'est de dispositifs institutionnels, de règles et d'outils de facilitation dont il est question, pas d'une uniformisation réduisant la diversité, la créativité et l'esprit critique, indispensables à toute recherche.

Tout en soutenant l'ambition d'excellence et de généricité, le Cirad propose comme priorité de renforcer les capacités de production scientifique des pays les moins avancés. Son expérience suggère qu'une production scientifique locale, qui répond à des besoins précis, contextualisés, a davantage d'impact sur le développement pour deux raisons : les questions de recherche sont formulées au plus près des réalités ; et les chercheurs sont plus à même de participer aux réseaux d'innovation. Par la culture scientifique qu'elle génère, la production scientifique locale est un élément déterminant du développement. Les partenariats doivent donc avoir pour objectif de renforcer les dynamiques scientifiques fragiles et de contribuer à la souveraineté scientifique des PMA.

Le débat sur le renforcement des capacités scientifiques comme moteur du développement (l'hypothèse d'un développement par la recherche) en recoupe un autre, portant sur l'utilité et l'impact des productions scientifiques (une recherche pour le développement). Si l'excellence scientifique se mesure à l'aune d'indicateurs de publication ou de brevets, les attentes exprimées et formulées à l'égard de la recherche, en particulier par les bailleurs de fonds, portent sur la capacité des institutions, dispositifs et projets à produire des changements effectifs, des impacts, sur tous les aspects de la société et de l'environnement. Ces exigences génèrent des tensions entre plusieurs conceptions du rôle de la science d'une part, et de la posture de la recherche par rapport à l'innovation et au développement d'autre part. Elles conduisent également à repenser les systèmes d'évaluation de la recherche finalisée et à en tirer des leçons pour la programmation. Des recherches sur les écosystèmes de l'innovation sont donc nécessaires. Elles doivent porter sur les mécanismes et les cheminements permettant les apprentissages, sur l'enrichissement réciproque des savoirs scientifiques et des savoirs locaux, et in fine sur l'émergence des innovations, y compris institutionnelles et sociales.

L'enjeu de l'orchestration mondiale de la recherche agronomique est de dessiner un système ouvert et inclusif, doté d'une gouvernance souple. Trois domaines sont prioritaires.

Renforcer l'intelligence stratégique et la partager en associant tous les acteurs de la recherche, afin d'identifier les enjeux et les priorités de recherche à l'échelle globale. A cette fin, les connaissances disponibles doivent être recensées, confrontées, synthétisées et intégrées dans une démarche finalisée (ingénierie des connaissances); de nouvelles expertises et des perspectives doivent être conduites; la création et la participation aux interfaces entre science et politique sont appelées à s'intensifier. De même, une concertation sur les visions, les stratégies et les priorités de recherche doit être organisée en amont de la programmation afin de prendre en compte la diversité des situations, des perceptions et des priorités sociétales et culturelles, d'éviter les duplications, d'atteindre les masses critiques lorsqu'elles sont indispensables, et de favoriser la circulation et l'utilisation des connaissances.

Élaborer une ingénierie institutionnelle afin de formuler et d'organiser des programmes mondiaux de recherche. Complétant les programmes locaux ou régionaux, des programmes de grande envergure sont nécessaires pour produire les connaissances permettant de relever les défis mondiaux. Ces programmes doivent tenir compte des besoins de connaissances, et répartir les rôles en assumant les asymétries de capacités. Au-delà des regroupements temporaires pour répondre à des appels d'offre, il s'agit de définir des mécanismes et des règles (y compris financières) de programmation et de réalisation de programmes mondiaux.

Faciliter l'accès aux productions de la recherche, en clarifiant le statut de ces productions : règles de propriété intellectuelle, modalités d'accès. Il s'agit d'approfondir le statut juridique de la notion de bien public appliquée aux connaissances scientifiques ou aux matériels biologiques améliorés.

Le Cirad propose de contribuer à cette orchestration mondiale en construction. À la croisée des Nords et des Suds, doté d'une mission explicite de développement des pays du Sud, notamment africains, et d'une longue expérience, le Cirad constitue l'un des nœuds des vastes réseaux de production de connaissances. Il est bien placé pour

participer à la réduction de la fragmentation entre les systèmes nationaux, bilatéraux et multilatéraux d'une part, et entre la RAD et la RAI d'autre part. Il peut ainsi contribuer, dans le cadre d'une diplomatie scientifique émergente et en interaction avec les multiples autres acteurs concernés, à la construction d'une nouvelle coordination mondiale de la recherche agronomique pour le développement.

La conférence des Nations unies sur le développement durable, qui se tiendra en juin 2012 à Rio de Janeiro, est une occasion pour promouvoir cette orchestration mondiale de la recherche agronomique, poser les bases d'une nouvelle diplomatie scientifique, mieux positionner la recherche agronomique au regard des défis de demain et contribuer ainsi à un nouveau cadre institutionnel pour le développement durable.

## Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern

Mountains Matter for Global Sustainable Development

Submission to the Rio 2012 Secretariat for the 'Compilation Document'

by Dr. Thomas Kohler on behalf of the Centre for Development and Environment CDE (University of Bern, Switzerland)

Water supply, food security and clean energy are likely to become the major challenges of humanity on Earth in the near future. A sustainable development of the world will require efforts to address critical shortcomings of these challenges. This understanding leads the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE) to make the following proposals for the 'Compilation Document' that will lead to the 'Zero Draft' of the Rio 2012 'Outcome Document':

### Expectations

CDE expects that the critical role and stakes of mountain ecosystems and mountain communities are adequately reflected in all documents and future sustainable development (SD) promoting structures emerging from the Rio 2012 Conference thus recognizing that half of the world's population depends on water from mountain regions and that many mountain endemic plant and animal species may become of vital importance for food security on earth.

### Comments on existing proposals

a) Green Economy (GE) Roadmap: Mountains provide through their low-input and environmentally friendly traditional agriculture and their hydro power potential a promising field for GE. This should be reflected in appropriate manner in the forthcoming content and structural proposals of Rio 2012.

b) Framework for Action: In order to give more weight to the role of mountain ecosystems in future SD efforts, the so-far marginalized and neglected mountain areas and mountain inhabitants need to be explicitly addressed as an asset for achieving SD.

c) Sustainable Development Goals: Specific targets addressing mountain regions with their critical ecosystem services and their strong socio-cultural identities need to be defined and included.

d) Partnership for Sustainable Development: New pathways and adequate incentives need to be explored to attract private investment in mountain areas based on fair access and benefit sharing.

### Pathways for closing the implementation gap

To our understanding the active involvement of local actors as custodians of natural resources has failed. We thus propose to establish innovative multi-level stakeholder platforms that can enhance dialogue, help exchange experiences and act as 'market place' where demands, offers and ideas meet.

### Proposal for a specific cooperation mechanism

In the light of the above stated, efforts are under way to launch the 'World Mountain Forum for Sustainable Development' as a permanent platform with a peak event linked to the UN International Mountain Day (11 December). This endeavor shall be undertaken through a novel Public Private Partnership (PPP). CDE expects that through such an initiative the relationship between mountain people and lowland inhabitants can be improved and strengthened to jointly achieve a SD on Earth. The official launch could take place during the Rio 2012 Conference in cooperation with the Mountain Partnership hosted by FAO.

### Objectives of the Conference / sectoral priorities

Given the high vulnerability of mountain ecosystems with regard to the negative impact of Climate Change (glacier melting, hazard impacts, changes in river flow) and their critical role as water towers of the world we strongly recommend to include explicit links to mountain systems for the expected sectoral priorities such as in particular water, energy, food security, agriculture, natural disasters and their prevention, biodiversity as well as possibly conflicts. As such, mountain ecosystems provide an ideal context to integrate sectoral initiatives with the three pillars of SD in a comprehensive approach.

### Green Economy as a pathway for SD

In mountain regions – probably more than anywhere else - it clearly appears that the environment is the biggest market(-ing) failure so far. The appropriate valuation of the environmental goods and services is thus one first step to reduce this failure and create markets where needed and meaningful. Hence we consider that in the context of mountains, GE has the potential to promote 'Sustainable Mountain Development' e.g. by promoting the principle of 'Payment for Ecosystem Goods and Services' that are of 'green nature' in the case of mountain areas. Furthermore most mountainous agricultural production systems are already 'green' and would need a corresponding recognition and support to be kept alive in future given the negative impacts of Global Change and migration.

### Institutional framework for SD

Mountain dwellers are often living under very harsh conditions due to local climate and remoteness. However, while their traditional way of living is considered as 'backward', it has proven to be much more sustainable than most urban livelihoods and lifestyles. . We urge decision makers to adopt a different attitude towards mountain communities and recognize their socio-cultural, spiritual and esthetic values. We thus recommend to include these aspects in the future institutional frameworks and at all levels. Moreover, the traditional institutions - such as e.g. the maintenance work for irrigation systems - that shape the life of mountain people, may well serve as examples or even models for lowland areas to move towards SD.

### Reference

The above input is based on the following reference document: Draft Synthesis Report on Progress and Perspectives in Sustainable Mountain Development: From Rio 1992

to Rio 2012 and beyond. Draft prepared for the 'Lucerne World Mountain Conference' 10-12 October 2011. Prepared by Daniel Maselli, Thomas Kohler, Clara Ariza Niño, and Greg Greenwood based on material provided by the regional reports and other sources. Revised version 1 November 2011

## Centre for Environment Education

Inputs from Centre for Environment Education (CEE), India for Zero Draft - Rio plus 20 Conference

1. The Zero Draft should emphasize on the need for an alternative path to sustainable development that is not imitative but learns from the existing development models anywhere in the world and adapts to the local context and the environment. For developing countries especially, the real challenge is not 'how to get there' but 'how not to follow the same path'. This means an approach that encourages/fosters making choices that are indeed different, appropriate and sustainable. While the rich nations will need to rethink lifestyles and retool themselves, for the developing world there is the opportunity to leapfrog, going straight to a sustainable society rather than following the classical route of becoming a carbon intensive industrial country. In order for societies to make these choices, we need to build capacity and provide appropriate skills and this can be done through education.
2. The draft should highlight the key role education plays in changing mindsets, building capacity and providing skills, and developing abilities for critical thinking. Education should engage people in a discussion on values, ethics and sustainability. The Earth Charter is the clearest articulation of values and ethics required for sustainability which can be a guiding framework. Along with new technologies, environmental legislation, policy reform, international treaties, better monitoring and increased compliance, education is a key tool – a tool that is an essential part of an environment and sustainability strategy.
3. The text of the draft should emphasize that children and youth be involved in taking positive action to move towards sustainability. A measure of positive action called the Handprint was launched by CEE during the International Conference on Environmental Education in 2007 as a part of the series of conferences held during the United Nations Decade of Education of Sustainable Development (UNDESD). The Handprint analyses positive impact on the three aspects of sustainability: environment, society and economy. This is an idea of moving from ecological footprint to that of the Handprint.
4. The Zero Draft should strongly emphasize the need for strengthening of inclusive and participatory decision making through consultative processes as a strategy to move towards sustainability. Education is one of the key drivers to achieve the goals of green economy. UNDESD is a major opportunity to promote role of Education for Sustainable Development in moving towards a green economy and for strengthening institutional frameworks and processes.

## Centre Ressource du Développement Durable (CERDD)

Le Groupement d'Intérêt public Cerdd (Centre Ressource du Développement Durable) Nord-Pas de Calais :

Le GIP CERDD, groupement d'intérêt public réunissant l'Etat Français et le Conseil Régional Nord-Pas-de-Calais ainsi que des entreprises, collectivités locales et associations, a pour mission de promouvoir le développement durable en région Nord Pas-de-Calais. Ce groupement assure des missions de veille et d'analyse, anime des groupes d'acteurs et des réseaux et diffuse des informations et connaissances sur les approches territoriales de développement durable dans un seul but : aider les acteurs locaux mettre en application le développement durable. Le Cerdd existe depuis 10 ans et a ainsi capitalisé une expertise reconnue auprès des opérateurs de terrains et des Institutions. Cette reconnaissance a donné lieu à la création, depuis 1 an au sein du Cerdd, du Pôle Climat Nord Pas-de-Calais en charge de l'animation inter-institutionnelle de lutte contre le changement climatique à l'échelle du Nord-Pas de Calais.

Les « Trajectoires développement durable » d'une région en reconversion :

La Région Nord Pas-de-Calais s'est engagée formellement dès 1992 en faveur du développement durable, et ce, de manière ambitieuse en vue d'apporter une alternative à un mode de développement non durable qui marque encore aujourd'hui profondément les villes et territoires du Nord-Pas de Calais. A mi-parcours de cette histoire le Cerdd a été créé pour faciliter l'appropriation du développement durable par tous et démontrer que des territoires en crise pouvaient y trouver opportunément un second souffle. De nombreuses initiatives, de nouvelles pratiques, de nouvelles stratégies de développement à l'échelle de territoires comme des acteurs, en particulier économiques, ont vu le jour et ont ponctué ainsi les « Trajectoires du Développement Durable » des acteurs du Nord Pas-de-Calais depuis 10 ans.

A l'occasion de ses 10 ans, le CERDD a souhaité initier une réflexion collective en vue d'établir un bilan et des perspectives en matière de développement durable en Nord-Pas de Calais. C'est ainsi qu'au printemps 2011, le projet « Trajectoires et transitions du Développement durable en Nord-Pas de Calais » a été lancé par le Cerdd. Ce projet vise à engager une dynamique collective en faveur d'une nouvelle étape du développement durable dans une logique de saut qualitatif, de changement d'échelle (passer de l'expérimentation à la généralisation) et de changement de cap pour l'ensemble des acteurs de la région Nord-Pas de Calais. Cette réflexion collective a pour objectifs :

- de faire le point sur nos trajectoires collectives en matière de développement 1/3 durable depuis 10 ans après la participation une délégation des acteurs du Nord Pas-de-Calais au Sommet de Johannesburg en 2002.1
- de nourrir les travaux de la Conférence de Rio 2012.
- de relancer une dynamique forte de développement durable en région pour les 10 prochaines années.

Soulignons que les conclusions du projet « Trajectoires » serviront également à alimenter les débats pour la prochaine contractualisation Europe – Etat – Région, ainsi que le nouveau projet du GIP Cerdd 2014 – 2020. D'ores et déjà, à l'automne 2011, la dynamique collective lancée au printemps dernier, se traduit par une remontée de nombreuses contributions écrites, la capitalisation d'analyses issues de temps forts régionaux sur les avancées et les perspective du Développement durable en Nord-Pas de Calais, l'organisation de « Cafés littéraires », de résidences artistiques sur le thème du développement durable.

Nos trajectoires locales à la rencontre des gouvernements et des institutions internationales :

Quelques semaines ont suffi pour faire remonter près d'une centaine de contributions afin de nous permettre de qualifier la trajectoire collective des acteurs du développement durable en Nord Pas de Calais. L'ensemble de ces contributions confirme :

- l'intérêt des entreprises, des associations et des collectivités à la mise en oeuvre d'un développement durable plus « intense », plus intégrée, plus mobilisatrice et féconde, dans notre région et dans le monde.
- l'intérêt des acteurs du Nord-Pas de Calais à faire part humblement de leurs aspirations auprès des institutions nationales et internationales afin d'inspirer des décisions qui puissent changer le destin commun du monde et impacter positivement la trajectoire de notre région en reconversion.

- la complémentarité et la force des propositions à l'échelon local qui constituent un levier réel pour le développement durable à l'échelle mondiale. Le Forum « Trajectoires et transitions » des 1er et 2 février 2012 qui se tiendra à Roubaix constituera un temps de synthèse de ces réflexions afin de réaliser un « porté à connaissance » auprès de certains futurs participants à la Conférence de Rio + 20. Cette synthèse aura été mise en débat via un vote coloré sur le site [www.trajetoiresdd.org](http://www.trajetoiresdd.org) à compter de début janvier 2012 (soulignons que le développement relatif au site Internet [www.trajetoiresdd.org](http://www.trajetoiresdd.org) sera diffusé en « open source » auprès des développeurs et tous ceux intéressés par le web 2.0 afin de faciliter les démarches de démocratie participative utilisant internet). Le Forum « Trajectoires et Transitions » permettra un dialogue entre les acteurs du Nord Pas-de-Calais et les représentants des délégations nationales et européennes (ICLEI, COLLECTIF RIO+20, etc.). Sans attendre les résultats du Forum, où nous attendons 350 personnes sur 2 jours, nous souhaitons soumettre quelques orientations autour du rôle des villes pour accélérer la mise en pratique du développement durable demain à l'échelle mondiale. de vie, le développement des usages des TIC - ville 2.0...

1- A ce titre, une autre conception de la ville doit être mise en oeuvre. Les collectivités locales et les territoires sont en mesure de jouer leur rôle en matière de nouveaux modèles de développement et doivent ainsi tenir une place plus importante en partenariat avec les gouvernements locaux.

2- Faire la ville durable nécessite des innovations non seulement techniques/technologiques ou organisationnelles (performance énergétique dans l'aménagement et la construction, modes de transports et de déplacement plus efficaces et plus sobres...) mais aussi sociales et culturelles (en lien avec l'évolution des comportements, des pratiques, des modes de vie, des usages, etc.). Ainsi la voie de l'économie verte doit prendre en compte ces dimensions autres que purement technologiques.

3- Des défis qui supposent une réponse intégrée et des solutions globales Penser la ville durable, c'est penser l'ensemble de ses fonctionnalités et leurs articulations : habiter, se soigner, se nourrir, travailler, se déplacer, accéder aux services et aux loisirs, etc. Les nouveaux modèles économiques, en particulier l'économie de la fonctionnalité, sont des pistes vers des solutions globales pour des villes durables autour de questions telles que les modes de transports de demain, les nouvelles formes de travail et de production en ville... Vu les défis à relever et leurs incidences stratégiques (en termes d'infrastructures par exemple), plus que jamais les villes sont appelées à expérimenter et à innover pour trouver des réponses adaptées.

4- Répondre aux défis de la ville durable en imaginant des « solutions globales » pour lesquelles la logique de l'usage prime, comme l'exhorte l'économie de la fonctionnalité, questionne le rôle et la place des acteurs qui font la ville, et conduit à renouveler les liens des entreprises aux territoires ainsi que leurs propres modèles économiques. Huit principes d'action doivent pouvoir s'exprimer pour articuler villes durables & modèles économiques dans une perspective de durabilité : Proximité, économie de matières, mutualisation, adaptation-réversibilité, pensée d'ensemble, responsabilité de tous, créativité et co-production.

## Centro de Gestão e Estudos Estratégicos – Brazil (CGEE)

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

RIO+20

INPUTS FOR COMPILATION DOCUMENT

SUBMISSION 1: MAJOR GROUPS – OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATION: CENTRO DE GESTÃO E ESTUDOS ESTRATÉGICOS – CGEE COUNTRY: BRAZIL

THE DRYLANDS TOWARDS RIO+20: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE

In order to raise awareness in regard to the special conditions of the world Drylands (arid, semi-arid, dry subhumid), a process called ICID was organized by a group of international and national stakeholders (National and Sub-national Governments, non-Governmental institutions and international organizations), with the objective of contributing to the agenda, discussions and decisions of the UNCCD – United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, also known as Rio + 20.

ICID stands for International Conference on Climate, Sustainability and Development in Drylands. As it is known, the Drylands are the object of the UNCCD – United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and to Mitigate the Effects of Droughts. The ICID process and the UNCCD itself, which resulted from the Rio 92 Summit, are justified by the fact that the Drylands comprise 40% of the land area of the globe, 30% of the population and the great majority of the poverty of the world. At the same time, they have a great contribution to world food production and a great potentiality to contribute to the world sustainable development. However, these regions lack priority in international and sometimes national decision making.

The first ICID was held in Fortaleza, Brazil, in January 1992, with a participation of 45 countries and international organizations, as a contribution to the Rio 92. The second ICID, called ICID + 18, was also held in Fortaleza, in August 2010, as a contribution to Rio + 20. The third ICID, called ICID + 19 Argentina, was held in Mendoza, Argentina, in September 2011. And the ICID + 19 Africa was held in Niamey, Niger, in October 2011, also as a contribution to the Rio + 20 Conference.

More than 2,300 scientists and policymakers from 80 countries and all continents, including public officials, natural and social scientists, representatives of the private sector and international agencies, including the UNCCD, the World Bank, Bilateral Agencies and others, and members of non-governmental, private sector and other civil-society organizations, met in Fortaleza – Brazil (ICID+18, 2010). In Mendoza, Argentina, the ICID+19, 2011 gathered more than 300 participants from Latin American and European countries and from international organizations. And in Niamey, Niger, the ICID+19 Africa, gathered more than a hundred participants from several African countries (especially from the Sahelian region), from Brazil, Argentina and France. The UNCCD participated in all ICIDs.

All three ICID Conferences exchanged scientific information and policy lessons of the past two decades about sustainable development in Drylands around the globe and offered policy recommendations for consideration at the Rio+20 Summit in 2012. Besides the scientific contribution, each ICID produced a policy oriented Declaration (Declaration of Fortaleza, August 2010; Declaration of Mendoza, September 2011; and Declaration of Niamey, October 2011), with recommendations for international and national policy makers and for society in general, aiming at raising awareness and promoting the sustainable development of, and eradicate poverty in the Drylands regions. The complete text of the three ICID Declarations is attached to this document.

Since the first ICID was held in 1992, human-induced global warming and environmental changes and their consequences for human and ecosystems well-being are now widely accepted as fundamental development issues.

The purpose the set of ICID Conferences was to assess the situation of Drylands regions (arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid lands) in order to foster sustainable development and the fight against poverty, land degradation and desertification in the Drylands. From this analysis, participants have reached conclusions and adopted action oriented recommendations addressed in particular to the Rio + 20 Summit in 2012.

The participants in the ICID conferences suggest that the agenda of the Rio + 20 could devote a special chapter to the discussion of the challenges and potentialities of the Drylands, given their importance in terms of population, poverty, development gap, and environmental assets.

#### EXPECTATIONS

The Drylands worldwide contain the largest concentrations of poverty and suffer the greatest pressures on their natural resources such as water, soils, and biodiversity. Their populations are extremely vulnerable to the adverse consequences of environmental changes related to climate variability and change, and are among the least able to cope effectively with them. Desertification alone, as a symbol of environmental threats in the Drylands, adversely affects the livelihoods of one billion (1,000,000,000) people.

Although significant advances continue to be made in scientific knowledge and public understanding concerning the interactions among climate, environmental sustainability and socio-economic development and despite progress and the best of government intentions, the challenges continue to increase and constrain efforts to effectively reduce poverty, mitigate and adapt to climate change and achieve sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Past errors, poorly conceived policies, and exploitative practices have resulted in environmental and social conditions that are not easily reversed without substantial and sustained development efforts that require increased national and international financial support. Declining productivity in the Drylands of their natural resources, the prevalence of poverty and significant inequities as well as institutional weaknesses are expected to be worsened by climate variability and change.

The world's Drylands possess many important assets, including rich social, cultural and biological diversity. They are responsible for more than 20% of food production around the globe.

The sustainable development of Drylands, through improved governance, enhanced livelihoods and greater voice, empowerment, and political representation of their populations (especially the poor), should be the foremost objective of local to international action.

Climate-sensitive development interventions from local to global must be substantially increased paying special attention to the needs of women, children and the elderly, throughout the Drylands.

"Win-Win" opportunities to cope with global warming must be identified and pursued, especially climate adaptation tactics and strategies that reduce local vulnerability, increase resilience and build assets of the poor. Efforts are needed to develop greater institutional capacity for managing climate variability today in the context of projected climate changes (e.g., greater emphasis on improved climate and environmental monitoring networks, drought preparedness planning based on a risk-based management approach, development of appropriate decision-support tools, and improved information delivery systems to aid decision making). Efforts must promote access to land and to markets, as well as effective civil-society grassroots participation in decision-making, implementation, and evaluation of development activities.

The sustainable development of the drylands and the combat to land degradation and desertification should be fostered, through the incorporation of the environmental, social and economic dimensions in development planning and implementation.

The United Nations should urgently consider the current plight of the Drylands, including the risks to global security associated with the growing impoverishment and food insecurity, increasing vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change, and rising conflicts and violence in Drylands regions.

Previous financial pledges by industrialized countries to support sustainable development efforts must be met. Existing institutional arrangements and financial instruments must not only be strengthened but must become more efficient. Disbursement of concessionary resources from recently established Climate Investment and Adaptation Funds, for example, should be accelerated, and local and national institutional absorptive capacities strengthened to effectively utilize these resources.

Regular exchange including scientists, decision and policymakers dealing with the drylands should be encouraged.

Short, medium and long term strategies are necessary to better monitor implementation of actions against land degradation and desertification. In this regard, a zero net land degradation target should be set.

Beyond Rio + 20, the MDGs that will be defined for the period following 2015 should pay special attention to the Drylands and consider them as a target with a high-level of priority.

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

Mechanisms should be strengthened through integrated action to arrest and avoid land degradation, to mitigate the effects of droughts, fires and floods, to conserve soil and water resources and biodiversity, and to resiliently adapt to climate change and its consequences. In addition, mechanisms to financially compensate local communities for the environmental protection services they provide must be identified and implemented. Multilateral and bilateral development agencies can play an important role.

Investment opportunities should exploit the comparative advantages of drylands areas such as solar power generation, as well as other alternative and renewable energy sources (including hydropower, wind, and biomass). They should also support techniques for rainwater capture, improved sanitation, wastewater reuse in irrigation and low carbon, resource saving and environmentally-friendly activities. Such investment would enhance energy and food security by the improved efficient management of demand for water through adequate pricing and other means. The integration of water basins should also be considered.

There is also the need to recover degraded areas, strengthen the management and sustainability of existing and newly protected areas and to prevent environmental deterioration of those that are as yet well preserved. Drylands regions should catalogue and prioritize the various sustainable uses and conservation of biodiversity.

Synergies among global, national, regional and local interventions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, conserve biodiversity, and curb desertification should be maximized. Interactions among and with the three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, UNCBD, UNFCCC) should be integrated with broader domestic and international efforts to foster quality of basic education, combat poverty and promote sustainability.

Enhancing climate-sensitive sustainable development activities will require additional financial resources. Part of these costs should be absorbed by national economies, but, because of the global public goods nature of these issues, a larger share of the needed incremental financing should come from industrialized countries.

Contextualized quality education at all levels should be a priority, cooperatively supported by all agencies involved. In addition to a high-return investment in human capital, this should be viewed as the need to raise the awareness of local populations about the linkages among climate change, poverty and sustainability. This will ensure an effective voice, empowerment and representation in public decision-making regarding the future of Drylands regions. Specific Drylands education policies should be developed. The priority focus should be on the youth of both genders beginning with early childhood development. They have the most at stake and will become the next wave of policy and decision makers.

The path to sustainable development requires a greening of the economy of the drylands, as is the case in other regions. The green economy approach should fully incorporate needs for sustainable land management and not be used as trade barriers against exports coming from developing countries.

Renewable energy (solar, wind, biomass) should be enhanced in the Drylands. Developing countries are encouraged to take advantage of financial opportunities offered by existing or emerging mechanisms such as the ones derived from the Rio Conventions process (carbon market, GEF enabling funds, etc.). Likewise, activities on agroforestry and water resources, including underground aquifers, should be fostered in the context of cooperation for development policies.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

The concerns of Drylands peoples are often poorly represented in international, national and local policy processes. Good governance of the Drylands will also bring knowledge, cultural values, needs and aspirations of local inhabitants into multi-level policy and decision-making.

An integrated multidisciplinary climate research, observation, modeling and applications program should be implemented to inform resource managers, policy makers, planners, educators and local populations about adaptation to the consequences of a changing climate.

While information technology and knowledge based on the complex causes and effects of climate variability, extremes and change have advanced significantly during the past two decades, significantly greater inputs from the social sciences are needed, especially to focus on the social and political causes of vulnerability and resilience as well as the societal impacts of climate variability and climate change.

The gap caused by a mismatch between scientific and technological investigation related to the Drylands along with knowledge about production systems on the one hand, and the prevailing system of decision-making and environmental and local governance, on the other, should be eliminated. New Science and Technology (S&T) knowledge must be developed in existing and new Drylands institutions. Sustainable development efforts must respect the cultures of indigenous, traditional and other local populations that have inhabited these regions for centuries.

Drylands knowledge networks should be enhanced with two basic objectives: (i) scientific and applied research: exchange of information, discussion of methodologies,



communication of scientific discoveries and joint development of research activities; and (ii) participatory planning and action: create a forum for exchanging experiences among specialists, government authorities and civil society.

Governance of sustainable development in the drylands should be strengthened at different levels, by enforcing the implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) and supporting national and local policies, inter alia through: i) taking into account traditional knowledge, cultural values, needs and aspirations of local inhabitants; ii) reinforcement of regional cooperation between States directly or by means of dedicated organizations such as APGMV and river basin organizations; iii) use of different policy means, including the empowering of local populations and facilitating their access to land. These measures must be consistent with cultural values and customary laws as appropriate.

International cooperation should be encouraged since better coordination of development programs improves their efficiency. South-south cooperation and tripartite (South, North, South) cooperation should be especially fostered. South–South cooperation, notably when it implies developing and emerging countries, like Brazil, is powerful because some emerging countries have already experimented with success policies to fight poverty, land degradation and desertification. Tripartite cooperation, which involves developing, emerging and developed countries, should also be encouraged. International donors and lenders – States, Financial Institutions, foundations, corporate philanthropists – should pay special attention to the needs expressed by organizations directly involved in the combat against desertification, bearing in mind the principles of the Paris Declaration.

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

Convene a “Drylands Summit on Sustainable Development” to refine policy options for Drylands worldwide. Inputs from ICID+19, Niamey 2011, and those of the proposed Drylands Summit would enhance discussion of the importance of Drylands issues in the Rio+20 Conference agenda. Summits for other eco-regions should also be identified and convened.

A new strategic geo-political Drylands Initiative, if not alliance, can be developed to coordinate efforts to address common climate, development and sustainability related problems, prospects and opportunities.

Generate support for development and implementation of community-level knowledge-based strategies to educate children, adults, policy and decision makers, including parliamentarians, and the media, about the obvious as well as hidden implications of climate and environmental changes in the Drylands.

Efforts to improve scientific cooperation devoted to the drylands should be promoted at all levels.

This could be reached by the development of Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) initiatives located in Drylands countries, by enhancing regional and continental centers of excellence on topics concerning drought and desertification.

This could also be reached in Drylands regions through the activities of existing and new networks and observatories devoted to integrated approaches on climate change, land degradation and desertification, migration, health, sustainable development experiences, e.g.

Exchange and share of information and data related to the drylands should be facilitated among scientists and should be used by policy makers.

We should encourage interdisciplinary research programs (inputs from social sciences are particularly needed). Indeed they are well tailored to take into account all the impacts – social, economic and environmental – of measures and policies fighting desertification and promoting sustainable development in drylands.

Research activities should provide local expertise about drylands management.

Research activities should contribute to training and capacity building in the drylands regions.

Moreover, scientific knowledge and dissemination towards the private sector and civil society – mainly throughout the educational system – should be improved. Information, models and policies related to drought and desertification should be enhanced.

Research activities should lead to usual outputs - such as scientific publications - but also to specific outputs that could be used directly by policy makers and other stakeholders.

Efforts should be done in order to assess the state of the art about research devoted to the drylands, including with the use of impact indicators.

The links between research and innovation should be strengthened as well as public-private partnership. The development of biotechnologies and ecological intensification using the diversity of local biological resources should be promoted.

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## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT RIO+20 INPUTS FOR COMPILATION DOCUMENT

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ORGANIZATION: CENTRO DE GESTÃO E ESTUDOS ESTRATÉGICOS – CGGE COUNTRY: BRAZIL

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## EXPECTATIONS

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"Win-Win" opportunities to cope with global warming must be identified and pursued, especially climate adaptation tactics and strategies that reduce local vulnerability, increase resilience and build assets of the poor. Efforts are needed to develop greater institutional capacity for managing climate variability today in the context of projected climate changes (e.g., greater emphasis on improved climate and environmental monitoring networks, drought preparedness planning based on a risk-based management approach, development of appropriate decision-support tools, and improved information delivery systems to aid decision making). Efforts must promote access to land and to markets, as well as effective civil-society grassroots participation in decision-making, implementation, and evaluation of development activities.

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## COMMENTS

Mechanisms should be strengthened through integrated action to arrest and avoid land degradation, to mitigate the effects of droughts, fires and floods, to conserve soil and water resources and biodiversity, and to resiliently adapt to climate change and its consequences. In addition, mechanisms to financially compensate local communities for the environmental protection services they provide must be identified and implemented. Multilateral and bilateral development agencies can play an important role.

Investment opportunities should exploit the comparative advantages of drylands areas such as solar power generation, as well as other alternative and renewable energy sources (including hydropower, wind, and biomass). They should also support techniques for rainwater capture, improved sanitation, wastewater reuse in irrigation and low carbon, resource saving and environmentally-friendly activities. Such investment would enhance energy and food security by the improved efficient management of demand for water through adequate pricing and other means. The integration of water basins should also be considered. There is also the need to recover degraded areas, strengthen the management and sustainability of existing and newly protected areas and to prevent environmental deterioration of those that are as yet well preserved. Drylands regions should catalogue and prioritize the various sustainable uses and conservation of biodiversity.

Synergies among global, national, regional and local interventions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, conserve biodiversity, and curb desertification should be maximized. Interactions among and with the three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, UNCBD, UNFCCC) should be integrated with broader domestic and international efforts to foster quality of basic education, combat poverty and promote sustainability.

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## IMPLEMENTATION

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International cooperation should be encouraged since better coordination of development programs improves their efficiency. South-south cooperation and tripartite (South, North, South) cooperation should be especially fostered. South-South cooperation, notably when it implies developing and emerging countries, like Brazil, is powerful because some emerging countries have already experimented with success policies to fight poverty, land degradation and desertification. Tripartite cooperation, which involves developing, emerging and developed countries, should also be encouraged. International donors and lenders – States, Financial Institutions, foundations, corporate philanthropists – should pay special attention to the needs expressed by organizations directly involved in the combat against desertification, bearing in mind the principles of the Paris Declaration.

## TOOLS

Convene a "Drylands Summit on Sustainable Development" to refine policy options for Drylands worldwide. Inputs from ICID+19, Niamey 2011, and those of the proposed Drylands Summit would enhance discussion of the importance of Drylands issues in the Rio+20 Conference agenda. Summits for other eco-regions should also be identified and convened.

A new strategic geo-political Drylands Initiative, if not alliance, can be developed to coordinate efforts to address common climate, development and sustainability related problems, prospects and opportunities. Generate support for development and implementation of community-level knowledge-based strategies to educate children, adults, policy and decision makers, including parliamentarians, and the media, about the obvious as well as hidden implications of climate and environmental changes in the Drylands.

Efforts to improve scientific cooperation devoted to the drylands should be promoted at all levels.

This could be reached by the development of Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) initiatives located in Drylands countries, by enhancing regional and continental centers of excellence on topics concerning drought and desertification.

This could also be reached in Drylands regions through the activities of existing and new networks and observatories devoted to integrated approaches on climate change,

land degradation and desertification, migration, health, sustainable development experiences, e.g. Exchange and share of information and data related to the drylands should be facilitated among scientists and should be used by policy makers.

We should encourage interdisciplinary research programs (inputs from social sciences are particularly needed). Indeed they are well tailored to take into account all the impacts – social, economic and environmental – of measures and policies fighting desertification and promoting sustainable development in drylands.

Research activities should provide local expertise about drylands management.

Research activities should contribute to training and capacity building in the drylands regions.

Moreover, scientific knowledge and dissemination towards the private sector and civil society – mainly throughout the educational system – should be improved. Information, models and policies related to drought and desertification should be enhanced.

Research activities should lead to usual outputs - such as scientific publications - but also to specific outputs that could be used directly by policy makers and other stakeholders.

Efforts should be done in order to assess the state of the art about research devoted to the drylands, including with the use of impact indicators.

The links between research and innovation should be strengthened as well as public-private partnership. The development of biotechnologies and ecological intensification using the diversity of local biological resources should be promoted.

## Centro para la Autonomia y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indigenas - CADPI and Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indigenas - FIMI

Indigenous Peoples towards Rio+20  
Latin America and the Caribbean

Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas - CADPI  
Foro Internacional de Mujeres Indígenas - FIMI

Preamble:

The situation of indigenous peoples is very different today than what it was at the time of the Earth Summit in 1992, when Latin America was on track to overcome the ravages of the "lost decade". In the same year (1992) celebration took place in Spain and Latin America, the encounter of two worlds: a process of commemoration that placed special attention to the agenda of indigenous peoples: their history, their condition, their struggles and especially the issue of their rights. Indigenous people's organizations, emblematic men and women leaders worked to, on the memory of the event, raise a platform of fighting for the rights of indigenous peoples and for the rights of indigenous women once again. In these 20 years of hard work, endless patience, conviction in rights and reason, mobilized our people's and communities. It has been 20 years with many stories to tell: in 1992 Rigoberta Menchú received the Nobel Peace Prize, in recognition of her fight for the rights of indigenous peoples in Guatemala; in 1989 Convention 169 was signed which opened the decade with the first instrument of recognition of the existence and rights of indigenous peoples; in 1990 the historic march of the Confederation of indigenous Peoples of Bolivia; in 1994 two events coincided, the uprising of the Zapatista Movement for National Liberation in Mexico and the constitution of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE).

Parallel to those developments and as a result thereof, in the 90s constitutional reforms are achieved in various Latin America States to be recognized as multinational and multiethnic states: Colombia 1991, Mexico 1992, Peru 1993, Bolivia 1994 and Ecuador 1998. The United Nations declares 1993 the International Year of Indigenous Peoples, in 1995 the first International Decade of Indigenous Peoples (1995 - 2005) is declared and, for the few achievements of the same, the Second Decade (2005 - 2015) is declared.

On September 13, 2007, after two decades of hard work and struggle of indigenous peoples, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is signed, in which States finally recognize, among others, the right of indigenous peoples to self-determination. This declaration is a milestone in the construction of the rights of indigenous peoples within the framework of the Rio +20, and strengthens their position within the international community.

At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, indigenous peoples made clear the position of our peoples through the Kari-Oca Declaration of Indigenous Peoples. The documents of the Summit, including the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, recognized the vital role of indigenous peoples in sustainable development and identified us as one of the 9 Major Groups. At the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) (WSSD / Rio +10) in Johannesburg, South Africa, attended by more than one hundred Heads of State, the Kimberley Declaration and Plan of Implementation for Indigenous Peoples on Sustainable Development were adopted. In it, for the first time in UN history, the term "indigenous peoples" was used, a concept later adopted in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), adopted in 2007. In those conditions is that we demand participation in the process and in the Rio +20 Conference itself. The UNDRIP should serve as a basic framework for support to all national and international policies and programs for sustainable development.

20 years after Rio, Indigenous Peoples see that little has changed in the fundamental relationship between human societies and the natural world; we also observed that ecosystems, biodiversity and, therefore, Indigenous Peoples who depend on them, are increasingly threatened. There are continuing violations of the rights to our lands, territories, resources, and our right to self-determination by governments and corporations. Activists, men and women indigenous leaders that defend their territories continue to be harassed, tortured, vilified as "terrorists" and killed by powerful interests.

In the absence of a real implementation of sustainable development, the world finds itself in a multiple crisis: ecological, economic and climatic, including biodiversity erosion, desertification, deglaciation, food shortages, water and energy, a worsening global economic recession, social instability and crisis of values. In this sense we recognize that much remains in order for the multilateral environmental agreements to adequately address the rights and needs of indigenous peoples, and to recognize present and potential contributions of our peoples for a truly sustainable development that allows us all to live well.

We continue to challenge this development model that promotes the domination of nature, relentless economic growth, resource extraction without limits for profit, unsustainable consumption and production patterns, unregulated products and financial markets. This prevailing system fails to understand that humans are an integral part of the natural world and does not respect the inherent human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples. We believe that our world view and respect for natural law, our spirituality and culture and our values: reciprocity, harmony with nature, solidarity, community, caring and sharing among each other, are crucial to achieve a more just, equitable and sustainable world.

We call on UN to ensure full, effective and formal participation of indigenous peoples in all processes and activities of the Rio +20 Conference, and its preparation and

monitoring mechanisms, in accordance with the UNDRIP and the principle of Free Prior and Informed Consent. We continue inhabiting and preserving the last sustainable ecosystems and biodiversity hotspots in the world. We can substantially contribute to sustainable development, but we believe that a comprehensive framework for sustainable development should be promoted. This includes the integration of a human rights approach, an ecosystemic approach and a culturally sensitive approach based on the knowledge of our people.

#### PROPOSED INDIGENOUS APPROACHES TO BE ADDRESS IN RIO +20:

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted on September 13, 2007, establishes a universal framework of minimum standards for the survival, dignity and welfare of indigenous peoples around the world. States and the United Nations have pledged to promote and guarantee the individual and collective rights included in this Declaration.

The Declaration, constitutes the platform from which indigenous peoples, united in the common ideal of their rights, have developed their approaches and proposals.

We are also aware that we are diverse peoples each with our own national and regional particularities; united in diversity, we are convinced that the Declaration constitutes an strategic breakthrough in the recognition, promotion and protection of the rights and freedoms of individuals and of indigenous peoples, whereupon, we invite and encourage States and all persons and organizations involved in the Rio +20 Conference to consider, both in their approaches and discussions, individual and collective rights that in addition to building our development and our liberties contribute to diversity, wealth of civilizations and cultures that constitute the common heritage of humanity.

United in the pursuit of a sustainable development based on the principles of justice, democracy, respect for human rights and non discrimination, always in good faith, we make the following approaches and proposals:

#### 1. THE CONCEPT OF DEVELOPMENT FROM AN INDIGENOUS PERSPECTIVE

For indigenous peoples, living well does not only refer to the per capita income or economic growth, but is about cultural identity, harmony between human beings and Mother Earth. Living well is based on the values of the culture of life, coexistence and complementarity not only between individuals but in harmony between them and nature, responding to the protection of the common good and benefit of all.

These approaches are shared by indigenous peoples around the world,[1] in the sense that indigenous peoples are in the search of a development model based on the practice of self-determination, on the basis that culture is a important pillar of development. In any case is characterized by having an integrated approach, holistic rather than sectoral, based on individual and collective rights and ensures control and self-government over lands, territories and resources. It is based on tradition and respect for our ancestors, complementarity and equality between men and women, thinking about next generations.

From this perspective, indigenous peoples intend to analyze the following aspects of the concept and especially of the process of sustainable development:

- The importance of establishing as a starting point a consensus on the need to change the concept of development, stagnation and worsening environmental problems we now live across the globe constitute a compelling reason for the search of a new and different paradigm.
- We propose to renew the concept of development and improve the instruments for measurement: measure with statistics that fully include information about indigenous peoples, which identifies the diversity of indigenous people, women, youth, migrating populations, so that the information is not subject to the averages of a homogeneous population that always invisibilize inequalities and negative effects of an uneven and exclusionary development.
- Indigenous peoples propose that a new paradigm of Sustainable Development has to sustain itself in a holistic approach to development where the center and purpose of it are the people, communities and indigenous peoples and populations. We propose that people be considered the center of development.
- We propose that in order to have a holistic approach it's important to review and supplement the pillars of development. These pillars can't be antagonistic but complementary. In this sense our approach is that besides the three pillars: economic, social and environmental, the cultural pillar be incorporated in order to enrich and lead the process towards sustainability.
- Indigenous peoples propose that the analysis of cultural, social, economic and environmental developments, not be exclusive but complementary. For example, economic development policies have to incorporate not only production costs of productive processes, but must also incorporate the environmental, social and cultural costs: one example can be the calculation of environmental and health costs as well as cultural costs of large scale industrial food production (economic valuation ecosystem, destruction with monocrops, contribution to CO2 production by the transportation of food by multinational companies , etc., threatens communities and towns because of the destruction of rural economies).
- The concept of poverty: indigenous peoples are not poor, we own territories, knowledge, rights and have the right to self-determination; indigenous peoples are living in poverty and vulnerable conditions, primarily because States -reduced to a minimum by structural adjustment policies -cannot protect our rights; we also find ourselves in this situation due to the unusual concentration of wealth in a small percentage of Latin Americans. We, the indigenous peoples, propose to review the concepts with which we describe our realities: poverty, vulnerability, sustainable development so that the analysis and proposals aim inequality causes and build feasibility for new development processes that incorporate the principles of individual and collective human rights.
- Finally, in regard to one of the central themes of the conference: green economy, we believe that full cooperation of individuals and institutions that participate in the Conference is needed, to build a green economy concept that can be inserted in concept of sustainable development, meaning that it considers the human rights framework, equality between men and women, the concept of "good life" of indigenous peoples, as well as a framework for the development of fair economy in social , cultural and environmental terms.

#### 2. FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND THE RIGHT TO FOOD

In Latin America and the Caribbean, the rural population amounts to about 121 million people, of which 60 million are indigenous, at least half are women. Indigenous peoples have a special relationship with their territories and nature and this relationship covers all aspects of life, including social organization, economy, cultural aspects, cosmovision and history. It is important to highlight the role of indigenous women in the transmission and preservation of cultural patterns, such as language, means of production and forms of organization that make them strategic partners for the preservation of cultures, communities, sustainable production and distribution of food.

Food sovereignty and security are crucial aspects of the notion of "good life" of indigenous peoples. Everyone has the right and responsibility to participate in the decision on how to produce and distribute food. The vision of food sovereignty entail a transformation in the current food system to ensure that those who produce food have equitable access to, and control over, land, water, seeds, fishing, agricultural biodiversity and all the technical and financial resources for production.[2]

Considering that respect for indigenous knowledge, cultures and traditional practices of indigenous peoples contribute to food security, sustainable and equitable development and to a proper management of the environment, we make the following statements:

- It is important that States and international organizations recognize and support indigenous peoples traditional practices related to agro-ecology as well as various forms of food production (fishing, hunting, farming, harvesting and silvo-pastoral production ) as a basis for food sovereignty and the protection of biological diversity, traditional knowledge, as alternatives to models of unsustainable industrial food production, based on seeds, genetically modified plants and animals, and the use of toxic pesticides and other agro-chemicals.

- The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues - an ECOSOC subsidiary body and forum for dialogue between states, agencies of the United Nations and indigenous peoples- has made recommendations noting that indigenous women are bearers and intergenerational transmitters of traditional knowledge on the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable environmental management, and in that sense have asked international agencies and governments to ensure their access to resources, including credit, new technologies and technical assistance for agriculture and food production; and that the experience of women is reflected in national and international sustainable development initiatives, ensuring consultation, free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) as well as effective participation in formulation and decision making processes.

- Indigenous people believe is important that States, international organizations and the private sector consider incorporating the Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) for all decisions affecting territories, natural resources and production methods that affect the lives of people in general and indigenous peoples.

- We believe that since mining is an activity that produces large environmental pollution including greenhouse gases, and destroys natural ecosystems, health and food sources from which indigenous peoples and other communities depend upon; we call for a moratorium on mining on fragile and culturally significant ecosystems such as forests, deserts, water sources, sacred sites, subsistence areas, Arctic ecosystems and traditional territories.

- Reports indicate, that in Latin America, despite major advancements in economic growth, there still remain big challenges in the management of toxic chemicals and waste, which threatens human security in both urban and rural areas; the use of fertilizers has doubled since 1990. We Indigenous peoples pronounce ourselves on this fact, there is no way to solve a problem if the solution does not address the right causes. The reason why the use of agro-chemicals has doubled is because patterns of production and consumption of food have not been disputed. The large-scale industrial production and distribution are a structural part of the problems regarding food poverty, disease and pollution.

- We call for food sovereignty, sustainable and organic production, that ensure nutritious food quality, varied and naturally ripened, which also guarantee the recovery of local markets, the introduction of productive work; that expands the opportunities for local investment and economic, social and cultural development on healthy eating, with cultural identity and secure access.

### 3. IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC MODEL EXTRACTOR OF NATURAL RESOURCES ON THE BASIS OF A GOOD LIFE

The Latin American region, in the framework of the global economic crisis, has made serious efforts to maintain a growing economy, unfortunately this growth has been based mainly on the intensive extraction of natural resources, which creates a great pressure on soils, water resources and all natural resources. Likewise, the manufacturing sectors continue being of low aggregate value and remain a marked heterogeneity in productivity among the various branches of economic activity; this situation is exacerbated by a high degree of ownership and wealth concentration, resulting in deep socioeconomic inequality

20 years ago in Rio, States recognized local and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples, however, currently stress remains in two issues:

On the one hand, we see a continued loss of our lands, biodiversity and natural resources resulting from occupation by third parties, extractive investment and even green extractive investments, the high rate of deforestation and degradation of soils, forests, marine coastal areas, swamps, sacred sites.

In addition, extractive predation affects not only the integrity of the territory but also violates our rights in political and legal terms. This violation has broken the spiritual balance of our people, as it has affected the natural areas where the spirits or Dawan inhabit, considering them beings with powers that protect resources. As a consequence there has been a rupture of the balance between people that make up the indigenous world, leading to the loss of cultural and spiritual values. The spheres of culture, nature and interrelated policy, determine our survival as individuals and as people. And, the loss of balance between these elements or spaces, constitutes a cause for illness, death and imbalance.

Faced with this reality, indigenous peoples committed to seek a development model based on the practice of self-determination, provide the following approaches:

- Recommend that the proposed "Green Economy" initiative is defined and demonstrates its distance from the development model based on market approach and intensive extraction of resources.

- Express our opposition to the establishment of large tracts of monocrops for biofuel production, especially in our peoples territories-

- Propose that developing countries promote the construction of a new production model that on the one hand promotes local development, considering the territories with their human, economic and environmental capital to develop innovative processes to reduce the destruction, generate greater aggregate value and stimulate local markets.

- Likewise, raise the need for developed countries to emphasize on conservation and reduction of their consumption levels; so that productive projects are geared towards supporting and restoring local economies, markets and local production systems.

- Propose the respect for the implementation of human rights as well as the indigenous peoples rights, respect for our development proposals; we also propose that any discussion on economic models and the green economy, must include full and effective participation of people indigenous as well as the implementation of the free, prior and informed consent, of our peoples in all stages.

- Demand states and international organizations their compromise to harmonize the decision-making processes for economic, social, environmental and cultural development, to constitute a new paradigm of sustainable development based on the principles of justice, fairness and respect of ecosystems, natural resources and territories.

### 4. LEGAL SECURITY AND THE RIGHT TO LAND

Legal protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, now known as safeguards, to lands, territories, resources and traditional knowledge should be a prerequisite for the development and planning of any and all types of adaptation and mitigation measures against climate change, conservation of the environment (including the creation of "protected areas"), the sustainable use of biodiversity and measures to combat desertification. In all cases they must have the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples, and therefore, we encourage States to take steps in this direction.

- Recommend that states, guarantors of the rights of indigenous peoples promote and facilitate the restoration of the natural patrimony and indigenous peoples' collective, re-establishing their rights, territorial spaces and integral management of their territories.

- Recommend that States and international organizations promote the strengthening of representations and territorial governments: the development of mechanisms for coordination, negotiation and alliances between communities for the joint protection of territory.

- Recommend as main requirements, legal protection of lands, territories, resources and traditional knowledge. We also recommend that traditional farming methods and practices of our peoples, based on healthy alternatives to pesticides be supported.

- Recommend that the term, food sovereignty, be used in place of food security and be adopted in Rio +20[3], for this term harmoniously links food security and territorial development.

- Propose the development of policy and regulatory frameworks that facilitate the coexistence within the framework of respect for individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples.

## 5. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

In recent decades, with recent constitutional reforms through which states recognize themselves as multinational, Multi-ethnic autonomous regions are created, as in the case of Bolivia and Nicaragua and spaces are open for effective governance with the participation of indigenous peoples as development actors and subjects of individual and collective rights.

In the framework of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, it is of fundamental importance to build governance with the effective participation of indigenous peoples by strengthening their institutions, cultures and traditions to promote their development based on their aspirations and needs.

For this purpose, we propose indigenous institutional strengthening in four strategic areas:

- . Strengthening indigenous institutions that combine individual and collective characteristics, usually based on ancestral institutions, cosmology, rituals and spirituality, collective history, among others, that base their membership on collective identities as peoples.

- . Strengthening state institutions and civil society to promote the rights of indigenous peoples, rights of women, youth and the environment.

- . Strengthening educational institutions of indigenous peoples, while also strengthening the multicultural approach to higher education institutions and research centers.

- . Strengthening the development of synergies and coordination to enhance the capabilities and dynamics of sustainable development.

In view of the above, indigenous peoples:

- Propose that States and international organizations promote and develop mechanisms for the incorporation of indigenous peoples and their representatives in decision-making, political participation, and at all levels of community representation, local and national. Therefore, it is important to develop positive actions at all levels, promote indigenous participation shares in both political parties and all expressions of governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

- Propose that States and international organizations, promote and protect the rights of indigenous peoples to maintain and strengthen their own institutions in order to demand their rights and participate in decision-making.

- States and international organizations shall consult and cooperate in good faith with indigenous peoples interested through their representative institutions before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that affect them, in order to obtain their free, prior and informed.

- States and international organizations shall boost and assign resources for indigenous peoples to maintain and develop their political, economic, social and cultural institutions that protect their natural resources, human resources, environmental resources and freedoms, this will facilitate capacity building based on traditional and nontraditional knowledge.

- The development of institutions of higher education and vocational training proper of indigenous peoples themselves with institutional development strategies, coordination and articulation of knowledge, likewise educational institutions have a special role for systematization, theorizing and knowledge development of indigenous peoples as universal knowledge that contributes to global development.

- A very important aspect is the strengthening of state institutions that serve the rights of indigenous peoples and those that serve production, economics and sustainable development. Their strengthening must include the management of human rights frameworks and the rights of indigenous peoples.

- The strengthening of state institutions goes through the formation of work teams that, in the framework of the ethical principles of human rights, incorporate within their abilities the framework of rights, gender, generational and multicultural approaches.

- Last but not least, the development of synergies and inter-institutional articulations that allows a holistic view of development. Indigenous peoples propose a work plan for the development of inter-institutionalism and especially the development of synergies, partnerships and interlocutions with indigenous peoples organizations as well as other representatives of social movements united in the principles of justice and equity; youth organizations, women's organizations, peasant organizations and environmentalists.

- Finally, we propose as an important element the articulation and coordination of the actors involved. The joint work of the various national and local government agencies, UN agencies, and civil society organizations and peoples as partners, is critical to the advancement of any development process.

## 6. STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- Indigenous peoples request that in Rio +20 formal structures for effective participation of indigenous peoples be promoted, defined and implemented, including women and youth in decision-making process within the Conference.

- Request that, in all areas of discussion in Rio +20, the participation of indigenous peoples be incorporated, considering their views, skills, knowledge and potential and not to prioritize poverty and backwardness, far from defining it discriminates them, excludes them and leaves them at a disadvantage in the development dialogue.

- We indigenous peoples propose that, States, United Nations agencies, international organizations and all persons and institutions involved, consider the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a structural part of the human rights framework in which commitments to sustainable development are discussed and agreed.

- We also propose, that all agreements and proposals provide in the discussion as well as in the commitments, financial resources, technical, technological and human resources to ensure their implementation, we especially request States that, specialized agencies, United Nations agencies and other intergovernmental organizations commit to mobilizing the necessary resources to ensure the participation of indigenous peoples on an equal footing, in the processes of building a new model of sustainable development.

Sources consulted to develop the document:

In preparing this document the following documents were taken into account: Declaración de las Naciones Unidas sobre los Derechos de los Pueblos Indígenas, Informes del para las Cuestiones Indígenas UNPFII – ONU, Agenda 21, en especial los capítulos 26, 25 y 24; la Declaración de Kari-oka 1992; la Declaración de Kimberly 2002; el Plan de Aplicación de los pueblos indígenas sobre el desarrollo sostenible 2002; Compromisos y prioridades de los pueblos indígena ante la Cumbre Mundial sobre desarrollo sostenible 2002; Declaración de Manaus 2011; América Latina ante Río +20 2011; The Jokkmokk Agreement; Ronda de Roha. Likewise the Convención contra todas las formas de Discriminación contra las mujeres (CEDAW) was consulted and the documents of La sostenibilidad del desarrollo a 20 años de la Cumbre de la Tierra: Avances, brechas y lineamientos estratégicos para América Latina y el Caribe[4]1, in draft form, developed jointly by agencies, funds and programs of the United Nations operating in Latin America and the Caribbean, coordinated by[5] CEPAL, and the document La hora de la igualdad: Brechas por cerrar, caminos por abrir2, presented by CEPAL in its thirty third session (Brasilia, 2010). Declaraciones.

[1] Tivoli meeting on indigenous peoples and self determined development. Tebbteba. 2008.

[2] Final Declaration of the Social Movements /NGO/CSO Parallel Forum to the Food Security Summit. Rome, November 13-17 2009.

[3] Adopted at the Global Consultation of indigenous peoples in Atitlan, in 2002.

[4] LC/L.3346.

[5] LC/G.2432(SES.33/3).

## Children and Youth

Major Group for Children and Youth Contribution to the Outcome Document of Rio+20

This is the contribution of the Major Group for Children and Youth, incorporating the perspectives of young people from all regions. It specifies our goals and priorities for concrete action and change.

The world faces significant challenges that can only be tackled by global cooperation. Rio+20 offers a unique opportunity to make a new programmes for genuinely sustainable development globally, nationally and locally. Our hope for Rio+20 is that there is significant participation by heads of state in the negotiations to ensure commitments are taken more seriously, and that governments are held accountable for agreements that are not implemented. Finally, we call for the adoption of a UN General Assembly resolution to strengthen the agreements reached at Rio+20.

### 1. OBJECTIVES

#### A. RENEWED POLITICAL COMMITMENT

We call for:

- A holistic commitment to mainstreaming and implementing Agenda 21 and the Rio declaration, while taking it further by including new and emerging issues. All relevant international organisations and national legislatures, with the involvement of civil society, should adopt formal mechanisms to ensure that economic and sustainable development discussions are not held in isolation. These mechanisms should have the authority to act as a check-and-balance on the formulation and implementation of policy.
- Implementation of all agreed upon commitments from the previous CSD cycles by member states, including incorporating them into their National Sustainable Development Strategies. This can be supported by incorporation into the programmes of international financial economic institutions, namely the IMF and the World Bank Group, as well as the WTO. International institutions can take the lead in ensuring that policy recommendations are followed through.
- Securing of resources for development and implementation of Action Plans. There is a need for thorough and transparent evaluation of budgets, governance of the allocation of funds, donor coordination, collaboration between existing initiatives and use of funds. We call for the establishment of a dedicated instrument for financing and implementing Sustainable Development outside of the World Bank Group, which implements decisions in general, and specific decisions on sustainable development as decided by various forums ranging from the UN-CSD, the UNFCCC, the CBD, the CCD, UNEP, etc., or in terms of transitioning to the Green Economy (in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication), or within specific sectors (e.g. energy, agriculture). This instrument should be governed with a fair geographic representation, which reflects both funding partners and recipients, next to the full inclusion of non-state actors in its governance.
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with sufficient ambition to meet environmental and social challenges. As the UN General Assembly office, under the guidance of the UN Secretary General, is currently considering the post-Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) framework, the process leading towards the adoption of the SDGs must be streamlined with this follow-up of the MDGs. In his recent report, the UN Secretary General indeed named Rio+20 as an important international event that could contribute to the post-2015 framework. This new SDGs framework should consider in particular the links between poverty, gender inequality, climate change, biological diversity, human rights, ending violence and inequity. Finally, a strong implementation framework and related institutional elements should be developed in order to guarantee the review of the implementation and the compliance of each state.

#### B. PROGRESS AND IMPLEMENTATION GAPS

We call for:

- Dynamic policies that take into account the diverse economic, environmental and social contexts in which they operate in different member states. This must be captured in the introduction, implementation, monitoring and evaluation stages of the policy design. Adverse impacts of "one-size-fits-all" policies such as structural adjustment must also be addressed.
- The adoption of a 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production by 2013 and ensuring its integration into policies and law by 2015.
- Member states should establish evaluation and monitoring mechanisms that will obtain specific feedback and data to determine the effectiveness of policy implementation pertaining to the agreements made at the Sustainable Development Summits, addressing and correcting implementation gaps and providing accountability for both member states and civil society. This should include an integrated regional reporting system between economic, social, environmental and other aspects of Sustainable Development that has clear indicators, and milestones to monitor implementation and to build accountability and ownership of the solutions.
- Addressing the impact of armed conflict on local communities and the environment, with special consideration for related conditions that pose severe threats to children and youth, such as: disruption of basic services, endemic disease, intolerance, terrorism, and environmental hazards and degradation (e.g., landmines and medical waste). Additionally, strengthen international, national, and local partnerships to engage local stakeholders in support of environmental assessments and integrated financial mechanisms; and post-conflict reconstruction, capacity building, victim assistance, and risk education.



## C. NEW AND EMERGING CHALLENGES

Policies designed to tackle short-term economic crises must not reinforce and prolong unsustainable practices of consumption and production. The current economic crisis can be an opportunity to reflect on systemic ecological, economic and social problems, to pre-empt new and emerging challenges and develop long-term strategies to prevent future climate, energy, food and water crises.

It is important that economic, social and human rights institutions are strengthened and that the environment perspective is integrated into their work. In addition, at the UN level, interagency and inter program networks should be established in order to facilitate communication and coordination among different UN actors in order to have an integrated approach and effective international governance on Sustainable Development. Though the goals of economic and social development and environmental sustainability can be in conflict at times, there is a need for them to co-exist to secure a sustainable future. This should lead to:

- Redefined enforcement of sustainable development agreements
- The coordination of multilateral economic, human rights and environmental agreements
- Access to justice
- Donor coordination for efficient and appropriate use of funds
- More effective monitoring and evaluation of implementation gaps, assessment of progress and evaluation of emerging challenges.

Radical changes in the geopolitical world amplify the challenge of providing water, energy and food to a growing population, particularly in developing countries, where children and youth are the most affected by precarious living conditions. Given that the previous Earth Summit successfully elevated the status of sustainable development goals, global leaders must incorporate the water, food and energy security nexus into Rio+20 discussions, so that its importance as a sustainability concept is also validated. This is essential to promote and deliver comprehensive frameworks at a local and regional level that account for the intricacies of an interconnected world.

## 2. GREEN ECONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION

We consider a Green Economy to be egalitarian, low-resource economic and social systems that cultivate societal and cultural wellbeing and thriving and resilient natural ecosystems. A Green Economy fully integrates key principles of the Rio Declaration: intergenerational and international equity, and pays special attention to the inclusion of youth and children as the building blocks of a sustainable future. The transition to the Green Economy will require an improved notion of wellbeing, measured with indicators beyond just GDP, that fully take into account the limits of our common planetary and social boundaries.

We call for:

- Youth unemployment to be reduced through the creation of green jobs with a living wage and the stronger consideration of the impact of employment policy on youth. Governments should promote young people's role in the workforce by providing them with the appropriate skills and knowledge to improve their employability. Possible initiatives could include locally appropriate job-training in the context of sustainable development, start-up capital for young entrepreneurs and apprenticeship programmes.
- Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) must equip the next generation of youth with skills, training and capacity to help create the Green Economy. ESD should be structurally integrated into the national sub-national curricula and made accessible to all, taking into account local communities' needs. Priority should be given specifically to drastic improvements in teacher training for ESD and recognition and support for alternative forms of education, non-formal learning, online resources and peer education.
- The creation of a "Global Technology Sharing Facility", which would enhance sharing, enable prior assessments and provide monitoring of technology on the global scale. Alternatives to market-based intellectual property rights have to be developed and new digital information infrastructures could foster the rapid circulation of knowledge and technologies worldwide, based on the notions of fair access and mutual benefit sharing. We must also protect and nurture traditional, local and Indigenous knowledge and recognise their value as alternative technologies. Public and private stakeholders must collaborate internationally and strive to incorporate cradle to cradle design into new and existing technological and product lifecycles.
- An integrated approach to the conservation of species and ecosystems, particularly threatened species and ecosystems. Compliance with international conventions, and agreed international standards for the recording of natural resources and periodic assessment by independent authorities, in collaboration with all stakeholders. These efforts are crucial to ensuring that consumption of natural resources is below regeneration rates. Natural resource impact labelling should be mandatory for every industrial product.
- Strong legislative and executive actions by governments to promote the sustainable development of our Blue Economy, avoid depletion of finite water resources and achieve long term food security for fisheries-dependent communities. Actions should include the establishment of a global network of marine protected areas and "no-take zones", including a moratorium on mineral exploration in the Arctic and proper mechanisms for conflict resolution over aquatic resources, with special emphasis on water. Conflict over future water availability and allocation decisions, under likely global pressures like climate change, must be recognised and addresses as a serious global threat to long-term peace and security.
- A 'low-carbon' future that promotes renewable energy and energy efficiency. Specific, measurable, attainable, results-oriented and time bound (SMART) targets should be devised for the development, accessibility and efficient use of clean energy, and demand reduction and energy conservation. This should involve unprecedented funding and technical support for the development of low carbon, renewable infrastructure.
- An urgent start to the transition towards a green, fair and people-centered agriculture that promotes a sustainable food system producing sufficient, healthy and balanced food for all and maintaining and/or enhancing ecosystems, biodiversity and natural resources. Investments in rural areas should be increased to assure decent incomes and living conditions while creating job opportunities for rural communities, especially including youth. Governments must protect the rights of those working and subsisting off the land and aim towards collective, decentralised ownership for sustainable, resilient and productive ecosystem management. Traditional farming and indigenous knowledge, past and present, offer a wealth of potential solutions and should be recognised as such. It is our hope that an outcome of Rio+20 might be a revitalisation of vital knowledge sharing mechanisms in agriculture.
- Strengthening the capacity of national healthcare systems with an emphasis on universal and comprehensive Primary Health Care. This should include universal access to family planning services for women and girls, because this already proves to be an in-demand, cost effective method of increasing communities' resilience to climate change impacts, whilst meeting the health and development needs of people around the world. Women and girls should receive education and easy access to comprehensive health services and supplies.
- The integration of sustainability into all tourism-policies and management practices through the creation of a 'Green Economy Roadmap' aiming at the active participation of local populations in developing sustainable tourism. Development institutions should work collaboratively with the tourism industry to foster increased potential for local hiring and sourcing and significant opportunities in tourism oriented toward local culture and the natural environment.

- The promotion of holistic and long-term sustainable city planning based on master planning that takes in account population growth, natural resource utilisation, ecosystem preservation, public space accessibility, building design, efficient transport and waste management. Sustainable architecture should strive to improve living conditions, reduce vulnerability and diminish exposure to hazardous materials. This could be made possible through financial incentives and mandatory technical standards for new developments.
  - The removal of harmful subsidies that result in unsustainable practices and threaten development. These include agriculture, fossil fuel and fishery subsidies. If such vast sums of money were being directed toward sustainable development, we would be great strides further on the path to realising the kind of world we want to see. 3.
- INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#### A. Balanced participation of all stakeholders

- Ombudspersons for Future Generations

Rio+20 should secure collective commitment for the establishment, at the national level, of Ombudspersons for Future Generations. These independent institutions, working from the heart of government, should be mandated to provide an assessment of the long-term impacts of public policies and legislative proposals. They should also respond to citizen petition, investigating claims of environmental crimes and offences and engaging in either conciliation or litigation.

Furthermore, we call for the establishment of an independent Office of the UN High Commissioner for Future Generations. Similar to the national level Ombudspersons, the High Commissioner would seek and analyse system faults on the global level, i.e. situations where even the normal, regular flow of activities results in significant jeopardy of the interests of future generations. This office would have both an agenda-setting and advisory role with regard to the long-term environmental and social coherence and impacts of UN agencies, policies and programmes and other multilateral treaties. It would function in close cooperation with civil society. This office would also support the capacity of developing countries to establish effective mechanisms of intergenerational accountability and provide a forum for the exchange of best practices in relation to the establishment of national Ombudspersons for Future Generations.

- Participation of stakeholders

We call on governments to seize the opportunity offered by the Rio+20 process in order to re-engineer participation within Sustainable Development and to elevate this as a cross-cutting issue in the whole SD-governance.

- Government needs in Rio to either adopt one global or several regional conventions based on principle 10 of the Rio 1992 Declaration and including a compliance mechanism, on the model of the Aarhus Convention.
- At the international level, civil society participation should be evaluated and elevated at all relevant political forums, including financial institutions. Such participation should include the representation of a minimum of 2 non-voting representatives of civil society in the respective bureau.
- All states should urgently implement the Agenda 21 recommendation of establishing national sustainable development councils. Where such Councils already exist, they should be strengthened and provided with adequate resources, political leverage and support by exchanging best-practices. These councils should by default try to mirror all Agenda 21 Major Groups.

#### B. Ensuring progress towards global sustainability

While key legal principles have already been recognised at Stockholm and Rio Conferences, compliance with these principles has been critically lacking, thus requiring the urgent establishment of new accountability mechanisms.

- World Environmental Court

We call for the establishment of a World Environmental Court to take decisions related to the non-respect of national obligations under international environmental law. This court will provide a forum for individuals and communities to hold states party to international environmental agreements legally accountable for their commitments. Procedures for individuals and communities to file a complaint to the Court should be based on those of existing Human Rights courts such as the European Court of Human Rights.

- Creating a new momentum for the implementation of the precautionary principle

Rio+20 presents a unique opportunity to develop institutional arrangements necessary for the full and effective implementation of the precautionary principle. We call for the legal recognition of the fact that industrial production and commercialisation of new substances and technologies should not be authorised in the presence of a reasonable doubt regarding their potential to harm our environment or the natural capital left to our children. In the case of practices and activities creating short-term risks for ecosystems and communities, a proper insurance mechanism should obligate those taking the risks to be in the capacity to fully repair any damages intentionally or accidentally resulting from their actions.

#### C. Ensuring knowledge-based decision making

- Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Development (IPSD)

Given the growing fragmentation of knowledge, we call for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Development that functions as an umbrella organization which should design a sustainable development research agenda for the 21st century that reviews relevant scientific knowledge (including not only natural sciences but also social sciences such as economics). Scientific evidence should contribute to knowledge-based policy making and policy monitoring. The Panel should also be mandated to provide an assessment of ecological boundaries.

#### D. Creating a set of global institutions for sustainability

Delivering political coordination and momentum

- UN Council on Sustainable Development

We call for the immediate establishment of a Council on Sustainable Development as a subsidiary to the UN General Assembly, with the authority to adopt legally binding decisions. This Council would seek integration of all composing elements of Sustainable Development, at a higher political level than is currently the case within the existing UN bodies dealing with the matter. It should also be mandated to coordinate the work on Sustainable Development of both the Bretton Woods and UN institutions in a coherent manner. Finally, this institution should enshrine Civil Society participation within its design, upgrading the existing CSD practices amongst others, including representatives of Major Groups within its governance (Bureau).

- Stewardship for Global Commons

We also call for the immediate establishment of a transparent and participatory trusteeship for the transitional governance of the global commons until they are adequately governed by legally binding rules, based on a sense of shared responsibility and the principles of subsidiarity and intergenerational equity. This process should lead by 2015 to the establishment of a permanent, legally-binding Global Commons Trust that cooperatively and responsibly develops, manages, maintains and equitably shares in the usage and benefits coming from resources that are held in common by the community at large. Whilst sympathetic to the vulnerable, there must be a local-global framework and participatory processes to address the issue of free riders.

#### Ensuring implementation

- Upgrade UNEP into a new UN Environmental Organisation with status as a specialised UN agency with the capacity to deliver

We call for an upgrade of both mandate and status of the current UNEP in order to enable this organisation to supervise all environmental sustainability initiatives within the UN. This new, specialised agency will provide an accountability mechanism for policy makers and national ministries and should coordinate all UN programs, agencies and affiliates who are working on initiatives related to or having an impact on environmental sustainability. The international community must ensure that it possesses the adequate means to successfully implement its mission.

The long-term review process for the improvement of Sustainable Development Governance at the UN level should assess the pros and cons of other institutional frameworks, such as the creation of an all-encompassing World Organisation for Sustainable Development.

## China National Working Committee for UNESCO Project on Education for Sustainable Development (CNWCESD)

### Suggestions on Further Promoting ESD in International Society after UN-DESD

#### ----Taking ESD Experience, Challenges and Future Commissions in Ten Countries in Asian-Pacific Region as Examples

In recent decade, in order to deal with severe challenges human beings' society is facing and to fulfill the commitments made by each government, the international society has paid great attentions on educational functions for sustainable development since the World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. Taking implementing the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) (hereinafter for short DESD) as an opportunity, educators in the global society carry out theoretical researches and practice on ESD, and produce abundant and fruitful achievements.

Nowadays, there are still challenges, and commitments made in the World Summit in Johannesburg still are not completely fulfilled. To further fulfill the educational function for promoting sustainable development through ESD, it's extremely necessary to summarize experience on ESD in all countries comprehensively before the World Summit on ESD in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, and to make clear deployments on further promoting ESD after UN-DESD.

Based on the experience obtained by ten countries in Asian-Pacific Region, the review report is made to exhibit the actual situations and to provide suggestions.

#### 1 The Experiences on ESD from Ten Countries in the Asian-Pacific Region

##### 1.1 The first effective driving force to promote ESD is to construct authoritative and professional national organizations.

In the Asia and Pacific region, some countries have already established the national organizations and agents. For example, the Korean National Commission for UNESCO established the Korean National Committee for ESD in 2009; the Ministry of Education in Laos established the National Working Group on ESD; the national working committee on ESD under UNESCO is the main steering organization for ESD in Japan; the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Education are two main steering organizations for ESD in Indonesia; China National Commission for UNESCO established the China National Working Committee for UNESCO Project on Education for Sustainable Development (hereinafter for short CNWCESD) which has taken charge for implementing ESD nationwide since 2002. According to the experience in Korea, Laos, Bangladesh, Japan, Indonesia and China, such institutions shall be formed by officials from ministries of education and UNESCO national commissions so as to guarantee the high authority of ESD. Meanwhile, experts on education, environment, culture and other fields should be invited into these organizations in order to make professional and strong plans and guidance.

##### 1.2 The dominant factors to direct and inspire principles and teachers actively to participate in the innovational practice on ESD are to put forward the overall theory and connotations of ESD in light of each country's actual conditions.

In East Asia, ROK, Japan and China are taking the lead in carrying out theoretical researches on ESD. ROK established several research institutes to promote the development of ESD. In 2005, Tongyeong, Incheon and Ulsan three cities established three Regional Institutes on ESD, and organized several seminars with the themes of Green and Creative Human Resources, Curriculum Innovation and Teaching-Learning Process, Educational Competitiveness, the Human being and the Biosphere, etc. Japanese government valued highly theoretical research on ESD, and the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, and Transport, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports, Science and Technology developed on the Guidelines for the Development of National ESD Indicators in Asian-Pacific. The theoretical researches by CNWCESD in China were represented mainly by the Basic Course in Education for Sustainable Development and several papers nearly 800 million words from 2003 to 2010, and these researches centered on two-level connotations of ESD, teaching model of ESD, cultivation of sustainable learning capacity, the significance of writing ESD in the National Outline, creation of high quality education in ESD, quality education creation through ESD and the indicators for sustainable schools.

##### 1.3 To organize educational experts to implement research and practice of ESD persistently can promote the shift from the research to public policy and incorporate ESD into the national and local outlines.

To incorporate ESD into national development outlines has been a common agreement among countries in Asian-Pacific region. ROK government released its National Vision for Sustainable Development and the National Strategy for Sustainable Development. Besides, ROK legislative body approved the Basic Law on Sustainable Development, the Environmental Education Promotion Act and the Framework Act on Green Growth. The National Socio-Economic Development Plan 2006-2010 (NSED) and National Growth and Poverty Eradication Strategy (NGPES) Lao government issued were two dominant policies for promoting ESD. Based on the Agenda 21, Malaysia released the National Policy on Biodiversity and the National Integrity Plan with focus on building the awareness and capacity for the educatees to respect nature, and preserve environment. In the recent, the 9th Malaysia Plan issued by the government also emphasized the important role of non-governmental organizations (NGO) in ESD and called for further spread ESD to promote environmental awareness and knowledge. The Nepal government launched the Nat-Com Participation Program to promote ESD. The program aims to provide fund for selected schools to implement micro programs on ESD. The Japanese enacted a series of acts to provide legitimate protection for the promotion of ESD. United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and UN Climate Change Conference these international conventions are the main legitimate guidance in Indonesia. In early 2010, the State Council of China issued the "National Outline for Medium and Long-term Education Reform and Development (2010-2020)" (for short "National Outline for Education"). The "National Outline for Education" lays considerable attention on "focusing on ESD" in its strategic subject and requires education institutes at all levels to implement ESD, and incorporates ESD contents into all courses. It marks that ESD has been shifted from a single research topic and education program to a national public educational policy.

1.4 The main tool to strengthen the capacity of construction of ESD is to organize the training for principles and teachers at national, local and school levels regularly or irregularly.

Most country in Asian-Pacific region has already strengthened the training for principles and teachers. Korea National Commission for UNESCO and Seoul Office of Education established ESD teachers training program for primary and secondary educators, with the aim to train teachers and researchers to implement ESD research. Laos Ministry of Education organized trainings for principals, teachers, researchers and officials. In China, under the leadership of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, CNWCESD and Beijing Academy of Educational Sciences have organized 10 national seminars. More than 10,000 principals and teachers from member schools, experimental schools and model schools attended these seminars. At the same time, 100 thematic trainings were organized, and tens of thousands of principals and teachers received the trainings.

1.5 The critical part of implementing ESD in primary and secondary schools is to incorporate the knowledge, capacity and lifestyle on social, economic, environmental, cultural sustainable development into the curricula.

Under the guidance of the idea of ESD, most countries in Asian-Pacific region started to reform their curricula, and incorporated the ESD scientific knowledge, learning capacity and value into the curricula. In regard of curricula development, Laos Ministry of Educational attaches great importance to the use of ESD ideas in curricula reform. In the process of curricula evaluation, ESD is also an important aspect. In Malaysia, in terms of curricula development, ESD is mainly embodied in environmental education, Education for All. Curricula development is an important aspect in Bangladesh's ESD, which absorbed various elements of ESD into basic education curricula including Human Rights, Gender Equality, Health, HIV/AIDS Prevention, Good Governance, Population Education, Cultural Diversity, Natural Resources, Climate Change, Rural Development, Sustainable Urbanization, Disaster Crisis Management, Poverty Reduction, Corporate Social Responsibility, society, culture, environment and economy. ESD curricula development in Nepal has its own characteristics. Teachers, policy makers, students, parents, business, communities are all participants in the process of curricula development. In terms of content, core concepts like environmental protection, pollution control, and sustainability of society, economy and culture are all integrated into the curricula. ESD curricula reform in Tango centered on the value education, and incorporated the cultural diversity, learning capacity and self-identity into curricula. The idea of ESD has already been put into pre-school education, primary education, secondary education, higher education and informal education all educational sectors. Under the leadership of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO and Ministry of Education, CNWCESD directed schools at all level to form the national curricula, local curricula and school-based curricula 3-level curricula system. The curricula system reflects the basic idea of ESD. At the same time of curricula construction, China also attaches great importance to reform the teaching methods in primary and secondary schools, and achieve good results.

1.6 The effective methods to implement the ESD practice and spread successful experience are to construct ESD experimental schools and districts and to organize workshops on exchanging ESD experience.

Japan, China and Indonesia are the three leading countries in constructing ESD experimental schools and districts. The Ministry of Environment in Japan selected 14 regions nationwide to construct ESD communities. Indonesia paid attention on the construction of Environmental Awareness Schools. Meanwhile, China has already constructed member schools, experimental schools and model schools in 3-level school system. The Chinese National Commission for UNESCO had selected 15 regions in 3 provinces, municipal cities and autonomous regions to create ESD experimental districts.

1.7 To carry out evaluation and assessment on educational quality for ESD

Some countries in Asian-Pacific region have already carried out researches and assessments on educational quality for ESD. China has started to work on evaluating and assessing educational quality for ESD since 2004. CNWCESD had developed and made the educational quality evaluation and assessment criteria for ESD which include five first-level basic indicators on school management, curricula and teaching, teachers' training, energy-saving and emission-reducing campuses construction, students' quality, ten second-level criteria and twenty third-level items. CNWCESD had organized and implemented the national evaluations and assessments on ESD experimental schools for three times since 2008 in accordance with the criteria.

1.8 To create active circumstance for youngsters to receive ESD, it's necessary to cooperate with stakeholders to explore social resources and establish school-society cooperation networks in the process of implementing ESD.

In ROK, government, local administrator, research groups, and schools formed the social ESD network. The Korea Research Institute of Vocational Educational Training (KRIVET), the Korea Foundation for the Advancement of Science & Creativity (KOFAC), the Korea Institute of Curricula and Evaluation (KICE), the Korea Arts & Culture Education Service (KACES), and the Korea National Park (KNP), and National Museum of Korea (NMK) actively participated in ESD. In Laos, Enterprises, communities, non-governmental organizations (NGO) and regional organizations have become active forces in advancing ESD. In China, ESD member schools, experimental schools and model schools carry out thematic activities by exploring social resources, and establish ESD activity bases. At the same time, some ESD experimental schools established friendly relationship with schools abroad.

2. The challenges for Ten Countries in the Asian-Pacific Region in implementing ESD

With the difference on political systems, economic development patterns, cultural traditions and teaching models, countries in Asia Pacific region start to implement ESD at different time. Therefore, there are differences among countries. Meanwhile, different countries are facing different challenges and problems.

2.1 Although some countries have already organized the national ESD organizations, they hardly issued the national policies on ESD. Thus, some countries are implementing ESD by experts and professional organizations, and hardly spreading ESD nationally.

China, Japan and the South Korea have enacted the national policies on ESD. However, other countries just carry out ESD practice by few experts and professional organizations. Therefore, it shows an unbalanced situation in implementing ESD among countries in Asian-Pacific region.

2.2 Some countries in Asia Pacific regions established organizations with certain authorities, but these organizations are under the leadership of few experts, and can not create influential effects. Besides, the ministry of environment, resources management departments, and communities also participate in ESD, but they seldom put ESD into formal educational system.

Some ESD implemented by communities, vocational educational institutes, and NGOs are for the adults. Without inviting educational experts, this kind of ESD can not provide the educational suggestions for routine teachings, and hardly be incorporated into the formal educational system. Thus, the correct ESD should center on students in primary, secondary and higher education, and should cultivate them with knowledge, capacity, value and lifestyle the sustainable development needs.

2.3 Few countries do not carry out ESD theoretical research, especially do not incorporate universal ideas in DESD into each country's practice. Thus, it's necessary to promote all countries to carry out local researches, and to give operational guidance to schools at all levels.

There's a misunderstanding on ESD. Many experts and officials even professional experts think that ESD equals to environment education and has no connect with routine teaching. Therefore, those experts and officials would not like to spend time on carrying out theoretical researches on ESD, and they do not want to direct young researchers and scholars to implement ESD.

Without systematic theoretical researches, some countries replace ESD with Education for International Understanding or Education for all simply and indiscriminately. Even on some international conferences, these countries make the national reports on Education for International Understanding or Education for All, rather than on ESD, which would not urge teachers and students to accept the idea of ESD, and can not incorporate ESD into formal educational systems in these countries. In order to achieve the high

quality educational results, it's necessary to carry professional researches on ESD in the process of implementing DESD.

2.4 A lot of countries in Asian-Pacific region enacted regulations and acts mainly on curricula reform and ignored to create integral and systematic ESD school-running mechanisms which include curricula constructions, teaching reforms, teachers' trainings and constructions of ESD schools.

Some countries in Asia-Pacific region issued the policies on ESD, but most of contents are about guiding principles, working deployments and requirements, and seldom about curricula construction, teaching reforms, trainings for teachers and school-constructions these integral and systematic guidance. These policies documents cannot direct teachers and principles to study, research and obtain the scientific connotations on ESD seriously, and cannot encourage them to promote practice on ESD consciously and persistently.

To achieve the expected results of DESD in 2014, it's urgent to change this situation. To create quality education though ESD can be fully achieved by reforming teaching, curricula and training in accordance with DESD.

2.5 Some countries fail to implement training for principles and teachers with plan and arrangement.

It's difficult for some countries to implement ESD training for principles and teachers when they fail to publish ESD theoretical teaching materials and fail to invite professional ESD experts as instructors.

2.6 It's usual to replace ESD with environment education in informal educational system.

In some countries, some organizations and agents implement environment education with this single theme, and fail to obey the recommendations by DESD to implement integral and systematic ESD with Four-Respect core ideas. Obviously, ESD can not equal to environment education merely.

2.7 Indicators and quality evaluation on ESD fall behind the practice.

A lot of countries in Asia and Pacific region do not make the quality criteria for evaluating ESD in formal and informal education, and they are waiting UNESCO to publish the evaluation criteria and assessment requirements. Without the criteria and requirements, the development of ESD in Asian-Pacific region would be effected. It's quite pity that some countries have been waiting for criteria and assessment requirements for one or two years.

2.8 Most countries failed to launch international exchanging and cooperative activities on ESD.

In recent decade, the Asia-Pacific Offices for UNESCO and the Beijing Office for UNESCO had organized ESD training workshops, seminars, and experience exchanging conferences for many times, which effectively promoted the international co-operations and exchanging activities among countries in this region. Under the guidance of the two offices, and under the leadership of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO, CNWCESD had successfully upheld the biennial Beijing International Forum on ESD for four times since the year of 2003, which promoted the international cooperative and exchanging activities in Asian-Pacific region. However, the international co-operations and exchanges among countries in the region are not widely organized, which will restrict the further promotion of ESD in these countries.

### 3. Eight Suggestions on Further Promoting ESD in Global Society in Post UN-DESD

The DESD will be completed in the year of 2014. At that time, every country will make its own final national report on ESD. It's proved by the theories and practice in 10 countries in Asian-Pacific region that ESD is and will be an integral and systematic theory and teaching model with time spirit. The ending of DESD will not mean that the value and influence of ESD also will disappear. After 2014, a number of countries, experts, government officials, principles and teachers will continue to implement ESD. Besides, social, economic, environmental and cultural sustainable development in each country needs ESD much more persistently and deeply, because ESD can provide intellectual and human resources support for each country.

Facing these challenges and problems, it's extremely necessary for UN to organize ESD experts and educators to deploy the commissions and to make the researches after UN-DESD in the future four years. Also, it's the indispensable obligation for UN to further promote all government to take actions to implement ESD. In a conclusion, the suggestions are:

#### 3.1 To carry out overall theoretical research on ESD

The correct theoretical knowledge is the precondition to further and persistently implement ESD. ESD is an advanced educational theory with time spirit. Among the Education for all, Inclusive Education, ESD and Education for International Understanding advocated by UN, ESD is the only education concept relating to educational function, policies, educational goals, values, educational contents, teaching methods, educational resources' exploration and development, and stakeholders. Thus, ESD is an integral theoretical system and connotation system to educational reform and development in new century with the aims of promoting the economic, social, environmental and cultural sustainable development.

After years of consideration and practice, CNWCESD made the definition for ESD as follow: ESD is created in the process of sustainable development with the aim of cultivating the educatees with scientific knowledge, values, learning capacity and lifestyle in order to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural sustainable development. To certain level, ESD is a refreshing element for the traditional educational theoretical system. The research on ESD theory would meet the needs of implementing DESD, and promoting the development and innovation of ESD in each country in the future. Therefore, Asian-Pacific countries should organize educational experts and officials to carry out ESD theoretical research much more comprehensively and deeply.

Given the real condition of Asian-Pacific countries, it's necessary to make the researches on the following aspects: the basic connotation of ESD, value education of ESD, ESD promotes the sustainable development of human society, sustainable teaching and learning, ESD and EFA, ESD and Inclusive Education, ESA and EIU.

#### 3.2 To setup the clear direction of promoting quality education though ESD

It's obvious that ESD is an important method to refresh and innovate the traditional educational theories. To carry out theoretical researches on ESD is to meet the need of further implementing DESD, and to promote all countries to create ESD theories and practice deeply and comprehensively in the future years. In some countries, to promote Quality Education though ESD is gradually regarded as an important content in the field of educational reforms and innovations. Based on this, it's necessary for all governments to organize ESD experts to set the clear direction for ESD, which will shift the core contents of ESD from thematic education, like environment protection, climate change education, to comprehensively Quality Education.

#### 3.3 To speed up the pace of establishing the national ESD organizations.

In Asian-Pacific region, there are three types of organizations established in countries. The first type is national commissions for UNESCO to implement ESD. The second is organizations established by diplomatic ministries. The third type is organizations which are established by the national commissions for UNESCO and ministries of education together. It's proved that the third type organizations are the best ones to carry out ESD practice in formal and informal education systems comprehensively.

Therefore, the suggestion is that it's urgent to promote countries to establish the third type national ESD organizations.

#### 3.4 To continue to carry out systematic and thematic trainings for principles and teachers.

ESD is a new education idea and teaching model, thus there're no existed theories and operational models in traditional training materials. In order to help teachers and principles to implement ESD, it's necessary to carry out systematic and thematic training for them.

According to the experience obtained by some countries, each country needs to organize the national training on ESD theory. The local educational ministries and research

institutes are necessary to implement thematic training and share successful experience. The models of training include national seminars, exhibiting teaching classes, local seminars and experience-sharing meetings.

Besides, owing to the unbalanced ESD situation, UNESCO offices in each country should organize trainings and exchanging among countries, especially cross-country training among different educators, like officials, researchers, ministers, principles, teachers and stakeholders.

3.5 To promote the reform on teaching models and to construct ESD model schools and districts.

The construction of ESD model schools and districts is beneficial for experts to spread the core connotations of ESD, implement the teaching models and achieve the successful experience. Nowadays, Japan, China and Indonesia have already established ESD model schools and districts. Thus, it's advisable for other countries to start to construct their own model schools and districts, which will speed up the development of ESD and spread ESD successful experience to boarder areas.

3.6 To enact the ESD criteria urgently and implement educational assessments regularly

The criteria are the necessary preconditions for monitoring and evaluating ESD situations in each country. It's urgent for countries in Asian-Pacific region to make ESD criteria. At the same time, each country should make national and local criteria for directing schools' work.

Therefore, the UNESCO offices in each country are necessary to organize ESD experts to cooperate with each other to make the monitoring and evaluation criteria.

3.7 To spread and public the ESD successful experience.

In recent year, there're more than 20 media to spread ESD successful experience in provinces, cities and countries. These media make millions of word reports to public the ESD experience, which effectively encourage the educators on ESD. The Chinese experience proved that it's important to spread ESD experience in time.

Therefore, each country should spread its own acquired successful experience in time, which will promote the development of ESD practice and extend its influence.

3.8 To carry out international co-operations and exchanges.

In recent 10 years, UNESCO offices in Bangkok, Beijing and Jakarta made great contributions to promote the international cooperation and exchanges among countries in Asian-Pacific region. What the UNESCO offices in Bangkok, Beijing and Jakarta have done receives highly complement. Countries in Asian-Pacific region can overcome their disadvantages and further perfect ESD though these international exchanges.

Therefore, UNESCO offices in Bangkok, Beijing and Jakarta are supposed to carry out much more international exchanges, and uplift the overall quality of ESD in whole Asian-Pacific region.

The Johannesburg Declaration on Education for Sustainable Development was just published in the year of 2002, and some impassioned, sonorous and powerful words in the declaration are still clear for the public. In the opening ceremony, children from all over the world with their simple and clear words informed us that the future belonged to them. These words inspired each of us to create a beautiful and harmonious world for them through our actions, and poverty, environmental degradation and unsustainable development would not occur in this world, and the dignity of human beings would be respected. "Children represent our common future. So we must have a strong sense of responsibility to create a new bright and promising world, which is the answer to our children".

All governments are supposed to shoulder important responsibilities, all politicians should take the historical missions and educators all around the world should taking actual actions to construct platform for ESD in order to help children acquire scientific knowledge, learning capacity, value and lifestyle the sustainable development needs.

Recalling the past decade, it's necessary to summarize and expand the effective and actual ESD actions by all regions and countries. Facing the actual situation and future challenges, it's urgent to reflect the ESD shortcomings and problems in order to setup the clear direction for ESD to fulfill the new missions and achieve the goals of DESD.

The children around the world, responsible educators for children's growth and future, parents, politicians and other stakeholders are all looking forward to the new international summit on sustainable development held in 2012 sincerely and ardently.

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## China Youth Climate Action Network

Position Paper Draft of China Youth Climate Action Network Towards Rio+20

### Introduction

20 years after the Rio Earth Summit, we are still far away from achieving many goals and targets that have been set by world leaders. Rio+20 now is of vital importance to international development cooperation. We, the Chinese youth, recognize the two themes that will be focus of the conference are: (1) Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development, (2) Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development. At the same time, we would like to stress our unique position and standpoint. As China Youth, we represent the voice of China and developing countries – we demand all the stakeholders not to overlook the social pillar raised 20 years ago while pursuing the goal of green economy today. For developing countries, green economy can never be achieved before poverty eradication and sustainable development. On the other hand, as China Youth, we represent the voice of youth; it is we, the youth, who will lead the new era in effecting change, establishing economic structures and the preservation of our natural environment.

We, the Chinese youth, propose the following challenges

- Proposing new goals in green economy may undermine the initial goals in sustainable development
- Lacking incentives for public and private sectors to create green jobs
- Lacking competitiveness in green products and green technology among developing countries
- Emerging uncertainty in green jobs elasticity comparing to conventional jobs
- Entailing jobs in certain conventional sectors due to a transition and adjustment to newly-invested green jobs
- Remaining uncertain that green economy would provide enough jobs and incentive to take those jobs
- Failing in deeper environmental decision making when youth continuously participate in global environmental forum
- Lacking technological and financial cooperation within developing countries and between developed countries and developing countries
- Motivating international governments to comply to existed agreements and protocols
- Changing climate poses risks to marginal groups

We, as youth of a developing country, request the global public sector to

- Support scientific researches on sustainable agriculture. This can bring potential social impacts and green economy packages for different groups of countries.
- Promote freer trade, especially in environmentally friendly technologies or services that can benefit developing countries.
- Secure large-scale employment. Put in place social safety nets that support incomes. Limit the long-term negative impacts of unemployment through providing access to education and retraining of workers in developing countries.
- Emphasize private sector and regulatory mechanism. In addition to large corporations, private sector can contribute to green economy through environmentally conscious

investment as well.

- Increase transparency of information disclosure. Corporate Social Responsibility Report (CSR) discloses information of social/environmental impacts caused by investments. Transparency of CSR report remains to be improved.
- Provide financial support for marginal communities, whose basic rights and interests are likely to be affected by economic practices.
- Acknowledge youth's active role in strengthening civil society's participation of national and international decision-making.
- Provide platforms for youth to speak their voice from schools, local communities, and relevant governmental agencies to international conventions, (with special focus on bringing collective voice from youth of developing countries to global communities).
- Educate youth with green concept. The knowledge of green economy, social responsibility and creativity prepares future generation for the global challenge.
- Cooperate internationally of technology development. Sharing talent and technology among countries, and professional exchange is necessary.
- Undertake quantified emission reduction. Support developing countries in countering climate change by transferring to them funds, technologies and personnel with stability and continuity.
- Treat GHGs reduction not as means to confine the growth neither of developing countries, nor as disguises to trade protectionism, but as the common goal of the entire human race.
- Support further solidarity and cooperation within developing countries, including the emerging economies that contribute to a rapid augmentation of carbon but still have low per-capita emission, and the Small Islands countries and the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) that are most vulnerable to climate change despite their extremely minor GHG- accumulation responsibility.
- Encourage fast developing countries to take international responsibility, to devote to their national commitments and to take the leading positions in promoting renewable energy instead of simply waiting for financial or technological transfer, considering the challenges, even opportunities, ahead of green economy trend.
- Call for progressive co-striving for climate justice, which should be one of our priorities associated with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that officially addresses poverty eradication and environmental protection, in the context of the rich-poor gap being widened in different parts of the world.
- Anticipate an amelioration of domestic policy-making in each developing country, including a better environment-related legislative system, an improved monitoring and feedback procedure, a harmonious balance between economic growth and societal progress, and a strengthened public participation.
- Initiate youth NGOs and young representatives among developing countries, educational agencies to gather together during COP negotiations and Rio+20 to launch the Basic Four Youth Press Conference in the standpoint of young generation of these four countries.
- Actively seek assistance from developed countries and cooperate with each other in sharing scientific knowledge, technological equipment and experienced personnel in order to improve the efficiency in GHGs emission reduction

We, as youth of a developing country, request the global private sector to

- Support green employment. This is another form of green investment where a long-term sustainable economic cycle is embedded
- Provide green job training. Advanced education should provide professional training including green technology development and green management
- Pay more attention to the promotion of adaptive capacity in sectors and groups that are more sensitive and more vulnerable to the risks posed by climate change than others, such as agriculture, fisheries and many other components that constitute the livelihood of rural populations

We, as youth of in a global community, request the global youth to

- Encouraging youth participation both in national public policy implementation and inspection at local communities and in issues that are underrepresented by government policies.
- Encourage youth's potential as effective agents to raise awareness and take actions towards eradicating poverty, promoting green technology transfer, innovating solutions to address environment, social, economic challenges.
- Involve youth in the design of and fund learning opportunities in national education system of environmental issues, in relationship to their economic, social, and political implications.
- Facilitate mutual learning of youth populations from different parts of the world, at local, national and international level by Internet and mass media.
- Increase youth responsibility not only as channels but also as missionaries between developing countries and developed countries in the process of technological, social, economical and environmental communication and negotiation.

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## Chinese Civil Society Organizations

Collective Submission of Chinese CSOs on the Rio+20 Zero Draft

Part 1 Introduction: Context, Objective and Principles

We are a group of Chinese Civil Society Organizations and individuals working day to day on the ground in supporting and implementing sustainable development goals and measures in China, including in the areas of water, forestry, climate change mitigation and adaptation, agriculture, bio-diversity, pollution control, energy, public access and participation, consumption and life style, education, etc.

As the fast-growing civil society from a developing country who benefits from the fast growing economy while facing numerous challenges across the three pillars of sustainable development at home and internationally and as part of global citizenry, we have gathered together to join national, regional and global communities on active, meaningful and effective engagement with the Rio+20, contributing to its success and the delivery processes of its promises from and beyond 2012.

This document is the result of an intensive and collective thinking and writing process, based on learning, discussion and research activities among the Chinese CSOs, with exchange with other CSOs as well as key stakeholders among our society and international community, including CSOs' Bangkok Statement, the 64th UN DPI/NGO Conference (Bonn) Asia Pacific Regional Group Position, Joint Statement of Major Group and Stakeholders Asia Pacific Meeting in Seoul.

Rio+20 provides a critical and timely platform for governments at the highest level, in the eyes of all stakeholders, especially youth whose future is in our hand, to review the past 20 years and pave the way for the coming 20 years and beyond regarding the crucial sustainable development for all countries and peoples.

Since 1992, when the recognition of sustainable development was historically adopted by the world's leaders, and policy and action plans as well as international partnership were bought into national and international agenda, some sustainable development strategies, institutions, measures and programs have taken place in countries (including China), and the world. However, the commitment to a paradigm shift towards sustainable development remains elusive and unsatisfying to a large extent, with the ecological crisis worsened, income and social inequalities escalated and multiple crises hitting us more often and severely including food, finance, energy and climate crises among others.

Thus, we strongly recall the three fold objectives of the Conference: to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess the progress to date and

the remaining gaps, and address new and emerging challenges. The conference should fully honour such objectives by focused discussion and politically binding outcome document that recommit governments to achieve sustainable development supported by strong political will in a fully inclusive manner, to ensure the transformation of the economic, social and ecological/environmental dimensions and their effective integration at local, national, regional and international levels.

The agreed principles of Rio 1992 should accordingly be strongly reaffirmed and implemented at all levels, in particular common but differentiated responsibilities among countries and within national jurisdiction, the precautionary principle, the polluter pays principle and Principle 10 on Access to Information, Public Participation and Environmental Justice.

Global goals including alleviating and eventually eradicating poverty, reorienting the world' economic system towards a low-carbon, sustainable, and just approach, and securing environmental integrity shall be emphasized.

## Part2. Issues, Challenges and Ways Forward

### On Green Economies in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

We use the term "economies" because there is no one model that fits all countries and all societies. Green economies, the definition and implications of which are still under exploration, shall be understood through the overarching paradigm of sustainable development.

Green economies should:

- Serve as one of the tools to implement sustainable development with emphasis on integration of three pillars and coherence among economic, social and environmental policies
- Ensure all people's wellbeing and enhance sustainable development and prosperity of all nations
- Build on sustainable production and consumption patterns as well as resilient social and economic systems that has the adaptive capacity and robustness to handle shocks while maintaining functionality
- Require social justice and equity between and within countries, intergenerational and gender equality
- Foster citizen and civil society participation and empowerment
- Protects the ecological balance and creates economic sufficiency
- Provides decent work and right livelihoods, and ensure that jobs and social benefits are distributed equitably among all peoples
- Conserve biodiversity and ecosystem for current and future generations
- Recognize the economic and social value of environmental resources while avoid leading to purely look at them from market perspective

Green Economies should not:

- Replace sustainable development, shifting attention of states from fully honoring their commitments made
- Impose top down one size fits all approach
- Be transformed into extra conditionality and green protectionism towards developing countries and the poor especially
- A way to put nature in corporate hands, with blind commercialization

We call for replacement of the current inefficient, unsustainable and inequitable economic model, which facilitates a grossly inequitable trading system, fails to eradicate poverty and preserve natural resources. We propose that where the current economy aids inequity, destruction and greed, it should be replaced by an economy that cares for the people, and the planet.

We call for governments to develop (further) national sustainable development plans that provide enabling policies and policy tools, based on the above-mentioned principles in part 1, and taking consideration of sufficient policy space especially for developing countries.

We believe that it is possible to implement a just transition to sustainable economies as fast as possible through an unprecedented level of cooperation and policy coherence at the local, state, national and international levels, by the sharing of real green technologies and know-how, by appropriate restructuring of regulatory, subsidy, taxation and expenditure policies and by addressing fundamental issues like access and technology assessment.

We emphasize financing sustainable development requires significant public financing, financial and technology transfer, private sector investment that are productive and non-speculative in nature and fair and innovative modes of taxation, including a financial transaction tax that is dedicated to support sustainable development activities especially for developing countries.

We believe the need to establish a new way to measure the progress towards a sustainable development with gender-specific and other indicators, integrating them with those of sustainable development rather than only relying on a country's GDP.

We call for establishing stronger partnerships among governments, civil society organisations, private businesses and stakeholder groups for promoting green economies in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. Such partnerships need to be within frameworks of accountability and transparency including regulation.

### On Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

We urge the governments to take more ambitious commitments based on through review and assessment of our progress, to implement Agenda 21 by strengthening or reviving mechanisms from global to local level and ensuring synergy and coherence among various agencies involved in sustainable development.

We call for the global institutional framework for sustainable development that ensure equitable rights and opportunities for all human beings. And countries must recognize the difficulty for developing countries to shift their development trajectory in order to balance the three pillars without a solid economic ground and sufficient support from international community.

We also call upon the Rio+20 process to address sustainable development governance, and involve all the institutions dealing with the 3 pillars of sustainable development in the architecture with support from the entire UN system and relevant mechanisms at each country.

We strongly call for the building of a strong apex body on sustainable development with clear mandate to work at the global level and integrate the work of disparate multilateral bodies working on each of the three pillars of sustainable development. Options that should be explored include transforming the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development under the General Assembly, or establishing a UN Organization on Sustainable Development. The unifying mandate of this body should be the promotion of sustainable development as a fundamental right of all.

We also call upon developed countries to further their leadership to ensure the financial sufficiency for the reform and implementation of international governance. Meanwhile, all countries should take more accountability and moves toward to shared vision of sustainable development.



We call for a strong and systematic monitoring mechanism with technical expertise to ensure the strict enforcement of existing agreements on sustainable development at the global and their enabling laws level. This body should conduct regular assessment at each level and provide specific guidance for countries.

We further stress the significance of civil society organization as a role to bridge governmental institutions and the general public, and ask for more channels to sustainable development governance from decision-making to the monitoring of implementation with sufficient and comprehensive support.

On Other Challenges and Emerging issues:

We are concerned about the challenges and emerging issues across three dimensions and their inter-linkage and mutual reinforcement affect, especially between and among food, water, health, energy, climate change, rural and urban development, financial markets.

#### Climate Change

We call for international collective actions to achieve the global climate protection goal recommended by the science. Based on the CBDR principle, developed countries have to take the lead in deep domestic cuts of GHGs emissions, and provide long term financial support to developing countries; developing countries should alter their development path based on their national context by international cooperation and creating enabling policies and adequate policy and market incentives for low carbon development. Adaptation and capacity building shall be equally emphasized.

We call for institutions to safeguard biodiversity, human rights, local environment, food security and the development rights that shall not be compromised for the sake of climate protection.

#### Population

We affirm that the trend of increasing of global population has to be managed.

We call on governments to start a debate that recognizes the choices we have to make about human population as we consider the limits of the carrying capacity of the planet and the need to enable fair and equitable use of available resources and leave space for wildlife and wilderness. We also call for strong actions on consumption patterns and lifestyles because unsustainable consumption by the wealthy of the world's population deprives the poor of their developmental rights.

#### Education and learning for SD

We are convinced that education is essential to the global transition to a more sustainable world; it should be a centerpiece of international cooperation for Sustainable Development.

We acknowledge the necessity to reaffirm the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014).

We affirm that education should address the material, social and development of the spiritual dimensions of human and in its fullest sense must provide the space for value-based sustainable learning.

We are aware that successful education and learning in all its forms are dependent on the full support of governments at all levels, the private sector, policy makers and the civil society.

#### Technology development and diffusion

We call for global and regional mechanisms, such Regional Technology Observation Platforms, in evaluating the impacts of new and untested technologies must be adopted. Such mechanisms must involve communities, civil society and other actors, and provide resources towards providing adequate information and building capacity of countries and communities to assess and monitor the health, biodiversity and environmental impacts of new technologies.

#### On Principle 10 Access to Information, Public Participation and Environmental Justice

We note that streamlining sustainable development (including green economies) governance, draws on the foundations of community participation and we further reaffirm that civic participation have been valuable partners in a broad spectrum of peace and sustainable development activities, with the overriding goal of poverty eradication and the betterment of the human condition, among a number of other causes.

We call for establishing environment management system and citizen participating mechanism at community level, to facilitate community monitoring environment quality and execution of environment laws, participating in policy making process. We encourage promotion of green choice, sustainable consumption at community level and development of urban-rural integrated sustainable development model.

We recognize and reaffirm that the various civil society organizations and members are ready to share responsibility with local and national governments in their communities.

We strongly affirm that meaningful involvement of youth, women and wider civil society in decision-making processes and partnerships, as stressed in Agenda 21, Section 3, are critical to the success of Rio+20 conference and delivery of sustainable development at all levels.

We further call on the Rio + 20 conference to encourage the development of a regional convention on Principle 10, to invite interested states to accede to the Aarhus Convention and to mandate UNEP to develop a robust program to implement the 2010 Bali Guidelines on Principle 10.

#### Part 3 Signatories/Endorsement (In Alphabetic Order)

China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO)  
China Youth Climate Action Network (CYCAN)  
EnviroFriends Institute of Environmental Science and Technology  
Friends of Nature  
Global Village - Beijing  
Green-An Hui Environmental Development Center  
Green Earth Volunteers  
Green Home Environment – Friendly Center  
Greenovation Hub  
Greenriver Environmental Protection Association of Sichuan  
Green Zhejiang

Hangzhou Eco and Culture Association  
 Institute for Environment and Development (IED)  
 Shan Shui Conservation Center  
 Society of Entrepreneurs & Ecology (SEE)  
 Xiamen Greencross Association

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## Christensen Global Strategies

Proposed:

Perhaps the greatest need and opportunity at Rio+20 is to begin redirection of capital at scale for sustainable human well-being and restoration of natural systems through adoption of: revised national accounting metrics; new corporate balance sheet standards; and, amended supporting regulations. This proposal asserts that the official declaration produced at Rio+20 should recognize the need to adjust accounting systems to value human well-being. Because business balance sheets are equally in need of change, this issue is already part of the agenda at the World Green Summit, a private sector gathering that Christensen Global Strategies is convening with World Climate Limited parallel to the Rio+20 official meeting. However, conversation among business and government leaders is essential to driving change, therefore we propose to organize an additional conversation with business-government leaders as either a side event or an official government event facilitating conversation and collaboration leading to adjustments in national accounting metrics, balance sheets, and the regulatory frameworks supporting them (e.g. financial disclosure, accounting standards). Thank you for your consideration of this important topic.

Introduction

The Need For A New Capitalist Model

Nations first began quantifying national accounts as a measure of economic health nearly seventy years ago. In that time, Gross Domestic Product became the definitive measure of a nation's well-being. With its emphasis on short-term profits however, GDP captures an overly narrow picture of national health and progress; it utterly fails to measure what we truly value – human well-being.

The economists who developed national account measurements never considered natural resource depletion – natural resources were limitless in their 19th century world. It also never occurred to them that many ecological systems conferred great economic values that should be included in GDP measurements and on corporate balance sheets. Yet, such considerations are imperative in today's world as we watch population increase exponentially, resources dwindle or degrade in quality, and nations jockey for first place in efficiency, sustainability, and innovation. The assessment tools used by almost all nations fail to measure these factors.

This disconnect between outdated metrics and modern-day threats to a stable planet must be fixed. Its exaggerated emphasis on short-term profits skews our capitalist system toward unsustainable practices. Re-aligning the power of capital markets to promote human well-being requires that we encourage four essential actions: investing for the long-term; internalizing externalities; valuing nature; and adopting qualitative metrics for measuring growth.

Progress on New Metrics in Support of Capitalism for the 21st Century

A movement is building among business and government leaders to change how we measure well-being and Rio+20 should support and encourage this transformation so that capital will be redirected at scale to create healthier societies and more resilient natural systems. Among businesses, leaders such as Google are pricing carbon on their balance sheets or like Puma calculating their externality costs for water and carbon with the first-ever environmental profit and loss statement (P&L). Dow Chemical and The Nature Conservancy are working to value nature on Dow's balance sheet, and Generation Investment rewards its investment teams for the long-term performance of their portfolios. Bhutan leads government innovators with its Gross National Happiness index that measures the quality of its people's lives. The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is working with governments on revised GDP metrics that measure well-being. All of these signal positive shifts toward a new capitalism – Rio+20 can and should be a powerful platform for accelerating the trend.

The Private & Public Sector At Rio+20: Mobilizing Leadership

We propose and are ready to support the implementation of:

- An event in support of Rio+20 including business and government leaders engaging in a complementary conversation about the future of valuing natural resources and human well-being; and
- Inclusion in the governmental declaration recognition of the need to adjust governmental metrics and value natural resources so as to better support human well-being.

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## Christian Aid

Christian Aid submission to the Rio+20 conference on the issue of domestic resource mobilisation and taxation.

Comments and questions should be addressed to Dr David McNair [dmcnair@christian-aid.org](mailto:dmcnair@christian-aid.org) +44 20 7523 2034

Christian Aid is a Christian organisation that insists the world can and must be swiftly changed to one where everyone can live a full life, free from poverty. We work globally in over 40 countries for profound change that eradicates the causes of poverty, striving to achieve equality, dignity and freedom for all, regardless of faith or nationality. We are part of a wider movement for social justice. We provide urgent, practical and effective assistance where need is great, tackling the effects of poverty as well as its root causes.

This submission sits under the specific request for comments on the "Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels local, national, regional and international."

Here we focus on resource mobilisation to meet the demands of agreed action plans emerging from the summit. Insufficient financial resources are a major reason for the gaps in implementing the agreed sustainable development commitments and action programmes since the 1992 Rio Summit on Environment and Development. The performance of developed countries in meeting their financial commitments to developing countries has been very disappointing. At the same time domestic resource mobilisation by developed countries has been constrained by the lack of appropriate tax norms and rules, especially at the international level.

Tax plays a crucial role enabling countries to provide basic services, strengthening the accountability between states and citizens. That domestic resource mobilisation is a key element of the self-determination of a country is a view shared by the UN, the EU, and the OECD. These actors also recognise the role of taxation in promoting good

governance, and the importance of non-state actors (civil society, the media and parliaments) in ensuring that revenues are collected and spent equitably and effectively. It is therefore a crucial element of building social and economic development at the national, regional and global level.

Yet revenue mobilisation in many developing countries is very weak. While OECD countries tend to collect 35% of their GDP in revenue, in Latin America the average is 16%.<sup>iv</sup> in Africa the figure is 15.9%.<sup>v</sup> Governments need to be equipped to raise revenue effectively through adequately resourced tax authorities and good domestic tax policy, and by having access to information. Transparency is required so that civil society can monitor revenues and how they are spent.

The ability of countries to collect revenue effectively is systematically undermined by the financial secrecy of tax havens and abuse of transfer pricing rules designed by and for OECD countries in close consultation with Multinational Companies.

#### The scale of the losses

Christian Aid estimates that developing countries lose US\$160 billion each year in tax revenues due to the profit-shifting of some unscrupulous multinational companies and other businesses through 'Transfer Pricing' and 'False Invoicing'. The table below shows estimates of potential losses as a result of these practices.

Lost Tax Revenue from G77 countries to EU and US (million USD)

[ UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original submission to view table]

#### Transfer Pricing

'Transfer pricing' is the name given to a body of rules, practices and processes, involving both domestic law and international law considerations, that aim to determine how transactions conducted between related persons should be treated for tax purposes.

Transfer pricing rules seek to counter a situation where a multinational enterprise ("MNE"), with operations in numerous jurisdictions, obliges its subsidiary based in a 'high tax' jurisdiction to pay fees at artificially inflated rates for goods or services provided by another related subsidiary based in a 'low tax' jurisdiction. The effect can be to 'strip' profits out of the highly-taxed subsidiary and 'earn' them in the lowly-taxed subsidiary, decreasing the overall effective tax rate paid by the MNE in respect of those profits. It is this 'value stripping' that transfer pricing rules seek to counter.

Transfer pricing is governed by the arm's length principle – while related companies may have incentives to charge high or low prices for legitimate business purposes, when trading across borders, this affects profitability and therefore the tax due in a jurisdiction. The arm's length principle requires MNEs to trade with related parties as if those parties were unrelated. While companies are usually required to provide documentation to show that transactions have occurred on an arm's length basis (usually by identifying similar transactions on the open market), applying this standard is resource intensive and requires significant expertise – particularly in relation to intellectual property and intra-company financing where MNEs have a monopoly. Valuable brands and intellectual property can be stored in tax havens to ensure greater profits are declared there.

Recent examples of companies accused of such behavior include SABMiller (accused by development NGO, ActionAid of dodging taxes in Ghana),<sup>vii</sup> Commodity traders ADM, Bunge and Cargill, who were accused by the Argentinean tax commissioner of tax evasion,<sup>viii</sup> and Swiss commodity trader Glencore, recently accused of tax evasion on its operations in Zambia by NGOs who accessed a leaked independent audit report.<sup>ix</sup> The companies involved deny any wrongdoing.

#### Financial Secrecy

Financial and banking secrecy provided by tax havens facilitates tax evasion and avoidance by allowing companies and individuals to hide money offshore. By refusing to share information on account holders, some jurisdictions actively undermine the tax bases of other countries. This occurs not only among the usual suspects such as Caribbean Islands and Alpine tax havens but also occurs in the City of London, and the US state of Delaware.

#### Measures to address tax evasion and avoidance

To shift the balance of power in the international taxation system, developing countries need a greater say in norm setting and the development of international tax rules. To curtail this transfer of income from poor to rich requires greater capacity to monitor transactions with revenue and customs authorities, greater transparency from business,<sup>x</sup> but also the effective exchange of tax information between jurisdictions so that companies and individuals cannot hide money in tax havens away from the sight of tax administrators and regulators.

Christian Aid therefore proposes the following recommendations as part of the new and emerging issues to be addressed at the Rio+20 Conference and also as part of the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development:

#### Strengthening of the UN tax committee

Currently, international cooperation in tax matters and norm setting with regard to tax rules for multinationals is driven by the OECD. The UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters is the most representative forum for developing countries to engage in international tax cooperation issues. Yet it is currently under resourced. This committee should also be upgraded from an expert committee to an intergovernmental body under the auspices of the UN.

#### Strengthening capacity building in revenue authorities

Capacity constraints within revenue authorities are significant. While aid donors and multilateral organizations are engaged in this agenda, it is dominated by the IMF, World Bank and, increasingly the OECD and these organizations do not always represent the best interests of developing countries.<sup>xi</sup> The work of regional organizations such as the Inter-American Center of Tax Administrations (CIAT), the African Tax Administrators Forum (ATAF) UNDP and the UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters should be supported and strengthened.

#### Country-by-Country Reporting

A new accounting standard, country-by-country reporting would enable tax authorities, civil society and other regulatory agencies to monitor the activities of MNEs located within their jurisdiction, how their trade is undertaken, and what profits and taxes they declare. Using this data, revenue authorities could compare the trading performance of an MNE operating in their jurisdiction with what it does elsewhere and identify artificial profit shifting.

#### Automatic Information Exchange

A multilateral agreement on the automatic exchange of tax information between jurisdictions, would equip developing countries with the information they need to identify and challenge tax abuse. This would also offer a significant deterrent effect to those considering abusing the tax system by hiding assets offshore. Much progress has been made on encouraging tax havens to share information, but many developing countries have yet to access these agreements. These kinds of information sharing activities currently

occur in Europe through the European Savings Tax Directive, which has since 2005 put in place a working system for multilateral, automatic information exchange. In an improved form it could be used to inspire or serve as a template for a global standard.

## CIDSE

October 2011 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20)

CIDSE submission to the Rio+20 Zero Draft Document

The context of Rio+20

The 1992 Rio United Nations Conference on Environment and Development established the paradigm that Sustainable Development must be holistic and incorporate social, economic and environment imperatives. For the first time, developed and developing countries agreed to a framework based on mutual rights and obligations. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development affirmed the “polluter pays”, “common but differentiated responsibilities,” and precautionary principles as essential concepts underlying this framework.

Already ahead of the 2002 Johannesburg Summit, it was acknowledged that progress in implementing Sustainable Development has been extremely disappointing since the 1992 Earth Summit. The hope, born in Johannesburg, that the numerous voluntary multi- stakeholder partnerships, together with governments’ aspirational targets on sanitation, chemicals, fish stocks, and biodiversity, would succeed in implementing Sustainable Development, clearly has failed to deliver in the ten years since.

The environmental crisis is indeed worsening, with the imperious and yet unsolved threat of climate change already impacting the most vulnerable and yet least responsible communities. Positive trends regarding poverty eradication are still contradicted by the persistence of severe inequality between and within states. The partial progress that has been achieved is threatened by the confluence of global crises in food, energy, climate, finance and the economy.

The Rio+20 Conference is thus a key opportunity to perpetuate the legacy of a historical international Declaration and Agenda 21 action plan, which paved the way for the implementation of Sustainable Development policies, and to give a structural answer to the current challenges. It is also an opportune moment for the international community, twenty years after the first Earth Summit, to push forward a credible and efficient pathway towards Sustainable Development and poverty eradication.

CIDSE's Vision

CIDSE is an international alliance of Catholic development agencies working in the north and with partners in the south to promote global social justice and solidarity. CIDSE advocates a shift from models that encourage a material conception of being, illustrated by resource and carbon-intensive consumption along with extreme profits and inequalities, to models that work in favour of human well-being, living simply, in community, giving priority to equity, sustainability, and responsibility. CIDSE’s vision of sustainability is founded on the principle that human beings are stewards of creation, called to care for the environment in a responsible way so as to pass it on to future generations. New models of economy and society need to integrate the concept of finitude. There is a limited quantity of energy and material and a need to share the natural resources that we have both equitably and sustainably. One element to be explored is reorienting consumption and production to the local scale, reflecting the need to consider our ecological footprint, as well as our connection to the environment and to our local region.

A fundamental recognition of the dignity of every human being, with particular attention to the poorest and most vulnerable, is also central to our vision of sustainability. This obligation goes beyond the individual aspect and requires a broader commitment: that each individual contribute to the common good. The common good is the sum of all those conditions of living in community - economic, political, social and cultural - which make it possible for women and men readily and fully to achieve authentic human development. We are meant to be one human family that lives in peace, justice and solidarity<sup>1</sup>.

The need for new models has also been highlighted by efforts to redefine measure of economic performance and social progress (alternatives to GDP), such as the Sustainable Economic Well-being Index, and similar initiatives in Germany and Italy, as well as Bhutan’s Gross National Happiness Index.

The Rio +20 Conference: our expectations

Considering the legacy of the Earth Summit on Sustainable Development policies, but also in view of the shortcomings regarding the implementation of such policies, of the actual converging crises, calling on holistic and structural solutions achieving real change, the Rio+20 Conference must put in place a stronger agenda on Sustainable Development reflecting the ethos behind the Earth Summit, that embraces a rights-based approach, linking the imperative of ecological sustainability with human development and poverty eradication. It must succeed to deliver an agreement on a legally-binding, time-bound and ambitious framework on Sustainable Development, stating clear targets and setting efficient indicators. A focus on “Green Economy” should not become a substitute for the objective of Sustainable Development.

Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and poverty eradication

Sustainable Development is first and foremost about people. Economic development and opportunities are central to poor people’s concerns and aspirations, and yet the relationship between growth and poverty reduction is far from certain. Research has shown that the success factors include the fair distribution of income and wealth during the growth process.

CIDSE acknowledges that an overall concept of Green Economy may be able to provide tools to achieve Sustainable Development and poverty eradication. However, the UNCSD must recognise that the focus on Green Economy should not become a shorthand for the concept of Sustainable Development, and that a broad comprehension of Sustainable Development should stay the main focus of the Conference agenda. Whilst we recognize that some aspects of greening of our economies can make a significant contribution to Sustainable Development, it cannot serve as the main strategy to reach Sustainable Development. Moreover existing economic models based on growth have proven to be unsustainable. Therefore a true reflection on Sustainable Development should include a questioning of existing economic trends and shouldn’t be equated with the notion of sustainable growth.

For the Green Economy concept to support Sustainable Development and poverty eradication it must include notably the following principles:

- Green Economy must take into account the 3 aspects of Sustainable Development : environmental, economic and social,
- Green Economy must respect all human rights,
- Green Economy must be fair and equitable to northern and southern countries,
- Green Economy should involve the communities and citizens affected by the proposed policies and projects,
- Green Economy should take into account the protection of natural resources and biodiversity, by eliminating any harmful subsidy,

- Green Economy should question the unsustainable consumption and production patterns, including overall levels of resource use, that led to the current environmental crises,
- Green Economy should not be built on the current economic models based on growth and linking growth to the use of natural resources,
- Green Economy should use indicators other than GDP.

Green Economy roadmaps should not be considered as anything other than a tool. Moreover as soft law does not give us the needed results, international legal frameworks, products norms and regulations have to be part of the toolkit for achieving Sustainable Development.

#### Institutional framework for Sustainable Development

Tackling the current challenges to reach Sustainable Development requires an institutional framework that embraces all its complexities and inter-linkages. It is therefore essential that the institutional framework is sufficiently resourced and influential to guarantee that frameworks and policies such as those on development, ecology, agriculture and food security, for tackling climate-change and regulating finance and the private sector in general are coherent with it. It must also be able to address the fundamental value frames that form the basis of our common humanity and will define our collective future.

The Colombian government's proposal to formulate Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a good starting point in this endeavour. The proposal is a useful attempt to update the existing Sustainable Development agenda to new challenges and reconcile this agenda with concerns for creating a Green Economy. Moreover it rightly emphasizes the need for clear goals and indicators and a process of decentralization and consultation to arrive at commitments that are owned by countries and for which they can be held accountable. Building on the SDGs, creating a new institutional framework will require the following elements:

1. The framework should build on the existing Sustainable Development agenda but also addresses current challenges such as climate change, the finitude of natural resources, increasing global poverty and inequality and today's financial and economic governance crises.
2. The framework should uphold international law and agreements, most notably the UN Charter, the UN Human Rights Conventions, the Convention to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW), the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
3. The framework should include clear commitments which can be translated into national and even community-level goals and indicators.
4. The framework should also include clear operational commitments including gender disaggregated reporting requirements, requirements to undertake human rights impact assessments and public consultations.
5. The framework should be legally binding. Public and private actors should be legally accountable for their actions in fulfilling or undermining the framework's commitments.
6. The framework should include a clear time-frame. This would underline the urgency of implementing sustainable pathways to secure the well-being of present and future generations.
7. The framework should be formulated on the basis of extensive public consultation.

Lessons must be drawn from the formulation and implementation of another such framework: the Millennium Development Goals. Research done by CIDSE's member organization CAFOD with development practitioners whose work was impacted by the MDGs have emphasized that if a framework of public commitments is to overcome the limitations of the MDG framework, it must be formulated after extensive consultation with its final beneficiaries and those potentially affected by it3.

To this end, CIDSE recommends that the Rio+20 outcome document should contain:

1. A clear statement that the UN will play a central role in the governance of Sustainable Development policies.
2. A commitment to ensure coherence of policies in the areas of development, tackling climate change, protecting ecosystems, on agriculture, trade, finance, investment and the private sector with the Sustainable Development framework.
3. Commitment to formulate a global legally-binding, time-bound Sustainable Development Framework by 2015.
4. Commitment to translate the Framework into goals and indicators at the national and local level.
5. Commitment to a process of extensive and meaningful public consultation in formulating the Sustainable Development Framework.

The UN should have a central role in formulating, implementing and securing accountability of this framework. To this end, it would be important to upgrade the Commission of Sustainable Development at the UN to become an Intergovernmental Council. Alternately, a reformed and strengthened ECOSOC could be mandated to take on this function.

The ambition of the Rio+20 Conference: Sustainable Development and poverty eradication On this basis, the Rio+20 Conference must focus its agenda on a consistent and coherent vision of Sustainable Development, able to bring the necessary change and to progress on the way to poverty eradication. This implies to get clear agreements towards binding commitments on the following issues:

#### a. Regarding the private sector :

1. Increased prominence to the role of the private sector must be balanced by concern for its responsibility and accountability. Enthusiasm for partnerships and financing should be matched by equal attention to adequate regulation, and government capacity to supervise and address negative impacts of business models and operations on Sustainable Development. The UN 'Protect, Respect and Remedy' framework and Guiding Principles on business and human rights provide one element of this more comprehensive approach.
2. The requirement of corporate reporting on human rights, social and environmental impacts of domestic and foreign operations, and related contract disclosure.
3. The requirement of Country by Country Reporting as part of the international accounting standards for Trans-National Corporations (TNCs) in all sectors. While such accounting requirements are important for all TNCs, they are needed with the

3 CAFOD. 100 voices: Southern perspectives on what should come after the Millennium Development Goals, March 2011.

utmost urgency for improving governance and domestic accountability in relation to exploitation of oil, gas minerals and other natural resources, because these are finite, non-renewable resources. If these resources are not managed wisely, the development chances of many ordinary people will have been squandered in this generation and in future generations.

b. In the area of food and policies related to trade and agriculture:

1. Agriculture in its multifunctional dimension (economic, social, ecological...) should play a central role in the conference discussions. The sector touches on all facets of sustainability ecological, economic, social, energy...
2. In an effort to guarantee coherence between policy and action, donor governments and international institutions should effectively support the scaling up of agro- ecological modes of production in their development policies and practices, as espoused in the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) report. Support should be targeted to enable the scaling up of these sustainable modes of production which demonstrate "strong conceptual connection to guaranteeing the right to food" and which have yielded results in contributing to local economic development, food security among the poorest as well as delivering on environmental benefits<sup>4</sup>.
3. The industrial food production system, which is driving force of environmental and climatic changes, contributing to 30 percent of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions need to be challenged along with the commodification and commercialization of natural resources. In addition to supply side restructuring there is a need to address our consumption models more generally not only in regards to food, but also energy consumption. Efforts should be made to reduce waste in the food system and increase energy efficiency. Special attention should be paid to the negative impacts of biofuel directives which are compromising the realization of the right to food and putting increasing pressure on land.
4. The FAO Committee on World Food Security (CFS) should be legitimized as the governing body for global food, agriculture and nutrition policy. It should be the central interlocutor on these issues, hence whatever decisions are taken at the Rio conference should be aligned with the processes being driven by the CFS.

c. In the area of climate change:

1. The international community must raise its commitments towards GHG emissions reduction and adaptation efforts, taking into account the CBDR (Common but Differentiated Responsibilities) principle, and commit within the climate talks of the UNFCCC.
2. States should ensure that the needed long term climate finance will be delivered, beyond the pledged \$100 billion per year by 2020.
- 4 Report submitted by Olivier De Schutter, Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food to the Human Right's Council, 16th Session, December 20, 2010.
3. Governments, businesses and civil society should agree on practical steps at local and national levels, to address climate change, both via mitigation and adaptation projects. These projects must be developed on the basis of strong environmental and social safeguards.

d. In the area of finance:

The Monterrey Consensus on Financing for Development must be reaffirmed. At the same time taking into consideration the challenges brought with the magnitude of multiple crises that the world faces, it is important to go further, building on this agenda. This would include:

1. Ending the opacity of the financial system. This opacity undermines Sustainable Development, reducing countries' financial resources. Ending tax havens; sanctioning those jurisdictions that do not comply with international efforts to end financial system opacity; and ensuring greater transparency and reliability of financial data to prevent tax avoidance are some of the broad areas that will need to be addressed to tackle this problem.
2. Putting in place mechanisms to strengthen the financial capacity of countries to deal with crises. Securing international monetary stability; fair predictable and transparent treatment of sovereign debt crises; and reforming the system of Special Drawing Rights are important measures to strengthen countries' ability to weather crises.
3. Regulating financial markets to end speculation and reorient the financial sector to provide credit for activities that contribute to Sustainable Development. A new framework for cooperation on international banking supervision and regulating commodity markets are some of the important issues to be addressed in this regard.
4. New and innovative financial mechanisms should trigger structural and systemic changes which will lead to Sustainable Development. Reform of taxation, removal of harmful subsidies and other measures are needed to discourage harmful activity in the real economy and financial sector, reflecting true costs to environment and society while contributing to greater equity. The European Commission has shown leadership in its proposal for a Financial Transactions Tax within Europe, as a step towards a global FTT. A substantial portion of the resulting revenues should be secured for the global challenges of poverty and climate change.

CIDSE is an international alliance of Catholic development agencies. Its members share a common strategy in their efforts to eradicate poverty and establish global justice. CIDSE's advocacy work covers global governance; resources for development; climate justice; food, agriculture & sustainable trade; and business & human rights - [www.cidse.org](http://www.cidse.org)

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## Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE)

Sustainable Development

A statement to the Rio +20 Conference

by Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants, (CURE) in special consultative status with ECOSOC

Sustainability of development requires institutional frameworks based on a firm foundation in those social developments which emphasize human rights and promote the common good. Institutions must be structured to encourage multitudes of partnerships for empowerments of those living in poverty, through cooperation.

Some of the key social-development antidotes to corrosion of development and return of poverty are: a social protection floor, decent work, and social services that facilitate them. Foundational social-services include quality programs in health, education, and criminal-justice. Programs to enable all people to have a voice to participate in the social, economic, environmental and political life of the neighborhood, local government, and national government are imperative.

Social Protection Floor

Sustainability depends on a minimal level of social protection against economic collapse and natural disasters. Everyone should be able to access at least basic health, primary education, housing, water, sanitation and other essential services. The Social Protection Floor, sponsored by the International Labor Organization and the World Health Organization, is a key vehicle.

## Health

A sustained economy needs a sustained, healthy population. This includes combating diseases such as AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis that particularly affect those living in poverty, by implementing the necessary immunization, education and other programmes, and by training health practitioners to identify and treat such illnesses.

Often neglected, is the provision of treatments for drug addiction and for those who are mentally ill, which can be major corrosive problems among those living in poverty.

## Agriculture

Agriculture is particularly vital in many developing countries, and the pay-back from investment can be particularly impressive, if oriented to building a sustainable environment.

We urge the creation of structures of participation that permit dialogue between small farmers, scientists, agribusiness and NGOs to explore technology transfer, and sustainable agricultural practices to improve productivity while restoring the soil and the natural environment.

We urge the development of national and local agricultural policy and implementation plans with budget allocations that address infrastructure – irrigation, farm machinery, transport, storage facilities, etc. to empower small scale farmers, many of whom are women, to produce and market food.

## Education

The strength of the society is directly related to the quality of its education resources. Education must develop the whole person, including respect for community and participation in its function. Since the most important factor in improving education is ensuring that the teachers are properly trained, motivated, and supervised, care for the training and compensation of teachers are of first importance.

Job training aimed at decent work in productive areas that are known to need skilled workers should be a high priority. Development of a green economy depends on the integration of green philosophy and technology in the educational system. Training in small business management and microfinance are valuable additions to empower new and sustainable business capability.

## Criminal Justice

We recommend that States expand justice systems, including mediation and other non-formal dispute resolution mechanisms, in accordance with human rights standards. We further recommend use of restorative justice approaches and community service to restore harmony within the community as opposed to incarceration as punishment.

The family is the core unit of society; hence violence within the family is particularly destructive. The legal rights of women and children must be clear and unambiguous. Laws against domestic violence must be fully enforced, bearing in mind that restorative practices, education, and counseling are appropriate in these cases.

We recommend that all justice and prison systems further organize and support, as a primary and priority function, programs to rehabilitate and reintegrate offenders as contributing members of society.

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## CIVICUS - World Alliance for Citizen Participation

### Executive Summary

Twenty years ago at the Rio Earth Summit civil society came out in droves to convey the message that achieving sustainable development requires active participation of civil society and cannot be left solely to governments. While the Commission on Sustainable Development already operates in a cooperative and participatory manner, Rio+20 provides an opportunity to strengthen multi-stakeholder participation and directly influence heads of states, summit outcomes and implementation plans. Many believe that the inability to halt or reverse global environmental degradation is attributed to the inadequacies of the global governance system.

Common themes identified by stakeholders include diversifying the types of stakeholders consulted in the pre-conference planning processes and increasing participation of women, minority groups and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). At past summits stakeholders provided significant feedback on summit logistics and strongly felt that civil society activities can no longer be separated from negotiations. In postconference processes stakeholders feel that partnerships among civil society must be strengthened in order to contribute to implementation and accountability of summit outcomes. Summit outcomes must also be action-oriented and linked to international policies like the Millennium Development Goals and Kyoto Protocol.

CIVICUS civil society engagement recommendations for Rio+20

Key recommendations on multi-stakeholder engagement include:

### Pre-Conference Recommendations

- Rio+20 stakeholders should embody a diverse range of participants and should include representation from the nine Major Groups, traditionally marginalised groups and all of the UN five regional groups.
- A document explaining stakeholder opportunities to participate in Rio+20 processes should be produced and shared with stakeholders prior to consultations.
- In the preliminary stakeholder planning stage, a flexible timeline should be created with deliverables, future meetings and working groups.
- Surveys, focus groups and open consultations should be conducted to determine key issues of importance to stakeholders.
- Throughout every stage of the process it is important to provide stakeholders with feedback on how their input and decisions have been implemented and affected courses of action to ensure transparency and accountability. Conference Recommendations
- The summit venues for both stakeholders and governments should be in close proximity to each other (no more than 2 kilometres) and be located in the city centre or other easily accessible area; stakeholder must not be segregated from summit venues where negotiations occur.
- Technology to include remote participants, via webcasts, needs to be a clear priority at Rio+20 and should include training for session facilitators to ensure effective engagement of remote and physical participants.
- Rio+20 organisers need to prioritise creating systems for direct lines of communication with local security.

- Rio+20 organisers need to create more opportunities for strategic engagement in negotiations with decision makers, including providing seats for stakeholders at roundtables and opportunities to submit contributions.
- Rio+20 organisers need to provide funding for under-resourced stakeholders in both the preconference and conference events to ensure a diverse range of representation from the nine major groups, with a particular focus on the indigenous, women and LDCs. Post-Conference Recommendations
- Outcomes for Rio+20 should be linked to international priorities and policies and need to be results oriented with explicit commitments to action.
- Stakeholder engagement should align with country specific outcomes and efforts should be made to link UN country offices with national civil society networks and major group participants.
- To strengthen accountability, systems should be established, with stakeholder input, to monitor and evaluate the implementation of outcomes agreed upon at Rio+20.

#### CIVICUS civil society engagement recommendations for Rio+20

##### Introduction

UNDESA has commissioned CIVICUS to serve as an Organising Partner for the NGO Major Group of civil society stakeholders at the Rio+20 Summit which will take place in June 2012. In this role, CIVICUS submits the following recommendations and guidance on best practices in multi-stakeholder engagement at UN Summits.

CIVICUS has evaluated stakeholder processes and feedback from five preceding UN Summits including the Rio Earth Summit 1992, the World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002 (WSSD), the World Summit on the Information Society 2003 and 2005 (WSIS), the UNFCCC Conference of Parties 15 2009 (COP15) and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Summit 2010 (UNMDG). CIVICUS also reviewed recommendations for multi-stakeholder engagement using toolkits produced by the Stakeholder Forum and UN agencies, books and articles produced by civil society experts and the Cardoso Report. Conference processes have been divided into three stages – pre-conference, conference, and post-conference – and each section highlights a collection of challenges voiced by stakeholders, replicable practices at past summits and recommendations for improvements at Rio+20.

In the past two decades, particularly since the Rio Earth Summit, the United Nations has made significant efforts to create opportunities for multi-stakeholder engagement and influence in UN events. Equally, as non-government stakeholders have struggled for fuller cooperative engagement at UN Summits, they have provided constructive recommendations for further improvements. We recognise the continuous effort the UN devotes to creating an authentic and engaging platform for multiple stakeholders and trust the recommendations below will help advance multi-stakeholder engagement to a new level at Rio+20. CIVICUS civil society engagement recommendations for Rio+20

##### Pre-Conference

##### Challenges

Reoccurring comments in stakeholder feedback highlighted that stakeholder consultations in summit planning often do not include a diverse range of stakeholders and the number of stakeholders consulted is inadequate. In preparation for COP15 organisers consulted two organisations, Climate Action Network (CAN) and the Global Campaign for Climate Action (GCCA). While these two organisations are highly regarded and represent coalitions of hundreds of members of civil society, there is a lack of diversity in the types of stakeholders consulted. Like many organisations, GCCA was limited to a small team that is responsible for consulting members of the coalition and stakeholders commented that an insufficient number of organisations had the opportunity to influence summit planning. Stakeholders brought up similar representation issues at the WSIS summit. WSIS did produce many replicable practices, but one area stakeholders felt the summit fell short was with representation of developing countries as a whole.

Stakeholder representation is a theme that surfaces regularly in stakeholder feedback and should be continuously evaluated by Rio+20 organisers. WSSD implemented the construct of the nine Major Groups adopted at the Rio Earth Summit and each Major Group was consulted and represented, but stakeholder feedback concluded that there is a need for more representation from women across sectors and not just in the major group committed to women. Additionally, there is no Major Group representing people with disabilities. WSIS stakeholders commented that there is a lack of representation from universities and the private sector, as the categories these groups fall into are often overshadowed by large NGOs and corporations. WSIS worked to broaden the scope of civil society but controversy arose when local governments were grouped with civil society and over twenty “families” were created under the Civil Society Bureau. While expanded representation of civil society is welcomed, it should not become a catchall for stakeholders that do not sufficiently represent the group. Further WSIS feedback stated that national delegations were largely made up of diplomats, telecoms ministries and fixed telecommunications operators, while lacking adequate civil society representation and delegates from national development agencies who could address issues related to health, education and human rights.

Another reoccurring topic brought up by stakeholders in pre-conference processes is the uneven quality of side events at UN summits. Side events put on by multi-stakeholders vary greatly at all summits (COP15, WSSD and UNMDG) and there is a need to enhance collaboration and partnerships between stakeholders in the pre-conference planning to improve both the planning processes and the quality of the events. Replicable Practices

Multi-stakeholder consultation is an essential component of summit preparations. Many summit preparations include consultations of stakeholders six to twelve months prior to the summit and longer in some cases. Examples of replicable practices in the pre-conference stage were emphasised at WSIS as open consultations were conducted to determine both the venue and thematic units. WSIS used a variety of mediums for stakeholder participation including online discussions, participatory meetings and official statements. Stakeholders felt that there was strong representation of the various stakeholder families, coupled with satisfactory opportunities to speak and participate in negotiations. WSIS stakeholders also expressed satisfaction with the strategic use of social media and technology for remote participation leading up to and during the summit.

The UN Millennium Development Goals Summit in 2010 also highlighted examples of best practices in the pre-conference processes. UN-NGLS organised a global online civil society consultation in advance of the hearings to engage a wider sector of civil society. The Global Call to Action against Poverty’s (GCAP) “The World We Want” campaign coordinated NGO preparations that included the presentation of a sign-on letter to the Secretary-General, the international observance of Poverty Action Week and a civil society hearing that took place at the UN during the week of the summit. Other mechanisms included a task force comprised of stakeholders established to advise the General Assembly (GA) president on the formation and CIVICUS civil society engagement recommendations for Rio+20 participation of stakeholders in hearings. The GA also convened hearings with civil society representatives and private sector stakeholders prior to the summit.

It is clear that Rio+20 organisers have already adopted some replicable practices for consulting multistakeholders by implementing an open call for recommendations to allow greater civil society to voice their platforms and influence the zero draft document. In addition, multi-stakeholder participation should be included at intersessionals, informal consultations, regional preparatory meetings and major group activities.

##### Recommendations

- Rio+20 stakeholders should embody a diverse range of participants and should include representation from the nine Major Groups. Efforts should also be made to include



people with disability, marginalised and under-represented minority groups, women in their diversity, faithbased organisations and LDCs. All regions should have proportional representation in line with Member State representation in the UN five regional groups of Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Western European and others.

- Those conducting the consultations need to take into consideration the dynamics, interrelationships, power, influence, abilities, beliefs and cultures of the various stakeholders to ensure the best representation possible at Rio+20.
- A document explaining stakeholder opportunities to participate in Rio+20 processes should be produced and shared with stakeholders prior to consultations.
- In the preliminary stakeholder planning stage, a timeline should be created with deliverables, future meetings and working groups. The timeline can be subject to change, but mapping out expectations ensures transparency and will allow time for collaboration and input from multistakeholders, particularly around planning side events in Rio.
- Surveys, focus groups and open consultations should be conducted to determine key issues that are important to stakeholders. Stakeholders should be consulted on preferred methods of engagement and processes for communication and stakeholders with limited access to internet should be included and accommodated.
- Throughout every stage of the process it is important to provide stakeholders with feedback on how their input and decisions have been implemented and affected courses of action. To ensure transparency and accountability stakeholders need to know that their views were considered seriously. The prompt production and dissemination of results gathered in surveys, focus groups, intersessionals and other consultation processes instils integrity in the process and can generate dialogue on opportunities and challenges.

#### Conference

#### Challenges

Over the past two decades UN summits have continued to work towards improving multi-stakeholder participation and engagement with heads of state, but persistent barriers still prevent meaningful engagements and opportunities to influence negotiations during conference events.

COP15 stands out in recent history as a conference where multi-stakeholders, particularly civil society, faced many challenges in participation at conference events. There were an unusually large number of participants at the conference and the venue could not handle the capacity. This conference made it clear that there is a need to connect stakeholders and constituents to conference sessions using technology, as side events, workshops and dialogues were overcrowded and strained due to the large number of participants. Remote participation via webcasts and other technological mechanisms at Rio+20 would alleviate the overload of physical participants and provide greater access to restricted meetings. At WSIS, while technology was in place to ensure remote participation, stakeholders expressed a need to train session facilitators to engage with both the physical and virtual audience. Stakeholders also suggested there is a need to strategically publicise the opportunity to participate virtually to engage a more diverse sector of remote stakeholders in conference meetings and events.

Logistical issues at COP15 posed many challenges to stakeholders and prevented accredited organisations from accessing conference events and meetings. COP16 logistics posed similar challenges with separate conference venues for heads of state and stakeholders. At COP16, the commute between conference venues took thirty minutes and this drastically limited stakeholder interaction with government officials and decision makers. Similar problems emerged for civil society at the WSSD in Johannesburg. Stakeholders felt their impact on the summit was fragmented due to separate venues and the long commute required to access the venue where negotiations were held. It was not only civil society that was constrained by the logistical arrangements, but governments complained as well, especially those from LDCs. LDCs rely on civil society for support and policy recommendations; therefore organisers cannot continue the practice of separating stakeholders from decision makers at Rio+20.

Security at UN summits is another consistent challenge which resulted in an undesirable scenario at COP15. Local security in Copenhagen was unprepared to handle the huge numbers of conference attendees and resorted to harsh tactics in an effort to maintain control. Similarly, at the WSSD, security officials originally denied civil society access to the convention centre and The Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO) had to negotiate with governments and UN officials to avoid a NGO boycott or walk-out. When organising Rio+20 it is important for organisers to understand the mind-set and approach of local security and create strategic lines of communication for understanding systems and decisions. It is also important to work with local security in Rio to break down stereotypes and recognise that a large, organised group of civil society does not mean anarchy will ensue. When entry to conference events is strained and prolonged or when impromptu restrictions are implemented during the conference, both civil society and security may not understand the implications or decisions behind these and it can lead to a breakdown of confidence and unneeded tension at the summit. The Rio organisers need to establish expectations and strategic systems for engaging with local security to ensure the safety and effective participation of multi-stakeholders. In addition, COP15 stakeholders commented on unorganised and impromptu media stunts inside the conference venue which resulted in restrictions on access to meetings and side events for others. At Rio+20 there is a need for leadership and guidance on strategic and effective delivery of media stunts to prevent problems and restrictions within the venue.

At the original Rio Earth Summit in 1992, stakeholders reported that they felt like ancillary participants and were largely removed from the central politics shaping Agenda 21. Overall, civil society reported that opportunities to influence decision makers were limited and they did not feel engagements were meaningful or produced optimal results to push sustainable development agendas forward. Stakeholders in Rio also felt that civil society representation was unbalanced and the global South was underrepresented. When engaging multi-stakeholders at Rio+20 it is important to develop proportional representation in line with Member State representation in the UN five regional groups. It is also important to provide funding for under-resourced stakeholders to guarantee a diverse range are consulted and have the opportunity to participate.

Finally, there is speculation that there will be restrictions on paper and printed materials at Rio+20 in an effort to be environmentally friendly. While generally this is a good practice, this must be messaged clearly and widely to multi-stakeholders and a strategic system must be established for civil society to disseminate information.

#### Replicable Practices

The WSIS summits and forums have consistently served as models for good use of technology and the remote participation of stakeholders. WSIS has stakeholder participation processes clearly outlined on their website, with timelines and instructions on how to participate. Additionally, WSIS organisers are consulting stakeholders years in advance of WSIS+10 in 2014. At the most recent WSIS forum in 2010, over one thousand stakeholders participated and contributed to event outcomes in a remote manner. Participants stated that the summit seemed truly international with a diverse set of stakeholders.

Every UN summit produces opportunities for learning from summit processes and stakeholder engagement. At WSSD, stakeholders interacted with government officials and participated in summit events throughout the entire two week session instead of being relegated to separate segments. After the challenges faced at COP15 organisers proposed that stakeholder side events, workshops and exhibits be grouped into thematic units to promote cohesion and this proposal was well received by stakeholders. Additionally, at the UNMDG summit multi-stakeholders were allotted four seats in each roundtable to ensure opportunities to influence decision makers.

WSIS conducts a thorough consultation process with stakeholders generally following the UN Rules of Procedure, but also developed a specific multi-stakeholder approach that went beyond typical engagement processes of other UN summits. Specific mechanisms introduced more meaningful engagement with civil society included allowing written contributions from all observers which were placed on the conference website and compiled to be used in negotiations and included in final documents, increasing

transparency of summit processes. Stakeholders also organised themselves and formed a Civil Society Bureau and a Coordinating Committee of Business Interlocutors to more effectively interact with inter-governmental structures of the summit. The organisation of these groups created an opportunity for widespread exchanges of mutual expectations, procedures and strengthened understanding between governments, civil society and business.

Building on the Pre-Conference of multi-stakeholders for Rio+20, stakeholder participation should also be equally included in the three PrepCom meetings. It is further recommended that stakeholders have the opportunity to speak at each plenary session and be allotted seats at roundtables where negotiations take place.

#### Recommendations

- The summit venues need to accommodate the large numbers of people who plan to attend Rio+20 and venues should be no more than 2 kilometres from each other. The venue should be located in the city centre or other area that is easily accessible by various forms of public transportation. Civil society can no longer be segregated from summit venues where negotiations are taking place.
- Technology to include remote participants, via webcasts, needs to be a clear priority at Rio+20 and should include training for session facilitators to ensure effective engagement of remote and physical participants.
- If paper restrictions are implemented at Rio+20, this change must be clearly communicated to stakeholders and there must be strategic coordination for CSOs to disseminate materials. Financial and technical support should be provided to CSOs to ease this transition, particularly indigenous groups or others who may have limited access to internet and technology. UNCSD should also allocate prominent website space where CSO materials and publications can be easily accessed by governments and other participants.
- Rio+20 organisers need to prioritise creating systems for direct lines of communication with local security. Local security should participate in training on tactfully dealing with challenges that might arise at Rio+20 and establish systems for dissemination of detailed information to all levels of security.
- Rio+20 organisers need to create more opportunities for strategic engagement in negotiations with decision makers, including providing seats for stakeholders at roundtables and opportunities to submit oral and written contributions to influence negotiations and outcome documents.
- Rio+20 organisers need to provide funding for under-resourced stakeholders in both the preconference and conference events to ensure a diverse range of representation from the nine major groups, with a particular focus on indigenous people, women and LDCs.

#### Post-Conference

##### Challenges

Stakeholders are increasingly becoming disenchanted with summit outcomes due to the lack of government accountability in implementation. Stakeholders also do not feel they are organised well enough, across sectors, at the national level to influence implementation of summit outcomes in a cohesive and strategic manner, particularly in LDCs. An example of this was underscored at the WSSD where a plan of implementation was developed by civil society, but follow through was limited because partnerships among civil society were not strong enough. Partnership building among multi-stakeholders should be incorporated into all stages of the Rio+20 processes and there is also a need to connect stakeholders with national UN offices for support and coordinated efforts in national follow-up. It is crucial to offer funding for activities related to the implementation of summit outcomes and accountability initiatives within partnerships. Some organisations and partnerships may have greater resources to devote to activities, while those with restricted budgets will encounter problems initiating or participating in partnerships that adequately express their concerns.

Stakeholders at the WSIS and UNMDG summits expressed a need to improve follow-up actions for both stakeholders and governments to ensure accountability from both sides on implementation of outcomes and commitments. Similarly, stakeholders felt that the outcomes of WSSD were ambitious and innovative, addressing the three pillars of sustainable development, but civil society was suspicious because they felt governments were trying to shy away from their responsibilities and leave implementation to the private sector. At the UNMDG summit, stakeholders felt the outcome document was merely aspirational instead of action oriented which presents problems in monitoring implementation and holding governments accountable. If Rio+20 is going to be a successful summit, outcomes must be action oriented and linked to the Millennium Development Goals, Kyoto Protocol and other international policies. Furthermore, the priorities of national governments must adapt to align with summit commitments and relevant UN agencies must also pledge to adapt the agreements of outcome documents into organisational priorities and work programmes.

In addition to monitoring government implementation of summit outcomes, follow-up with stakeholders is an important part of post-conference processes. Documents such as summit reports and webcasts should be widely disseminated and should also be available on summit and UN agency websites for access by greater civil society. Evaluations should also be completed by all contributing participants pertaining to both conference events and engagement in processes leading up to the summit. Stakeholder feedback should then be compiled, disseminated and posted on websites to promote transparency.

#### Replicable Practices

There were five notable documents that resulted from the Rio Earth Summit and two are particularly important to highlight in this context. The Framework Convention on Climate Change sets concrete actions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and led to the Kyoto Protocol which also outlined formal mechanisms for enforcement. The clear mechanisms for implementation of this convention serve as an example of the action-oriented outcomes stakeholders would like to see from Rio+20. Another major outcome of the Rio Earth Summit was section three of Agenda 21 which organised stakeholders into nine major groups that represent civil society. The nine major groups are recognised as partners in the implementation of outcomes and their participation in summit processes is recommended in all UN conferences. This systematic and thematic organisation of multi-stakeholders has not only proved useful for civil society in participating in UN summit processes, but is also building capacity in stakeholder engagement with the UN. As a result of the Rio Earth Summit and in preparation for the WSSD, a group of experts established a framework on multi-stakeholder processes to ensure transparent, equitable, democratic and gender-balanced processes for summits that require stakeholder participation. This strategic organisation of multi-stakeholders has helped to streamline and strengthen participation and build capacity among a wider range of civil society.

Other replicable practices were used at WSIS and involved organising multi-stakeholders into issue-based caucuses related to summit topics. This practice promotes partnerships and collaboration among stakeholders and helps civil society formulate common positions on relevant issues. The method proved particularly helpful during the first phase of the WSIS summit when the rights of civil society participation were threatened. Stakeholder caucusing not only led to the development of specific viewpoints and recommendations published during the Geneva meeting and after the conclusion of the Tunis summit, but helped to strengthen multi-stakeholder partnerships that continued after the summit concluded.

The WSSD produced the Bali Guiding Principles in the fourth PrepCom meeting to serve as a set of guidelines to shape follow-up to the summit. The guidelines identify specific actions that stakeholders and governments should take in partnership to ensure implementation of summit outcomes. As part of this process, major group commitments and targets were gathered in national, regional and international consultations and commitments were included as part of the summit outcomes. Finally, in order to improve summit processes and engagement, it is critical to conduct thorough evaluations that can inform summit organising and participation at future events. WSIS conducted stakeholder evaluations after each meeting, event and workshop. Follow-up actions were then compiled into a final report that was made publicly available to all

stakeholders and governments.

#### Recommendations

- Non-participating stakeholders should have access to Rio+20 information and reports and dissemination plans should be established during the planning process. Final reports should be posted on the Rio+20 and UNCSD websites.
- Establish proposed outcomes for Rio+20 and link them to international priorities and policies, the Millennium Development Goals, official UN processes and ensure buy-in from relevant UN agencies like UNDP, UNDESA, UNCSD and UNFCCC. Outcomes should be results oriented with explicit commitments to action.
- Set clear targets and processes for follow-up with multi-stakeholders and each of the nine major groups once Rio+20 has concluded. Stakeholder engagement should align with country specific outcomes and efforts should be made to link UN country offices with national civil society networks and major group participants.
- To strengthen accountability, systems should be established, with stakeholder input, to monitor and evaluate the implementation of outcomes agreed upon at Rio+20.
- Organise multi-stakeholders into issue-based caucuses to build partnerships and assist stakeholders in establishing stronger positions on Rio+20 issues during and after the summit.

## Civil Chamber of the Russian Federation

CIVIC CHAMBER OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
INSTITUTE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR "RIO+20"

Today the world faces new challenges. The modern world development results in a depletion of the natural resources, an increase of negative environmental impact, a deterioration of the biosphere balance. The consequences of the climate change have become perceptible everywhere in the world. It results in a worsening of social problems and sidelines further development.

That is why the need to provide sustainable development is urgent. The core of this idea is the necessity to fit our constantly growing demands in the planet's natural capacity. The idea is not new; it will soon complete 20 years of official life in the world. Few political slogans have lived for so long. Yet its essence will never become outdated. It establishes the rules of the game and is a condition of survival. Meanwhile, lessons are becoming increasingly harder, and their consequences are increasingly expensive. They include the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico, the recent abnormal heat in Central Russia and many other cases of natural and man-triggered catastrophes. It is getting harder and harder to find certain persons responsible for or a cause of each disaster. It is rather consequence of our self-esteem, our attitude and our wrong behavior.

Deep "ecologization" of the economy on the basis of the key priority of modern development – to increase the value of nature and natural resources, as well as of human life and health is a challenging task in the agenda. Implementation of the sustainable development tasks based on market economy means to ensure market demands on natural resources, ecosystem services and related characteristics of the goods, consumer demands (including by population and State). This measure will enable to stimulate the developed countries to diminish the negative environmental impact as well as to encourage the developing countries into defining ways of their development towards the green economy, preservation and augmentation of natural capital through its capitalization and receiving benefits from the global community. These are the directions that should determine today the priorities of aide in the combat against poverty.

Urgent need to combine both - to fit the growing demands and to minimize the depletion of natural capital has been formulated today as a decoupling idea. It means to reduce energy intensity and resource intensity in economic growth, to widely use renewable energy sources, to modernize production on the basis of innovations. This is the direction that sets today's priorities for growing economies and firstly for the BRICS nations.

It is necessary to encourage modernization in a way of so-called double gain or win-win policy, which is related both to economic efficiency and to reduction of negative environmental impact by human-being. The world experience of such modernization of production shows that this approach not only leads to the improved economic indicators but also to significantly improved living conditions. It is necessary to support and disseminate this experience. This is the core task of modern innovative development. For such purpose it is necessary both to observe strict environmental standards and to encourage economic interest, including all possible instruments, besides to be aware of the importance of such modernization. In other words, modernization should be profitable.

The key area for the global development is energy sector. It is necessary to ensure the safe use of traditional resources and energy efficiency. The use of huge potential to raise energy efficiency means to implement urgent measures to make consumers interested in energy saving at all levels from industries to households.

Modernization should consider enormous potential in the use of renewable energy sources. This means to encourage energy production on the basis of renewable energy sources. The experience of developed countries shows that, with a minimum support necessary to launch this process, it develops further in a "snowball" manner with accelerating speed. This way of development ensures national independence and gives prospects for further development. It is more pressing and promising to use renewable energy sources for domestic needs, including, firstly, energy supply to sparsely populated areas, commitment by the population to use renewable energy sources as additional sources of energy and to use renewable energy sources as auxiliary sources of energy supply in industry.

Resolving the problem of economic modernization should also take into account the enormous potential in developing the system of compensation payments necessary to preserve and augment the natural ecosystems (including forests, wetlands, etc.). Good prospects may be seen in the development of the market of ecosystem services and environmental investments. It is necessary to carry out assessment of the natural services based on the priority to raise value of natural resources and to turn into goods things that have not been considered goods before, including a wide range of ecosystem services and to enter the international market to compensate for the efforts in preserving and augmentation of natural resources. The costs of non-use, protection and augmentation of certain natural resources and services should be included in such an assessment. The mechanism of compensation for ecosystem services should be based on the national commitment to environment protection and on the proper use of the funds allocated by the international community to preserve natural resources and to develop environmentally sound forms of the management of nature (including ecotourism, organic agriculture, renewable resources use). It is necessary to extend market mechanisms of trade of the greenhouse gases emission to all sorts of anthropogenic impact.

This means to work out and pursue a new policy. The starting point in this regard should be that the ecology today is economy. That is why the mainstream development is determined as green economy. It is environmental standards that set directions of innovative development and modernization of production to ensure long-term successful economic development. The priority of economic policy to widely use natural resources and services should be complemented by the environmental policy priority to raise the value of nature and natural resources. Green and low-carbon economy has been tracked by the developed countries. Although a clear policy in this respect is important, it should not be pursued separately from the mainstream development pattern and should be incorporated into strategies, plans, programs and mechanisms of the national

development. Environmental policy priorities, green economy standards should be included into general plans of development aimed at solving social and economic problems of everyone's main concern. It is appropriate to include the implementation of environmental protection measures (organizing protected natural areas, biodiversity conservation, etc.) into foolproof market mechanisms, such as payments for ecosystem services.

The top-priority measure to assess the situation and determine action priorities is to introduce a system of indicators of sustainable development. These are primarily indicators of the resource intensity and energy intensity in economic growth and specific indicators of pollution. Moreover, accumulated environmental damage, resource depletion, landscape degradation and the impact of pollution on human health should be taken into account. It is principally important, especially to determine prospects for development and to assess the use of renewable energy sources, to evaluate ecosystem services (including various ecosystems, biological resources, biodiversity and area of protected natural reserves).

Progress in the dissemination of the ideas of sustainable development and active participation in this process means their adjustment to the specifics of each country. The concepts of sustainable development and the ways of its implementation are different in various countries and will undoubtedly keep changing further on. It is necessary to assess achievements and challenges on the way to sustainable development at the national level.

The success of the implementation of the ideas of sustainable development depends on the pro-active position and awareness by the broader population. This requires educational and outreach activities, targeted work by the media and social advertising. Culture (including cinema, pop music and literature), natural and cultural heritage sites should play a special role to set sustainable development as a priority for the broader public.

Civil society organizations, including both mass NGOs/NPOs and professional institutions of public policy should play a greater role in this regard. This means to develop a broad public movement to support sustainable development as a priority for civil society activities and to set this topic as a key area of support by the businesses and the governments.

The mankind has started to realize that increased social and natural abnormalities are consequences of our wrong behavior and to be aware of the responsibility for the future of the planet. In order to determine priorities for joint action one should refer to the universally accepted rules of conduct, ethic code approved by the global community. An importance to adopt such a document has been underlined as early as in 1992 at the UN World Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro. The core of this document could constitute the elaborated by 2000 through joint efforts "Earth Charter", common view on principles of sustainable development, necessary to provide environmental integrity, social justice, democracy and peace. Today this document has gained a new dimension. A joint support by Russia and the US as the leading countries that initiated the elaboration of the International Ethical Code and a broader approval by other developed countries and the BRICS nations would favour the promotion of the document.

Who should lead this process? Most likely, those for whom it is of special importance. This means to be aware of the necessity to follow such way of development and to have certain economic possibilities to implement it. A number of countries considered for many years as developed economies actively joined this process after the Rio Summit of 1992. We should admit that, although ideas of sustainable development are very pressing for all countries and require joint efforts by the international community, only developed economies are able to ensure serious advance in this direction. Other countries may join them as they grow economically and with an aide by the developed countries. The BRICS nations are probably these States for which this process is the most urgent. There are a several reasons for this: economic growth, abundant natural resources, search for an optimal way of development among them. Priorities for these countries in innovation policy, energy efficiency and economic modernization naturally determine their movement towards sustainable development. These nations are the ones that could become leaders in the movement towards sustainable development.

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## Climate Action Network-International

The changing climate, with its associated impacts on the environment, economies, social welfare and human lives, is one of the strongest indicators of our unsustainable development path, which Rio+20 must address.

Rio+20 will be an important opportunity for:

- increasing the overall ambition of political commitments on climate change;
- promoting actions and accountability in areas such as the green economy and post-MDG framework that are inseparable from climate change;
- strengthening sustainable development governance structures to include stronger implementation, compliance and enforcement mechanisms including strengthening transparency, citizen engagement and accountability (reflected in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration) mechanisms at the national, regional and international levels;
- strengthening international governance structures to include stronger implementation, compliance and enforcement mechanisms
- governments, businesses and civil society to agree to practical steps at the local, national and global level that address climate change (both mitigation and adaptation);
- ensure that principles of fairness and equity – based on the original 1992 Rio Earth Summit declaration of 'common but differentiated responsibilities' (CBDR) – are central to sustainable development.

### 1. Increasing political will and ambition:

At Rio, countries must raise their ambition, including developing science based commitments, increased emissions reduction targets and financial commitments, equitable effort sharing, and robust implementation. With political leaders in Rio, this is a key opportunity to raise the overall political will for greater action on climate change. Heads of state and political leaders should come to Rio prepared to:

- Assess 20 years of progress since Rio '92 and take stock of existing greenhouse gas reduction commitments and adaptation efforts, and raise their ambition taking into account the principles of CBDR
  - Elaborate national and sub national action plans that substantially improve governance – overseeing progress and supporting implementation – of sustainable development objectives.
  - Ensure the flow of substantial, predictable climate finance beyond 2012 and well above the pledged \$100 billion per year by 2020.
  - Reform of the UN environmental agencies that strengthen the governance system that delivers an "environment for development". Sustainable development needs a global authority on the environment and stronger implementation, compliance and enforcement mechanisms.
2. A fair green economy: At Rio+20, a clear definition of a fair green economy should be developed, which would exclude false solutions with which we can all work and hold governments to account to at Rio. A fair green economy must balance between the ecological, economic and social aspects of the sustainable development model. It should include decent green jobs, addressing consumption issues,

ending unsustainable practices, fair transition, and be judged by alternative indicators to GDP, such as those based on rights and social justice.

A green economy must address:

1. Empowering workers with access to green jobs: targets and resources for capacity building, green technologies, operational level implementation and training.
2. A transition to a 100% renewable energy and energy efficient economy
3. Equity must be at the heart of the green economy, ensuring the right to development for developing countries while meeting green objectives.
4. Protection of natural capital and biodiversity
5. Address change in production-consumption patterns as the current patterns lead to unsustainable use of natural capital and increasing greenhouse gases emissions.
6. Full participation and consent of communities affected by development projects; and stewardship of natural resources and biodiversity by local communities. Specific demands for Rio+20:

- Commit to clean energy:

A key element of a green economy is a clear definition and short to medium-term actions towards clean energy sources. Energy targets put forward by the UN, while not sufficiently addressing these concerns, can guide local and national-level action on ramping up renewable energy and energy efficiency deployment. In CAN's view, countries should aim to reach the following global targets ideally by 2020, and by 2030 (as UNIDO has put forward) at the latest: o 30% of energy use from renewables; o 40% decrease in energy intensity, and o Universal access to modern energy services and ending energy poverty: clean, reliable and affordable energy services for cooking and heating, lighting, communications and productive uses.

- Remove fossil fuel subsidies and perverse incentives: accelerate the phase out of subsidies in line with the G20 commitment, redirecting revenues to those in need and to support renewable energy and energy efficiency programmes.

- Ensure the formulation of Low-Carbon development Strategies (LCDSs): The development of LCDSs is crucial to ensure the smooth transition to a fair and green economy that secures green jobs and equity based on national circumstances. Governments must agree in Rio+20 on establishing national institutional arrangements and modalities for the formulation of these plans. The plans should include decadal targets between now and 2050 that outline the GHG emission trajectory that each country will take in each major sector, as well as policies and measures needed to achieve these targets.

- Develop a UN-level mechanism or capacity to ensure that emerging technologies relevant to green economies receive prior assessment to ensure they are truly socially and environmentally sustainable in order to avoid resources being diverted into 'false solutions'.

### 3. New finance:

Financing for a green economy is crucial, and governments must identify new sources of finance for these purposes, and ensure funds targeted for specific outcomes, including climate, biodiversity protection and development aid.

In particular, Rio+20 should address:

**Innovative sources:** In addition to budgetary contributions, there is a need for supplementary sources of long-term finance to meet the financing requirements for climate action. As shown by the UN AGF report a range of innovative sources (such as the Financial Transaction Taxes and Special Drawing Rights) can be used to generate the revenues as well as address the need to cut emissions from shipping and aviation.

**Uses:** Forests, mitigation, adaptation, biodiversity conservation (protected areas/marine protected areas- key to boost ecosystem resilience in face of climate change) all must be prioritized for future funding allocation. This should specifically include development models that are sustainable and community-driven such as decentralized water and energy solutions that strengthen resilience to climate change.

**Governance:** Governments must show a clear commitment to improved governance of funds related to climate change and a green economy. The role of international financial institutions generally (including all the multi-lateral development banks and export credit agencies), the UN, bilateral should be carefully evaluated. Engagement of civil society organizations as active observers (or greater) both in the decision-making process and also in monitoring on how the fund can be accessed should be explicitly confirmed.

On climate in particular, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) must play a transformational role both in the way it is governed and operates and in terms of the adaptation and mitigation outcomes it achieves. It should accelerate the shift to low-carbon and climate resilient development pathways by scaling-up resource flows for ambitious and effective climate-related policies and actions in accordance with country-led strategies, and it should incentivise strategic objectives and the achievement of overall national development strategies and the production of development cobenefits.

It is vital that civil society and other stakeholders be full partners, both at the international and national level, in determining the way in which the GCF will finance climate action.

The role of the World Bank as a trustee should be limited to holding the financial assets of the Green Climate Fund, maintaining appropriate financial records, and preparing financial statements and other reports required by the Board of the Green Climate Fund, in accordance with international fiduciary standards. 4. Forests and REDD REDD+ should not be negotiated at Rio + 20 but governments should set an overall goal for halting deforestation in developing countries. We envisage an objective along the following lines:

- All Parties shall collectively aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation of natural forests in developing countries, with the objective of stopping deforestation and degradation of natural forests and related emissions completely, by 2020.

For the conservation of existing carbon stocks, enhancement of carbon stocks and sustainable management of forests a second objective could be:

- All Parties shall collectively aim to conserve existing natural and modified natural forests by 2020, ceasing conversion and instead restoring degraded natural forests. In addition, all parties should undertake the sustainable management of forests and enhance forest carbon stocks.

Safeguards for land-use changes and forestry activities should be fully implemented. In particular, the following already agreed safeguards should be promoted and supported:

- Respect for the knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and members of local communities, by taking into account relevant international obligations, national

circumstances and laws;

- Actions should be consistent with the conservation of natural forests and biological diversity, ensuring that actions are not used for the conversion of natural forests, but are instead used to incentivize the protection and conservation of natural forests and their ecosystem services, and to enhance other social and environmental benefits.

#### 5. Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security The importance of agriculture

- Global food production is threatened by climate change. Smallholder farmers produce the majority of the world's food, and they are extremely vulnerable to climate change, therefore food security of the majority of the world's population is threatened.

- Globally, agricultural activities associated with intensive high input industrialized agriculture, contribute a significant percentage of greenhouse gas emissions.

#### Policy goals

- Thus, to the greatest extent possible, policies at all levels should be designed and implemented to meet four goals:

1. Sustainably reduce emissions from the agricultural sector;
2. Reduce emissions from the conversion of other land to agriculture;
3. Maintain or increase the security of food supplies;
4. Enable small-scale food providers and other vulnerable populations to become more resilient to climate change.

#### Guiding principles

Countries agreed in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to prevent dangerous climate change: to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner. These agreements require adherence to the following principles in order to be effective:

- In order for small scale farmers to be able to adapt and to build their adaptive capacity, they must be enabled to practice farming systems that are resilient to long term climate change, biodiverse and that strengthen the ecosystems of which they are part. This form of agroecological smallholder farming and other forms of sustainable, ecological and climate resilient food production should be promoted.
- Climate policies that encompass agriculture must include safeguards that protect and promote biodiversity, equitable access to resources, food security, the right to food, and the rights of indigenous peoples and local populations, while promoting poverty reduction and climate adaptation.
- Systems of biodiverse and resilient agriculture need to be developed, demonstrated, tested, and implemented to transform many currently unsustainable agricultural systems into ones that improve the health of ecosystems, communities, and cultures, even in the face of a changing climate.

In the context of food security and sovereignty threatened by climate change, re-establishing global principles for governance of fisheries is crucial, since depletion of fishing stocks, unsustainable fishing and overcapacity of world's fishing fleet will soon impact upon food security in addition to climate impacts on the marine ecosystem.

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## Climate Change Forum of Minas Gerais

Rio+20

Recommendations from the CLIMATE CHANGE FORUM OF MINAS GERAIS, BRAZIL

Contact: MR. Milton Nogueira da Silva, Executive Secretary. Tel +5531 3225 9922 or Cellular +5531 8828 3225, [nogueiramilton@yahoo.com](mailto:nogueiramilton@yahoo.com)

General Content: What are the expectations for the Rio+20:

It is hoped that the UN system and the world society (government, communities, business, academia) will reach a consensus on a planetary governance for poverty reduction under a green economy regime.

What are the comments on existing proposals:

a. What are the views on implementation:

The three UN conventions - climate change, biodiversity, and desertification- deserve to be put in place, with full commitments and money.

b. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged

The Climate Fund should be strengthened to implement greener economy and drastically reduce the use of fossil fuels and protect agricultural land and water resources. The Fund should be fed, for instance, with contribution from the developed countries or with a carbon tax to be created. The collected funds should be invested to implement the new recommendations of the conference, especially for poverty reduction.

#### 2. Specific Elements:

a. Objective of the Conference:

The conference should adopt a political decision making process allowing all parties to take part and enter into consensus. Focus: poverty alleviation, food security, greener economy and sustainable technologies, under equitable governance for all.

Sectoral priorities:

Biomass energy with guaranteed food security; urban mobility;

Strengthening the transfer of greener technologies among countries.

- b. Green economy : decoupling of energy from GNP; education away from consumerism and wasteful society.
- c. Institutional framework for sustainable development: reinforcement of UNEP.
- d. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes.

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## Climate Emergency Institute

The Climate Emergency Institute respectfully makes this submission to the 2012 Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

By all environmental and economic indications, it looks like this UN sustainable development conference is our best chance to prevent the collapse of all human civilization, for all time.

What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

Our hopes and expectations are as follows. In general, we expect that:

1. All governments will affirm that our Mother Earth (Mother Nature), the community of Earth species, and the future survival of humanity are our most sacred trusts.
2. Nations will acknowledge that a state of global environmental emergency exists due to accelerating atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations, and that faster-than-projected climate change impacts are coming on top of other ongoing global environmental degradations.
3. Nations will agree that our best hope for survival is the rapid and full implementation of the intentions and terms of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit conventions and agreements. We have no time to "reinvent this wheel."
4. Environmentally destructive subsidies (both direct and indirect) will be stopped forthwith. Direct fossil fuel subsidies will be switched to rapid development of clean, zero-carbon energy.
5. Nations will acknowledge that the loss of the Arctic summer sea ice is potentially catastrophic to the northern hemisphere and to the planet, through loss of albedo cooling on top of committed\* further global warming.

\*The global temperature increase to which we are already committed today is 2.4°C, according to the climate science (Ramanathan and Feng, 2008, PNAS, On avoiding dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system). This projection excludes inevitable further warming by large Arctic carbon feedback emissions and excludes the warming from loss of Arctic summer sea ice.

On the global climate change emergency, we expect that:

6. Nations will acknowledge that today's committed additional global warming, accelerating atmospheric greenhouse gas pollution, and unprecedented and still accelerating atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations mean that the climate situation is "far beyond dangerous interference with the climate system" and risks global climate catastrophe.
  - . "Climate change is coming at us faster, with larger impacts and bigger risks, than even most climate scientists expected as recently as a few years ago."
  - . "The stated goal of the UNFCCC – avoiding dangerous anthropogenic interference in the climate – is in fact unattainable, because today we are already experiencing dangerous anthropogenic interference. The real question now is whether we can still avoid catastrophic anthropogenic interference in climate."
  - . "There is no guarantee that catastrophe can be avoided even if we start taking serious evasive action immediately."
- Dr. John Holdren (now science adviser to the US administration), Meeting the Climate Change Challenge Lecture, 2006, Woods Hole.
7. Nations will agree that the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide must be reduced to below 350 ppm of CO<sub>2</sub> (versus 390 ppm today), with equivalent reductions of the concentrations of other long lasting greenhouse gases to avoid global climate catastrophe.
8. Nations will acknowledge that the science is definite\*\*, and that only zero carbon dioxide emissions can possibly allow the atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration to drop.

\*\*IPCC 2007 WG 1: Frequently Asked Question 10.3

If Emissions of Greenhouse Gases are Reduced, How Quickly Do Their Concentrations in the Atmosphere Decrease?

"While more than half of the CO<sub>2</sub> emitted is currently removed from the atmosphere within a century, some fraction (about 20%) of emitted CO<sub>2</sub> remains in the atmosphere for many millennia. In fact, only in the case of essentially complete elimination of emissions can the atmospheric concentration of CO<sub>2</sub> ultimately be stabilised at a constant level."

Our comments on existing proposals for sustainable development:

We applaud the exemplary work of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on the global climate emergency and the great work of the United Nations Environment Program on educating humanity on the rapidly deteriorating state of our planet.

We believe that the economic conversion to sustainable development, as defined by the 1992 UN Rio Declaration and comprehensively planned by Agenda 21, is the best if not only chance we now have for our common survival.

We attach in poster format our latest State of the Climate Science, showing that, as UNEP has said, "the potential for runaway greenhouse warming is real and has never been more clear." — UNEP Year Book, 2009. (For all we know, it may already be too late.)

We attach our report on committed food productivity losses that will result from today's committed global warming and climate change, which shows catastrophic losses for huge human populations and losses for all regions.

Our views on implementation:

The economic and energy conversions demanded by the global climate change planetary emergency are also the measures needed to achieve the objectives of the green economy and poverty eradication. The only way to implement these in short order (or likely at all) is by nations implementing in full the extant agreements that nations made at the 1992 Earth Summit.

On specific cooperation mechanisms:

It has to be recognized that the survival of all populations (of all species, hence crucial biodiversity) living in all regions is now threatened by the rapidly increasing risk of global ecological and world economic collapse. If all nations agree to move to a green ZERO-CARBON economy as rapidly as possible, then the "level playing field" of one global goal and commitment will enable and enhance international cooperation rather than competition.

On the relevant time frame:

We are all in a planetary emergency with no time left for anything but emergency action.

Background

The proposals are good but they all need to be implemented on a global emergency basis.

The international negotiations under the 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change are making no substantive progress. It is therefore essential that global climate change be placed at the top of the 2012 Rio+20 agenda.

In 2007 nations acknowledged the following findings by the UNEP GEO-4 consensus process:

"There are no major issues raised in Our Common Future for which the foreseeable trends are favourable. And, this may threaten humanity's very survival." "Climate change is a global priority, yet there is a remarkable lack of urgency and a woefully inadequate global response."

"The need couldn't be more urgent and the time couldn't be more opportune, with our enhanced understanding of the challenges we face, to act now to safeguard our own survival and that of future generations."

"The systemic destruction of the Earth's natural and nature-based resources has reached a point where ... the bill we hand on to our children may prove impossible to pay."

The 1992 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is an excellent convention. The clear intention of the UNFCCC is the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions to ensure climate safety for all future generations. Climate safety is clearly and specifically defined in the Convention.

In 2012, nations must affirm that they are unconditionally bound by the intention of the Convention to prevent irreversible climate change damages (adverse effects) to global ecosystems and to regional managed agricultural systems. They must affirm that they are required to prevent damages (adverse effects) to human population health.

The 1992 Agenda 21 is the "UN blueprint" that nations agreed to and no better plan exists. Nations are expected to reaffirm and make Agenda 21 a binding obligation and a rapid priority. Everything in Agenda 21 still applies today – in fact, even much more so.

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## Climate Justice Now!

Common statement by World Development Movement (U.K.), Gender Action (U.S.), Global Forest Coalition (Paraguay), Biofuel Watch (U.K.), Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement International (Togo), Centre for Civil Society Environmental Justice Project (South Africa), Ecologistas en Accion (Spain), Plataforma Boliviana Frente al Cambio Climático (Bolivia), PanAfrica Climate Justice Alliance (Kenya), Sustainable Energy & Economy Network, Institute for Policy Studies (USA) on the Outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The following comment has been produced by members and affiliates of the Climate Justice Now! network. The network numbers more than 1000 organizations in the global north and south. It is a preliminary comment and has not been fully discussed by all members of the network yet. Accordingly, not every recommendation in this comment has been explicitly endorsed by all network members or organizations, but only by those who have signed on below. However, these comments capture many of the ideas and the fundamental consensus, which have been formulated in previous meetings since the CJN! networks' inception and first articulation of the Principles for Climate Justice in 2008.

Accordingly, as representatives of people's movements and independent organizations, deeply concerned about the climate crisis and the limited nature of the solutions that have been advanced at the international level thus far, we are further concerned that the Rio+20 process will continue a process of advancing failed "solutions" to the economic and environmental crises of our times. In a desire to embrace and advance the "green economy," we are concerned that world leaders will not heed the lessons from the implementation of the biggest and newest market in a natural resource—carbon. By ignoring these lessons, the Rio+20 process risks expanding and deepening the climate crisis even further in a vain attempt to "throw money at the problem" instead of finding real solutions. If a "green economy" includes the continued commodification of not just carbon, but water, biodiversity and other natural resources, we are headed down the path of further endangering all life on Earth.

We must recognize that our global economy and every nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) does not now accurately count and measure the things we value, nor does it recognize the value of things that must remain free—such as water, air, and the vast diversity of life itself. In an attempt to get an accurate metric of these things nature offers for free, some suggest we should put a price on them and, where the price is too high, trade them in the interest of economic efficiency, and in order to avoid their depletion, degradation, or chemical imbalance. We suggest this is a path fraught with danger.

As some countries and jurisdictions have come to recognize, the blind pursuit of GDP growth underlies many of our current environmental and social crises, including climate change. Growth in GDP does not equal social and environmental wealth, diversity and wellbeing, yet nearly every nation in the world pursues GDP growth as an end in itself.

Rather than questioning the very foundation upon which our global economy is built, "solutions" to the climate crisis, like carbon trading, build on that foundation, continuing to push for GDP growth, so long as pollutants like carbon are traded.

Yet the clearest lesson from the trade in carbon on a global scale is that it is and has been an utter failure, environmentally and socially. Carbon trading entrenches and magnifies social inequities in many ways: The carbon market creates transferable rights to dump carbon in the air, oceans, soil and vegetation far in excess of the capacity of these systems to absorb it. Billions of dollars worth of these rights have been awarded free of charge to the biggest corporate emitters of greenhouse gases in the electric power, iron and steel, cement, pulp and paper, and other sectors in industrialized nations that have caused the climate crisis and already exploit these systems the most. Costs of future reductions in fossil fuel use have fallen disproportionately on the public sector, communities, indigenous peoples and individual taxpayers.

Rather than incentivize more windmills and solar panels, the Kyoto Protocol's Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), as well as many private sector trading schemes, have incentivized cheap carbon dumps, such as eucalyptus plantations that destroy the soil and water tables. These schemes have resulted in the creation of a new tool to disenfranchise people from their land, their forests, and their rights including the right of Indigenous Peoples, as enshrined under the U.N., to free, prior, and informed consent. Land grabs are taking place on a massive scale on the African continent and elsewhere in the developing world in order to take advantage of cheap carbon offsets,



and cheap land for tree farms and biofuel plantations. This in turn has resulted in: destruction of natural forests and their biodiversity, a drop in water tables, and a rise in the price of food, with devastating consequences for the poorest, especially those who have become landless.

Studies and investigations have brought to light massive corruption in carbon markets, such as the hydrofluorocarbons (HFC-23)-reduction schemes<sup>ii</sup>. These schemes have provided huge windfall profits to companies to destroy a powerful global warming gas—HFC-23, which is over 11,000 times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub>. In doing so, they have actually incentivized the continued expansion of the polluting industry that spawns HFC-23, the manufacture of ozone-destroying chlorodifluoromethane (or HCFC-22). The destruction of HFC-23 is not costly; but its carbon offset support has meant a boon for this industry, while doing nothing to reduce the impact of the fossil fuel industries' impacts on local communities. Furthermore, precious time and money has been wasted creating and destroying HFC-23 molecules, while clean, truly renewable energy projects have been starved for cash globally. We cannot afford to waste precious time while entire countries, such as Pakistan, El Salvador, Honduras, Thailand, and others are threatened with inundation due to increasingly common extreme weather events.

The climate crisis is being fueled largely by the exploitation of fossil fuels and the clearing of forests, which releases carbon stored in these natural resources into the global atmosphere. We are fast approaching dangerous tipping points in the global climate system, beyond which there is no return. The vast majority of climate scientists recognize that climate change is both underway and proceeding at a pace far faster than even their worst case scenarios had anticipated.

Despite this clear and present danger, governments, corporations and international financial institutions continue to support and finance fossil fuel exploration, extraction and other activities that worsen global warming, such as forest degradation and destruction on a massive scale. Meanwhile, carbon markets continue to distract policy-makers from meaningful action and only token sums have been dedicated to renewable energy.

When the Kyoto Protocol was signed in 1997, carbon markets were only supposed to comprise a small fraction of the overall action on the climate crisis. Today, carbon trading has become the primary "solution" to the climate crisis, despite its record as a failure. Greenhouse gas emissions have grown at a faster pace in countries that have carbon markets up and running. Carbon offset schemes, such as the Clean Development Mechanism, have been riddled with corruption, perverse incentives to pollute and deforest faster than countries otherwise would in order to artificially raise a baseline from which to "reduce" emissions.

The process of commodifying carbon passes the Earth's capacity to support life into the same corporate hands that are destroying the climate, and puts in charge the same bankers that destroyed the global economy. Gaming the subprime mortgage market resulted in the collapse of the global economy, something nearly every country is now feeling the effects of. Gaming in the carbon market has been underway for several years<sup>iv</sup>. This must be stopped if we are to prevent the next big bubble—a carbon bubble—from bursting, and serious action must be taken now to prevent runaway climate change.

There are other ways forward - ways that recognize and build on the statements of the Rio Declaration of 1992. Key among the items endorsed by all of the world's countries in that document was:

#### Principle 16

National authorities should endeavour to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment.

Carbon trading turns this principle upside-down. Instead of paying the costs, many polluters are in fact profiting from their pollution.

We suggest there are several measures which could be taken to address the root causes of the economic crisis, while also mitigating poverty, and providing finance for the necessary transition to an economy for the people and the planet.

1. Tax pollution—carbon or otherwise—and use the revenue generated to help build local food systems, public transportation, affordable energy for cooking, clean renewable (non-combustion) energy and other pieces of an ecologically grounded and socially just economy. A pollution/natural resource tax should focus as a priority on reducing consumption of energy and resources in an equitable manner. A tax can come in the form of a "tax and dividend," but taxes on pollution should be universally pursued to discourage leakage into other countries.
2. Replace or supplement the GDP with a set of indicators that reflect overall environmental and social wellbeing, such as the Index of Sustainable Economic Welfare or the Genuine Progress Indicator, in order to more accurately measure and value the kind of world we want to build.
3. Reject any scheme in which individuals, groups, corporations or governments profit from placing a price on and gambling with the control over our planet's carbon cycling capacity, our water, our food supply, or other elements essential to life sustaining itself.
4. Remove all subsidies from fossil fuels and biofuels. The U.S. currently provides over \$35 billion in subsidies to the fossil fuel industry. Globally, fossil fuel subsidies amount to over \$250 billion per year—a figure that is more than twice what would be needed (\$100 billion) to provide the entire planet with renewable energy within 10 years. Biofuel subsidies are driving increased demand for land and rising food prices, while contributing to, rather than mitigating, climate change.
5. Finalize the creation of a democratic and accountable Green Climate Fund under the United Nations to channel climate finance from industrialized countries to countries and communities impacted by climate change in the global South. Developed countries have committed to providing \$100 billion per year by 2020 for climate finance – not enough for the scale of the need, but a start. The World Bank, export credits agencies, and all other international financial institutions must be kept out of the Green Climate Fund. Their continued support of fossil fuel projects, extractive industries, and carbon offset programs put them in direct conflict with the goals of a climate fund. Despite being handed the responsibility of providing clean energy finance in Rio in 1992, the World Bank is currently breaking its own records for lending to oil, gas and coal, while providing relatively little in the way of renewable energy lending.

Implement a financial transaction tax (a.k.a. Robin Hood Tax or FTT). By placing a tiny tax on trades in stocks, currencies, derivatives and other financial assets an FTT could slow the rate of speculation in global financial markets and curb instability, while generating hundreds of billions of dollars per year. The revenue from which could be channeled into the Green Climate Fund and used to help finance clean energy, forest protection and reforestation schemes, public health, climate change adaptation, and other development needs. Ideally, an FTT would ultimately be implemented internationally, but countries can (and have) acted on their own to put in place effective financial transaction taxes.

Signed,

World Development Movement, U.K. Gender Action, U.S.  
Global Forest Coalition, Paraguay Biofuel Watch, U.K.  
Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement-International, Togo  
Centre for Civil Society Environmental Justice Project, South Africa  
Ecologistas en Accion, Spain  
Cívico, Bolivia  
Plataforma Boliviana Frente al Cambio Climático, Bolivia

Pan-Africa Climate Justice Alliance, Kenya  
Sustainable Energy & Economy Network, Institute for Policy Studies, USA

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## Climate Leaders India Network (CLeaIN)

### SMART GRIDS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

As population and industry grows, the world is building new transmission and gas-fired generation plants to meet demand. Most of our electricity and power coming from fossils has lead to a drastically higher electricity rate, as every homeowner and business owner can attest. Also, with the exponential increase in power consumption in developing countries, power cuts and black outs have become quite prevalent. Net metering becomes important here as it not only increases the reliability and security of power distribution, but also manages load distribution efficiently.

Net-metering: The concept

It is an electricity policy for consumers who own small renewable energy facility like wind, solar power and home fuel cells. "Net" means what remains after consumption and deductions- deduction of any energy outflow from metered energy inflow. The owner receives retail credit for a portion of electricity they generate.

Implementation: (Government and Research role)

The implementation, engineering wise would require a smart grid which is usually an electrical meter that records consumption of electric energy in intervals of an hour or less and communicates that information at least daily back to the utility for monitoring and billing purposes. Apart from that we would require R&D and private players in producing efficient LED, solar panels, wind turbines etc. Government regulations and laws would domestically need to be made friendly to achieve these goals. Fossil fuel subsidy would have to be periodically reduced.

Win-win sustainability: Net metering a vital area for Green economy transition

Green economy essentially means moving from a linear model to cyclical model of use of resources. This can be achieved by integrating production and consumption. This cyclical behavior can be achieved by introducing net metering. This decentralizes production and consumption patterns, distributes right to energy efficiency and energy security across society. Another point in our favor is decoupling energy production and supply from distribution. Thus creating a "flexible", marketing mechanism where small producers benefit when they produce since their meters move backwards. Thus we see this as a progressive green-economy parameter for energy security. Encourage investment in renewable sources of energy from various sections of the society like businesses, organizations and individuals. Help decrease our reliance on fossil fuels thus checking carbon emissions to an extent.

Foster energy efficiency.

Benefit our utilities and can help stimulate economy.

Reduce the burden of energy generation and distribution from the governments.

Help the government to invest funds on rural empowerment, developing infrastructure, social welfare schemes and sustainable development initiatives as the expenditure on installing new thermal/hydro/ nuclear power plants is reduced. Are a sustainable solution to the conflicts between governments and people in various parts of the world as this reduces the need to acquire large chunks of land for installation of new energy projects.

Give a chance to the governments to focus on providing electricity to the regions which are deprived of it; Can result in huge savings to the consumers using it, thereby leader to better standards of living.

Addresses a major emerging challenge energy security by reducing losses in generation, distribution etc. Lays a strong foundation for Green economy by providing opportunities to green businesses.

Implementation: Cases and practicality of the idea. Strengthening Government Role.

Consumer Net Metering is available in California and is favorable to smaller systems that displace the highest cost electricity, and systems wherein the user's demand load may be managed so that there is a net production of electricity during high cost periods. Thailand introduced the first net-metering in 2002. Thus, it's a model that has been successful in both developed and developing nations.

The governments should declare strong commitment for decentralizing the power generation and distribution which can enable the introduction of smart grids.

Stronger reforms should be introduced in financial institutions to enable the funding of renewable energy projects at all levels.

Subsidies and incentives should be announced to the consumers of smart grid systems.

Governments should establish an independent agency for monitoring and managing the smart grids. Power purchase agreements should be issued to individual customers after verifying the installed power plants and checking the metering equipment.

How youth can pitch in?

Education and awareness campaigns need their support.

Formulating pilot drives and replicating successful models.

Addressing and realizing stake-holder ship in existing government policy and affairs Promoting the cause creatively to people and lobbying with domestic NGOs and civil societies and government bodies. Youth should be given higher priority in negotiations and consultation. Green entrepreneurship should be given a boost with youth as leaders in the field.

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## Climate Sustainability Platform and Supporting Organizations

## SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIES

A proposal for UNCS2012 Zero Draft (Input to Compilation Document):

Thematic Area: Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Submitted by Centre for Environment and Development and behalf of Climate Sustainability PLATFORM and Supporting Organizations

Introduction:

The proposal for a green economy has lead to division even amongst the environmentally sensitive and conscious groups and sections. This is due to an unsuccessful attempt to repackage and resell sustainable development. The new attempt to present a green economy as a tool for sustainable is now looked with suspicion by many needs to be resolved by the time UNCS2012 convenes in Rio de Janeiro in 2012. The following is a proposal to help and guide the process towards creating a more acceptable proposal on the agenda item on 'Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication'

Replacing the Greed Growth Economy - Not to Green Wash the Brown

- The core consideration should be if the Green Economy can replace the greed based economic order and help us face the challenge of climate change and poverty?
- Any attempt to green wash the brown economy should be halted. Therefore, simply making adjustments to polluting technologies and wasteful consumerist market instruments should not be considered as part of a green economy
- Creating a monopoly on the green technology to dominate a green growth-based market economy should not be promoted. All people should have equitable access and capacity to enjoy green, clean and sustainable technologies within an emerging green economic system.

Not Just a Single Economy! Sustainable Economies!

- The green economic system should not promote a single and monopolistic model of a green technology, green market, and Intellectual Property Rights dominated economy.
- The green economy should be viewed as a networked system of decentralized, community based, sustainable economies in a diversity.
- Such a system of sustainable economies should be connecting the rainbow economies across the world and the core idea is that all economies are made sustainable, not just a monopolistic and dominant global economy.

Foundations of a Sustainable Economic System

- Foundations for sustainable economies based green economic system should be based on a common vision for an "equity" based world order.
- Such a system should be committed towards creating 'wellbeing of all'
- Such a system should promote "sustainable consumption & production patterns"
- Such a system should move from a mere "efficiency" focus to 'sufficiency' based 'sustainable development' paradigms
- Such a system should helps achieve Climate Sustainability which is to eradicate all kind of poverty and threats to the environment.
- Such a system should not encourage vertical growth for the creation of few rich and a consuming class, but promote horizontal growth so the wealth is distributed for wellbeing of all.
- Such a system should also need to know define limits to green growth in prosperity.

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## Club de Madrid

The Members of the Club of Madrid, all democratic former Heads of State and Government,

- having regard to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), to be held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012, which will focus on two themes: 'a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication' and 'the institutional framework for sustainable development',
- having regard to the international environmental related processes, specially the United Nation Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),
- recognizing that although progress towards sustainable development has been made since the Rio Summit in 1992, there are still important implementing challenges that need to be faced.
- acknowledging that the objectives of the Rio+20 Conference will be to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development; to assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development; and to address new and emerging challenges;
- recognizing that improving international economic and environmental governance is an equally central issue. Many legitimate actors have been working to conclude crucial international agreements within the existing multilateral structures. In this regard, the Club of Madrid calls to take a strong political stance towards the rapid conclusion of ongoing international negotiations, particularly the climate change negotiations within the UNFCCC, and the Rio+20 process.
- acknowledging the work the Club de Madrid is developing in the programmatic areas of Energy and Climate Change, and Social Cohesion through its Shared Societies project, the Club de Madrid recalls the equal importance of the social pillar, together with the environmental and economic ones, to foster Sustainable Development. To this aim, collaboration with UN DESA has been established within these work strands.
- welcoming that the Rio+20 Summit discusses an integrated approach to address the multiple challenges such as poverty eradication, food, employment, gender equality, climate change and energy supply; since those problems cannot be solved in isolation making cooperation ever more important;
- recalling that Chapter two of Agenda 21 forges a link between democracy and sustainable development, 2.6. Experience has shown that sustainable development requires a commitment to sound economic policies and management, an effective and predictable public administration, the integration of environmental concerns into decision-making and progress towards democratic government, in the light of country-specific conditions, which allows for full participation of all parties concerned.

- building upon the work the Club de Madrid develops in different programmatic areas and incountry project implementation, submits the following series of recommendations in specific areas for its consideration to be reflected in the document outcome of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

#### Democratic Systems

- Calls for a full implementation of democratic systems as a necessary condition for an effective sustainable development.

#### Food Security:

- Recommends the establishment of a comprehensive coordination mechanism within the UN system and amongst other existing international organizations that will ensure availability, access and affordability of food supplies, notably in the poorest countries of the world.
- Stresses the need to address the interrelated challenge of poverty reduction and food security through integrated local development projects, particularly focused on smallholders and not promoting export crops at the expense of livelihood crops. In this context, particular attention should also be given to increasing the income opportunities for rural populations, especially women, and to supporting non-competitive smallholders to adjust in the face of economic displacement.
- Encourages to foster public-private investments in agricultural research (especially adaptation and mitigation technologies), agribusiness, transportation, and handling and storage infrastructure networks to facilitate access to markets and reduce waste. These efforts should also be supported by ambitious actions on rural education, sanitation and health care.
- Underlines the importance to implement and boost trade and infrastructure in agricultural products so as to allow food to be moved from surplus to deficit regions. This will be particularly important in the face of the climate change challenge.
- Urges the adoption of strong mechanisms to reduce food price volatility and curb speculative tendencies, including data disclosure, coordinated regulation of derivative markets and stabilizing stocks.
- Highlights the importance to adopt improved risk management strategies for the prevention and management of food crises - from weather index-based insurance schemes to improved market and stock information, and from 'Strategic Emergency Food Reserves' (including pooled reserves) to more effective safety-nets and accessible social protection.
- Recommends to ensure financing that will generate substantial benefits and add value in host countries by agreeing on i) a code of conduct for Foreign Direct Investment in agricultural land, and ii) promoting land policies that consider social, economic and environmental concerns.

#### Energy:

- Urges the mobilization of global leadership for the successful and ambitious conclusion of climate change negotiations within the UNFCCC.
- Asks to ensure stable incentives during the long-term energy transition and mechanisms that will correct the adverse effects generated by fossil fuels on the climate system.
- Requests the adoption, in this regard, of strong mechanisms to reduce price volatility, including data disclosure, producer-consumer dialogue, coordinated regulation of derivative markets and stabilizing stocks.
- Calls on the fulfilment of the Pittsburgh and Seoul commitments to phase out fossil fuel subsidies whilst providing targeted support for the poor. Use the resources now being channelled into such subsidies to fund research and transfer of technologies.
- Encourages the enforcement of existing environmental regulations and ensure the establishment of construction and urban planning standards, and others that may be critical for energy efficiency.
- Urges the commitment, within a fixed timetable, to achieving universal access to electricity and modern fuels for the poor as an essential basis for eradicating poverty.
- Asks to guarantee the speedy implementation of a truly multilateral 'Green Climate Fund', in terms of funding and management, and to establish as clear priorities of this fund the promotion of innovation and transfer of clean energy technologies to developing countries
- Emphasises the need to establish a mechanism for the acquisition of patent pools of clean energy technologies and the promotion of knowledge networks, encouraging in this regard triangular North-South-South cooperation.

#### Innovative Financial Mechanisms:

- Calls on developed country members to renew in Cannes their commitment to achieve the 0.7% of GNI target in Official Development Assistance (ODA) within a clear timetable and respect for the principles of aid effectiveness. It is also essential to recognise the need to build public support and understanding.
- Recognizing the growing pressures on ODA resources, recommends the support of existing mechanisms of innovative financing and encourages countries to continue pursuing initiatives in this area.
- Highlights the need for a quantitative jump in the scale of these initiatives and commit to the effective implementation of: i) international financial transaction taxes and ii) an international carbon tax, as the most promising means to secure the resources necessary to effectively address development and climate change challenges. At the same time, requests the identification of ways of using allocations of SDRs to developed countries in support of development cooperation assistance and combating climate change.
- Recognizes the importance of contributors for private-public partnerships, particularly at the national and local levels, through a holistic approach centred on local realities, targeted results, transparency and internal/external verification.

Sustainable and Shared Societies: -Calls on sustainable and shared societies as a central contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. A 'shared society' is a socially cohesive society. It is stable and safe, where all those living there feel at home. It respects everyone's dignity and human rights while providing every individual with equal opportunity. It is tolerant and respects diversity. A shared society is constructed and nurtured through strong political leadership. -Emphasizes the need for political stability and democracy, through the involvement of all stakeholders, towards the pursuit of shared and socially cohesive societies and in order to achieve sustainable development. -Calls on an integrated approach of Shared Societies in Rio+20: addressing equality from an economic, and gender point of view, particularly looking at the rights of minorities. -Acknowledges the negative effects of climate change on the poor, and encourages the development of concrete measures to deal with economic disadvantages faced by sections of society who are discriminated against, and ensure equal access to opportunities and resources. -Emphasizes the richness of diversity including environment and culture, as well as the impact of misuse of resources on local communities, particularly on indigenous peoples. -Recommends that

mechanisms for consultation with minorities and marginalized groups are effectively implemented in an inclusive and transparent manner to ensure the appropriate involvement of all stakeholders in the implementation of Sustainable Development. -Recalls the need to ensure the legal frameworks to protect the rights of the individual and prohibits discrimination based on ethnic, religious, gender or cultural difference. -Recommends that physical and urban environments create opportunities for, rather than discourage, social integration as a fundamental pillar of sustainable development -Calls on the recognition that Shared Societies, in which diverse groups and individuals are economically integrated and utilize their talents and skills tend to be more stable societies, enjoy higher economic growth than divided societies, and are best prepared to achieve sustainable development.

## Club France

Manifeste pour une gouvernance territoriale durable, solidaire et humaine.

### PRÉAMBULE

Vingt ans après le Sommet de la Terre de Rio, les acteurs des territoires français (Collectivités, entreprises, associations, écoles, établissements publics) constatent que le bilan des engagements internationaux, pris par les États en 1992, est globalement insatisfaisant. Malgré les nombreux rendez-vous internationaux, l'état des ressources, la pauvreté et les fractures sociales se sont en effet aggravés. A l'occasion de la prochaine Conférence des Nations Unies sur le développement durable (CNUDD), qui se déroulera du 4 au 6 juin 2012, ils réaffirment ainsi la nécessité d'engager une meilleure gouvernance planétaire du développement durable, transversale et partagée, pour redonner sur la scène internationale un nouveau souffle à ce concept.

Le « Club France Rio +20 » (voir la note de présentation ci-jointe en annexe) demande que cette réforme de la gouvernance reconnaisse l'expérience de tous les acteurs territoriaux et leur capacité à agir et à innover efficacement en faveur du développement durable. Depuis près de dix ans, ce sont eux, par centaines de milliers, qui s'organisent pour associer l'ensemble des parties-prenantes autour d'une vision à la fois stratégique et concrète de l'avenir des territoires, surtout urbains. Les 800 Agenda 21 locaux français témoignent d'ailleurs de cette nouvelle génération de contrats entre les différentes échelles de collectivités, les entreprises, le tissu associatif, la recherche, les organismes de formation et les habitants. Cette nouvelle organisation mondiale pourra également s'inspirer du Grenelle français de l'Environnement, impulsé en 2007.

### NOS CONVICTIONS

La France regorge de talents, de forces et de créativité pour construire une société durable, plus respectueuse de l'humain et de son environnement, plus ambitieuse sur le plan social et culturel. Alors que certains enjeux planétaires trouvent une résonance toute particulière dans l'hexagone - vulnérabilité face au changement climatique, disparition des espaces naturels, déclin de l'emploi industriel, vieillissement de la population – de nombreuses initiatives sont engagées par les acteurs territoriaux dans des domaines très variés, comme le recours aux transports collectifs et aux circulations douces, la recherche d'une plus grande efficacité énergétique et l'utilisation des énergies renouvelables, le développement d'une économie solidaire, éthique et responsable, la mise sur le marché de produits innovants, souvent par de petites entreprises, ou encore l'installation d'une réelle contribution des habitants à la conception des politiques publiques.

Ces actions concrètes suggèrent que le développement durable ne se limite pas à un engouement éphémère. Il offre au contraire une grille de lecture opérationnelle pour anticiper les évolutions, participer aux mutations, analyser les risques et les opportunités et investir des marchés porteurs. Toutefois, ces initiatives restent encore trop souvent isolées et l'élaboration d'une culture commune, axée sur l'action, est encore à développer.

Il est aujourd'hui nécessaire de renforcer la cohérence des initiatives portées par l'ensemble des acteurs locaux, publics et privés, pour se doter d'une vision à la fois prospective et partagée de chaque territoire, prendre des engagements ambitieux, élaborer des solutions communes, partager des outils, essaimer les bonnes pratiques et mettre en place un système d'évaluation lisible et pédagogique.

A cet égard, nous prenons acte :

- de la déclaration de Rio sur l'environnement et le développement et du plan Action 21 adoptés en 1992 lors du Sommet de la Terre de Rio,
- de la convention d'Aarhus sur l'accès à l'information, la participation du public au processus décisionnel et l'accès à la justice en matière d'environnement (1998),
- des Objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement (Déclaration du Millénaire - 2000),
- des dix principes du Pacte Mondial des Nations Unies (2000),
- de la déclaration de Johannesburg sur le développement durable et du Plan de mise en œuvre du Sommet mondial de Johannesburg (2002),
- de l'accord de Copenhague issu de la 15e Conférence des Parties à la Convention-cadre des Nations Unies sur les changements climatiques (2009),
- de la norme ISO 26 000, pour la responsabilité sociétale des organisations (2010),
- de la déclaration des Collectivités locales et territoriales françaises en vue de Rio+20 (Assises nationales du développement durable - 2011),
- des engagements des établissements d'enseignement supérieur pour la conférence des Nations Unies de Rio+20 (2011).

L'ambition de ce manifeste est d'exposer ces enjeux et nos engagements pour qu'ils puissent inspirer la gouvernance mondiale du développement durable dont les nouveaux contours et la feuille de route devraient être arrêtés à Rio en juin 2012.

### NOS AMBITIONS POUR L'AVENIR

Pour renforcer le niveau d'exigence et la cohérence de nos initiatives sur le développement durable, nous souhaitons :

- Développer les réseaux d'échange pluri-acteurs qui représentent l'ensemble des composantes de la société civile et expérimentent de nouvelles formes de coopération entre les acteurs locaux. L'objectif est de développer une véritable architecture territoriale du développement durable.
- Renforcer la sensibilisation et la formation des dirigeants du public et du privé, en développant des espaces de savoir et de recherches, dans chaque région, en lien avec les universités et les écoles du territoire. Il s'agit notamment de créer une culture commune du développement durable au niveau local.
- Responsabiliser nos parties-prenantes et user de nos sphères d'influence. Le devoir d'exemplarité auquel nous sommes tenus se conjugue avec un devoir de pédagogie et de responsabilisation de l'ensemble de nos parties-prenantes pour que chaque acteur puisse exercer pleinement ses responsabilités.
- Réfléchir collectivement, territoire par territoire, à des objectifs chiffrés et des échéances à court, moyen et long termes pour répondre aux enjeux du développement durable et pour favoriser les actions menées vers une économie verte oeuvrant pour l'éradication de la pauvreté. C'est sur la base d'une vision positive et partagée du territoire que les résultats seront au rendez-vous.
- Imaginer un système d'évaluation commun, à la fois aux collectivités, aux entreprises, aux associations, aux établissements publics et appropriable par la population, en

élaborant des référentiels partagés, sur un même territoire. Cet instrument permettra d'interroger chaque acteur sur sa réponse aux enjeux locaux du développement durable.

- S'inscrire dans une politique de transparence rigoureuse, à travers la publication régulière de l'impact économique, écologique, social et culturel de nos activités. Les acteurs réaffirment ainsi leur adhésion à la convention d'Aarhus.

- Réfléchir à des mécanismes de financements conjoints sur le développement territorial durable, où chacun des acteurs, publics mais aussi privés, prend part à ses responsabilités. Les collectivités ne peuvent assumer seules le financement des actions de développement durable. Les organismes privés peuvent aujourd'hui y contribuer.

#### NOS SOUHAITS POUR 2012

A l'occasion de la conférence des Nations Unies Rio+20, nous souhaitons que soient mieux articulées les démarches de développement durable du global au local, et du local au global.

Nous demandons à cet effet :

#### AUX ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES, DE :

- Définir une feuille de route à vingt ans, dans la continuité du plan Action 21 défini à Rio en 1992, assortis d'objectifs et d'échéances chiffrés vers une économie verte oeuvrant pour l'éradication de la pauvreté, et reconnaissant l'importance de la gouvernance territoriale et des partenariats entre les acteurs des territoires, dans la mise en oeuvre de cette stratégie.

- Renouveler la gouvernance mondiale du développement durable, en créant une plus grande synergie entre les différentes organisations internationales oeuvrant pour l'environnement, l'éducation, la santé, le commerce, le travail ou encore l'agriculture, tout en créant, en parallèle, une Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement;

- Réaffirmer le caractère transversal du développement durable, trop souvent compartimenté comme une question environnementale. C'est quand l'environnement se nourrit de solidarité, d'efficience économique, de coopération qu'il s'humanise, prend corps et suscite l'adhésion de toutes les forces vives locales.

- Adopter de nouveaux indicateurs, plus cohérents et complets que le PIB, pour reconnaître les activités de toutes les parties-prenantes et exprimer l'ensemble des dimensions du développement durable (comme notamment la gestion des ressources naturelles, les activités non-monétaires, l'éducation, les travaux domestiques ou encore le bénévolat).

- Confirmer le rôle essentiel de l'enseignement, notamment supérieur, dans la création et la diffusion des nouveaux concepts et savoirs, auprès de toutes les parties-prenantes, nécessaires à la construction d'une économie durable.

- Affirmer une priorité forte à l'égard des territoires urbains compte tenu des évolutions des villes et des grandes agglomérations à travers le monde et des liens nécessaires à entretenir avec les zones rurales dans une logique de développement durable. Mettre tout en oeuvre pour favoriser l'émergence de nouvelles solutions technologiques et de nouvelles organisations pour créer de véritables espaces urbains durables.

#### A L'UNION EUROPÉENNE, DE :

- Enrichir la stratégie européenne du développement durable, et veiller à préciser les objectifs chiffrés et les échéances, en lien avec tous les acteurs, et en cohérence avec les principes de l'Agenda 21 de Rio et les objectifs tracés par la stratégie européenne de développement durable.

- Aider au développement de réseaux de mutualisation et d'échanges sur la responsabilité sociétale des organisations, regroupant l'ensemble des acteurs.

- Soutenir financièrement les démarches de coproduction, comme les Agenda 21, engagées à l'échelle des territoires sur le développement durable.

- Adopter une politique d'aide au développement ambitieuse et concertée avec les pays du sud.

- Promouvoir la recherche et l'innovation pour accélérer le développement d'une économie verte et responsable, pour que l'Europe puisse rester compétitive et garde sa place d'acteur majeur dans le monde. Du soutien apporté aujourd'hui à la recherche naîtront les innovations technologiques et sociétales de demain.

#### A L'ETAT FRANÇAIS, DE :

- Poursuivre la décentralisation, pour renforcer l'efficacité des politiques publiques, impulser et accompagner les changements des modes de production et de consommation, réduire les coûts de gestion et apporter la crédibilité nécessaire à la mobilisation des citoyens et des partenaires locaux sur les questions de développement durable.

- Renforcer la participation des acteurs territoriaux dans la définition des grandes politiques nationales.

- Alléger les procédures administratives et les cadres juridiques d'appels d'offre. Un équilibre entre contrôle réglementaire et le droit à l'expérimentation doit être recherché pour favoriser la mise en oeuvre de projets originaux dans un cadre cohérent.

- Promouvoir le développement des espaces urbains durables, en s'appuyant sur une approche multi-acteurs et une approche globale des besoins de chaque territoire et en recherchant une optimisation du cadre de vie et de la mobilité urbaine.

- Favoriser l'investissement et l'entrepreneuriat socialement et écologiquement responsables en vue de créer des emplois, et cela à tous les niveaux (travailleurs manuels, qualifiés, artisans, entrepreneurs, techniciens, ingénieurs, gestionnaires, etc.), et de diminuer nos impacts et favoriser l'intégration harmonieuse des activités humaines au sein des écosystèmes.

- Favoriser l'intégration du développement durable dans les petites structures, publiques (petites collectivités) ou privées (TPE/PME), en développant l'information, la formation, l'accompagnement et la mise en réseau, et en veillant à développer une politique fiscale adaptée

- Soutenir la coopération avec les pays du Nord comme du Sud qui s'accordent pour partager les mêmes visions et valeurs du développement durable.

Ce Manifeste est la contribution du « Club France Rio+20 », animé par le Comité français pour le développement durable (dit Comité 21). Il a été rédigé de façon collégiale. Toutefois, il n'engage pas nécessairement l'opinion de tous les membres de ce Club.

Ce « Club France Rio+20 » est composé de l'Association des maires de France (AMF), la Fédération nationale des villes moyennes (FNVM), l'Association des maires des grandes villes de France (AMGVF), l'Assemblée des communautés urbaines de France (ACUF), l'Assemblée des communautés de France (AdCF), l'Association française du conseil des communes et régions d'Europe (AFCCRE), les Amis du Global Compact, le Comité français de la chambre de la commerce internationale (ICC France), European Partners for the Environment, la Conférence des grandes écoles (CGE), le Collège des directeurs du développement durable (C3D), le Collège des hautes études en

développement durable (CHEDD), les associations Orée et Décider Ensemble.

## Coastal Zones: 21st Century Challenges

### Context of the Document

This document represents the inputs provided by the authors in order to participate in the construction of the "focused political document" for the Rio+20 outcomes. As part of the effort to construct and achieve the Rio+20 goals, the authors' points of view are comprised of contributions from members of the following major groups: the Scientific and Technological Community, and NGO's Concerning the Sectoral Priority of Coastal Zones.

Coastal zones are the most productive regions in the world, both biologically and economically, but they are also the most populated. They face a harsh future due to greater challenges stemming from hunger, wars, and health related issues threatening populations and countries' economies. These challenges constitute the core of this document. Will nations work together to save these zones that buffer our world? They must be included in the next ten-year agenda before it is too late.

Following the recommendations provided by the "co-chairs' guidance note," this document has been redacted in the form of focused inputs. The material the authors submitted was coded, synthesized, and condensed to create this document. While this document communicates the most significant concerns of the authors as a group, it is not a consensus document. This document enables us: (i) to establish our inputs to the Compilation Document by November 1st, (ii) to propose adapted material to the Rio+20 delegations from various governments through each country's correspondent, and (iii) to publish an extended reference document concerning the sectoral priority of Coastal Zones from the perspective of 21st Century Challenges.

115 authors from the working group "Coastal Zones: 21st Century Challenges" actively participated in the creation of this "Inputs for Compilation Document." They are from 30 countries, and the following Institutions, Universities, Research Centers, and NGO's:



Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, ARUC, Aurecon, Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources and Security University of Wollongong, Australian Rivers Institute, Baltic Environmental Forum, Boskalis Offshore, Brock University, CALCH, CEAB/CSIC, Center of Researches in Material Sciences of Borj Cedria, Centre de Suivi Ecologique, Centro Desarrollo y Pesca Sustentable, CETMEF/DS, Chao Pesca, CNR-INSEAN, Cooper Ecological Monitoring, Inc., Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, ESA PWA | Environmental Hydrology, European Commission, Joint Research Centre, Gaz-system, German Association of Aquaculture, Greenpeace, Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, Helzel, IFM-GEOMAR, Institut Universitaire Europeen de la Mer, Jagiellonian University, Kyushu University, Laboratorio Nacional de Energia e Geologia, Latvia Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority, Latvijas Universit-te, LittOcean, Marine Sciences For Society, National Research Institute for Rural Engineering Water and Forestry, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Norwegian Directorate of Fisheries , NUI Galway, OANNES, Oceanografos Sin Fronteras, OGS National Institute of Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics, Pepperdine University, Queen's University, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Snowchange Cooperative, The Norwegian University of Life Sciences, The Pomeranian Maritime and Vistula River Basin Cluster Association, The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan, UNESCO-IHE, Universidad Autonoma de Baja California Sur, Universidad de Cadiz, Universidad de La Laguna, Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Centro Interdisciplinario Manejo Costero Integrado, Universidad de la Republica-Uruguay, Universidad del Magdalena, Universidade do Algarve, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, Universidad Politecnica de Madrid, Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona, Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Universite Bordeaux 1, Universite de Moncton, Universite de Picardie Jules Verne, Universite du Quebec a Rimouski, Universite de Versailles Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, Universite du Havre, Universite du Quebec a Rimouski, University of Bergen, University of Florence, University of Patras, University of Tartu, University of Ulster, University of Western Australia, Waseda University, and Technical University of Delft.

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### Introduction

20 years have passed since the Rio Earth Summit in 1992.20 years of efforts to better understand, inform, and improve the relationships between our societies and our planet's coastal zones. These efforts have crystallized into tangible outcomes in the form of improvements in environmental culture and international agreements upheld by over 100 national and transnational coastal zone plans, protocols, and conventions.

While moving forward with these national and international efforts, we realize that the balance between development and stewardship is still broken, and many more efforts are needed to create a harmonious relationship between the use of knowledge in society and our planet's coastal zones. Through the active participation of 115 researchers from 30 countries, the following baseline document has been constructed to highlight the perspectives of academia regarding  Coastal Zones: 21st Century Challenges-h Please consider it our input for the RIO+20 compilation document.

#### (i) Input For Compilation Document

The majority of our planet's population is concentrated in coastal zones, narrow spaces that amplify the most urgent and emerging questions of sustainability and development. In coastal zones, we clearly see the fragility of the three elements that constitute sustainability: world population growth, economic tenuity, and the increase of environmental degradation. Coastal zones are key in illustrating

(a) the challenges our societies face and (b) the potential solutions, priorities, and views regarding the implementation of practices and policies that build upon previous successes. These two points structure the document.

(a) The Challenges That Our Societies Face

Any initiative to truly help society progress sustainably must integrate the limits of the planet and be co-constructed with the affected communities. The consensus is that the challenges we face in coastal zones are mostly anthropogenic or amplified by human activities that clearly transgress ethical limits- Due to human development on the shoreline and in river basins, along with off-shore industrial unsustainable activities, our challenges are:

Red Flag Challenges Impacting Lives of Coastal Zone Residents:

- Malnutrition, hunger, freshwater availability
- Wars and other violent conflicts
- Lack of education
- Climate change and its consequences
- Exploitation of marine living resources
- Toxins in fish and shellfish, and pathogens such as cholera and hepatitis, are threats to human health
- Population growth
- Global economic crises

Challenges in Policy:

- Harmonize the interests of coastal environment users, including local community members, coastal municipalities, regional and/or inter-municipal planning, national, transnational, and international stakeholders, through the continuous improvement of economic-legislative instruments and the elaboration and implementation of coordinated strategies for the use of natural, social, cultural, and institutional resources
- Rethink economic growth and the flows of energy and materials
- Preserve 100% of the areas where the indigenous peoples of the coasts remain, including the Saami, Chukchi, Siberian Yupiaq and many others
- Integrate research and education into the decision making process
- Make information readily and easily accessible to facilitate informed decision-making
- Protect natural and cultural resources at all levels: local, regional, national, and international, while keeping coastal communities safe
- Monitor and control the coastal and littoral maritime traffic, industrial activity, and the related hazards of oil pollution, chemical transport, collision, GIS reduction, and technical failures
- Introduce policies that: make change trends mandatory, protect existing coastal habitats and ecological functions, recover the fishing stocks, and prevent illegal and habitat-destructive fishing
- Prevent over-population in developing regions and minimize damage in already overpopulated areas
- Balance urban growth by using space more efficiently
- Plan sustainable spatial allocation and management for fisheries and aquaculture
- Plan sustainable spatial allocation and management for energy production and supply

Challenges from Pollution and Climate Change:

- Oceanic temperature warming and change in alkalinity
- Decreasing oxygen levels leading to dead zones, species extirpation, and noxious gas emissions
- Seawater intrusion in coastal aquifers
- Coastal and sea pollution caused by wastewaters and solid wastes that have been treated ineffectively or not at all
- Pollution by toxic waste, metals, nutrients, contaminants
- Floods, erosion, and rising sea-levels
- Illegal or little regulated extraction of natural resources to fill increasing demand
- Amplified vulnerability of coastal populations, particularly the economically disadvantaged
- Loss of habitat and loss of biodiversity
- Irreversible ecological destruction
- Toxic blooms due to pollution
- Coral reef bleaching
- Introduction of invasive species
- New diseases among organisms
- Dispel the assumption that the coast is "safe"



#### Challenges in Research:

- Generate an information baseline of coastal ecological and social processes that researchers can measure against
- Take into account the social and human dimensions of uncertainty
- Study in greater depth the interconnectedness of natural systems to better understand how to sustain coastal and oceanic health
- Conduct research in support of management on multiple spatial and temporal scales
- Develop and establish an integrated oceans monitoring network, and create interoperable open-access databases that can provide reliable data on a user community's defined goal(s)
- Interdisciplinary approaches to solve any challenge
- Integrate all stakeholders in the research process
- Develop innovative techniques for the restoration of ecosystem functions
- Evaluate the success of the integrated coastal management political processes and practices on a local to global basis
- Identify and quantify the human-induced stressors acting on coastal ecosystems and populations

#### (b) Potential Solutions, Priorities, and Views Regarding the Implementation of Practices and Policies that Build Upon Successes

#### Economy and Development Models:

- The model of development based on infinite economic growth needs to be questioned:

To what degree do activities on coastal areas facilitate general development and what manner of development is currently needed?

Can development be based on sustainability and how can the socio-economic structure respond to international competitiveness?

- A trade-off between the economy and the environment exists; destructive industries have to be challenged and held accountable for their social and environmental consequences
- G20 announced the preparation of a charter on [sustainable economics](#), [in](#) which we must make explicit how such a charter should be implemented from a global governance perspective

#### Governance, Global/Local Articulation:

- The efforts cannot only come from local governments and communities; the challenges are global in nature
- UN Ocean should be supplemented by other trans-governmental and nongovernmental networks as additional forms of governance
- Intergovernmental Panel on Maritime Basins (IPMB) should contribute to providing governance systems with common and reliable information and promote coherent responses from these systems
- Build strong connections between transboundary maritime basins related to large marine ecosystems and maritime regions of the world
- Apply a deliberative approach that concertates on managing emerging challenges and linking all spatial and temporal scales

#### Collaborative Policy Making:

- The instruments for the implementation of integrated coastal zone management are: an integrated approach to coastal land and marine spatial planning, cross-sectoral and multiregional agreements, public participation, effective cross-border consultation system, monitoring and assessment of socio-economical and ecological changes and trends, comprehensive analysis of sustainable development indicators, financial and legal mechanisms for ICZM implementation, and connected and collaborative decision-making between all administrative levels from global to local
- Move from the theoretical framework into realizing the necessary actions
- Improve the articulation between ICZM and adaptation measures
- Integrate local and traditional knowledge with policy making
- Learn from international experience and practices in integrated coastal management, and adjust lessons to other contexts
- Evaluate the success of the integrated coastal management political processes and practices on a global basis
- Participation of coastal communities is vital, not only to vindicate the legitimacy of strategies, but also to provide them with the opportunity to express their doubts, to rebuild their trust, to learn how to live in a changing environment, and to manage social conflict
- Create respectful partnerships with traditional societies on Earth, as they can provide crucial observations and knowledge regarding emerging challenges
- Make decisions that are compatible with the core values of affected coastal communities and coast-dependent peoples
- Increase interdisciplinary training and cross-collaborations among tertiary programs and teams
- Natural science data must be combined with social science understandings of the places where regulations are to be implemented
- Natural scientists, engineers, economists, lawyers, and social scientists must recognize their responsibility and role in the process and collaborate with each other to achieve common goals

#### Legislation and Regulation:

- Define coastal zones in both spatial and temporal dimensions, since coastal dynamics cast some legal uncertainty on how coastal zones are determined
- Improve and reinforce legal frameworks controlling coastal activities
- Make good practices mandatory for stakeholders; hold elected politicians accountable for their promises
- Coordinate states and various sectors

#### Information, Education, and Awareness:

- Improve the competence of and resources for local and regional coastal zone authorities
- Knowledge must be shared, promoted, and used in order to a) aid society in developing a critical approach, b) exercise pressure on policy makers, and c) develop realistic, sustainable, and feasible policies
- Promote public awareness of the socio-ecological values of the coastal resources and ecosystems

#### Research:

- Encourage the scientific development of new sustainable, useful technologies
- Improve treatment plant performance
- Increase general use of new biodegradable materials
- Long-term studies that identify past and present evolutionary trends of the coast
- Intelligent and sustainable use of marine resources to enable the development of new, sustainable medical and pharmaceutical products
- Develop and establish integrated monitoring networks and coherent forecasting systems that provide coastal managers and policymakers with critical coastal state indicators in order to ensure the safety of coastal communities while assuring the preservation of natural coastal dynamics
- Bring together competence and synergy to develop an ecological sustainable aquaculture in order to protect the biodiversity and environment in the ocean, as well as provide a safe and sustainable source for human food
- Combine infrastructures like offshore wind energy facilities and aquaculture installations

#### Conclusion

A general comment to conclude our document is this: the challenges we face in coastal zones are mostly anthropogenic or amplified by human activities that clearly transgress reasonable limits- We insist on the fact that any initiative to truly help society progress sustainably must integrate the limits of the planet and be co-constructed with the affected communities.

#### Reminder

This document represents the inputs provided by the authors in order to participate in the construction of the [highly](#) focused political document [which](#) for the Rio+20 outcomes- As part of the effort to construct and achieve the Rio+20 goals, the authors' points of view are comprised of contributions from members of the following major groups: the Scientific and Technological Community, and NGO's Concerning the Sectoral Priority of Coastal Zones.

Following the recommendations provided by the [high](#) co-chairs' guidance note, [which](#) this document has been redacted in the form of focused inputs- The material the authors submitted was coded, synthesized, and condensed to create this document- While this document communicates the most significant concerns of the authors as a group, it is not a consensus document- This document enables us: (i) to establish our inputs to the Compilation Document by November 1st, (ii) to propose adapted material to the Rio+20 delegations from various governments through each country's correspondent, and (iii) to publish an extended reference document concerning the sectoral priority of Coastal Zones from the perspective of 21st Century Challenges.

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## Collectif RIO+20

The Rio Conference that will take place in June 2012 shall consider the matters that human kind is facing today, by focussing on two main issues: the ecological and social conversion of our societies, and thus of our economic system, and the construction of new forms of international cooperation, engaging the responsibility of all actors.

#### A CIVILISATION SHIFT

The world has deeply changed since the Rio Conference in 1992. On one side, the economic space has been globalised. It is today characterised by the raise of emerging countries and by a systemic crisis, which is affecting the long time industrialised countries, but also the poorest ones. It includes ecological, social, economic and political aspects. On the other side, there is a need of a common management of the planet when it comes to climate change, erosion of biodiversity or even inequalities of access to natural resources, considering they are rarer each day. We simultaneously live in an economic unification of the world, conflicts and a doubled competition to corner wealth, and the confrontation to the limits of our planet. Despite the global growth, it is still impossible to apply the engagements defined by the Millennium Development Goals, to fight against the hunger endured by over one thousand million people, to stop the erosion of social protection mechanisms, to shore up the emergence of chronic diseases noticed worldwide, to stop speculation and financial deregulation. These changes have multiple causes and cannot be solved in a situation of economic deregulation. Market economy cannot take environment pressures into account, neither the disparities of resources. Furthermore, the research of financial advantages causes more social and economic differentials, and accelerates ecological instability, contributing even more to an increasing asymmetry of power.

Today's limits of multilateralism show the end of a period in which Nation-States dominated industrial, economic, social and political stakes, thus contributing to the increase of inequalities. Nevertheless, the necessary institutions and instruments used to manage the various issues, which must be dealt with worldwide, are very insufficient, if existing. We must build the means for a real planetary regulation.

Facing OUTDATED thresholds of acceptability and VIABILITY : PREPARE THE TRANSITION TOWARDS A CIVILISATION SHIFT

Preparing the transition towards a new civilisation means firstly defining the values, which correspond to a general interest raised at the level of all human kind. This notion of

general interest must be defined in new terms, inspired on social and cultural diversity. Various experiences in the world, at the initiative of social movements, already draw the different ways of an ecological and social transition in a pragmatic way.

The eradication of poverty and the reduction of inequalities are the first condition to transition

Reducing inequalities and fighting against poverty constitute the first priority. Without significant progress in these issues, countries' social cohesion and political stability are at stake. Without it there will be no individual adhesion, no collective dynamics, no international agreements. The reduction of inequalities involves the establishment of the International Labour Bureau rules, on decent work conditions and the construction of an universal social protection; the reinforcement of national politics in order to reduce income inequalities and a better distribution of wealth; build supportive systems so that a great amount of people count benefit from the right to healthcare, the fair relocation of activities and the establishment of a food and energy sovereignty; the submission of the international economic negotiations to the social and environmental rules; the development of collective consumptions (transportation, housing), connected to efficiency measures and access for all.

Gender, a major transversal issue for transition

The issue of the evolution of social relationships between men and women (Gender) is still the most discarded matter in the systemic crisis, although it is at the heart of both crisis and solutions to solve it. Change the relationships should be a pivot to a strategic discussion on the means to transition towards a sustainable development, which is based on an equal allocation of resources, within the ecological limits of the biosphere. Moreover, women are specific actors and important alternatives to open new paths of social innovation and prefigure a more human and inclusive development.

A global citizenship: from local to global, individual and collective responsibility

The willingness of solidarity and justice will nurture the construction of a collective capacity of action. From this notion of global citizenship, and thus from a common destiny, arises the notion of individual and collective responsibility. It is important to specify the essential components of the new social contract, which will enable the opening of differentiated paths to make transition possible towards fair and sustainable societies... towards a new civilization.

Using resources: optimization, sharing and sobriety

The adaptation of our societies to the limits of the planet will go by the optimisation, but mainly by the sobriety and sharing in the use of resources. Waste is antisocial and anti ecological. This optimisation of the management of resources needs the support to knowledge, to local pilot projects, and an international regulation, which over surpasses today's blind liberalism to integrate superior planet obligations. The notion of ecological space, which articulates sobriety – for the preservation of ecosystems – and equity – in order to satisfy the basic needs of all – promotes a fair and sustainable use of resources.

Recognizing a definition of « global public goods » and « common goods »

From the compelling need to build a vision of general interest on basic goals, it is necessary to agree on the definitions of common goods and also on global goods, making sure that their management obeys to principles that are higher than the rules of competition. Common goods request citizens' commitment and the definition of usage rules. This approach based of cooperation – and not on competition and privatization – is more likely to enable an ecological and social sustainability of societies. Moreover, the preservation of global goods (atmosphere, oceans, health...) can only be possible with intergovernmental agreements, which are applicable to users' communities. That is the reason why the United Nations is the place to define the goods and to promote the experiences of collective reappropriation of these goods.

A SUSTAINABLE END OF CRISIS REQUIRES CRITERIA OF GENERAL INTEREST, TAX INSTRUMENTS FOR TRANSITION, SCALES TO ESTABLISH SOLIDARITIES... THE NECESSARY PRE-REQUIREMENTS OF OUR VISION OF TRANSITION

It is a new vision of development that the Rio+20 Conference shall transmit for societies in ecological and social transition, for a systemic shift. The strength of issues requests major social transformations, which commit all levels of society and can only be possible on a democratic basis.

Ecological and social transition as a way out of crisis

The answer to financial, economic, social and environmental crises is to be found in new paths of development, which will rely on the sobriety of wealthy people's life style; the improvement of living conditions in developing countries by ensuring the access to essential services and to fundamental rights; the distribution of wealth through tax; new production, exchange and consuming processes; the cheap management of non renewable resources; prioritize short circuits of production and distribution; new society and environmental responsibilities for the firms. This path should be created in the perspective of an economic regulation based on principles of general interest, which are imposed on economic and financial logics, and lead not only to economic changes, but also on a regulated economy and an inflexion of individual and collective behaviours. Therefore, new goals, concepts, actors or institutions must integrate ecological sustainability and social justice, and shall not consider green economy as the only approach as it does not include a social dimension, which not only nurtures progress but also technological illusion. It is important that the concept of « green economy » is based on the fundamental principle of « durability », which is contrary to today's characteristics of our societies, based on over-consumption, individualism and priority to short term.

Green economy, as it should be understood, must correspond to new economic and technological social principles, towards the optimisation of the use of resources and the global reduction of material pressure on non-renewable resources.

At the bottom of the economic system stands the construction of sustainable societies, which associate both the well-being of all and the preservation of the planet's integrity; the general improvement of life and health conditions and a just remuneration of Labour; an economy based on functionality which favours the access to consumption goods at the expense of personal property; the coherence of the downstream of technological and professional sectors and technologies which enable the creation of qualified and decent jobs, accompanied by lifelong trainings; the input of local knowledge; natural or semi-natural spaces and habitats by making the entities at the origin of the damages pay for its restoring; the reduction of waste at source and a circular economy with recycling, the development of short circuits specially in the food sector, and long circuits when they are guarantors of a fair remuneration and a low impact on natural resources and environment; the knowledge of resources for a better perception of limits, an ecological management and a better inter- and intra- generational distribution.

The path to prosperity without growth will be long. That is the reason why it is necessary to start it as fast as possible, taking into account the considerable differences between societies in order to enable the access to elementary goods and to decent life and labour conditions, for the whole planet population.

The research for new paths of development needs to establish ecological and social transition as a way out of crisis.

An instrument of transition: the revalorisation of the tax role

Financing public goods, the transition towards societies with less carbon and the preservation of biodiversity, request public resources and the establishment of global taxes, such as the tax on financial transactions.

The need to surpass the use of the GDP growth in favour of more representative indicators of a sustainable development

New indicators, representative of the non-evaluated dimensions by the GDP such as the quality of life or the ecological and social sustainability, must be created. It is not viable to pilot change with indicators, which ignore the reality of the planet's limits.

The crucial role of local authorities in regulation

In a globalised economy, local authorities become the level of creation of solidarities. From a subsidiary point of view, a partnership with local and regional governments is essential to the establishment of viable and balanced responses, which include the organized civil society as a stakeholder when conducting actions. Territories are essential in multi-level governance.

The need to leave a society of consumption which is unjust and predatory regarding the planet and replace it by a relational society

There is no such thing as an optimisation path of the use of resources and of respect of environmental stability with the generalisation of the excessive consumption society model, and thus with a slow progress in education and culture. Today's challenges open a path towards cultural progression, and request a democratic step forward: there are infinite possibilities in this finite world. The infinite is open by the technologies of information and communication, but also by the development of arts, which support human capacities to invent life styles based on solidarity, develop new knowledge and competences, without substituting human and social relations. Relationship with others, social link, access to knowledge, cultural creativity and access to other cultures constitute infinite assets, which are multiplied when shared. Today's consumption society cannot be accessible to the entire human kind as its extension in new emerging counties is incompatible with the respect of the planet's limits (energetic and environmental). Publicity has a key role in today's mechanisms. It distils a promise towards consumers, which consists in promising the improvement of living conditions by the increase of individual consumption. It is thus necessary to open new paths of satisfaction, which are compatible with the constraints of this century, rely on common values, rooted in different cultures and philosophies.

Build a promise to people, put human kind at the centre

Sustainable development must open a successful life perspective, in this century's context. The Rio+20 Conference must send a message of hope for each and every person, in order to enable the change from a civilization of disparities and excess to a cooperative and relational one, representing transition.

Democratic progress, the condition to a reinforced governance based on general interest

A real change in civilisation necessarily requires a democratic progress. The actual change in our civilisation shall answer to this requirement. It is the democratic strengthening that enables to follow the deep upheavals, which destabilise earlier representations regarding economy, technologies, life styles and attitudes. These political progresses must be operated at four levels: at a citizen level, at a grassroots democracy level, at a national level and at a supranational level.

It is thus essential that public politics become a phase of an elaboration largely open to structures of civil society and citizens, but also economic actors, and this specifically because of power asymmetry. Such a construction will assess the orientations to take and will build a strong mandate for the elected, which will facilitate both the decision taking and its application.

rethink international architecture of governance in the united nations for more regulation and new engagements

The construction process of a new world governance requires a reform to be conducted within the United Nations, in order to adapt its architecture and efficiency to all the social and environmental issues. Only an Assembly of States can decide to create new international institutions that are necessary to human kind.

Beyond the Treaty of Westphalia, which founded the international system based on national sovereignty, the transformation of today's civilisation requires the constitution of an international framework above countries which is legally binding. In fact, the engagements taken by a country in an international negotiation will only be obtained if it has the conviction that the others are also in the obligation to respect their engagement. Betrayal can only be possible with the creation of concepts, institutions and a management culture from local to global, intrinsic to multi-level governance.

The present increase of institutions of governance: the United Nations, G8, G20,... increases confusion and leads to inaction

Keeping economic institutions (International Trade Organisation, World Bank, International Monetary Fund) separate from the United Nations leads to, on one side, a political institution without economic and legal power, and on the other side, to an organised economic power based on the financial contribution of countries. The need to re-regulate the world economy requires a more direct link between politics and economy, a balance between people, societies and the biosphere. Firms cannot create this balance. We need to conceive sustainable sectors, which involve traceability on the whole sector of production and exchange.

Rio+20 must be the starting point of a cycle of international negotiations, lead on new bases, which will enable to relaunch multilateralism, establish a negotiation mandate and a global calendar, the constitution of an international commission of management, the establishment of an annual cycle of international negotiations.

Decisions to be taken in the final document of the Rio-2012 Conference

In order to reform the United Nations it is necessary to organise a Conference of highest-level. This reform would consist in enlarging the Security Council; in reforming the Ecosoc in order to guarantee a process of representativeness and participation of local public powers and civil society organisations; in creating an executive organ inside the United Nations, which coordinates the agencies and programs in application of a sustainable development strategy.

A binding legal framework and the establishment of control and sanction bodies

The United Nations must have two types of supranational bodies. On one side, knowledge and control bodies – at a planet level and at a "big regions" level able to establish a recognised report of scientific knowledge, to establish rules for sharing, to observe the respect of global rules and to investigate the responsibilities which originated pollutions and other infringements to rules. On the other side, international jurisdictions that are capable of establishing sanctions against States and multinational firms, whose guilt would be thus established and they would be forced to apply according to an instruments' palette according to an incremental penalty scheme. Finally, we cannot expect to increase the abilities of International Criminal Court regarding the distortions made to environmental heritage if an international environmental jurisdiction is not created.

Establish an Intergovernmental Group of Experts about sustainability

In order to define the conditions for sustainability by integrating its social dimension, and to measure them with indicators dedicated to the finiteness of natural resources and environmental limits, it is essential to establish the equivalent to the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Climate Changes concerning sustainability.

The reinforcement induced of environment in the framework of an International Environment Organisation

The establishment of an IEO should be operated in three steps.

- Firstly, a reinforcement of the UNEP, of its missions and of its means, enabling it to cover all international conventions on environment; this will enable to coordinate and adapt the various international conventions on environment;
- Secondly, acquire new abilities in terms of sanctions to the firms and States, which suggests the constitution of an international dispute settlement body.
- Finally, the adoption of a treaty for the creation of the IEO, which mentions that the new agency has the power to subsume the activities, the functions and the resources of the UNEP.

The preparation of new international conventions

Especially on the management of international waters and the seabed; the rights of indigenous people; the rights of climate refugees; and the adoption to existing rules regarding the principles of sustainable development.

Towards a new Bretton-Wood in order to establish an international financial regulation to support development

It is necessary to establish an international economic regulation, an initiative that urgently requires a redesign of the actual world governance. This implies the integration of the ITO in the United Nations, including its dispute settlement body; the harmonisation of tax at an international level – in order to curb the crisis, this harmonisation must be done through a treaty that collects the agreement of all countries so it is not circumvented by tax havens –; the adoption of international financing rules for development; the effective application of the developed countries' engagement to allocate 0,7% of their gross national income to development aid; the establishment of a tax on international financial transactions, to guarantee the necessary North-South transfer to move towards a new path for development – its product must be affected according to three purposes: the ADP, the funding of a transaction to economies that are sober in carbon (adaptation and attenuation) and a "fair" transition for industrialised countries; the adoption of the following principles: transparency of developed countries' contributions, the principle of direct access for developing countries, decentralisation of the attribution of funding and the quality control of passed investments.

Our role of Bonn in Rio is to contribute to what could be a citizen's declaration. Only one strong speech expressed in front of the whole world, backed up by media, will be able to give the initial push, essential to the change of paradigm in our societies.

Our Propositions

- A civilization shift
- Facing outdated thresholds of acceptability and viability: prepare the transition
- A sustainable end of crisis requires criteria of general interest, tax instruments for transition, scales to establish solidarities... the necessary pre-requests of our vision of transition
- Democratic progress, the condition to a reinforced governance based on general interest
- rethink international architecture of governance in the united nations for more regulation and new engagements

## Collectivités locales et territoriales françaises

[\[IN ENGLISH\]](#)

Déclaration des collectivités locales et territoriales françaises pour Rio+20

Cette déclaration des collectivités locales et territoriales en vue de Rio+20 a été rédigée dans le cadre des Assises Nationales du Développement Durable en France, organisées par la Région Midi-Pyrénées à Toulouse, en octobre 2011, au cours desquelles elle a été débattue et enrichie.

Ainsi, au terme de ces débats, l'Association des Régions de France, l'Assemblée des Départements de France, l'Association des Maires de France, l'Assemblée des Communautés de France, l'Association des Maires de Grandes Villes de France, la Fédération des Maires de Villes Moyennes, l'Association des Communautés Urbaines de France, l'Association des Petites Villes de France, l'Association des Maires Ville et Banlieue de France, l'Association des Maires Ruraux de France, l'Association Française du Conseil des Communes et Régions d'Europe, l'Assemblée des Régions d'Europe, et les autres réseaux de Collectivités locales souhaitant s'y associer déclarent :

« Les politiques publiques des collectivités territoriales touchent à tous les domaines de la vie, logement, déplacement, emploi, éducation et épanouissement des citoyens. Il nous appartient donc de les développer pour répondre aux aspirations légitimes des populations dans une perspective d'intérêt général en assurant le respect des capacités physiques et biologiques de la planète. C'est avec une vision lucide, acquise grâce à notre expérience de terrain, désireuses de prendre toutes nos responsabilités et animées d'un esprit de coopération avec tous les partenaires concernés, que nous nous présentons devant ce sommet mondial de Rio-2012.

Il vous appartient, États, organisations et agences, autorités publiques de tous niveaux, de nous considérer comme partenaires du développement durable, mais surtout comme acteurs essentiels de la transition à réussir. En effet, la connaissance des territoires, le savoir-faire du développement local, la capacité d'innovation et d'expérimentation, le rôle d'animation au plus proche du citoyen des collectivités locales déterminent largement l'efficacité des politiques publiques.

Rio+20 doit donc être le point de départ d'un processus de transition, lançant un cycle de négociations dans la période 2012-2020 et permettant l'élaboration démocratique et transparente des nouvelles formes de gouvernance au sein des Nations Unies afin de répondre aux défis de l'humanité. Force est de constater que cela ne pourra pas se faire qu'avec une réelle intégration des acteurs de la société civile et des collectivités locales. »

1- Les Principaux enjeux de la Conférence de RIO+20

Depuis la Conférence de Rio en 1992, le monde a profondément changé. L'humanité est directement confrontée aux limites d'une planète dont elle tire ses ressources. Cette confrontation exige un changement de civilisation avec une gestion collective et solidaire de la planète. C'est la condition indispensable de la lutte contre le changement climatique, l'érosion de la biodiversité, l'inégalité dans l'accès à l'eau, à la santé, à l'énergie et aux ressources naturelles. Des enjeux planétaires, dont les Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement, découlent le sens à donner à l'action publique pour tous les niveaux de collectivités. Faute de cela, l'accroissement des souffrances humaines, la révolte contre les inégalités risquent de dégénérer en violences. Il convient donc de progresser vers une économie verte, qui optimisant l'utilisation des ressources, permette un partage des richesses plus équitable et soutenable et le développement de tous les peuples.

La mondialisation, fondée sur les principes seuls de concurrence économique et d'intérêts nationaux, débouche sur un accroissement des inégalités faute de mécanismes de régulation. Ainsi, la crise financière devient une crise systémique profonde qui ne peut trouver d'issue qu'à la condition d'apporter des solutions économiques, sociales, écologiques et politiques dans le cadre d'un développement durable.

C'est la raison pour laquelle la conférence qui se tiendra à Rio en 2012 a retenu comme thèmes majeurs l'évolution vers une économie verte, l'éradication de la pauvreté dans le cadre du développement durable et la réalisation de progrès en matière de gouvernance du développement durable. Il est évident que des progrès considérables sont possibles pour réduire les inégalités sociales, diminuer les gaspillages actuels, améliorer nos comportements individuels et collectifs et surtout transformer notre modèle de production et de consommation en direction d'une économie plus écologique et équitable.

## 2- Le rôle des collectivités territoriales

Ouvrir la voie à une nouvelle période de l'histoire humaine marquée par ce double mouvement de confrontation aux limites de la planète et de mondialisation de l'économie implique une quadruple cohérence :

- Une gouvernance mondiale et une régulation qui assurent le droit de tous au développement et l'accès aux ressources ;
- La bonne application des engagements pris par les États, la première et la plus importante des responsabilités des gouvernements ;
- Un rôle accru des collectivités locales et territoriales car elles sont le lieu où les politiques peuvent intégrer les dimensions économiques, sociales et écologiques, et ce dans des processus démocratiques qui mobilisent les citoyens ;
- Une citoyenneté renouvelée dans laquelle chacun(e) construit sa vie par une synthèse originale et individuelle qui allie plaisir de vivre, prise en compte de toutes les dimensions de l'intérêt général (y compris planétaire) et solidarité sociale.

Même si l'interdépendance entre l'humanité et la biosphère rend indispensable en premier lieu la recherche de solutions au niveau mondial, les collectivités locales, quelles que soient leur taille et leurs compétences, jouent un rôle essentiel, à la fois par leur action propre et par leur capacité démocratique d'entraîner le citoyen. Dans une économie mondialisée, les collectivités sont le point d'appui où les solidarités, indispensables à la cohésion sociale se tissent au plus près des besoins des citoyens. C'est également de l'adhésion des territoires locaux et de leurs habitants que dépend la mise en oeuvre effective des conventions internationales.

Les collectivités locales, à travers leurs politiques touchent ainsi à tous les domaines de la vie (habiter, travailler, se déplacer, échanger, s'épanouir, se nourrir, se former, se soigner...). Il leur appartient, avec le concours des autres niveaux territoriaux et internationaux, de les développer pour répondre aux aspirations légitimes de manière durable dans le respect des capacités physiques et biologiques de la planète.

Depuis la conférence de Rio de 1992, les collectivités ont fait la preuve de leur capacité d'action dans la mise en oeuvre du développement durable. Le chapitre 28 de ce programme d'actions pour le XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle appelait à une mise en oeuvre massive des agendas 21 locaux dès le début des années 1990. S'il aura fallu attendre cette décennie en France pour la mise en oeuvre des 1<sup>ers</sup> programmes, les agendas 21 ont permis de lancer une dynamique importante par la suite, en poussant les collectivités à se poser de nouvelles questions et à rechercher des réponses adaptées, cohérentes et partagées. Les agendas 21 locaux sont une des principales traductions de l'intégration du développement durable dans les politiques publiques.

Le développement durable devient la colonne vertébrale qui assure la cohérence des politiques publiques. Reste que les collectivités ont des compétences et des moyens divers. Leur efficacité dépend aussi de la qualité de leur articulation avec les autres niveaux de collectivités. Si la dynamique des agendas 21, pour des raisons historiques, s'est d'abord emparée des questions écologiques et environnementales, relever les défis sociaux, des modes de production et de consommation constituent les challenges de nouveaux projets territoriaux dans un contexte de crises graves.

Ainsi, la question qui est posée aux collectivités est de plus en plus celle de leur montée en responsabilité, notamment pour la préservation des ressources et de l'environnement, de l'exigence d'équité dans la répartition des richesses (revenus, écologiques...), de capacité d'impulsion pour transformer les modes de production et de consommation. Conscientes de leurs responsabilités, elles entendent tenir toute leur place dans l'élaboration et la mise en oeuvre des politiques selon les principes du développement durable.

Mais l'atteinte de ces objectifs est conditionnée à ce que chaque niveau, international, européen, national et infra-territorial assure ses responsabilités propres. Elle est donc conditionnée à :

- l'organisation et l'articulation des différents niveaux d'intervention : la communauté internationale, les États doivent organiser et réfléchir avec les collectivités locales aux modalités selon lesquelles tous coopèrent ;
- l'orientation des ressources financières et de la fiscalité avec le renforcement des capacités d'intervention des collectivités.

La métamorphose en cours de notre civilisation ne pourra dépasser les angoisses et les blocages provoqués que si elle répond à une exigence de justice sociale et environnementale et d'approfondissement de la démocratie. C'est cette avancée démocratique qui permettra de maîtriser les bouleversements profonds des représentations antérieures, qu'elles tiennent à l'économie, aux technologies, aux modes de vie et aux mentalités.

Les collectivités y apporteront leur contribution en associant davantage les acteurs locaux, les diverses collectivités publiques, les entreprises, les syndicats, les ONG, les citoyens à l'élaboration des politiques. La réussite de celles-ci nécessite d'obtenir l'adhésion de chacun et sa contribution active. Or, l'élévation du niveau de formation, les nouveaux moyens de communication, permettent une intervention des citoyens beaucoup plus importante dans la préparation des décisions publiques et leur évaluation et une pluralisation des voies démocratiques. L'importance des enjeux nécessite que les décisions publiques s'appuient sur une élaboration avec la plus large participation possible.

Les collectivités, dans la continuité de la Déclaration des collectivités locales et territoriales françaises pour le Sommet de Johannesburg, réaffirment :

- Leur volonté de contribuer au plan d'action 21, à la Déclaration de Rio+20 selon des principes de solidarité, d'intérêt général, de transversalité et de participation ;
- Le respect de la convention d'Aarhus de 1998, pour développer et favoriser la participation du public à la prise de décision et l'accès à la justice en matière d'environnement ;
- Leur engagement en faveur de la Charte d'Aalborg (1994 et 2004) pour intégrer des principes de la durabilité dans les politiques urbaines locales ;
- Leur appui aux déclarations adoptées en vue des conférences sur le changement climatique (Copenhague, Cancún) ;
- Leur volonté de mettre en oeuvre les engagements de la Déclaration de Dunkerque (2010) sur la transition vers des villes durables ;
- Leur soutien à la Convention européenne des Maires pour une énergie locale durable (2008) ;
- Leur détermination exprimée dans la Charte des maires de France pour l'environnement (2007).

### 3- La mise en mouvement du global au local

La réussite des objectifs qui précèdent nécessitent une progression à toutes les échelles de gouvernance. Ainsi, les collectivités demandent...

- Éradiquer la pauvreté, réduire les inégalités sociales et lutter contre les discriminations, alors même que l'on constate une incapacité à tenir globalement les engagements des Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement (OMD), que les inégalités explosent et que la faim touche encore 1 milliard d'habitants. Il faut décider à Rio des Objectifs de Développement Durable complémentaires portant notamment sur l'accès à l'énergie et la recherche de l'autonomie alimentaire des pays.
- Gérer de façon sobre l'énergie et les ressources naturelles et assurer une stabilité des prix des matières premières et des ressources alimentaires, afin de garantir le maintien et le développement des agricultures locales.
- Garantir les équilibres écologiques – la stabilisation du climat à un niveau qui garantisse l'accès à l'eau, à l'assainissement et à l'alimentation et évite des désastres écologiques, ainsi que la protection de la biodiversité, et ce à toutes les échelles, selon un principe de responsabilité commune et différenciée.
- Construire un système de protection sociale au bénéfice de tous les peuples, alors même que la mondialisation de l'économie se traduit par la mise en concurrence des travailleurs des différents pays et la mise à mal des systèmes de protection sociale, là où ils existent, sous la contrainte des exigences économiques.
- Instaurer des mécanismes de régulation au niveau mondial, en matière financière, monétaire, commerciale et fiscale en vue d'apporter une réponse à l'instabilité économique et financière à l'origine de drames sociaux et écologiques.
- Rendre les collectivités parties prenantes des processus d'élaboration des programmes, politiques et mesures mettant en jeu leurs responsabilités dans la mise en place des politiques de développement durable, dont la lutte contre le changement climatique et l'érosion de la biodiversité.
- Donner au regroupement des collectivités territoriales le statut, d'organisation intergouvernementale, dans le cadre de l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies.
- Constituer un Conseil de Développement Durable qui coordonne à ce titre les agences et programmes opérationnels des Nations Unies.
- Associer les collectivités locales à la négociation des réponses à la crise financière – qui ne les épargne pas – sachant que plusieurs de ses composantes – la spéculation sur des biens communs comme le logement ou l'alimentation, les déficits publics, nécessitent des réformes qui portent sur la fiscalité et les capacités de financement à long terme.
- Permettre aux collectivités locales d'accéder aux financements des banques multilatérales de développement pour la mise en oeuvre des politiques locales de développement durable et la coopération entre territoires.
- Renforcer le soutien aux actions de coopération décentralisée et de solidarité internationale qui s'inscrivent dans des démarches territoriales de développement durable, Agenda 21, Plan Climat...
- Adopter des nouveaux indicateurs, représentatifs des dimensions non évaluées par le PIB comme la qualité de la vie ou de la soutenabilité écologique et sociale (Empreinte Écologique, Indicateur de Développement Humain (IDH) ; Indicateur de Santé Sociale (ISS)...).

Aux institutions Européennes

- De consacrer des moyens financiers nécessaires aux stratégies territoriales de développement durable et de faciliter leur accès aux collectivités locales, dans le cadre des politiques européennes (politique de cohésion, politique agricole commune...).
- De veiller à la préservation de l'autonomie d'action et d'organisation des collectivités pour la mise en oeuvre de services publics à haute qualité et l'accessibilité de tous.

A l'Etat

- Poursuivre la décentralisation en appliquant le principe de subsidiarité, notamment pour la lutte contre le changement climatique et en matière de politique énergétique.
- Octroyer aux collectivités locales la capacité à produire du droit opposable en faveur de l'expérimentation et l'innovation car elles sont le creuset des innovations technologiques et surtout organisationnelles et comportementales.
- Associer les collectivités dans la définition des politiques publiques car elles prennent une place déterminante à leur réussite.
- Faire évoluer la fiscalité pour donner une marge de manoeuvre aux collectivités et leur assurer la prévisibilité indispensable de leurs ressources financières.
- Revaloriser la notion d'investissement social permettant la réorientation des marchés publics en vue des pratiques du développement durable.

### 4 - Les engagements que prennent les collectivités locales

Pour leur part, les Collectivités, par la présente déclaration, s'engagent à :

- S'inscrire dans la continuité de Rio-92 à travers la conception du développement durable liant soutenabilité écologique, justice sociale et promotion des démarches territoriales de développement durable comme l'agenda 21.
- Promouvoir la transition vers des territoires soutenables, solidaires et équitables, assurant un ancrage territorial du développement économique, en renforçant leur résilience selon une gestion écologiquement durable des ressources locales (ressources naturelles, énergies renouvelables...) et socialement responsable (emplois et innovations, technologies vertes...).
- Favoriser l'accès à l'information et assurer la participation des citoyens à la vie publique, à l'élaboration des politiques publiques et à leur évaluation.
- Rechercher l'optimisation, la sobriété et le partage dans l'usage des ressources.
- OEuvrer pour un accès à l'éducation et à l'emploi égalitaire entre toutes les catégories de la société avec une attention particulière pour la question du genre, les jeunes et les personnes en situation de handicap.
- Promouvoir la formation tout au long de la vie pour aider chacun dans les considérables mutations en cours.
- Soutenir une vision multiculturelle et solidaire du développement durable tenant compte de la pluralité des voies de développement dans le respect des cultures, des individus et des savoir-faire locaux et dans le respect de l'intérêt général.

- Faciliter un accès équitable aux besoins essentiels de proximité : eau potable et assainissement, énergie, santé, transports collectifs, logement, etc.
- Utiliser la commande publique comme levier vers le développement durable en développant les services de proximité d'approvisionnement alimentaire et énergétique, l'économie sociale et solidaire, en favorisant la relocalisation d'activités...
- Favoriser l'articulation entre les politiques de développement durable des divers niveaux de collectivités par la coopération inter territoriale.
- Contribuer à travers la coopération décentralisée à renforcer les capacités des pays en développement à progresser vers un développement durable et solidaire.
- Déployer après la conférence de Rio une nouvelle génération d'agendas 21 et autres projets territoriaux de développement durable qui en reprennent les avancées et mettent en oeuvre les principes d'intérêt général.

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## Collège des Directeurs du Développement Durable (C3D)

Les territoires urbains durables : De l'expérimentation au déploiement de l'économie verte par les entreprises françaises.

Les territoires urbains, qui abritent désormais la majorité de la population mondiale, concentrent également les enjeux du développement durable, aussi bien environnementaux que sociétaux. Ils constituent également l'échelon territorial où les actions des différents acteurs publics et privés peuvent le plus efficacement s'articuler pour développer une économie plus verte tout en contribuant à réduire la pauvreté.

Les Directeurs du Développement Durable des entreprises françaises rassemblés au sein du Collège des Directeurs du Développement Durable (C3D) engagent ainsi leurs entreprises dans des démarches innovantes, le plus souvent en partenariat avec des collectivités locales ou d'autres acteurs de la société civile, pour réduire l'impact environnemental de la construction des territoires urbains et des activités de l'ensemble des acteurs qui y vivent, y passent, y travaillent, s'y divertissent....

Ces approches, plus respectueuses de l'environnement, s'appuient le plus souvent sur des économies de ressources ou de nouveaux modèles économiques qui, en retour, peuvent dégager des réserves de pouvoir d'achat pour les populations les plus démunies et ainsi participer à la réduction de la pauvreté.

Les territoires urbains : enjeu majeur du développement durable, de l'éradication de la pauvreté et de l'économie verte à l'horizon 2032

Notre planète devient urbaine. Depuis peu, plus de la moitié de la population mondiale vit dans des villes. Le taux d'urbanisation devrait atteindre 65% en 2050. Si l'urbanisation était déjà très forte en Europe et en Amérique du Nord, avec des taux d'urbanisation de 75 à 80%, le phénomène s'est étendu aux pays émergents et aux pays en développement.

La quasi-totalité des 2 milliard d'habitants supplémentaire que la terre accueillera d'ici 2050 se trouveront dans des villes et dès 2020, 25 métropoles hébergeront plus de 10 millions d'habitants.

Cette urbanisation, parfois très rapide et chaotique, ne va pas sans difficultés, dans les pays en développement mais aussi dans les économies les plus avancées et les villes deviennent le lieu de cristallisation des problèmes de développement durable.

L'impact environnemental est le plus immédiatement perceptible : pollution atmosphérique et piètre qualité de l'air caractérisent de nombreuses grandes métropoles. Selon la Clinton Climate Initiative, 80% des émissions de gaz à effet de serre proviendraient des villes, les principales sources étant les transports, notamment les véhicules à énergie fossile et les bâtiments. Approvisionnement en énergie ou en eau, gestion des déchets et des eaux usées, transports publics : autant de défi pour les grandes métropoles qui doivent faire face à des besoins très fluctuants au fil du temps, à l'échelle de la journée, de la semaine ou de l'année. Eviter les pénuries impose alors de dimensionner les infrastructures pour faire face aux pointes de la demande et requiert un « surdimensionnement » par rapport à ce nécessiterait la satisfaction de la demande « moyenne », ce qui ne manque pas d'avoir un surcoût économique et environnemental.

La concentration urbaine exacerbe également les enjeux économiques et sociétaux du développement durable : pénurie de logements, exode rural et accumulation de poches de pauvreté à la périphérie ou, comme au Etats-Unis, au centre de certaines villes ; fractures sociales, « ghettoïsation » et isolement ; difficultés d'accès à la ville et à ses services pour les plus âgés ou les handicapés et concentration du dynamisme, de l'activité économique ou culturelle, qui accroissent le déséquilibre entre le cœur de l'agglomération et sa périphérie ou le territoire rural de sa zone d'influence...

La liste des défis auxquels sont confrontés les édiles est longue. Les dimensions de la ville, horizontale ou verticale, la dynamique de population, la concurrence entre les agglomérations en termes d'attractivité économique pour les entreprises et les citoyens sont des facteurs de complexité accrue qui font des métropoles et de leur développement économique et social, respectueux de l'environnement, un enjeu majeur du développement durable de notre planète.

Les territoires urbains sont également le lieu privilégié d'action pour traiter ces questions essentielles du développement durable. Ils concentrent non seulement les populations, mais également les moyens d'action, techniques, humains et financiers. Ils sont également un échelon politique combinant une puissance capacité d'action, une proximité forte et une étendue territoriale appréhendable relativement aisément par l'ensemble des parties prenantes qui peuvent ainsi plus facilement coopérer.

Les grands axes de l'économie verte urbaine

Chacun des grands usages de la ville offre des pistes de développement de l'économie verte.

Se loger

78 % des français considèrent qu'il est aujourd'hui difficile de trouver un logement en France, et 76% anticipent une situation dégradée en matière de logement pour les générations à venir.

En effet, le prix et le pouvoir d'achat sont des questions absolument centrales dans l'accès et le maintien au logement. Or, la raréfaction des ressources et l'augmentation du coût de l'énergie sont des facteurs économiques aggravants, voire des accélérateurs de précarité, qui impacteront non seulement les coûts de construction, et donc les prix de vente des logements, mais aussi les charges d'exploitation.

Le logement de demain doit donc s'envisager de façon tout à fait différente. L'innovation technique et financière est probablement l'une des clés de ce changement de paradigme. La modification des comportements dans les usages du quotidien constitue également un enjeu de premier plan.

D'ores et déjà, les pratiques de la filière sont revisitées, qu'il s'agisse des procédés constructifs ou de l'intégration de la densité dans la ville.

Concernant la construction, le Plan Grenelle Bâtiment impose de concevoir dorénavant les bâtiments basse consommation. Afin que ces nouvelles exigences techniques ne



viennent pas pénaliser économiquement les acquéreurs, de nouvelles façons de construire émergent. La filière sèche industrialisée se développe. Les premières opérations pilotes permettent de livrer des bâtiments basse consommation avec des prix inférieurs de 15% dans des délais de réalisations inférieurs à un an.

Concernant, la densité, de nouvelles conceptions de bâtiments favorisant la bonne adéquation entre le bien vivre chez soi et le mieux vivre ensemble voient le jour. A titre d'exemple, le projet « Habiter le Ciel », pensé par l'Atelier Castro Denissof Casi et Nexity, dans le cadre des travaux du Grand Paris, propose des tours jardins dans lesquelles se marient qualité des logements et qualité des espaces communs partagés. L'idée est celle d'un village vertical avec des maisons superposées dans un ensemble collectif autour de cours résidentielles.

Mieux vivre son logement, et notamment mieux optimiser ses consommations, passe par davantage de services associés. Les bâtiments sont techniquement de plus en plus intelligents. Les systèmes de mesure, de pilotage, voire de délestage des fluides se développent. Dans le cadre de projets de rénovation, apparaissent également de nouveaux types d'engagements, comme les Contrats de performance énergétique qui assurent aux usagers des niveaux de consommations énergétiques maximales.

Les technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) apportent des solutions, déployables à grande échelle, pour assurer la maîtrise des consommations énergétiques, voire assurer la gestion des pointes de demandes et contribuer à l'effacement diffus.

Des capteurs et des actuateurs placés sur les principaux équipements consommateurs d'énergie et reliés à une centrale par des réseaux sans fil, à bas débit et à basse consommation (à la norme Zigbee par exemple) permettent de connaître en temps réel la consommation de chaque équipement et de piloter ces mêmes équipements pour ajuster, là encore en temps réel, la puissance appelée au niveau du foyer. Orange et ses partenaires du domaine de l'énergie électrique ont lancé une expérimentation d'un tel dispositif, qui connecté à Internet via la Livebox (box internet) permet le suivi et le pilotage à distance, l'analyse statistique. La connaissance fine et instantanée de la consommation permet non seulement d'optimiser celle-ci, générant des économies et une réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre, mais également de maîtriser les pics de consommation, évitant black-out ou recours à des énergies très carbonées.

#### Se déplacer

La mobilité est un élément essentiel pour développer et faire fonctionner les villes durables. Les interactions entre planification, gestion des déplacements et aménagement des espaces publics et privés sont nombreuses et interrogent les acteurs de la ville :

- o Quelles incidences des solutions de mobilité sur le mitage des territoires, ou au contraire sur la densité des pôles d'intérêt ?

- o Comment la forme urbaine, y compris dans sa dimension la plus locale (le bâtiment et la parcelle) influe-t-elle sur les comportements de mobilité ?

L'interface entre urbanisme et transports est un enjeu majeur. De nombreuses solutions d'optimisation sont déjà opérationnelles :

- o la gestion dynamique des voiries et des espaces publics grâce aux outils de simulation, aux systèmes d'information et de pilotage des équipements

- o le développement de l'intermodalité et de l'interopérabilité des systèmes et des services d'aide à la mobilité o le traitement de la continuité des cheminements avec une attention particulière pour les usagers les plus vulnérables et pour les modes actifs – marche à pied et vélo,

- o l'accompagnement des mutations foncières dans les zones à enjeux.

Ces solutions offrent de nombreux bénéfices :

- i. L'amélioration de la disponibilité et de l'utilisation des infrastructures existantes :

- o Pour les routes : en faisant varier la configuration des voies aux heures de pointe grâce à un package d'équipements et de services on limite la congestion, on améliore le fonctionnement de l'économie locale, tout en économisant les ressources qui auraient été nécessaire pour un élargissement ou un nouvel ouvrage (cas du pont de Saint-Nazaire ou du RER routier de Grenoble, France).

- o Pour les réseaux ferroviaires : des études d'optimisation des réseaux existants ont été conduites dans de nombreuses agglomérations françaises. Elles permettent aux populations de pôles urbains secondaires de profiter d'une offre de transport à prix réduit et d'accéder plus facilement à l'emploi et aux équipements publics.

- ii. La réduction de la place de la voiture en ville en développant de nouveaux services aux usagers : réalité augmentée, véhicules en libre service, covoiturage dynamique, ...

- o La révolution urbaine AUTOLIB (Paris et environs, France) : avec 3000 véhicules, le premier service public d'automobiles électriques en libre service développé à l'échelle d'une grande métropole européenne.

- iii. L'aide à la reconversion du patrimoine foncier mutable pour redynamiser la ville, reconquérir des quartiers ou renforcer la cohérence des dessertes et des cheminements.

- o C'est ce que permettent les démarches prospectives sur les fonctionnalités du patrimoine ferroviaire urbain, ou encore la dépollution des friches industrielles.

Pour aller plus loin, il est indispensable de continuer à développer des actions de R&D partenariales

Parce qu'il faut sortir des approches purement fonctionnalistes et technicistes qui depuis plus de 50 ans ont façonné nos systèmes de transport urbains, il est nécessaire de construire de nouveaux outils et méthodes capables d'appréhender les déplacements au travers de la complexité urbaine, de la multiplicité des attentes des utilisateurs et de la diversité des échelles à prendre en compte.

Plusieurs programmes de recherche partenariale nationaux ou européens associant des ingénieristes, des grands maîtres d'ouvrage, des constructeurs et des laboratoires de recherche viennent nourrir l'offre de service aux acteurs des territoires.

« Aspects 2050 », projet soutenu par l'Agence Nationale pour la Recherche (France) en est un exemple : ce projet doit aider les collectivités territoriales à articuler leurs actions sur le système « transport/bâtiment/occupation des sols » qui représente près de 60% des émissions de GES. La cohérence est recherchée avec des objectifs de long terme, du type « facteur 4 ».

#### Travailler

Lieu de concentration de l'habitat et l'activité économique, le territoire urbain concentre également les déplacements entre lieu d'habitat et lieu de travail avec tous les problèmes associés, exacerbés aux heures de pointe : temps perdu et gaspillage énergétique dans les embouteillages, saturation et dégradation de la qualité de service dans les transports en commun, fatigue, avec son impact sur la santé et la productivité...

Les technologies de l'information offrent de nouvelles possibilités d'organisation du travail dans l'espace et le temps. Il s'agit pas tant de développer le télétravail à domicile, qui prive de lien social et que la configuration de nombreux logements ne permet pas, mais de créer de nouveaux espaces, en zones péri-rurales, créant un lieu de travail,

à proximité des lieux d'habitation. Ces éco-centres, espaces hautement numérisés, permettent aux grandes entreprises, de créer, de façon totalement flexible, des bureaux déportés, garantissant confidentialité et sécurité de l'information, tout en créant une convivialité intra et inter-entreprises, et en économisant énergie, temps et argent gaspillés dans des transports individuels ou collectifs saturés.

En plus d'accueillir des salariés de grandes entreprises, ces éco-centres peuvent également héberger de jeunes entreprises ou servir d'espace numérique pour des activités sociales ou pédagogiques.

Des grandes entreprises comme Orange, Nexity, Bouygues, La Poste travaillent avec des collectivités locales à la définition et au prototypage de tels lieux dont le succès passera par un déploiement en réseau nécessitant d'entrée de jeu un nombre critique de lieux et d'utilisateurs. Pour y parvenir, des incitations et impulsions publiques seront nécessaires : mise disposition d'immobilier par les collectivités locales ou soutien à la phase d'investissements des projets comme cela est d'ores et déjà possible dans le cadre du programme des Investissements d'avenir.

Se déplacer pour travailler, ou plus précisément se déplacer moins pour travailler, est un autre champ de développement d'une économie verte qui peut s'appuyer sur des technologies et des services déployés par des entreprises françaises à l'échelle mondiale.

Les progrès dans la qualité d'image et de son, dans la facilité de mise en œuvre et le confort d'utilisation des solutions de vidéoconférence à très haute définition que déploient des opérateurs comme Orange Business Services sont en train de modifier en profondeur les habitudes de déplacement professionnel et de travail collaboratif, apportant qualité, gain de temps, amélioration de la qualité de vie des salariés qui n'ont plus à effectuer de longs voyages et réduction des émissions de gaz à effet de serre.

Dans une prochaine étape, grâce à la mise à disposition de ces dispositifs dans des lieux comme les éco-centres, ouverts à des acteurs économiques de tous types et de toutes tailles, les petites entreprises et les travailleurs indépendants pourront également bénéficier de ses solutions dans une logique de service et non plus de propriété des équipements (économie de la fonctionnalité)

Piloter la ville

Les enjeux du développement durable créent de nouveaux challenges urbains d'ordre environnemental, sociétal et économique. Ils renforcent la pluralité des approches à mettre en œuvre dans la conception et la réalisation des projets urbains. De nouvelles approches se mettent en place progressivement. Capables d'appréhender la complexité urbaine, elles permettent :

- o de raisonner sur plusieurs échelles, du bâtiment ou de l'infrastructure à la grande agglomération, de la parcelle au bassin de vie.

- o de mobiliser davantage de compétences pour aboutir à des projets urbains partagés et porteurs de sens : association de compétences très diversifiées – pluridisciplinaires – et des acteurs et usagers, pour des projets ouverts, co-construits.

Pragmatique et participative, la démarche de pilotage développement durable des projets « Tendem Empreinte ® », développée par Egis en 2010 illustre cette nouvelle approche.

Elle permet de définir collectivement les objectifs, les indicateurs et surtout les actions qui renforcent le caractère durable d'un projet, selon des critères locaux, en cohérence avec les référentiels des échelles supérieures. A chaque grande étape, il est possible de visualiser les bénéfices et les impacts pluridisciplinaires des choix de programmation, de conception, de mise en œuvre et d'exploitation. C'est un outil d'évaluation continue pour mesurer en continu l'écart entre l'intention et la réalisation.

Deux projets de recherche partenariale cofinancés par l'Agence Nationale de la Recherche (française)

- o le projet IMPETUS dont l'ambition est d'apporter aux collectivités des outils d'aide à la décision pour développer des projets d'aménagements urbains. Ce projet associe: Egis (leader du groupement), ICADE, la Ville de Paris, la Communauté d'Agglomération de Lille, des équipes de recherche du CSTB, du Laboratoire Ville Mobilité Transport (IFSTTAR – ex INRETS) et de l'Ecole des Ingénieurs de la Ville de Paris.

- o Le projet RESILIS propose des méthodes et des outils améliorant la résilience des villes. C'est-à-dire qu'ayant développé une politique efficace de réduction des vulnérabilités, elles soient en capacité de recouvrer plus rapidement leurs capacités économiques et de vie après un accident majeur, qu'il soit naturel, industriel ou provoqué. Le consortium Resilis regroupe des ingénieristes du secteur privé (Egis, Sogreah) impliqués dans l'aménagement urbain ou la prévention des risques, des laboratoires de recherche (EIVP - Ecole des Ingénieurs de la Ville de Paris, LEESU - département de recherche en génie urbain de l'Université de Paris-Est, REEDS - département de recherche en économie, écologie, et développement soutenable de l'Université de Versailles - Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines) et des organismes de recherche (CEMAGREF - analyse des risques, Fondaterra, Fondation européenne pour des territoires durables).

Les entreprises françaises de Bâtiments et Travaux Publics (BTP) et les fournisseurs de matériaux excellent dans les technologies émergentes de réduction des gaspillages énergétiques dans le secteur du bâtiment. Ces technologies qui permettront progressivement de rendre passif et même positif en énergie renouvelable le parc installé seront renforcées par le développement de smart grid qui désigne les réseaux de distribution d'électricité « intelligents ».

Ces réseaux utilisent des systèmes informatiques de manière à optimiser la production et la distribution et mieux mettre en relation l'offre et la demande entre les producteurs et les consommateurs d'électricité. Ainsi, l'apport de ces systèmes informatiques concourront à économiser l'énergie, sécuriser le réseau et en réduire les coûts, tout en diminuant les émissions de gaz à effet de serre. Une expérimentation en grande réelle du premier smart grid sous technologies françaises est actuellement en cours de déploiement à Issy les Moulineaux dans le cadre du projet IssyGrid piloté par Bouygues et Alstom.

Plus globalement, les technologies de l'information et de la communication (TIC) ont un rôle majeur à jouer dans le pilotage de la ville et de ses services, au bénéfice du développement durable. Des réseaux maillés, à faible débit numérique et à très faible consommation peuvent être déployés pour connecter des ensembles de capteurs à des plateformes de services et ainsi superviser différents paramètres liés à l'environnement, à la gestion des flux ou des activités essentielles dans la ville.

L'expérimentation déployée par Orange à Cagnes sur Mer et maintenant généralisée à la Communauté urbaine de Nice permet ainsi de suivre en temps réel différents paramètres liés à la qualité de vie (données météorologiques ; pollution ; niveau sonore).

Une approche globale des territoires et de leurs usages




Des interactions entre projets et territoires nombreuses et souvent stratégiques


Un aménagement bénéfique au fonctionnement d'un quartier peut déplacer des nuisances. La non réalisation d'un équipement peut détériorer l'attractivité d'un territoire à 10 ans. La ville se conçoit dans un ensemble d'interactions avec de multiples territoires, et notamment les territoires ruraux. Des équilibres doivent être trouvés, et régulièrement renouvelés entre l'urbain et le rural : démographie, accès aux services - pourquoi pas à distance - limitation des déplacements subis, partage des ressources, ... Autant d'enjeux qui demandent une planification concertée et des évaluations partagées des politiques mises en œuvre.

Des outils d'aide à la décision pour bien définir et concerter les projets

Il faut savoir investir dans l'amont du projet, dans sa préparation. L'analyse de la valeur, les études de faisabilité, les études socio-économico-prospectives, la planification et la réalisation de schémas directeurs ou scénarios de développement sont autant d'opportunités pour intégrer les préoccupations territoriales et les usages locaux, pour sécuriser la gouvernance et le financement des projets, leur donner un cadre de cohérence

Des exemples positifs existent à toutes les échelles

o La rénovation d'un quartier d'habitation dans une ville de périphérie. Un exemple à Colomiers (France), montre comment une commune peut faire évoluer un programme :  avec une réflexion sur la densité et les rapports avec les quartiers voisins,  en transformant des logiques actuelles de déplacements et de stationnement : partage de l'espace public plus favorable aux modes actifs, prolongement d'un chemin de grande randonnée jusqu'au centre ville, diminution des voiries,  en redéployant un paysage végétal : lieux de pédagogie en faveur de la biodiversité.

Le projet de rénovation est conduit en partenariat avec les bailleurs sociaux, en concertation avec les habitants du quartier, et en cohérence avec le projet territorial de développement durable. Sa « performance DD » est suivie par la démarche Tendem Empreinte  développée par Egis,

o la R&D pour progresser dans l'approche systémique : exemple de l'appel à projet sur des IEED (Instituts d'excellence dans le domaine des énergies décarbonées)

Un consortium qui rassemble 6 leaders mondiaux et l'Institut de l'Ingénierie s'est organisé pour présenter un projet dont l'objectif stratégique est de pouvoir diminuer de 10% la consommation énergétique des villes par une analyse systémique et pluridisciplinaire au niveau de l'îlot, des « germes de ville » (gare multimodales, grands centre commerciaux...) ainsi qu'au niveau global d'une agglomération. Ce projet est en cours de labellisation par le pôle de compétitivité Advancity (ville durable et éco-technologies urbaines).

L'économie verte pour lutter contre la pauvreté

Emploi et économie verte

L'essor de l'économie verte s'accompagne d'une évolution des métiers et emplois existants, de destruction de certains - associés à un modèle économique fondamentalement non durable – et de création de nouveaux emplois qualifiés, décents et localisés.

Qu'il s'agisse d'énergie, de bâtiment, de transports collectifs, d'agriculture durable, d'accès aux services essentiels, la recherche de produits et services à moindre impact environnemental conduit à imaginer des solutions de production, transport et distribution localisées. La mise en œuvre de cet objectif de relocalisation et de proximité est conduite à la fois par des acteurs économiques (tissu entrepreneurial au sens large) et des acteurs publics (collectivités générant normes, incitations et emplois publics).

Un facteur de succès de la déclinaison localisée d'une politique de soutien à la croissance verte consiste en la capacité de chaque territoire à identifier ses enjeux, promouvoir des activités « vertes » pérennes et assurer la mise à disposition de compétences locales adaptées aux besoins. C'est donc par une politique de formation, d'acquisition des compétences, voire de constitution de champs d'expertises thématiques – calquées par exemple sur la cartographie des pôles de compétitivité - qu'un territoire peut au mieux accompagner l'essor de la nouvelle économie verte tout en garantissant que ses habitants en soient à la fois les acteurs et les bénéficiaires.

Création d'emplois verts durables et décents, filières de formation et de qualification, accompagnement public des initiatives vertueuses... : Pour que le dispositif soit pleinement équitable et soutenable, il convient de le mettre à contribution dans une perspective de réduction de la pauvreté et, spécifiquement, de réduction du taux de chômage. A cet effet, un effort particulier pourra être déployé afin de garantir qu'au sein d'un territoire les citoyens en situation de non emploi soient les cibles prioritaires d'une politique de formation, qualification et retour à l'emploi. La dynamique économique générée par la croissance verte pourra ensuite, en mode croisière, garantir un taux de chômage acceptable dans territoires engagés.

L'accès aux services essentiels

L'essor de l'économie verte dépend notamment de deux éléments prépondérants : l'accessibilité des produits et services « verts » pour le plus nombre, et son application aux secteurs les plus critiques en matière d'impacts environnementaux. Parmi ces secteurs figurent notamment l'énergie, le bâtiment, le transport, l'eau et l'agriculture, les télécommunications.

Il est notable qu'à ces secteurs sont associés des besoins fondamentaux : se loger, se nourrir, se déplacer, auxquels sont associés des enjeux particuliers : conserver un lien social, être en capacité de financer un projet d'amélioration de son quotidien, se prémunir contre certains risques, disposer de mécanismes de couverture sociale adaptés aux enjeux sanitaires, de vieillissement et de dépendance.

Le développement de la technicité, de l'efficacité et des modèles économiques spécifiques des secteurs d'activité de la croissance verte peuvent amener à l'acceptabilité financière de ses produits, à l'opposé de la croyance trop répandue que « le vert est cher ».

En particulier, des modes de production locaux, mutualisés et adaptés aux besoins d'un territoire peuvent permettre de réduire les coûts de production, d'acheminement des matières premières, de transformation et de distribution et donc le prix final des produits et services. C'est particulièrement vrai dans le domaine de l'agriculture, de l'eau et de l'énergie.

Une réorganisation des circuits de production et de distribution s'accompagne d'une refonte de la gouvernance de certains secteurs d'activités qui, de centralisés deviennent localisés

De nouveaux modèles économiques et de nouveaux modes de gestion du cycle de vie des produits peuvent permettre de combiner réduction de l'impact environnemental et accessibilité accrue aux services essentiels. Ainsi, à coté de la mise en place par les 3 opérateurs français (Orange, Bouygues Telecom et SFR) d'offres de téléphonie mobile sans terminal à prix réduits, (car sans prise en compte de la subvention du terminal dans le prix de l'abonnement), Orange a également développé la vente de terminaux d'occasion, totalement reconditionné et garantis, dans ses propres canaux de distribution.

L'implication de la force publique et des collectivités, sous la forme par exemple de partenariats public – privé au niveau des territoires, peuvent permettre l'accessibilité financière au plus grand nombre. Une ingénierie financière adaptée à la croissance verte doit également être développée, mettant en avant des mécanismes d'incitation à l'investissement via des fonds de garantie, d'évaluation du RSI liée aux usages (exemple du coût de rénovation d'un logement compensé par les économies d'énergie réalisées).

Enfin, l'accessibilité financière des produits de la croissance verte est basée sur la capacité des particuliers à investir, emprunter, et se prémunir contre certains risques. Le développement de produits du type micro crédit et micro assurance, adaptés à des besoins précis et contribuant à la réduction des impacts environnementaux est souhaitable en parallèle du développement des processus et de la gouvernance de la croissance verte.

## Facteurs clés de succès et freins à lever

La transition vers une économie verte se fera d'autant plus aisément et rapidement que certains freins seront lever et que l'ensemble des acteurs sauront mobiliser les leviers clés du succès.

Il convient en premier lieu de pouvoir mesurer les progrès globaux vers une économie plus verte et vers un recul de la pauvreté, tout en évaluant l'impact des projets individuels. Au-delà d'un retour sur investissement classique, il importe de pouvoir valoriser les réalisations dans leurs dimensions environnementales et sociétales. Ces indicateurs sont également indispensables pour faciliter les décisions d'investissement dans de nouveaux projets.

Il est également indispensable de disposer d'un cadre législatif, réglementaire ou normatif propice à l'innovation et au développement de l'économie verte : simplification, cohérence, prévisibilité en sont les principales caractéristiques, sans oublier l'indispensable équité internationale, évitant dumping environnemental ou social.

Le troisième levier est d'ordre financier et économique et peut prendre la forme de financement de projets, notamment pour lever des barrières à l'entrée dues au niveau d'investissement requis, ou d'une fiscalité verte.

Enfin, comme un enjeu majeur du développement durable est le changement des comportements et des modes de consommation, un important travail de pédagogie est nécessaire pour vaincre certains préjugés et montrer que l'économie verte ne rime pas nécessairement avec prix plus élevés ou austérité.

## Ce que RIO+20 pourra apporter

Les territoires urbains sont déjà le théâtre de nombreuses expérimentations d'innovations technologiques, de nouveaux usages ou de modèles économiques originaux. L'enjeu est désormais de déployer des pilotes à grande échelle et de généraliser les solutions expérimentées. Rio+20 devrait mettre en place, dans une dimension internationale, des dispositifs facilitant ses passages à l'échelle.

Ces actions peuvent prendre plusieurs formes :

- Soutien financier, par des dispositifs similaires à ceux mis en place par le gouvernement français dans le cadre des « investissements d'avenir » :
- Fiscalité verte, dans un cadre internationalement coordonné et équitable
- Simplification, cohérence et stabilité du cadre législatif, réglementaire et normatif, à l'échelle mondiale de sorte à éviter le dumping social ou environnemental
- Mise en place d'outils de partage et de valorisation des bonnes pratiques et de mise en relation des acteurs (réseaux sociaux)
- Valorisation, au travers de différents outils de communication, des projets au plus fort impact.
- Indicateurs, partagés par les tous les acteurs, permettant de mesurer l'impact des actions, tant au plan global que local, ainsi qu'au niveau des projets eux-mêmes, sur les dimensions environnementales et sociétales. Outre la valorisation des réalisations, ces indicateurs permettront également de faciliter les décisions d'investissement dans de nouveaux projets

Le succès de ses nouvelles approches de l'économie verte dépend non seulement de la solidité et de la pertinence des solutions technique mais aussi, et surtout, de leur appropriation par les utilisateurs finaux, qui passera le plus souvent des changements, parfois radicaux, dans les pratiques d'usages et de consommation. Cela nécessitera un important travail de sensibilisation, d'information et d'éducation, qui bénéficiera des impulsions, des orientations et des ressources que Rio+20 pourra mobiliser.

Les Agendas 21 fournissent un cadre méthodologique permettant de réunir, autour d'enjeux de développement durable, des acteurs d'un territoire dans une démarche de co-réflexion et co-construction.

Ce cadre est issu du premier sommet de la Terre à Rio qui appelait à ce que « toutes les collectivités locales instaurent un dialogue avec les habitants, les organisations locales et les entreprises privées afin d'adopter un programme Action 21 à l'échelon de la collectivité ».

RIO + 20 pourrait, sur la base d'un bilan des expériences Agendas 21 menées dans le Monde, réaffirmer la pertinence de ce dispositif au regard des enjeux d'économie verte et de gouvernance participative, et définir les leviers de succès de l'essaimage des agendas 21 : accompagnement à la mise en œuvre, mise à disposition d'outils communs, simplification de certains phases...

L'implication des acteurs économiques dans les agendas 21 pourrait être renforcée, d'une part par une volonté politique d'associer les acteurs créateurs d'emplois et de produits dans le dispositif, d'autre part par la capacité des entreprises à s'adapter à ces contextes multi parties prenantes.

L'implication des entreprises dans des stratégies de développement durable et de RSE est un moyen parmi d'autres de faire évoluer les entreprises vers la prise en compte de leurs parties prenantes, l'intégration à un territoire, l'évolution de la stratégie au regard de besoins et d'attentes nouvelles.

## SYNTHESE

Les directeurs du Développement Durable des entreprises françaises représentées au sein du Collège des Directeurs du Développement Durable (C3D) ont engagé sur les territoires urbains, lieu de cristallisation des défis du Développement Durable et de concentration des moyens d'action pour les relever, un ensemble de projets innovants et d'expérimentations qui démontrent le potentiel d'une économie verte, qui contribue également à réduire la pauvreté.

L'enjeu est maintenant de passer à une généralisation de ses approches. Rio+20, par la dynamique qu'elle a les moyens de créer au sein des états, de la société civile et du grand public, par les orientations qu'elle définira et par les feuilles de route qu'elle devra tracer, constitue une formidable opportunité de consolidation et d'amplification de ses démarches innovantes. Les entreprises qui les portent sont prêtes à s'engager, en partenariat avec les instances publiques et les autres acteurs de la société civile afin d'en assurer le succès et d'entrer dans une nouvelle phase de développement, centrée sur l'économie verte.

## Commission for Global Road Safety

### Safer Roads at Rio+ 20

A submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

### Summary:

Road traffic crashes kill an estimated 1.3 million people a year and injure between 20-50 million more. More than ninety per cent of casualties occur in middle-income and low-income countries; The United Nations has launched the 'Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020', describing road injury as "major public health problem with a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect the sustainable development of countries and hinder progress towards the Millennium Development Goals";

There is growing recognition that improving road safety can also contribute to achieving the MDGs, particularly in relation to child mortality, access to healthcare (on safe roads), and universal access to education (a million children are killed or seriously injured each year in road crashes, the majority as pedestrians). Unicef has urged that action to prevent injuries in the second decade of a child's life should become "a major international health objective";

Addressing road safety will also help to achieve environmental objectives, including action on climate change, particularly through providing a safer road system for users of non-motorised transport, such as pedestrians and cyclists, the most vulnerable road users. Providing safe facilities for non-motorised transport, and encouraging affordable and safe public transport, can reduce demand for modal shift to the car. According to the UN Environment Programme, such policies can make "a large, lasting impact...on fuel use, congestion, air quality and CO2 emissions... It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives";

Many developing country governments, and large institutions like the World Bank, are beginning to recognise the need to prioritise road safety in the context of a sustainable transport system. But progress is slow. The gap between an institution acknowledging the issue and achieving sustained action can be bridged if road safety is included within the framework of a major international sustainability conference;

The priorities agreed at international fora like Rio+20 set the global agenda and issues that are absent from the agenda are subsequently neglected and under-funded. This is why it is so important that action to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport is included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference.

#### Safer Roads at Rio + 20

1. The Commission for Global Road Safety is an independent body under the Chairmanship of Lord Robertson of Port Ellen and patronage of HRH Prince Michael of Kent. It was established in 2006 by the FIA Foundation (a UK registered charity) to promote action to reverse the rising tide of road traffic injury and fatality in developing countries. Its 'Make Roads Safe' reports published in 2006 and 2009 called for the first ever global Ministerial Conference, which was subsequently held in Moscow in November 2009, and proposed that the UN mandate a Decade of Action for Road Safety, a proposal which was subsequently approved by the UN General Assembly in March 2010. Amongst the recommendations in the Commission's third 'Make Roads Safe' report, published in 2011, we call on the international community to recognise road traffic injuries as a sustainability challenge in the context of the Rio+20 Conference and discussions on a post-Millennium Development Goals framework.

2. We welcome Rio+20 as an important opportunity to identify the major sustainability challenges facing the world and to contribute to the design of a post-MDG framework that will meet the needs of developing nations in the second and third decades of the 21st Century. We strongly believe that global road traffic death and injury, and the wider but related issue of safe and sustainable transportation policy, must be recognised as sustainability challenges at the Rio+20 Conference. We urge and encourage the secretariat, member nations and participants to include reference to safe and sustainable road mobility in the 'Outcomes Document' of the Conference.

3. Road safety is perhaps not one of the more obvious subjects for consideration at Rio. Yet the absence of road safety from the agenda of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, and the consequent neglect of the issue in international development fora, has arguably contributed to the growing toll of death and disability on the world's roads. According to the World Health Organization road crashes kill an estimated 1,300,000 people each year and injure between 20 - 50 million more. The vast majority – more than ninety per cent - of these casualties are occurring in middle-income and low-income countries where road safety awareness and the capacity to tackle the problem is low, and where both traffic levels and road casualties are rising rapidly (Global Status Report on Road Safety, WHO, 2009).

4. Despite the absence of road safety from the mainstream sustainable development agenda there is now a global mandate for action to reduce global road traffic injuries. UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/64/255 has established the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 with a goal to 'stabilise and reduce' road deaths by 2020. Our Commission estimates that if this ambitious goal can be achieved up to 5 million lives and 50 million serious injuries could be prevented over the course of the Decade ('Make Roads Safe: A Decade of Action for Road Safety', Commission for Global Road Safety, 2009).

5. In its Resolution proclaiming the Decade of Action for Road Safety, the United Nations General Assembly described road traffic injuries as a "major public health problem with a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect the sustainable development of countries and hinder progress towards the Millennium Development Goals". According to leading development experts and international agencies, the impacts of failure to address road safety can go beyond the immediate toll of death and disability to undermine policies on poverty alleviation, child survival and development, and climate change.

6. For example, the Special Adviser to the United Nations on the Millennium Development Goals, Professor Jeffrey Sachs, has recently described road crashes as "a crucial part of the overall effort" to improve the environment and quality of life in developing countries. In an interview conducted for our Make Roads Safe campaign, Prof. Sachs explained that, in his view, "the Millennium Development Goals are a broad framework and road safety has to be part of that. When there is so much death, when there is so much injury, when there is so much of a burden on poor communities, alleviating that is part of the overall strategy of fighting poverty, fighting the deaths of children, helping communities to be safe. And so this is part of the Millennium Development Goal effort" (www.makeroadssafe.org).

7. In a report for our Commission, Dr Kevin Watkins, a former development adviser to Oxfam, the UN Development Programme and UNESCO, estimates that, based on a simple calculation of the relationship between GDP growth and poverty reduction, the economic costs associated with road traffic crashes (at least US\$100 billion a year in for developing countries) are keeping between 12 – 72 million people in poverty. Dr Watkins describes road crashes as 'holding back progress towards the international development targets on a global scale', citing the impact of road injuries on children – 260,000 of whom are killed and at least 1 million seriously injured each year - and the burden on health services of dealing with road traffic injuries as having a serious impact on delivery of MDG goals 2, for universal primary education, and 4, 5 & , covering child and maternal mortality and public health (The Missing Link: Road Traffic Injuries & the Millennium Development Goals, Watkins, K; 2010).

8. Dr. Watkins' analysis is echoed in the 2011 'State of the World's Children' report from the UN Children's Fund. In the report, which focuses on adolescence, Unicef argues that older children have been neglected as a health priority. "Lasting change in the lives of children and young people...can only be achieved and sustained by complementing investment in the first decade of life with greater attention and resources applied in the second", the report concludes. Injury, and in particular road injury, is identified as an area that needs to be addressed. "Injuries are a growing concern in public health in relation to younger children and adolescents alike. They are the leading cause of death among adolescents aged 10-19...many of these deaths are related to road traffic accidents", the authors acknowledge. "Fatalities from injuries among adolescents are highest among the poor...(B)ecause the rate of urbanisation is most rapid in the poorest regions of sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia – which are also the areas with the greatest share of adolescents in the population – averting injuries in the second decade of life must become a major international health objective" (State of the World's Children Report 2011, Unicef).

9. Importantly, in the context of Rio+20, there is growing evidence and recognition that addressing road safety will also help to achieve environmental objectives. In urban areas managing vehicle speed to provide safe and accessible streets for non-motorised transport users, combined with road design measures that protect and encourage walking and cycling (such as pavements, safe crossing points and bicycle lanes), will both reduce casualties amongst 'vulnerable road users' and support greener modes of transport, reducing modal shift to motorised vehicles. Dr Watkins, the author of a major 2008 'Human Development Report' on climate change for the UNDP, also highlights that transport policy "can play a central role in combating climate change not just by creating fuel-efficiency incentives and supporting the development of low carbon fuels, but also by supporting the development of safe public transport and creating the conditions for safe non-motorised transport. When safe sidewalks and cycle lanes are available, people are far more likely to undertake trips by walking or cycling", (The Missing Link: Road Traffic Injuries & the Millennium Development Goals, Watkins, K; 2010).

10. The UN Environment Programme is also urging a change in emphasis in transport planning in developing nations to support and protect non-motorised mobility and to encourage safe and affordable public transport (low income families in developing countries can currently spend up to 25% of their income on public transport), citing the benefits for a range of environmental objectives. UNEP points out that "cities with a better modal mix between cars, public transport, walking and cycling have lower energy use per capita. By incorporating non-motorised transport facilities in the transport grid, a large, lasting impact can be made on fuel use, congestion, air quality and CO2 emissions". Furthermore, UNEP argues that "designating road space for pedestrians and cyclists in proportion to the demand for non-motorised transport is crucial. It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives. For example, the top two countermeasures for improving safety in Nairobi, Kenya, recommended by the International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP) are pedestrian crossings and sidewalks", ('Share the Road: Invest in Walking & Cycling', UN Environment Programme and FIA Foundation, 2011).

11. Despite the projections of significant increases in car use – with global vehicle ownership doubling in the next ten years, entirely in developing countries - the majority of people in low-income countries or in the significant low-income segments of the population in middle-income countries are unlikely to ever own a car. Yet it is these people who are overwhelmingly affected by road traffic crashes and other consequences of road traffic, including poor air quality (which is estimated to contribute to 800,000 deaths a year). Designing safe transportation, urban planning and land use policies that meet the commuting, social and healthcare needs of this 'green majority' is a pre-requisite for building the 'green economy' of the future and for achieving social justice.

12. This is also increasingly recognised by the World Bank, the largest development agency making transportation loans to developing countries. In its current transport strategy (Safe, Clean, Affordable...transport for development, World Bank, 2008) the Bank highlights the importance of transport policy for achieving many of the Millennium Development Goals, and warns that in "a world with rising levels of greenhouse gases, poor road safety, and the all too frequent spread of communicable diseases along international routes, transport must be looked at anew". In particular, the World Bank warns that neglect of road safety must end, urging that "safety can be made integral to the design and management of the road transport system, just as it is in the management of other transport modes, aviation in particular. However, this concept is not yet accepted in many countries, despite the high economic and human costs of road crashes".

13. Yet it is a concept that is only now beginning to be adopted in the World Bank's own country programmes, and the loans of other multilateral development banks (MDBs). Road projects worth hundreds of millions of dollars are still being approved and implemented with totally inadequate safeguard policies relating to injury prevention. Road safety measures are often presented to client countries as an additional project cost, overlooking the long term benefits and financial returns on investment that will flow from reduced levels of road injury. By treating road safety as a 'luxury upgrade' rather than a core ingredient, client countries are discouraged from opting for safe road design.

14. In our 2006 report our Commission highlighted these failings and called on the World Bank to establish a joint taskforce to mainstream road safety assessment into their road infrastructure investments. In response the World Bank's Global Road Safety Facility did establish such a working group and together with the other MDBs agreed a Joint Statement on 'A Shared Approach to Managing Road Safety' just prior to the First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety, hosted by the Russian Federation in Moscow in 2009. The Joint Statement commits the MDBs to "ensure that safety is integrated in all phases of planning, design, construction, appraisal, operation and maintenance of road infrastructure...particularly to improve safe access and protection for vulnerable road users who represent a significant proportion of the people served by the projects we finance". Launching the MDB's Road Safety Initiative, in April 2011, World Bank President Robert Zoellick warned that "unless well-targeted measures are taken, there will be an escalating death toll on the roads in poor countries, which would be a terrible tragedy".

15. The Rio+20 Conference can play a critical role in encouraging such action. As we have shown above, there is now a wide recognition that road traffic injuries are a public health and sustainable development challenge that needs to be addressed, and that doing so will benefit the wider agendas of tackling climate change and working towards the Millennium Development Goals. Yet, despite this growing consensus, road safety and wider issues of sustainable mobility remain on the margins of public policy, lacking vocal advocates within government aid agencies and major institutions and consequently denied the resources needed to assist developing nations to improve their institutional capacity, skills and policies.

16. It is our view that this gap between the growing acknowledgement of the issue and achieving sustained action can be bridged if, for the first time, road safety is included within the framework of a major international sustainability conference. Identifying road traffic injury as a new challenge at the Rio+20 Conference will be invaluable in raising the profile of the issue and helping to institutionalise road safety programmes within middle-income and low-income governments and organisations like the World Bank. As we have seen in the powerful response to climate change and environmental protection following the first Rio summit in 1992, and in the united focus on achieving the Millennium Development Goals that was the major outcome of the Johannesburg Summit in 2002, the priorities agreed at these international fora do set the global agenda and issues that are absent from the agenda are subsequently neglected and under-funded.

17. Until road safety can be integrated into the mainstream of sustainability policy, millions of people will be condemned to unnecessary and preventable violent, painful deaths, or lives blighted by severe disability. This is why it is so important that action to improve road safety and promote sustainable modes of transport is included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference.

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## Commissioner for Sustainable Futures of Wales (UK) and Cynnal Cymru

Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

Zero Draft Submission

This submission is presented by the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures in Wales (United Kingdom) and Cynnal Cymru, an organisation representing networks and sustainability practitioners across Wales that works in support of our Commissioner for Sustainable Futures.

Wales has had a legal duty to sustainable development since its regional government was established in 1999. As a nation, we have promoted sustainable development in all of our work, and our Welsh Government has made sustainable development its central organising principle. We recommend that other nations and regions also commit to making sustainable development their central organising principle, to ensure that sustainable development is at the heart of everything they do.

The next step for Wales is to introduce legislation to make sustainable development the central organising principle for all public bodies in Wales. We are learning from the experiences of countries around the world about how to turn this from a legislative requirement into successful delivery. We expect that this Sustainable Development Bill will become law by 2014.

In Wales we have a Commissioner for Sustainable Futures, Peter Davies, who is appointed to provide leadership for sustainable development in Wales (<http://www.cynnalcymru.com> commissioner). Peter provides independent advice to the Welsh Government on sustainable development, and is able to convene stakeholders from across Wales to drive action on sustainability.

We recommend that all states and regional governments appoint a Commissioner of their own, who at a minimum is able to act as a focal point for action on sustainable

development across civil society, and who has the power to convene stakeholders to make sustainable development their central organising principle. This role of catalysing and encouraging action will be important in creating support for sustainable development amongst the populations of member states and regions.

We recommend that the United Nations considers developing a global network of Commissioners for Sustainable Futures, to share good practice and enable action across the globe.

We emphasise that to be successful, Commissioners for Sustainable Futures need to be genuinely independent of their government but able to speak with authority to government, and are able to act across all sectors, to see the whole picture of sustainability.

In Wales, the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures is supported by Cynnal Cymru - a network organisation representing practitioners and stakeholders across Wales with an interest in sustainable development. This model is effective as it enables the advice and recommendations of our members, businesses and society to contribute to the advice and evidence the Commissioner for Sustainable Futures provides to government.

As a membership organisation Cynnal Cymru is the hub for an active community of individuals and organisations delivering sustainable development across Wales. We recommend that Commissioners across the world work in partnership with similar organisations in their own countries to ensure that they develop good relationships with practitioners.

We are keen to share our experiences and the lessons we have learned on sustainability in Wales with other nations.

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## Committee for Nature Conservation Polish Academy of Sciences

### Concept of Continental and Oceanic Protected Areas as a Key to Sustainable Development

The key to the conservation of nature on the global scale is the protection of two fundamental elements: water, as a carrier of the entire life on the Earth, and large earth's surface areas, as measurable values indispensable to the existence of all forms of life.

#### Abstract

Thus far, existing system of nature conservation, which is mainly based on national parks and reserves, is insufficient. These traditional forms protecting wildlife, fresh and saline waters, geological formations and natural landscapes cover too small earth's surface areas on the global scale. Human pressure on ecosystems, which is constantly growing and is strictly connected with economic expansion and population growth, forces us to search for different, bold and far-reaching solutions. Thus, the author proposes a new concept, which divides the world into two parts: economic and protected zones. The latter ones would be in the form of Continental and Oceanic Protected Areas (CPAs and OPAs).

#### Background

Looking back on the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, it becomes obvious that in reality the conference did not bring about any clear trends in stopping or reversal of the destruction of wildlife and natural resources. This was only confirmed by the next conference in Johannesburg in 2002 and biodiversity conference in Nagoya in 2010. Although the documents, which were adopted in Rio de Janeiro, like Global Action program-Agenda 21, Declaration on Sustainable Development of Forests, Framework Convention on Climate Change, and Convention on Biodiversity, set new directions of thinking and actions in nature conservation, they did not halt the processes of forests and freshwater resources destruction, marine water pollution, or extinction of plant and animal species or whole ecosystems. The main reasons behind these negative environmental changes are: rapid population growth, observed predominantly in countries of high biodiversity (e.g. India, Philippines, Indonesia, Brazil, Mexico); improper land use, causing strong soil erosion (e.g. Madagascar, Haiti, Ethiopia); accelerated economic growth, which results in taking huge areas of land for the urban development with its industrial infrastructure and hydraulic engineering (e.g. China, USA); and military conflicts, creating almost impossible conditions for organized wildlife conservation (e.g. Iraq, Afghanistan, Sudan). Another dangerous factor, which should be taken into consideration, is pollution of the natural environment by chemicals and toxic wastes of anthropogenic origins, which have destructive effects on soil, atmosphere, fresh and marine waters. Uneconomical usage of nature resources such as overexploitation of forests, grasslands, freshwater reserves and soils, is the main cause of droughts, fires, floods, mudslides and hunger in many places all over the world. Traditional national parks and wildlife reserves, which since 19th century have been established for the conservation of nature, have their total surface area too small in relation to whole continents and oceans to make an effective impact on sustaining the ecological balance of our planet in the future.

Biosphere reserves created within the framework of the UNESCO Program "Man and the Biosphere" can be still perceived as rather an experimental program in the matter of man's coexistence with nature than an effective tool for environmental protection.

The NATURA 2000 network of protected areas, which has been recently developed within the European Union, may function relatively well in transformed and mostly synanthropic conditions of Western Europe. However, it would be difficult to implement this idea in vast areas of wilderness in Eastern Europe, where, as in the case of Russia, the nature reserves called "Zapovednik" works extremely well. In recent years, two very interesting initiatives came into existence such as Global 200 and Biodiversity Hotspots. The Global 200 pointed out the worthiest ecoregions of our planet, which deserve protection on account of their different natural values.

While Biodiversity Hotspots catalogues areas of the greatest concentration of biodiversity in the world. However, both above mentioned initiatives focus mainly on biodiversity conservation. The presented here concept of Continental and Oceanic Protected Areas is novel in this respect that not only shows where but also how to protect nature on the global scale. Nature conservation is perceived here in context of its interaction with human economic activities and settlement, thus in the wider dimension than above mentioned initiatives. It involves the regeneration of nature's values, especially freshwater resources, which were destroyed by long-lasting human activities, on the huge surface areas of continents by using native species preserved in refugia. It places emphasis on the global protection of areas, which are strategically important for freshwater sources and soils. It proposes concrete legal solutions in two dimensions: spatial structure and international legislation of CPA and OPA.

#### Concept of Continental and Oceanic Protected Areas

Till now, the protection of areas, which are strategic sources of freshwater such as mountains and zones around watersheds, has not been legally regulated on the global scale and this is one of the main goals of the presented here idea.

The above issues were not dealt with in the UN Convention to Combat Desertification of 1994. The Ramsar Convention did not solve problems concerning the protection of wetlands, as being reservoirs of water, due to the limited territorial range of this Convention and its main focus on only one subject- avifauna protection. Equally important element, which should be protected on the global scale, is soil. It constitutes the base of the natural cycle of life in all ecosystems. Soil is the basis for feeding of mankind and it accumulates more carbon than atmosphere and forests taken together.

Therefore, the author's concept proposes a division of world's areas into economic and protected parts. Protected zones such as: Continental Protected Areas- will be

established to protect nature and especially freshwater resources and Oceanic Protected Areas- will be established to protect the richest and the most interesting primeval marine ecosystems. This idea includes all continents and the World Ocean, and it aims at creating a legally binding, unified global network of vast areas protecting nature with all its aspects in the future.

Inherent in this vision is the assumption that the nature and its resources can be effectively protected only within vast continental and oceanic areas.

Continental Protected Areas (CPAs) constitute a new large-scale form of nature conservation with strictly defined boundaries. Depending on the adopted variants, CPAs can comprise 25-40% of the total area of continents and in the case of Antarctica even the whole continent. The proposed here value of 40% should be accepted as optimal and crucial to provide 9 billion people with sufficient amount of freshwater, for maintenance and regeneration of soil, and to improve climate conditions in the 21st century.

As a priority, CPAs would encompass mountains, zones around watersheds and large catchment areas with wetlands such as to mention a few: the Himalayas, the Tibetan Plateau, Pamir Mountains, Tien Shan, Caucasus, the Sikhote-Alin with the Amur Basin, the Valdai Hills, Dinaric Alps, the Atlas Mountains, the Rwenzori Mountains, the Rocky Mountains, Pacific Coast Ranges, the Sierra Nevada (U.S.), the Appalachians, Andes, Guiana Shield, the Mato Grosso Plateau, the Australian Alps, Amazon Lowlands, Congo Basin, Pantanal, basins of lakes e.g. Superior, Tanganyika, Malawi, Baikal, and Hudson Bay Lowlands, West Siberian Plain with their large peat deposits. They are sparsely populated areas with relatively well-preserved wildlife and extensive woodlands or especially important for the protection of pure freshwater resources.

Furthermore, vulnerable ecosystems with high biodiversity such as grasslands (steppe, savanna), little damaged arid areas like large part of Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Patagonia, Gran Chaco, Eastern and Southern Africa as well as large continental islands with their unique wildlife like New Guinea, Borneo, Celebes, Tasmania, Madagascar, and finally, large river deltas, strategically situated and adjacent to protected sea marine coasts of outstanding natural beauty should also be subjects to special protection within the framework of CPAs.

CPAs have to encompass unique, native or ethnic human cultures, which have preserved their traditional way of living up to now, with protection-e.g. Kalahari Bushmen, Pigmies from Central Africa, Amazonian tribes, Australian Aborigines, Papua New Guinea's tribes, Asia's nomads, the Inuit.

It is also very important to support the traditional agriculture and reforestation. Controversial projects of building dams such as on the Mekong, Salween, Omo and Xingu rivers pose the threat of destruction to whole ecosystems and traditional ways of living of existing there cultures. However, the primacy of the conservation of nature and its resources should be applied over any economic activities within all CPAs. The new building industry ought to be restricted here to already existing settlement units to prevent annexation of further surface areas and to protect the natural landscapes.

It is also necessary to provide wild animals with access to watering places and free migrations. It should be stressed that exploitation of non-renewable ground waters need to be restricted or forbidden within the all CPAs (especially in desert areas in North Africa and Arabian peninsula). The same concerns industrial exploitation of freshwater from mountain glaciers and ice sheets, which are endangered in a natural way by global warming e.g. Greenland. Considering their goals, CPAs should cover from thousands to millions of square kilometers and, if possible, may include whole physical & geographical units.

Major urban, industrialized and mining areas located within CPAs will not constitute their parts but will remain as internal enclaves with strictly defined boundaries and receive a special economic status of so called –Industrial Urban Zones.

Fig.1. The scheme of the Continental Protected Area CPA

[UNDESADSD: Please download the original document to view fig.1]

Another important matter is the far-reaching effect of CPAs on adjacent agricultural, urban and industrial areas, especially in the warm climate zones. CPAs will not only provide them with pure drinking water and water for industrial purposes but also, undoubtedly, have an influence on improvement of climatic conditions especially on the regional scale through its softening, increasing of rainfalls in arid areas and decreasing of air pollution (e.g. Central and South-West Asia, Maghreb, Sahel). This will be possible due to maintaining and to gradual large-scale enlargement of afforested surfaces and the reconstruction of other native vegetations within CPAs.

The main goal of CPAs establishment, in sparsely populated polar-boreal and equatorial regions, is a conservation of nature on a MEGA scale, and also reparation of the environmental damages caused by human activities. In the future, surface waters of boreal terrains would become freshwater reserves for people living in the dry tropical zones. Additionally, protection of vast boreal peat bogs will prevent emission of large amount of methane, which is one of the most important greenhouse gases. Setting-up of CPAs in the moderate and the tropics zones, which are the human domain for millennia, consists in utilizing often the last bastions of nature to restore gradually their native vegetation both forest and graminaceous in ecologically suitable regions all over the particular CPA. It would give a real chance to restore sources of fresh water. This, in turn, would enable the reintroduction of the native animal species into restored environment and the gradual reconstruction of the whole original ecosystems.

However, if these actions are to be effective, the nature protection must be carried out over extensive areas of whole mountain ranges such as Taurus, Mountains of Syria and Lebanon, Atlas, Zagros, Altai, Tien-Shan, Hindu Kush, Sierra Madre, Bolivian/Peruvian Andes, Serra do Espinhaço, Serra Geral, Eastern Ghats, or even more arid, like the Kunlun Mountains, Kopet Dag, Tibesti, Ahaggar, Darfur, Ennedi or the mountains of Arabian Peninsula. These actions should be first undertaken in the mountains and upland terrains characterized by a more humid climate e.g. the Himalayas, Elburs, Pontic Mountains, Annamite Mountains, or more populated Andes in Columbia and Ecuador, Mountains of Cuba and Sumatra, Western Ghates, Qinling Mountains, Nanling Mountains and Mountains in Africa: Fouta Djallon, Mitumba, Muchinga or Abyssinian Highlands, Plateaus: Adamawa, Bie, Azande and Lunda.

Long-term and long-lasting effects of these actions will be significant for the maintaining the hydrologic balance in the neighboring catchment areas of large rivers and lakes, which should be included within CPAs, e.g. the Niger Basin, the Upper Nile Basin, the Okavango with its delta, the Senegal River, the Tarim River or basins of: the Brahmaputra, the upper Uruguay River, and Lakes: Titicaca, Victoria, Tana, Bangweulu, Turkana, Chad, Urmia, Van, Balkhash, waters of Turan

Plain or wetlands of Sumatra.

The regeneration of forests and soils will bring about improvement of fresh water retention and purification through its filtration and biochemical interactions.

There are many examples illustrating interactions and interdependences between large mountain ranges and areas of intensive economic development such as: the Himalayas and Karakoram- the Indus and Ganges Lowlands; the Tibetan Plateau- China's Eastern Lowlands; the Mountains of Kurdistan-the Mesopotamian Lowlands; the Drakensberg-eastern part of South Africa and Lesotho, the Sierra Nevada-Californian valleys; the Mantiqueira Mountains-São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro; the Great Dividing Range- the Australian east coast.

The cooperation among China, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan aimed at complex protection of the Himalayas and Karakoram within CPA could bring about spectacular effects and improve not only agricultural conditions but also protect the freshwater resources in the adjacent Indo-Gangetic Plains. Such concerted international actions undertaken to establish CPAs may also address other problems: extensive farming, tourism, difficulties of rural life, freshwater fishery, and spatial planning or nature conservation *sensu stricto*.

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Oceanic Protected Areas (OPAs) are a consistent continuation of the idea of creating huge CPAs, which would naturally complement each other and increase effectiveness of thus formed global network. OPAs, being a new large-scale form of nature conservation with strictly defined boundaries, may encompass 20-30% of the entire World Ocean, depending on the variant adopted. The recently postulated 10% target value of marine protected areas is not enough ambitious and impossible for the realization of sustainable development for 9 billion people around 2050. OPAs would comprise first of all: seas with coral-reefs; economically important polar seas and cold sea-currents, species-rich shelf waters; seas and other parts of the ocean, not necessarily species-rich, but considered unique for other reasons: ocean trenches, oceanic and marine areas with surface and underwater volcanic activities; oceanic islands with their surrounding waters; littoral zones, especially with mangroves; waters rich with colonies of the brown algae, which form prominent "subaqueous forests" and are one of the main producers of the Earth's oxygen.

Adopting the above guidelines, it would be highly recommended to place the following areas under legal protection within the framework of OPAs: the whole Red Sea with large part of its coasts; most world mangrove forests; vast areas on the Western Pacific Ocean rich in coral reefs; the region of the Mozambican Canal; the unique Sargasso Sea; a part of the Caribbean Sea; the Adriatic Sea; the whole Southern Ocean around Antarctica; the Arctic Ocean, Baffin Bay and the Bering Sea; and even unique though with sparse wildlife the Black Sea. Additionally, this legal formula would encompass archipelagos of small islands or single islands with extensive marine areas around them such as the islands of Andaman and Nicobar, Socotra, New Caledonia, the Solomon Islands, the Kuril Islands, the Queen Elizabeth Islands as well as waters surrounding already protected islands of Galapagos and Aldabra.

Special protection within OPAs should be provided to seas, waters of open oceans and coastal waters along the continents which are strategic breeding sites and biology for about 70-90% of fish and other animal groups, and which play a fundamental economical role in feeding the world. Thus, it is also important to restore of mangroves and coral-reefs where it is only possible.

Particular attention should be paid to the problem of protecting long coastal zones with river-mouths, which are main migration routes of fish. The main threat for oceans' ecosystems is trawling, which not only destroys the ocean bed on the huge scale but also kills many economically crucial but endangered species.

In a similar way to CPAs, within OPAs, the primacy of the conservation of nature and its resources should be applied over any other human activities. Each particular OPA would be divided into two zones: conservation zone consisting of national parks and reserves (under relevant states jurisdiction) and commonly managed zone (remaining areas), where exploitation of living marine resources would be subject to strict international control.

Similar to CPAs, major urban, industrialized and mining areas located within OPAs will not be their integral part, but will remain internal enclaves- Industrial Urban Zones-zone with strictly defined boundaries.

Fig. 2. The scheme of the Oceanic Protected Area OPA

[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to view fig.2]

#### Conclusion

Formation of a global network of Continental and Oceanic Protected Areas is based on easily understood and simple principles, which would constitute a legally binding international convention and preferably implemented under the patronage and supervision of the United Nations Organization in the future. It seems to be the best option justified by the fact that in the case of OPAs large part of their areas is referred to as the common good of all mankind, and does not come within the jurisdiction of any state.

At present, the conservation of nature, which is solely founded on arguments postulating the need of biodiversity protection motivates neither developed nor developing countries. Only additional coordination and integration of the wildlife conservation with fresh waters and their sources, marine waters and forests protection, preventing soil erosion, spatial planning and rational settlement policy may stimulate people to act practically for their own sake and lead to successful sustainable development.

Restoration of large forest areas, grasslands and soils within some CPAs, destroyed by humans in the past, will considerably contribute to reduce the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere, which in turn will have positive effect on the stabilization of global climate and conditions of the adjacent agriculture areas in the future.

Summing up, this concept creates new vision of the world economic and agricultural development at the beginning of the third Millennium founded on innovative principles of the coexistence of humans and nature, and if implemented, will allow both sides to survive as long as it is only possible.

Map: A map with suggested CPAs (in red) and OPAs (in blue)

*[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to view map]*

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## Commons Action for the UN

SUBMISSION BY COMMONS ACTION FOR THE UN, THE ASSOCIATION OF WORLD CITIZENS, INSTITUTE FOR PLANETARY SYNTHESIS, ET AL

### EXPECTATIONS FOR THE OUTCOME OF RIO+20

We suggest that the following statement be used in either the Political Declaration and/or Outcome Document. Support for this recommendation is included in the rest of the submission below.

A Commons Based Approach to Creating a Sustainable "Green" Economy and Implementing Sustainable Development shall be developed at all levels of government so that all stakeholders can participate actively in developing, managing, and maintaining and can then share equitably in the usage and benefits coming from resources that all need to survive and thrive and that must be held in common by the community at large -- be it local, regional or global.

### FULFILLING EXISTING COMMITMENTS AND SHIFTING TO A COMMONS-BASED ECONOMY BASED ON THE WELL-BEING OF ALL PEOPLE AND NATURE

The international community must take the steps needed to fulfill all of the agreements and commitments on sustainable development that have been made during the past twenty years.

Thus, significant improvements are needed to put in place the specific means, mechanisms, and funding still required and to deal responsibly with the following stumbling blocks:

- humanity is exceeding the carrying capacity of the planet and depleting the natural resource base;
- the demands and needs for better living conditions by a rapidly growing global population are escalating;
- the present debt-based economy and neo-colonialism are at war with nature and humanity;
- the present structure of national economies lack the flexibility to include stakeholder interests in an inclusive manner.

Since the above challenges can be met by a commons-based approach, we urge Governments to act forthwith to shift from an economy measured by increases in production and consumption to one based on protecting the global commons, including the well-being of humanity and nature, as addressed by UN Resolution 65/164 on Harmony with Nature.

This would require:

- increasing, with the help of Civil Society, the amount, diversity and availability of those natural and social resources needed for all people to thrive (commons goods);
- the UN to develop within a year a process, including all stakeholders, to place a stable and adequate cap on the use of depletable natural resources;
- involving all people in decision making based on the subsidiarity principle, bearing in mind that people's sense of responsibility will increase to the extent that they are conscious of their own role in addressing today's crises.

The above three points are characteristic of a commons based approach to sustainable development. It is thus essential that such an approach be included as a fundamental basis for implementing the program of action and achieving the goals set forth in the Outcome Document.

As a first step, we recommend that a panel of experts be developed within the UN system, to work with relevant stakeholders including CSOs, to develop and propose a plan to bring about the necessary shift to a Commons Based Approach to Sustainable Development, moving away from unsustainable minority rule and toward democracy and global survival.

### A COMMONS APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Would require and ensure that:

- all people recognize that the Earth is a living system of interconnected components on which all life depends. (UN Resolution 65/164 on Harmony with Nature.)
- if a commons-based economy is to become global, humankind must shift from a win/lose or human-centered win/win orientation to an all-win approach to life that takes into account the well being of all people as well as nature.
- All people, in accordance with international human rights agreements, equitably share the wealth that is derived from Commons Resources, and will enable humanity to fund much needed sustainable development and the transition to a sustainable "green" economy.
- the people as a whole cooperatively and responsibly develop, manage, maintain, and equitably share in the use and benefits coming from resources that must be held in common and managed in a healthy and sustainable manner by the community at large to ensure access by all who need them to survive and prosper, thereby creating Commons Resources.

One of the best examples of a Commons Approach is the Participatory Budget Process that was initially developed in Curitiba, Brazil. Another example, is the participatory local agenda 21 sustainable community planning processes, where interested stakeholders help in developing a plan for the community to become as sustainable as possible. And third, myriad examples can be found in many Sarvodaya communities, ecovillages, "transition towns", cooperatives, and indigenous communities around the globe where collaborative decision making, planning, and implementation are often carried out by the community members as a whole, with the benefits from such processes being equitably shared by all of the people in the community as well. See for example: [www.ecovillage.org](http://www.ecovillage.org) and [www.transitionnetwork.org](http://www.transitionnetwork.org)

A Commons Approach to Sustainable Development includes the following 5 characteristics:

- Commons Goods: those fruits of nature and society that all need to survive and thrive. They include the atmosphere, oceans, forests, biodiversity, all species of life, natural systems, minerals; food, water, energy, spiritual and health care; information, art, culture, society, technology, media, trade and finance
- Commoners: Groups of people who share the resources (users, producers, managers, providers)
- Commoning: inclusive, participatory and transparent forms of decision making and rules governing people's access to and benefit from these commons resources
- Boundaries: specifying community membership and the extent of the resource
- Value: created through the preservation or production coming from these commons goods and resources

#### PRINCIPAL OUTCOMES OF THE RIO+20 PROCESS

The principal elements that the Rio+20 Secretariat has identified are all essential components for a successful outcome of the Rio+20 process and conference. UNCSO does need to develop and put in place the specific means and mechanisms needed to fully implement a green economy roadmap, a framework for action, sustainable development goals, and most importantly a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development.

A complete plan thus needs to be developed that is sufficient to fully fund and implement each of these components. In addition each of them should include and be based upon a Commons Approach to Sustainable Development. Indeed a Commons Approach could provide the fundamental basis for establishing and renewing our global partnership for sustainable development. We include many examples below for how such a partnership could be further developed and carried out.

#### 3GREEN ECONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION

##### Measures to Shift to a Commons-Based Global Economy

1. Shifting from present economic indicators measuring production and consumption to ones measuring the well-being of people and nature;
2. Placing strongly enforced caps on the use of depletable resources to prevent further degradation;
3. Auctioning permits at source for the use of those resources that fall outside of the cap (this would remove the need to set a specific price on the use of natural resources and allow the price for the exploitation of non-capped resources to be divided by all subsequent users);
4. Shifting taxes onto the use and ownership of land and natural resources and off of labor in order to fund the transition to more sustainable practices. We urge government at all levels to introduce the public collection of the economic rent of all land and all natural resources and to apply the receipts to reducing taxes on wages, goods and services. The Earth Rights Institute offers an on-line course, developed in consultation with UN Habitat, describing how such an approach can be applied. See: [www.course.earthrights.net](http://www.course.earthrights.net);
5. Using the resulting income to restore and replenish depletable resources, recompense stakeholder communities and to establish a global trust to provide a basic income for all people;
6. Recognizing the importance of international agreements such as the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, Geneva Conventions, International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights, Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Kyoto Protocol and associated Workplans, Agenda 21, and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation that promote democratic participation in planning sustainable development;
7. Implementing the global footprint to assess economic performance (including corporations); 8. Recognizing that Ecocide is a Crime Against Peace and Life (iv) that is prosecuted under universal jurisdiction;
9. Creating a World Environmental Court where crimes against nature can be prosecuted under universal jurisdiction;
10. Implementing in all governmental decision making the all-win principle which recognizes that since all people and all of nature are parts of one integrated whole, the well-being of all people and all of nature are essential to us all.
11. True environmental costs of production and consumption must be internalized into accounting models in order to address the causes rather than simply the symptoms of environmental degradation.
12. Intellectual Property Rights have begun to hamper humanity's capacity to adapt to emerging issues and other global challenges. The extension of their applicability is also used now to hamper progress and further enclose the commons and should not be accepted nor permitted. Open source and General Public Licenses are commons-based alternatives that ought to be instituted instead.

#### INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

##### Fostering responsibility through the subsidiarity principle

Today's crises result from the total actions taken--and not taken--by all people worldwide. The sense of shared responsibility and consciousness of the consequences of their way of life will increase to the degree the principle of subsidiarity is applied. Through transparent, inclusive, participatory, intergenerational, gender-sensitive decision making with regard to those fruits of nature and society that each needs to survive and thrive, each person is confronted by the costs of their actions with regard to commons goods such as clean drinking water, hygiene and waste management.

Also, if people are living in a state of inner or outer poverty, the UN will not be able to achieve its mission and goals. A commons approach to sustainable development must thus be developed in such a way as to lead to inner peace, freedom, and fulfillment of all of the rights contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights -- thus overcoming the challenge of both spiritual and material poverty which is a precondition for establishing a sustainable "green" economy.

##### Significantly Strengthening, Funding, and Empowering UNEP

UNEP should be transformed into an adequately funded Specialized Agency with binding and enforceable powers. All people and stakeholders need to be fully included, and their rights protected, in all of the processes and activities carried out by or through a revitalized and empowered UN Environment Agency.

##### Significantly Strengthening, Empowering, and Democratizing CSD

The Commission on Sustainable Development should be transformed into a Permanent Commission under the UN General Assembly and/or the Economic and Social Council should be transformed into a Permanent Sustainable Development Council with the power to make binding and enforceable decisions and actions. Stakeholders and other

interested parties should be integrated fully in all levels of decision-making under and within the processes of the new Commission or Council; and it should be much more participatory in nature.

The new Council should include an Outcome Based Process which focuses on fully achieving the specific goals and commitments that have already been made. This would require that the Council, led by each Chair, focus on a limited number of specific goals at any one time and then proceed to determine and put in place (with the help of the UN Secretariat and interested stakeholders) the specific means, mechanisms, and funding needed to fully implement and achieve each of the targets and goals.

An intergovernmental committee should be set up which includes representatives of, along with the broadest possible input from, civil society and the Major Groups in order to develop recommendations for how the new Council could be structured and operate in a much more effective manner. For example, the existing consensus process could and should be augmented, when necessary, with the use of qualified majority votes.

#### Implementing Local to Global Sustainability Strategies and Action Plans

The UN needs to develop a partnership initiative, protocol, and/or processes to assist all communities and countries in developing and implementing their local and national strategies for sustainability; local and national action plans on Sustainable Consumption and Production; activities related to the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development; Poverty Reduction and Strategy Programs (PRSPs); International Court of Justice decisions; UN Decolonization Committee recommendations; and Multi-lateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs). These processes need to include a Commons Approach to Sustainable Development and be brought together and integrated across all levels and sectors of society from the local to the global.

A specific means to provide the funding that was promised in Chapter 28 of Agenda 21 for Local Sustainable Community Planning and Implementation, but which has never been forthcoming, must finally be included in the Rio +20 outcome agreement. A number of commons-based funding mechanisms are suggested and described in the section on Gaps in Implementation below.

#### EMERGING ISSUES

It is often recognized at CSD that many of the Emerging Issues and challenges are interdependent and cross-sectoral in nature. Unfortunately however, implementation is often based on an individual sectoral approach to development. It is thus essential that an integrated, multi-sectoral community based approach be adopted as the primary means for engaging in and implementing sustainable development, particularly in rural areas.

#### Building on Popular Movements and Initiatives

During the past year popular movements with popular demands have arisen around the world. While perhaps not quite as visible, popular movements to create a commons based economy have also been developing, which can not only provide a good response to many of these popular demands but also provide a more adequate response to many of the emerging issues. Governments can support and build on this and thereby develop the goodwill, and provide for the well being, of their people.

Principal 10 of the Rio Declaration and many other UN agreements call for citizen participation in decision-making and implementation and escalating popular demand worldwide calls for equitable sharing of:

1. transparent, inclusive, participatory, intergenerational, gender-balanced governance for the benefit of all people at local through international levels;
2. life sustaining resources;
3. a remuneration/money system where people earn only what accrues from the fruits of their labor, are recognized for their contributions (labour/services), and the vulnerable (women/children/disabled/refugees/fugitives/etc) are cared-for. This system is modeled in many indigenous and local communities which have successfully cultivated and protected commonly held gifts for many generations..

Meanwhile people worldwide are forming commons-based sustainable economies in thousands of localities worldwide -- including indigenous communities, Ecovillages; Transition Towns, the Sarvodaya communities, cooperatives (to which a billion people officially belong), LETS trading systems; commons management of forests; water sources; farmers markets; community gardens; knowledge; culture; media; and the internet -- most of which provide good solutions to many of the emerging issues such as addressing water scarcity, climate change, the need for resiliency, and transitioning to sustainable agriculture.

When linked, these examples already form a skeletal structure for a sustainable world economy. All Governments are thus urged to build on this sustainable economy in embryo to create a global commons-based world economy rooted in universal benefit and the well-being of all people and nature.

In addition, the UN could and should establish a global network of regionally based resource and service centers and training programs to support the development of a multi-sectoral community based approach to sustainable rural and impoverished urban development.

The Global Ecovillage Network has established a number of Living and Learning Centers around the world and Senegal has established a National Ecovillage Agency, based on the development of a regional network of ecovillages which was funded in part by the GEF Small Grants Program, which can provide the model and a basis for creating such a global network and program. The EcoEarth Alliance UN Partnership Initiative is developing and promoting such a model and process and would welcome the support and/or participation of governments and UN agencies.

#### GAPS IN IMPLEMENTATION

##### Citizen Participation

Government representatives at the UN often talk about capacity development and stakeholder participation in implementation. This is urgently needed to overcome the gaps in implementation. The stakeholders are often those who live in a given location. Often they have a better understanding than outsiders regarding what is theirs to manage and use and how to govern it. Empowering them to initiate and take responsibility is needed and that may look different in every culture.

It is also time to put in place active opportunities to support capacity development and reward people economically for their contributions and services. UNDP established a number of Thematic Trust Funds that included funding for capacity building but none of them were sufficiently funded. New means must be established across all sectors to provide opportunities for civil society to be compensated for contributing to implementation.

Approximately 1 billion of the Earth's 7 billion inhabitants are actively participating in cooperatives. These cooperatives often if not usually share the same goals as have been adopted by the UN and provide better results in achieving them than more competitive or hierarchical models. Support for such cooperative approaches is needed to overcome the gaps in implementation.

##### Lack of Funding & Specific Means and Mechanisms for Implementation

The biggest gaps in implementation are probably due, however, to the lack of global support, funding, and specific means and mechanisms that are sufficient to achieve full implementation. Global programs thus need to be scaled up, resources must be provided, and global agreements and conventions established to achieve the agreed targets and goals.

For example, Green Cross has developed model conventions on the right to water and sanitation that are urgently needed to ensure that all people's rights to these basic goods and services are fulfilled.

In addition, the UN Member States adopted the Aichi Biodiversity Targets during the recent 10th Session of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on BioDiversity setting time bound goals and targets to be achieved during the next fifteen years. Now, if sufficient means, mechanisms, and funding for implementation, along with on-going periodic review processes are put in place, we will probably be able to achieve the essential goals that were set.

#### Harmful and Unsustainable Subsidies

The International Institute for Sustainable Development is calling on governments to support and sign on to a Pledge to Phase Out Fossil Fuel Subsidies that undermine sustainable development. This would include a transparent, annual reporting and review process; technical and financial assistance for developing countries; common research and analysis; and Secretariat support. Such an agreement is urgently needed and must be included in the Rio+20 outcome agreement.

However such support and agreements are also needed to deal responsibly with and phase out all harmful and unsustainable subsidies, including those dealing with forests, fisheries, water, and agriculture, etc. The savings thus made from phasing out such subsidies could provide much needed financing for investing in sustainable development.

#### FINANCING THE SHIFT TO A COMMONS-BASED GLOBAL ECONOMY

Here are 4 ways to help restore, protect, and replenish natural resources and fund the shift to a commons-based global economy.

I. Establish an Effective Institutional Framework to Shift to a Commons Based Economy and Manage and Equitably Share in the Use of the Commons Under a Commons Approach to Sustainable Development all people must have access to those gifts of nature and society that they need to survive and prosper. These would be designated as commons goods. They can then be used to finance the shift to a commons based economy and be managed and equitably shared among all people, as follows:

- A strictly enforced cap could be placed on the use of depletable commons goods and resources;
- Trusts would then be established to oversee the caps and manage the resource. The amount of each cap would be determined and set by the stakeholders of each resource. These trusts could be located either within a state or be trans-border, depending on the extent of both the resource and the community of interest;
- Permits for the use of what is available once the cap has been put in place can then be auctioned at source enabling the cost to be spread among all subsequent users and avoiding the complex task of pricing each depletable resource;
- Income from these commons resources can then be used to protect and restore the resource; reimburse those negatively affected by the use of these resources with a small percentage going to the government for provision of the public goods; to invest in transitioning to a sustainable future; to a global trust to restore any damage to the global commons (air, water, land); and/or to provide a basic income for all people.

Broadly speaking, the assessment of commons rent by trusts around the world would require three significant changes:

- Governments could shift their primary emphasis away from issuing corporate charters and licensing the private sector and towards approving social charters and open licenses for resource preservation and social and cultural production processes through commons trusts managed by those who cultivate and protect commonly held gifts.
- Commons trusts would exercise a fiduciary duty to preserve natural, genetic and material commons and to protect, create or regenerate solar, social, cultural and intellectual commons, yet may also decide to rent a proportion of these resource rights to businesses.
- Businesses can then rent the rights to extract and produce a resource from a commons trust, thus creating profits and positive externalities through innovation, competitive products and services, and adjustment of the market to the actual costs of resources. However consent to the use of a Commons should first have to be granted by those that are protecting and/or whose lives depend upon a Commons resource.

#### Management of the Commons at the Global Level

Commons management funds could also be generated at the global level. A rental fee to finance multilateral programs and institutions could be placed on the development or use of many transborder commons, including:

- carbon emissions
- international corporate products
- international investment
- foreign exchange transactions
- international trade
- international airline tickets
- maritime freight transport
- ocean fishing
- sea-bed mining
- offshore oil and gas
- international oil trading
- satellite parking spaces
- electromagnetic spectrum use
- internet
- information flows
- military spending and arms exports
- toxic wastes
- energy consumption

II. Global Atmosphere Commons Trust. This type of a trust could be established based on ideas from the Alaska Permanent Fund for sharing the oil commons with all Alaskans and the thirty-plus years of commons resource management research.

Feasta Sky Trust. A specific proposal has already been developed for establishing a Feasta Sky Trust. See: [www.feasta.org](http://www.feasta.org) One of the largest commons on the planet, our global atmosphere, could serve as the fulcrum to turn our unsustainable and unjust ecological, economic and political situation in a better direction for us all. Emissions permits could be used to provide a right to use of the atmosphere – a resource which would then receive a scarcity value based on the carbon price. Current schemes like the Emissions Trading System (ETS) assume the carbon scarcity rent should go to polluters or governments – but really it should be used to provide for the well-being of all of humanity.

### III. Applying a Commons Management Scheme to Regulate and Equitably Share in the Use of the Global Commons

Elinor Ostrom recently won the Nobel Prize for her studies of commons management practices around the world and how they support sustainability and justice. She has developed a set of principles or rules which ought to be included and addressed in managing the commons.

These could be applied to the idea of establishing global and subsidiary commons institutions – with cooperating climate trusts in each nation -- run by the people's trustees and supported by governments for enforcement of the carbon cap and distribution of the shares and are thus described as such below. However these principles are applicable to the implementation of most other Commons Applications as well. Applying these principles thus requires:

1. Clearly defined boundaries (in this case, targeted and precise measurements of upstream carbon units that can be effectively monitored)
2. Effective exclusion of external un-entitled parties [or illegitimate use] ("leaks" in the carbon measurements must be identified and primary producers of fossil fuels brought into compliance)
3. Rules regarding the use of common resources are adapted to local conditions (each national climate commons institution would decide how much to pay out as dividends to citizens, for poverty alleviation for example, and how much to invest in transition projects and infrastructure)
4. Collective-choice arrangements allow most resource users to participate in the decision-making process (a deliberative charter process with engagement by many citizens would set rules and governance for subsidiary in each nation, including collaboration on a global atmosphere institution)
5. Effective monitoring by monitors who are part of or accountable to users (some of the global revenues would go towards monitoring and enforcement of the global cap on emissions)
6. There is a scale of graduated sanctions for resource users who violate community rules (funding would be cut to national level institutions that were not adhering to the by-laws of their charters; for example companies could be fined for emitting GHG's without the needed 11 pollution permits)
7. Mechanisms of conflict resolution are cheap and of easy access (devised in the charter processes for local, national and global scales)
8. The self-determination of the community is recognized by higher-level authorities (Nation States and the UN must uphold the rules set by such a global atmosphere institution and the subsidiaries in each nation... the process could begin with a few progressive countries leading the way)

### IV. Placing a User Fee on the Use of and Access to Commons Resources

The commons exist and must be recognized on all scales and levels, the micro to the macro. The macro scale concerns the resources which sustain our broader ecosystem such as water, air and soil. These are interdependent and provide the tripod upon which all of life is sustained. Such resources need to be held in common as the rights of all humans. Water quality equals quality of life.

Water and air cannot be for sale, but a graduated use fee established by the cultivators of these commonly held goods could be collected. This fee for equitably sharing in the use of and access to this commons resource should be applied instead of outright "sale" of water and air through cash or "credits". Part of the funds from this can go to ensuring the quantity and quality of the shared resource; with part going to reimburse the stakeholding community and to help provide a basic income for all people.

UN General Assembly resolution 64/292 of 28 July 2010 recognizes the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights. It is therefore:

- imperative that water sources, springs, head waters and aquifers be held in common by those cultivating and protecting them and
- we connect water quality to industry, access, and land stewardship to ensure that all water is kept clean and available

We urgently recommend that the same status be accorded to all other commons goods as well, without which people cannot survive and thrive.

The UN, along with government at all levels, must provide the means, mechanisms, funding and implementation needed to fully achieve all UN sustainable development agreements and ensure that our basic human right to essential goods and services is provided for all people as well. This will require strong governance, via the adoption and full implementation of specific conventions, programs of action, time bound and enforceable targets, and on-going periodic review processes -- which must be included in the Rio +20 Outcome Documents.

### Concluding Remarks

We must have genuine dialogue about how economy must respect and protect the viability of indigenous cultures and micro-ecosystems and create coherency at the global level between environment, society, and trade - based on the principles of sustainable development. Commoners cannot promote "green" economy while this term "green" is being trademarked, marketed and isolated from participation of those who have cultivated our ecosystems of earth, water, and air for the common benefit. It is not corporations but the people cultivating the commonly held gifts who determine what is environmentally responsible. Environmental standards, measurements, and awards granted in or by international agreements must come from governments that are representative of Peoples cultivating and protecting commonly held gifts, not from corporations who profit from these commonly held gifts.

An environmentally responsible economy cannot be promoted on the global level while poor governance causes violent dislocations to all species of life, including humanity, and even to the earth that sustains us all. Protection of human rights that allows for full enfranchisement and quality participation in cultivating and protecting commonly held gifts is essential for creating an environmentally responsible economy. Commoners can promote the enforcement of all international human rights instruments, including those protecting Indigenous Peoples, and equip all to participate in protecting and restoring the commonly held gifts of nature and in developing a sustainable economy.

We have the resources to solve the world's problems. The problem is not the lack of resources but the unequal distribution of them. What is needed are legitimate democratic governments and opportunities where people can express themselves and contribute their talents to the benefit of themselves and society.

It is important that governments think 'beyond' taking measures primarily by themselves in response to our common global problems and instead recognize the value of input and cooperation by the world's citizens, who have the same goals, but instead of working against, can work in common, to achieve these goals more easily, effectively and

productively.

For More Information Contact:

Co-Sponsors of the Commons Action for the United Nations Submission:

Commons Action for the United Nations

Association of World Citizens

Institute for Planetary Synthesis

All-Win Network

Global Ecovillage Network

We, the World

13Kosmos Journal

The Center for Women, the Earth, the Divine

PEP International Foundation

Institute of Global Education

Earth Rights Institute

International Union for Land Value Taxation

[www.globalcommonstrust.org](http://www.globalcommonstrust.org)

[www.worldcitizensaction.com](http://www.worldcitizensaction.com)

[www.ipsgeneva.com](http://www.ipsgeneva.com)

[www.allwinnetwork.org](http://www.allwinnetwork.org)

[www.ecovillage.org](http://www.ecovillage.org)

[www.we.net](http://www.we.net)

[www.kosmosjournal.org](http://www.kosmosjournal.org)

[www.cwed.org](http://www.cwed.org)

[http://pepinternational.nl](http://http://pepinternational.nl)

[www.course.earthrights.net](http://www.course.earthrights.net)

[www.theiu.org](http://www.theiu.org)

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## CoNGO Committee on Sustainable Development

CoNGO Committee on Sustainable Development, NY

Environmental, social and economic development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Earth Summit Rio + 20

General Background

Twenty years ago, following the first Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Maurice F. Strong, Secretary General of the Summit, said that “the movement to turn the world from its self-consumptive course to one of renewal and sustenance has unmistakably spread.” He added, however, that “there is not yet a concerted and decisive response to the magnitude and urgency of the task.” As Strong said, “There is still a great deal to do.”

Today these words ring true. There is still a great deal to do! An unsustainable and unjust model of development prevails. It commodifies and exhausts Earth's resources and relies heavily on unequal trade liberalization which favors developed countries and transnational corporations over people, healthy ecosystems, and the needs of present and future generations. A growing inequality exists between the wealthy and those who are impoverished by the lack of access to adequate food, water, energy, land, education and health services.

This growing gap in wealth is recognized as one of the root causes of conflict and violence worldwide. As the Johannesburg Summit acknowledged, these “deep fault lines that divide human society between the rich and the poor, and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and the developing worlds, pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability.” The 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) must reclaim and advance an ethical and inclusive global vision that promotes ecological and social integrity, the global common good, and the well-being of all peoples and Earth. Moreover, in the words of the Earth Charter, Rio+20 must move us to realize our “responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life and to future generations.”

Opportunities and Challenges

Mr. Sha Zukang, Secretary General of the upcoming Rio + 20 Conference, said, “Rio + 20 is humanity's chance to commit to a transition to a green economy, to lift people out of poverty. We cannot wait another 20 years.” The 1992 Summit's promise to make “environmental protection...an integral part of the development process” has not been fulfilled, and its call to action document, Agenda 21, which at the time 178 governments agreed to adopt, is largely forgotten. This document provided a framework for action to be implemented globally, nationally and locally by governments, organizations of the United Nations and major groups in every area in which the activity of humans has a direct impact on the environment. Why this failure when the international community has the technological expertise, a clearer, scientifically-based understanding of Earth as a living system of interdependent, interrelated components of which humans are a part, and the financial resources to explore and implement more sustainable modes of development? Clearly, there is reluctance to critique present economic and social systems, as well as a lack of political will for action based on such critiques. The October 2010 Report of the Secretary General, *Harmony With Nature*, “provides an overview of how the life-style of the twenty-first century, through its consumption and production patterns, has severely affected Earth's carrying capacity, and how human behavior has been the result of a fundamental failure to recognize that human beings are an inseparable part of nature, and that we cannot damage it without severely damaging ourselves. ...The philosophy of holism, embodied in the concept of sustainable development, rests on an understanding that all things are interconnected and that nothing occurs in isolation.” Any substantive alteration of one of Earth's components affects the health and vitality of the entire system.

The prevailing economic theory, grounded in limitless expansion and growth, is in contradiction with finite resources. The competition that is a hallmark of the current model has led to ever increasing inequity between the rich and those who are living in poverty, at both global and national levels. Furthermore, at the time of the 1992 Earth Summit, one of Maurice Strong's greatest disappointments was the failure to move firmly enough against the world's industrial-military complex. Since then, the business of war has intensified – destroying human life and well-being, abusing the environment, consuming resources and blocking the United Nations' main agenda of fostering sustainable pathways to peace and security. Therefore, we see the following elements, rooted in an equitable and holistic understanding of the interconnectedness of all of life, as

foundational in the deliberations that will take place during Rio+20.

#### Green Economy

The limitless growth and production model of development must be abandoned. We support a green economy that reflects an integration of the environmental, social and economic pillars of sustainable development; that places equity of access to green technology, jobs and practices for developing countries over green capitalism, which disproportionately benefits developed countries and transnational corporations. "A green economy results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities...it can be thought of as one which is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive."

A green economy must recognize the limits of the free market economy, and favor a more locally-based economy; respect the diversity of cultures, and the consequent need to develop "diverse green economies;" while addressing structural change that would genuinely address the eradication of institutional poverty and its accompanying injustices. In addition, in a green economy GDP cannot be the strategic marker of development to the exclusion of all other indicators. It is important to utilize a variety of indicators, including the Human Development Index (HDI), based on the premise that "people are the real wealth of a nation." The HDI, however, does not currently include any environmental measures in its calculations despite an emphasis on the environment in the 2010 Human Development Report – "human development, if not sustainable, is not true human development."

#### Human Rights and Earth Rights

We firmly advocate a shift from an ethic of exploitation to an ethic of right relationship – an ethic based on the rights of humans and of Earth as essential for individuals, society and ecosystems to flourish. The concept of the rights of nature is also emerging, with the growing awareness of Earth as a living system of interconnected components. This concept highlights the importance of human beings living in a more balanced and harmonious relationship with nature, as opposed to the prevailing relationship of domination. This planetary vision can lead to a just and sustainable peace.

"Earth rights are human rights; they are not separate rights." If people do not have access to clean water, food and sanitation; if people are restricted in their prudent use of land in the name of "progress;" if people are victimized by governments and corporations which engage in unbridled extraction, pollution and devastation of land and bodies of water, then human and Earth rights are violated.

In conclusion, we support the following recommendations that promote an integrated approach to sustainable development:

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Enforce the following principles as referred to in Agenda 21:
  - o Apply the Precautionary Principle to ensure that new products and technologies (e.g., genetically modified seeds) do not have destructive or irreversible damage that results in environmental degradation.
  - o Enforce the Polluter Pays Principle and apply payment to the adaptation and mitigation needs of developing countries.
  - o Guarantee the representation of local peoples, especially Indigenous Peoples, as active participants in decision-making processes to bring about equitable, fair and just sustainable development.
- Acknowledge the human right to water and proper sanitation, and hold accountable those corporations which both deplete and pollute the global water supply.
- Sponsor educational programs for citizens on sustainable development and, specifically, on patterns of consumption and production within each country's context.

#### GREEN ECONOMY

- Endorse the establishment of the proposed Financial Transaction Tax to contribute to climate adaptation and more equitable economies in developing countries.
- End subsidies for fossil fuels and industrial agriculture in order to move toward the end of fossil fuel dependency; and invest in small farmers and agro-ecology.
- Facilitate the transfer of innovative technology from the developed world to assist the developing world in an approach to development that does not rely on fossil fuels.
- Shift from free trade liberalization to the implementation of fair and just trade policies.
- Evaluate global military expenditures and reallocate significant resources to sustainable development, green technology, and financing of climate adaptation and mitigation for developing countries.

#### GLOBAL INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT FRAMEWORK

- Support the establishment of an effective international institutional environment framework which calls governments and international corporations to transparency and accountability.
- Include environmental measures in the Human Development Index, and encourage the use of a wide range of indicators, beyond GDP and the HDI, to assess development.

#### NGOs that support this Paper

World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, INSEDA Integrated Sustainable Energy and Ecological Development Association, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Society of Catholic Medical Missionaries, Seroptimists International, Seroptimists National Council of Women USA, Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace, Information Habitat: Where Information Lives, International Council of Psychologists, Maryknoll Sisters of St. Dominic, Inc., Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Passionists International, Association of World Citizens Institute for Planetary Synthesis, Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, Dominican Leadership Conference, Loretto Community, Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Sisters of Charity Federation, Pax Christi International, Gray Panthers, International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation, Edmund Rice International, Geneva, International Peace Research Associates, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, Sisters of Mercy, International Council of Women, National Council of Women USA, International Federation of Women Lawyers, International Federation of Women in Legal Careers, Congregation of Notre Dame, Baptist World Alliance, Center for Women, the Earth, the Divine, Al-Hakim Foundation



## Global Platform for Simplified Life Cycle Annalysis

## Relevance of the theme

According to UNNEP SBCL, globally, buildings are responsible for 40% of annual energy consumption and up to 30% of all energy related greenhouse gases (GHG) emissions. Collectively, this sector is responsible for one third of humanity's resource consumption, including 12% of all fresh water use, and production of up to 40% of our solid waste.

According to UNEP's - Climate Neutral Network Personal and commercial transport consumes about 20% of the global energy supply, 80% of which comes from fossil fuels. Transport infrastructure contributes to social and economic development by enabling trade and providing opportunities for employment, education and leisure.

This data is a global estimate. More specific and detailed information is needed to enable the sector to obtain information of the main impacts of each sector by country and by productive system.

## Proposal

We propose the establishment of an international panel, bringing together companies, governments, academy and NGOs, to establish a Global Platform for Simplified Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), which prioritizes the main challenges of the global socio-environmental agenda and can become a tool for decision making based on the sustainable development of the construction industry.

## The vision

The promotion of sustainability requires that the decisions to purchase products consider the multiple environmental and social impacts throughout their life cycle. Today the amount of information of these impacts are very limited, expensive and of difficult access. In most developing countries information of local products are nonexistent. This lack of information affects all levels of decision making, as strategic plans at national and international levels, individual and community decisions, and even decisions including the international commercial trade. This reality severely limits the effective engagement of industry, commerce, public sector and consumers in general in promoting sustainability as proposed in Agenda 21.

## The context

The Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), promoted by UNEP for several decades, is already a standard tool too quantify the environmental impact of products. The integration of social impacts within the scope is being carried out. Its concept is well established and standardized. The tool integrates all environmental flows (inputs and outputs of materials in production processes),

which allows calculating the environmental impacts and identify the most relevant to each product, as can fundament correct interventions in the process. However, with the proposed scope of the LCA, its implementation process is expensive and complex because it requires the measurement of a large number of variables, many of which require complex equipment and highly specialized human resources that are unavailable in many regions and beyond the financial reach of the majority of economic agents.

These facts have limited the spread of the LCA. A few commercial databases are available in the international market. These data bases include mainly information from developed countries and even fewer companies that detail (environmental product declarations). Only a few countries have public and free databases. In general, the process to update the information is slow, what leads to a decision making based on outdated information. Most data is not detailed to the companies level as its application is beyond most of their technical and economic reach. This lack of information eliminates the supplier's choice based on environmental criteria. Consequently the selection based on price and technical performance remains predominant. This lack of information restricts competition based on sustainability and in many cases suppliers with unsustainable practices gain in market. Finally, the absence of information on company level environmental impacts is an obstacle to market promoted sustainability.

## The challenge

It is therefore a priority to build a free public system open to all society that manages a minimum set of information which are consistent, verifiable and reliable, that is able to support decision of acquisition of products based on multiple criteria, based on simplified life cycle assessment - LCA s. This system should be developed, implemented and managed in a transparent way by bringing together a coalition of government, businesses and the third sector. The effectiveness of this system grows with the number of products and companies that take part on it. The chance of success grows as the system has a simple implementation and simple maintenance which makes it feasible for small businesses in developing countries. The simplicity makes it easy to update the data, another key to its effectiveness.

To have an easy adoption throughout various countries, its implementation should be gradual, starting with basic resources data on a national scale evolving too cover a growing share of the products, and finally incorporating the results of individual companies. A number of aspects or impacts should be included gradually, allowing countries, companies and their customers to learn with the process. International trade level involvement demands standardized methodology, an interconnected data base and universal access.

Although this type of support for a decision system is important too all sectors of the economy, it is particularly a priority for the construction sector, which accounts the largest share of consumption of natural resources, waste generation, energy consumption and life quality. Analysis of environmental performance of products are still being made using methodologies (labels), based on criteria that promotes solutions considered of less impact and which were elected by their authors. Consequently these tools give inconsistent results when compared with each other and do not allow too minimize negative impacts on all projects. In markets where there are multiple labels available it is possible for market players to select the most convenient tool to reach the target. The adoption of labels produced in foreign countries with different realities reduces even more the effectiveness of these initiatives, and can lead to incorrect decisions because of the huge differences between socio environmental agenda between countries and regions. A simple comparison of the CO2 content in electricity which varies an order of magnitude between different countries expresses the limit. Certification methodologies that are based on quantitative information of the impacts along the life cycle of products used in the construction, maintenance and operation off buildings are likely to provide consistent and relevant results. BIM tools can facilitate this analysis, once the data exists.

A successful example of successes is the GHG Protocol. It has an approach to quantification impacts that has gained support of companies, eleven in developing countries. The method opens the possibility of using data that can be collected with relative ease, but also offers generic models to estimate the application, although with more conservative results. The methodology has a growing number of manuals and tools dedicated to specific production processes and adaptations for different countries, which facilitates its application.

Having as a model the GHG Protocol Methodology, the development of a Simplified Methodology for Life Cycle Analysis is a viable alternative too: measure the environmental impact, make the data accessible and introduce a multiple environmental criteria decision as a habit for decision makers.

## Conclusion

Therefore, we propose the establishment of an International Panel that congregates business, government, academy and NGOs, to establish a Global Platform for

Assessment of Simplified Life Cycle Analysis (LCA), through a methodology that addresses the main challenges of the socio environmental global agenda and that to becomes a tool for decision making with a focus on sustainable development of the construction industry.

## Conservation International

The Contribution of Natural Capital to Sustainable Development

Conservation International urges all stakeholders to ensure that the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference:

- I. Are based on the understanding that natural capital, comprised of ecosystem goods and services and biodiversity, underpins human well-being and is therefore the centerpiece of a healthy, sustainable economy and a critical element for the achievement of sustainable development objectives.
- II. Recognize that effective governance of natural capital through the collaboration of the public and private sectors, civil society and local communities is vital to achieving sustainable development.
- III. Incorporate environmental values that natural capital provides into economic models in order to move towards sustainable development.
- IV. Support the necessary investments for a transformation to a sustainable economy, including traditional and innovative public financing, positive incentives, private investments and market mechanisms that ensure sustainable use and conservation of natural capital.

Synopsis: Recognition of the value of natural capital will underpin the success of outcomes from Rio+20, addressing both conference themes: "green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development" and the "institutional framework for sustainable development".

Since the first "Rio" meeting of the UN Conference on Environment and Development in 1992, the human alteration of marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems has continued to accelerate at a more intense pace than in any other period of human history. This use of ecosystems has led to gains in physical and human capital, while simultaneously depleting natural capital, composed of the stock of ecosystems that yield flows of ecosystem goods and services. These gains are unsustainable as they do not take into account the limits to ecosystem change and degradation, which will eventually cause declines in physical and human capital as well. Despite increasing understanding and demonstration of the value of ecosystem services, which has been estimated to have an economic value in the range of trillions of dollars annually, almost 60% of these services have been degraded or are used unsustainably, affecting climate regulation, sources and flows of freshwater, food security, human health and biodiversity. These impacts disproportionately affect the well-being of the most vulnerable among us. Over 800 million smallholders, who collectively support up to two billion people and produce half of the world's food, are directly dependent on the healthy functioning of their local ecosystems to support local agriculture and the provision of other goods including water, food, medicines, building materials and fuel. To ensure that the use of natural capital in the pursuit of development does not incur negative consequences for human well-being, sustainable development must integrate ecosystem management into economic, social and environmental planning, investment and implementation.

The outcomes of Rio+20 should specify actions to improve the current state of management and governance of natural capital, from the local to the international level, through effective, multi-stakeholder engagement. It is only with intact and resilient natural ecosystems and ecological processes – consisting of all necessary component species and communities – that we can ensure long-term, sustained ecosystem functioning and delivery of goods and services to support human well-being. Additionally, the outcomes should outline measures to address the fundamental failures of the current economic system and associated institutions to recognize and value natural resources appropriately. Outcomes should also make a clear and robust case for strengthening the enabling conditions needed to achieve healthy ecosystems, economies resilient to global change and sustainable development, key among these being diverse and stable financing including traditional and innovative sources of public finance, private investment and market mechanisms.

Conservation International urges all stakeholders to ensure that the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference:

- I. Are based on the understanding that natural capital, comprised of ecosystem goods and services and biodiversity, underpins human well-being and is therefore the centerpiece of a healthy, sustainable economy and a critical element for the achievement of sustainable development objectives. A green and blue economy is a healthy, sustainable economy that helps to reach the objectives of poverty alleviation and sustainable development. While a healthy, sustainable economy implies an overall economic transformation, this transformation should be implemented as a combination of multiple, coordinated mechanisms at multiple scales, from the local to the national and global level. Governments should utilize the combination of mechanisms most relevant to their national circumstances that best contribute to human well-being, environmental conservation and economic security. All mechanisms developed should recognize natural capital as essential to human well-being and thus an integral element of sustainable development.
  - II. Recognize that the effective governance of natural capital through the collaboration of the public and private sectors, civil society and local communities is vital to achieving sustainable development. Effective management of natural capital is vital to achieving healthy, sustainable economies at all scales. The need for governance to ensure the maintenance and sustainable use of natural resources is especially acute for low-income countries. According to the World Bank, close to one-third of the wealth of low-income countries comes from their "natural capital" which includes forests, protected areas, agricultural lands, energy and minerals. Countries that manage these natural assets carefully are able to move up the development ladder – investing more and more in manufactured capital, infrastructure and "intangible capital" like human skills and education, strong institutions, innovation and new technologies. For example, between 1995 and 2005 Botswana increased its per capita wealth by 35 percent, in part through good governance and sound management of its mineral wealth. While some countries have also been able to make advancements in development through the destruction and degradation of natural capital, these advancements are unsustainable as countries will reach a critical threshold at which decreases in natural capital will cause economic decline. To avoid reaching this tipping point, the sustainable and inclusive management of natural capital is an essential element in the achievement of sustainable development and poverty alleviation objectives.
- Include multi-level stakeholder participation in natural capital governance frameworks. Effective governance requires deep, inclusive political and social dialogues driving structural transformations in public sector institutional frameworks. However, the responsibility for success should not fully rest on national or local governments, but involve the participation of the private sector, civil society and communities. Sustainable development must also be equitable development, including women, the poor and other marginalized people. Poor, resource-dependent populations are often located in the areas of greatest natural capital richness and have critical information on how to best manage those resources. To be successful, the involvement of all relevant stakeholders in natural capital governance and fair benefit-sharing schemes is therefore essential. The tripling of Madagascar's protected area network in part through local, civil society and private sector efforts demonstrates that significant progress can be made through multiple channels.
  - Support the creation and maintenance of effective ecosystem-based management and protected area systems. Terrestrial, inland water and marine protected area systems worldwide serve to ensure the provision of a range of ecosystem services. The results of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) study, along with many other studies and field experiences, indicate that the local and global benefits of conservation are clear. Areas under protection help to conserve ecosystem-service benefits

worth more than 100 times their cost, with national-level benefits being 50 times the cost. Fulfilling the Aichi Biodiversity Targets based on this understanding should be a central element of global and regional development efforts, in part through coordinated landscape and seascape management. The Pacific Oceanscape Framework endorsed by the 2011 Pacific Island Leaders Forum as a model for “the international community to work towards integrated oceans management, with the aim of realizing relevant international goals to contribute to the health and vitality of the ocean environment, including through the global network of marine protected areas agreed at Rio+10” could contribute to these efforts.

- Endorse advancements in integrated landscape planning to best make informed land-use decisions. Advancements in spatial planning now enable better understanding of trade-offs and synergies which clearly reveal the value of maintaining natural capital. Integrated landscape planning represents an important tool for basing land-use decisions on robust economic and ecological data given multiple development needs from limited land resources and can often contribute to maintaining natural capital as a component of sustainable development. In the case of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) efforts, spatial planning can identify the areas of land best suited for REDD+ activities by locating key areas for carbon sequestration that also deliver high biodiversity and other social and environmental benefits.

- Promote a system of integrated metrics and indicators. Although large amounts of data are currently collected, there remain significant gaps that hinder the integrated policy making required to progress towards a healthy, sustainable economy. In particular, co-located, integrated data on human well-being, natural capital and ecosystem services and development policies and actions, at appropriate scales, are needed to enable evaluation of tradeoffs and synergies. A portfolio of integrated metrics and indicators that are traceable back to underlying quantitative data is needed to synthesize complex information and effectively communicate the information that is important to policymakers.

III. Incorporate environmental values into economic models in order to move towards sustainable development. The continuing degradation of natural capital is the result of a variety of drivers that impact terrestrial, freshwater and marine biodiversity as well as the underlying failure of our social and economic systems to ascribe values to ecosystem services that accurately reflect their contribution to human well-being. The value of ecosystem services and biodiversity must be considered in planning processes and decision making at all scales, including in the development of strategies for poverty reduction and human development.

- Consider existing research and further explore the social and economic valuation of ecosystem services in comprehensive wealth calculations and national accounting systems. The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) effort points to the general agreement among scientists that the inclusion of the value of natural capital in stock of wealth calculations is a “more meaningful and correct approach” than traditional GDP or income calculations which treat most ecosystem impacts as “externalities.” It is also estimated that in some cases ecosystem services and other non-marketed goods make up to almost 90 percent of the “total source of livelihood of the poor” while in national GDP calculations as little as 6 percent is represented by agriculture, forestry and fisheries. The report emphasizes a tiered approach to put sustainable development into practice by recognizing the value of ecosystem services to human communities, demonstrating such values in economic terms, and protecting these values with appropriate mechanisms and tools. The TEEB report also identifies priority geographic areas to implement these efforts, specifically in terms of communication, valuation, measurements and management, poverty reduction, financial accounting disclosure, use of economic incentives, ecosystems conservation and restoration.

- Integrate information on the value and contribution of ecosystem services into economic accounting systems. Lack of assessment and estimation of the magnitude of the contribution of natural capital to national economies results in the exclusion of nature’s value from policy analysis and precludes the development of management alternatives that recognize the importance of ecosystem services to human well-being. Countries should integrate these values into their macro-economic assessments in order to fully recognize the contributions of ecosystems to sustainable development. One proposed approach to overcome this significant limitation of information and move toward better, more efficient decision-making and planning is the integration of ecosystem service values into income accounts. A recently launched World Bank-led initiative, Wealth Accounting and the Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES), is an important step towards that change. The initiative, whose primary goal is promoting sustainable development worldwide through the implementation of comprehensive wealth accounting, focuses on the value of natural capital and integration of ‘green accounting’ in more conventional development planning analysis.

Address drivers of ecosystem degradation. The drivers of loss of natural capital are either constant or intensifying, bringing us closer to critical ecological limits that pose fundamental costs to economies and undermine human well-being. It is therefore necessary to recognize and address the primary drivers: unsustainable practices in sectors such as agriculture or coastal development, overfishing, pollution, invasive species, climate change and the underlying factors of overconsumption and unrecognized values of ecosystems. Governments should address drivers of ecosystem degradation in their economic planning processes and through additional regulations and incentives. Standards and certification schemes (such as the FSC or MSC) can also provide incentives for the private sector to improve practices and help consumers make informed choices. The private sector can also show leadership by voluntarily adopting efforts to “green” their supply chains, making sure at every step in the production and sourcing cycle that their products and services do not contribute to ecosystem degradation.

IV. Support the necessary investments for a transformation to a sustainable economy, including traditional and innovative public financing, positive incentives, private investments and market mechanisms that ensure the sustainability of natural capital. For sustainable development to be fully achieved, it is necessary that developed countries meet their traditional official development assistance (ODA) objectives. However, in addition to ODA, innovative sources of financing such as transportation levies and new taxation mechanisms should be explored, as these can reduce the impact of sometimes unpredictable public sources of finance. The necessary investments for a sustainable transition to a sustainable economy should include a combination of traditional and innovative public financing, positive incentives, private investments and market mechanisms which ensure measures to conserve and sustainably use natural capital. Creating positive incentive structures, such as payment for ecosystem services schemes, REDD+ and global markets for services, and eliminating negative economic incentives (perverse incentives) for overharvest, pollution, logging, land-use changes or other unsustainable forms of natural capital use and management is a necessary change that will facilitate the recognition and valuation of natural capital by society.

- Expand the role of payment for ecosystem services schemes. Payments for ecosystem services (PES) are mechanisms designed to provide an incentive against degradation and unsustainable use of natural capital by compensating communities and countries for actions associated with restoring, enhancing or protecting natural systems and the ecosystem services they provide. CI has been involved in successful PES projects at the community level, including REDD+ national strategy development in Indonesia, Peru, and Madagascar, a water payment scheme in Colombia, as well as national PES schemes in Costa Rica, Mexico, and Ecuador, all of which have led to increased conservation of ecosystem services and supported sustainable development. For example, by compensating land owners for providing ecosystem services through reforestation, sustainable management, preservation and regeneration activities, Costa Rica’s PES scheme is currently protecting close to 10 percent of the national territory.

- Utilize Conservation Trust Funds for sustainable, long-term financing of biodiversity and its related environmental services. Conservation Trust Funds (CTFs) and similar long-term financial mechanisms can serve as an effective means for mobilizing strategic investment funds for biodiversity conservation, capitalized by international donors, national governments and the private sector at both the national and international levels. They facilitate long-term planning in part because they involve multi-stakeholder governance and are independent of changes in government and shifts in political priorities. To the extent that national and international markets are not able to fully reflect ecosystem values to guarantee their long-term conservation, financial mechanisms such as trust funds are among the only feasible mechanisms to provide for ecosystems’ preservation. Engagement of civil society, private sector, governments and international institutions in joint partnerships are essential to guarantee the success of these mechanisms.

- Eliminate and redirect perverse incentives that finance and legitimize ecosystem degradation. Perverse incentives, or policies and practices that encourage unsustainable behavior, are often the unanticipated side-effects of policies created to achieve other objectives. For example, high subsidies for industrial fishing fleets have encouraged overfishing and resulted in fisheries losing billions of dollars due to huge reductions of the global catch. Incentives which are harmful to natural capital must be eliminated,

phased out or reformed in order to avoid negative impacts. In fact, there are often opportunities to redirect harmful subsidies to provide positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of natural capital. Opportunities to develop and apply positive incentives should be explored and pursued. Such incentives serve as a valuable tool to ensure that natural capital considerations are reflected in all relevant economic sectors.

## Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andes Ecoregion (CONDESAN)

Sustainable Mountain Development

Draft Regional Report Andes

prepared for the Lucerne World Mountain Conference 10-12 October 2011

20 years of Sustainable Mountain Development in the Andes - from Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond -

Final Draft v3 - September 2011

Summary

### 1. State of the Andes

- The Andes mountains, understood as the contiguous mountain region of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, run over 8000 km, down the length of South America, with an area of more than 2,500,000 km<sup>2</sup>, (33% of total country areas) and a population of almost 85 million (45% of total country populations), making the northern part, the most populated mountain region in the world.
- However, the Andes are an incredibly diverse and heterogeneous area, in terms of cultures, biodiversity and economic systems, with large differences between countries.
- Some of the most biodiverse regions of the planet, and areas of highest species endemisms exist in the Andes, important centres of crop origins are also present.
- The Andes are incredibly important for the economies of the seven countries, providing agricultural area, mineral resources, and water (for agriculture, hydroelectricity and domestic use), and some of the largest business centres of South America.
- Some of the poorest areas, and with the most challenging living conditions exist in the Andes, especially in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.
- Pressures on natural resources in the Andes result from expanding populations, expanding agricultural areas and intensity, and increasing mineral extraction.
- Climate change will exacerbate other pressures in some mountain areas, for example in more erratic rainfall patterns, changes in water regulation capacity, especially of high altitude ecosystems and in the south, melting glaciers, and changes in climatic suitability for some crops, (although not all areas are equally affected, and some may benefit), and increasing extinction risk to biodiversity.

### 2. Progress on implementing sustainable mountain development, incorporating recommendations

- National policies, resulting from Rio 92 have been implemented in all Andean countries, and at regional level in Andean Community countries, with many favourable aspects for SMD, albeit, not specific to mountains.
- Recent regional level policies (often resulting from above point), decentralisation and increased opportunities for participation of civil society have also played an important role, although dependence on aspects such as electoral periods, governing parties, makes implementation in some areas difficult.
- Regional initiatives on SMD, such as organizations, academic meetings and supranational agreements have increased greatly over the last 20 years and supported awareness raising, knowledge sharing, and implementation of international agreements.
- National parks, protected area systems, other conservation areas, and instruments for biodiversity conservation, both through state and civil society processes, have increased greatly in the last 20 years. Although issues still remain with regard to effectiveness of their protection, the recent participative processes in identifying and declaring sites has undoubtedly furthered awareness of environmental conservation and its importance on livelihoods in mountain regions.
- Mining represents an opportunity for development, but presently is often not implemented in a responsible manner, and benefits do not always reach mountain areas where mining takes place
- Management of water resources in the Andes has seen novel initiatives at a variety of scales, from micro- basin to administrative divisions, but uncertainty in water availability, and conflicts of resource use are still a threat to SMD.
- Approaches to SMD have evolved, e.g. ecosystem approach to biodiversity conservation, increasing importance of livelihood concerns within conservation (e.g. incorporation of more social issues into conservation); international cooperation projects have changed in the last 20 years, with a recent focus on incorporating learning processes into institutional frameworks (e.g. in policies and programmes) at both national, regional and local level.
- Academic and traditional knowledge has played an important role in supporting SMD, gaps still exist in applying knowledge, and although the value of traditional knowledge is increasingly recognised and understood, this does not flow into general practice.

### 3. Key Challenges and recommendations

#### Strengthening institutional frameworks

- Increase dialogue between government sectors, and government levels
- Increase inter-institutional dialogue
- Further institutionalisation of participation instruments
- Raise awareness of mountain issues on political agendas
- Consolidate or create specific mountain initiatives where appropriate
- Regional integration - role of CAN, UNASUR

#### Improving knowledge and information systems

- Increase availability of academic and traditional knowledge for specific SMD purposes and decision making
- Coordinate research priorities for implementing SMD
- Consolidate or create specific national or regional mountain initiatives
- Research and monitoring of climate change adaptation mechanisms, especially with regard to water availability
- Decision support systems - helping to bridge gap between science and policy

## PART 1: SETTING THE STAGE

### 1.1 Introduction

The Andes, the world's longest mountain chain, on the east side of the Pacific ring of Fire, form the backbone of South America and are a major global physiographic feature, influencing climate, seismic energy, biodiversity, human culture and history around the world. The Andes cover a latitudinal length of approximately 6,600 km, from Venezuela to Chile, passing from tropical climates with rainforests on their lower slopes, topped by cold, highland grasslands and snow-capped peaks in the north of the continent, to temperate, seasonal forests and large extents of permanent glaciers in the south. They reach their maximum width of approximately 900 km between Peru and Bolivia at about 15°S, and maximum height at 6962 m in Argentina. Their varied topography, including rugged peaks, altiplanos, or highland plateaus, have played a major role in affecting the geography of human habitation and associated activities such as agriculture and industry, as well as the use of biodiversity in the region. The enormous variety of ecosystems makes the Andean region one of the most biodiverse on the planet. The Andes are a major influence on livelihoods in seven of South America's 14 countries, as a major source of cultivated crops, instrumental in providing water to more than 100 million people, account for a significant portion of the region's GDP, provide energy and have shaped the culture of a large part of a continent. However, many of the mountain region's inhabitants live below the poverty line and pressures such as unsustainable use of highland areas, increasing urbanization and climate change seriously threaten the sustainability of the region's development. This report reviews progress in major issues of sustainable development in the region over the last 20 years as well as providing recommendations for future directions in sustainable mountain development. An added complexity to such a report is the difficulty in attempting to draw regional conclusions from such a large, complex and varied region, where important variations exist between countries.

## 1.2 Characteristics of the Andean region

**1.2.1 Defining the Andes** For the purposes of this report, the Andean region has been defined using a combination of ecosystem classifications (Olson et al. 2001), ruggedness measures (Riley et al. 1999) and altitudinal limits within the seven Andean countries of South America (Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina) (Figure 1a). All terrain above 1000 m was included in the contiguous region of the Andean cordillera, as well as very rugged land over 500 m, following categories defined by Meybeck et al (2001) and using montane ecoregions as a guide in certain regions<sup>1</sup>. Different altitudinal limits have been employed to define the Andes, often varying over latitude, from 500 to 800 m (Anderson et al. 2011). In these terms, the geographical focus of this report is the contiguous mountainous region of west South America (Figure 1a), and will be different to many other ecological, geological or even cultural definitions of the Andes, for example, in the inclusion of some mountain ranges of very different geological origin, not always classified as Andean. As defined by this method, the Andes have a latitudinal extension of more than 6,600 km, and occupy an area of 2,728,760 km<sup>2</sup>, or 33.3% of the total area of the seven Andean countries, and 15% of all South America, however marked differences exist at country level (Figure 1b). The Andes reach their maximum altitude in Argentina, at 6962 m on Aconcagua.

Table 1. Summary information for Andean countries

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### 1.2.2 Demography

Currently, the Andes hold a population of approximately 84,500,000 people, or 44.5% of the total population of the seven Andean countries, making them the most highly urbanized mountain region in the world. Current patterns of human inhabitancy of the mountains change considerably from north to south (Figure 1b). In the former, the area of the Andes with regard to the total country area is small, yet a disproportionately large proportion of the country's population inhabit the mountains, while towards the south of the continent the opposite is true, and in Chile, the mountains occupy a large proportion of the country, but are inhabited by a relatively small percentage of the country's population. However, more important than a head count within a geographic delimitation of the mountains, the Andes undoubtedly provide ecosystem services to an even larger proportion of the seven countries' inhabitants, including, for example, all the major cities on the Pacific slope of the Andes, with a further estimated 20 million people also dependent on the Andes.

Over the last 20 years, Colombia has been the most populated country (45m in 2010; DANE 2010a), with Bolivia also maintaining the smallest population (10m in 2010), however, population growth has changed between countries, for example, Argentina and Colombia began the 1990s with similar populations, but Colombia showed a higher growth rate towards the end of the 20 year period. In the northern Andes,

population density has also increased more within the Andean region than outside (Figure 2b). In terms of percentage of countries' populations living in the Andes between 1990 and 2010, this has decreased in Venezuela and Bolivia, increased slightly in Argentina, and remained approximately level in the remaining countries.

Figure 1.

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The percentage of the population has increased in urban areas over the study period, with now between 69% and 91% of the Andean countries' population living in urban areas, compared to 55% to 87% in 1990 (CEPAL 2000a). The highest rates of change correspond to Bolivia and Ecuador, with difference of 13 and 15 percentage points, respectively. The largest cities, the most populated cities (>1,000,000 inhabitants) are evenly distributed inside and outside the Andean region (Table 2), however, many of those outside, including Lima, the most populated city in the Andean countries, depend heavily on the Andes for resources, such as water and electricity. Although the number of regional capitals outside the Andes is considerably larger than within the Andean region, the total population of the cities between the two regions is almost the same (Table 2), and of the total area covered by cities in the Andean countries (calculated from CIESIN 2004), 29% lies within the Andes, implying that urban population density is considerably greater within the Andes than outside. By 2000, between 54% and 77% of total country populations were living in cities of over 20,000 inhabitants (CEPAL 2000b)

Table 2. Administrative region capitals and federal districts. Population data from most recent census

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Figure 2. Andes area showing a) major cities by population size [REF], b) normalised changes in population density (1990-2010) (CIESIN 2010).

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### 1.2.3 Environmental characteristics

The Andes represent one of the most biodiverse regions of the world, especially in the north, where estimates of species richness in the Tropical Andes Hotspot are among the highest of any region on the planet (Mittermeier et al. 1999). Multiple climate types, ecosystems and habitats as well as high rates of speciation and presence of physical barriers are in part responsible for this diversity. Endemism is also pronounced, especially in the north, where an estimated half of the 30,000 plant species are endemic to the Tropical Andes biodiversity hotspot (Mittermeier et al. 1999). Further south, the Andean region also contains part of the Chilean Winter Rainfall-Valdivian Forests, where almost 2000 of the approximately 4000 plants are also endemic. The Andes are also important in providing habitat to many migratory species, for example, millions of neotropical migrant birds spend several months of the year wintering in the Andes, or passing through to sites in the Amazon or Southern Cone grasslands.

According to the ecoregional classification (Olson et al. 2001), three major biomes account for more than 75% of the Andean region, 1) dry forests, scrub and deserts (14%), including dry forests of the interAndean valleys and dry scrub at lower altitudes on the coastal side of the Andes in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru; 2) montane grasslands (31%), including paramo in the north from Venezuela to north Peru, and the puna of the Central Andes, as far as north Argentina, and 3) tropical broadleaf forests (29%), including cloud forest along the outer flanks of the Andes in the north to the yungas of Bolivia and north Argentina. Temperate grasslands and broadleaf forests (10% each) make up most of the remaining area, including the Valdivian and Magellanic forests and Patagonian steppe of Argentina and Chile.

The longest rivers originating in the Andes include the Pilcomayo (Bolivia, Argentina), Marañón (Peru), Putumayo (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru), Magdalena (Colombia) and Salado (Argentina), as tributaries of the Amazon in the first three cases, and the Paraná, in the latter. Total glacierized area in the Andes has been estimated at 25,000 km<sup>2</sup> (Dyurgerov & Meier 2005) and 36,700 km<sup>2</sup> (Radić & Hock 2010), representing 3.5% of the world's glaciers (including Antarctica and Greenland) by volume and 5% by area (Radić & Hock 2010). Of these glaciers, about 80% are found in Chile [REF].

#### 1.2.4 Influence of the Andes on the regional economy

Mountains are hugely influential on the economies of the seven Andean countries, albeit with important differences between countries, in part, dependent on the proportion of national territory occupied by the Andes. The Andes contain important mineral resources for nearly all countries, large areas of agricultural land, provide water for agriculture, domestic use and hydroelectric energy production, and house some of the largest business capitals of South America.

GDP per capita in the seven countries has risen over the last 20 years (Figure 3), although effects of economic crises at national (2002, Argentina, Venezuela) or global level (1999, 2009) are evident, and order of magnitude differences between highest and lowest GDP among countries remain throughout the period (Table 1). Ecuador and Bolivia show the smallest increases, while Argentina has risen dramatically, despite the dip in 2002, in part reflecting slightly lower rates of population increase in this country. In terms of the specific contribution by the Andean region to GDP, data are generally unavailable, but an approximation may be made where GDP is broken down by administrative region. [Subnational GDP]

Figure 3. GDP per capita 1990-2010 for Andean countries

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Demographic trends in urban populations over the last 30 years also reflect economic transitions. A general approximation classifies countries according to degree of urban transition CEPAL (2000), with those in mid urban transition having large industrialized areas and characterised by development of tourist and industry sectors, corresponding to Colombia and Peru in the Andes. At the other ends of the extreme are those countries with an advanced urban transition (Argentina, Chile, Venezuela), representing post-industrial settlements with larger proportion of urban populations, and moving towards economies based on services; whereas those considered as having moderate urban transition (Ecuador, Bolivia) have important areas destined towards agriculture and rural activities. Although this may provide general indication of trends, precisions within countries, such as a strong agricultural sector in Argentina, or tourist development in Ecuador, should be taken into account.

Globally important reserves of metals and minerals are found in the Andes, with the mining sector representing a major part of the economies of all seven countries, gaining importance since 1990, with increasing trends in production of minerals (CEPAL Stat). However, its role in national economies is very different to that played by agriculture, for example, in that the activity generally employs less people, and represents a smaller contribution to GDP, but provides a large proportion of the total exports. For example, in Peru, mining contributed 4.1% of GDP in 2010, but accounted for 70% of exports, with metals, almost all originating from the Andes, representing 61%. Direct employment generated by mining activities was just under 1% of the economically active population, and including related service industries would have reached two or three times this figure, but remains small when compared to approximately 30% in agriculture. Growth of mining in Peru, between 1990 and 2010, as a percentage of total exports, has risen by almost 15 points, whereas the direct employment generated by the activity has remained relatively steady at 1% throughout the same period (ILO 2011).

Figure 4. Agricultural production, harvested area (left axis) and chemical use (right axis) in Andean countries, 1990-2008 (CEPAL 2011, FAO Stats).

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Agricultural production in the seven Andean countries reached almost 300 million tonnes in 2009, representing a 75% increase in production since 1990, whereas the area harvested has remained relatively stable over the same time period (FAOSTAT 2010), implying a large increase in yield and agricultural intensity. Pesticide and fertilizer use during the same period showed parallel increases in all countries (Figure 4). The value of agricultural production has also increased in the last 20 years in all Andean countries, with annual growth rates of production value between 2 and 6% (calculated from FAO Stats), with the highest absolute difference between 1990 and 2009 registered in Argentina (\$14,000 m USD), and the highest growth in Peru (6.6% annual growth). For the year 2009, agricultural crops in the Andean countries contributed to between 3 and 13% of GDP (World Bank).

However, without detailed analysis of agricultural production at subnational level (although administrative boundaries are not aligned with the Andean region either), relative importance of the Andes for many products produced in mountain areas or outside is difficult to establish and the above trends may largely represent those in lowland areas. There have certainly been important increases in certain biofuel crops, for example, soybean or palm oil (e.g. in Argentina, Bolivia and Colombia), corresponding largely to areas outside the Andean region. An analysis of mainly Andean crops representing approximately 10% of the total agricultural production value for the seven countries, shows that although value has increased over the last 20 years, production has levelled off and area harvested has slightly decreased. However, important crops, such as rice and maize, cover both Andean areas and lowlands, and are difficult to break down into mountain and non-mountain components. Similarly in livestock, the Andes vary in importance for animals such as cattle, with the lowlands in Colombia, Venezuela and Argentina accounting for much of growth in this area, however, Andean camelids have shown increases in yield and value over the 20 year period in Peru and Bolivia. What is certain, is that water from the Andes, in two of the largest agricultural exporters, Peru and Chile, accounts for almost all water used in this activity.

The importance of the Andean region for agriculture was estimated using two models of cropland area for principal crops in South America (You et al 2000, Ramankutty et al., 2008) intersected with the Andean region, as defined for this report. Overall, the Andes contributed to 15-17% of the total cropland area of the seven countries, with marked differences existing between countries, with the Andes being more important in the north, with large proportions of total crop area in Peru, Colombia and Ecuador

Dams and reservoir infrastructure in the Andes provide water for hydroelectric power and agriculture, with the mountain region holding 76% of the dams in the seven countries (data from Lehner et al 20078), however, most uses of reservoirs in this database are not specified. Hydroelectric energy represents between 7% and 28% of total energy supply across the Andean countries (CEPAL 2004), the great majority of which comes from the mountain region.

#### 1.2.5 Social characteristics and quality of life

A wide range of social groups exist across the Andean countries, including an enormous diversity of indigenous communities, as well as other well defined social groups, such as rural peasant farmers, and Afro-descendants, although the latter are generally settled in lowland, coastal areas, outside the mountainous region.

Democracies have existed in all Andean countries for at least the last 20 years, with some for much longer periods of time, although several abrupt changes of government, have taken place in countries since 1990, such as Ecuador.

Spanish as a common language has also benefitted social dialogue and integration across the Andes, as opposed to nearly all other mountain regions around the world. A variety of indigenous languages are also spoken throughout the region, but with a dominance of Quechua, which unites some 10 million speakers from northern Ecuador to northern Argentina, reflecting a certain degree of social unity, or Andean civilisation, from earlier times, albeit without political integration (Kuiper, 2011).

Multiple and diverse opportunities for coordination of indigenous movements in the Andes have been in recent years with national constitutions recognising the plurality of cultures and autonomy over decisions affecting indigenous, or other native community territories. In this sense, all Andean countries ratified the Convention 169 on rights of indigenous and tribal peoples between 1991 and 2008 (Table 6). Article 15 of this convention relates to obligatory consultation over resources within indigenous territories, as well as the participation of communities in the exploitation and management of these resources. Despite this article being employed repeatedly to defend indigenous rights, to date, only Peru has brought out legislation to implement this measure in law (see section 1.3.4).

### 1.3 Drivers of change in the Andes

**1.3.1 Population pressure and migration** The growing population in the Andes has increased demands on water and resources over the last 20 years. A 57% increase in energy consumption has been registered in all Andean countries between 1990 and 2009 (OLADE 2010), but the contribution of renewable sources of energy has decreased sharply in all countries except Venezuela and Argentina, dropping from 23% to 17% on average (CEPAL, calculated from OLADE 2010). Population pressures on ecosystems, measured in terms of population numbers and accessibility, show high degrees of threat in the Northern Andes at South American level, and in Patagonia where the road network is dense, despite low population levels (Jarvis et al. 2010).

Migration processes have also played a role in changing regional dynamics, with moves towards cities, and migrations to other countries. A lack of water resource management (see section 2.5) has contributed to migrations away from rural areas towards cities, as a result of increasing poverty through worsening agricultural production, soil erosion and scarcity of water, among other issues (Acosta & Alvarez, in press). Hard hit areas include the River Santa basin in Ancash, Peru and River Checua, Cundinamarca, Colombia where in the latter, migration was actually promoted in the higher reaches of the river to detain further deterioration. In terms of international migration, receiving countries are principally the USA and Spain (Pizarro 2011) with Ecuador, Colombia and Bolivia representing the most numerous nationalities of immigrants to the latter country. Since the end of the 1990s, some 11% of Ecuador's population live outside the country, impacts on the economy can be appreciated in that remittances sent from abroad represent the greatest contribution to GDP after petroleum exports (Pizarro 2011). If migrants generally send money back to their regions of origin, then more than 40% of those leaving are from the Andes, given that of five regions where more than 70% of remittances are concentrated, four are in the Andes, making up almost 40% of the total. Effects on family life are also strong, with many children being left behind to be brought up by an older generation. In Colombia the situation is similar, with an important wave of migrations during the 1990s. Remittances in Colombia have increased almost threefold in the last 10 years, reaching 2.7 times the value of coffee exports in 2009. More than 50% of remittances are received in mainly Andean provinces of the country (DNP 2010), with a strong concentration in the Coffee-growing region.

#### 1.3.2 Land use and agriculture

Parts of the Andes have been populated almost continuously for more than 20,000 years (Dollfus & Lavalée 1973), and this long period of human presence with associated changes in technology and land use systems has had a major impacts on natural landscapes. Areas within the Andes, especially the Tropical Andes, form part of at least 10 main centres of crop origin (Balter 2007), with the Southern Andes, also included in some classifications (Mannion 1999). The history of agriculture in the region dates back to at least 9,000 years ago (Dillehay et al. 2007; Piperno & Dillehay 2008), with indications of adoption of important crops such as potato, squash, cotton and possibly maize around this time. In fact, major land cover changes took place in the Andes several millennia ago (Young 2009).

Current changes in land use, strongly linked to agriculture, are responsible for growing pressures on natural systems in the Andes. At a regional level, South America suffered the largest net loss of forest between 1990 and 2010, at about 0.6 hectares per year above Africa for the period 2000 - 2010 (FAO 2010). Between 1990 and 2010, forest extent for the whole of the seven Andean countries decreased by 239,110 km<sup>2</sup>, as reported to the Forest and Agriculture Organization (FAO 2010), representing a decrease of 38% to 35% of country area covered in forest. During the same period, planted forest extent rose slightly, by almost 25,000 km<sup>2</sup> (Figure 10). Forest cover of the seven countries varies considerably, from 10% in Argentina, to over 50% in Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela, largely in proportion to their Amazon extents.

In a regional ecosystem map, covering the mountainous region of the northern Andes (without Chile and Argentina), transformed ecosystems were found to correspond to 22% of the area mapped for the period 2000-2003 (Josse et al. 2009). Differences between countries are marked, ranging from 3% of transformed areas in Bolivia to 58% in Colombia, with generally lower percentages of remaining natural ecosystems in the north of the continent, where the transformed area is actually larger than the area of natural vegetation, with the opposite occurring in the Central Andes (Josse et al. 2009).

Food supply from agriculture is subject to increasing uncertainty in areas where climate change could impact negatively in climate suitability for major crops, although changing climates are also predicted to increase agricultural production in some areas, and could increasingly drive agricultural expansion. Emerging issues, such as land grabbing, reducing civil society decision making capacity through reduced land ownership, could also effect the future distribution of agricultural production, however, available information emphasises investments in countries such as Brazil and Argentina, where investments focus on lowlands.

#### 1.3.3 Mining

A common denominator of the seven Andean countries is that their economies are heavily based on mineral extraction. Apart from petroleum and gas, mainly concentrated outside the Andes, the region is affected to different degrees in each country, but areas of high altitude, for example, paramos in the north and puno, further south, are increasingly affected by mining or are under concession. Mining is cited in Peru's CBD national report as a threat for fragile mountain systems (Ministerio del Ambiente 2006). An analysis of mining concessions and exploitation in the northern Andes shows that mining exploitation is currently (2009) concentrated Peru and Bolivia, while large areas have been granted concessions in Colombia and Ecuador, including in national parks in the latter [REF]. The study shows that large areas of montane forest in the four countries are under mining concessions, with up to 75% of humid forest in Ecuador (Cuesta et al. 2009; Figure 6). Only a small area of each concession is actually used for exploitation, although the impacts of the activity, for example in pollution, opening access to undisturbed areas and changes in local social dynamics and economies, are often much further reaching. Conflicts for resources, especially water, are also increasingly common, and with a potential to become more serious as climate change affects water availability. In Argentina and Chile mining projects have caused controversy by destroying glaciers. Although mining has represented an important factor in the development of Andean countries over the last 20 years, social or economic investment in the actual areas of exploitation has not been proportional to the mining effort (e.g. Renaud, 2008). Mining activities have grown in all Andean countries as evidenced by growth in exports of mining products.

Figure 5. Mining concessions and exploitation in the northern Andes (Cuesta et al 2009)

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Investment in mining has been encouraged by most governments in the region, through legislation or hierarchies of applying legislation and norms. The Survey of Mining Companies, published by the Fraser Institute (McMahon & Cervantes 2011), provides trends on attractiveness of mining policies, based on opinions of mining company high executives. In the last five years, Colombia and Ecuador have both showed increases in potential, according to mining company bosses, Chile remains stable and Bolivia and Peru have shown decreases, possibly due to indigenous protests in Bolivia and new legislation in Peru. In Argentina, the government introduced a packet of laws in the

1990s, paving the way for investment by multinational mining companies, at the same as creating a body for environmental control of mining, but under the control of the same body promoting mining investment, instead of the ministry of environment and sustainable development, or provincial environmental organizations.

Specific safeguards are also present in legislation on mining, for example, in Peru and Colombia. In Peru, a new law requires companies to seek agreement with rural communities for projects that affect them or their ancestral territories, with obvious implications for mining projects, although the right of veto is not included. In Colombia, a new law on mining excluded mining activities in paramo mountain ecosystems, however, its future is uncertain given that it has been declared unconstitutional (for other reasons) and a further limitation is that an exact definition and delimitation of paramos is yet to be produced.

#### 1.3.4 Climate change

Climate change has already affected, and is set to increasingly affect biodiversity and livelihoods in the Andes, for example, in changes in climatic niches and habitats for biodiversity and changes in water availability and climate suitability for agriculture.

Mountain areas have experienced above average warming during the 20th century (IPCC 3), in the Andes this is no exception. Key trends in climate change include increasing temperatures (driven by greenhouse gases), less precipitation, upward shifts in cloud bases, and affecting soil moisture content (CONDESAN 2011 in press, Young 2009), but with different impacts locally (Table 3). Given the close relationship between climate and ecosystems (Rivas-Martínez 2008), ecosystems are expected to change, especially in areas, such as the Tropical Andes, where interannual variation in climate is less than predicted changes in climate (Anderson et al. 2011). Young et al (2011) present a synthesis of the vulnerability of tropical Andean ecosystems to climate change, among those classified as most vulnerable are those with shortest history of human use, paramos (given their location on mountain tops, their area is likely to decline due to invasion of woody plants from lower altitudes and unsuitable soils for immediate colonisation higher up) and cloud forests (base levels of cloud will rise with warming temperatures, leading to less humidity, and also increasing vulnerability to conversion to agricultural uses). However, the high variation in relief may also buffer some impacts of climate change, with large climatic gradients over small areas providing potential sites for colonisation.

Table 3. Expected climate change impacts in the Andean region of countries (National UNFCCC communications)

*[UNDESADSDJ--Please download original submission to view tables and figures]*

Nevertheless, this vulnerability of high Andean ecosystems, such as paramo and puno, to effects of climate change, in addition to more erratic precipitation patterns, increased evapotranspiration and alteration of soil properties, will have serious consequences for their function in surface water provision, (Panorama, Buytaert). The role of Andean forests in water regulation is also important, although uncertainty exists as to how feedback from effects of changes in paramos ecosystems will affect cloud forests, with both higher or lower levels of cloudiness possible (Buytaert et al. 2011).

Evidence shows retreating glaciers in all Andean countries over the last three decades due to atmospheric warming, with the complete loss of numerous glaciers, for example, 145 cases in the Cordillera Blanca of Peru and rates of reduction of 26% between 1970 and 2003, 87% reduction in the Mérida Cordillera in Venezuela in the last 50 years, 27% in Ecuador from 1997 to 2006, and 2 to 5% annually in Colombia over the last 10 years. The annual rate of contribution to rising sea levels from the Patagonian ice fields has doubled in the period 2000-2005, compared to 1975-2000, with reductions of up to 50% in the area of small glaciers in the Argentinean Tierra del Fuego.

Melting glaciers, especially in regions where glaciers become the most important source of runoff during dry seasons, will also affect water availability, as well as risk of flooding. There are already concerns for both drinking water and hydroelectric power in cities such as La Paz, Lima and Quito (Stern, 2006), although the production of glacier runoff is minimal for Colombia and Ecuador (Buytaert et al. 2011), but more important for Peru and Bolivia. Effects will also be felt on Andean valley agriculture (Stern, 2006), including important contributions of meltwater supporting regional economies in the Cordillera Norte and Central in Argentina and Chile (López Arenas & Ramírez Cadena 2010). Decreases in water levels in rivers originating in mountains in the provinces of Río Negro and Neuquén, probably due to reductions in snowfall in the Andes, have already led to 40% reductions in hydroelectricity generation (República de Argentina 2007).

Frequency of extreme climate or weather events in Andean countries (not all necessarily associated with climate change), such as flooding, extreme temperatures, landslides, droughts and wildfires have increased by almost 40% in the period 2001-2010, when compared to 1991-2000, affecting 200% more people, but with a reduction in estimated cost of damage.

Although these figures represent country level, mountains will be especially susceptible to extreme events such as landslide and events will especially affect areas with lower standard of urban living and greater dependence on agriculture (CEPAL 2011, Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia, 2009), for example in Andean regions of Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru, as well as densely populated mountain areas, for example in Colombia and Venezuela (República Bolivariana de Venezuela, 2005). In Bolivia, flooding caused over \$450m US worth of damage in 2007 and 2008, representing 5% of GDP (Estado Plurinacional de Bolivia, 2009).

A study by the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT CONDESAN, 2011) modelled changes in climate suitability for principal crops in the northern Andes. Analysis of 25 crops showed reductions in suitable areas of crops for the following countries, in order of magnitude of effects (Venezuela, Colombia, Bolivia). In the case of Ecuador and Peru, some changes could be interpreted as positive, given that 17 out of 25 crops show increases in suitability under both emissions scenarios. In economic terms, Colombia and Venezuela are the most seriously affected countries, with regard to production of coffee and potato, followed by Bolivia. However, Ecuador and Peru, could gain on at least one of five principal crops analysed, with increases in production value of potato in Ecuador, and potato and beans in Peru (Zapata-Caldas et al 2011).

#### 1.3.5 Other drivers

Armed conflict has effected three countries in the Andes over the last 20 years, with internal conflicts in Colombia and Peru, and a border conflict between Peru and Ecuador. Impacts have also been felt in neighbouring countries, especially Venezuela and Ecuador as a result of the Colombian conflict, however, armed conflict cannot be considered as a regional phenomenon during the period of this report. The Colombian conflict began in the 1960s and continues to date, and has effected almost all areas of the Country, including the Andes. Conversely, the armed conflict in Peru, from the 1980s to the early 1990s, was

concentrated in the mountainous regions of the centre south and Amazon foothills of the country. The Peruvian-Ecuadorian war of 1995 had its origins in border disputes dating back to the independence of both countries from the Spanish, although this outbreak, known as the Cenepa War, was localised in the Cordillera del Condor, a mountain range emerging from the Amazon region of both countries towards the Andean foothills.

The armed conflicts have undoubtedly effected sustainable mountain development, but a detailed analysis is beyond the scope of this report. In Colombia, the ongoing armed conflict has limited rural development in many places, especially in areas where a confluence of different armed actors exist. More positively, the peace accord between Peru and Ecuador in 1998, created an propitious environment for integration and development on the border area, including a binational development plan, leading to joint projects in development and conservation, but largely outside the Andes. However, a proposed joint conservation area in the Cordillera del Condor is being discussed and was set out in the peace agreement itself.

The illicit production and trade of drugs still has major impacts on the societies, economies and environment of Andean countries, with especial relevance for Colombia, Peru and Bolivia, although impacts are not limited to the mountains, and supply routes affect all countries. Although armed groups may have initiated without direct links to illicit



trade in drugs, they are now increasingly linked to this trade.

Armed conflict and the illicit drugs trade are some of the transboundary issues affecting the Andean countries, as well as issues such as access to water, security, distribution of benefits and tourism.

#### 1.4 Effects of drivers on biodiversity

A global classification of priority ecoregions, based on a representation approach of biological distinctiveness (Olson & Dinerstein 1998) included 24 of the "Global 200" ecoregions within the seven Andean countries. Of these, 11 have most of their area within the Andean region, and 10 are classified as Critically Endangered, or Vulnerable (Olson & Dinerstein 2002). In total, 46% of the area of threatened ecoregions of the seven Andean countries are within the Andean region (in 33% of total country area).

A study to quantify threats to ecosystems in South America modelled effects of fire, grazing, accessibility, infrastructure, oil and gas, and (recent) conversion to agriculture. High values of specific threats in the Andes mountains, correspond to fires and grazing in the high Andes of Peru, recent conversion to agriculture on the Pacific slope in Colombia, the Andes of Ecuador and Valdivian forests in Argentina and Chile. The highest values for combined threats are in Venezuelan Andes, the eastern cordillera of Colombia, the high Andes of Ecuador and Peru and the forests of Patagonia (Jarvis et al. 2010).

Figure 6. Principal threats to endemic species of the Andes

*[UNDESA/DSD]--Please download original submission to view tables and figures*

Using spatial information on threatened species distributions (BirdLife International 2010, IUCN 2010), the proportion of species threatened within the Andean region was calculated, giving 77% of threatened birds in the seven countries, 91% of threatened amphibians and 59% of threatened mammals occurring in the Andean region. Very high rates of endemism exist among threatened species, given that 57% of all threatened birds, 80% of amphibians, and 34% of mammals are endemic to mountain region. Principal threatening processes include agriculture, affecting the highest percentage of species in the Andes, followed by biological resource use, where mammals have a slightly higher percentage, reflecting greater hunting pressures (Figure 6). Threats to mountain systems mentioned in the thematic reports of Andean countries to the CBD program of work on mountain biodiversity include infrastructure development, mining, agriculture, climate change and invasive species. Trends in threat category show increasing extinction risk between 1988 and 2008, in the case of bird species occurring in the Andean region.

## PART 2: EVALUATING PROGRESS WITH SUSTAINABLE MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT: PROGRESS, CHANGES, AND LESSONS LEARNT IN THE REGION OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS

### 2.1 Introduction

The following section evaluates processes contributing to, and limiting, sustainable mountain development in the Andes over the last 20 years. The report focuses on drawing conclusions at regional level, but recognises that the size and heterogeneous nature of the region makes this difficult with regard to many issues. Some differences between countries are highlighted, but it is beyond the scope of this report to enter into a detailed discussion of national dynamics. Furthermore, the section attempts to highlight aspects of international, regional and national agreements, initiatives and legislation playing an important role in sustainable mountain development, but with the understanding that this often implies the specific application of more general policies rather than specific mechanisms themselves existing for mountain issues or regions. However, over the last 20 years, many events and declarations have been made with specific reference to sustainable development in the Andes (Table 3), derived from, and organized through both international and regional processes, providing important platforms for dialogue among different actors, and catalysing new Andean initiatives.

Table 4. Major events and agreements contributing to sustainable mountain development in the Andes

*[UNDESA/DSD]--Please download original submission to view tables and figures*

Finally, this section draws heavily on nine case studies, summarised below (Table 5), and from which thematic components are compared across countries. The coincidence of several themes across the case studies and at two consultative workshops (Appendix 5.1), provides confidence that some general trends can be drawn from this relatively small sample size, and also provides the structure for this section. Furthermore, the case studies were chosen as representative sites across the Andes (Figure 7), both in terms of latitude and altitude, and document relatively long periods of interventions in sustainable mountain development, many of which span 20 years. A further important factor in choosing the case studies was the presence of existing documentation, given that field visits and evaluations were not contemplated as part of this report, although a workshop was held to support their preparation (Appendix 5.1).

Table 5. Overview of case studies

Figure 7. Case study locations

*[UNDESA/DSD]--Please download original submission to view tables and figures*

**2.2 Policies and institutional frameworks** Sustainable development initiatives in the Andes have been greatly influenced by global and regional events and agreements, including some before the time period of this report. However, the Rio 1992 conference undoubtedly provided a major impetus in positioning sustainable development, and especially its environmental component, on national agendas. This section outlines some of the major global, regional and national mechanisms, while highlighting their significance for the Andean region.

One of the landmark agreements to come out of Rio 92 was the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), aimed at biodiversity conservation; sustainable use of biodiversity; and equitable sharing of the benefits deriving from genetic resources. According to article 6, each party is required to develop national strategies and action plans, as a means to implementing all three components of the convention, which all Andean countries had completed by 2003 (Table 6). Countries are currently updating their strategies, in line with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, although Venezuela has already completed its second version for 2010-2020. Andean countries are also generally up to date with reporting obligations with both the Framework Convention on Climate Change (and Kyoto Protocol) and the Convention to Combat Desertification. Under the latter, national action programmes, as part of commitments acquired within the convention, were completed between 1997 and 2004 (Table 6).

Several programmes of work within the CBD to further the convention's implementation are relevant to conservation of mountain biodiversity, especially those on mountains, protected areas and forests. Implementation of the programme of work on mountains has been mixed within the region, with only three countries completing their thematic reports (Table 6). However, Ecuador has also implemented activities to further the program (Toppe pers comm[Complete with info from EC]). The country thematic reports for this program of work highlight concerns such as centralization of resources and lack of administrative inter-sectoral mechanisms to implement legislation and include national responses, such as management plans and zoning for high Andean ecosystems and protected areas, restoration of forests, priority setting and characterisation of Andean wetlands, decentralization for river basin management (Argentina) as well as several bilateral or regional initiatives.

Other international agreements with specific components on sustainable development in the Andes include the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, Convention on Migratory species (including an MoU, signed in 2008 by Bolivia, Chile and Peru, to protect migratory flamingo populations and their habitats) and the exclusively Andean Convention for

the Conservation and Management of Vicuña.

The High Andean Wetlands strategy is a regional initiative of the Ramsar Convention, resulting from a contact group of Andean countries, formed in 2002. The strategy aims to conserve and ensure the rational use of High Andean wetlands, which, although highly important in provision of ecosystem services for Andean communities and further downstream, are fragile and vulnerable ecosystems often lacking special attention from governments and other stakeholders (Ramsar 2005). The strategy provides a framework for regional cooperation between all seven Andean countries as well as Costa Rica, covering a projected 10 year period from 2005. Its implementation is supervised by a contact group, including the convention's national focal points, NGO representatives who hold regular meetings. The strategy has successfully focused initiatives on national wetland policies, inventories (including threats), valuation of ecosystem services, management plans and specific site conservation actions, identification of new Ramsar sites, and provided important opportunities for cooperation between countries and organizations. Difficulties in implementing the strategy lie with coordination and communication between different jurisdictions, authorities and sectors related to high Andean wetlands, lack of funding and political support (REF).

The Convention for the Conservation and Management of Vicuña, signed by Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador in 1980, is aimed at their conservation and sustainable use. The agreement is supervised by a committee, meeting annually, and has been successful in protecting wild Vicuña populations, to the point that they were moved from CITES appendix I to II, allowing sustainable exploitation of their wool, providing

important incomes for Andean populations and simultaneously providing incentives to prevent illegal hunting of the species. The agreement has also served to promote technological advances in Vicuña management through its cooperation mechanisms, as well as trade promotion, products by creating a brand and opening markets abroad for Vicuña products.

Table 6. Year of ratification of International and regional mechanisms supporting sustainable mountain development in the Andean region

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Several supranational political agreements cover the Andean region, including the Andean Community (CAN), a regional integration organisation<sup>11</sup>, Mercosur, primarily a trade and migrations agreement between Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil (and Venezuela awaiting ratification), the Latin American Integration Association (ALADI), also primarily concerned with trade agreements, the Latin American Parliament, with commissions on regional development and the environment; and the Organization of American States (OAS).

Perhaps the most influential in sustainable mountain development have been initiatives within the Andean Community, in terms of supranational environmental policy. The Committee of Environmental Authorities was created in 1998, within the Andean Community, to advise and support the Secretariat in implementing community policy in the environment. At the beginning of the 2000s, the country presidents of the Andean community agreed to establish joint policies in environmental management and sustainable development, also serving to strengthen the Andean Community's negotiating power at international level. In 2001, the document, "Guidelines for environmental management and sustainable development in the Andean Community", established sustainable development as a prerequisite for economic growth, social development and environmental management. These guidelines address specific threats to mountain communities, calling for a sustainable development strategy for mountain ecosystems, especially, for paramos, promoting integral management of soils, water and living resources, employing an ecosystem approach. The strategy has not been completed as such, but an alternative development strategy covering the whole of the CAN region was produced in 2005, with general focus on environment and illegal drug crop eradication, among other aspects.

In 2002, members of the CAN approved the Regional Biodiversity Strategy, launched at the Sustainable Development Summit in Johannesburg. The strategy, put together while most countries were also working on their national biodiversity strategies for CBD, aims to set a basis for common policy in biodiversity, in view of challenges related to free trade agreement negotiations and international environmental agreements. Importantly, the strategy, is an official instrument, representing supranational legislation, and is legally binding to all Andean Community countries.

The Andean Community established a plan to monitor progress of the Johannesburg summit in the areas of biodiversity, climate change and water over the period 2003-2005. Subsequently, the Andean Environmental Agenda 2006-2010 was drawn up, based on three main areas, Biodiversity, Climate Change and Water, with three overarching themes covering sustainable development, education and strengthening trade. The Agenda is also articulated with the Andean Paramo Project (box 2.1.1). A new Agenda is currently being drafted to cover the period 2011-2015, and as opposed to the first agenda, the second version aims to become a legal instrument, similar to the Biodiversity Strategy. Themes of the second agenda will cover biodiversity, climate change and water.

Progress by countries in implementing the first Environmental Agenda is currently being evaluated, and results will be published this year. However, the CAN Secretariat has also facilitated its implementation through the coordination of regional projects, including evaluating changes in land cover, measuring impact of, and developing capacity to adapt, to climate change.

An important consideration for future integration in South America is that both Mercosur and CAN will eventually be superseded by the recently formed, Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), seeking to achieve common policies in issues such as migration, economics, defence and environment, through greater integration of South America as a major bloc on the world stage. The constituent treaty, signed in Brazil in 2008, includes the formation of a supranational parliament, and includes the sustainable development of the region within its objectives. However, a ministerial council on environmental matters is yet to be established, although eight other councils have been formed, on issues ranging from defence, drugs, and infrastructure to health, education and science.

The Organization of American States has also provided impetus for sustainable development in the region over the last 20 years. In the 1990s, as a response to new global priorities, the OAS updated its program on Environmental Protection, to include sustainable development objectives, for example, in the modification of the OAS charter to update the mandate of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development in 1993 (OAS 1993), the inclusion of a special chapter on sustainable development and the natural environment in the Plan of Action of the First Summit of the Americas (OAS 1994), and a subsequent resolution on Sustainable Development, including the creation of an Inter-American Committee on Sustainable Development in 1996 (OAS 1996) as well as the Plan of Action resulting from the first summit of the Americas on Sustainable Development, in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. The Department of Sustainable Development, as an executing body, supports OAS members in the design and implementation of policies, programs and projects oriented to integrate environmental priorities with poverty alleviation and socio-economic development goals (OAS 2011). OAS technical cooperation programs address such areas as river basin management, the conservation of biodiversity, preservation of cultural diversity, planning for global climate change, sustainable tourism, and natural disaster mitigation.

The Mountain Partnership, a type 2 United Nations organization, was formed in 2002 as a result of commitments taken on at Rio+10, and represent an alliance between countries and civil society organizations. CONDESAN, the Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion, hosts the secretariat hub for Latin America. To promote priority themes of the Alliance in Latin America, the Andes Initiative was formed in 2004, and consists of all Andean countries (led by Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia and Peru), a further four countries, and almost 50 other inter-governmental organizations and NGOs. The Andes Initiative (regional section of the Mountain Partnership) provided an important platform for dialogue, regional relations and different initiatives with regard to mountain issues.

The Tucumán declaration of 2007, established an Action Plan for the Andes Initiative, revolving around the following five central themes:

1. Sustainable livelihoods in mountain areas

2. Conservation of ecosystems and preservation of biodiversity and cultural and national heritage
3. Consolidation of institutional capacity in mountain issues
4. Climate change and its effect on mountain areas
5. Cross-cutting issues (education, awareness raising and capacity building, gender, youth and the aged, networks, local participation)

Although declarations and an action plan on sustainable mountain development have been produced for the Andes, follow-up to the declarations and implementation of the plan has not been systematically approached. Difficulties in organising activities within the Andes Initiative relate to the mixed nature and disperse membership of the Partnership, whereby countries and NGOs have equal voice and vote, although the Tucuman Plan of Action was only signed by countries, and a full assembly is yet to be held

The above international agreements have had important repercussions on regional and national initiatives and legislation in the region, with many derived policies and strategies on sustainable development, with some, but not many, specifically focused on mountain issues. In turn, national policies, have also derived subnational or local policies, often linked to decentralisation processes, for example, the national biodiversity strategies, leading to subnational strategies over the last 10 years in countries including Colombia, Chile, Peru and Argentina, allowing integration with local agendas, across different institutions and with participation at community level (Box 2.1.2).

National legislation on the environment has also largely been created since 1992, as well as specific guarantees regarding the environment within political constitutions (Table 7). Moreover, the new Ecuadorian and Bolivian constitutions place emphasis on the rights of nature, as well as specific mention of fragile ecosystems in the case of Ecuador. Ministries of the Environment and/or Sustainable Development are present in all countries, the earliest in Venezuela, since 1976, and many have gone through processes of reform, fusion and/or separation. Environmental legislation in all countries is strong, and some have specific provisions for vulnerabilities which could be applied to mountains. An analysis of national instruments applicable to protection of high mountain ecosystems in the northern Andes (Corporación Ecovera 2010) found 20 effective items of effective legislation in four countries, financial mechanisms such as payment for ecosystem services, tax exemptions for conservation, purchase of land for water production, and participation mechanisms (see below). In terms of water retribution schemes, an analysis of schemes in the Andes found that all had local legal instruments to formalise systems, including municipal bylaws and statutes (Quintero 2010).

National strategies and policies related to mountain ecosystems are also found in several countries, especially for paramos and wetlands, for example in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. In Colombia, the six-year "Proyecto Andes" of the Instituto Humboldt, produced more than 50 publications, including strategies for the sustainable development of rural mountain landscapes, manuals on biocommerce, guides on Andean fauna and flora and

management plans, based on pilot experiences implemented as part of the project. The former Ministry of Sustainable Development and Planning in Bolivia, published a strategy on "Political Priorities for the Development of Mountain Ecosystems", destined at public and private sectors as well as civil society, as a result of activities during the International Year of Mountains (see below). Argentina has plans for a national policy on mountains, to be drawn up by the Mountain Committee, furthermore, the Strategic Tourism Plan (2005) supports protection of mountain ecosystems, especially with regard to awareness raising (Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable 2007). Chile has implemented an altitudinal limit of 1000 m on urban construction in an attempt to protect mountain ecosystems within local legislation of the Metropolitan Region, containing the city of Santiago de Chile (Comisión Nacional del Medio Ambiente 2005).

Decentralisation of functions and autonomy in regional government differs among countries, with notable progress in Colombia, where regional environmental authorities have high degrees of autonomy, favouring participation at local level in environmental management. A further product of decentralisation in Colombia and Peru, results in land-use planning according to river basins, rather than administrative divisions (Box 2.1.1). The Argentinean constitution of 2004 seeks to ensure that decentralised environmental governance has a minimum protection standard, with sectoral laws being introduced from 2002 onwards, on issues such as water, PCBs and industrial residues (di Paola 2006).

Climate change has been incorporated into national policy through a variety of mechanisms, including the creation of government departments, committees, designation of responsibilities to existing institutions, and the production of national strategies and legislation (Maldonado et al 2011). Over the last 20 years, focus has shifted from mitigation, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and promotion of Clean Development Mechanisms, to adaptation and research on the effects climate change, in line with global trends (Maldonado et al 2011). Research has included monitoring stations, for example as part of the Global Observation and Research Initiative in Alpine Environments, with 15 permanent plots established across the High Andes, and a further eight plots planned. More recently, strategies for climate change adaptation have been produced in at least four countries, including at regional level in Peru. Specific focus on mountains includes a side event organized jointly by Chile and Peru at COP 16 in Cancún, Mexico in 2010 on adapting to the impacts of climate change in mountain areas.

The institutionalisation of policies and strategies within national scenarios has gained momentum in recent years, as focus and priorities for interventions have shifted, especially with regard to international cooperation. The importance of inter-institutional approaches, and working simultaneously at different levels (from national to local) has been increasingly recognised, and has facilitated the incorporation of learning from previous or pilot experiences into government agendas at appropriate levels. Experiences in climate change adaptation and forest management from Andean areas show how knowledge is transferred.

#### Box 2.1.1 Changing perspectives of forest management through Swiss cooperation

Forestation with an economic and social perspective, was the starting point in the Andes for over 30 years of Swiss cooperation. Work was prioritised in the Andean region of three countries, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia, using exotic species, mainly because forestry knowledge in these species was more advanced. At the end of the 1980s and beginning of the 1990s, Andean forest remnants became an important new focus of attention, with studies taking place in native species with forestry potential. Over the next 15 years, work focused on protection of forest remnants in protected areas, from a perspective of combating poverty and reducing pressures on natural ecosystems. At the beginning of the 1990s, the Swiss approach

was novel in linking poverty reduction and forest conservation, given that for many organizations, themes such as these were still treated separately. During this time, a very local strategy was employed, very focused on communities as beneficiaries, with relatively little political involvement. However, this was later identified as a limitation, and deliberate steps were taken in subsequent program to position the issue of Andean forests in national and regional agendas, as well as incorporating lessons learnt from the earlier interventions.

Thus, the ECOBONA programme was established in 2006 with a specific mandate to synthesise previous learning employing a systemic approach (as Andean forest ecosystems) and institutionalize knowledge as a specific five-year exit strategy. The programme, following the prior mandate to combat poverty, also became more focused outside protected areas, using a method of "ecological exchanges". To transfer knowledge, the implementation of this programme was different in that it established a primary contact with intermediate level government from which both national government, and communities and municipal government levels were reached.

In evaluating the relative success of this approach between countries, factors that influenced the programme's outcomes included the size of the country, the level of decentralization, and dependence on the capital city, degree of citizen participation in policy development, and maturity of different levels of government. A further important conclusion, is that while frameworks and guidelines can be useful, the local situation is often very different and programmes must be adapted accordingly.

The International Year of Mountains (IYM) in 2002, provided impetus for a range of activities promoting sustainable development in mountains, foremost of which were the

establishment of national mountain committees in nearly all Andean countries (Table 7), coordinated through the Mountain Partnership. Committees were mostly coordinated through Ministries of Foreign Affairs, with a strong inter-institutional make-up. In most cases, committees were set up at least two years before IYM, after the United Nations decision in 1998. National committees have implemented diverse activities nationally and jointly with other countries, such as research and evaluations of mountain areas, meetings and symposia, health issues in mountains, planning for mountain development, as well as many communications activities to promote awareness of mountains. Mountain committees remained active in most countries after IYM, with Argentina, Peru and Ecuador having particularly active committees, in the case of Colombia, mountain issues were treated by different research institutes, without the need for a specific committee. The Mountain Partnership recently began a 2.5 year project, funded by FAO, to strengthen regional institutional and technical capacity among members of the Andean Initiative, especially by involving mountain committees.

A frequently cited limitation to sustainable mountain development relates to a lack of coordination between or within government sectors, and across decision making levels, from national to local level, for example, between mining and environment sectors. Other examples include overlapping functions in legislation regarding the same issue, in Peru, a mandate for land-use planning was established in regional governments, but then also given to the newly created Ministry of the Environment (Box 2.1.2).

Table 7. Government structure and legislation for sustainable development and environmental management in the Andean region

*[UNDESA/DSD]--Please download original submission to view tables and figures*

#### Box 2.1.2 The role of local and regional policies in land-use planning

*[UNDESA/DSD]--Please download original submission to view tables and figures*

### 2.3 Participation, awareness and knowledge

There is no doubt that public awareness in Andean countries on the issues underpinning sustainable development has greatly increased in the 20 years following Rio 1992, particularly regarding the conservation of natural resources, such as water and forests, and its potential impacts on livelihoods. In a context of more opportunities for participation, resulting from both formal and informal mechanisms, as well as more educational opportunities, civil society has played an important role in bringing about changes in mountain areas (Box 2.3.1).

Decentralization of government structures, and transfer of powers, have provided greater opportunities for civil society participation in sustainable development in the last 10-15 years, depending on the country. Participation includes mechanisms for control, denouncement, exercise of rights, access to information and reaching consensus with local government. For example, participative decision making processes in Colombia, include the participation of civil society organizations on the board of the regional environmental authorities, as established in environmental legislation (Box 2.1.2, 2.3.2). The decentralisation process in Ecuador has led to many policies, strategies and a plan for decentralised environmental management, with regional governments having mandates to support protected area management as strategy to guarantee the sustainability and supply of ecosystem services from these reserves (Poats and Suarez, 2007)(Box 2.1.2). In Peru, the participative municipal and regional budgets (2003) allow civil society organizations to propose local government projects and vote on setting priorities among them (Box 2.3.1), with similar mechanisms in Bolivia and Ecuador. In Argentina, the government structure is effectively decentralised, in that the country is a federation of autonomous provinces. The mountain province of Mendoza pioneered environmental legislation, with protection laws established in 1992, especially in establishing and regulating environmental impact assessments, with obvious relation to mining. In 1994, the same province, established a law requiring drivers of all-terrain vehicles to sit an exam on biodiversity conservation, recognising the fragile nature of the ecosystems in the province (Gobierno de Mendoza, 2009).

#### Box 2.3.1 Different approaches to participation in land-use planning

Academic knowledge has also played an important part in sustainable mountain development initiatives in the Andes. There are now many postgraduate level courses offered at universities throughout the Andes on sustainable development, often in connection with subjects such as environmental management and local government, and generally aimed at graduates in a diverse range of subjects. University research is also in a position to make direct contributions to local processes, providing that the relevant dialogue with local authorities and decision makers is established (Box 2.3.2), however, there are still many gaps between research and its application, as well as setting research agendas which are more geared towards local needs (Box 2.3.2).

An important integration process among academics was played by the Association of Andean Mountains (AMA), an academic organization, specifically focused on the sustainable development of the Andean region. AMA's main achievement has been the organization of five international symposia, between 1991 and 2005, on sustainable mountain development in the Andes (Table 4), with the participation of academics, NGOs, community members and government authorities. The symposia provided valuable opportunities for dialogue and exchange of ideas between different actors, catalysing other initiatives, such as the Proyecto Paramo Andino. However, since the last meeting, AMA has been generally inactive, but possibilities exist that CONDESAN will organize the next symposia within the context of its annual meetings.

The use and recuperation of tradition knowledge is also playing an increasingly important role in sustainable mountain development, but does not always occupy the position within academia that it merits, and is often not matched, or integrated against other types of knowledge. Traditional knowledge related to farming practices and water management will become increasing important in issues such as agricultural innovation and climate change adaptation. An important limiting factor to overcome is the relative value placed on traditional knowledge, which can be overcome to a certain extent by recovering pride in Andean cultures and practices (Box 2.3.2). A limiting factor in benefit sharing mechanisms for environmental services is the lack of exchange between academic and practical knowledge (CONDESAN 2011).

#### Box 2.3.2 Traditional and academic knowledge

*[UNDESA/DSD]--Please download original submission to view tables and figures*

### 2.4 Environmental management

The first national parks in the Andean countries were established at the beginning of the 20th Century in Chile and Argentina. National park coverage has grown at a steady rate since the 1970s, with a higher percentage of area covered within the Andean region, than outside (Figure 8), although in absolute terms, the area covered by national protected areas is less within the Andes, representing approximately 40% of the total 800,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Overall, 12% of the Andean region lies within protected areas, compared to 9% outside the Andes within the seven countries, although percentages vary nationally, from 6% of the Argentinean Andean region, to 20% of the Ecuadorian Andes (Table 8). National protected area systems in the Andes. Growth patterns of protected areas show similar heterogeneity, with Chile, Venezuela and Ecuador having already established the majority of their existing protected areas by 1990s, whereas Peru, Bolivia and Colombia showed significant growth over the last 15 years.

The creation of protected area systems, allowing a coordinated approach to biodiversity protection and protecting viable populations of species and representative samples of ecosystems, is the fundamental aim of the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas (Dudley et al. 2005). The first protected area systems in the Andes were established in Venezuela and Chile, in 1983 and 1984, respectively, although Ecuador also identified strategies to plan for its protected areas jointly in 1989. The remaining countries implemented systems during the last 20 years, with Argentina completing its proposal in 2003. Nearly all systems allow for the inclusion of private and regional conservation areas, and Colombia has made provision for regional protected area systems at three different levels (see Box 2.1.2). In terms of biome representation by protected, temperate broadleaf forests, of the southern Andes have the highest representation at over 30% of the biome's area, followed by Tropical moist forest (15%) and montane

grasslands(8%). As well as growth in national park areas, the effectiveness of their management must be measured in order to evaluate this component of sustainable development. Schemes have been implemented in some countries (e.g. Colombia), but the recurring limitations of national parks, for example, lack of adequate staff, budgets and management are still present in mountain areas [REF].

Table 8. Proportion of the Andean region within protected areas

Figure 8. Growth of national protected areas within (blue) and outside (red) the Andes, showing dates of creation of protected area systems.

Box 2.4.1 Regional system of protected areas in the Coffee-growing region of Colombia

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Other conservation areas have also increased greatly over the last 20 years, including international categories within environmental agreements, such as Biosphere reserves (MAB 2011), World Heritage Sites (UNESCO 2011) and Ramsar sites, as well as civil society initiatives such as Key Biodiversity Areas(Eken et al. 2004; Langhammer 2007), Important Bird Areas (Devenish et al. 2009) (Box 2), WHRSN, and Zero Extinction Alliance (Ricketts et al. 2005).

Figure 9. Growth of conservation areas within IEAs (Ramsar sites, World Heritage, Biosphere Reserves) inside and outside the Andes 1970 - 2010

Biosphere reserves, established under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, consist of protected core areas and buffer zones, aimed at promoting sustainable development. A total of 41 biosphere reserves have been declared in the seven Andean countries, totalling some 550,000 km<sup>2</sup>, of which approximately half lies within the Andes (24 reserves). World Heritage Sites, established within the UNESCO convention of 1972 (UNESCO 1972), aim to protect cultural and natural heritage of outstanding value to humanity around the world. A total of 44 sites have been declared in the Andean countries, of which 23 are in the Andes, with a heavy bias towards cultural sites, with only six sites either natural or mixed. Ramsar sites, established between 1981 and 2009, of the total 74 sites in the Andean countries, totalling 212,651 km<sup>2</sup>, 29% of their area are within the Andes, representing 42% of the number of sites. In all, 75% of sites of all three initiatives in the Andean countries were established between 1990 and 2010. In terms of civil society initiatives, 689 and 566 sites were established over the last 10 years outside, and inside the Andes, respectively, including WHRSN, IBAs and AZE sites.

Strategies and planning for biodiversity conservation have increased greatly over the last 20 years, with all countries in the Andes completing their National Biodiversity Action Plans between 1997 and 2003 (Table 6), which have also led to planning documents at smaller geographical or taxonomical scales, for example, wetland or ecosystem conservation policies, conservation strategies for birds (Ecuador, Colombia, Chile) and regional conservation plans (Table 6). Species action plans for both threatened and non-threatened species have also been produced, with at least 30 species covered in the region.

Red Data books have been produced in all seven Andean countries over the last 20 years, covering species at national level, to date 50 publications have been produced, representing more than 15,000 evaluations. In at least three countries, red lists have been adopted into national legislation, providing different levels of protection to designated threatened species. An appropriate updating cycle, within appropriate biological and administrative timescales (e.g. for lists within national legislation), is important for continued functionality of red lists, and at least three countries have produced second or third editions of red lists over the last 20 years. Multiple editions of red lists also provide a means to measure changes in extinction risk over time, provided that compatible methods are used for each red list evaluation and that changes in category are ascribed to genuine changes in state, rather than resulting from new knowledge.

Civil society initiatives to monitor biodiversity have also increased in the last 20 years, for example, Christmas Bird Counts have accrued data from XX sites in XX countries, of which XX are in the Andes, and the Neotropical Waterbird Censuses have been implemented at least once at more than 1600 sites across the seven Andean countries between 1990 and 2011, but continuity at sites is a limitation in both these initiatives.

Box 2.4.2 Proyecto Paramo Andino

The Proyecto Paramo Andino, coordinated by CONDESAN, and implemented over the last six years by national partners in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, aims to protect ecosystem services and improve the livelihoods of the inhabitants of the High Andean paramo. The initiative has its origins within the Working Group of Paramos, established in 1999, and project formulation began in 2003. After approval by GEF in 2005, the initiative established pilot projects at 14 sites across the four countries, including the three case study sites of Gavidia, El Angel and Rabanal, focusing on sustainable management, policy, training and education. The project has been successful in catalysing consensus from within local communities in the management of paramo ecosystems, a process which has evolved from an era characterised by a dichotomy between conservation and use (effectively excluding people from conservation), evolving to an approach based on sustainable use, but actually reaching conclusions of strict conservation, in some areas, as initiatives arising from within communities. In this sense, and given the relatively long period of implementation, important results can be attributed to the education component which has been fundamental in bringing about these changes in awareness within local communities, as well as changes in attitude among conservation practitioners. To facilitate replication of successful projects, the initiative has worked to bring together different actors interested in the sustainable development of the High Andes, through events ranging from community meetings to international conferences, as well as setting up a clearing house mechanism where experiences, management plans, legislation and project documents can be accessed. Masters and doctoral students from the region have also been funded through the project.

## 2.5 Exploitation and use of resources

This section examines progress and challenges resulting from the use of resources, with regard to ecosystem services, mining and land use. Central themes revolve around use of water, for example, in regard to retribution schemes for environmental services, and conflicts with regard to use, especially relating to mining. Conflicts could be further exacerbated by changes in water availability due to climate change, and also affect distribution patterns of agriculture.

The constitutions of all Andean countries include state obligations in environmental protection (Table 7), as well as including the provision of the private sector to receive economic contributions for contributing to the protection of natural resources. Only in the case of Ecuador, is it unclear in the new Constitution whether this type of alternative is viable (Quintero 2010). Payment for environmental services is not specifically mentioned in legislation in the Andean countries, but both Colombia and Peru are preparing a strategy and a law, respectively, treating the issue (Quintero 2010). Also, proposals going beyond the solely economic nature of retribution for environmental services propose benefit sharing mechanisms to ensure livelihoods within river basins, based on dialogue and social consensus (CONDESAN 2011). Research on, and implementation of water management and retribution schemes has grown over the last 20 years, and initiatives have been implemented at different scales. In rural mountain areas, lessons have been learnt in the appropriate scale of water management schemes, and advantages have been found favouring an approach based on very small scale basins [REF]. Recently, in a context of climate change, important progress has been made in the incorporation of a systemic approach to watershed management, with communities playing leading roles in the management of natural resources through participatory drafting and implementation of local watershed management plans (Becerra et al 2011).

Although the issue of climate change may have provided such a boost, integrated water resource management has steadily been gaining ground in the region. Until the 1970s, water management in the Andes, was compartmentalised according to sector (e.g. hydroelectric, agricultural or urban use), resulting in highly trained professionals in each area, but did not take into account the needs of other sectors, or the effects of each sector's use on others. Early experiences in water resource management at river

basin scale, taking a more integral approach, in the Andes come from the CVC in Colombia, implementing research in Aguacatal basin in the 1970s, and in Rio Colorado in Argentina (Dourojeanni, 2011).

The river basin approach became more generalised in the 1990s, with the introduction of specific legal frameworks in countries such as Colombia, and Chile, albeit with very different approaches. Brazil's laws on water became a reference for Andean countries, taking the lead from this approach based on integral management of river basins, rather than Chile's more market-oriented laws, allowing property rights for water. In 2000s, countries such as Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador began drafting laws on water, although only Peru has managed to approve a general law on water, with political processes in the latter two countries not favouring the law's approval. Six pilot sites have been set up to test run Peru's new law on water of 2010, where requirements, such as water basin committees (see Box 2.5.1) and river basin delimitation are beginning to be implemented. However, it is widely thought that it will take some 10-15 years for a generalised implementation at national level.

A recent study of experiences in Integrated Water Resources Management (Acosta & Alvarez, in press), found that most initiatives had not implemented activities across the whole river basin, from protecting higher areas, to improving efficiency of water use in lower regions. As a result of priority setting amongst activities, mainly due to budgetary constraints, most initiatives concentrated on protecting upstream regions. However, in other cases, separate initiatives, especially through development projects, had implemented projects on improving efficiency in agricultural use of water, but not as an integrated approach to river basin management. Important factors for successfully converting to integrated water resource management were found to be connected to generating knowledge of the particular river basin; improving educational processes whereby communities learn about the importance of the water cycle and where their water actually comes from (especially for downstream communities, within and outside the Andes); and involving a large number of stakeholders, including regional and local government, water users, water authorities, among others (Acosta & Alvarez, in press).

Two routes generally lead up to the conformation of specific platforms for water management (i.e. participation and shared management), first, as a result of specific problems associated with water (e.g. degradation of ecosystems, scarcity, conflicts of use, pollution) a political process is started, aimed at reaching agreements on solutions and better management, however, disadvantages of this route mean that the implementation of concrete actions is often delayed, with the process becoming an end in itself. Second, specific actions, such as reforestation, or upstream protection, have triggered political processes leading to concerted water management, although in some cases by this route, these processes are not sufficiently strong to become sustainable. A further important contributing factor to improved water management has been the legal instrument to create associations between different regional or local governments (e.g. from the mid 2000s in Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador). Before this was possible, municipalities were not able to invest in upstream protection if these areas were physically outside their administrative region, with the ability to create associations, local governments can implement joint projects, with each municipality or regional government, contributing funds for its execution. Political willingness is an important factor in the success of such associations (Acosta & Alvarez, in press).

Many of the schemes to compensate environmental services revolve around water, with examples at different scales, although mainly still at the pilot stage. In some of the largest cities in the Andes, water funds have been set up, where users pay into funds for the water they receive, as part of the Latin American Water Funds Partnership, established by the Nature Conservancy. The initiative helps to protect Andean forests and grasslands in Quito and Cuenca in Ecuador, Bogotá and Valle de Cauca in Colombia and Lima, Peru (TNC 2011).

In an analysis of environmental services related to water in the Andes (Quintero 2010), participation in different components of retribution schemes was summarised. All schemes followed a cyclical system, broken down into components related to funding, regulation, administration of funds and investment in environmental protection and had legal instruments to formalise them. Actors providing funding included water users, local or regional governments and NGOs or international cooperation with funds administered by private or public banks or trust funds. Types of investment in environmental protection included payment, incentives or credits to landowners for protection; purchase of land, forest conservation or regeneration (mainly implemented by NGOs or local authorities); vigilance, as well as educational activities.

Other mechanisms providing economic retribution for protection of environmental services, appearing in public policies in the Andes, include incentives for reforestation or conservation of forests, tax exemptions, extra water tariffs and royalties from exploitation activities (Quintero 2010). One such program was recently started to protect high Andean ecosystems in Ecuador whose forests have one of the highest deforestation rates in South America (Clisen 2000), threatening ecosystem services and livelihoods among local communities and causing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of up to 55,000,000 tonnes per year. The "Socio Bosque" initiative, launched by the Ministry of the Environment, aims to provide economic incentives (up to \$30 USD per hectare) to individual owners and rural communities (peasant farmers or indigenous groups) who voluntarily commit themselves to protecting their forests, paramos or other native vegetation for a period of 20 years. In 2009, at the World Conference on Paramos, the program launched a special goal of conserving 65% of the remaining high Andean paramo ecosystems. Inhabited areas of paramos in Ecuador make up 40% of their total area, with a population of some 500,000 people, the remaining area is divided between national parks (40%) and large estates (20%) (MAE 2009).

By 2010, almost 540,000 ha had already been included in the scheme, with an investment of \$2,668,025 USD and 631 agreements signed, of which 91% are with individuals (MAE 2011).

#### Box 2.5.1 Water management

Important progress was made in agricultural innovation at the end of the 1990s and beginning of 2000, with the objective of replacing traditional schemes of research and development, with more participative approaches for renewing agricultural initiatives. New approaches include the participation of social scientists, anthropologists and economists, as well as changing sources of knowledge to include local knowledge systems as well as the academic sector. A recent study analysed 31 cases of agricultural innovation in the Andean countries (above 1000 m altitude), where innovation was directly related to economic growth and poverty reduction in rural areas (see Box 2.5.2), resulting in changes in social organizational systems and agricultural technologies. A lack of connection was found between those implementing innovation and public policies, especially in terms of upscaling initiatives to wider regional environments even though policies in countries such as Argentina, Chile, Colombia and Peru do focus on integrating research and development with the private sector (Montoya, M. P. & Fano, H. in press).

The variety and complexity of traditional farming systems in the Andes (e.g. planting multiple crops on different fields, at different altitudes and exposures), on the condition that they are preserved, and their knowledge passed on, could provide an important pool of farming practices for rapid adaptation to changing climates (Young 2009). In fact, research has showed that pre-Columbian agrarian societies implemented innovations in agricultural strategies and infrastructure in response to both temporary and long-term environmental change and uncertainty (Dillehay & Kolata 2004). However, farming practices may also be forced to change, as a result of climate change induced reductions in water availability through less rainfall or melting glaciers, and in some areas farmers will need to move towards more elaborate irrigation schemes, or become more dependent on livestock, such as sheep or goats (Young 2009).

As discussed above, mining has increased in the Andean region, and is a vital part of economies. The theme is present in almost all the case studies, and in many, has changed local dynamics, but rather than opposing mining categorically, the case studies present responsible mining as a challenge (see Part 3). Nevertheless, in terms of sustainable mountain development, mining, as currently addressed by the case studies, is seen as a direct threat to biodiversity conservation, a source of conflicts in resource use between mining operations and communities, and as creating divisions within communities (e.g. Bebbington et al 2008) as regards their best choices for development (see Box 2.5.2).

The majority of mining-related conflicts revolve around water and land. In areas where water resources are more plentiful, such as paramos ecosystems, pollution problems are potentially more serious, whereas, in areas of water shortage, such as the mountains of south Peru and north Chile, use of water by mining companies competes with undervalued or unvalued ecosystem services or directly with the water needs of communities.

Legislation within the majority of Andean countries (REF) generally treats surface land and subsoil independently, and are even administered by different sectors within the state, often lacking the necessary coordination between them for correct land-use planning. This can lead to complaints on environmental issues caused by mining being treated by sectors outside environmental jurisdictions. For example, in Peru or Chile, complaints made about mining are not treated by agricultural or environmental sectors of government.

An information system to document social and environmental conflicts in Latin America (OLCA) (<http://www.olca.cl/oca/index.htm>) presents a diverse array of mining conflicts in the region, including at least 145 communities, most of which were from the mountain regions (Table 9). However, what is reported often depends on the degree of institutionality and legislation in each country. For example, differences in the constitutional structure of Colombia, compared with Chile or Argentina, favour the former in providing opportunities for social control and making formal complaints or information requests. In Peru, conflicts related to mining, reported to the Ombudsman's Office, rose from 33 to 89 between 2007 and 2009 (Bebbington 2009).

Table 9. Mining conflicts reported by county (OLCA 2011)

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Over the last 20 years, mining companies have developed biodiversity and social strategies. However, the effect of these on mining operations and their impact on livelihoods is not clear, given that many appear to be offset strategies, rather than addressing direct operational issues, for example, one strategy aims to have a "net positive impact" on biodiversity. In this sense, biodiversity conservation projects in adjacent areas to mining operations, or infrastructure construction in municipalities where mining takes place have their benefits, but their focus on changing operational procedures or resolving conflicts related to resource use is more limited.

#### Box 2.5.2 Balancing economic alternatives with use of resources

The role of mountain ecosystems in fomenting tourism has resulted in an increased value being given to both altered and undisturbed landscapes, according to different focuses of tourism. Nature and adventure tourism tend to favour undisturbed landscapes, whereas agro-tourism, or that based on rural communities, focuses on cultural or agricultural landscapes. For instance, in Argentina, the declaration of the Quebrada de Humahuaca, Jujuy, in 2003, as a World Heritage Cultural Landscape attracted a greater number of tourists to the area (Box 2.5.3).

Although tourism can be a sustainable activity in the mountains, and considered an ecosystem service, the majority of tourist activity does not comply with criteria of sustainability. However, many initiatives exist to present sustainable models, particularly rural ones, as alternatives for development in mountain regions. The Mountain Partnership, for example, is supporting sustainable tourism projects in frontier regions of Argentina, Bolivia and Chile.

Tourism has grown at an annual rate of almost 3% in the Andean community since the 1990s (IICA 2008), and an influx of tourists in rural areas has meant changes to working routines among rural communities, with many projects implemented in capacity building, training and preparation of tourist products over recent years. Tourism is presented as a complementary, rather than alternative strategy for development, alongside more traditional rural activities or other alternatives for development, an important consideration given the seasonality of the activity. Different types of rural tourism have been identified, ranging from community tourism, where community projects provide a joint service with sharing of benefits, to those based more on individual landowners providing accommodation on rural estates, or in family homes. Many national strategies and plans on sustainable tourism have been released over the last 20 years in the Andes, as well as the conformation of national and regional networks of service providers, academics and government bodies, with regular conferences and meetings on the subject. More specialized types of tourism have also increased across the whole region, such as birdwatching, but especially focused on regions with high rates of endemism, such as the Tropical Andes, with national strategies and guidelines produced, for example in Ecuador.

#### Box 2.5.3 Opportunities and threats from tourism in the Andes

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**2.6 Funding and international cooperation for development** International cooperation (ODA)<sup>12</sup>, has channelled substantial funds for reaching development objectives in the Andean countries significantly over the last 20 years. As a proportion of GDP, development assistance reached maximums of almost 20% in Bolivia, and 3% in the other countries, but is decreasing in the Andean region (Figure 10a), as GDP increases and cooperation remains stable. However, as cooperation agencies realign their priorities (e.g. to other regions such as Africa), it is expected that this source will cease to be a major funder of sustainable development initiatives in the next 10 years, with possibly the exception of Bolivia, with some agencies recently defining exit strategies in some Andean countries (e.g. CSD will shift priority to Bolivia while closing existing operation in Ecuador and Peru). The implications for the region are that more regional sources, for both funding and technical support will need to be found (see Part 3).

With regard to the implementation of Rio 92 objectives in sustainable development, analysis of ODA shows that funding has increased slightly in absolute terms and as percentage of total development assistance in projects with principal or significant objectives related to biodiversity, climate change or desertification<sup>13</sup> (Figure 10b), reaching over 10% of all assistance by 2009. However, the slight increase observed at the end of the 2008 period may be an artefact of obligatory reporting being implemented from this time, as well as reporting cycles and changes in thematic focus, therefore a trend is difficult to diagnose. Individual components of aid to Rio objectives show an increasing trend in funding for both biodiversity and climate change components, and decreasing in desertification-related aid, with climate change overtaking biodiversity only in the last two year period (Figure 11). However, in terms of numbers of projects, more have been implemented in biodiversity related themes consistently over the last 20 years.

Figure 10. a) Development aid as percentage of GDP (OECD, IADB); b) Total ODA funding, and broken down for environment sectors and Rio 92 markers.

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Figures on development assistance for environmental sustainability not only includes specific environmental projects, but also other development projects with environmental components (OECD 2009). Aid for environmental sustainability peaked in 1996 in Andean countries, but has shown an increasing trend since 2005, reflecting aid to Rio objectives over the same period, and reaching over 20% of all development assistance to Andean nations in 2009 (Figure 10b).

Figure 11. Numbers of projects (bars, right axis) and total funding (lines, left axis) for implementation of Rio objectives in development assistance 1996-2009.

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Although climate change is now firmly on the agenda of governments, NGOs and funding agencies, compared to 20 years ago, initiatives formerly focused on desertification may be classified more generally related to water issues and overlap with climate change, perhaps related to a semantic understanding of reporting markers. Development assistance to implement Rio objectives falls into five principal sectors (agriculture, energy, forestry, environmental protection, water), with proportionally more being spent on energy related initiatives (due to climate change related initiatives), and less on forestry related initiatives in the last five year period.

Projects addressing climate change funded by Official Development Assistance (see note 4) in the Andean countries have increased steadily over the last 15 years, to almost

600 projects implemented over the period 2008-2009, with funding increasing from \$45.3 million USD in 1996-7, to \$432.4 million USD in 2008-9, for a total of \$1,215 million USD over the whole period<sup>14</sup>, with over 75% of this funding provided by Germany, Netherlands and Japan, and over 65% corresponding to GTZ, KFW (Germany), MFA (Netherlands) and JICA (Japan).

## 2.7 Conclusions on processes promoting or limiting sustainable mountain development in the Andes

A wide variety of institutional processes have promoted sustainable mountain development strategies in the Andes over the last 20 years, in a progression which can often be tracked from commitments acquired as part of international agreements, leading to incorporation into political constitutions, resulting in national policies or legislation, and implementation at regional or local level. Increasing protagonism at local level has been supported by decentralisations processes. This vertical movement through government levels has been repeatedly singled out as a vital component for effective implementation, especially since this process is a necessary precursor for community participation. It is when this process is interrupted, that limitations are identified to sustainable development, for example, in overlapping authorities, lack of coordination or integration between levels, or separate treatment of such interdependent quantities as water and land.

Participation at regional and local levels has also been a major promoter of sustainable development, enabled through policies which have largely been created over the last 20 years. Limitations are again identified when participation processes are interrupted, for example, through deficiencies in knowledge, budget restraints, corruption and conflict of interests, institutional instability in NGOs and dependence on electoral periods. Experiences from Peru and Ecuador clearly show the positive value of local participation in alliances towards sustainability, but also make evident its incipient fragile nature. As a result, it is important that these processes are firmly institutionalised, but also embedded culturally, in an attempt to prevent loss of confidence in them and ensure effective social control. In Colombia, participation has a longer history, and in some regions this cultural component is already evident, with limitations revolving more around information gaps. Decisions as to when or when not to participate become more important at this stage.

In general, these limiting or promoting institutional factors, are not intrinsic to mountain areas, and would surely be identified in a wider survey of sustainable development at national levels. What is important, though, is to take into account the specific mountain context in their analysis, in that greater levels of poverty may exist, greater vulnerability of biodiversity, greater risk from climate change impacts and water shortage, and greater potential for conflicts regarding resource use. Of course, these statements do not hold across the whole Andean region, and as has been made clear throughout this report, the size and diversity of the Andes make a synoptic regional analysis difficult, but at local level, they certainly compound the limiting factors identified in this report.

A recurring theme revolves around water management and availability, with effects of changing climates contributing to serious challenges ahead for the livelihoods of mountain communities. Examples abound from cases in Bolivia, Peru, Chile and Argentina, where water shortages will require sustainable solutions, above all, within institutional frameworks. Retribution schemes for ecosystem services, such as water provision, from micro-basin level to the scale of cities, have shown great promise, with emerging approaches in benefit sharing, rather than straight economic payment for services.

A second recurring theme is related to resource exploitation, and burgeoning economies of some countries, based on extractive systems. Often related to these cases, is that land-use planning instruments, combined with decentralisation and other favourable institutional frameworks have failed to reach consensus as to the use of mountain resources, whereas they have been very successful in other cases. It is these economic systems that demand a larger quantity of resources of mountains than is sustainable, creating conflicts of interest, which will be exacerbated with reductions in water availability and its consequences. Furthermore, market forces, such as the price of commodities, exert influences which are often uncontrollable at national level, but have wide-ranging effects.

The sustainable exploitation of mountain resources, including for tourism, agriculture and biocommerce (especially with regard to native species), has great potential among the diverse visual scenery and wealth of cultures and species in the Andes. Experiences at local levels, have the potential to provide incomes and improve livelihoods, and could consider high quality, but low volume products. In this respect, certification, denomination of origin schemes and other market instruments, will favour sustainability and alternative exploitation of natural resources. Furthermore, the recuperation of traditional Andean knowledge will also play a key part in alternative income generation from these sources. It should be noted, however, that these experiences are also valuable as local strategies, where export markets are not the prime target.

Environmental management has become stronger in the region since 1992, with many specific instruments for better identification of priorities, better management of ecosystems and better incorporation of livelihoods into conservation schemes, as shown by examples from Colombia and Venezuela. Greater awareness of environmental issues on the part of civil society, has also been a goal of many of these measures, and in turn, has facilitated others.

Many projects have been implemented at national, bilateral and regional level with objectives in-line with sustainable mountain development, including biodiversity conservation, protected area creation, land-use planning, and poverty eradication, among others. On balance, many international agreements have a high rate of uptake among Andean countries, with high compliance in terms of reporting commitments, and important progress in the creation and implementation of derived national policies, action plans on climate change, reports on specific programmes of work. Implementation has also become incorporated into national legislation, in action plans and threatened species protection, for example, as well as national policies. However, indicators for the achievement of environmental Millennium Development Goals in Latin America show mainly negative trends (CEPAL 2010), including the 2010 CBD biodiversity targets (Butchart et al. 2010).

The relative importance of mountains within the different Andean countries somewhat reflects the degree of implementation of sustainable mountain development initiatives. For countries with small mountain areas, such as Venezuela and Argentina, priority is perceived as low, although in the case of Venezuela, the country is much more dependent on mountain systems (e.g. in terms of population and ecosystem services). In the case of countries with a much larger proportion of the Andes making up their territory, such as Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia and Chile differences also exist. For example, in Peru and Chile, the relative priority given to mountains is lower, in Peru, in part due to a large degree of centralization in Lima on the coast, although the city is very dependent on mountain systems. In Ecuador and Bolivia, the situation seems to be more balanced, and in Colombia, where almost the opposite occurs, in that priority is given to mountain systems where the population is concentrated, even though they make up a relatively small part of the national territory. These observations highlight the importance of raising awareness of the importance of mountain systems at national level. For example, the International Year of Mountains played an important part in the formation of national mountain working groups, and creating awareness of mountain issues nationally through diverse activities in all countries.

In addition to awareness, information created on mountains, has been identified as both limiting and promoting mountain development, as a function of its utility in decision making. This depends greatly on its degree of processing and format, as well as the level of communication with the appropriate authorities, at all stages of academic activities, that is, before, during and after research activities.

Experiences have shown when local knowledge is included in initiatives, there is a higher uptake by stakeholders, there is no shortage of local knowledge in the Andes, and combined with an incredibly diverse territory of cultures, species and ecosystems, spanning a mountain range of more than 6000 km in length, a complexity results in multiple dimensions. Tapping this complexity itself, ranging from gene pools and seed banks, to traditional farming practices and indigenous languages, is surely one of the key factors to attain sustainable mountain development with approaches originating in the region.

## PART 3: EMERGING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

### 3.1 Future challenges for sustainable mountain development in the Andean region



Following consultation (see Appendix 2b), and from the conclusions of the above report, the following challenges have been prioritised in terms of sustainable mountain development in the Andean region. Challenges fall into two broad areas (see 3.2), and many imply changes to institutional frameworks or are related to implementing green economies.

- Regional differences and integration

As this report has highlighted throughout, many differences exist between the North and South Andes, and the same is true of the challenges. For example, in the south, mountain issues do not have the same exposure on national political agendas, even in Chile, which has one of the highest proportional areas of mountain region per country in South America. In the north, mountains are more important to livelihoods (not just economies) and increased social participation in the last 20 years has ensured a wider exposure of mountain issues. A further consideration, in terms of regional integration, is the purpose and scope of such integration, given the wide differences between countries. Although exchange of information and experiences in sustainable mountain development among countries of the continent has undoubtedly benefited, it is rather idealistic to envision a complete integration across a wide spectrum of issues. Rather, integration must serve specific purposes, in areas where such integration is both feasible and useful, especially given the difficulties and timeframes of reaching agreements between just four countries in the Andean Community (CAN). Nevertheless, the CAN has played an important role in integration in the north of the continent, especially with supranational legislation, for example, in the Biodiversity Strategy. However, this type of political proximity between countries, for the purposes of joint construction and implementation of policies on sustainable mountain development, will only be possible with an underlying political pact. In this case, the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), may eventually provide this opportunity, if it takes on and supersedes the role of the CAN (and Mercosur to a lesser extent) across the continent. UNASUR has only just been created as a political entity, and although the potential for such integration is clearly set out in its statutes and proposed commissions, it is still too early to comment on its effectiveness. What is important, however, at this crucial initial stage, is that issues relative to mountains are clearly set out on UNASUR's agenda by the member countries.

- Economic systems

Given the importance of extractive industries in the economies of the Andean countries, and the perceived incompatibility of many of these with sustainable development, a major challenge relates to how resources are valued, and how benefits are distributed. Economic systems need to incorporate the real value of resources, including the full process used to obtain benefit (e.g. extractive industries, water provision) and include retribution systems taking this value into account. Retribution systems and benefit sharing, understood as mechanisms based on dialogue and social consensus, not just economic schemes, must ensure that inhabitants benefit fairly and that ecosystems are adequately protected. For example, in the case of water provision from northern Andean paramos, a sustainable use must ensure protection and/or restoration upstream, often in areas which are far from the largest concentrations of users. In the case of mining, a responsible use must ensure adequate protection measures for ecosystems and inhabitants during exploitation and restoration at the close of activities.

Bringing about changes in economic models is perhaps the hardest, but most important challenge for sustainable mountain development. The challenge of determining the capacity of Andean systems to support these economic models must be addressed under criteria of sustainability. However, given the important mineral reserves still within the Andean mountain region, it seems very unlikely that economic models will change in the short to medium term unless governments radically change their policies.

- Intra- and inter-institutional dialogue

A further major challenge identifies strengthening inter-institutional dialogues at a variety of scales and levels, both within and between public and civil society sectors. With regard to the changes in economic models mentioned above, a lack of dialogue between government sectors has been repeatedly recognised as a major limitation to sustainable mountain development. It is often the case in Andean countries that conflicts of interest and jurisdiction, sometimes resulting from hierarchies of authority, exist between and within the different government departments responsible for the environment, sustainable development, agriculture, mining and petroleum extraction. Improving joint agendas for responsible development is necessary between government sectors, and with the participation of the private sector, which often include multinational companies. Private companies also have an important role to play, and although practices and policies must be regulated by the state, existing private company strategies on biodiversity and social development, for example, could be further aligned with national policy.

- Decentralization

Trends in decentralization have been very positive for sustainable mountain development in many countries, with important benefits to environmental management and civil society participation at different levels. Implementation of strategies derived from international agreements at regional and local level has become a reality over 20 years, with strong local participation. It is often at this level where results are most tangible, for example, in improving livelihoods or in biodiversity conservation, underlining the importance of regional contexts to many development processes. However, maintaining these trends in decentralization and the opportunities for dialogue between national and regional level remains a challenge, given a certain dependence on changes within national politics or on periods of office of regional and national governments (e.g. changes in governors, political parties), rather than a reliance on institutionalised state policies.

- Research agendas and traditional knowledge

Universities have an important contribution to make to achieving sustainable mountain development. Areas where challenges exist include further alignment of research agendas with policy gaps and priorities; more emphasis on including traditional Andean knowledge; and better dialogue with government and NGO sectors. Research is necessary in all areas of sustainable mountain development in order to ensure that decisions are based on sound knowledge, whether its source is scientific or traditional. However, research agendas at universities are not always in line with the priority needs of policy makers. In the case that universities want to contribute to decision-making processes through research results, dialogue is needed on the part of both those who set and communicate the priorities and those who ensure that ensuing results are fed back to decision makers in a suitable format.

Traditional knowledge, for example, social dynamics of Andean families, farming techniques and irrigation systems, are increasingly valued in processes related to sustainable development. The variety of farming techniques, for example, is an important source for adaptation measures related to changes in climate.

Recuperating traditional crops also has untold potential in terms of feeding populations, including up to global scales, given the importance of the Andes as centres of crop origin. Already, small scale-projects have been successful in regaining esteem among communities as to the value of traditional crops, in economic and nutritional terms. Making sure these pilot schemes are communicated and fed back into policy is an important, and sometimes neglected part of a project cycle or loop.

- Specific mountain initiatives

Significant progress has been made in specific sustainable mountain development initiatives in the Andes, both within civil society and the state sector, albeit relatively few exist. A lack of continuity in others, is also, to some degree, an indicator of the relative importance placed on the subject on the part of both public and civil society sectors. Furthermore, there has been little interaction between different initiatives in the region, even though in many, the same actors or focal points are involved. Before creating more specific initiatives in sustainable mountain development in the region, two points should be addressed, the inclusion of specific mountain themes in existing initiatives (and national policies) as a way to increase awareness of the importance of mountains, and to ensure that mountains are treated on a par with other thematic issues, and that greater interaction between existing initiatives makes their implementation more efficient. Nevertheless, there is still scope for more regional initiatives, such as monitoring and information systems, but ensuring that existing institutional frameworks, such as CONDESAN, the Andean Community, the Mountain Partnership, or the Strategy on High Andean Wetlands are used.

Interactions could also span continents, across northern South America and southern Central America, where obvious cultural similarities exist, for example, between Panama

and Colombia, and biogeographic affinities, for example, in paramo ecosystems in Costa Rica and northern South America.

- Regional information sources

Compiled regional information on the Andean countries is generally lacking, and to an even greater extent on the mountain region of these countries. Although much information exists at country level, without time- and resource-intensive processes to consolidate this at regional level (e.g. ensuring compatible scales, methods etc.) comparisons are difficult to draw. This applies to many different topics, from landscape changes to legal frameworks. A regional information system, incorporating monitoring results of environmental, social and economic indicators and compiled, standardized information at regional level would improve decision making processes within existing initiatives.

- Water and climate change

Other challenges cover cross-cutting issues, such as climate change, water and rural livelihoods. Without a doubt, water availability is a critical issue in most of the Andean region, increasingly affected by, and highly vulnerable to, changes in climate. Ensuring adequate water availability throughout the year is already becoming noticeably difficult in some regions. Pilot processes have been successful in increasing water availability through integral river basin and water management, such as alternative irrigation systems. As mentioned above, it is important that these type of projects are adequately communicated and fed back into policy and decision making arenas. At a larger scale, research is still needed to evaluate the full effect of changing climate on glaciers, paramo, puna and montane forests with regard to water availability throughout the region, however, it will be almost a race between obtaining the information and implementing suitable adaptation mechanisms, where possible, undoubtedly with elements of risk involved. An important factor here is to use existing experiences where changes in climate have already led to adaptation measures. In general, research on climate change is still troubled by uncertainty, especially regarding future climate models for the Andes, requiring more emphasis on the development of regional models.

The effects of climate change also need to be considered across policies and initiatives, for example, with regard to large scale infrastructure development related to agriculture (e.g. some projects within the Regional South American Integration Initiative) where changes in climate must be related to crop suitability in the future. As adaptation measures are implemented, a major challenge relates to upscaling or rolling out initiatives after pilots have been implemented without adequate timescales to allow for monitoring to provide sufficient data to assess their effectiveness. However, given the estimated timescales for changes in climate taking place in the Andes, a balance must be reached between waiting for monitoring results and having enough time for implementation. Care must also be taken that other issues are not marginalised by an increasing focus on climate change, for example, with regard to habitat loss, which remains the most important cause of threat to species and hydrology in the region.

- Funding and international cooperation

In terms of funding, international cooperation in the region has remained stable, but decreased as a percentage of GDP in all countries, and is not expected to increase. Some cooperation programmes are also in their final stages as global priorities shift. Moreover, economic crises, for example of 2008-2009, have recently hit North America and Europe harder than South America, and caused instability in funding sources and international cooperation from the north. A new, more strategic model of cooperation, going beyond the traditional approach, needs to be implemented, where cooperation catalyses processes rather than funds projects.

Achieving financial stability, and fairer distribution of wealth is a fundamental factor in achieving sustainable development. In this sense, given the enormous wealth of the region, the challenge is also very related to developing alternative economic models (for example, considering stability rather than growth, as important indicators or that outlined in green economy model) which include both the provision of funding within countries and technical cooperation from within the region as well as South- South cooperation (e.g. with Africa, Himalaya). Models also need to include greater capacity to respond to changing environments (e.g. climate change, financial instability), and systems such as adaptive management could become increasingly important in many different scenarios.

### 3.2 Summary of key challenges and recommendations for sustainable mountain development in the Andes

The key challenges and recommendations are summarised below, grouped into the two broad themes of strengthening institutional frameworks and improving knowledge and information systems, as well as cross- cutting themes.

#### 3.2.1 Strengthening institutional frameworks

- Institutionalised and regulated framework for incorporating real values of renewable and non-renewable resource exploitation into economic models, especially those based on mining and petroleum extraction.
  - o Achieve socially and environmentally responsible mining (combat illegal mining, consolidate regulations, change attitudes), with special focus on ensuring proper conciliation and dialogue between sectors (e.g. mining, local communities, conservation)
  - o Design, implement and/or consolidate retribution systems to protect (restore, if necessary) and transfer benefits to mountain areas and inhabitants from resources generated within them, e.g. regulatory function in water cycle of high Andean ecosystems, royalties from mining in the Andes
- Inter-institutional and inter-sectoral dialogue within and between governments (national and regional level), especially important where conflicts of interests, jurisdictions and authorities exist, e.g. between Agriculture, Environment and Mining authorities within government.
  - o Strengthen or create mechanisms for inter-institutional dialogue within countries, e.g. between universities and local government, between local and national government
- Increase presence of mountains on political agendas
  - o Emphasis on regional participation from mountain areas in the national political agenda
  - o Achieve policies on mountains which are integrated with national policies (not separate)
  - o Consolidate an ecosystem approach to sustainable development in mountain areas, determining compatible and incompatible land uses with sustainable mountain development
- Ensure decentralization continues to provide benefits.
- Consolidate or create specific national or regional mountain initiatives, derived from national policies or regional agreements, in areas such as vulnerability to climate change, biodiversity conservation, monitoring systems, combating poverty, avoiding emigration from mountain areas, etc, using existing frameworks, e.g. Mountain Partnership, High Andean Wetland Strategy, etc.
  - o Build on and consolidate CBD Program of Work on Mountains, ensuring full coverage of this program across Andean countries.
  - o Use regional platforms, such as CONDESAN, to facilitate formulation and implementation of sustainable development strategies
- Improved institutional frameworks for risk management (economic, natural disasters, extreme climate events, etc)

#### 3.2.2 Improving knowledge and information systems

- Integrate local and traditional knowledge into existing mechanisms for knowledge management, e.g. routes for incorporating research results into policy.
  - o Ensure traditional knowledge is adequately covered by university research agendas
  - o Recupérate and create awareness of the real value of knowledge on Andean family dynamics, social structure and farming methods, especially as input for climate change adaptation measures, alternative incomes, improving rural livelihoods, etc.

- Enable research priorities and research results to be communicated between decision makers and research institutes/universities
- Implement a monitoring and information system at Andean level geared to support decision making, incorporating environmental, social and economic indicators (including climate change and adaptation), with participation from universities and governments
  - o Include a special emphasis on planning for extreme climate events in mountain areas
- Achieve further integration of, and dialogue between specific mountain initiatives in the Andes
  - o Revitalise national mountain committees where necessary
  - o Further relations between north South America and Mesoamerica (especially south) building on cultural and biogeographic similarities
- Continue to cover gaps in knowledge of current situations, given that the most important source of uncertainty on future scenarios is due to this lack of information.

Measure volume of flow to measure effectiveness of integrated water resource management, as well as other indicators such as area of forest planted/restored, upstream protection, etc.

### 3.2.3 Cross-cutting challenges

- Year-round water availability, especially in climate change context.
- Implement adaptation measures to climate change, with emphasis on the most vulnerable mountain regions
- Food security - priorities for rural Andean inhabitants
- Land ownership. There is an increasing amount of foreign investment in land in the Andes, especially in the south, if inhabitants do not own land, they are left out of decision making processes.
- Financial stability for sustainable mountain development
- Continued and increasing participation on part of civil society

## 20 years of Sustainable Mountain Development in the Andes

### Executive Summary

#### 1. State of the Andes

<sup>[4]</sup> The Andes mountains, understood as the contiguous mountain region of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, run over 8000 km, down the length of South America, with an area of more than 2,500,000 km<sup>2</sup>, (33% of total country areas) and a population of almost 85 million (45% of total country populations), making the northern part, the most populated mountain region in the world.

<sup>[4]</sup> However, the Andes are an incredibly diverse and heterogeneous area, in terms of cultures, biodiversity and economic systems, with large differences between countries.

<sup>[4]</sup> Some of the most biodiverse regions of the planet, and areas of highest species endemisms exist in the Andes, important centres of crop origins are also present.

<sup>[4]</sup> The Andes are incredibly important for the economies of the seven countries, providing agricultural area, mineral resources, and water (for agriculture, hydroelectricity and domestic use), and some of the largest business centres of South America.

<sup>[4]</sup> Some of the poorest areas, and with the most challenging living conditions exist in the Andes, especially in Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.

<sup>[4]</sup> Pressures on natural resources in the Andes result from expanding populations, expanding agricultural areas and intensity, and increasing mineral extraction.

<sup>[4]</sup> Climate change will exacerbate other pressures in some mountain areas, for example in more erratic rainfall patterns, changes in water regulation capacity, especially of high altitude ecosystems and in the south, melting glaciers, and changes in climatic suitability for some crops, (although not all areas are equally affected, and some may benefit), and increasing extinction risk to biodiversity.

#### 2. Progress on implementing sustainable mountain development, incorporating recommendations

<sup>[4]</sup> National policies, resulting from Rio 92 have been implemented in all Andean countries, and at regional level in Andean Community countries, with many favourable aspects for SMD, albeit, not specific to mountains.

<sup>[4]</sup> Recent regional level policies (often resulting from above point), decentralisation and increased opportunities for participation of civil society have also played an important role, although dependence on aspects such as electoral periods, governing parties, makes implementation in some areas difficult.

<sup>[4]</sup> Regional initiatives on SMD, such as organizations, academic meetings and supranational agreements have increased greatly over the last 20 years and supported awareness raising, knowledge sharing, and implementation of international agreements.

<sup>[4]</sup> National parks, protected area systems, other conservation areas, and instruments for biodiversity conservation, both through state and civil society processes, have increased greatly in the last 20 years. Although issues still remain with regard to effectiveness of their protection, the recent participative processes in identifying and declaring sites has undoubtedly furthered awareness of environmental conservation and its importance on livelihoods in mountain regions.

<sup>[4]</sup> Mining represents an opportunity for development, but presently is often not implemented in a responsible manner, and benefits do not always reach mountain areas where mining takes place

<sup>[4]</sup> Management of water resources in the Andes has seen novel initiatives at a variety of scales, from micro- basin to administrative divisions, but uncertainty in water availability, and conflicts of resource use are still a threat to SMD.

<sup>[4]</sup> Approaches to SMD have evolved, e.g. ecosystem approach to biodiversity conservation, increasing importance of livelihood concerns within conservation (e.g. incorporation of more social issues into conservation); international cooperation projects have changed in the last 20 years, with a recent focus on incorporating learning processes into institutional frameworks (e.g. in policies and programmes) at both national, regional and local level.

<sup>[4]</sup> Academic and traditional knowledge has played an important role in supporting SMD, gaps still exist in applying knowledge, and although the value of traditional knowledge is increasingly recognised and understood, this does not flow into general practice.

#### 3. Key Challenges and recommendations

##### Strengthening institutional frameworks

- <sup>[4]</sup> Increase dialogue between government sectors, and government levels
- <sup>[4]</sup> Increase inter-institutional dialogue
- <sup>[4]</sup> Further institutionalisation of participation instruments

- ☞ Raise awareness of mountain issues on political agendas
- ☞ Consolidate or create specific mountain initiatives where appropriate
- ☞ Regional integration - role of CAN, UNASUR

Improving knowledge and information systems

- ☞ Increase availability of academic and traditional knowledge for specific SMD purposes and decision making ☞ Coordinate research priorities for implementing SMD ☞ Consolidate or create specific national or regional mountain initiatives ☞ Research and monitoring of climate change adaptation mechanisms, especially with regard to water availability ☞ Decision support systems - helping to bridge gap between science and policy

## ABOUT CONDESAN

### Lead questions

#### 1. When and by whom was the institution created?

CONDESAN was created in 1993 by a group of institutions that was promoted for the International Potato Center (CIP) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). In 1995 it becomes an ecoregional program of Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

CONDESAN has evolved into a new organizational structure and since September 2009 it has been an independent regional research for development platform, disengaged from Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research CGIAR and its host center, the International Potato Center (CIP).

#### 2. Why and with which purpose (out of which rationale/necessity)?

In the beginning CONDESAN was created in order to determine appropriate strategies for action to promote the development of Andean agro-ecosystem, which in turn establish a proper relationship between the research actions and stakeholders.

Currently, CONDESAN has mission to mobilize the wealth of the Andes, in order to overcome poverty and social exclusion. It seeks to create and share information and knowledge about the environment in Andean rural societies, to promote policy dialogues with local actors, national governments, and regional organisms, and to strengthen Andean human and institutional capital in order to promote new leaders for sustainable development on the Andes.

#### 3. What has it achieved so far? Which are its major concrete achievements and impacts?

CONDESAN has evolved as a regional organization focusing on issues concerning sustainable development and environmental management. Its activities help to broaden knowledge about natural resources and the way they are used in the Andes and provide spaces for reflection and consultation among Andean communities, civil society, local governments, and national and regional policymakers.

CONDESAN is renowned for its ability to generate regional views and to position, on the public agenda, the main challenges in environmental management that cut across political and administrative boundaries. It is also recognized for its contribution to the political changes in territorial planning (Cajamarca), the water rights laws (Bolivia), the conservation of camelids (Peru), the conservation of Paramo (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru), among others.

InfoAndina, has over 15 years of experience and currently it is recognized by international organizations as leader in the management of information on sustainable development in the Andes. It has an infrastructure of information technology that supports various regional and global initiatives ([www.infoandina.org](http://www.infoandina.org))

#### 4. Which were major obstacles encountered or unexpected supports received?

Retraction of financing from international cooperation for some countries in the region because the international financial crisis and progress in macro economic indicators of some countries in the region. This involves greater efforts to obtain resources, increased fragmentation of projects and more administrative burden.

Increased political polarization in the region for economic models, this polarization can also be found at the subnational level and cause social conflicts and demands of local populations. The speed at which information flows exceeds the rate at which it can be processed and disseminated by conventional means, but on the other hand the costs of infrastructure and connectivity necessary to take advantage the new media make it difficult to use.

#### 5. How has the institutions developed (e.g. changes in scope, magnitude of funding, number of members, geographical coverage, etc.)?

CONDESAN has evolved as a regional organization focusing on issues concerning sustainable development and environmental management in the Andes. So it has participated in national, regional and global projects, in Andean countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru y Venezuela.

CONDESAN works in 7 regional initiatives (<http://www.condesan.org/portal/iniciativas>), with the participation about 100 organizations of Andean region, like universities, research institutes, social organizations not governmental, public institutions, foundations and international donors. Therefore, CONDESAN has promoted a networking as well as a multidisciplinary work and the interest in achieving of quality and efficiency in managing of these projects and initiatives, have led to form a diverse team of nearly 40 people in a gender ratio of 53% women and 47% male.

CONDESAN also keeps a strong link with global and regional projects and programs that are related issues for sustainable development of the Andes: Mountain Partnership, Challenge Program on Water and Food, Mountain Forum, Global Water Partnership, Permanent Research Seminar Agrarian, AGRORED, FAO-AIMS, among others.

#### 6. What are future challenges, opportunities, and plans?

The combined effects of the increasing number of investment projects that consider natural capital as a strategic asset, global environmental change, the expansion of large-scale extractive industries, and the evolution of political, economic, and social integration processes on multiple scales, will generate unequally distributed restrictions and opportunities for the different human communities living in the Andean region.

It is imperative to analyze the relations between social and environmental systems in order to have a better understanding of the degree of vulnerability of rural Andean populations. At the same time, it is necessary to maintain a critical approach regarding the significant differences existing among the inhabitants of rural areas.

Extractive activities and their negotiation systems are becoming more and more distant to control of people living in the Andes. This forces to pay attention to the generation of relevant information that facilitates the creation of dialogue spaces between public and private productive sectors, local and national governments and local populations.

However, there is growing interest in issues related to the environment which is encouraging a strengthening of government ministries and agencies specializing in the area. The same is from the private sector where more companies are taking direct action for the environment.

On the other hand, through the development and availability of Technology Information and Communications, facilitates the creation of virtual networks for development. Similarly, there will be an increase in these networks that could build and enrich a growing flow of information and transfer of skills involved in subnational governments.

Cooperation for development is looking again the connection between research and development as a key to improving the impact of the intervention. It is expected to stagnate available resources of international cooperation but the growth of available resources within their own governments to research and development actions. There is a tendency for development grants not only to direct actions to eliminate poverty but also to the consolidation of collective action settings with more integrals interventions and longer term.

In this context, CONDESAN aspires to be recognized as the most effective Andean platform articulating the efforts of multiple actors at different levels. It offers alternatives to the Andean people in order to integrate their development strategies into the environment so they can benefit from the economic opportunities arising from the preservation of biodiversity, secure their food, understand the processes of environmental and sociopolitical change, and participate in the design of adaptation strategies that enable them to improve their well-being.

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## Consumers International

Consumers International (CI) is the world federation of consumer groups that, working together with its members, serves as the only independent and authoritative global voice for consumers. With over 220 member organisations in 115 countries, we are building a powerful international movement to help protect and empower consumers everywhere.

### Introduction

"Until recently, the planet was a large world in which human activities and their effects were neatly separated within nations, within sectors (such as energy, agriculture, trade, etc.), and within broad areas of concern (such as environment, economic, social). These compartments have begun to dissolve. This applies in particular to various global "crisis" that have seized public concern, particularly over the last decade. These are not separate crises: an environmental crisis, a development crisis, an energy crisis. They are all one".

With these words, in 1987, the Brundtland Commission Report Our Common Future expressed the interrelations of human activities, their impact on the planet and the increasing relevance of the environmental crisis. Everything raised by Brundtland in the above statement applies today, with an even greater sense of urgency. Since the publication of Our common future, consensus around these issues has grown, and new instruments, strategies and methodologies have been developed to confront them. So the obvious question is, why is it taking us so long to come out of the social, economic and environmental crisis highlighted by the Brundtland Report nearly 25 years ago?

Consumers International believes the rights and responsibilities of consumers can and must play a pivotal role in making this great leap to a sustainable future. What and how we consume must be a cornerstone of the transition to a green economy that puts human wellbeing and social equity at its heart, while progressively reducing our individual and collective impact on the environment. As stated by Chapter 4 of Agenda 21: "We must consider the need for new concepts of wealth and prosperity, which allow higher standards of living through changed lifestyles, and are less dependent on the Earth's finite resources and more in harmony with the Earth's carrying capacity."

### Consumer rights and sustainable consumption

Today there is widespread consensus that changes in consumption and production patterns are urgently needed. Achieving sustainable development will require significant changes in our economies and a profound transformation of our current lifestyles. Alongside government and industry, consumers will obviously be a fundamental force in this change.

Initiatives to mobilise consumers behind sustainable consumption have multiplied over the past few years. Businesses, governments, civil society organisations are all involved in the development of consumer education campaigns, new products, labelling and certification initiatives.

In response to these programmes, there has certainly been a shift in consumer understanding and awareness of the environmental and social impact of different consumption choices.

However, effective consumer action is still limited by sparse or misleading product and service information, a lack of effective and clear regulation and a lack of meaningful choice. Too often, consumers who seek to promote sustainable consumption find themselves lost and confused in the face of underdeveloped, scarce and inconsistent standards. Many consumers feel that the actions available to them are also insignificant in the context of government inaction.

Consumers cannot be left alone in this process. Individual efforts are not enough to generate the required social changes. Consumers have to be supported by an enabling framework of policies, regulations and measures that are capable of ensuring a real transition to a green economy that can effectively meet the needs of people and the planet.

CI believes it is essential that governments and the business sector everywhere commit to implementing policies that guide us onto a sustainable course. It is equally essential that consumers are empowered to support sustainable consumption, and can assume their rights and responsibilities in this respect.

### The UNCSD process and the Rio+20 summit

The UNCSD process began at the Rio Summit in 1992, continued through the Johannesburg Summit in 2002, and incorporated the Marrakech process that sought to develop a 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production.

The upcoming 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development offers a new opportunity to generate the change that we are all hoping for. The critical issue now is whether Rio+20 will be able to set governments on a course towards establishing binding multilateral commitments.

In accordance with the UN General Assembly resolution 64/236, the objective of Rio+20 is to secure a renewed political commitment to sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, and addressing the new emerging challenges. In this context, the member states have agreed to focus on two themes for the Conference:

- (a) A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication
- (b) The institutional framework for sustainable development.

CI wishes to see the Rio Conference commit to the policies and targets that help build an economy which provides a better quality of life for all within the ecological limits of the planet.

## Rio+20 commitments

CI calls on governments meeting at the UNCSD summit in Rio, in June 2012, to commit to the following actions:

An explicit commitment to measures that will support sustainable consumption including the full implementation of section G of the UN guidelines for consumer protection.

Support and endorse an ambitious 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).

In particular, CI calls on governments to commit to the following:

(a) A green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication:

Full implementation of section G, number 44, of the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection that states: "Governments, in partnership with business and relevant organizations of civil society, should develop and implement strategies that promote sustainable consumption through a mix of policies that could include regulations; economic and social instruments; sectorial policies in such areas as land use, transport, energy, and housing; information programmes to raise awareness of the impact of consumption patterns; removal of subsidies that promote unsustainable patterns of consumption and production; and promotion of sector-specific environmental management best practices".

### Meet consumers' basic needs

<sup>[4]</sup> Governments should commit to facilitate technology, expertise and funds transfers to those countries that require these resources to tackle poverty and secure the achievement of the Millennium

Development Goals. Governments should also commit to address the needs of those consumers within their own country that do not have access to basic needs.

<sup>[4]</sup> Initiate mechanisms to reach the goal of universal access to energy services, following the principles of affordability, fairness and sustainability. Act as role models in their own consumption choices

<sup>[4]</sup> Local and national governments should adopt policies that support sustainability so that consumers can see their actions in the context of a wider movement towards sustainability.

<sup>[4]</sup> Similarly, governments should avoid contradictory or damaging policies that negate action taken by the consumers.

### Act as facilitators

By ensuring regulation and fiscal incentives support sustainable consumption

<sup>[4]</sup> Support sustainable lifestyles through their own national strategies, procurement, planning and operating practices.

<sup>[4]</sup> Ensure financial incentives support sustainable outcomes (eg taxes and subsidies should support environmental and social goals).

<sup>[4]</sup> Apply appropriate market interventions to ensure fair and transparent markets working for sustainable consumption and production.

<sup>[4]</sup> Develop choice reduction policies and legislation that removes from the market the worst performing products or services according to economic, social or environmental impact.

### By informing consumers

<sup>[4]</sup> Governments should fund research and produce information to inform consumers about how to consume more sustainably, and assist them in identifying the material changes they could make.

<sup>[4]</sup> Run targeted information campaigns to raise consumer awareness and empower consumers in relation to the environmental and social impact of consumption patterns, particularly in the areas of food, housing and transport. Information should use tools and insights from branding, psychology, communications and social marketing to engage with consumers effectively.

<sup>[4]</sup> Adopt ambitious Minimum Energy Efficiency Performance Standards (MEPS) and labelling schemes.

<sup>[4]</sup> Include education for sustainable consumption in their national curricula as well as promote consumer education more generally. Hold businesses to account

<sup>[4]</sup> Governments should develop rigorous and transparent standards through accountable processes of multi-sector engagement, and on the basis of scientific consensus, which offer consumers a trusted basis on which to make product and lifestyle choices.

<sup>[4]</sup> Governments should ensure that consumers have independent assurance of product information so that they have confidence that product information is correct and is not misleading.

<sup>[4]</sup> Governments should enact right-to-know legislation, and ensure that companies report on their environmental and social impacts using internationally agreed standards such as ISO 26000. Inclusive policymaking

<sup>[4]</sup> Consumer voices must be heard and listened to in relation to sustainability. At a governmental level, this means government engagement with consumers in policymaking and full recognition of consumers' rights and interests.

<sup>[4]</sup> Consumers should be recruited as active supporters in valid and transparent whole economy approaches, driving innovation, and supporting calls for progressive and smart regulation.

(b) Institutional framework for sustainable development:

Support and endorse an ambitious, 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production

<sup>[4]</sup> This 10YFP on SCP should be a coordinated global framework of programmes that in a systematic and integrated manner provides countries with the real opportunity of decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation and increasing the wellbeing of all.

<sup>[4]</sup> If the Rio+20 summit is capable of delivering and ensuring the structural changes needed for a global transition to a green economy, it is clear that all countries will need to take coordinated international action; isolated initiatives will not be able to achieve the required changes. The 10YFP on SCP offers a concrete pathway for this coordinated

action.

Deliver, promote and facilitate an institutional change in the current structures of governance that will ensure a framework for a real transition to sustainability at all levels: international, regional, national and local

<sup>84</sup> Rio+20 must result in sustained, collaborative action that will change the course of unsustainable growth, generate the required bases for a transition to a green economy and improve the wellbeing of millions of poor and vulnerable communities.

<sup>85</sup> While the Rio+20 outcomes must allow for a diversity of institutional approaches and commitments, particularly at the national and local levels, it is critical that all are integrated in a systemic framework flexible enough to accommodate different types of commitments, and reciprocal enough to achieve a strong sustained level of effort. By linking actions and negotiating them as a package, nations are likely to undertake a higher level of effort than they would if acting on their own.

## Coope SoliDar R.L.

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

Rio+20 debe producir resultados que sean fácilmente monitoreados en su cumplimiento.

Debe incluir sectores que no lo han sido hasta ahora y que también brindan sus aportes de conservación como son los pescadores artesanales.

1. Existen aportes a la conservación de la diversidad biológica y cultural marina desde otros sectores que no son los que el movimiento conservacionista han reconocido tradicionalmente.

El sector pesquero artesanal en Costa Rica liderado por Coope Tárcoles R.L., una cooperativa de pescadores artesanales del Pacífico Central, apoyado técnicamente por Coope SoliDar R.L. ha liderado un proceso hacia el reconocimiento de áreas marinas de pesca responsable en donde se promueve un ordenamiento, que establece un balance entre el aprovechamiento pesquero y la conservación, en un marco de valores, rescate y fortalecimiento de la identidad cultural y el desarrollo local. (www.coopesolidar.org; www.consortioportamar.com)

El Plan de Trabajo de Áreas Protegidas del CDB no ha avanzado significativamente en su objetivo de reconocer diferentes formas de gobernanza en áreas protegidas. Se debe apoyar, promover e influenciar a los Estados para que lo hagan y la conservación sea más inclusiva y equitativa.

Por ejemplo, en Rio+20 se debe apoyar el proceso de la COFI-FAO sobre directrices voluntarias para el sector pesquero artesanal, como un fortalecimiento para este sector de forma integral reconociendo sus derechos humanos. Se deben establecer relaciones de coordinación entre las diferentes instancias de Naciones Unidas, logrando acercamientos entre las organizaciones dedicadas a actividades de desarrollo productivo como la FAO con organizaciones de conservación como PNUMA.

Los esfuerzos de la CDB en el reconocimiento de los esfuerzos de gobernanza comunitaria de áreas protegidas debe ser fortalecido y apoyado desde las diferentes organizaciones de naciones unidas.

En cuanto al tema de la equidad de género, se requiere el establecimiento de indicadores de género diferenciados, para valorar los avances o retrocesos, principalmente en materia de cambio climático y acceso a los recursos naturales. Este es un elemento de gran importancia en el avance hacia el desarrollo sostenible.

2. Los pescadores artesanales son una población vulnerable pero que tiene una gran riqueza cultural. Se están haciendo esfuerzos por recuperar su historia y por hacer videos que muestren una cara alegre, positiva y trabajadora.

Los materiales que sean elaborados debe cuidar la imagen de este sector productivo de la sociedad, para que no se discrimine al pescador artesanal o se promueva una imagen distorsionada de esta cultura sino que por el contrario reconozca el ejercicio de este trabajo digno.

3. Las comunidades pesqueras han existido antes de que llegara el desarrollo turístico e inmobiliario. Sus casas han estado cerca del mar para cuidar de los botes y artes de pesca.

El aumento del desarrollo turístico ha producido un desalojo de comunidades costeras en todo el mundo. Este problema debe ser reconocido y atendido de una forma más integral, para que no se pierda su cultura y se encuentren verdaderas alternativas para erradicar la pobreza. Las propuestas de ordenamiento territorial deben ser inclusivos e integrales, de manera que abarquen tanto el mar como el territorio.

4. El principio 10 de la Declaración de Río que establece los derechos de acceso a la información, a la participación y a la justicia ambiental todavía presenta un avance débil.

Este principio debe ser garantizado especialmente para los grupos más vulnerables. Se necesita de un Convenio Global o Regional para desarrollar las directrices internacionales que ya han sido establecidas y el apoyo a los Estados para que avancen en el cumplimiento de este principio y sobretodo sobre su aplicación y cumplimiento.

5.- Las evaluaciones deben de tener indicadores género sensibles en cada uno de sus acápites...es decir deben de considerar los avances, impactos o efectos a nivel de hombres y mujeres.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

Consideramos que el ECOSOC debe incluir los aspectos ambientales, con lo cual se ampliaría su enfoque a algo más cercano al desarrollo sostenible que tiene tres pilares, el ambiental, el económico y el social.

Consideramos que la Comisión de Desarrollo Sostenible se fortalecería si trabaja en el marco del ECOSOC.

El concepto de economía verde ha sido utilizado por Naciones Unidas en la convocatoria sin haber promovido un debate sobre su conceptualización. Esto ha generado mucha discusión y polémica desde América Latina. Por una parte, porque se considera que su utilización excluye los esfuerzos de conservación que desarrollan comunidades y pueblos indígenas; excluye sectores sociales y puede establecer obstáculos para la comercialización de sus productos; y finalmente, su carácter de instrumento para la erradicación de la pobreza no ha sido establecido, ese impacto social no se menciona normalmente, y todavía no queda claro cómo la economía verde es un instrumento para la erradicación de la pobreza.

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

La sinergia entre los tratados internacionales globales debe ser fortalecida.

La coordinación interagencial y los trabajos conjuntos.

Abrir la posibilidad de unificar la presentación de informes de avance por país.

Establecer las estrategias de cumplimiento y aplicación de tratados internacionales integrados.

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

Río+20 debe incluir un cuadro de indicadores que permitan su monitoreo por parte de la sociedad civil y el establecimiento de un protocolo para canalizar los comentarios y observaciones de la sociedad civil sobre las actividades realizadas por su Gobierno.

Estos indicadores deben contar con la diferenciación de género en materia de avance de los acuerdos hacia el desarrollo sostenible.

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

## Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS)

Input for the Compilation Document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

This input to the compilation of views realized in the preparation of the outcome document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development is submitted on behalf of the Co-ordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS). CCIVS represents over 160 International Voluntary Service organisations and networks from all over the world: Asia, Africa, America and Europe. CCIVS has been working in partnership with UN agencies since its creation in 1948, and particularly with the UNESCO and the UNV, with whom diverse levels of successful cooperation have been achieved.

The action of International Voluntary Service all over the world is developed in thousands of communities and with tens of thousands of volunteers every year. Their contribution to sustainable development starts from a vision of a world in peace, where human beings live as active and solidary citizens taking care of their environment, cultural heritage and diversity within the principles of mutual understanding and respect. Voluntary Service actions, based on the importance of local participation, development of civil society, non-formal education and global coordination, address environmental, social, educational and cultural challenges through voluntary work, complemented by global campaigns that give support and visibility to the local actions.

Volunteers Organizations play a crucial role in promoting sustainable development and address social issues at all levels, raising awareness and mobilizing public support, as well as supporting the implementation of concrete solutions. Our organizations are committed to contribute further to environmental sustainability and poverty eradication and we are willing to take actively part to a renewed global partnership for sustainable development.

The important contribution of volunteers organizations was already recognized in 1984 by the World Commission on Environment and Development which identified in its mandate to the urgent need to "to raise the level of understanding and commitment to action on the part of individuals, voluntary organizations (...)" (Mandate of the World Commission on Environment and Development). Agenda 21 recognized in 1992 the important contribution of volunteers organizations in "efforts to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life for low-income families", in the context of urban development (Agenda 21, Chapter 7).

The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation of the World Summit for Sustainable Development further recognized the importance to secure funding through all available sources in order to "provide all community members with a wide range of formal and non-formal continuing educational opportunities, including volunteer community service programmes, in order to end illiteracy and emphasize the importance of lifelong learning and promote sustainable development" (WSSD Plan of Implementation, para. 123). It also expressed the commitment of all countries to "enhance partnerships between governmental and non-governmental actors, including all major groups, as well as volunteer groups, on programmes and activities for the achievement of sustainable development at all levels" (para.168).



In the context of a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, we call governments to recognize in the outcome document of the Rio Conference the specific importance of volunteering. We call governments to identify a set of concrete actions to promote the values of volunteerism and create a supportive environment enhancing the ability of volunteer organizations to contribute to sustainable development.

International institutions should also renew their commitment in order to create favorable conditions for the extension of voluntarism. International institutions should further promote and raise awareness about the benefits of engaging civic engagement and support international cooperation in this field. We also call these institutions to work in closer cooperation with voluntary organizations in the design and implementation of their policies in order to increase the mutual benefits resulting from such cooperation.

Governments and UN institutions should review the implementation, exchange best practices and elaborate a plan of action to ensure the effective implementation of the Recommendations on support to voluntarism adopted by the UN General Assembly (Resolution 56/38), as well as the commitments adopted in the UN General Assembly Resolution on Further initiatives for social development (Resolution S-24/2).

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## Corporate Sustainability Reporting Coalition (CSRC)

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Governments first referred to environmental reporting at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992.
- A large number of companies now report on their environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance and it has been demonstrated that there is a direct correlation between sustainable business practices and the longer-term financial success of that company.
- At present however, there is no globally accepted rule requiring reporting on ESG performance. Despite the large number of companies publishing such reports, the vast majority of companies fail to do so.
- We proffer that a requirement for a company to consider and report on a sustainability issues will create the right kind of discussions within boardrooms, throughout firms and encourage investors to think about the sustainability of the firm. This will help capital to be allocated to more sustainable, responsible companies and strengthen the long term sustainability of the financial system.
- If a Sustainable Green Economy is to be reached, the time has now come for sustainability reporting to become standard practice. This can be achieved by the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) conference committing to develop a Convention on Corporate Sustainability reporting.
- It is now almost twenty years since the first Earth Summit, as such we believe next year offers a momentous opportunity to move this agenda forward at a global level.

### Progress

Governments first referred to environmental reporting at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. In Agenda 21 of the Conference, governments agreed that business and industry should be 'encouraged to adopt and report on their environmental records, as well as on the use of energy and natural resources'.

We recognise and support the considerable progress that has been made since then.

There have been a number of initiatives under the UN umbrella promoting sustainability reporting. Such initiatives include UN Global Compact, United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) and the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI).

There has been progress in company policy, for example, since its launch in 2000, over 8,700 companies have signed up to The United Nations Global Compact, which covers the areas of human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

There has also been progress in guidance for companies from Governments – such as through the recent further strengthening of the OECD guidelines for multinational enterprises.

And progress by investors – more than 900 institutional investors from 48 countries with over \$30 trillion in assets signed up to the United Nations-backed Principles for Responsible Investment. They were launched just five years ago. All of these investors recognise that that environmental, social, and corporate governance (ESG) issues can affect the performance of investment portfolios.

However, despite this progress, we are still a very long way indeed from the ultimate aim of transparency, comparability and relevance of corporate sustainability reporting.

In other words, these progressive voluntary initiatives have not been enough - for example so far less than two per cent of listed companies have opted into the Global Compact.

### The Transparency and Accountability Gap

Sustainable Stock Exchanges, an initiative by UNPRI, UNCTAD and Global Compact has been urging all stock market listing authorities to make it a listing requirement that companies consider how responsible and sustainable their business model is and put a forward-looking sustainability strategy to the vote at their AGM.

Aside from a few notable examples such as the Singapore, Johannesburg and Istanbul Exchanges, there has yet to see a serious commitment from stock exchanges to make changes to their listing rules. This is reflected by analysis which indicates that at present more than 75% of the companies covered by Bloomberg do not currently disclose their sustainability performance.

It is our belief that stock markets require the support from governments and regulators. This is why we believe this is a relevant issue for the global forum of the Earth Summit.

### The business case for sustainability reporting

According to a recent McKinsey survey, more than 50 percent of executives consider sustainability "very" or "extremely" important in a wide range of areas, including overall corporate strategy.

The internal and external value that companies have found in sustainability management and reporting is widely documented. Sustainability reporting increases innovation and competition and at the same time makes organisations more accountable for their impacts. The evidence for the business case is building as uptake of reporting increases. To cite two examples:

Goldman Sachs is one of the firms to have carried out analysis of the relationship between how companies address ESG issues and the returns they generate. It contends that in a number of sectors there is a direct correlation between sustainable business practices and the longer-term financial success of that company.

WestLB also published a study of the materiality of extra-financial factors based on a sample of 540 European firms. It found evidence of a link between extra-financial risk, cost of capital to a firm and shareholder value. The report suggested that compiling a sustainability report was among the most important catalysts for change – contributing to accumulation of knowledge, questioning of processes and the establishment of suitable structures and practices.

Some organizations are now producing integrated reports, a form of corporate report that brings together financial performance data with material information about an organization's strategy, governance, performance and prospects in a way that reflects the economic, political, social and environmental context within which it operates. An integrated report provides a clear and concise representation of how an organization creates value, now and in the future. In August 2010, the International Integrated Reporting Committee (IIRC) was established to create a globally accepted framework for integrated reporting. The objective is that through integrated reporting many more companies and their stakeholders will become aware of sustainability performance measurement and disclosure and start acting on this information.

#### The market case for sustainability reporting

Markets are driven by information. If the information they receive is short term and thin then these characteristics will define our markets. If companies do not provide an assessment of the broader Environmental, Social and Governance risks and opportunities to which their business model is exposed, then how can the market assess the sustainability of that company's growth?

Recent years have seen an increasing interest from markets in sustainability performance data disclosed in reports. There is considerable evidence that investors require this information and there has also been seen some major investment such as Thompson Reuters and Bloomberg adding to the data set that they provide investors, while rating agencies such as Standard & Poors have created ESG indices for India, Egypt and the MENA region.

Within 60 days after the launch of the product on Bloomberg terminals 11.5m hits on the ESG data points were recorded. At the time of writing, Bloomberg estimates that about one thousand users now use Bloomberg just for ESG analysis. They also report that the number of users is increasing with more conventional asset managers approaching Bloomberg regarding the product.

While the number of reporters is growing, including in emerging economies such as Brazil, China and India, and the quality of reporting improves, sustainability reporting far from achieving its full potential.

At the current rate it would take decades before sustainability reporting is common practice across global markets. This means that regulators, investors and stakeholders know little or nothing of the sustainability practices and impacts of the vast majority of the world's large companies.

Markets will not routinely use sustainability information as long as only a minority of companies report. A critical mass of sustainability information is needed to inform markets and enable performance benchmarking and analysis. Companies that do not report withhold from the markets information that is important for the assessment of medium to long term risk and value. By leaving information gaps and creating asymmetries of information, non-reporting companies impose a cost on the markets and undermine its effective functioning.

The world needs to move from the innovative and pioneering approach of a minority of companies to a true global mainstream practice for all companies.

#### A CONVENTION ON CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING

The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Coalition (CSRC) calls for the member states at the United Nations 2012 Earth Summit to:

- Acknowledge the growing practice of sustainability reporting and recognize that, improving corporate management and performance, facilitating stakeholder engagement, driving innovation and competitiveness represents an essential contribution to the transition towards a Green Economy.
- Note that the increased quantity and quality of data available through sustainability reporting can be a powerful tool to help markets work more efficiently.
- Commit to develop a global policy framework requiring boards of all listed and large private companies to consider sustainability issues and to integrate material sustainability information within the reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts – or explain why if they do not. The global policy framework (which can take the form of a Convention) should adhere to three key principles:
- Report or Explain – establish a report or explain approach to sustainability reporting policy
- Transparency – enhance transparency by requiring national measures which would mandate the integration of material sustainability issues within the company reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts;
- Accountability – provide effective mechanisms for investors and all stakeholders to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

This is a modest, market-based proposal that we believe represents the next step towards sustainable capital markets.

#### APPENDIX A - POLICY FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

##### 1. Are you setting out a standard that all companies must adopt?

No. We merely ask for the support of governments to make corporate sustainability reporting a "report or explain" requirement and for this report or explanation, in whatever form it takes, to be put to shareholder approval at the AGM. However, we are not dictating the form it should take. This will provide corporations with the freedom to define their own reporting and where they determine that it is not necessary, outline why. This will also ensure that the report is based on the board's best thinking.

Those companies yet to explore reporting in this area may review the excellent work already done in this area by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) that produces a comprehensive Sustainability Reporting Framework that is widely used around the world, to enable greater organisational transparency and the current discussions in the International Integrated Reporting Committee. It is important to reference the normative frameworks for sustainability offered by UN Global Compact and OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, as well as the contribution of ISO, PRI, UNCTAD and UNEP. .

##### 2. Why have you focused on asking boards to publish their thinking rather than for example proposing a sustainability reporting regulation?

We do not think it possible to craft a regulation that specifies a sufficiently detailed reporting template on the rich diversity of corporations around the world. Consequently, we have decided against proposing heavy handed regulation that tries to enforce one reporting template. This is also because regulation is often slow moving, lags the market,

and encourages a minimum compliance mentality within the company. We are seeking to stimulate a substantive board discussion on the risks and opportunities to a company arising from sustainable development, as well as the creation of their strategic response. We are also anticipating that some companies will seek to compete on the quality of their disclosure in this area (as, indeed, is already the case).

Equally, however, we do not have blind faith that markets will self regulate toward sustainability. The evidence for spontaneous progress on a purely voluntary basis is that it will be slow.

3. What needs to change within the system if it were to adopt your recommendation?

This will vary for different jurisdictions. For example, where the regional code of Corporate Governance is embedded within the listing rules then this document could be updated, requiring the support of all the bodies that govern this code. Where it is guided by the exchange itself, then the exchange can update the code itself. Where guided by primary legislation, then this will need to be changed. For this reason we adopted a report or explain approach that would set the principle and leave flexibility to national regulators.

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## CropLife International

Input into Rio+20 Zero

As a member of the Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD), the International Agri-Food Network, and of the Farming First coalition, CropLife International welcomes this opportunity to submit views regarding the outcome of Rio+20. This submission is largely focused on sustainable agriculture and food security as these are two challenges where CropLife International member companies can make positive contributions in the future. On the broader issues, CropLife International contributed to the BASD submission and supports the views of the broader business group as represented by BASD.

General Questions:

1. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?
  2. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?
  3. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);
1. The Rio outcomes should be focused on: 1) identifying implementation gaps and the existing obstacles to implementation in achieving sustainable development, including obstacles behind the failure to achieve the MDGs; and 2) improving the UN system's coordination mechanism to ensure it is best placed to assist countries in achieving those goals.

The outcomes should represent a focused and relatively short statement of priority areas for government actions and a renewed commitment to achieving the MDGs. It should not represent a top down set of specific actions or best practices but recognise the diversity of situation faced by people around the world and the corresponding need for locally-adapted solutions.

Central to the outcomes and the viability of the recommendations stemming from Rio+20 should be a clear endorsement of a vision of sustainability that is based on the notion on continuous improvement. Sustainability is a continuum in which all parties, globally and across sectors, have a role to play in improving their practices and minimising their impact to move towards greater sustainability. For this reason, it is important that recommendations and policy prescription avoid polarising groups and sectors but seek to establish incentives and a path towards improvement in sustainability along a continuum and across sectors and subsectors.

Rio+20 outcomes should also recognise the important contribution the private sector can make to poverty reduction and emphasise the need to improve regulatory frameworks, promote good governance and invest in innovation as key elements of a successful strategy for sustainable economic growth.

In addition, Rio+20 should build on the Johannesburg outcomes and explicitly support public-private partnerships as a key means of implementation for sustainable development goals. Inclusion of a commitment from the UN system to facilitate the establishment of partnerships; help share information about successful partnerships that can be replicated; and recognise partnerships as a best practice would be a positive outcome.

2. Where possible, the Rio outcome document should build on the consensus reached in previous sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development and avoid duplicating work carried out in past years. With a view to agriculture and food security specifically, the outcome of CSD17 should be the reference point for Rio+20 language.

Regarding adopting new goals or measurements, concentrating on the already established MDGs, and enhancing the capacity to achieve those should be the main focus area. Measurement and data collection are a challenge for many countries, and it is important resources not be distracted from achieving existing goals by newly proposed statistical requirements (measurements and data).

Establishing a roadmap for progress could aid in establishing priorities without dictating how the goals should be achieved. A helpful roadmap would recognize that locally adapted approaches are essential for different regional conditions. It could also help provide a framework document for all the UN agencies involved to coordinate their work.

Public Private Partnerships, as well as other forms of partnerships (such as private-private) should be recognised as an important path forward to help achieve sustainable development and need to be encouraged.

3. The failure to achieve the MDGs and the obstacles that have contributed to the current condition should be the main priorities of the Rio+20 conference and its outcomes. Governments, with the support of the UN system and input from civil society and business and industry, will need to be the primary agents in addressing these gaps. The private sector can play an important role in helping spur economic growth and reduce poverty. However private sector investment and engagement is often most effective when there are sufficient and appropriate regulatory and governance mechanisms and adequate economic and political predictability – elements which governments must put in place.

The Rio+20 outcome should learn from the past and focus on identifying implementation gaps like regulatory and governance obstacles to sustainable development, and establish priorities and paths (possibly a 'Roadmap') to address them. It is likely that efforts to establish new global indicators or other measures will distract actors from advancing work toward solutions.

Questions from the Secretariat on Specific Elements:

1. Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges. Contributions could include possible sectoral priorities (e.g. energy, food security and sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, water, oceans, sustainable urbanization, sustainable consumption and production, natural disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, biodiversity, etc.) and sectoral initiatives that contribute to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20.

2. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication The contribution below covers question 1 and 2 of the above 'specific elements'. 1-2. The term 'green economy' has been the subject of extensive discussion within the UN and other fora but it remains a term whose exact meaning is still contested. CropLife International, as part of the Business and Industry group, supports the definition put forward by the International Chamber of Commerce

*The contribution below covers question 1 and 2 of the above 'specific elements'.*

1-2. The term 'green economy' has been the subject of extensive discussion within the UN and other fora but it remains a term whose exact meaning is still contested. CropLife International, as part of the Business and Industry group, supports the definition put forward by the International Chamber of Commerce.

Nonetheless, it is important that Rio+20 efforts be focused on productive actions rather than semantics: how to move forward on the implementation of the MDGs and sustainable development more broadly should be the priority.

As a sector, agriculture plays a key role in supporting the economic development and well-being of societies. With a predicted 9 billion people by 2050, agricultural production will have to increase to meet new demands for food, feed, fuel and fibre. Agriculture must not only meet demand – it must also do so while minimizing its environmental footprint and creating sustainable livelihoods for farmers and others along the supply chain.

In a time of food insecurity where the poorest people are most vulnerable, the world must proactively leverage the potential of agriculture to positively contribute to the triple goals of a secure food supply, poverty reduction through improved rural livelihoods, and environmental sustainability. Food sufficiency, quality, availability and environmental footprint must be central elements of any political commitment directed toward the green economy and poverty eradication. Rio+20 outcomes should reflect a continued and long term commitment to achieving food security through increased productivity in agriculture and sound natural resources management.

However, agriculture by nature represents a mosaic of solutions and practices, with no silver bullet and no single 'best practice' able to meet the needs of all farmers. In addition, sustainability is a moving target towards which farmers in different geographies and farming systems are already progressing and they will all need support to continuously improve. Whatever type of agriculture a farmer chooses to adopt, they must be supported by availability of tools, appropriate technology and knowledge, which can be employed under 'good agricultural practices' to optimise productivity, while minimising any adverse impact.

Rio+20 outcomes should thus be focused on the goal of sustainable intensification of food production, and support the role of knowledge, science and technology in achieving this goal. Rio+20 outcomes should endorse the notion that agriculture in a green economy means a broadbased, knowledge-centred approach to development through agriculture.

Comprehensive and practical approaches are needed to progress toward more sustainable agriculture, and the Farming First principles offer a view of how this may be achieved. In the context of discussions on the Green Economy, CropLife International supports the below Farming First recommendations for incorporating agriculture into the Rio+20 agenda on the "green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication".

1. Poverty reduction: Make agriculture a driver for poverty reduction by ensuring policies link producers to markets and enable value to be created throughout the supply chain to help create income opportunities and diversify rural activities.
2. Focus on enhancing sustainable production and productivity: the world will need to produce more with less to meet demand and reduce its environmental footprint. Increasing production and productivity should be a priority to protect natural resources while meeting demand for food, feed, fuel and fiber.
3. Invest in agricultural research and development, capacity building and knowledge sharing to close the uptake gap for existing tools; ensure new solutions are available for today and tomorrow by incentivising and supporting both public and private innovation.

CropLife International supports the outcomes of CSD17 on agriculture as the basis for any outcome on agriculture for Rio+20.

#### Reducing Poverty

Agriculture can be a potent driver for poverty reduction. The World Bank estimates that GDP growth from agriculture generates at least twice as much poverty reduction than any other sector. Currently 65 percent of people in developing countries are involved in agriculture, and 1.3 billion are small farmers with limited access to inputs, infrastructure and markets. In countries where agriculture represents one of the primary livelihoods, concerted efforts to improve productivity through sustainable practices could change the lives of millions, raising incomes and addressing food security needs.

A dynamic and productive agriculture sector is also essential for the urban sector. In 2010, for the first time ever, more people lived in urban areas than in rural areas globally. Urban populations are dependent on the agricultural sector for most of their consumption, so improving local production and trade is crucial; but it also means a world of opportunities for farmers who can reach the urban market.

Making agriculture a dynamic sector will require the adoption of supportive frameworks and investment in infrastructure and markets. Farmers need to be able to access markets at the local, regional and global level in order to sustain a livelihood from their activities. In some areas, this means improving access to transport, storage and market facilities. In Tanzania, US\$2.4 billion of investment is being directed towards tripling the area's agricultural output and maximising the trade potential of the Dar-esSalaam port for Tanzania's neighbouring landlocked countries. Through the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania project (SAGCOT), both public and private sector organisations are supporting 20,000 smallholders to become commercial farmers to bring in annual revenues of an estimated US\$1.4 billion into the country.

Access to weather and price information and risk management tools also helps farmers grow better crops, improve their production practices and sell at better prices. For example, in Zambia, the Zambia National Farmer's Union market information system (ZNFU 455) allows farmers to find out the current prices being offered for a commodity by sending an SMS. They receive a response listing prices and buyer codes and they can then make an offer to the best buyer directly by using SMS. In Kenya, another scheme using cell phones offers banking services to farmers as well as support for a crop and input insurance scheme. Farmers can insure a kilogram of maize seed or of fertiliser against drought with an index insurance product. They buy the insurance at a local agro-dealer and receive confirmation of purchase and of any payout through the M-PESA service on their phones. Going forward, the use of ICTs could be expanded to supporting pest control and other extension services.

## Enhancing sustainable productivity

Improving the footprint of agriculture while increasing production needs a concerted effort in two areas: first closing the uptake gap of existing best practices and technologies by focusing on capacity building and knowledge sharing and creating supportive public and private extension services networks; and second investing in agricultural research and development and supporting innovation to provide the solutions for tomorrow and ensure a supportive, science based regulatory framework and policies.

Enhancing sustainable productivity must be the centre of efforts to make agriculture both environmentally sound and economically dynamic– we need to achieve more crops per drop of water, per acre of land, per measure of inputs. This is essential to ensure the surface of land under cultivation does not expand, in order to preserve biodiversity and natural carbon sinks. Climate Change is expected to increase the poverty. The United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification estimates that by the year 2050, half of the current arable land will become unusable. Improved seeds will help to maintain yields under drought conditions and prevent erosion. Producers need to be integrated in value chains and new activities need to be developed in processing and other sectors to improve rural incomes and ensure that growth in productivity translates into better livelihoods. The 2009 Keystone 'Field to Market' research found that gains in yield per acre in the past 20 years in the USA had also been accompanied by significant improvements in the overall efficiency of resource use. The project looked at key crops such as soybean and maize and found reduced use of irrigated water, reduced soil loss, reduced habitat loss, reduced energy use, and lower carbon emissions. The Field to Market study clearly showed that progress has been made by farmers in the path to increased sustainability while enhancing their productivity.

Additionally, efforts should be increased to promote sustainable agri-food systems throughout the lifecycle. In 2010, FAO estimated that poorly developed systems for handling, storage, packaging, transportation, and marketing of agricultural products in developing countries results in post-harvest losses ranging from 15% to a staggering 50%. Investment in food infrastructure and handling could reduce losses and improve food safety. Developed countries also face losses due to food waste from harvest, through delivery to food services, and in households. Waste is worst in fresh produce which delivers vital nutrients to humans around the globe.

Finally, improving farmers' access to inputs and supporting technology uptake and diffusion is essential. In some areas, creative strategies that enable access to existing knowledge networks can make real differences to farmers. For instance, in India, a late December harvest of mustard seeds was causing up to 30 percent of crop to be lost to frost, so breeders worked on a seed with a shorter duration period. This enabled farmers to harvest in early December, avoiding the issue of frost. Farmers also benefited from better prices as they were able to bring their seeds to the market before the usual excess occurred in January.

## Research, Innovation and Capacity Building

Agriculture is a knowledge-intensive sector. Farmers need to have access to training, services, capacity building, and sharing of traditional knowledge that can encourage the production of abundant and nutritious crops and mixed diets. Knowledge helps farmers adopt practices that maximize the efficiency of the inputs they use and help protect the natural resources they depend on. Training programmes should specifically involve women and young farmers in developing countries as essential partners for household nutrition and welfare.

Providing this education to rural communities in a systematic, participatory manner that is maintained, rather than a 'one-off' activity, is essential to improving their production, income and quality of life. Extension services disseminate practical information related to agriculture, including correct use of improved seeds, integrated pest management, including the use of pesticides, fertilizers, farm implements, tillage practices, water management, livestock management and welfare, marketing techniques, and basic business skills to address poverty. Extension is also an essential pillar for rural community progress including support for the capacity building at farm level.

Farmers must constantly adapt, and the challenge of climate change is making that need ever more acute. Investing in research and development, in both public and private sector, is essential to ensure farmers have the tools they need in the future and that the gains obtained in productivity and footprint are not undermined.

Targeted investment in research, combined with supportive frameworks for the roll out, diffusion and uptake of new improved technologies and the products are essential to support continuous improvements in agricultural sustainability. Governments need to support both public and private research by creating supportive regulatory and incentive frameworks that promote not only innovation but collaboration. Global alignment of regulations and these frameworks is vital to support freedom to operate and important trade. Specific efforts to localise and adapt existing scientific knowledge to serve the needs of small farmers in different geographies are also required. In this area, public-private partnerships can play a role but localisation and technology adaptation need to be supported by strong national and regional scientific capacity and active efforts to create markets in order to spur private investment, not only in farming itself but in the agro-food industry that surrounds it.

## Culture Montreal

### LA CULTURE, QUATRIÈME PILIER DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

«On ne saisit le sens profond du développement qu'au plan local.» Voilà l'idée qui émanait de l'Agenda 21 local, élaboré et adopté lors du tout-premier Sommet de la Terre, à Rio de Janeiro, en 1992.

Ce document cristallisait la nécessité d'instaurer un nouveau modèle de développement territorial à l'échelle mondiale. Adopté par plus de 170 pays, l'Agenda 21 local a été reconnu comme un outil intégré de planification et de gestion du développement durable et viable à l'échelle des collectivités territoriales, comme un cadre d'action stratégique, comme une innovation dans la gouvernance territoriale. Ce cahier de charges mise sur la participation citoyenne, la mobilisation et la responsabilisation de tous les acteurs.

### Agenda 21 local +20 : l'heure de la Culture

Les vingt années écoulées depuis le Sommet de la Terre de Rio de Janeiro, en 1992, ont permis de valider la pertinence de cet outil. Toutefois, encore peu répandu 20 ans après son adoption (6 500 adhérents en 2002 et surtout dans les pays d'Europe du Nord ), l'Agenda 21 local comporte certaines failles.

Cités et gouvernement locaux unis (CGLU), une instance internationale présente dans 136 des 191 états membres des Nations Unies, dont les membres sont aussi bien des villes que des associations de gouvernements sont des acteurs du développement territorial, reconnaissait la faiblesse d'un document, l'Agenda 21 local, reposant sur une notion erronée de développement.

Se fondant sur la reconnaissance croissante que le monde ne fait pas seulement face à des défis économiques, sociaux ou environnementaux- les 3 domaines aujourd'hui reconnus comme les 3 piliers du développement durable- mais que la créativité, la connaissance, la diversité et la beauté sont les bases incontournables du dialogue pour la paix et le progrès, dans la mesure où elles sont intrinsèquement liées au développement de l'homme et aux libertés, le Bureau Exécutif de CGLU a adopté en novembre 2010 la position politique sur «La culture comme quatrième pilier du développement»

Cette nouvelle approche envisage la relation entre culture et développement durable à travers deux voies:

1. Le développement du secteur culturel lui-même (i.e. héritage, créativité, industrie culturelle, artisanat, tourisme culturel).

2. Garantir sa juste place dans toutes les politiques publiques, en particulier celles en lien avec l'éducation, l'économie, la science, les communications, la cohésion sociale et la coopération internationale.

Parce qu'elle induit au territoire la capacité de se prendre en charge, de s'animer, de se déployer, la culture est indissociable du concept même de développement durable. Tous, nous devons reconnaître le pouvoir de la culture de changer et de transformer les milieux de vie et la société, de galvaniser les énergies hétérogènes afin de faire émerger de nouvelles dynamiques entre les individus, les groupes et les communautés.

Intégrer la culture dans le concept de développement

Le pouvoir de transformation intrinsèque à l'art agit d'abord sur les individus. Même les personnes qui ont un rapport plus contemplatif avec les œuvres et les manifestations artistiques évoquent les transformations spirituelles et comportementales qu'elles expérimentent.

L'accès aux arts et à la culture doit être un projet de société. La participation culturelle du plus grand nombre est un but vers lequel il faut tendre pour éviter que nos communautés se fracturent en fonction des disparités économiques, sociales, linguistiques et culturelles. La participation culturelle sert à valoriser la créativité, la libre pensée et la capacité de vivre ensemble des citoyens. Il faut aussi protéger la liberté d'expression des artistes tout en valorisant leur apport à la société, en reconnaissant et en rétribuant mieux leur travail.

Ainsi, désigner la culture comme quatrième pilier du développement durable et l'intégrer dans l'Agenda 21 local devient de plus en plus nécessaire considérant l'évolution de notre compréhension du développement et les enjeux qui pèsent sur notre monde. Il devient urgent de faire évoluer l'Agenda 21 local afin qu'il permette d'atteindre l'objectif que se sont donné collectivement les signataires, soit celui de bâtir des collectivités justes et prospères, offrant une qualité de vie optimale à leurs résidents, tout en minimisant l'empreinte environnementale de l'activité humaine.

L'agenda 21 de la culture

L'Agenda 21 de la culture, document élaboré par Cités et Gouvernements Locaux Unis (CGLU) et initialement adopté par les membres de l'organisation en 2004, vient combler certaines lacunes de l'Agenda 21 local de 1992 et devrait servir d'inspiration pour une nouvelle mouture de ce document fondateur. Dans sa position politique pour l'établissement de la culture comme 4 pilier du développement durable, le CGLU souligne que le monde «ne fait pas uniquement face à des défis d'ordre économique, social ou environnemental. La créativité, la connaissance, la diversité et la beauté sont autant de fondements indispensables au dialogue en faveur de la paix et du progrès. Ces valeurs sont, intrinsèquement, liées aux notions de développement humain et de liberté». Cet énoncé trouve écho auprès des acteurs du développement; en effet, à ce jour, près de 250 gouvernements locaux ont adopté l'Agenda 21 de la culture à travers le monde. Culture Montréal est d'avis que les bases idéologiques, principes et objectifs de l'Agenda 21 local doivent illustrer ce vaste mouvement pour une approche élargie du développement. Ainsi, l'Agenda 21 local est appelé à évoluer afin d'intégrer pleinement les valeurs, principes et objectifs cités à l'Agenda 21 de la culture.

La reconnaissance de la culture comme moteur de développement

La culture pour tous comme enjeu de développement est au cœur des réflexions des décideurs politiques, chercheurs, acteurs du développement local et citoyens depuis plusieurs années déjà. Au cours de la dernière décennie, on a vu naître et être adoptés des écrits fondamentaux tels que la Déclaration sur la diversité culturelle (2001) et la Convention de L'Unesco sur la diversité des expressions culturelles (2005). La place accordée à la culture dans l'Agenda 21 local doit être le juste reflet de cette mouvance. Nous avons aujourd'hui, collectivement, l'opportunité de reconnaître l'importance de l'art, du design, du patrimoine, des traditions et autres dimensions de la culture, tout comme celle du simple acte de création et de l'expression créative, pour le développement durable et responsable des collectivités. Nous devons affirmer la nécessité de leur présence dans le quotidien de chaque personne; faire valoir leur contribution à une vie citoyenne active, et reconnaître le bien-fondé des politiques publiques et autres initiatives visant la protection, le développement, la valorisation et la pérennisation des richesses culturelles propres à un territoire.

L'engagement de Culture Montréal

Déjà, en 2004, lors de l'adoption de l'Agenda 21 de la culture à Barcelone, Culture a décidé d'en endosser et propager le contenu parce qu'il plaidait en faveur d'un développement culturel intégrant les grands impératifs que sont les droits de la personne, la diversité des expressions culturelles, la démocratie participative et la création de conditions pour la paix.

C'est dans cet esprit que Culture Montréal a entrepris, en 2010, un vaste chantier pour le développement des quartiers culturels dans la métropole. Portant une vision du développement culturel axé sur l'accessibilité, le rayonnement, la diversité et la multiplicité des formes de la culture, nous contribuons depuis à l'émergence d'une vie et d'une dynamique culturelle propres aux richesses et besoins de chaque quartier de Montréal. Nous nous employons à accompagner les citoyens dans une démarche de concertation; à favoriser la collaboration de diverses parties prenantes; à soutenir, favoriser ou promouvoir de nouvelles initiatives culturelles qui intègrent les autres aspects du développement durable. Tous nos gestes émanent de cette conviction que la culture est le pivot d'une économie misant davantage sur la créativité; d'une participation citoyenne engagée et éclairée; d'un sentiment d'appartenance et d'une identification positive au territoire; et de la qualité de vie des citoyens. Pour Culture Montréal, la métropole du Québec atteindra son plein potentiel culturel en permettant l'expression de la vitalité culturelle dans tous les quartiers de la ville, le tout en misant sur la participation citoyenne et la collaboration des forces vives locales et, le cas échéant, régionales et nationales.

Culture Montréal participe également, depuis 2010, au processus de concertation et de consultation mis en place par le ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec pour l'élaboration d'un Agenda 21 de la culture pour le Québec. Ce document, dont l'adoption est attendue cet automne, « sera un cadre de référence qui viendra préciser les principes à respecter et les objectifs à viser pour intégrer pleinement la culture dans le développement durable de la société québécoise. Ce document fondateur donnera l'impulsion au renouvellement de notre approche dans le domaine de la culture. Il permettra d'élargir la perspective et de mettre en évidence le rôle global que la culture peut jouer en tant que levier économique, catalyseur de la créativité, facteur de cohésion sociale et élément constitutif de notre cadre de vie. Cela permettra de repenser les rapports de la culture avec tous les secteurs de la société, et ainsi d'établir les assises d'un nouveau chapitre de la politique culturelle du Québec. » Culture Montréal adhère à la démarche du MCCFQ telle que décrite ci-dessus, qui s'inscrit dans la mouvance mondiale initiée par CGLU.

Monsieur Simon Brault, président de Culture Montréal, a par ailleurs eu ces mots lors d'un Forum sur l'Agenda 21 de la culture du Québec, tenu en mai 2011 dans la Ville de Québec:

«Au moment même où trop de gouvernements dans le monde charcutent leurs maigres budgets dédiés aux arts, au patrimoine et à la culture en évoquant la lutte au déficit, cette initiative politique [Agenda 21 de la Culture, ndr] pour affirmer le caractère incontournable de la culture comme dimension du développement durable au Québec mérite qu'on la salue et qu'on y participe. L'Agenda 21 de la culture est un guide de survie urbaine pour le siècle qui commence. Il illustre à quel point, partout dans le monde, les axes du développement culturel sont maintenant redéfinis à partir des villes et des gouvernements locaux. [...] Il [Agenda 21 de la culture] soutient que le développement culturel doit intégrer les impératifs que sont les droits de la personne, la diversité des expressions culturelles, la démocratie participative et la création de conditions pour la paix.»

Recommandations de Culture Montréal à la Conférence des parties pour l'intégration des articles de l'Agenda 21 de la culture dans l'Agenda 21 local

Culture Montréal joint sa voix au concert des nations, gouvernements et membres de la société civile, pour réclamer que le Sommet de Rio de 2012 soit l'occasion de redéfinir la structure conceptuelle du développement durable. Dans cette perspective, Culture Montréal souhaite que la Déclaration finale de Rio +20 intègre la culture comme quatrième pilier du développement durable et que l'Agenda 21 local comprenne, à compter de 2012, un chapitre qui explique la relation entre la culture et le développement durable et un chapitre sur le rôle des gouvernements locaux dans le développement durable.

Afin que la culture devienne vraiment partie prenante de ce cahier de principes guidant les instances territoriales, Culture Montréal, à la suite du CGLU, recommande que la Déclaration finale suggère de créer des mécanismes institutionnels pour analyser plus en profondeur, au cours des prochaines années, la relation entre la culture et le développement durable. On pourrait étudier la possibilité d'une «Décennie de l'ONU sur la culture pour le développement durable».

À propos de Culture Montréal

Fondé en 2002, Culture Montréal est un mouvement citoyen, non partisan, visant la promotion des arts et de la culture comme leviers essentiels du développement de Montréal. Comptant près de 1000 adhérents et doté d'un vaste réseau de partenaires, Culture Montréal tient des activités de recherche, d'analyse, d'information et de représentation politique en lien avec sa mission première. L'organisation est soutenue par le ministère de la Culture, des Communications et de la Condition féminine du Québec, la Conférence régionale des élus de Montréal, la Ville de Montréal, le Conseil des arts et des lettres du Québec et le Cirque du Soleil.

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## CyberOustal

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

The concept and objective of sustainable development should be revisited, 25 years after its creation by the Brundtland Commission. The objective of "more inclusive development" should add a useful process layer to the more technical objective of sustainable development. The structure of the outcome document should leave room for an ex-post evaluation of the relevance of sustainable development.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

Present proposals are OK, but a rebalancing of the environmental agenda, right now too overloaded with climate change (while biodiversity and ocean conservation get lip service) should be included in the discussions and outcomes.

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

A much broader language diversity should be introduced. Right now, Rio+20 preparation is "anglophone only". This eliminates too many potential stakeholders.

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

Open up to more major languages (spanish and french at the minimum). See the article which I have circulated on the Internet (attached).

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### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

Open the discussion beyond the sustainable development paradigm.

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

Include more views of the youth and their organizations.

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

More streamlining of Bretton Woods organizations (merge IFC and the rest of World Bank group organizations into one single institution, possibly even merge WBG and IMF). Too many generals right now, not enough foot soldiers.

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

The themes are fine.

Misez sur la case « échec »

Tous les journaux du monde vont en parler à partir du printemps prochain: non, ce n'est pas de la présidentielle française, mais de la Conférence mondiale sur le Développement durable qui se tiendra au Brésil du 4 au 6 Juin. L'événement marquera le 20ème anniversaire de la CNUED de Rio de Janeiro, et le 10ème du Sommet mondial sur le Développement durable qui s'est tenu à Johannesburg, donc, en 2002.

Trois jours pour résoudre les problèmes de mal développement de la planète, c'est court. Mais cette Conférence 2012 (« Rio+20 » dans le jargon international), coûteuse, risque d'être un échec, sauf si des changements profonds se produisent d'ici là.

Contrairement à Rio 1992, "Rio + 20" comme tou(te)s les branché(e)s l'appellent, ne verra pas un afflux record de Chefs d'Etat et de grands dirigeants mondiaux. Il se dit qu'à Rio en 1992, on a connu la plus grande concentration de Chefs d'Etat de l'histoire de l'humanité. On en verra beaucoup moins en 2012 et les pays envoyant leurs premiers ministres en plus de leurs ministres de l'environnement ne seront même pas forcément légion. Un événement majeur et des tendances lourdes se sont mutuellement renforcés pour "plomber" cette Conférence:

- Les effets du 11 septembre 2001 étaient encore peu profonds à Rio + 10, qui était pourtant décevant par rapport à la Conférence de 1992: c'est progressivement que celles et ceux qui croyaient auparavant que les grandes déclarations et les bonnes intentions des riches Occidentaux suffisaient à garder les pauvres des pays pauvres en situation de dépendance et de reconnaissance ont déchanté. Après le 11 septembre 2001, il est devenu clair que les pauvres réclamaient leur part et ne se contentaient pas de miettes envoyées volontairement, au compte-goutte, et parfois même détournées avant même d'arriver sur le terrain (le fameux "syndrome du Colorado"),

- Plusieurs des grandes ONG de protection de l'environnement, en France comme dans le monde, (les "Big NGOs, BINGOs") se sont fait épingle pour manque de transparence de leurs comptes financiers ou pour usage de soutiens de compagnies douteuses sur le plan environnemental (EDF pour la Fondation de Nicolas Hulot, par exemple), mettant ainsi à mal la perception publique des "bonnes ONG" contre les "méchantes institutions internationales",

- Au niveau mondial, le thème du dérèglement climatique a fait une OPA sur les autres grands thèmes du développement durable, en particulier la protection des océans et de la biodiversité. Cette domination par un thème complexe et encombrant - car réclamant des solutions globales que personne ne maîtrise ni même ne veut maîtriser - a eu un grand nombre d'effets pervers: clivages au sein de la communauté scientifique, manque de lisibilité des débats pour le grand public, possibilité pour les pro-nucléaires de réclamer une part du gâteau au motif – faux – que le "nucléaire n'émet pas de CO2, apports de financements considérables au nom de l'urgence de l'intervention avec insuffisamment de systèmes de contrôle de l'utilisation de cette nouvelle manne, et donc risques importants de malversations au nom d'une noble idée. Pendant que l'attention est focalisée sur le dérèglement climatique, les pertes de biodiversité continuent de manière alarmante et touchent beaucoup les pauvres; les océans deviennent la nouvelle frontière et le lieu de toutes les convoitises: production alimentaire, énergétique, minière, avec tous les associés,

- Les puissantes émergentes: Brésil, Russie, Inde, Chine et Afrique du Sud (institutionnalisées comme les "BRICS" et qui, incidemment, abritent la moitié de la population mondiale) sont en train, à coup de taux de croissance économique compris entre 6 et 9% l'an, de révolutionner les rapports de force mondiaux: corruption, croissance et accumulation d'actifs, y compris accaparement de terres au sein des pays les plus démunis sont trois de leurs fers de lance. Parlez-leur de protection locale de l'environnement et, au mieux, ils garderont un silence embarrassé,

- La mondialisation est attaquée de partout et la nouvelle école de la "démondialisation" fait des émules un peu partout. Il est vrai que peu de personnes ont pris la mesure d'un monde où tout va partout et très vite et où il y a plus de points communs entre un riche Portugais et un riche Pakistanais qu'entre un riche Français et un pauvre Français

- L'ultralibéralisme économique et les extrêmes populistes triomphent de plus en plus: mettre des barrières, même légères et légitimes, à la croissance est de plus en plus mal perçu et les grandes (à supposer qu'elles aient été bonnes) intentions du Grenelle de l'environnement en France se délitent dès que le réel frappe,

- Enfin, l'affaiblissement des gouvernements et en particulier la presque universelle "chasse aux fonctionnaires" n'aident pas à la mise en place de protections effectives de l'environnement et des populations vulnérables, protections qui relèvent plus de politiques de développement "soft" que d'aménagement "hard". C'est un constat bien pessimiste, mais fondé sur une histoire et beaucoup d'espoirs déçus. Bien entendu, la vie continue, des pays comme la France sont beaux, peu pollués, aux risques du nucléaire près et ont un patrimoine naturel en bonne santé; les BRICS, tout doucement, comme le secteur privé international, apprennent, bien souvent à la dure, qu'ils ont une "responsabilité sociale et environnementale". A ce titre, l'arrivée de la norme ISO 26000 sur la RSE est une bonne nouvelle, tout comme le sont le refus de la corruption des élites politiques par le printemps arabe; les extrémismes religieux vont peut-être se diluer dans les "queues de comète" des grandes religions.... Donc, même si Rio + 20 est un flop, il y aura une vie après Rio + 20 et même Rio + n.

Mais si, en fait, en osant le matricide, c'était le concept même de développement durable qui était en question? Oui, Mme Brundtland a eu une intuition géniale en 1987 en mariant développement économique et protection de l'environnement. Oui, cette fusion a aidé et influencé les militants et les professionnels pendant 25 ans, mais le concept de développement durable, extrêmement technique et biaisé "environnement naturel", trop absolu et trop détaché d'un projet politique au sens noble et originel du terme, n'a-t-il pas assez vécu et été institutionnalisé pour que nous puissions songer à une nouvelle révolution de paradigme? Personnellement, je tiens pour la mise en place d'un développement plus inclusif, un mode de développement à objectif relatif et progressif dans lequel, consciemment, on implique systématiquement et honnêtement de plus en plus de parties prenantes, avec des règles du jeu robustes et transparentes, dans tous les moments clés de la décision, du suivi et de l'évaluation des politiques collectives (publiques et des grandes entreprises privées): un peu la démocratie suisse, la propreté réelle en plus..

Voici quelques changements qui permettraient de sauver Rio+20 : une meilleure transparence des financements des grandes ONG environnementales, un rééquilibrage des thèmes environnementaux mondiaux (la fin de la suprématie du dérèglement climatique), une prise de conscience par le Brésil, la Russie, l'Inde, la Chine et l'Afrique du sud de l'impérieuse nécessité de lutter contre leurs propres pollutions et leur corruption endémique, la formation d'un vrai partenariat public-privé pour le développement durable.

Il est peu probable que ces changements se produisent avant la Conférence ; il faut cependant, pour celles et ceux qui le peuvent, se rendre au Brésil en juin prochain, avec un esprit ouvert et sans craindre de remettre en question le dogme du développement durable, formidable découverte conceptuelle de Mme Brundtland à la fin des années 80, mais sans doute trop technique et trop absolu pour guider l'humanité dans le 21ème siècle. Il est impératif de dépasser ce concept et de porter à la conférence des volontés et des thèmes plus politiques et plus inclusifs.

## Deep Sea Conservation Coalition

Protecting the Deep Seas: Recommendations to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), 4-6 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

### Recommendations

Measures for Deep-Sea Conservation in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction The Deep Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC) urges that the States at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) call for the following measures to address the threats posed by unsustainable fishing practices to the deep seas:

1. States and regional fisheries management organizations/agreements (RFMO/As) should immediately cease authorizing vessels to fish in areas where there is not full implementation of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions 61/105 and 64/72 with respect to the management of deep-sea fisheries in areas beyond national jurisdiction.
2. Any high seas bottom fishery that is not in full compliance with existing UNGA resolutions should be considered illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) and market States should treat it as such.







3. In view of the weight of scientific evidence, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, Rio+20) should agree that the single most destructive fishing method in areas outside national jurisdiction—deep-sea bottom trawling on the high seas—is phased out within 3 years.

In addition, it is clear that more transparency is required by flag States and RFMO/As, including in the conduct, public availability and review of impact assessments of bottom fisheries in the high seas.

#### Measures for the High Seas, Including the Deep Sea

States at Rio+20 should agree to initiate a negotiating process towards a new implementing agreement under the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS) for the protection, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Such an agreement should include:

-  A framework for the conduct of comprehensive prior environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and strategic environmental assessments (SEAs), together with ongoing and regular monitoring of the marine environment;
-  Identification, designation and management of a global network of high seas marine protected areas (MPAs), including in particular no-take reserves and consistent with the criteria agreed under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD);
-  Implementation of the precautionary principle and ecosystem based approach in decision making and fisheries management; and
-  The reform of RFMOs to incorporate a broader ecosystem conservation focus.

#### Brief Overview of Bottom Trawling

The DSCC is a coalition of over seventy non-governmental organizations concerned about threats to deep sea biodiversity. The DSCC was founded in 2004 to address the issue of bottom trawling on the high seas in the absence of an effective governance regime.

The DSCC is focused on achieving three overarching goals:

- i) To substantially reduce the greatest threats to life in the deep seas;
- ii) To safeguard the long-term health, integrity, and resilience of deep-sea ecosystems; and
- iii) To promote the development of effective governance regimes to ensure the protection and preservation of the marine environment in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

The protection of biodiversity in the deep sea in areas beyond national jurisdiction – the high seas - has been extensively debated by the UNGA and other international fora. The method are among the most destructive in fishing, akin to clear cutting the forest across an entire mountain range to hunt wild birds.






Trawl nets with heavy doors and rollers are dragged across the ocean floor, crushing coral, sponges other bottom (benthic) structures and lifeforms as they go. Deep sea species in general are slow growing and slow to breed, meaning that fishing in the deep sea is, with very few exceptions, unsustainable in terms of targeted species, as well as bycatch species such as deep-sea sharks. The deep-sea corals, some of which are thousands of years old, are easily damaged and can take many decades or centuries to recover.

In addition to the damage caused, deep-sea fishing on the high seas is neither economically significant nor substantial in terms of global fisheries catch production. In 2008, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN FAO) published a report that estimated the high seas bottom fishing fleet in 2006 was no more than a few hundred vessels, catching some 250,000 tonnes of fish. This catch was valued at approximately 450 million dollars, representing a mere 0.3% of the marine capture fisheries worldwide.

#### Brief History of Bottom Trawling in the United Nations

The conservation community began calling on the UNGA to declare a moratorium on high seas bottom trawling in 2002. The call to action was based on science showing bottom trawling to be the single most destructive fishing method for deep-sea marine life on the high seas.

In 2004, the UNGA adopted Resolution 59/25 calling on high seas fishing nations and RFMO/As to take urgent action to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) from destructive fishing practices, including bottom trawl fishing, on the high seas. Two years later, UNGA Resolution 61/105 adopted in December 2006 went a step further, committing nations that authorise their vessels to engage in bottom fisheries on the high seas to protect deep-sea fisheries and VMEs, inter alia:

-  conduct prior impact assessments of bottom fishing on the high seas;
-  manage bottom fishing activities to prevent significant adverse impacts to VMEs;
-  close areas of the high seas to bottom fishing where VMEs are known or likely to occur unless the fishing in these areas can be managed to prevent harm to such ecosystems;
-  ensure the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks and species; and
-  implement measures in accordance with the precautionary approach, the ecosystem approach and international law.

International Guidelines for the Management of Deep-Sea Fisheries in the High Seas were then negotiated under the auspices of the UN FAO and adopted in August 2008. These Guidelines established agreed standards for States detailing how to implement the UNGA resolution requirements, including conducting impact assessments for high seas bottom fisheries and measuring the impacts.

In 2009, the UNGA reviewed implementation of the 2006 resolution and strengthened it (resolution 64/72), committing States and RFMO/As to fully implement the resolutions on an urgent basis, and calling for another full review in 2011. This resolution both reaffirmed previous commitments and called for additional actions. The new resolution made it clear that if the crucial steps, such as prior impact assessments are not carried out, then fishing should not be allowed to continue, and that this applies to all high seas bottom fisheries, including already established fisheries as well as fisheries in new areas.

A UN workshop to review the implementation of these measures took place in New York in September 2011. The Moderator's Report from this meeting noted that it was generally recognized that while some progress had been made, including the establishment of new RFMO/As and the adoption of measures by RFMO/As to limit bottom fishing activities to existing fishing areas, further actions were needed to fully implement the resolutions. Despite the progress achieved, further efforts were needed to fully implement the resolutions. In short, there is compliance in the Southern Ocean around Antarctica, where deep-sea fisheries are well regulated and bottom trawling is not allowed. However, in no other area has full compliance with the resolution been achieved. Shortcomings in implementation include absence of impact assessments,

insufficient area closures and ineffective move-on rules, which require vessels to move away if VMEs are encountered. With regard to deep-sea stocks, challenges in the adoption of measures to ensure the long-term sustainability of deep-sea fish stocks, include difficulties in determining the sustainable level of fishing effort, high levels of discards and bycatch and the vulnerability of some stocks to fishing.

Since the 2006 resolution, scientific evidence of the fragility of deep-sea fisheries and VMEs has grown. It has become increasingly clear that deep-sea bottom trawling continues to be the single most destructive activity to high seas fish populations and VMEs. Furthermore, bottom trawl fishing in the deep sea is overwhelmingly viewed by the scientific community as unsustainable.

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## Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN)

Women's Major Group Statement:

Asia Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for Rio+20

19-20 October 2011 (Seoul, South Korea)

We, the Women's Major Group representatives at the Asia Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for Rio+20 call on governments to reaffirm their commitments to Agenda 21 and the Beijing Platform for Action, and fulfill their obligations to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. We also call on governments to respect recent international agreements including the 2009 UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development where the causes and effects of the global economic, food and ecological crises were discussed and urgent measures adopted to achieve a less volatile macroeconomic environment for sustainable development, including making economic policies compatible with human rights obligations.

On the road to Rio+20, we invoke the principles enshrined in these instruments – especially non- discrimination and substantive equality and their linkages to gender, economic and ecological justice. We assert the need for a radical change in mindset necessary to steer humanity off the course of repeated crises and self-destruction. To this end, we make the following six points:

First, we are alarmed by the complete disregard for women's human rights and gender equality in the Draft Asia Pacific Regional Statement. This is a regression from gaining an entire chapter on Women in Agenda 21 and a chapter on Women and the Environment in the Beijing Platform for Action. Governments in the Asia Pacific region must recognize that gender is cross cutting in development processes and that gender equality is vital to the achievement of sustainable development.

Second, we wish to reframe the "green economy" as "sustainable economies". We reject current economic models pursued in the name of efficiency and economic growth, but are in fact driven by profit and greed, and have resulted in unprecedented levels of poverty, inequality and food insecurity that disproportionately affect women. Instead we are working to realize "sustainable economies" that are gender just and enable long-term social and well-being outcomes for present and future generations, especially marginalized groups such as indigenous, ethnic and sexual minority groups.

As women comprise half the world's population and also count among the poorest, a "sustainable economy" must recognize women's paid and un(der)paid contributions to economic production, must generate sustainable livelihoods by which women can realize the full enjoyment of their human rights, including sexual and reproductive rights, and prevent all forms of discrimination and violence in women's exercise of their economic rights and co-stewardship of the earth's resources. Central to this is women's unmediated right to access, own, control and benefit from productive resources and assets, which includes land, water, seeds, energy sources, livestock, financial resources, public subsidies and appropriate technologies.

Third, women farmers must be recognized as co-managers of community resource bases and co- decision-makers in determining the use of natural resources and the distribution of benefits arising from them. They must be assured of capacity development in bio-diverse ecological agriculture including humane sustainable livestock and fisheries production, necessary rural infrastructure, appropriate technologies and marketing skills for their economic autonomy. We further seek from our governments a commitment to the rapid reduction and elimination of toxic substances and highly hazardous pesticides and fertilizers, while steadily phasing-in non-chemical approaches.

There is much to learn from gender-responsive good practices on agro-ecology and sustainable natural resource use and management that strive for balance and synergy between humans and nature. It must also be recognized that woman can capacitate "sustainable economies", with their indigenous and traditional knowledge systems which should be protected from appropriation and exploitation by big business.

Fourth, as marginalized and excluded groups, women bear the harshest impacts of the current climate crisis, including increased ecological and economic displacement. States must address the gender- differentiated impacts of climate change while ensuring greater and more meaningful participation of women in the climate deliberations and outcomes, and in adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Fifth, distressed migration is a phenomenon across many countries in our region, with women comprising the bulk of those who migrate from rural to urban areas and from developing to developed countries. Governments must address the huge social costs resulting from distressed migration by addressing women's economic deprivation and environmental degradation.

Sixth, women are greatly concerned by corporate driven technological solutions to climate change that are harmful to the planet and people. Such technologies must be subject to rigorous, transparent and participatory assessments including the implications on women's and children's health and well-being.

We take a firm position against nuclear energy as one of the 'solutions' to the energy crisis. It is neither clean nor sustainable, as many nuclear disasters have already so painfully pointed out. States must immediately phase out nuclear energy and seek fresh and up-scaled financial resources to shift the world to green (renewable) energy, which will benefit all of humankind.

In closing, we expect nothing less from Rio+20 than a commitment to promoting sustainable development and gender equality in ways that go beyond the limited "add women and stir" approach, and which genuinely recognize women's co-leadership and co-stewardship. Toward this end we call for sex disaggregated data and gender budgets to assure equitable resource allocation.

We further insist on the full realization of the Rio Principles including the precautionary principle, common but differentiated responsibilities, polluter pays, and Principle 10 on access to information and justice. We, the Women's Major Group call on all our governments to take action now.

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## Developpement Sans Frontieres- DSF

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

The below recommendations were agreed upon at the Regional Consultation Meeting of Civil Society Organizations and Major Groups of Western Asia, facilitated by UNEP ROWA, that met on 9 and 10 October 2011 in Dubai in preparation for Rio +20 Summit and the 27th Meeting of the Governing Council/General Ministers of Environment Forum (GC-27/GMEF),

The participants recalled Rio Declarations (1992), Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Declarations (2000),

Recognized and stressed on their calls to enhance international co-operation in order to overcome the global development and environmental challenges,

Emphasized the key role of committed international co-operation in promoting fair trade, improving the quantity, quality and effectiveness of overseas development aids to developing countries,

Recognized the latter's contribution in supporting sustainable development initiatives, protecting and sustaining natural resources and their efficient use and reforming the production and consumption patterns and facilitating not only the transfer of environment-friendly technologies but its indigenization,

Discussed Rio+20 agenda items and agreed on the following:

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

Recognizing Principle 10 of Agenda 21, we stressed the need to mobilize the efforts of governments, major groups, civil society and the concerned UN organizations, including UNEP to:

1. Enhance the role of civil society organizations and stakeholders in influencing environmental related policies nationally, regionally and internationally.
2. Develop consultation and follow up mechanisms with civil society organizations and major groups in West Asia (ROWA), build their capacities and develop a centralized information network to exchange expertise and best practices among them.
3. Develop mechanisms to present, raise and discuss the output of the regional consultation meetings (statements) in global arenas, particularly at the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GMEF).
4. Enhance the role and representation of the Regions in the Major Groups and Stakeholders' MGS Facilitating committee similar to the MGS representation with regard to status (full rather than an observer status) and membership terms

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

we stressed the need that Green Economy should:

1. Achieve social justice, eliminate poverty, enhance social integration, create job opportunities and provide basic requirements for human welfare;
2. Ensure optimum and wise use of natural resources with high efficiency while protecting them from all forms of adverse practices and activities in order to ensure their sustainability for future generations;
3. Halt unsustainable production and consumption practices which hinder sustainable development, and curb activities that aggravate the greenhouse effect and climate change impacts in order to sustain safe living on earth.

Accordingly, we highlighted the following:

1. Green Economy is one tool to achieve sustainable development objectives and principles, and not a substitute. It is a means and not an end by itself.
2. The need for developing nations to acquire environment-friendly technologies which enable them to embark in the transition to green economy and to indigenize these technologies to ensure their sustainability.
3. Not to use Green Economy as a vehicle to impose taxes or non-tariff barriers as a form of hidden protectionism by developed countries.
4. Enhancing, activating and institutionalizing the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in building capacities and eliminating poverty, provided that this concept relies on respecting human rights, all international conventions and agreements related to economic, social and cultural rights as well as the Universal Declaration on the Right for Development.

More specifically, on West Asia front, we emphasized the need for:

1. Promoting regional co-operation to meet the region's needs through prioritizing the economic development programs and the implementation mechanisms in the transition to Green Economy.
2. Laying down a mechanism for regional co-operation in the sector of renewable and/or alternative energy.
3. Catalyzing technology transfer within the region to ensure proper transfer and indigenization along with capacity building and training.
4. Encouraging investment in scientific research through the provision of incentives to companies (within the region and with developed countries), ensuring the participation of different segments of the society, supporting scientists and funding researchers in the region.
5. Adopting high quality control/quality performance standards in managing the process of transition to Green Economy and beyond.
6. Integrating sustainable development concepts in the educational and training curricula at different levels.
7. Empowering civil society organizations and promoting their participation along with governments and private sectors in sustainably managing the various natural resources in the different stages of planning, execution, monitoring and evaluation.
8. Making use of and direct the resources available in Waqf funds among other resources, including Zakat, etc. (in accordance with Shari'a guidelines) as well as some Arab development funds (sovereign funds) to implement sustainable development programs that serve in minimizing disparities and eliminating poverty.
9. Reviewing, updating and enforcing environmental legislations at the national and regional levels.
10. Integrating the environmental dimension into national policies, strategies and programs to realize the objectives of sustainable development.

Based on the above, we emphasized that Green Economy should spring from a vision that takes into consideration the specificities of local communities (particularly developing nations) through defining their economic and social development priorities and implementation means. The latter shall be based on enhancing productive sectors in the framework of Green Economy in a way that would meet local needs; create new green job opportunities, realize effective social participation in development and ensure just distribution of development outcomes, reduce poverty and marginalization and increase social welfare.

In this respect and within the strategies of transition towards Green Economy, we highlighted the need for adopting the following priorities:

1. Production and consumption trends: to urge nations to change their consumption and production patterns and behaviors to be more sustainable, in line with Agenda 21, by facilitating and promoting initiatives that adopt environment-friendly production trends and conscious consumption practices.
1. Renewable energy: to urge states and empowering them technologically to use different types of renewable energy, such as solar energy, wind, waves among other forms of alternative clean energy resources available in the region.
2. Green building: to urge states and promote the application of the green building policies and tools in the private and public sectors through developing and adopting environmental specifications and standards (such as the use of environment-friendly materials as well as energy and water efficient techniques).
3. Clean means of transport: to urge states to provide reliable public transport infrastructure and operations and promote the use of environment-friendly means through extending incentives.
4. Water management: to urge governments to develop integrated water resource management strategies, and specifically improving the efficient utilization of both conventional non-conventional water resources to the largest extent possible through recycling and reusing of treated effluent of all degrees, as per appropriate specifications, in different sectors such as agriculture and industry.
5. Waste management: to urge governments to adopt the integrated waste management approach aiming at reducing waste generation at source, through rationalization of consumption patterns, adopting of the green production inputs and concepts, using high quality commodities, reducing the use of packaging materials; segregating and reclaiming urban waste; ending with safe disposal of toxic waste.
6. Sustainable natural resource management: to urge governments to employ and use integrated regional planning basics for use of land and conserving biodiversity habitats, establishing genetic banks, promoting organic agriculture, reducing the use of agricultural chemicals to safeguard human health and the quality of environment.

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

While stressing the importance of the efforts made by different organizations towards developing International Environment Governance (IEG) within the United Nations system, we emphasized the need to enhance the framework of sustainable development to ensure equity and transparency in line with the international law, through the following:

1. Initiating and developing sound science policy and planning interface; hence crafting environmental and development policies and programs based on strong, credible integrated and coherent science base.
2. Strengthening the Committee of Sustainable Development (CSD) and upgrading it into a "Global Council for Sustainable Development", empowered to oversee the implementation of international conventions and resolutions, particularly Agenda 21, the MDGs and related international conventions. This would enhance cohesion, co-ordination and harmonization among them and hold the governments and other relevant entities subject to regular monitoring.
3. Enhancing UNEP's role and mandate through upgrading its status to be one of the UN organizations similar to WHO and ILO, among others.
4. Encouraging the developed countries to meet their declared commitments during Rio 1992 and Johannesburg 2002 Summits towards the developing countries in order to enable the latter fulfill their needs to achieve the Agenda 21 and the MDGs and overcome the threats hindering the implementation of their sustainable development plans.
5. Finding and developing innovative sources of funds, and securing diversified, sustainable and predictable funding.
6. Promoting the principles of good governance and rejecting all forms of corruption at the various local, national, regional and global levels while empowering the monitoring role of civil society organizations in this respect.
7. Ensuring the participation of civil society organizations and other stakeholders as well as ensuring transparency and accountability at all levels (local, national, regional and global), based on principle 10 of Agenda 21 within the global environmental governance system through:
  - Securing means to respond to the needs of countries which lack good governance mechanisms and regulations.
  - Building capacities in democratic governance and developing national professional and scientific capabilities through the provision of resources, training and education.
  - Setting standards for transparency and accountability and disseminating best practices.
  - Crafting guidelines and standards that promote civil society and stakeholders' participation, and advocate for establishing sustainable development councils both at the local and national levels.
8. Adopting comprehensiveness to ensure that all significant environmental threats are appropriately addressed, through mechanisms that ensure:
  - Continuous evaluation of the state of the environment and technological developments in order to assess and address urgent problems and emerging threats;
  - Developing early warning systems, building and enhancing capabilities to promptly respond to and rectify environmental threats at various levels (local, national, regional and global) in a co-ordinated and precautionary manner

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Statement/ recommendations of the West Asia Regional Consultation Meeting of Major Groups and Stakeholders in Preparation for Rio + 20 and the 27th Session of the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC-27/GMEF)

9-10 October 2011, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

We, the participants in the Regional Consultation Meeting of Civil Society Organizations and Major Groups of Western Asia, met on 9 and 10 October 2011 in Dubai in preparation for Rio +20 Summit and the 27th Meeting of the Governing Council/General Ministers of Environment Forum (GC-27/GMEF) as well as the Global Major Groups and Stakeholders Forum (GMGSF-13),

Abiding by Rio Declarations (1992), Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Declarations (2000),

Recognizing and stressing on their calls to enhance international co-operation in order to overcome the global development and environmental challenges,

Emphasizing the key role of committed international co-operation in promoting fair trade, improving the quantity, quality and effectiveness of overseas development aids to developing countries,

Recognizing the latter's contribution in supporting sustainable development initiatives, protecting and sustaining natural resources and their efficient use and reforming the production and consumption patterns and facilitating not only the transfer of environment-friendly technologies but its indigenization,

Discussed Rio+20 agenda items and agreed on the following recommendations:

First: Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) and International Environment Governance (IEG)

While stressing the importance of the efforts made by different organizations towards developing International Environment Governance (IEG) within the United Nations system, we emphasized the need to enhance the framework of sustainable development to ensure equity and transparency in line with the international law, through the following:

1. Initiating and developing sound science policy and planning interface; hence crafting environmental and development policies and programs based on strong, credible integrated and coherent science base.
2. Strengthening the Committee of Sustainable Development (CSD) and upgrading it into a "Global Council for Sustainable Development", empowered to oversee the implementation of international conventions and resolutions, particularly Agenda 21, the MDGs and related international conventions. This would enhance cohesion, co-ordination and harmonization among them and hold the governments and other relevant entities subject to regular monitoring.
3. Enhancing UNEP's role and mandate through upgrading its status to be one of the UN organizations similar to WHO and ILO, among others.
4. Encouraging the developed countries to meet their declared commitments during Rio 1992 and Johannesburg 2002 Summits towards the developing countries in order to enable the latter fulfill their needs to achieve the Agenda 21 and the MDGs and overcome the threats hindering the implementation of their sustainable development plans.
5. Finding and developing innovative sources of funds, and securing diversified, sustainable and predictable funding.
6. Promoting the principles of good governance and rejecting all forms of corruption at the various local, national, regional and global levels while empowering the monitoring role of civil society organizations in this respect.
7. Ensuring the participation of civil society organizations and other stakeholders as well as ensuring transparency and accountability at all levels (local, national, regional and global), based on principle 10 of Agenda 21 within the global environmental governance system through:
  - \* Securing means to respond to the needs of countries which lack good governance mechanisms and regulations.
  - \* Building capacities in democratic governance and developing national professional and scientific capabilities through the provision of resources, training and education.
  - \* Setting standards for transparency and accountability and disseminating best practices.
  - \* Crafting guidelines and standards that promote civil society and stakeholders' participation, and advocate for establishing sustainable development councils both at the local and national levels.
8. Adopting comprehensiveness to ensure that all significant environmental threats are appropriately addressed, through mechanisms that ensure:
  - \* Continuous evaluation of the state of the environment and technological developments in order to assess and address urgent problems and emerging threats;
  - \* Developing early warning systems, building and enhancing capabilities to promptly respond to and rectify environmental threats at various levels (local, national, regional and global) in a co-ordinated and precautionary manner.

Second: Green Economy

In view of UNEP's definition of Green Economy as one "that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reduce environmental risks and ecological scarcities. In its simplest expression, a green economy can be thought of as one which is low in carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive (...). The concept of a green economy does not replace sustainable development, but there is growing recognition that achieving sustainability rests almost entirely on getting the economy right<sup>1</sup>"; and despite the reservations of some CSOs and MGS on this definition<sup>2</sup>, we stressed the need that Green Economy should:

1. Achieve social justice, eliminate poverty, enhance social integration, create job opportunities and provide basic requirements for human welfare;
2. Ensure optimum and wise use of natural resources with high efficiency while protecting them from all forms of adverse practices and activities in order to ensure their sustainability for future generations;
3. Halt unsustainable production and consumption practices which hinder sustainable development, and curb activities that aggravate the greenhouse effect and climate change impacts in order to sustain safe living on earth.

Accordingly, we highlighted the following:

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3. Not to use Green Economy as a vehicle to impose taxes or non-tariff barriers as a form of hidden protectionism by developed countries.
4. Enhancing, activating and institutionalizing the concept of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in building capacities and eliminating poverty, provided that this concept relies on respecting human rights, all international conventions and agreements related to economic, social and cultural rights as well as the Universal Declaration on the Right for Development.

More specifically, on West Asia front, we emphasized the need for:

1. Promoting regional co-operation to meet the region's needs through prioritizing the economic development programs and the implementation mechanisms in the transition to Green Economy.
2. Laying down a mechanism for regional co-operation in the sector of renewable and/or alternative energy.
3. Catalyzing technology transfer within the region to ensure proper transfer and indigenization along with capacity building and training.
4. Encouraging investment in scientific research through the provision of incentives to companies (within the region and with developed countries), ensuring the participation of different segments of the society, supporting scientists and funding researchers in the region.

5. Adopting high quality control/quality performance standards in managing the process of transition to Green Economy and beyond.
6. Integrating sustainable development concepts in the educational and training curricula at different levels.
7. Empowering civil society organizations and promoting their participation along with governments and private sectors in sustainably managing the various natural resources in the different stages of planning, execution, monitoring and evaluation.
8. Making use of and direct the resources available in Waqf funds among other resources, including Zakat, etc. (in accordance with Shari'a guidelines) as well as some Arab development funds (sovereign funds) to implement sustainable development programs that serve in minimizing disparities and eliminating poverty.
9. Reviewing, updating and enforcing environmental legislations at the national and regional levels.
10. Integrating the environmental dimension into national policies, strategies and programs to realize the objectives of sustainable development.

Based on the above, we emphasized that Green Economy should spring from a vision that takes into consideration the specificities of local communities (particularly developing nations) through defining their economic and social development priorities and implementation means. The latter shall be based on enhancing productive sectors in the framework of Green Economy in a way that would meet local needs; create new green job opportunities, realize effective social participation in development and ensure just distribution of development outcomes, reduce poverty and marginalization and increase social welfare.

In this respect and within the strategies of transition towards Green Economy, we highlighted the need for adopting the following priorities:

1. Production and consumption trends: to urge nations to change their consumption and production patterns and behaviors to be more sustainable, in line with Agenda 21, by facilitating and promoting initiatives that adopt environment-friendly production trends and conscious consumption practices.
1. Renewable energy: to urge states and empowering them technologically to use different types of renewable energy, such as solar energy, wind, waves among other forms of alternative clean energy resources available in the region.
2. Green building: to urge states and promote the application of the green building policies and tools in the private and public sectors through developing and adopting environmental specifications and standards (such as the use of environment-friendly materials as well as energy and water efficient techniques).
3. Clean means of transport: to urge states to provide reliable public transport infrastructure and operations and promote the use of environment-friendly means through extending incentives.
4. Water management: to urge governments to develop integrated water resource management strategies, and specifically improving the efficient utilization of both conventional non-conventional water resources to the largest extent possible through recycling and reusing of treated effluent of all degrees, as per appropriate specifications, in different sectors such as agriculture and industry.
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6. Sustainable natural resource management: to urge governments to employ and use integrated regional planning basics for use of land and conserving biodiversity habitats, establishing genetic banks, promoting organic agriculture, reducing the use of agricultural chemicals to safeguard human health and the quality of environment.

In light of the above, and recognizing Principle 10 of Agenda 21, we stressed the need to mobilize the efforts of governments, major groups, civil society and the concerned UN organizations, including UNEP to:

1. Enhance the role of civil society organizations and stakeholders in influencing environmental related policies nationally, regionally and internationally.
2. Develop consultation and follow up mechanisms with civil society organizations and major groups in West Asia (ROWA), build their capacities and develop a centralized information network to exchange expertise and best practices among them.
3. Develop mechanisms to present, raise and discuss the output of the regional consultation meetings (statements) in global arenas, particularly at the Governing Council/ Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GMEF).
4. Enhance the role and representation of the Regions in the Major Groups and Stakeholders' MGS Facilitating committee similar to the MGS representation with regard to status (full rather than an observer status) and membership terms.

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## Donor Committee on Enterprise Development's (DCED) Green Growth Working Group

The Rio+20 summit in June 2012 will further substantiate the concept of sustainable development by discussing the idea of a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

The complex double challenge of reducing poverty as well as mitigating environmental degradation and the impact of climate change requires economic growth while shifting economic development to greener paths. Such strategies have been termed green growth strategies. They promote growth and income opportunities with a minimal negative environmental impact.

Under the overall umbrella of the Green Economy, there are several strategies, promoted by international organizations at micro and macro level, which are reinforcing each other in their aim to stimulate sustainable consumption and production, private sector development and social welfare while minimizing the impact on the environment.

The private sector is the key driver for green growth, as its investing and innovating capacities are crucial for the transition to a resource- and energy efficient low carbon economy. The vast majority of the necessary funding will have to be borne by businesses, ranging from multinationals to domestic micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. So far, however, contributions by the private sector to green growth have not been adequately considered to realise a green economy.

In addressing the role of the private sector in green growth, the Donor Committee for Enterprise Development (DCED) has gathered valuable experience. The DCED is a forum that unites 21 donors and UN agencies to promote sustainable poverty alleviation through the development of a dynamic private sector. The DCED, particularly its Green Growth Working Group, intends to create initiatives enabling the private sector to generate environmentally sound and climate friendly growth in line with overall development goals such as job creation. Its members assist developing countries in taking appropriate policy responses to tap the private sector's potential for green growth.

## Recommendation 1:

Private sector development must be considered a pre-requisite to reduce poverty while countering climate change and environmental degradation at their root: the patterns of production and consumption.

## Tapping New Opportunities for Private Sector Development

The private sector's investing and innovation capacities are decisive for the transition towards a resource- and energy-efficient low carbon economy. Green growth in the private sector counters climate change and environmental degradation at their root: The patterns of production and consumption.

Especially in developing countries, green growth is rather an opportunity than an obstacle to private sector development. Greening the economy can be recognized as a chance for decent job creation and as an engine for economic growth. Thereby, increasing offer and demand for green products and services can be met while alleviating poverty.

As green growth demands skilled professionals, there are new opportunities for decent and gainful employment and for the reduction of poverty. To meet the growing demand for skilled labor and to ensure a sustainable poverty reduction, a smooth reallocation of workers and key labor markets and training policies are needed.

Increasing resource and energy efficiency of the private sector is not only important for an environmental friendly development, but also significantly determines the competitiveness of private companies. Therefore, green growth should be promoted as a competitive advantage. Decoupling economic growth from impact on the environment can be achieved via greening existing industries and creating new green industries providing environmental products and services such as material recovery, recycling companies, waste management, wastewater treatment, air pollution control, renewable energy equipment, energy conservation, chemical leasing, etc.

Adaptation to impacts of climate change can also be a competitive advantage, as it offers opportunities to develop markets and to expand market shares. Extreme weather events and changing resource availability create the need for a diversified, resilient, and innovative private sector that provides products, services, and technologies to adapt to climate change. While the private sector needs to adapt to a changing environment, it has yet been reluctant to invest in possible solutions. This lack of investments can partially be explained by the absence of financial incentives and inadequate framework conditions that need to be addressed by policy makers.

## Recommendation 2:

Especially in a development context, „Greening“ the economy has to be recognised as an opportunity for decent job creation and as an engine for growth.

## Green Finance and Investment

Green investments can increase costs of production in the short run. Hence, incentives for green investments are needed. A regulatory environment conducive for strengthening the capacity of the financial sector for providing green loans, grants, seed funds etc. can encourage investments in low carbon, resource-efficient production technologies and climate adaptation.

Moreover, insurance services can reduce the risk of extreme weather events and help enterprises to cope with effects of climate change.

Furthermore, financial institutions can use sustainable indices to promote green investments. Foreign direct investment in green sectors can also be essential in funding investments in green sectors. That can be achieved through supporting the creation of emission trading platforms and markets for green equity investments.

## Recommendation 3:

Attracting foreign direct investment, particularly in green sectors, is crucial to accelerate green growth.

## Policies for a business enabling environment

A conducive policy framework is needed to activate the private sector's potential for green growth. A smart mix of market-based instruments, regulatory measures and public investments including demand policies (e.g. public procurement) is needed to design appropriate enabling conditions. Environmental aspects must be integrated into development strategies and private sector development programs to foster a structural change.

Such policies should create appropriate incentives to stimulate the business case for investment in greener production and service facilities. However, the price for pollutants, energy and resource-inefficient goods and services is often lower than the cost to society and the environment, creating market failures. Different policy options, including market-based instruments, can provide necessary incentives for green investments and less use of environmentally harmful substances.

Green growth depends on institutional settings, available resources and local environmental issues. Additionally, emerging and developing countries face different challenges and opportunities. As the design of green growth strategies very much depends on the specific local context, there is no blueprint for a green private sector development. Therefore, programs need to be aligned in accordance to the specific conditions.

## Recommendation 4:

There is no blueprint for “greening” private sector development. The specific design of Green Growth strategies very much depends on the local context. Private sector development needs to be aligned with the respective structure of the economy; policy instruments need to be well-adapted.

## Innovation and technology

Innovation can help to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation and will lead to new ideas and new business models, thus contributing to green growth. For example, energy efficient technologies can reduce energy demand and have proven to be less expensive than traditional technologies for poor consumers.

The private sector drives innovation. However, a suitable environment is needed for green innovation. Support should be provided for national learning and innovation hubs that bring together business sector, academia and knowledge sector, and government. Many policy instruments used in private sector development can have significant effect on the use and adaptation of green technologies. Among other things, green innovation requires transparent and stable market signals such as environmental taxation. Such signals stimulate the creative potential of the private sector and enhance the innovation and diffusion of new environment friendly technologies.

## Risks and trade-offs

Green PSD strategies must consider trade-offs between economic and environmental or social goals. Increased costs or reduced privileges and subsidies create relative ‘winners’ as well as ‘losers’. It is necessary to identify vulnerable groups and potential resistance and provide alternative solutions to increase stakeholder commitment and political feasibility.

Jobs in energy- and emission-intensive industries are likely to suffer from a transition to a green economy. Green growth strategies need to consider a smooth transition of workers from the emission-intensive sectors, often concentrated in certain regions, to green industries.

Risk and trade-offs of green growth policies need to be well analyzed, in order to assess the dynamic effects and the political economy of reforms. As with the phasing out of subsidies for fossil fuels, such assessments often point to strategies that are socially acceptable and economically attractive.

#### Recommendation 5:

The inclusion of private sector stakeholders in developing countries is essential to ensure the coherence of Green Growth policies with development objectives.

#### Potential contributions of Development Cooperation

To raise awareness, development agencies can encourage firms to establish profitable environmental management system or provide sector specific information about expected climate impacts and adaptation requirements.

Development agencies can build capacities and support partners to design and implement effective policy measures, for example to establish green financial products, to facilitate environmental fiscal reforms, or to develop markets for goods and services reducing climate induced risks while harnessing opportunities for businesses.

In order to provide incentives to produce green products, donors and development agencies can facilitate technology transfers from industrialized to low-income countries. Especially small and medium-sized enterprises should profit from business development services and know-how along the entire value chain. Furthermore, development cooperation should contribute to providing enterprises with access to attractive funding options.

In addition, development agencies can assist businesses in low-income countries to gain additional income from carbon markets through e.g. CDM or other financing instruments such as public private partnerships and microfinance.

#### Recommendation 6:

Structural changes in emerging economies must be supported by integrating environmental aspects into development strategies and private sector development programmes. Thereby, increasing demand for green products can be met while alleviating poverty.

#### Concluding Remarks

Significant contributions by a strong and competitive private sector are necessary to successfully address the double challenge of reducing poverty as well as mitigation environmental degradation and the impact of climate change. For a successful transformation to a green economy, the private sector must develop green products, services and technologies which reduce the risks of climate change and environmental degradation while intensifying efforts for adaptation to climate change. At the same time, it must increase income opportunities for the poor.

Decision-makers in Rio 2012 should adequately consider the role of the private sector for green growth. It is private sector development today that will tip the scales for a green economy tomorrow!

In order to ensure coherence of green growth policies, the consultation of representatives from the private sector in developing countries remains essential. Likewise, development agencies can provide proof of how green growth can be an opportunity also for developing countries. For Rio 2012 and the implementation of decisions taken, the DCED will be happy to contribute its experience gained worldwide in many good practice examples.

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## Earth Charter International

### Earth Charter International Recommendations for the Zero Draft of the UNCSD (Rio+20) Outcome Document

#### Summary of Recommendations

1. Express responsibility to future generations by implementing the precautionary principle and establishing Ombudspersons for Future Generations at global, national and local levels.

2. Create a green economy based on strong sustainability and adopt alternative economic indicators to GDP that include social well-being and ecological integrity.

3. Acknowledge the fundamental importance of shared ethical and spiritual values in making the transition to a sustainable way of life.

4. Adopt a sustainable development goal focused on sustainable production and consumption.

5. Ensure that proposals for a new institutional framework for sustainable development, and related global governance reforms, include a mandate of trusteeship for global common goods on behalf all peoples, the greater community of life, and future generations.

6. Ensure that all have access to quality education for sustainable ways of living.

7. Make Climate Justice a guiding principle in efforts to address global climate change, ensuring that the benefits and burdens associated with climate change are distributed equitably, with special concern for the rights of the poor, indigenous peoples, and other vulnerable peoples.

8. Provide supportive mechanisms for a Just Transition – ensuring the right to sustainable development. Introduction

Recalling the recommendation by the 1987 report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (the Brundtland Commission report) for creation of a “Universal Declaration on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development” in the form of a “new charter” with principles to guide nations in the transition to sustainable development, and the promotion of values that encourage consumption standards to which all can aspire within Earth’s carrying capacity.

Recognizing that the adoption of such an ethical Charter was a goal of the preparatory process for the 1992 Rio Earth Summit and that, since then, too little progress has been made in implementing governments’ commitments to sustainable development.

Realizing that the need for a stronger global ethical framework to guide sustainable development has only increased. Mindful that the Earth Charter was drafted and launched by a global civil society initiative under the leadership of the Earth Charter Commission, and that the Earth Charter has been endorsed and recognized by thousands of



organizations including UNESCO and the IUCN.

Recognizing that the September 7 Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference in Bonn articulates a broadly supported civil society agenda for the Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Recalling, as stated in this Bonn Declaration, 'that the Earth Charter, together with the Culture of Peace, can play a vital role in helping to inspire renewed political commitment expected for Rio + 20 and to guide the transition to a sustainable, just and peaceful society with respect and care for the entire community of life.'

Affirming the recommendation by the European Economic and Social Committee that 'the Summit [Rio+20] should recognize and support the Earth Charter as a means of inspiring commitment and action by individuals and organizations around the world.'

Affirming that the Outcome Document from Rio+20 should acknowledge the importance of a comprehensive ethical framework - as exemplified by the Earth Charter - as a guide for sustainable development and ensure that governments make good on past commitments to Agenda 21, the Millennium Development Goals, and other intergovernmental agreements.

We, on behalf of Earth Charter International and its network of supporting organizations and individuals, submit the following recommendations for inclusion in the Zero Draft Document:

**Recommendation 1 - Express responsibility to future generations by implementing the precautionary principle and establishing Ombudspersons for Future Generations at global, national and local levels** As defined by the Brundtland Commission report, sustainable development requires we meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, within the limits imposed by the capacity of the biosphere to absorb the effects of human activities. This universal responsibility for intergenerational equity is expressed in Earth Charter Principle 4 which calls us to Secure Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations.

The Bonn Declaration calls for the establishment of Ombudspersons for Future Generations at global, national and local levels, who will advocate for sustainable development as envisaged and defined by the Brundtland Commission ('... to enhance the well-being and prospects of present and future generations to meet their needs, and to serve as an auditor at the heart of governments and deal with citizen's complaints'). As a comprehensive ethical framework, The Earth Charter provides shared values and principles that can help guide their work.

In taking responsibility for future generations, we must recognize the threat they face if too little is done to protect our environmental security. Reduced access to water, rising sea levels, management over degrading pastoral lands and the ever-increasing gap between rich and poor fanned by unsustainable development increase the risk that communities across the planet will be caught in the middle of conflicts associated with control of our dwindling natural resources. Implicit in the call for Ombudspersons for Future Generations is a deep commitment to implementing the precautionary principle as adopted in the Rio Declaration and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, amongst other international agreements. The Earth Charter's formulation of the precautionary principle is pro-active and progressive:

6. Prevent harm as the best method of environmental protection and, when knowledge is limited, apply a precautionary approach.

- a. Take action to avoid the possibility of serious or irreversible environmental harm even when scientific knowledge is incomplete or inconclusive.
- b. Place the burden of proof on those who argue that a proposed activity will not cause significant harm, and make the responsible parties liable for environmental harm.
- c. Ensure that decision making addresses the cumulative, long-term, indirect, long distance, and global consequences of human activities.

**Recommendation 2 - Create a green economy based on strong sustainability and adopt alternative economic indicators to GDP that include social well-being and ecological integrity**

The Earth Charter provides a strong definition of sustainable development, recognizing the three standard pillars [social, environmental and economic] but organizing them in a particular way. "Environment" is not merely the resource base for human consumption, not just one of the three factors to be considered. Rather, it incorporates the greater community of life including human beings and the life-support systems on which we all depend. This shift to a broader life-centered perspective marks one key difference between "weak" and "strong" sustainability. Furthermore, the social dimension (articulated in the Earth Charter in terms of principles for economic and social justice, democracy, non-violence and peace) represents a set of pre-requisites and goals for sustainable development rather than negotiable or merely optional considerations (Bosselman and Engel, 2010).

There are obvious classes of goods which are privately owned, traded on markets, and for which there is a real market price. Undoubtedly, for these goods, fixing market failures is a pre-requisite to advancing sustainable development (Bosselmann et al., 2011). Earth Charter principle 7d addresses one critical market failure, viz. Internalize the full environmental and social costs of goods and services into the selling price, and enable consumers to identify products that meet the highest social and environmental standards. However, such pricing, and attempts to fix other market failures, must not disadvantage or bring harm to developing countries. Therefore, coupled to any market based mechanism introduced as part of green economic reform must be a commitment to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and capabilities; as articulated in the Rio Declaration and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, among other international agreements. For example, approaches to pricing greenhouse gas emissions must follow the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (see Recommendations 7 and 8).

The Bonn Declaration recognizes that market and institutional failures take the form of prices that do not reflect their true environmental and social costs, underinvestment in natural, human, built and social capital, harmful and perverse subsidies, restricted access to information about production technologies and their impacts, lack of democratic economic governance, increasing unemployment and inadequate indicators of progress. We support the Declaration's call for replacement of the current inefficient, unsustainable and inequitable economic, monetary, financial and commercial models with policies that advance rather than detract from sustainable development goals and that build rather than deplete the stocks of natural and social capital on which human well-being ultimately depends. As noted by the Declaration (see also Bosselmann et al. 2011), where the current economy aids inequity, destruction and greed, it should be replaced by an economy that cares for and enables a flourishing Earth community inclusive of all people, the greater community of life, and future generations.

The Bonn Declaration calls for the establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee to create a framework convention on corporate environmental and social responsibility (CSR) for the accountability of corporate investments for all companies listed on stock exchanges worldwide (287-290).

We support this call and, informed by our partnership with the Global Reporting Initiative, recommend that the following Green Economy Coalition recommendations be adopted in this framework convention:

- Commit to develop a global policy framework that requires all listed and large private companies to consider sustainability issues and to integrate material sustainability information within their reporting cycle and in their Annual Report and Accounts or explain why if they do not;
- Recognize the need for a process that builds on data available through sustainability reporting, leading to the development and adoption of macro-level, multi-disciplinary metrics such as the Sustainable Development Indicators that, beyond GDP, would allow a more comprehensive measurement of wellbeing, environmental health and the progress made towards a green economy; and

- Commit to develop and implement new ways of measuring national <sup>16</sup>wealth<sup>16</sup> beyond money, specifically with new indicators on societal wellbeing and environmental health. GDP itself must subtract externalities and report net incomes per capita. UNCSD should reach agreement on a deadline to endorse common methods and practices, with a view to producing global standards, so that nationally defined indicators can be comparable at the international level and with appropriate tools for monitoring and assessment.

#### Recommendation 3 - Acknowledge the fundamental importance of shared ethical and spiritual values in making the transition to a sustainable way of life

There is wide international agreement that sustainable development requires economic development, social transformations, and environmental restoration and protection. In addition to these three pillars of sustainable development, there is a fourth pillar: a shared vision of ethical and spiritual values that inspires and guides cooperative action for change. Shared values awaken a sense of common purpose and build community spirit. In an increasingly interdependent world, achieving the environmental, economic, and social goals associated with sustainability requires worldwide collaboration, and cooperation is not possible without shared values and a sense of common purpose. The vision of a sustainable future as an inclusive social and ecological ideal that is good, right and just is what is needed to inspire strong commitment and drive change.

The emergence throughout the world of a new ethical and spiritual consciousness that supports the transition to a just, sustainable and peaceful world is one of the most promising developments of the last sixty years. The ethical and spiritual values associated with this new consciousness have been given expression in many intergovernmental and civil society declarations such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the World Charter for Nature, the Rio Declaration, and the Earth Charter. The Earth Charter identifies the basic spiritual challenge that the world community must address if it is to make the transition to strong sustainability when it states:

We must realize that when basic needs have been met, human development is primarily about being more, not having more. This guideline is, of course, entirely consistent with the teachings of all the world's great wisdom traditions.

The values associated with human rights, cultural diversity, social and economic justice, a culture of peace, intergenerational responsibility, and respect and care for the greater community of life, are all part of what <sup>16</sup>being more<sup>16</sup> means in the 21st century. In addition, the Earth Charter recognizes the importance of reverence for the mystery of being, compassion, love, hope, and the joyful celebration of life. Being more in the spirit of these values and ideals is the only sure path to a sustainable world.

We might represent the four pillars of sustainable development as People, Planet, Profit and Pnuma (i.e. spirit) with the latter representing our possibility of awakening to a sense of wonder and interconnectedness with all life and of establishing, as the last Earth Charter principle (16f) states, & right relationships with oneself, other persons, other cultures, other life, Earth, and the larger whole of which all are a part.

#### Recommendation 4 - Adopt sustainable development goals focused on sustainable production and consumption

Earth Charter Principle 7 urges us to Adopt patterns of production, consumption, and reproduction that safeguard Earth's regenerative capacities, human rights, and community well-being. Sustainable development must provide all with access to the resources necessary for a fulfilling life. The following recommendations from the Bonn Declaration spell out key targets for realizing the recommendations of Principle 7, including 7f which encourages us to Adopt lifestyles that emphasize the quality of life and material sufficiency in a finite world:

- By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, the human ecological footprint is reduced so that it remains within the Earth's biological carrying capacity. In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, we call on nations and populations engaged in wasteful overconsumption to reduce their impacts and help increase the consumption of vital goods and services for impoverished nations and peoples, so they also can enjoy reasonably high standards of living that provide equitable access to health care, decent work opportunities and education;

- By 2020, governments should promote production processes that reflect the best available technologies for eco-efficiency, recycling, remanufacturing, reuse of waste materials, product durability and longevity. Wasteful practices such as planned obsolescence are identified and eliminated. Public procurement standards and incentives reward leading corporations that share and disseminate best green practices worldwide. By 2020, the majority of the world's goods and services are procured by governments from sources certified by objective third parties as sustainably produced; - Further, establish a set of Millennium Consumption Goals for the period 2012-2020 towards creating an intergenerational and internationally shared right to equitable consumption opportunities and ensuring quality of life and wellbeing of all people by 2020, while eradicating all kinds and levels of poverty, respecting animal welfare and embedding sufficiency based sustainable economies. (442-463)

#### Recommendation 5 - Ensure that proposals for a new institutional framework for sustainable development, and related global governance reforms, include a mandate of trusteeship for global common goods on behalf all peoples, the greater community of life, and future generations

Various options have been proposed for institutional reform in support of sustainable development including a consortium for environmental sustainability that strengthen UN CSD, creation of a new, specialized normative and operational agency, and creation of a new umbrella organisation for sustainable development with universal membership. All are legitimate options with advantages and potential for positive outcomes. Whatever proposal for institutional reform the world's nations agree to at Rio+20, a critical question is the mandate under which it is established. We recommend that a core component of the mandate should be a trusteeship function over global public goals and common goods on behalf of all peoples, the greater community of life, and future generations.

The first four principles of the Earth Charter provide one articulation of the necessary goals:

1. Respect Earth and life in all its diversity;
2. Care for the community of life with understanding, compassion, and love;
3. Build democratic societies that are just, participatory, sustainable, and peaceful; and
4. Secure Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations.

Global common goods include obligations for maintaining the integrity of planetary boundaries and the ecological wellbeing of all, overseeing markets to ensure that they are protective of non- market common goods, and ensuring impartiality between all interests individual, civil society, corporate, and national.

The basis for these duties is well articulated in the Preamble of the Earth Charter: Earth, our home, is alive with a unique community of life. The forces of nature make existence a demanding and uncertain adventure, but Earth has provided the conditions essential to life's evolution. The resilience of the community of life and the well-being of humanity depend upon preserving a healthy biosphere with all its ecological systems, a rich variety of plants and animals, fertile soils, pure waters, and clean air. The global environment with its finite resources is a common concern of all peoples. The protection of Earth's vitality, diversity, and beauty is a sacred trust.

The notion of an international institution exercising a trusteeship function is not new. Indeed, under the auspices of the UN, a Trusteeship Council was enacted to act on behalf of states transitioning from colonisation to independence. This Trusteeship Council was mandated to speak for the yet-to-be state entities which had no legal standing or representation. The Trusteeship Council acted on behalf of entities that were not legally recognized. An obvious parallel can be drawn between the functioning of this

Council and a global trusteeship function as part of a new or revised institutional framework for sustainable development.

Recommendation 6 - Ensure that all have access to quality education for sustainable ways of living

Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) was a major, and neglected, priority of Agenda 21. Tasked with coordinating the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, UNESCO's effort to promote ESD through formal educational institutions, as well as many non-formal and media based educational/advertising enterprises, is making an important contribution. However, universal access to quality education (let alone ESD) for both boys and girls, even at the primary level, is an elusive goal.

The Bonn Declaration noted that the shift to a sustainable society is deeply dependent on the educational system, and affirmed that education should address the material, social and spiritual dimensions of human development, and in its fullest sense, education must provide the space for value-based sustainable learning. There is an overwhelming need for the world community to reaffirm the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development as proposed in Bonn Declaration, 416-418.

The importance of access for all to quality education for sustainable development is articulated in Earth Charter principle 14:

Integrate into formal education and life-long learning the knowledge, values, and skills needed for a sustainable way of life.

- a. Provide all, especially children and youth, with educational opportunities that empower them to contribute actively to sustainable development.
- b. Promote the contribution of the arts and humanities as well as the sciences in sustainability education.
- c. Enhance the role of the mass media in raising awareness of ecological and social challenges.
- d. Recognize the importance of moral and spiritual education for sustainable living.

Recommendation 7 - Make Climate Justice a guiding principle in efforts to address global climate change, ensuring that the benefits and burdens associated with climate change are distributed equitably, with special concern for the rights of the poor, indigenous peoples, and other vulnerable peoples

There is wide agreement in the international scientific community that anthropogenic (human caused) climate change is occurring as a direct consequence of the burning of fossil fuels, the destruction of forests, and additional activities that increase the concentration of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. There is also compelling evidence that climate change is already having a damaging impact in some regions and that it will cause great harm to people and to Earth's ecosystems and biodiversity. It presents a grave threat to present and future generations. The people who will suffer most are those who have done the least to bring global climate change about. They are the poor and to a large extent populations in the low-income nations in the global South, especially future generations in these countries.

In fulfilling its common but differentiated responsibilities with regard to global climate change, the international community has the moral responsibility to protect human rights and advance justice. Climate Justice employs a rights-based framework to focus attention on and address issues of social and economic justice created by the harmful impacts of climate change on the environment and human development. Fundamental to Climate Justice are effective initiatives to curb global warming by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and lowering atmospheric concentrations to safe levels. Climate Justice requires an equitable distribution of the benefits and burdens associated with global climate change, with special concern for the rights and sustainable development of the poor and all other vulnerable peoples, including indigenous peoples. Climate Justice also gives special attention to gender equality.

Recommendation 8 - Provide supportive mechanisms for a Just Transition ensuring the right to sustainable development

There will be costs in making the transition to a low carbon, green economy in the pursuit of sustainable development. Some States and actors are better able to bear those costs than others and are more resilient to transitional changes. In the process of change, the most vulnerable must be supported and protected. Developing countries must have access to appropriate financial and technical assistance, citizens and communities must also have access to education and training for sustainable ways of living. Institutions at all levels (national and international) must be democratic and accountable. As much as possible, decisions should be made by those most affected by them. Institutions must be transparent and participatory, enabling civil society to hold them accountable, with (as noted by Earth Charter Principle 13d) effective and efficient access to administrative and independent judicial procedures, including remedies and redress for environmental harm and the threat of such harm.

Concluding comments

The Rio+20 conference provides an important opportunity for the world community to recommit to the values and principles of sustainability and forge new sustainable development initiatives. International cooperation between all sectors is critical if progress is to be realized. As noted in the concluding section of the Earth Charter & Every individual, family, organization, and community has a vital role to play. The arts, sciences, religions, educational institutions, media, businesses, nongovernmental organizations, and governments are all called to offer creative leadership. The partnership of government, civil society, and business is essential for effective governance.

The Earth Charter serves as a road map to achieving a just, sustainable and peaceful future for all people and future generations. It addresses the strong relationships that exist between human health and wellbeing and the environmental challenges we face including climate change, a lack of water and food, the loss of biodiversity, and forced migration. The protection of Earth's environment is a foundation of humanity's survival.

Rio+20 must be seen as not a one-off event but the beginning of a new phase in our collective efforts to advance strong sustainability. To quote the concluding words of the Earth Charter: Let ours be a time remembered for the awakening of a new reverence for life, the firm resolve to achieve sustainability, the quickening of the struggle for justice and peace, and the joyful celebration of life.

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## Earth Child Institute Nepal

I am writing from Nepal in support of three billion young people who are worried about their -- and their planet's -- future. The current degradation and exploitation of our Earth's resources is simply unsustainable, and world leaders must respond in full measure when they meet next June in Rio de Janeiro.

First, we need all world leaders to recognize the urgency of the current situation. They need to understand and inform their own people about the dangers of not acting to move us toward a green economy and a more sustainable future. Youth are worried about the inequity and corruption that contribute to the overtaxing and mismanagement of critical natural resources and ecosystems and undermine the basis for ensuring decent livelihoods for the next generation. The United Nations should urge presidents and prime ministers from every nation to commit as early as possible to come to Rio and to initiate their preparations for the Earth Summit.

Second, world leaders must deliver more in Rio than another agenda with lofty goals for a distant future. Over the last half-year, young people meeting around the world have called out the weak implementation of scores of existing treaties and action plans adopted at previous summits. These young people are demanding that the next Earth Summit instead generate specific commitments to real actions from governments at all levels, corporations, communities and civil society groups. I agree, and the United

Nations should ensure that we are holding everyone accountable for their promises.

Third, governments and corporations need to commit to major new investments in education, employment and empowerment of young people in the transition to a green economy.

We cannot wait another generation for sustainability; the world's young people need their leaders to act now.

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## Earth Institute, Columbia University

Compilation Document Input from The Earth Institute, Columbia University Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development November 1, 2011

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### INTRODUCTION

The Earth Institute, Columbia University welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the compilation document being prepared in advance of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

We are now a crowded, interconnected, global society, with seven billion people struggling to find a foothold on a highly vulnerable planet. The challenges of feeding the world, keeping it safe from persistent epidemic diseases such as malaria and AIDS and new and emerging diseases such as Swine Flu and SARS, conserving biodiversity, mitigating and adapting to climate change, water and food scarcity, and combining economic progress with local and global environmental safety are the defining challenges of our time. Hunger, poverty, and environmental degradation often are underlying causes of conflict and violence.

We are in a new global era, termed the Anthropocene, and one that will come to be known as the Age of Sustainable Development. Our security, even our survival, will depend on the world forging a triple commitment: to protect the environment, to end extreme poverty; to ensure human rights for all.

In 2012, world governments will reunite in Rio de Janeiro, 20 years after the historic conference at which they signed the first comprehensive treaties to fight human-induced climate change and to stop the loss of biodiversity. There have been modest achievements, especially in developing the basis for these challenges, but far too little has been accomplished.

The programs of the Earth Institute are underpinned and guided by the premise: the world has the scientific and technological know-how and resources to raise living standards in a sustainable manner and solve humanity's most urgent problems, ranging from ending extreme poverty to mitigating and adapting to climate change, to managing freshwater scarcity and reversing biodiversity loss and environmental degradation. The Earth Institute's complex transdisciplinary work, which is grounded in hundreds of research projects carried out and implemented in locations worldwide, validates this perspective and highlights the pressing sectoral priorities and exciting and innovative initiatives that are described in this document.

The Earth Institute believes that the priorities of the Rio +20 Earth Summit ought to be the following:

1. Re-double efforts to stabilize the human population by encouraging countries to take responsibility for rapidly growing populations. Human population can be stabilized by decreasing child mortality rates; providing free or affordable contraception; empowering women to make their own choices, and promoting well-being through education and jobs.
2. Set an international policy goal to create new, better technologies with the capacity for global sustainability. Six priority sectors requiring new technologies in order to begin to act sustainably are (1) power, (2) transport, (3) agriculture, (4) natural resource management (e.g., water, fisheries, biodiversity), (5) infrastructure and development, and (6) industry. This technological overhaul requires new public-private partnerships and governmental commitments to generate and allocate resources sufficient to achieve the necessary scale of technological and behavioral change.
3. Develop a global framework that supports existing and future technological development. Market forces alone are not strong enough to support widespread change.
4. Achieve economic growth at a lower impact on the planet by targeting public-private partnerships to achieve shared global goals.
5. Approach global environmental challenges, such as climate change, water depletion, emerging disease, and biodiversity loss, by engaging in joint problem solving and brainstorming with countries instead of pursuing negotiations.
6. Create an indicative, but not rigid or central, plan of action for dealing with the global sustainability crisis.

### A. SECTORAL PRIORITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#### 1. Biodiversity

Proliferate increased understanding of the role of ecology in long-term sustainability in order to inform political, social and economic decision making. The Earth Institute is particularly concerned with the effect of climate change on biodiversity loss; mass extinction; emerging diseases such as West Nile Virus, Hanta Virus, Swine flu and Avian flu; habitat loss due to conversion, fragmentation, and degradation; and the unsustainable use of ecosystem services.

#### 2. Climate Change

- a) Delineate options for mitigation and adaptation so societies can respond proactively to anticipated impacts of climate change and variability;
- b) Develop a framework to provide policy analysis and advice to stakeholders and policymakers;
- c) Optimize climate and energy policies by studying and comparing real or modeled results of different international policies;
- d) Delineate and share mitigation opportunities for high-emitting industries, such as aluminum, iron and steel, cement, and natural gas and oil systems;
- e) Develop and implement proactive strategies for near term climate prediction and risk mitigation, as a central path for adaptation;
- f) Develop the next generation of carbon capture and storage technologies; and

g) Develop country-specific methodologies for systematic assessment and comparison of the costs and benefits of adaptation options across diverse regions and sectors.

### 3. Energy

Focus on technologies that will improve energy efficiency and thus reduce carbon emissions. The abundance of fossil fuels that are low in cost, but high in carbon emissions, provides a strong incentive to explore opportunities for capturing the carbon dioxide that is produced in the combustion of fossil fuels and keeping it out of the atmosphere.

### 4. Natural Hazard Risk Reduction

Given the increasing frequency of occurrence of natural hazards and disasters, the Earth Institute's priorities for understanding and mitigating the risks caused by natural disasters are as follows:

- a) Advance predictive and forecasting capability for hazard and risk;
- b) Build sustainable hazards monitoring networks;
- c) Build local research and applications capacity for natural hazards risk reduction;
- d) Provide worldwide access to information about human and environmental systems in order to predict, prevent, and respond to environmental risks;
- e) Assist in establishing well-designed mechanisms, which are built into sustainable development strategies, in order to transfer dynamic and evolving scientific knowledge to policy discussions;
- f) Enable governments and humanitarian organizations to better locate need and allocate resources in the aftermath of disasters;
- g) Assist the international community in shifting from a culture of response to preparedness by outlining key measures of preparedness, response, recovery, and rebuilding incentives that can help mitigate risk and exposure, and impacts on a nation's GDP.

### 5. Sustainable Agriculture Priorities

- a) Help scale up the African Green Revolution to reach one-quarter of smallholder farmers in Africa producer of smallholder farmers in Africa
- b) Ensure long-term food security and poverty reduction through diversified and value-added agriculture;
- c) Improve nutritional security, diet diversity and food safety in rural communities by developing food- based solutions that are embedded within a wider food systems framework and respect cultural preferences;
- d) Communicate evidence-based science on agriculture, the environment, and human nutrition to the general public;
- e) Provide education, capacity strengthening, and professional development for students, faculty, scientists, and practitioners engaged in issues around agriculture and food systems;
- f) Accelerate the adoption of effective and appropriate sustainable agriculture initiatives by providing funds for smallholder farmers, especially those in developing countries. Minimize negative impacts of the global food system on the environment while increasing positive impacts, without compromising food security; and
- g) Accelerate the adoption of effective and appropriate sustainable agriculture, environmental, and nutrition policies - and necessary financing - by international organizations, national governments, and aid agencies through high-level advocacy;
- h) Develop data driven models to assess and manage the food system at multiple scales;
- i) Ensure long-term food sovereignty through enhancements of local- and regional-scale food system infrastructure initiatives.

### 6. Sustainable Water Priorities

As worldwide populations grow and affluence increases, the demand for food and water is on the rise. At the same time, climate variability and change are making it difficult to provide water where and when it is needed. Floods destroy communities in one part of the world, while in another people trek miles every day just to get enough water to survive. The pervasiveness of water scarcity makes it one of the most difficult challenges we need to address in the 21st century. Principles of water allocation, planning, and governance need to be revised to promote efficient water use as part of a sustainable development strategy. The Earth Institute considers global water management priorities to be the following:

- a) Develop a predictive capability for water resource assessment on the local, regional and global levels that recognizes changing climate, demographics and water needs;
- b) Develop a capacity for the analysis of public and private investment in water resource development;
- c) Develop appropriate technologies for the storage, treatment and conveyance of water to improve reliable, cost-efficient access, as well as policy instruments that encourage efficient and equitable water use, and test them in real world settings to substantiate their applicability;
- d) Develop and disseminate the results of research on water use, in order to support global water resource development and decision-making, through direct engagement with decision makers and through media that influence the behavior of farmers and others who ultimately determine water use and pollution; and
- e) Address sustainable water challenges in key hot spots. The Earth Institute is currently focused on water challenges in the Indian subcontinent, Brazil, Africa, China, and the United States.

### 7. Education

Educate a new generation of students dedicated to the fundamental links among the natural sciences, technology and social practices, and the values and beliefs that influence decision-making in a world where economic development, globalization, and a fast-growing population has led to significant pressure on the environment.

## B. EARTH INSTITUTE SECTORAL INITIATIVES THAT CONTRIBUTE TO INTEGRATING THE THREE PILLARS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### 1. Food security

- a) The Agricultural MOdel Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP)

The Earth Institute's Center for Climate Systems Research and the NASA Goddard Institute for Space Studies are spearheading the Agricultural Model Intercomparison and Improvement Project (AgMIP), a major international effort to assess the state of global agricultural modeling and to understand climate impacts on the agricultural sector.

The goals of AgMIP are to improve substantially the characterization of risk of hunger and world food security due to climate variability and change, and to enhance adaptation capacity in developing and developed countries.

To achieve these goals, AgMIP is establishing a robust and rigorous research framework that connects climate, agriculture, economic, and information technology communities; this open framework encourages collaboration and provides a useful test bed to investigate climate products through the lens of agricultural impacts. AgMIP is also establishing significant research opportunities to engage interdisciplinary teams in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

The three-year project places regional changes in agricultural production in a global context that reflects new trading opportunities, imbalances, and shortages in world markets resulting from climate variability and change as well as other driving forces of the food system. It also builds capacity for continuing agricultural assessment and management in developing countries under variable and changing climate conditions. AgMIP is supported by the United Kingdom Department for International Development in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture.

## 2. Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)

When 189 world leaders met at the United Nations in September 2000, they were inspired to adopt the Millennium Declaration, which included bold targets in the fight against poverty, disease and hunger. In 2002, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan asked Jeffrey Sachs, Earth Institute director, to direct the UN Millennium Project and identify feasible approaches to achieving these ambitious goals. Since then, under his leadership and with the help of a global network of partners, the Earth Institute has achieved both in rural and urban areas of African countries by the universally endorsed target date of 2015.

By harnessing the efforts of over 700 scientists, researchers and staff and developing thirty cross-disciplinary centers, the Earth Institute has become the world's academic leader in developing innovative approaches to address complex problems with a special emphasis on the needs of the world's poorest citizens. Scientists at the Earth Institute have focused on basic human needs such as food security by introducing innovative technology, management and policy tools to improve environmental quality, nutrition and farmers' incomes through sustainable agricultural practices, examined water pollution and groundwater depletion and developed strategies to combat climate variability, nutrition and farmers' incomes through sustainable agricultural practices, science-based interventions and local ownership is an effective means for alleviating extreme poverty, regardless of agro-ecological or political conditions; (2) reaching the benchmarks proposed in the MDGs the-ground, concrete investments that enable communities to lift themselves out of extreme poverty; and 4) scientific evidence can and should be used to impact policies at the local, national, and international levels.

This emphasis is evident in the results of the Earth Institute's demonstration projects: physicians and epidemiologists from the health team working in close collaboration with engineers on information technology designed to provide real time data management and monitoring that will improve information systems; agronomists and nutritionists studying the linkages between health and nutrition to better improve both agricultural systems and health outcomes; and all of our teams developing ground-breaking systems and tools that are dramatically improving the quality of life in developing communities, and which will continued to be scaled up and made sustainable through joint advocacy and national policy efforts.

3. Natural Hazards Risk Reduction Basic research at the Earth Institute's Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory is focused on developing the forecasting and predictive skill for several hazardous phenomena, using observations from global, regional and local monitoring networks, computational modeling from first principles, and, in some cases, bench work in laboratories. Generally speaking, it is instructive to separate the discussion into impacts of life in developing and the expected events that follow well-understood probability distributions. The former can be understood with comprehensive scenario modeling, while the latter are nearly constant reminders of the need for effective preparedness.

a) Building Sustainable Hazards Monitoring Networks The Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory is part of an international effort to build sustainable earthquake monitoring networks, which combine national network operations with well-developed global technological infrastructure.

The past few decades have seen an explosion in global environmental monitoring, comprising both synoptic satellite observations, as well as in situ technologies deployed on land and in the oceans. National monitoring strategies play a critical role in global observations. In the best case, national monitoring capacity is part of the global federation of networks, which reduces the technical barriers to data sharing and international research and educational collaborations. National networks are frequently capitalized after a major disaster, when global financial assistance is readily available. Under such circumstances, little thought is given to the sustainability of these modern technologies given the inherent capacity of national institutions to run them. Thus it is important to develop the national education and training programs that in the long run are needed to maintain and utilize the critical information supplied by monitoring networks. It is axiomatic that international research and education collaborations, coupled to indigenously-developed, nation-specific scientific strategies, provide rationale and motivation to support the operations of national monitoring networks.

For example, in Bangladesh, Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory geophysicists have combined forces with faculty from the University of Dhaka and several government institutions to deploy modern seismological and geodetic instrumentation to support national earthquake hazard assessments. This activity is supported by the United States National Science Foundation and the United States Agency for uake hazard assessments. This research and international development assistance. The Earth Institute has initiated preliminary discussions about building sustainable earthquake monitoring networks with Latin American Countries, several south and East Asian countries, and African countries. Support is provided by the United States National Science Foundation, the US Geological Survey, US AID and other institutions.

b) Building local research and applications capacity for natural hazards risk reduction Research and education collaborations, including specialized training programs, promote a long-term, sustainable approach to building the local science and technology capacity required for national natural hazard risk reduction programs. Such programs are aided by developed-nation investments in international research. Lamont has participated in the NSF-USAID PIRE and PEER initiatives, as well as basic international collaborations. In particular, a team from Marine Geology and Geophysics led by Donna Shillington is working to develop an earthquake program in Malawi funded by the NSF Continental Dynamics Program; the Seismology and MG&G divisions, led by Michael Steckler, are working in Bangladesh with Continental Dynamics and USAID funding, to address the issues of earthquakes and sea level rise; and the Tree Ring Lab, led by Brendan Buckley and others, is working in uakes and sea level rise; and the on monsoons, extreme storm events, climate change.

c) Developing predictive and forecasting skill for natural hazards Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory scientists are conducting basic research across all potentially hazardous phenomena, namely: earthquakes, tsunami, volcanoes and landslides; tropical cyclones and severe storms; flooding; and drought. Under the rubric that the past is the key to the future, Lamont has built perhaps the world's best group in paleoclimate. In particular, there is research on developing chemical and biogeochemical proxies for past atmospheric temperature and chemistry, which are providing new understanding of climate over the past several million years, encompassing several cycles of glaciation and deglaciation. There is basic research on earthquake cycles, which may soon offer robust, decadal-scale forecasting skill. And, of course, there is considerable research on current day ocean and atmospheric interactions, directed toward an understanding of the physical and chemical parameters that control climate. There is no uniform approach to natural hazard predictability. Each potentially hazardous process comes with its own collection of observational and theoretical constraints. However, Lamont researchers are adept at rectifying probabilistic estimates of multi-hazard exposures so that a full-spectrum hazard assessment can be done at national levels.

## d) Knowledge transfer

Institutions such as the Lamont Doherty earth Observatory can act as honest brokers in establishing well-designed mechanisms, which are built into sustainable development strategies, in order to transfer dynamic and evolving scientific knowledge to policy discussions, either with international development organizations (such as our work on the "Natural Hazards Hotspots" report for the WOrld Bank and the UN) or with individual countries (work in Haiti, Dominican Republic, Bhutan). The 2010 Haiti Earthquake demonstrates the need to expand this kind of work around the world.

The fault that ruptured in the 2010 Haiti earthquake was identified as a potential hazard in a 2008 publication in the scientific literature. Although the results of that work were communicated to the highest levels of the Haitian government, there was neither the institutional capacity, nor the local technical resources to pursue preparedness and mitigation strategies. Scientific results are deeply embedded in traditional means of communication, but there are few international or national frameworks to transfer this knowledge into actionable advice. Training, and research and educational collaborations can help, in part. More importantly, there should be mechanisms to integrate scientific knowledge and policy.

To help avoid a similar situation in the Dominican Republic, the Earth Institute's Urban Design Lab is leading a national risk assessment project with the President and many state agencies, which can be replicated in other disaster-prone areas. Flooding, hurricanes and earthquake risks can reduce a country's capacity for infrastructure development, but by quantifying a country's risk exposures and applying figures to their current national plans of action, governments can reduce the actual and perceived impacts of natural disasters. The UDL's work in the DR attempts to re-focus the country from a society of response to a culture of preparedness by outlining key measures in: quantifying preparedness, (2) impacts on the nation's GDP

## 4. Water

The Earth Institute's water mission is to creatively tackle the issue of global water scarcity through innovations in technology, public policy and private action.

## a) Climate Variability

The Columbia Water Center and the International Research Institute for Climate & Society are developing predictive tools and analytical methods to help stakeholders make better-informed decisions on cropping choices, infrastructure design, and water resource management. In much of the world, the high variability of precipitation creates significant challenges for the appropriate management of water.

These challenges are likely to increase in an era of long-term climate change. Groundwater provides a natural buffer to drought, but it is currently being mined in many places leading to a long-term disaster that has to be addressed. The role of climate in determining where and when floods occur is an emerging research area with potential benefits in risk mitigation.

## b) The Global Flood Initiative:

Floods and storms cause the most average annual damage and loss of life of all natural hazards. As climate changes, intense rainfall events are expected to increase in frequency, and coastal flooding to become more rampant. The Earth Institute is launching a new initiative on the climatic prediction of the space and time occurrence of floods across the globe, and of strategies to address these risks through technological, financial and communication instruments. The growing threat of floods to global supply chains has been shown by the recent events in Pakistan, United States, Japan and Thailand. An integrated approach to prediction, response, recovery and engineering design from a global scale is sought to address both local and global risks.

## c) Water Resources in India

India is facing a massive water crisis. The roots of the crisis in the region are in efforts to achieve food security through intensive, yet inefficient agriculture. The result is the largest groundwater mining in the world, at the same time that surface water canals experience high losses. The energy used for pumping groundwater contributes to loss of access for other sectors. Water, energy, and food availability are linked concerns in India, and must be addressed as such. The Columbia Water Center research is working to change this situation by working with farmers, governments, and corporations, through innovation in irrigation strategies for farmers, changes in national cropping patterns, and changes in electricity pricing policy.

## d) Water Resources in Brazil

The Columbia Water Center works with partners in Ceará, Brazil to address the dual challenges of inefficient water management and the high cost of supplying water to rural areas. Climate forecasts and developed decision tools are being used for regional water allocation in order to reduce risk. A process for planning and building efficient, inexpensive water infrastructure for rural communities was developed and implemented. This has been adopted by state agencies to scale up rural water development.

## e) Safe Water Access

The Earth Institute fosters research on how to address persistent natural pollution of groundwater in Bangladesh and elsewhere that has created a massive health crisis. Researchers have explored the pathways of exposure as well as behavioral and other methods to supply safer water. Earth Institute researchers also target novel methods of biological wastewater treatment that are efficient and contribute to a reduction of greenhouse gases

## C. GREEN ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Earth Institute is committed to promoting green economy by strengthening the interplay among scientific research, government and the private sector. One powerful way to combine the strengths of each of these sectors is through government support for basic research in renewable energy, waste treatment, recycling and water filtration. As the ensuing technologies enter the marketplace, they become engines for greater environmental protection, green job creation, sustainable urban design, and prosperity.

## D. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

As resource use is exploding, water consumption is rapidly increasing around the globe, and earth systems nearing tipping points, hundreds of millions of lives are now at stake. A technological road map is needed toward sustainable production and consumption, but such a guide does not yet exist even in a basic form. Depending on the setting, the solutions may involve the need to deploy technology or to change behavior of key actors through appropriate incentives. Innovative mechanisms such as a carbon levy tax, payments for ecosystem services, an African green revolution, as well as a plan to fund research and development and to aid the required transition for poor economies. To meet these pressing needs regional cooperation is required. The complexity and global nature of the problems we are confronting make country-by-country efforts insufficient. Indeed, a massive intellectual effort led by the expert community worldwide is what's needed. Scientists must plot a path toward de-carbonizing the global economy, preserving and restoring natural resources, rebuilding and investing natural as well as built and human capital, answering questions about climate change, determining which technologies are viable, and ultimately coming up with a plan that takes the world toward energy and food supplies that are much less dependent on fossil fuels by mid-century. The Earth Institute, Columbia University is committed to this endeavor through its research initiatives and education programs, as well as its unparalleled global reach across all sectors and a network that encompasses all levels of government, multinational organizations, academia, NGOs, cultural institutions, and the private

sector.

## Earth Law Center

Submission by Earth Law Center to the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development

### INTRODUCTION

Earth Law Center is a 501(c)(3) public benefit organization dedicated to advancing Earth-based laws, economic structures, and governance systems that reflect the intrinsic rights of the natural world to exist, thrive and evolve. Earth Law Center staff has considerable expertise in advancing sustainable environmental laws and policies at the local, state and federal levels, particularly with respect to water and waterways. We welcome the opportunity to submit these inputs and contributions for inclusion in the compilation document that will advise the zero draft of the outcome document (Zero Draft) for the U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD or Rio +20).

### SUMMARY

Earth Law Center urges decision-makers to highlight the following objectives in the Zero Draft, and to prioritize them for adoption and action at Rio +20:

- Support Earth-based governance, in particular by recognizing and implementing in law the rights of ecosystems and species to exist, thrive and evolve.
- Endorse and promote adoption of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth and actively support its implementation globally.
- Re-define “sustainable development” and the “green economy” within the context of Earth-based laws and governance systems that recognize the rights of the natural world, rather than within the limited, injurious context of human-centered, unlimited economic growth and short-term, individual human gain.
- o To ensure this objective is achieved, re-name and re-focus “sustainable development” as “sustainable communities,” a term which includes both human communities and the wider communities of the natural world.
- o This re-focusing is needed to ensure that all elements of sustainable communities are considered. The current, market-based approach distorts communities to serve the economy. Elements of sustainable human communities include not just the economy, but also culture, societal/familial relations, healthy food, clean drinking water, sanitation, housing, necessary medical care, democratic governance, education, meaningful and appropriately rewarded labor, spirituality, civic duty, volunteerism, etc. Sustainable environmental communities similarly require healthy nutrients, clean water, biodiversity, restoration in the face of destruction, and thriving, connected habitats. The economy must be viewed as serving human and environmental communities, not the reverse.
- o Implementation strategies for these goals should also be identified and supported; including, for example, water rights held by waterways, agro-ecological methods of food production, and a global financial transaction tax to support strategy implementation.
- Refine the institutional framework to reflect Earth-based governance strategies that achieve “sustainable communities.” The existing three pillars – Environment, Society and Economy – reflect false assumptions about the need for and likelihood of unlimited economic growth, and its place in a sustainable community. These assumptions must be reconsidered, and the three pillars should be revisited within the context of humans’ actual interrelationships with other Earth inhabitants. A healthy environment is the most overarching need; without it, human society, and its subset the human economy, cannot function. A new, “sustainable communities” institutional framework should be supported by nested structures, with environment supported by society, which in turn is supported by not only economy but also by the other elements of sustainable communities.

As the last several decades have shown, tinkering with rather than ending our addiction to ecosystem- and species-fueled, “unlimited” growth on a finite planet will inevitably fail. The focus now should be on reworking our overarching governance systems to embrace the goal of sustainable communities, rather than contorting our communities to serve runaway, increasingly destructive growth. We only avoid this necessary work with the proposed, misplaced focus on “sustainable development” and “green” economy as our end goals. By contrast, a successful, Earth-based governance system will necessarily include appropriate development within Earth’s limits, and a truly “green” economy. Such an economy would implicitly accept humans’ place within the interconnected web of our relationships with other Earth systems, rather than perpetuate our illusory mastery over them.

Each of these points is discussed in more detail below.

### DISCUSSION

Support Earth-based governance, in particular by calling for recognition and implementation in law of the rights of ecosystems and species to exist, thrive and evolve.

Despite achieving some notable successes over the years, our current environmental laws and agreements, including past efforts of the UNCSD, have been unable to prevent increasingly grave challenges such as climate change, depleted waterways, and disappearing species and natural habitats – all of which contribute to the growing human populations without clean water, safe shelter, healthy food or other basic necessities. These dilemmas result in large part because our overarching legal and economic systems treat the natural world as property that can be exploited and degraded, rather than as an integral ecological partner with its own rights to exist and thrive. They assume that the environment will be protected if humans take from it a little less, and a little less quickly. But this simply slows, never stops, the downward slide.

The environment is increasingly registering its objections to this legal and economic mismatch. Climate change is the most direct protest, one that disproportionately impacts the most disadvantaged and marginalized human communities. Since we are inextricably intertwined with our environment, this trend does not bode well for us either.

The false dogma of “humans over nature” needs to shift to allow us to recognize our interconnectedness with the natural world and acknowledge its rights to exist and thrive. By creating a legal system that incorporates and respects ecosystem rights, we will prompt planning and actions that ensure that we truly live sustainably, for the benefit of all humans and of the natural world that sustains us.

However, despite protestations to the contrary in the UNCSD draft documents and elsewhere, protection of nature is generally subsumed to the incessant driver of economic growth. Such anthropocentrism is out of step with science, and leads to a dangerously unbalanced relationship between humans and the rest of the community of life on Earth.

The 2011 U.N. background report, *Toward a Green Economy*, illustrates the dilemma of attempting to improve environmental protection by further forcing environmental “protection” efforts to fit within a market economy system that is causing the destruction. For example, the report asserts on page 15 that:

the most prevalent myth [about “greening” the global economy] is that there is an inescapable trade-off between environmental sustainability and economic progress. There is now substantial evidence that that the greening of economies neither inhibits wealth creation nor employment opportunities.



The document is correct that there should be no trade-off between environment and economy, in that no economy can flourish without a healthy environment, on which we are utterly dependent. However, the document fails to ask the correct questions about how to address the current imbalance between an economy predicated on runaway growth and an environment being destroyed by that economy. Instead, it simply assumes without question that such an economy must continue; stating, for example, that such hesitant actions as "market-based incentives" can be used to course-correct the incessant drive toward depletion of the natural world.

The far better course would be to ask and analyze more searching questions about the kind of world that we want to achieve through these types of international exercises, and more narrow questions about related topics such as the nature of "wealth creation" (that is, why we assume that wealth must be defined by current economic indicators rather than by other metrics, and why the increase in economic wealth must continue unabated). For example, as Polanyi posits in *The Great Transformation*, the distribution of good and services need not be for the purpose of maximizing economic wealth, but instead would be put to better use providing for biological and social needs.

The failure to date of the process to ask and answer these types of searching questions results in a flawed strategic analysis that fails to examine necessary alternatives or provide appropriate metrics for assessing progress. As just one example, the Water chapter of UNEP's *Towards a Green Economy* report lists indicators of "progress towards a green economy" on page 121; of the five indicators listed, not one calls for measuring progress on improvements to waterway or water-dependent ecosystem health. This is particularly disturbing in light of the fact that the same report also points to an aggregate decline in waterway and aquifer health worldwide (page 130). Environmental health appears as a mere afterthought to the process of current efforts to further monetize the Earth's systems. The end result will inevitably center on a haggling over the prices that stakeholders with funds are willing to pay, rather than a serious effort to assess what environmental health looks like and to determine how to change our lifestyles to reach and maintain that goal. Treating the environment as afterthought to pricing will be not only to the detriment of the natural world, but also to we humans who depend on it.

We strongly recommend that the UNCSO and the Zero Draft raise and answer these searching questions, rather than defaulting to the process equivalent of rearranging the deck chairs on the Titanic. Only a governance system based on a humble acknowledgment of our place within a web of inter-relationships with other humans and natural world – one that recognizes that a healthy Earth is fundamental to continued, flourishing human existence – can be deemed "sustainable." An operating system premised on "development" as the end goal of the exercise in defining "sustainability" is not equipped to ask and answer the urgent questions about how we should conduct our lives in an era of growing scarcity.

Accordingly, we urge decision-makers to include in the Zero Draft and to strongly support a system not of market-based governance, but of Earth-based governance, which recognizes the intrinsic value of the natural world apart from its benefit as a "resource" for human use. Such a governance system would respect Earth's limits and would continually evolve to reflect new science on the workings and boundaries of Earth's systems. It would incorporate an ongoing analysis of ethics for the purpose of developing decision-making criteria, such as use of the precautionary approach and assignment of the burden of proof in disputes. Finally, Earth-based governance would recognize and implement in law the rights of ecosystems and species to exist, thrive and evolve, including rights of ecosystems and species to representation at such international gatherings as UNCSO, and it would appropriately protect the environment's right to restoration for human-caused destruction.

The development and implementation of Earth-based governance will in time create its own feedback loop – one where science and ethics drives law, which drives culture, which drives further evolution in law, science and ethics – until the law and the culture meet, and we cannot envision a time where our laws relegated the natural world to second-class, "property" status. Along this path, "environmentalism" itself will evolve from a subset of the population acting to safeguard the planet, into a deeply-felt awareness in the hearts and minds of all individuals, an awareness that further guides our self-governance over how we live our lives and make our daily choices to achieve not only sustainable, but indeed flourishing, environmental and human communities.

Endorse and promote adoption of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth and actively support its implementation globally.

As noted above, the false dogma of "humans over nature" needs to shift to make way for a legal system that incorporates and respects ecosystem rights. Such a system is essential to prompt planning and actions that support sustainable communities, not simply continued infinite economic growth incorrectly characterized as "sustainable."

Fortunately, models are cropping up for legal systems that can steer us in the right direction. For example, the Ecuadorian Constitution at Articles 71 and 72 endows the environment with inalienable rights to "exist, persist, maintain and regenerate its vital cycles, structure, functions and its processes in evolution." The Constitution further grants individuals the legal authority to defend these rights on behalf of the environment. This language acknowledges the interdependence between humans and environment, and respects both sides of that tightly-knit relationship. Its provisions were first tested in a successful case earlier this year, in which the court found that the Vilcabamba River's constitutional right to flow had been violated by destructive road development practices, and ordered that the river's flow be restored.

The precedent set by the Ecuadorian Constitution also led to the adoption, led by Bolivia, of an international Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth. Following the failure of U.N. Conference of the Parties in Copenhagen to achieve meaningful progress in combating climate change, the Bolivian government organized an alternative conference for communities, NGOs, lawyers, academics, scientists and governments from around the world. This conference, held in Cochabamba, Bolivia in April 2010, was attended by 35,000 people from 140 countries. At the end, participants adopted a Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, which recognizes Earth as a living being with rights to life, to the continuation of vital cycles and processes, and to restoration from destructive human activities. The Declaration was formally presented to the United Nations in an April 2011 General Assembly event, and provides a sound structure for establishing actions and strategies to achieve healthy, sustainable human and environmental communities.

Accordingly, we urge UNCSO decision-makers to endorse and promote adoption of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth in the Zero Draft, and to call for its active support and implementation globally. As Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth states:

[T]he rights of each being are limited by the rights of other beings and any conflict between their rights must be resolved in a way that maintains the integrity, balance and health of Mother Earth.

Human rights, including to a sustainable economy, must by definition be in harmony with Earth's systems and consistent with the rights of nature to exist, thrive and evolve. The Declaration thereby appropriately seeks to rebalance our relationship with the Earth from one that is destructive to one that is mutually enhancing, for the benefit of the whole Earth community.

Re-define "sustainable development" and the "green economy" within the context of Earth-based laws and governance that recognize the rights of the natural world. Re-name and re-focus "sustainable development" as "sustainable communities," a term which includes both human communities and the wider communities of the natural world.

As discussed above, Earth-based governance, rather than inherently flawed market-based governance, should be the focus of international decision-makers in ensuring the future well-being of people and ecosystems. It cannot be argued that current UNCSO efforts to better define "sustainable development" and a "green economy" are equivalent to ensuring the well-being of people and planet, because they fail to: (a) deeply question whether the current, injurious economic system is either beneficial and viable, or (b) consider different metrics for ensuring healthy people and planet.

We accordingly challenge decision-makers to evaluate the flaws of the market-based approach by re-naming and re-focusing "sustainable development" as "sustainable communities," a term that includes both human communities and the wider communities of the natural world. Only by changing the lens by which the analysis is conducted

can we begin to see the inherent flaws and limitations of the current effort to contort environmental and societal well-being into a system focused on protecting markets and unending economic growth.

This re-focusing is also needed to ensure that all elements of sustainable communities are considered; i.e., not just the market economy. Elements of sustainable human communities include not solely the economy, but also culture, societal/familial relations, healthy food, clean water, sanitation, housing, necessary medical care, democratic governance, education, meaningful and appropriately rewarded labor, spirituality, civic duty, volunteerism, interaction with the natural world, etc. Sustainable environmental communities similarly require healthy nutrients, clean water, biodiversity, restoration in the face of destruction, and thriving, connected habitats. The economy must be viewed as serving human and environmental communities, not the reverse, as is the case with the current effort and background documents.

#### Examples of the Implications of a Misplaced Focus on Development over Sustainable Communities

One example of the implications of the ongoing and expanded focus on economic development rather than sustainable communities is seen in the flawed definition of the "green economy" itself, which fails to commit to successful, Earth-based sustainability. UNEP's 2011 report, *Towards a Green Economy* defines a "green economy" as "one that results in 'improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities'" (page 16). This definition first clearly emphasizes human well-being over environmental health, disregarding the science and ethics of behaving as if the environment were our property rather than essential, connected partner on this Earth. Second, by failing to tackle the inherently flawed foundational assumption that continued economic growth is possible and desirable, the definition prevents meaningful progress in achieving well-being for all humans and human communities. Rather, in the words of the Occupy movement, it benefits the 1% at the expense of the 99%. Again, as we are all connected, this failure bodes ill for the population as a whole. Finally, unpacking this definition further, we see additional implications of a failure to consider grounding the economy in Earth-based governance, in that the definition side-steps achieving environmental health and settles instead for "reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities." Achieving an undefined "reduction" in environmental injury can easily be achieved on paper to further serve runaway economic growth, with no meaningful, sustainable achievement of environmental health and sustainability in reality.

The Water chapter of the *Towards a Green Economy* report further illustrates the practical implications of a "green economy" that is neither "green" nor protects the economy. Page 137 lists various strategies for enhancing water supplies and notes that each is "consistent with the development of a green economy," which it then defines as "seek[ing] to minimise the impact of economic activity on the environment." While minimizing the impacts of our current market economy on the environment is an essential first step, it should not be the end goal, particularly when that same economy is destroying essential waterways and aquifers (see, e.g., examples on page 131). Instead, the end goal should be a healthy environment, and by association healthy human communities. The current, narrow focus on the economy as the driver of success, rather than the reason for failure, will only continue to prevent us from seeing this basic end goal, to the detriment of all.

A strategy-level example of the flaws in the proposed "green economy" approach is the growing effort to use "payment for ecosystem services" as a tool to achieve sustainability. While we should, of course, better appreciate the many benefits that ecosystems and species provide us, converting ecosystems and species into monetary values threatens to trap us in the same market-based web that created the environmental destruction that we are trying to prevent. If ecosystems or species are threatened, the argument broadly states, we should translate the issue to monetary terms and write a check, thus solving or avoiding the problem. However, this fails because of at least three unexamined logical and practical flaws. First, by subsuming the environment within the market economy, rather than appropriately nesting the economy within the overarching need for a healthy environment, "payment for ecosystem services" (PES) will always prioritize market protection over the environmental health. Second, and as a practical matter, by monetizing the environment and its services, the argument shifts from environmental health to money and cost. The negotiation becomes not about "how do we achieve environmental health," but about "how much are stakeholders are willing to pay and who will profit" – an entirely different conversation that is unrelated to sustainability. Finally, the arguments for PES ignore the fact that water, in particular, is essential to life itself, and its acquisition cannot in many cases be subsumed within a simplistic "willingness to pay" metric. This is particularly true for people on fixed, limited or no incomes, and for the environment, whose water needs are already marginalized by the report's focus on human-centered market economics as the solution to human water needs.

An application-level example of the flaws in the proposed "green economy" approach is provided by Australia, referenced in the report as a potential success story due to its environmental water buy-back program (pages 142-143). However, since the release of *Green Economy*, the Australian National Water Commission released its own assessment of this National Water Initiative (Sept. 2011, <http://www.nwc.gov.au/>). This assessment characterizes the auditing and accountability safeguards around the \$1.3 billion Aus spent to date to buy back water from farmers for the environment as "weak," and resulting in no detailed evidence that the buy-back has delivered ecological benefits. This is a particularly disturbing finding given the amount of public money spent to date, and the amount (\$500 million Aus) still due to be spent this year. The report further finds that "[t]he necessary science to link environmental watering with ecological outcomes is generally weak and there is a lack of transparent reporting results." This unfortunately is not surprising given the blithely placed mistrust in the market to cure water ills. Unless the focus is on the waterways and aquifers themselves and their needs, science will take a back door to the market process, with inevitably disappointing results. The report finally concludes that the rapidly-expanding and essentially unregulated coal seam gas mining industry in Australia, which like its U.S. counterpart fracking uses enormous amounts of water, must be brought under the National Water Initiative "as a matter of urgency." Given the political and market pressure to expand coal seam gas mining in Australia, this advice is unlikely to be heeded soon. Again, the misplaced focus on markets distracts decision-makers and the public from the task at hand – determining the existing desired health of waterways and aquifers, and governing ourselves accordingly. Such Earth-based governance includes allocating actual, enforced water rights to waterways for the water they need for their own survival – not simply to serve human needs.

One California-specific example of the costly implications of a misplaced trust in the market to solve water problems was uncovered in an investigative report by California journalist Mike Tauger. As discussed further in his multi-part report on "Pumping Water and Cash from the Delta" (see, e.g., [http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/cj\\_12439808](http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/cj_12439808)), the investigation uncovered significant manipulation of public funds set aside for environmental uses to enrich specific individuals and corporations, with little to no environmental benefit. An excerpt from the investigative report illustrates the inherent danger in relying on market-based solutions to redress the problems created by market-based strategies:

As the West Coast's largest estuary plunged to the brink of collapse from 2000 to 2007, state water officials pumped unprecedented amounts of water out of the Delta only to effectively buy some of it back at taxpayer expense for a failed environmental protection plan, a MediaNews investigation has found.

The "environmental water account" set up in 2000 to improve the Delta ecosystem spent nearly \$200 million mostly to benefit water users while also creating a cash stream for private landowners and water agencies in the Bakersfield area.

Financed with taxpayer-backed environment and water bonds, the program spent most of its money in Kern County, a largely agricultural region at the southern end of the San Joaquin Valley. There, water was purchased from the state and then traded back to the account for a higher price. . . .

No one appears to have benefitted more than companies owned or controlled by Stewart Resnick, a Beverly Hills billionaire, philanthropist and major political donor whose companies, including Paramount Farms, own more than 115,000 acres in Kern County. Resnick's water and farm companies collected about 20 cents of every dollar spent by the program.

Those companies sold \$30.6 million of water to the state program, participated as a partner in an additional \$16 million in sales and received an additional \$3.8 million in checks and credits for sales through public water agencies, documents show.

In summary, if the market system is our operating system, then its most talented manipulators will inevitably profit from it, at the expense of the environment and sustainable human communities. In other words, money will find a way to enrich, not to serve. We need an operating system premised on other metrics of what a flourishing life on Earth means to people and planet; one that does not relegate decision-making about the planet's lifeblood – water – to those who have the money and associated power to decide.

The Towards a Green Economy report offers up numerous other implications of the single-minded focus on the economy, including conclusions that arise in other ways from the report's analytical blinders. As a final example, the report states without irony in the Water chapter on page 134 that "[d]esalination has the advantage that it is climate independent." By focusing only on costs, the report misses the otherwise obvious climate-related implications of desalination. These include not only desalination's significant contribution to the greenhouse gas emissions that fuel climate change, but also the unknown implications of sea level rise on the siting of the ocean-side desalination facilities, infrastructure and transport systems. The report's blithe conclusion also ignores the increasing inability of island nations to obtain the fuel needed to support desalination facilities due to both rising costs and to port facilities also impacted by sea level rise.

A continued focus on the failed monetization policies of the past will only exacerbate such analytical and implementation problems. Only a careful, thorough assessment of the flawed operative assumptions that led us to a world where rivers now run backwards (page 131) will uncover long-term, sustainable solutions that ensure a healthy environment and healthy human communities.

#### Examples of Strategies to Implement Earth-Based Governance that Support Sustainable Communities

Earth Law Center accordingly urges decision-makers to include in the Zero Draft and support a re-focus on sustainable communities, which will yield the contours of a truly "green" economy along with each of the other elements of sustainable human and environmental communities, as articulated above. Current economic metrics such as GDP only reinforce environmental and societal degradation at the hands of ever-increasing growth. Seeking the definition of an economy that fits within a larger definition of "sustainable communities," rather than one premised on infinite growth, requires a different judgment of economic welfare. For example, a number of U.S. towns and cities, including Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania with a population of over 300,000, have assessed the local environmental costs of further runaway economic growth and adopted laws that grant local control to prevent destructive new development. These laws also grant legal rights to the natural world to be healthy, thrive and evolve, which further support the municipalities' recognition of the value of a healthy environment and healthy communities apart from the monetary drive of the markets. Such communities and states around the world are fighting to regain control over their own, Earth-based definitions of "sustainable," efforts that should be encouraged by the UNCSD.

The Zero Draft should include these and other implementation strategies consistent with a goal of "sustainable communities" grounded in Earth-based governance. An additional example of such an implementation strategy involves allocations of water rights to waterways and aquifers in amounts sufficient to meet their environmental needs. The Towards a Green Economy report characterizes existing efforts in Oregon and Australia as allocation of such water rights (page 142; see also above discussion regarding Australia's program). Both, however, in fact fall short in achieving this goal, in part because both are limited by the acquisition of sufficient funds to obtain the water needed for environmental sustenance. True water rights for ecosystems would depend only on the ecosystems' needs, not on the availability of funds to feed those needs. The funding becomes an impediment to achieving this goal because of society's flawed operating assumption that water is property to be used for human benefit, as if humans were somehow separate from the rivers that they are draining to dust. Rivers have a right to flow, independent of human needs, and we must adjust ourselves accordingly or face the implications of those decisions in the form of increasingly disappearing supplies.

In a related example, the U.N. General Assembly and the Human Rights Council have now both recognized the human right to water and sanitation; these mandates should similarly be strongly supported and advanced at Rio +20. However, is not possible to protect the human right to water and sanitation without recognizing the inherent rights of nature and other species to be healthy, thrive and evolve. Thus, protection of the human right to water first requires protection of waterway and aquifer health and the integrity of hydrologic cycles. However, the disturbing trend of corporate privatization of water impedes progress in this area. Resolution E/2005/29 calls upon the UNCSD to review the implementation of international water and sanitation decisions at its session in 2012 (p. 19, paragraph 4). The Council of Canadians' 2011 "Review of Private Sector Influence on Water Policies and Programmes at the United Nations" found evidence of significant corporate lobbying and influence in past water-themed discussions and proceedings of the UNCSD, including during processes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002. By addressing corporate pressures at Rio +20, decision-makers will have a greater opportunity to explore the full range of options that exist for addressing the global water crisis, consistent with Earth-based governance.

Other examples arise from consideration of the roles of the distribution of good and services. As noted above, this distribution process need not be for the purpose of maximizing wealth, but instead could be for the purpose of providing for biological and social needs – that is, for global well-being. One example of such an implementation strategy that is consistent with Earth-based governance is promotion of agro-ecological methods of food production to replace the growing trend toward corporate food industrialization. In 2009, the International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development concluded that "the way the world grows its food will have to change radically" and argued for an agro-ecological approach to food production as the most effective route to meeting the world's increasing food needs. This four-year, UN-sponsored project included the work of 400 researchers and was funded by \$12 million from the World Bank. Increasing concentration of the corporate industrial food complex causes environmental destruction, exacerbates land distribution inequalities and exacerbates poverty. We cannot continue to degrade our soil with genetically modified mono-crops and their requisite fertilizer-pesticide packages and expect soils to support yields to perpetually feed our growing population. Agro-ecological methods of food production sequester carbon in the soil, promote biodiversity and promote local food sovereignty, and should be supported in the Zero Draft.

Finally, the World Bank and other international financial institutions have used the same flawed ideology that supports tax havens to promote lower tax structures in resource-rich developing countries. Implementation of an international financial transactions tax would raise much-needed funds for countering environmental destruction (such as climate change) and human poverty, and would help slow commodities speculation that has taken a significant toll on human and environmental victims.

Refine the institutional framework to reflect Earth-based governance strategies that achieve "sustainable communities."

The 1972 Stockholm Declaration articulated three "pillars" to sustainable development: Environment, Society and Economy. The 1987 Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future further defined sustainable development as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." Though well-intentioned, these approaches have failed to achieve their objective of transforming environmentally destructive, market-based governance systems into sustainable, Earth-based governance, for the reasons discussed above. Indeed, the pace of climate change impacts, species and habitat devastation, and other environmental problems has increased over this time.

We urge decision-makers to re-think both the purpose and structure of this institutional framework effort. First, as already addressed, the goal should not be one of only slightly curbing the runaway-growth market economy, but instead one of ensuring sustainable human and environmental communities served by a "green" economy that accounts and respects for the limits of the Earth.

Second, use of the three pillars implicitly assumes that each is equally significant in achieving sustainable communities. This assumption is contrary to science, which demonstrates our interconnectedness, and indeed contrary to economics, in which the current market-based growth is fueled by the continued availability of natural "resources," including a favorable climate. As just one example among uncounted others, in a 2009 study published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, scientists predict that climate change may cause yields of corn, soybeans, and cotton in the U.S. to decrease by as much as 80% by 2100. A healthy environment is simply essential to human survival and well-being.

A different framework is needed, one that reflects both the reality of our interdependence and our Earth-based vision of healthy, sustainable human and environmental communities. The outer structure supporting the desired “sustainable communities” goal should be Environment, given our dependence on healthy Earth systems for our own survival. The individual pillars supporting this outer Environment structure would be the various elements of a healthy environment, including sufficient healthy nutrients and clean water, biodiversity, restoration in the face of destruction, and thriving, connected habitats.

Society necessarily follows as a nested framework structure within the outer Environment framework, where Society refers to human societies implementing Earth-based governance systems that support a flourishing planet. For instance, as Towards a Green Economy notes on page 19, “the link between ecological scarcity and poverty is well-established”; this is true for Society as well, which is impacted directly and indirectly by rising poverty rates. Society is more than money or markets, and the proposed, Earth-based governance system should reflect all elements of thriving human societies. The internal pillars supporting Society should represent each of these elements, including but not limited to: culture, societal/familial relations, healthy food, clean water, sanitation, housing, necessary medical care, democratic governance, education, meaningful and appropriately rewarded labor, spirituality, civic duty, volunteerism – and the economy, as just one of these numerous elements. Again from Polanyi: “the control of the economic system by the market . . . means no less than the running of society as an adjunct to the market. Instead of economy being embedded in social relations, social relations are embedded in the economic system.” We made choices in arriving at the point now where the markets are running society and environment. We can choose differently, and re-envision a market that serves the planet as a whole, and sustainable communities in particular.

In sum, we must not continue to contort our environmental protection efforts to meet the market economy. We need to reinvent the economy to reflect the fact that we are interconnected beings with our environment, and we must govern our behavior – including our economic behavior – accordingly. The primary impediment to success is the faulty underlying assumption that the environment is property to do with as we wish, to fuel the economic growth that we (again, wrongly) assume can and must continue unabated into the future. With the recommendations above, Rio +20 decision-makers can begin to rectify this foundational error and begin a road to planetary recovery and long-term sustainability.

\* \* \*

As Ambassador Pablo Solón states in the 2011 book, The Rights of Nature:

We are facing a debate in the United Nations among those that . . . advocat[e] the path of the market, [versus] the path of recognizing and respecting the larger system of the planet Earth on which we all live. . . . The future of humans and Nature depends on the path humanity chooses.

Decision-makers have an unprecedented opportunity at Rio +20 to adopt Earth-based governance as the guiding operating system for a new “sustainable communities” movement that reflects our interconnectedness with, and dependence on, the Earth’s natural systems. Earth Law Center urges decision-makers to incorporate the above inputs and contributions into the Zero Draft for this seminal event, launch this movement through strong public support for Earth-based governance, and work to ensure its implementation for the benefit of all Earth’s inhabitants.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit these comments. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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## Earth Summit 2012 Japan

EarthSummit Japan 2012

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With international society entering the 21st century, we need to address prompt resolutions for deep global issues. We are attempting to resolve various issues by pushing sustainable development forward, but in order to do so we need to consider how development became unsustainable. More specifically, the major premise for measures going forward must discover the cause for the rise of over-development and mal-development and formulate appropriate countermeasures. Through multi-stakeholder dialogue for RIO+20, EarthSummit2012 Japan makes following proposals, distilled from Japan based on our cultural background of harmonious coexistence with nature.

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### About us / Earth Summit 2012 Japan (p14)

#### 1. Proposals for Green Economy

#### 1.1. Rule-making for use of natural capital; User-recovers principle (URP)

We propose User-recovers principle (URP) as principles to secure sustainable management of renewable natural capital. URP is a simple and strong principle that captures the economic and social characteristics of renewable natural capital correctly, and it gives the right incentives to users for a sustainable management. The basic idea of URP is that those who exploit renewable natural capital deviating from the pace of its regeneration have a responsibility to help their restoration process and to bear costs that are imposed on others during the restoration.

The functions of URP can be summarized in three aspects:

1. URP provides users with a practical conduct code that corresponds to the dynamic nature of regeneration. Regeneration is processed by ecosystem and its pace obeys the laws of nature. Thus the way we utilize natural capital should fit with the reproduction cycle of natural capital. However, as is often the case for soil, forests, grass fields, fishery and underground water, the open-accessibility of such capitals may cause a situation like "tragedy of commons". That is, pursuing optimal strategies of each user resulting in over-exploitations and harming social welfare. Traditional commons have avoided this problem through establishing local rules of communities. But today's commons are utilized by broader entities including multi-national enterprises operating outside the coverage of such rules. These entities often pursue shorter-term interests than optimal pace for local communities and nature because they can easily find and move to other places even if the commons would be degraded and extinct. Thus the institutionalization of URP gives internationally-shared code-of-conducts applied to the broader entities even across borders.

2. URP defines the allocation of responsibilities for recovery.

In most cases, the costs and benefits of renewable natural capital are distributed unevenly among locations and societies. Such capitals support human life in two ways; providing ecosystem goods such as foods or fuel, and providing ecosystem services such as regulation of atmospheric chemical composition, flood control, erosion control, waste treatment, pollution control, detoxification, and nutrient cycles. Ecosystem goods can be harvested and consumed by specific economic entities, while ecosystem services support life of wider range of people as public or quasi-public goods unless the capitals are harvested. URP allocates responsibilities among people differently according to the pace of use. Assume there are two entities that benefit from forest ecosystem; woodman and farmer. The woodman maintains the forest and harvests timber, while the farmer grows crops utilizing water cultivated through the well-kept forest. If the woodman harvests timber in a sustainable pace, the user in URP is the farmer and should pay the maintenance costs to the woodman. But once the farmer over-exploits and degrades the forest, the both parties have to wait until the forest recovers itself, or just help the restoration process mostly through costly ways such as ecosystem investigation or plantation. In this case, the user in URP is the woodman and should bear the recovery costs and also pay the opportunity costs to the farmer. In both cases the costs can be transferred to end consumers through value chains.

3. The third function of URP is to foster employments and innovations.

The responsibilities and rewards allocated through URP create various business opportunities related to the sustainable management or recovery of natural capital. For example, the maintenance of the forest creates jobs of thinning down congested trees. Or the recovery may call for forestry innovations that accelerate the restoration process.

#### 1.2. An indicator for use of natural capital; Ecological Debt

Display the amount of Ecological debt to enable socially responsible decision

International rules of natural capital compensation are not yet clear. Biodiversity offsets mechanism and ecological footprints are one of the famous methods to treat them but their scopes are limited. In particular, it is considered extremely important to reflect the economic value of ecosystem services, such as green accounting, in the national accounting system to recognize the negative impact of development on the natural environment.

Ecological debt is one of effective ways to communicate and compare the depreciation of natural capital. Concerning natural capital in particular, it is important to introduce the idea of the speed of regeneration and incorporate it into the method of evaluating natural capital, in addition to its stocks and resource productivity. Ecological deficit is the difference of the depreciation of capital and capital restoration. Ecological Debt is stock concept of ecological deficit which is measured by waiting time for recovery. Economic Externalities can evaluate not only money but also time measurement. Many of the natural capital are difficult to assume it's willing to pay. Such a case, it is easier to measure waiting time to recovery from depreciation of capital. URP rule require natural capital users to eliminate their ecological debt. But if users can't recovery by one selves all ecological debt, user have to swap their debt to others debt. Swapping their debt to others debt which have expertise, user can clean up them easier. And total social cost to eliminate all debt will decrease.

Consumers and merchants will be the main user of information of ecological debt for stopping degradation of natural capital. To enable consumer and merchants to be socially responsible, it is essential to establish international standards on how we display the degrees of sustainability of natural capital that is utilized for the production of goods and services in everyday life. Thus we propose a concept of ecological debt, which is to display the amount of natural capital utilized for manufacturing products and the "waiting time" needed until the capital has become ready to use again. In other words, ecological debt shows us how much forest or soils this product use in its production process and how long we have to wait until the forest or soil regenerate itself. We can calculate "ecological debt" using the accumulated knowledge and information of LCA and integrating them from the viewpoint of recovery time.

#### 1.3. Designing Eco-Wealth minimizing Ecological debt

Design of products and services are required to provide solutions for our lifestyle under more stringent resource constraints. Departure from era of mass production and consumption is inevitable and above more, (conceptual breakthrough) of product design that can turn our constraints into new value is necessary. Yet, for these products to spread and sustain in our society, they must become deeply embedded in our lifestyle. Being conscious of limitation in natural capital on the earth, we must promote a virtuous cycle of improving sustainable product designs and shifting our lifestyle towards sustainability. Therefore, we propose a multi-stakeholder initiative attended by product designers, worldwide research institutes, enterprises, traditional craftsmen, consumers working on the following measures.

A). Design Conceptual Breakthrough: redesigning the wealth of our society based on the principle of minimizing the natural capital recovery period Ecological debt.

Design products and services based on principle of minimizing Ecological debt by LCA approach.

People will need a new concept of wealth "Eco-Wealth". We emphasize the necessity of social investment measured by Eco-Wealth concept, that will lead to healthy and full life of all humankind, especially and primarily in the area that will minimize the household waiting time and the time credit index. Investments in basic infrastructures such as road, rail, water and sewerage, electricity grids must calculate "Ecological debt" prior to the investments. For example, "Eco-Wealth" is proposed. Goods and services necessary for our lifetime, that will be used sustainably over generations, particularly those that will be used longer than the recovery time of the originating natural capital is defined as "Eco Wealth". Historically speaking, for example, the cathedral city of Cologne, European ancient cities, Japanese tea house, these objects, not only sustain over generation but also evolve and increase their value over time. (However, we should note that the term does not apply to objects whose value is based on rarity, such as antiques, rather than the functional value of these objects.) To develop Eco-Wealth, we must make the durability of the product and the recovery time of the natural capital used in the product measurable, which will promote innovations and lifestyle designs based on the Eco-Wealth.

B). Research collaboration among relevant institutes to the sustainable designs and finite formulation and development of common protocols.

Lead redesigning the wealth based on Eco-Wealth --- long time stationary success.

Universities and research institutes currently working under the ethics of finite designs should strengthen cooperation by sharing research results and collaboration projects through building common platform.

In order to spread products designed for easy recycle and reuse, we must distinguish between areas which we can encourage innovation through competition among

businesses and areas which need cooperation among businesses. For the latter, we must aim to minimize the social cost on natural capital by creating a common protocol to share product designs, production processes and components that will facilitate recycle and reuse.

C). A mechanism for promoting responsible voluntary behaviors of consumers:

For the resolution of global issues, the role of consumers is important and it is necessary to promote civil education for consumers to encourage their responsible and voluntary behaviors. Furthermore, it is vital to raise awareness by environment communication represented under the label of the environment. In order to make consumers interested and influence their daily choice of goods and services, the development of environmental labels, promotion of environment communication and the implementation of environmental education, led by the state and involving all stakeholders including the private sector, are needed.

Companies will be able to innovate, design lifestyles, and develop products based on ecological debt (waiting time to recovery) indicators.

In order to promote product design under constraints on resources, launching the Finite Design Initiative to Support a Sustainable Society with the participation of research institutes, product designers, business corporations, traditional craftsmen and consumers, etc., of various countries for such efforts as

- (1) Closer cooperation among institutions concerned with finite design research;
- (2) Development of common product protocols conducive to finite design (develops and share common product protocols concerning processes and parts that serve as the pivots of recycling and reuse);
- (3) Diffusion of the top-runner format; and
- (4) Visualization of the degree of sustainability of natural capital utilization (visualize the degree of sustainability of natural capital utilization by quantitatively showing the amount of natural capital required for the manufacture of goods and services consumers make use of in their everyday life and the waiting time for their recycling).

#### 1.4.Green Info Structure to simulate and manage natural capital

Define a standard of information structure, Green Info Structure, using the concept of Ecological debt.

In order to achieve green economy, it is essential to create the information infrastructure that all relevant stakeholders can easily access and update the data in a decentralized way. We propose to construct the "Green Info Structure" and standardize it internationally. Green Info Structure is a multilayer management system of the information of natural capitals.

The first layer is a comprehensive database of natural capital. The United Nations and its member states should construct the database as an international joint project and share them with all relevant stakeholders.

The second layer is the provider of information. Most of natural capital can provide value flows like ecosystem goods or services in the local context. Furthermore some types of natural capital are embedded in the life of local community and can only exist with the help of people living there. So the local entities like local authorities, research institutions, or civil organizations can access the latest information on the current conditions of the capital. Thus it is important to design the database in a decentralized structure, so that such local entities can easily update the information accumulated in the database.

The third layer is the user of the database. That is, companies, NGOs, research institutes, and other relevant stakeholders may easily access the database and utilize it in their activities or strategies. Or they can take advantage of the database to provide plainer information about the current situation and prospects of natural capital to the public. Also, the database can be used to calculate Ecological Debt that we argued above. Thus the database should include the information needed for the estimation of Ecological Debt, that is, the stock amount of various natural capitals on the planet and their regeneration rate. For example, the database will help not only business use but also personal purchasing use.

#### 2. Expectations for outcome of RIO+20

##### Constraints of Growth due to Rapid Deterioration and Depletion of Natural Capital

To avoid "The limits to Growth," and recognize forests, soils, fisheries, water, and the resulting ecosystem is vital to all human beings for their healthy and full life. The Convention on Biological Diversity has grown to 193 members, while the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety has been developed (Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety were adopted in October 2010) and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization and the Aichi Target concerning biodiversity conservation have been agreed upon. However, global assessments, such as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the Global Biodiversity Outlook indicate that the situation surrounding biodiversity is still deteriorating.

Humanity is ushering depletion and degradation of natural capital in exchange for rapid accumulation of industrial and financial capital. As a result, the rarity of these capitals has reversed comparatively, especially in recent years with developing and emerging countries at the heart of a sharp rise in global consumption, wherein the amount of available natural capital per capita is decreasing while being surpassed by the increasing pace of consumption. At this current development pattern, we fear that the world population will no longer be able to support itself by the time it reaches 9 billion. Consequently, we face the urgent task of raising collective awareness among all people based on the need that we discover the extent of constraints we must subject ourselves to due to depletion and degradation of natural capital, as well as the nature of the content, speed, and scale of changes we must make to our development patterns.

Hungers affecting more than one billion people as well as response to poverty are pressing issues. As the recent financial crisis and surge in food price showed how an incident in industrialized countries instantaneously worsen hunger in low income countries, under the current globalized world a peril at one place can propagate around the world at a glance of a second leading to a global crisis, marginalizing the livelihoods of the poor dependent on weakened natural capital. Furthermore, as the natural capital per capita falls, there are high risks of circumstances surrounding the low income countries to worsen. Additionally, creation of decent job opportunities for 700 million workers that will emerge by 2025, is a pressing issue.

##### 2.1. Comments on UNEP proposal for "Green Economy"

Earth Summit 2012 Japan recognizes importance of green economy for the following reasons:

1. Economic activities underlie environmental problems;
2. Under constraints on resources and climate change, we need an economy that is well aware of these constraints.
3. The greening of the economy prompts changes in people's values and individual choices and also encourages people to seek sustainable lifestyles.

Transition to green economy based on conservation and sustainable use of natural capital is inevitable.

Suggestions made by international organizations including UNEP and OECD are:

1. Tools and policies that may help stocking of natural capital and improving capital efficiencies
2. Encouraging shift to green industry that is highly labor intensive. Capable of capacity building, income improvements, and even empowerment through community participation
3. Solution that both developed and developing countries could be proactive in

These points are commendable and we support the direction of these points.

However, there are limits in the existing proposals on the following points:

1. Neither shared understanding nor direction are shown for how the population growth and resulting degradation of natural capital may constrain our economic growth patterns, and choices we are left in terms of its contents, scale and speed. How to foster a common understanding on this issue among the entire human race is not shown.
2. Interpretation of natural capital is misleading when it treats natural capital like other artificial capitals, mainly consisting of private goods, and lacks understanding of natural capital, those especially renewable and sharable ones, in its economic and social values.
3. They are narrowly focused on reforms in manufacturers through public investments and lacks the view point of consumers, namely how the green economy will affect the lifestyle and preferences of the mass consumers and how companies and societies can contribute to the change. Household is the minimal but the most important sector notable for starting green revolution for 7 billion individuals.

## 2.2. Green economy for Aichi-Target

Improve natural capital resilience and adapt the speed of natural capital.

Biodiversity and natural capital that support economic activities are significantly deteriorating at present. We need an economic mechanism that reflects the cost of the deterioration of natural capital and risks to people, including future generations; and

It is desirable to promote the utilization of sustainable ecosystem services based on the Aichi Target and Nagoya Protocol adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD-COP10) held in 2010. Implement appropriate policies effectively, make policy linkages based on biodiversity, promote meaning and value of biodiversity and the UN Decade on Biodiversity, as well as take precautionary approaches to decision making.

Following are necessary efforts and procedures for promoting green economy:

1. Secure funding for biodiversity and sustainable development. The greening of finance and agriculture, forestry and fisheries is also an important issue. Increase number of green jobs that contribute to the environment and biodiversity in conjunction with the shift of industrial structure (just transition).

For example, Rice paddies play key role for resilience of Natural Capital in Asia. (CBD and Ramsar Convention recognized that paddies fields are important wetland for biodiversity.) Especially, Winter-flooded Rice Paddies (Fuyumizu-tambo) are one of best practice of investment for biodiversity and food productivity.

2. Establish new Consumption styles that does not break down the balance of natural capital; Provide information that encourages each individual to make purchase decisions on the basis of information on the environment, etc.; Efforts should be promoted while monitoring progress with appropriate indicators.
3. It is necessary to position the perspective of Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) as basis of efforts toward green economy for synergy effect between CEPA activities to achieve the Aichi Target under the Convention on Biodiversity and promote the U.N. Decade on Biodiversity and each country's obligations concerning the public awareness, education and training concerning the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the U.N. Convention to Combat Desertification.
4. Share good practices from around the world in terms of biodiversity and conserving and recovering ecosystems, using biological resources in a sustainable manner, fair and equal distribution of benefits resulting from the use of genetic resources, providing appropriate monetary resources and encouraging capacity building. For example, eco-tourism to encourage both local understanding of bio-diversity and local revitalization is a good example that includes CEPA perspective. The Japan Genki Awards show good examples of community-based initiatives in eco-tourism, and other model cases in creating sustainable society.

(Photo: NPO Kamiechigo-Yamazato-Fun Club Japan Genki Awards2010; School of farming for urban family.)

Example: The Tohoku Green Renaissance Project

Japan would like to provide as reference to the discussions on sustainable development in Rio +20 the example of The Tohoku Green Renaissance Project in which the sustainable use of natural capital has been used as part of the earthquake reconstruction effort that is seeking to quickly restore the core industries of the disaster-affected areas, including agriculture, forestry and fisheries, while balancing biodiversity conservation with development, based on the traditions and culture of these local areas. The spirit of transnational and trans-regional Kyoujyo (mutual assistance) illustrated in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami represents the exact stance required to build a sustainable society.

[http://gema.biology.tohoku.ac.jp/green\\_reconst/TOP.html](http://gema.biology.tohoku.ac.jp/green_reconst/TOP.html)

## 2.3. Post GDP indicators

Since the 1990s, based on the limitation of GDP as a measure of economic and social development, the international community has developed various sustainability indicators that incorporate environmental factors and social factors. Recently, some international organizations have made efforts to incorporate stock and status of resource productivity of natural capital into the assessment of economic cycle. Population growth and degradation of natural capital is occurring. International community has not come to common understanding of degree of current and future constraint of development. We must examine a scale of how much content rate in the range of speed of sustainable development, and establish the operational indicators to measure. As a prerequisite for green economy, it is necessary to consider natural capital in terms of economy. Fundamentally, further consideration among the international community will be encouraged, aggregating the green economy indicators being examined by Satellite System for Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA), OECD and UNEP. As part of such framework for sustainability indicators, we propose to introduce the concept of regeneration speed and incorporate it as part of the evaluation method of natural capital of the indicators discussed here, in addition to the amount of natural capital stock and resource productivity. Tools to promote the greening of the economy are broadly divided into regulations and incentives, management tools and voluntary efforts, and the following tools are considered effective: Develop indicators to measure quality of life that substitute conventional GDP growth indicators.

Sustainability indicators should include natural capital stock, resource productivity and reproduction speed. Incorporate environmentally sound production technologies, products and services into the social system through implementation of indicator in forms of eco point and top-runner programs.

#### 2.4. Launch of study for new pattern of economic development for Post MDGs era.

International community should agree to create a team for assessment of development patterns, involving researcher from various fields and stakeholders. These study results will be published in 2013, which can be used as basis for the consideration of the framework for the post MDGs.

This team should examine; 1. Options of development pattern, 2. Assessment of MDGs and measures beyond 2015, 3. Projection costs difference among timing of start , 4. A new chance bringing innovation and economic opportunity. Etc.

We are interested in economic developments with personal network development.

Following are utilities to design bottom up pattern of economic development.

##### 1. Focus on role of individuals:

The role of individuals is important. Every organization in the world is formed by individuals and often an individual belongs to multiple major groups. Individuals are required to have awareness as a consumer in compliance with purchasing for a sustainable green economy, choice of time, and choice of policies. Although individuals have certain roles at work, in private and in community, the key to all the changes is the individual's action based on firm awareness that they as an individual have the final responsibility.

Key players of sustainable society are individuals. Every decision will be made by each of you. Each of us must learn more about sustainability and execute responsibility for our common future.

A) If the significance of a green economy becomes clear to individuals, it will lead to actions. With the awareness that the final responsibility of sustainable development lies in individuals, it is important to link this to a life style change.

B) Through more intensified interaction among peoples and societies at grassroots level, people will have more open access to acquiring scientific knowledge and experiences that are not necessarily available in their localities. By being able to access these wealth of human capital, personal life quality and capacity will be enhanced. In return, people can output socially innovative ideas to bring changes to society, and provide services and create new wealth to re-invest in enriching life of others.

C) The international community must encourage an enabling environment and new systems to support entrepreneurship and innovations that are setting the models of conservation and sustainable use of natural capital in pursuit of a healthy and fulfill lifetime. We propose the following:

- i. Empowerment, put spotlight on individuals' initiatives
- ii. Encourage creation of communities to encourage such individual capacity building and innovations
- iii. Information sharing and capacity-building systems which lead to individual empowerment
- iv. Social media to enhance participative democracy
- v. Risk management of green business, investment in capacity building in such management

##### 2. Provide Effective Incentives:

Expansion of preferential tax, financial and fiscal treatment of and commendation systems for business corporations and organizations, etc. that promote the development and diffusion of environment-friendly technologies and products, evaluation and announcement, etc. of efforts by business corporations, appropriate application of accounting standards.

##### 3. Design BOP business model:

Sustainable base of the pyramid (BOP) business is in the spotlight to eradicate poverty from the perspective that supporting people living in poverty in their employment, business launching and livelihood and thereby enhancing their purchasing power should help their economic growth as well as business expansion. It is necessary to help raise awareness about examples of advanced cases and develop frameworks for supporting BOP business in consultation with stakeholders involved.

##### 4. Utilize international standards and guidelines:

Utilization of international standards as tools for realizing the green economy is also effective. It is important to position ISO26000 issued in November 2010 as a tool to give shape to the green economy in organizational management and promote it at an international level.

##### 5. Shift to PRI Finance:

In order to develop the capital market to support the green economy, urge institutional investors around the world to embrace the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and ask them to enhance the transparency of their investment behaviors. Furthermore, business corporations compile corporate reports that integrate financial as well as sustainability issues, and governments and exchanges institutionalize such reports.

##### 6. Develop social media:

In promoting sustainable development and to support role of individuals, it is important to encourage the reform awareness of citizens and companies on which the media has the biggest influence. Defining the media as an important stakeholder and clarifying its role is crucial. In addition, not only the one-way communication as was in the previous model, but mutual communication such as social media that promotes a participatory society is important.

As we head into the 21st century, intellectual productivity and its impact on human life greatly intensified. Technological advancement of mobile phones, ever-growing webs of social networks in cyber space changed the way people communicate, work, and defines principles of life. It has shortened travel times and uplifted barriers that once exist between peoples and societies. It inter-connected people and made an open learning environment latterly available. More than ever, people across borders can share and understand what society is demanding as definitions of full lifetime, enabling us to offer innovative ideas to create sustainable society under a common and shared vision.

##### Message

On March 11, M9.0 earthquake hit the eastern part of Japan. More than 15 thousand people died and 8 thousand are still missing. Cities and towns were totally destroyed by 40 meter Tsunami, or even disappeared as if nothing had been there.



But we were not devastated only by a natural disaster but also by what we had created for ourselves. Four nuclear reactors in Fukushima, which had long been supplying large amount of electricity to the Tokyo economic area, had brought about serious meltdown and hydrogen explosion. They have emitted more than 77 tera Bq of radioactive particles into the air, soil, and ocean, which will undermine our children and grand children physically and mentally for decades.

Through the ruin of our towns and contaminated rubbles we see the end of a paradigm which Japan, and the global economy, had long been standing upon. We built a society on a thin ice of extremely complex social system, sacrificing profound relationship with Mother Earth and sacrificing our own culture and spirits. As a result, in our wealthy society more than 30 thousand people kill themselves every year since 1990s.

A recovery we started is entirely different from the one we experienced after the World War. We have to rebuild ourselves as a true sustainable society and show alternative solutions. We believe it is a responsibility of the world largest economies that had long been exploiting the earth and the people, and as a responsibility of the only country that experienced two atomic bombs and the worst nuclear accident in the human history.

Earth Summit 2012 Japan is, on behalf of the Japanese citizens, willing to involve ourselves strongly in the process for Rio+20, and to make valuable contributions to its ambitious project of creating a new paradigm. Especially, we hope what we learn and start from our ground zero will contribute to the long journey of human kind toward a sustainable future where 7 billion people live together in peace and harmony.

Masahiro Sato

President, EarthSummit2012 Japan

About EarthSummit2012 Japan

EarthSummit2012 Japan is a non-profit multi-stakeholder organization that provides policy proposals, civil actions, and inclusive platforms for the process leading up to Rio+20 in Japan. It was established in August 2010 and consists of about 50 staff members from different sectors such as government, NGOs, social enterprises, academics, and students.

Our Activities

Policy Analysis & Proposals / Social Actions / Platform Making / Awareness Raising

Our Network

EarthSummit2012 Japan is carrying on its activities in partnership with various organizations or individuals in Japan. We are making policy proposals to the government including the establishment of the Domestic Preparatory Committee for Rio+20, which ensure the multi-stakeholder participation to the process. We also coordinate a cross-sectional network of NGOs called the Rio+20 NGO Network. Furthermore, we contribute the awareness raising of citizens or companies through holding a variety of events or providing timely information concerning Rio+20 in cooperation with medias or academic community.

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## Earth System Governance Project

rio+20 policy brief

Transforming governance and institutions for a planet under pressure

Revitalizing the institutional framework for global sustainability: Key Insights from social science research

Global environmental protection has featured high on the international political agenda since the United Nations (UN) Conference on the Human Environment in 1972. Yet, despite more than 900 environmental treaties coming into force over the past 40 years, human-induced environmental degradation is reaching unprecedented levels. Human societies must change course and steer away from critical tipping points in the earth system that might lead to rapid and irreversible change, while ensuring sustainable livelihoods for all. This requires a fundamental transformation of existing practices. If we are to achieve more sustainable development in the future, we have to reorient and restructure our national and international institutions and governance mechanisms. Incrementalism will not suffice to bring about societal change at the level required; the world needs structural change in global governance.

The 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development must become a major stepping stone towards introducing a stronger institutional framework for sustainable development. We urge decision makers to seize this opportunity to develop a clear and ambitious roadmap for institutional change and bring about fundamental reform of current sustainability governance within the next decade. This policy brief outlines the core areas needing most urgent action.

Summary of key points and policy recommendations

- Strengthen international environmental treaties: Governments must engage in structural reforms in how international environmental negotiations are conducted and treaties designed. Present and future treaties must rely more on systems of qualified majority voting in specified areas.

- Manage conflicts among multilateral agreements: International economic institutions must advance transitions to a sustainable economy, including by multilaterally harmonized systems that allow for discriminating between products on the basis of production processes, based on multilateral agreement. Global trade and investment regimes must be embedded in a normative context of social, developmental, and environmental values.

- Fill regulatory gaps in international sustainability governance: New or strengthened international regulatory frameworks are needed in several areas, including on emerging technologies, water, food, and energy.

- Upgrade UNEP: Governments need to engage in negotiations for the up-grading of UNEP to a specialized UN agency, along the lines of the World Health Organization or the International Labour Organization.

- Better integrate sustainable development policies within the UN system: Governments need to support overall integrative mechanisms within the UN system that better align the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainable development.

- Strengthen national governance: New policy instruments are a promising complement to regulation if carefully designed. But they are not panaceas.

- Streamline and strengthen public-private governance networks and partnerships: The CSD and other bodies need a stronger mandate and better methodologies for the verification and monitoring of partnerships. Despite the growing role of non-state actors, there is still a strong need for effective and decisive governmental action.

- Strengthen accountability and legitimacy: Novel accountability mechanisms are needed, including mandatory disclosure of accessible, comprehensible and comparable data about government and corporate sustainability performance. Stronger consultative rights for civil society representatives in intergovernmental institutions should be introduced.
- Address equity concerns within and among countries: Equity concerns must be at the heart of the institutional framework for sustainable development. High consumption levels in industrialized countries and in some parts of the emerging economies require special and urgent action. Financial transfers from richer to poorer countries are inevitable, either through direct support payments for mitigation and adaptation programmes or through international market mechanisms, for example global emissions markets.
- Prepare global governance for a warmer world: Global adaptation programmes need to become a core concern of the UN system and governments.

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#### STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL TREATIES

Recent research on factors that foster the creation and effectiveness of international environmental treaties has led to important insights into how to improve the international governance system. International treaties are most effective when they:

- state precise goals, criteria and benchmarks for assessing progress;
- are designed to be flexible and adaptable to changes in the problem and context;
- have formal procedures to ensure new scientific information is taken up quickly; and
- systematically collect information about the effectiveness of the treaty and review this information regularly.

Governments can also speed up treaty negotiations by conducting them within existing institutions and by breaking down problems into smaller negotiation packages. Negotiators can sometimes sacrifice substance and stringency to reach 'shallow' but inclusive agreements that can be built on later; e.g., through framework-plus-protocol approaches, tacit-acceptance procedures for amendments, and formalized mechanisms that help develop soft law agreements into hard law. Such measures will lead to an incremental improvement of the system of international environmental agreements. We urge governments to draw on the lessons of past treaty-making exercises to improve their functioning.

While incremental change is important, it is not sufficient. More transformative reform is needed urgently. Introducing a stronger reliance on qualified majority voting would be a positive step, since political systems that rely on majority-based rule are quicker to arrive at far-reaching decisions. At the international level, experiences with qualified majority voting are rare and will need to be restricted to clearly specified areas to ensure the support of all countries. One route is the double-weighted majority voting developed in the treaties on stratospheric ozone depletion, which accept majority decisions yet also grant veto power to North and South as groups of countries.

#### MANAGE CONFLICTS AMONG MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS

Conflict among different treaties – both within sustainability policy and beyond – has recently become a major concern.

Here, governments must strengthen the capacity and mandate of environmental treaties (including their secretariats) to collect, disseminate and exchange information on links with other treaties. Treaties with similar objectives need formal mechanisms for joint negotiation and management. Furthermore, the requirement to respect and support the objectives of (other) multilateral environmental treaties should be accepted as a general principle.

It is particularly important to manage conflicts between economic and environmental treaties, with reforms of the institutional framework for sustainable development brought in line with the ideal of the 'green economy'. Environmental goals must be mainstreamed into the activities of global economic institutions, while global trade and investment regimes need to be embedded in a normative context of social, developmental and environmental values. Discriminating in world trade law between products on the basis of production processes is critical, if investments in cleaner products and services are to be encouraged. Such discrimination should be based on multilateral agreement to prevent protectionist impacts.

Fill regulatory gaps in international sustainability governance

In addition to strengthening existing treaties, there are numerous areas where new frameworks are needed.

One is the development and deployment of such technologies as nanotechnology, synthetic biology and geoengineering. These emerging technologies promise significant benefits, but also pose major risks for sustainable development. They therefore need an international institutional framework to support forecasting, transparency and information-sharing on new technologies; further develop technical standards; help clarify the applicability of existing treaties; promote public discussion and input; and engage multiple stakeholders in policy dialogues. Such a framework must ensure that environmental considerations are fully respected.

Initially, multilateral action on emerging technologies could take the form of one or more framework conventions.

Global water governance also needs a stronger and more coherent multilateral framework, since it remains the remit of several UN agencies and civil society organizations. Global food governance must be strengthened as well. Regulatory challenges here include international management of food safety and nutrition, the coordination of climate change adaptation in food systems, limits on commodity speculation, and standards to guide private regulation such as certification and labeling schemes. Furthermore, energy governance requires strong oversight by global bodies whose activities are currently dispersed and poorly coordinated.

#### Upgrade UNEP and UNCSD

International environmental organizations play vital roles in governance for sustainable development, but need further strengthening. Many reform proposals have been submitted in recent decades. Some of the more radical proposals – such as an international agency that centralizes and integrates existing intergovernmental organizations and regimes – are unlikely to be implemented and would yield uncertain gains. However, most of us see substantial benefits in upgrading the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to a specialized UN agency for environmental protection, along the lines of the World Health Organization or the International Labour Organization.

At the same time, it is important to increase the integration of sustainable development policy within the UN system and beyond. The UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) was created to fulfil this role, but its political relevance has remained limited.

Governments must take action to support mechanisms within the UN system that will improve integration of the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainable development. An upgraded, strengthened CSD that includes meaningful participation from all branches of government, is one route to consider.

## Strengthen national governance

"When designed carefully, new policy instruments are a promising complement to regulation, but they are not panaceas."

The shortcomings of international institutions largely reflect those of domestic policies. An effective institutional framework for sustainable development requires critical institutional innovations at the national level. New policy instruments – often involving nonstate actors – have become popular as a means of overcoming problems in implementing regulations, since they are often seen as being more flexible. However, questions remain about their transparency, equity implications and long-term effectiveness. When designed carefully, new policy instruments are a promising complement to regulation, but they are not panaceas. Success lies in developing packages of different instruments, and in evaluating the effectiveness of these in their own terms as well as in relation to alternative options.

## Streamline and strengthen public–private governance networks and partnerships

"...few of the 300-plus partnerships for sustainable development formed around the 2002 Johannesburg Summit have delivered on their promise..."

The past few decades have seen tremendous growth in new types of governance, such as public–private partnerships or transnational labelling schemes. Yet the effectiveness of these novel mechanisms remains uncertain.

Research indicates that few of the 300-plus partnerships for sustainable development formed around the 2002 Johannesburg Summit have delivered on their promise. Overall, the partnership approach has not met its expectations in contributing to the Millennium Development Goals and furthering participation and implementation. Insufficient funding, ineffective organizational structures, lack of quantitative targets and weak accountability systems have also limited its effectiveness. To strengthen such partnerships, UNCSD and other agencies need a stronger mandate and better methodologies for the verification and monitoring of progress.

Labelling and certification schemes can advance sustainable development by enabling markets to support environmentally sound business practices. To be effective, these need multiple stakeholders, appropriate national regulatory frameworks, built-in accountability mechanisms and consumer demand. Governments play a crucial role through regulations that create incentives for certification, focused procurement policies, legitimization of measures and involvement in monitoring sustainability effects. International organizations can also play a powerful role in catalyzing novel forms of private and public–private governance.

Novel mechanisms such as the Clean Development Mechanism or Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) can contribute to sustainable development when they are seen as supplementary to, rather than a replacement for, governmental action.

To ensure equitable distribution of benefits and to minimize the risks associated with them (e.g. to indigenous people or biodiversity), international, national and local bodies must have strong institutional oversight. Governments must work towards improving institutional capacity, increasing representation of local stakeholders, changing the uneven monitoring of claimed benefits, and rebalancing global and local benefits.

New types of transnational cooperation among local public authorities (e.g. cities) are becoming important and many such authorities have taken significant action towards addressing the causes and consequences of global environmental risks. Governments must provide a political mandate that recognizes their diverse contexts and guides practical action on the ground as well as supporting collaboration and developing local capacity and financial resources.

Despite the growing role of nonstate actors, there is still a need for effective and decisive governmental action, both at the national and intergovernmental level. Governance beyond the state can be a useful supplement but still requires governmental support.

## Strengthen accountability and legitimacy

"...governance accountability can be strengthened when stakeholders gain better access to information and decision-making..."

Both intergovernmental and novel non-state-driven institutions face increasing pressures for improved accountability and access to decision making. There is no universal formula to increase accountability and legitimacy across all sustainable development institutions. In general, governance accountability can be strengthened when stakeholders gain better access to information and decision-making, for example through special rights enshrined in agreements, charters and codes, and stronger participation in councils that govern resources, or in commissions that hear complaints. International environmental, developmental and economic institutions must adopt such novel accountability mechanisms more widely. Stronger consultative rights for civil society representatives in intergovernmental institutions can be a major step forward. This requires appropriate mechanisms that account for imbalances between countries and for power differentials between different segments of civil society, and that ensure appropriate accountability mechanisms for civil society representatives vis-à-vis their constituencies.

While greater transparency and information disclosure can empower citizens and consumers to hold governments and private actors accountable as well as providing incentives for better sustainability performance, transparency does not always deliver on its promises.

Disclosed information is often inaccessible, inconsistent or incomprehensible. Governments and private actors must ensure that disclosure obligations go beyond 'business as usual' to stimulate a change in existing unsustainable practices.

## Address equity concerns within and among countries

The institutional framework for sustainable development must address questions of justice, fairness and equity. Regarding equity within countries, there may be a trade-off between effectiveness/ efficiency and equity. However, this presents a false dichotomy in most complex environmental problems, which are inherently political in nature. Legitimate and transparent democratic processes are needed to allow societies and communities to choose policies they see as being equitable and effective.

Poor and marginalized communities are most vulnerable to global environmental change but seldom have a voice in policymaking.

Relevant processes should therefore promote participation of the poor in policy preparation, implementation, monitoring and adaptation.

At the international level, equity and fairness need to be at the heart of strong and durable international regimes. Equitable progress towards globally sustainable development requires greater action by the richer nations. In particular, governments and societies in industrialized countries need to accept that global environmental change has fundamentally increased global interdependence and (further) transformed the international system.

Also the rapidly industrializing countries in the South need to actively determine their role and position on sustainable development governance and to direct their development pathways towards a green economy.

Overall, financial transfers from richer to poorer countries at unprecedented levels are inevitable, either through direct support payments for mitigation and adaptation programmes based on international agreement or through such mechanisms as global emissions markets. Novel financial mechanisms like transnational air transportation levies for sustainability purposes could also contribute.

The organization of global funding for sustainable development lacks consistency and inclusiveness, with most funding agencies having different interests, rules and general policies. Policy coherence is often weak. Governments and funding agencies need to revisit existing funding mechanisms to increase policy coherence and strengthen the voice of the recipient countries.

Prepare global governance for a warmer world

Complete mitigation of global environmental change is already out of reach, so the new institutional framework for sustainable development must include governance for adaptation. Research indicates that the adaptability of local communities is stronger when the governance system itself is adaptive. Institutional frameworks with multiple centres and levels of authority may foster the adaptive capacities required.

Strong informal networks and public participation in planning, implementation and review are all important and governments and international institutions should support adaptability in local governance mechanisms.

At the global level, the institutional framework seems ill prepared to cope with the consequences of massive global change that will affect such major systems as food, water, energy, health and migration, and their interactions.

While massive changes, for example in sea level, may not be imminent, future dangers can be minimized if institutional reform is planned and negotiated today. Global adaptation programmes thus need to become a core concern of the UN system and governments.

Conclusion

"We need to have a 'constitutional moment' in world politics..."

We need to have a 'constitutional moment' in world politics, akin to the major transformative shift in governance after 1945 that led to the establishment of the United Nations and numerous other international organizations, along with far-reaching new international legal norms on human rights and economic cooperation.

The 2012 Rio+20 Conference offers both an opportunity and a crucial test as to whether such conferences can bring about substantial and urgently needed change in the current institutional framework for sustainable development.

Compiled by:

The Earth System Governance Project.

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A longer and fully referenced version of this Policy Brief is available at: [www.earthsystemgovernance.org/ifsd](http://www.earthsystemgovernance.org/ifsd).

The Earth System Governance Project is a ten-year research initiative under the auspices of the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, which is sponsored by the International Council for Science (ICSU), the International Social Science Council (ISSC), and the United Nations University. The Earth System Governance Project involves about 1700 colleagues along with a core network of twelve institutions in the Global Alliance of Earth System Governance Research Centres ([www.earthsystemgovernance.org](http://www.earthsystemgovernance.org)).

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## East London Green Jobs Alliance

Input for Compilation Document, Rio+20 Summit 2012 About us

The East London Green Jobs Alliance is a coalition of trade unions, NGOs, community based organisations and green businesses working together to create green and decent jobs for East London citizens. The East London Green Jobs Alliance is anchored by the Otesha Project UK and Unionlearn SERTUC.

We seek to stimulate the local green economy and provide training and job opportunities for local people – especially the young and unemployed. We do this through:

- Campaigning for all jobs to be greener and have a living wage
- Developing greener job policy and practice
- Creating leadership in London on green jobs
- Supporting new green enterprises
- Developing a pilot project that aims to work in partnership with employers, training providers and other support agencies in the formation of a 'green jobs pipeline' Principles

Our work is shaped by two basic principles: 1. Equal opportunities for all – greener jobs and training like everything else must provide opportunities for everyone

2. Equity for people and planet – greener jobs and training must support social and environmental justice locally, nationally and globally

To achieve the stated aim of the transition to a green economy we make the following recommendations to the Rio+20 compilation document: The transition to a green economy must be based on:

1. Equalities – Many of the potential green growth areas like construction and engineering do not adequately reflect the potential workforce. The under-representation in apprenticeships and employment in these sectors must be addressed to ensure access to job opportunities by all disadvantaged groups. A recognition that climate change and energy prices will hit the poorest sections of society hardest.

2. Fair and decent jobs – The move to a green economy must be based on fair wages and decent terms and conditions of employment. These should include opportunities for career progression, and rights to health and safety and trade union recognition.
3. Co-ordination and coherence – The current policy is characterised by short-termism and uncertainty that is hampering progress. Stimulating demand for jobs and training requires a long term strategic approach in areas like low carbon sector incentives, and procurement policies.
4. Communication and engagement strategy - Partnerships across civil society at global, national and local level are needed to promote training, job opportunities and inclusiveness.
5. A Just Transition – Workers and communities must be consulted about the opportunities and threats to employment in each sector of the economy. Provision to re-train and up-skill in good time must be built in to all jobs and sectors at risk from a transition to a green economy.

The East London Green Jobs Alliance welcomes comments on the content of this proposal. Please email comments to: [hanna@greenjobsalliance.org.uk](mailto:hanna@greenjobsalliance.org.uk)

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## Eco-Accord

Proposals for Rio+20:

### Sustainable Development Needs a New Impetus

Almost twenty years ago the UN Conference on Environment and Development was held in Rio de Janeiro and launched the unique global process for transition to sustainable development. Rio process gave a powerful impulse for understanding and re-thinking of the realities of the modern world, threats to its existence and how to resolve the crisis. As Rio-92 follow-up a lot of action at all levels have been implemented with many positive results. However, in total the humanity failed to reverse the dangerous trends, which continued to deepen.

We urge governments at Rio+20 Summit:

To recognize the need to intensify efforts for transition to sustainable development. It is necessary to decide on launching elaboration of global Sustainable Development Goals for the period starting from 2016. Every country should set its targets for achieving of SDGs and develop a strategy to meet the targets.

International assistance to meet Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development Goals should be increased. All developed countries should respect their earlier made commitments on allocation of 0.7% of GNP to official development assistance. These commitments should be reaffirmed at Rio+20 Summit. In parallel, it is necessary to focus on improvement of efficiency of the assistance provided, on mobilisation of national sources and on search for innovative funding mechanisms. In the course of selecting spheres of international development assistance, donor countries and international finance institutions should account for decisions of Rio+20, in particular the ones pertaining to transition to "green economy".

Transition from "brown economy" to "green economy" is vital:

1. Rio+20 should declare setting a course for transition to "green economy". It is necessary to develop and approve a clear system of "green economy" indicators at the international level and a cumulative "green economy" index relying on these indicators.
2. Governments should commit to provide favourable preconditions for transition to "green economy", including use of market mechanisms and incentives for private investments into development of "green businesses", improvement of the legal framework, tax reforms, focusing governmental procurements and expenditures in spheres that stimulate green economic sectors and imposing limitations on expenditures that destroy the natural capital base, termination of inefficient subsidies.
3. By 2013, all countries should develop Roadmaps for transition to "green economy" and agree on cooperation in exchange of information, best practices and on assistance in capacity building. A Roadmap should stipulate phased implementation of specific measures to alter existing production and consumption patterns, accompanied by clear indicators and deadlines.
4. Many developing countries and transition economies require assistance for elaboration and implementation of policies of transition to "green economy". Relevant capacity building programs should be developed at the international level, including inter alia practical recommendations and best practices of different countries.
8. Policies for transition to "green economy" should not pursue environmental objectives only, they also should address social problems, poverty eradication, public health, social equality and job creation. Needs of the poorest and most vulnerable groups should be accounted for, as well as development needs of developing countries and transition economies.
9. Large scale actions are needed to enhance understanding of "green economy" concept and policies by different stakeholders, including governmental bodies (ministry of economic, environmental and social blocks), business community and the general public. "Green economy" should be integrated into education curricula. Earth Charter as an ethical code of sustainable development can be used. The Decade of Education for Sustainable Development should be extended beyond 2014 with a focus on education for green economy.
5. Assessment of ecosystem services should become a key element of sustainable development. Further development of monetary valuation of ecosystem services and incorporation of costs of these services into operational economic models are the key tasks, that, if addressed, would allow to stop ecosystem losses. It is necessary to build a complex of legal, administrative and economic mechanisms at local, regional, national and international levels. Measures, that allow to do it, should form the framework of roadmaps of sustainable development at all levels and should be incorporated into national state reporting systems. The Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services should be provided with a clear institutional framework, resolutions of the Biodiversity Convention on funding mechanisms and inter-sectoral interaction should be implemented.
6. International community should intensify efforts to address one of the most pressing threats - climate change. Actions in the sphere should pay more attention to boreal forests - a global and generally stable carbon sink. Existing climate conventions do not account for carbon conservation functions of boreal forests. In future climate treaties, artificial restrictions on carbon offsets for carbon sequestration by boreal forests should be lifted.
17. At Rio+20 Summit countries should agree on gradual phase-out of inefficient subsidies to fossil fuel. Fossil fuel subsidies do not promote efficient and rational use of energy resources, they contribute to climate change and make application of renewable energy unprofitable. Such steps should account for potential social consequences and should be accompanied by relevant reforms in interests of the whole society, including the most vulnerable social groups. As bio-fuel production can also create problems

for sustainable development, in particular food price rise, it is necessary to review national measures of supporting bio-ethanol production and use and, if it is necessary, to reduce them substantially or to withdraw them completely.

10. A framework convention on sound chemicals management, relying on existing international and regional chemical treaties should be developed. The framework convention should seek to minimise, by 2020, adverse health and environmental impacts of chemicals production and use. Such legally binding international treaty would allow to use a comprehensive approach to management of hazardous chemicals and waste, to enhance national and international actions for sound chemicals management and for implementation of key activity dimensions stipulated by Agenda 21.

14. It is necessary to secure a sufficient number of ratifications to ensure that Ban Amendment to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal will become effective by 2016 (the amendment provides for the global ban on export of hazardous waste to developing countries, including electronic waste). The international community should forever ban transformation of developing countries into a toxic waste dump. Developed countries have sufficient financial resources to address problems of sound hazardous waste management within their national borders.

11. Human health should be central while implementing priority objectives of environmental degradation including depletion of natural resources, poor water and air quality result in the rise of some chronic disease. Vulnerable groups are most affected. Urgent measures are needed to treat and prevent chronic diseases caused by environmental impact on human health as well as elaboration of international regulatory base on environmental and health risk assessment with further economic assessment of these risks. We call on governments and international organisations to develop an awareness raising and educational system on environmental health issues focused on women and the most vulnerable groups on a first- priority basis.

12. Governments should intensify their efforts to ensure food security. It is necessary to intensify activities for establishment of regional systems of food reserves for humanitarian emergencies, that might be also used to mitigate adverse consequences of sharp volatility of food prices. In order to reduce food losses and waste after harvesting, it is necessary to provide for opportunities of access of developing countries and economies in transition to modern technologies of processing, storage, packaging, transportation and marketing of agricultural products. Countries should promote active application of agro-environmental agricultural practices that improve harvest yield, improve nutritional value of products and reduce countries' reliance on application of pesticides.

12. It is necessary to develop, by 2020, a global program for elimination of accumulated environmental liabilities, providing for allocation of necessary and sufficient funding to address priority problems. A polluter pays principal should be fully implemented to ensure producer responsibility. Control of the program implementation should be supported by relevant legislative frameworks at the international and national levels. Priority attention should be paid to addressing the problem of accumulated hazardous industrial waste, including stockpiles of banned and obsolete pesticides and agricultural chemicals, as well as mining waste. It is necessary to implement comprehensive actions for rehabilitation and safe use of contaminated areas, accounting for economic and environmental prospects of their further use.

16. The transition to green economy necessitates greening the trade. Trade should not be an obstacle, it should become a tool of green economy. Governments should agree to change multilateral trade system, to make it a promoter of sustainable development to the maximal extent possible in particular, new rules are necessary in the sphere of regulation of subsidies and investments that would encourage their "desirable" forms in terms of transition to "green economy" and discourage "undesirable" ones.

15. At Rio+20 Summit countries should agree on development of global institutional mechanisms, promoting international R&D cooperation in all spheres associated with "green growth", and accelerating dissemination of technologies in developing countries and transition economies. It is necessary to adjust the international regime of protection of intellectual property rights, including inter alia a broader application of compulsory licensing practices, and higher incentives for development and dissemination of innovations to make economy greener.

Transition to green economy requires improvement of governance

18. Transition to green economy necessitates improvement of governance at all levels. Governments should acknowledge the need to strengthen UNEP and to enhance its status to that of a specialised UN agency.

19. National Sustainable Development Councils should be established in every country and should operate on a transparent basis with participation of all stakeholders. It is necessary to develop performance indicators for NSDCs, to ensure their regular reporting and monitoring of their activities.

20. To develop, by 2015, a Global convention on access to environmental information, public participation and access to justice on environmental matters. Access to information and public participation are necessary for open and responsible governance and decision-making. A swift development of the Convention and its entry into force would allow to guarantee efficient public participation in development of green economy. The Convention should provide for commitments on launching Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers (PRTPs).

21. It is necessary to establish a specialised ECOSOC unit on sustainable development. In particular, such unit might assess progress in terms of green economy indicators/indices, and produce surveys of countries' sustainable development/green economy policies at the base of national materials and external assessments.

Recommendation have been prepared by Eco-Accord in cooperation with EECCA (Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia) Trade and Sustainable Development Network) with contribution of Association for Sustainable Human Development (Armenia); Biotica (Moldova); Severtsev Institute of Ecology and Evolution (Russia); Rostok (Russia); Volgograd-Ecopress (Russia); Oxfam (Russia); EKA (Russia); Rainbow/Youth for Environment and Sustainable Development ; Russian Chemists Union; Institute of Water Problems, Russian Academy of Scientists; Institute of Humanitarian and Economic Problems of Food Security (Russia); Academy of Quality Problems (Russia); Dubna Regional Environmental Center (Russia); InterEcoPravo Center (Russia); Moscow State University (Russia); Center for Forest Ecology and Productivity, Russian Academy of Scientists (Russia).

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## Eco-Forum Global

Contribution by the Eco-Forum Global to a Successful Rio+20 Conference

October 2011

The Eco-Forum Global is a China-based organization committed to creating effective dialogue and generating new paradigm and new actions to foster green development opportunities worldwide.

For the past three years, the Eco-Forum Global has convened groups of committed people, enterprises and organizations from inside and outside China to engage in productive dialogue on green economy and sustainable development.

New Future - Objectives of the Conference

Rio+20 provides a unique opportunity for the world to review and complete the past 20 years of efforts on sustainable developments, and more importantly, to open up a new future.

The world is facing unprecedented challenges and uncertainty. The eco-system is increasingly vulnerable and uncertain. Eco-security is becoming a top priority for governments, organizations, business and individuals. The existing development model that we are familiar with has not provided with any effective solutions to deal with the crisis.

The reality is that the gap between the rich and poor, and the gap between who is in need and who has not are enlarging at faster pace.

Human beings must demand a fundamental shift in paradigm of the ways we live our life, conduct our business and govern ourselves.

We must have the courage to confront ourselves with the reality and face where we have failed. The next step is to reinvent the governance structure, take powerful actions, and make paradigm shift.

We call for reaching authentic and sweeping consensus to live in a new world of eco-civilization.

#### Green Development and Eco-civilization

We advocate for ecological civilization. We are going beyond the industrialized civilization and moving into eco-civilization. This is a huge mission, as big as civilization changes.

Eco-civilization represents a fundamental shift about how we live our daily life, how we conduct our business, and how we exist to the nature we live in.

Countries of different origins and culture traditions are capable of making unique contributions to a new world of eco-civilization.

Eco-civilization is the direction. We must create a new future, not just wait for something to fall on us.

#### Opportunities Now Present - Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

We are convinced that green economy should not be merely viewed as new "tools" or new "approaches" to fulfill the goals of sustainable development. Green economy, while people could differ on its definition, must be viewed as a powerful context in which we carry out economic activities.

Green economy offers operable models and frameworks to grow innovative and sustained efforts. Green economy is the pathway to eliminate poverty and to develop harmonious relationship with the environment we are living within.

Green economy demands creativity. Green economy is way more than simple branding or slogans. It is innovative act. It is a promise to create and deliver. In China and many other places in the world, local economies are experimenting very interesting new models for sustainable development. We need to aggregate, exchange, expand and re-innovate all these best practices from local to global.

Green economy demands collaboration at an unprecedented level we probably have never seen. There is no shortage of new approaches, new access, and new models for us to adopt. We need to become experts in building trusts and finding partners through formal or informal dialogues.

Green economy itself demands opportunities to grow suitable growth models. We have discovered some exciting stories where new technologies, which would have not been adopted by maturing business in other countries, were successfully launched by entrepreneurial and its transnational business partner. The unique market opportunities available in developing countries make it possible and even easier to grow green technologies.

The experiences and efforts that are being made in countries like Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa should be given much bigger attention. Mature models and experiments should be pruned for implementation at bigger scales.

In the end, taking on Green Economy demands courage. Green economy is not immune from risk of failures or mistakes. Excessive worries or debates about what is fair and what is not block actions and cause delays. Fear of blame and fear of failures are making gaps bigger and bigger. It is time to let go of complaints and suspicions and re-honor our commitments.

#### New Environment to Invent - Institutional Framework

It is unthinkable that we can produce the outcome intended by Rio+20 if good governance and strong leadership are lacking.

We need an innovative governance system. The experience of the past twenty years proves that non-governmental organizations and other major groups must be given much bigger space and right of voice, which is determinative to the effectiveness of the new institutional framework.

At the very basic levels, eco-security must be realized through effective governance and enforcement. Eco-security transcends national borders and demands full efforts at local, regional and national levels.

At the global level, we advocate for establishing new international structures to implement the sustainable development goals. We are open and are willing to support people who make irrevocable promises and hold themselves accountable to courageous, responsible and measurable results. Whether the new structure is in the form of World Environmental Organization, or United National Sustainable Development Council, the key is to empower the new organization to adopt and supervise the execution of new initiatives.

Fundamentally, green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication are closely tied to the institutional framework because any meaningful changes require a new environment to be provided by strong leadership.

Inter-governmental working mechanisms at regional, national and global levels will continue to operate at higher level of productivity. For example, the governmental organizations must provide pro-innovation legal environment, enforce high regulatory standards.

The leadership at local, regional and national levels must at least focus on the following aspects:

- Promising market and accessibility.
- Social stability
- Social, economic or environmental systems generating demands or needs of applications

- Adequate information and proper access to information
- Educated workforce with proper skills and appropriate awareness
- Clear economic development priorities

#### Beyond Rio+20

What is more important than Rio+20 is what we do and what we deliver after Rio+20. We need to generate ongoing breakthroughs and honor the legally binding commitments we all have made.

It is critical that the Outcome Document must set mandates for what each of us is going to accomplish beyond Rio+20.

The challenges we are facing are enormous. We need to dramatically free up huge creativity and energy from the vast population on the earth.

To have sustainable development job done, we must ongoing re-educate ourselves and empower new generations to come.

In the pathway of green development, we must keep turning the new ideas into true success. We need to be courageous in front of failures, need to learn how to work with teams, mobilize all resources and promote our ideas and commitments. True innovation and entrepreneurship go beyond good ideas and bursts of passion.

With re-commitment firmly in hand, we must group together much more closely and we need to exchange ideas much faster and much more efficiently.

We are committed to be a hub for partnership and foundation for eco-civilization. We are open and committed to partner with all stakeholders to powerfully deliver the results.

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## eco-union

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Note: this report has not been fully revised by all participants of the Global Eco Forum and might be subject to change. Latest versions in English, Catalan and Spanish will be published at [www.global-ecoforum.org](http://www.global-ecoforum.org)

### 1. Presentation of Global Eco Forum

#### 1. Scope and methodology of the forum

The Global Eco Forum is an independent, annual and international multi-stakeholders conference around sustainability. It offers an open space for collective and systemic reflection towards environmental sustainability and emerging think-to-action tank of current and future opinion leaders and actors for change towards sustainable development in the Catalan, Spanish and Euro- Mediterranean region. It includes international dialogues between representatives of business, NGO's, government and academia as well as thematic workshops to explore in depth key topics in a collaborative way.

The Global Eco Forum is a project organized by eco-union, a not for profit and independent Spanish NGO created in 2005 in Barcelona focused on education, research and innovation for Sustainability. The Global Eco Forum has the support of a multi-stakeholders and multi-level advisory committee with more than 50 sustainability experts from NGO's, government, business and academia, to prepare the key topics and participative sessions of the Global Eco Forum. It is mainly funded by Catalan and Spanish government with the active support of Mediterranean bodies such as IEMed and UfM.

#### 2. Last 2011 edition focused on Rio+20

This Global Eco Forum 2011 aimed to open a process of debate and dialogue of the civil society aimed at the preparation of the Earth summit Rio+20 in 2012. From this dialogue and workshops was defined the forthcoming vision and recommendations to UNCSD draft zero towards a global sustainable development of Catalan, Spanish and Euro-Mediterranean region. The Global Eco Forum 2011 took place in La Pedrera, Barcelona, from 25th to 26th of October 2011, with more than 350 participants and 50 speakers from Catalonia, Spain and various Mediterranean countries (Italy, Greece, France, Palestine and Egypt). Main plenary sessions were live streamed on internet and recorded for further diffusion in our on-line social network. Previous to this high profile event, a meeting of the advisory committee took place the 14th July 2011 with more



than 40 participants, to prepare the participative sessions on Green Economy within the Global Eco Forum.

### 3. Participants and key debates

Some of the speakers and participants includes key representatives from Euro-Med thinks tanks (Anna Lindh Foundation, IEMed), government (Catalonia and Spain), Multinationals companies (Danone, Havas), SME's (eco entrepreneurs), NGO's (Greenpeace, WWF, IUCN), Academia (UAB, Esade), among others. The key questions explored in this forum were

- What is the meaning of Green Economy and governance of Sustainability in our own social and cultural context, i.e. Catalonia, Spain and Euro-Mediterranean region?
- What are the expectations and recommendations of the civil society towards Rio+20 Summit?

## 2. Challenges and recommendations for sustainable development

### 1. State of the (un)sustainability

We believe that nowadays it is vital to reduce the consumption of resources in the planet and in our region (Catalonia, Spain, Euro-med). The current consumption trend in term of resources is enormous and the effort that should be made is extremely worrying. The Global Eco Forum stresses that it has been well proven that there is a strong correlation between natural resources consumption and economical growth on one side and between technological progress and consumption on the other side. Growth and energy go hand in hand. The only slight consumption reduction we observed in some European countries recently was due to increased importation from China or economic recession but not due to our efforts to move to a greener economy. Technological progress has always come with more natural and energy resources use; this has been a standard through history because of the well - known "rebound effect".

### 2. Weakness around sustainable development

The analysis of the current situation of the euro-med region regarding the transition toward a sustainable society leads to observe that everywhere local sustainable initiatives are happening but there is no general map or systemic/inclusive approach.

Objectively, the overall picture is one of an endless growth model which is unsustainable and will surely collapse in the next few years. The majority still believes in "developmentism" (with a certain obsession for big infrastructures), "productivism" and consumerism" as being the most important drivers for (economic) growth, missing the link with inclusiveness, general well-being, happiness and prosperity. In this panorama of the euro-med region some causes and responsibilities of this were identified:

#### ■ Incoherent governance

The ambiguity at best or hypocrisy at worst that many institutions and decision makers say one thing but end-up doing another is a major issue. Many opposite signals have been sent to society, for example with speeches enhancing the importance of renewable energy but at the same time charging taxes against it or pleading for a responsible agriculture but financing an extensive one contrary to this. This kind of simple observation that the citizen can easily make is a clear indicator at different levels of the ambiguous and incoherent path taken by decision makers regarding a transition toward a sustainable model of development.

The evidence suggests that there has not been a serious change of paradigm understanding and its corresponding attitude with the majority of decision makers. The private and public sectors show the same incoherence, they often keep the sustainable economical approach as a vision and simply talking about it (communication and marketing departments) but with not enough impulse to integrate it to the decision moment and to implement it. Even the U.E. itself gives incoherent signals sometimes with two conflicting attitudes: for example financing transition tools and steps toward sustainability but, at the same time financing some big infrastructure which are questionable for sustainability and local development.

#### ■ Undefined institutional framework

Beside the creation and superposition of several networks and unions (Union for the Mediterranean, Barcelona process) we still don't have a sufficient institutional framework. Most of these organizations are still in the process of defining their role and structuring themselves, their link to civil society is also generally weak or "under construction".

The actual biggest challenge is the enormous gap between a globalised and structured finance sector leading the paradigm of the very short term and the on going and slow process of construction of a regional and global governance. This gives an obvious systemic advantage to short term economic benefit planning over long term sustainable development strategies.

How we manage an interconnected world with the governance processes lagging behind is one of the questions the forum is highlighting. All these aspects led us to an important fragmentation and limitation in term of decisions that remains at the margin of the system being constantly questioned by 'classical' approach of modern environmental conservationist (ecological) advance is often restricted by another conflicting parallel decision.

#### ■ Insufficient legislation

Governments have failed to create a legal framework which would help the investment in cultural, social and natural capital. As a result there is not enough protection of these common goods from predation and captation from some selected entities using it to create easy private benefit. The lack of regulation has led in numerous cases to an obvious exploitation of "all what it is useful" from some actors on a very short term plan in a complete disregard to sustainability.

The multilateral governance forums such as the protocols in Kyoto, Montréal, etc. have shown to be ineffective at reaching agreements and just as weak at implementing them. The lack of legislation framework set us back unfortunately to a dominant law of the mightiest (strongest). Working with regulation on the tax systems (paying/getting tax refunds for good/wrong environmental behaviours) is broadly recognized by our participants (see Workshops) as the wiser and most relevant and powerful tool to reach some results in our transition toward sustainable development.

#### ■ Negative economic conjuncture

The current economic phase, made up of the so-called economic crisis\* (in the north), economic 'crisis' and governance redefinition in the south of the Mediterranean area, seems to worsen the tendencies of decision makers to give priority to short term thinking and take decisions which are against Sustainable Development paradigm. A radical change of paradigm is needed in this precise moment. However it looks unlikely that weak decisions makers would have the courage and capacity to make it happen.

#### ■ Absence of a strong and shared vision

The same problems of cultural, social and environmental aspects connect south and north of the Mediterranean Sea. Human, cultural and natural capital is object of a predation from individual and private interest which forbids any sustainable management. There is no integration of these cultural social and ecological costs for human society in the current models.

### 3. Main transversal recommendations for sustainability

The forum leads us to a set of transversal recommendations to reach true sustainability:

- Create human capital: to get a critical mass of people with the knowledge and understanding of what is at stake.
- Push for collective intelligence processes: to produce initiatives backed by enough people with good awareness of sustainability.
- Choose a governance that has a strategic vision (long term): to use the human capital wisely and the collective intelligence processes to walk toward changes.
- Create systems and structures: to implement and monitor the whole path between strategic vision/principles and the field.

### 4. Main strategic recommendations for sustainability

Our forum through several dialogues and workshop suggests some specific and strategic recommendations for Euro-Med region:

- Create a shared vision in which new common enemies (e.g. climate change, pollution, water scarcity, desertification, etc.) are identified and are fought together.
- Develop a genuine process of planning together and harmonize legislation to respond to the common environmental challenges
- Guarantee transparency of the tax system and products environmental impact rather than only with subsidies and complex public policies.
- Promote equality among stakeholders (even when there no real equality: e.g. income distribution) and show equal respect for all parts (including the less experienced and powerful).
- Collaborate with civil society to play a major role in sustainable development and strive to achieve a win-win situation
- Prioritize on practicalities to make tangible progress at short and medium term and to maintain the commitment of citizens and politicians for more radical long term objectives.
- Empower the consumer and engage businesses to achieve societal transparency and corporate responsibility, key to good governance.

### 5. Final conclusion to implement sustainability

A decisive and collaborative action of the citizens, public and private sector is required. A change of the type of economic, social and environmental model in which we live is needed. For this, it is necessary to possess the capacity to develop lobbying tools to change the current development model but it is difficult unless a majority share the diagnosis and a vision of the future. In this sector we need leadership and courage to change from civil society.

### 3. Green Economy for sustainable development

#### 1. Scope and methodology

In order to define and boost green economy both at Mediterranean, Spanish and Catalan level, specific highly participate workshops have been undertaken with around 60 experts of sustainability from academia, government, NGO and private sector, divided around six sub-themes directly linked to green economy. All participants were asked to suggest to make the transition toward a greener economy on the following main recommendations.

#### 2. Concrete Recommendations

- 1) Support to existing economic sectors that generate green work places, such as renewables and energy efficiency, water cleaning and distribution, waste recycling,...

At Euro-Med workshop:

- Development of green urbanism, such as city mobility sharing systems that reduce pollution, less congestion and improve productivity and well-being of the population.
- Creation of sectorial clusters of excellence to identify and promote regional and national skills.

At Catalan workshop:

- Clear and stable business regulation to generate a long term vision and give time for the pay-back of the investment.
- Strategic alliances between big and small actors to access major projects and re-launch of a new industrial productive sector.
- Promotion of active public policies to identify, prioritize key sectors according to efficiency/competitiveness criteria

- 2) Support to new emerging green sectors, such as eco-entrepreneurship, eco-tourism, eco-mobility...

At Euro-Med workshop:

- Green screening community to match production and demand in new sectors and increase transparency of products and services.
- Increase capacity of the public administration to support green entrepreneurs (set KPIs) and boost innovation in new green businesses

At Catalan workshop:

- Labels and funding for green enterprises: definition and differentiation, giving access to funding through business angels and venture capitals
- Promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation at different levels of education and training, learning from experience, losing fear to risk/failure
- Promoting networks for transfer of knowledge and business opportunities: services to entrepreneurs, voluntary legislation, dissemination of success stories, green competitions, promoting of sector cooperation

3) New Public Policies to green the economy', such as green taxes, elimination of bad subsidies, green regulation...

At Euro-Med workshop:

- Achieve support from all stakeholders on climate change improving climate literacy to have a multi-national agreements and stop leakages (rebound, carbon leaks, green paradox & effectiveness)
- Promote renewable energies reducing price gap between fossil and renewables through subsidy reform (no more hidden subsidy on fossil fuels) and shift taxes from labour to environmental damages.
- Implement a package of whole and integrated green economy policies across all key sectors (housing, food, transport, energy...) including education policy and pollution taxes, green investment and investment on social sector.

At Catalan workshop:

- Implementation of new environmental taxes instead of subsidies: internalisation of externalities, adjusting prices relating to environment impact (fair transition)
- Promotion of voluntary accords in the private and public sector (without stopping legislation) as a driving force to reactivate economy
- Raising awareness around green products and services: eco-entrepreneurs associations, club of ethical and green procurement, eco-consumers associations

4) New indicators to foster transition towards green policies beyond GDP

At Euro-Med workshop:

- Select a group of ten indicators (balanced score cards) as main indicators of new economy increasing transparency and consensus among stakeholders.
- Link the political strategy to concrete indicators and specific targets (short, medium, long term) agreed among citizens, politicians and other key stakeholders.

At Catalan workshop:

- Public consultation process with experts about definition and objectives of the green economy
- Integration of social and environmental impact in the cost of products and services

5) Raising citizen awareness around green economy challenges and opportunities

At Euro-Med workshop:

- Honest, coherent and shared narrative from governments and other stakeholders about our common future to restructure the economy. promote green economy and integrate systemic change

At Catalan workshop:

- Public campaign to create positive expectations about the change process towards green economy
- Promotion of transparency through labelling to positively influence buying decision, promoting competitiveness towards sustainability and giving power to consumers.
- Social cooperation within civil society: co-responsibility to change and to implement green economy

6) Training and education for sustainability

At Euro-Med workshop:

- Review and sharing of best practices of formal, informal and non-formal education for sustainability to inspire and promote collective knowledge
- Create guides, frameworks and tools to improve eco-innovative learning practices (action-oriented, holistic approach, learning from failure) in existing campuses and curriculums.
- Creation of new eco-universities to boost radical innovation from start without resistance from existing structures, and inspire other campuses.

At Catalan workshop:

- Integration of the sustainability concept in the educational curriculums plans in all levels: university, vocational training, primary school...
- Development of a life-long learning plan about sustainable development basic skills: professional recycling, eco-entrepreneurship, vocational training
- Promoting global and local research on education for sustainable development

3. Main conclusions on green economy

The analysis of the outputs of the workshops on green economy highlights two key transversal issues: 1) the central role of tax policy reform to create the stimulus for green economy and 2) the basic role of education initiatives (formal, informal non-formal).

In the first workshop on green economy for euro-med region, participants have raised the idea of the creation of a new university specialised on sustainability as well as the fact of having an honest narrative from governments about our common future. Adequate pollution taxes systems, package of policies integrating all sectors (housing, food, transport, energy...) as well as increasing the number of city mobility sharing system initiatives were very well backed.

In the second workshop focused on green economy for Catalonia, the participants stressed the urgency of environmental taxes policy. Incorporate the social and environmental costs in the economy are seen as a basic and transparent measure. The second major aspect is the integration of sustainability at all levels of education (university, vocational, primary and secondary) .

3. General conclusions

As seen previously, the Global Eco Forum has been able to define collectively key recommendations on green economy and good governance of sustainability in Catalonia, Spain and Euro-Med region as inputs for Rio+20 draft zero.

We are fairly concerned that general awareness around this Earth summit is still very low in the society and we need to make sure that our main political, economic and social leaders are present at the maximum level, not only from environment but also finance, education, research, health and other key sectors of our society.

In the Euro-Med region, a specific task has to be made to include and educate new leaders coming into power after Arab spring revolution. The success of building a common sustainable agenda in the Mediterranean area would be a strong positive message sent to the rest of the world due to the high diversity and historic challenges within this region.

Finally the outputs of Rio+20 has to define a clear, transparent and legally binding roadmap with specific quantified targets, resources and deadlines similar to the Millennium Development goals.

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## Ecocity Builders

Text not available.

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## ECOJURE

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

1. Objeto: Desarrollar esquemas de financiación de las actividades de monitoreo y control de riesgos ambientales a través de estructuras asociativas público privadas, a partir de la contribución de quienes generan los riesgos.

2. Contexto: Buena parte de los países en desarrollo exhiben marcos legales relativamente bien diseñados, con escasa aplicación práctica de sus lineamientos. Las limitaciones presupuestarias de los gobiernos son señaladas usualmente como causa de la limitada implementación. Por otro lado, existe una tendencia sostenida hacia una mayor presión económica desde los gobiernos hacia el sector privado que explota dichos recursos. Sin embargo, esos recursos no se encuentran adecuadamente direccionados hacia los objetivos de prevención de impactos socio ambientales.

El panorama actual de la gestión de áreas protegidas presenta un agravamiento de la asimetría existente entre quienes desarrollan las actividades de explotación de recursos naturales y quienes se desempeñan en la gestión de las áreas protegidas, en términos de recursos humanos, acceso a la tecnología, acceso a la capacitación y en definitiva el acceso a los recursos económicos.

Deviene necesario fortalecer los mecanismos financieros existentes para lograr una respuesta oportuna a las crecientes amenazas, de manera tal de asegurar la capacidad de las áreas para asimilar los cambios que se producen en el entorno. Es sabido que el esquema de fondos orientados a solventar los daños una vez ocurridos no resulta efectivo para asegurar la resiliencia de los sistemas naturales, ni para disuadir la externalización de costos ambientales.

3. Propuesta: Normalmente los particulares pagan (a través de impuestos, tasas, contribuciones o en general mediante instrumentos económicos de variada naturaleza) por el aprovechamiento de ciertos componentes del ecosistema. Sin embargo, es un hecho evidente que la creación de riesgos supone en cabeza del Estado una carga ampliada de las actividades de monitoreo y control. Desde esta perspectiva, se postula un incremento de los recursos económicos proporcional a los riesgos que son creados y asignados a través de mecanismos eficaces.

Para tal fin es necesario desarrollar una matriz de financiación de las actividades de monitoreo y control que pueda integrar las siguientes variables.

a) Niveles de Riesgo de las distintas actividades sobre los ecosistemas relacionados.

b) Identificación de las actividades de monitoreo y control asociados a los distintos niveles de riesgo.

c) Desarrollo de una metodología de línea de base del sistema administrativo vigente en un territorio determinado para los fines de monitoreo y control ambiental.

d) Cuantificación sistemática del diferencial de gestión ambiental que demanda la actividad riesgosa para el ambiente.

e) Integración de sistemas de monitoreo y control con la debida participación del gobierno, las empresas y la sociedad civil.

f) Costeo de las actividades asociadas a la ejecución de los sistemas.

g) Administración público-privada del sistema de monitoreo y control.

h) Instrumentación de sistemas de fideicomisos para permitir que dichos esquemas de administración apoyen el sistema de administración de riesgos ambientales.

A través de esta propuesta se espera que:

<sup>[2]</sup> La creación de riesgos por los particulares no comporte una externalización de costos hacia la Administración y, por extensión hacia los contribuyentes.

<sup>[2]</sup> La administración de los riesgos tenga suficiente grado de transparencia frente a la sociedad civil y con ello pueda verificarse una tendencia hacia la reducción de la conflictividad socio ambiental.

<sup>[2]</sup> Pueda establecerse de la mejor manera posible la debida diligencia exigida y adoptada por los particulares frente a los riesgos ambientales que ellos crean.

<sup>[2]</sup> En aquellos casos donde, a pesar de las precauciones empleadas, acaezcan eventos dañosos para las personas o el ambiente, puedan éstos ser advertidos con prontitud a fin de adoptar las medidas necesarias e identificadas con la mayor precisión posible las relaciones de causalidad implicadas en cada evento.

4. Rol de la comunidad internacional – Fortalecimiento de aspectos institucionales y mecanismos financieros: Proporcionar esquemas metodológicos en materia financiera e institucional que faciliten la implementación de estas matrices de financiación de la actividad de control suplementaria que es consecuencia de los mayores riesgos planteados por el desarrollo de la actividad ejecutada por particulares.

Los organismos financieros internacionales están llamados a cumplir un rol central en el desarrollo de estos esquemas de desarrollo sustentable, basado en su conocimiento de las herramientas a nivel nacional, comparado y global, así como de su mandato en la materia.

De la misma manera, el desarrollo de estas matrices de financiamiento debe realizarse en estrecha cooperación con las organizaciones no gubernamentales en todos los niveles que resultan centrales para identificar las asimetrías que actualmente se presentan entre los riesgos asumidos con la autorización gubernamental para realizar ciertas actividades y la limitada capacidad de monitoreo, control y acceso a la capacitación de los sistemas públicos, como también de la sociedad civil.

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

En relación a lo establecido en la Resolución 64/236 con respecto a los temas de la conferencia, se sugiere focalizar en el desarrollo profundizado de mecanismos financieros para asegurar la asignación efectiva de las contribuciones económicas tanto del sector privado como del sector público para la prevención de daños al ambiente.

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Río + 20 – Propuesta para la compilación de aportes a la Conferencia

Autor de la propuesta: ECOJURE

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Título de la Propuesta: Desarrollo de matrices de financiamiento de actividades de fortalecimiento del monitoreo y control de riesgos ambientales.

1. Objeto: Desarrollar esquemas de financiación de las actividades de monitoreo y control de riesgos ambientales a través de estructuras asociativas público privadas, a partir de la contribución de quienes generan los riesgos.

2. Contexto: Buena parte de los países en desarrollo exhiben marcos legales relativamente bien diseñados, con escasa aplicación práctica de sus lineamientos. Las limitaciones presupuestarias de los gobiernos son señaladas usualmente como causa de la limitada implementación. Por otro lado, existe una tendencia sostenida hacia una mayor presión económica desde los gobiernos hacia el sector privado que explota dichos recursos. Sin embargo, esos recursos no se encuentran adecuadamente direccionados hacia los objetivos de prevención de impactos socio ambientales.

El panorama actual de la gestión de áreas protegidas presenta un agravamiento de la asimetría existente entre quienes desarrollan las actividades de explotación de recursos naturales y quienes se desempeñan en la gestión de las áreas protegidas, en términos de recursos humanos, acceso a la tecnología, acceso a la capacitación y en definitiva el acceso a los recursos económicos.

Deviene necesario fortalecer los mecanismos financieros existentes para lograr una respuesta oportuna a las crecientes amenazas, de manera tal de asegurar la capacidad de las áreas para asimilar los cambios que se producen en el entorno. Es sabido que el esquema de fondos orientados a solventar los daños una vez ocurridos no resulta efectivo para asegurar la resiliencia de los sistemas naturales, ni para disuadir la externalización de costos ambientales.

3. Descripción: Normalmente los particulares pagan (a través de impuestos, tasas, contribuciones o en general mediante instrumentos económicos de variada naturaleza) por el aprovechamiento de ciertos componentes del ecosistema. Sin embargo, es un hecho evidente que la creación de riesgos supone en cabeza del Estado una carga ampliada de las actividades de monitoreo y control. Desde esta perspectiva, se postula un incremento de los recursos económicos proporcional a los riesgos que son creados y asignados a través de mecanismos eficaces.

Para tal fin es necesario desarrollar una matriz de financiación de las actividades de monitoreo y control que pueda integrar las siguientes variables.

a) Niveles de Riesgo de las distintas actividades sobre los ecosistemas relacionados.





b) Identificación de las actividades de monitoreo y control asociados a los distintos niveles de riesgo.

c) Desarrollo de una metodología de línea de base del sistema administrativo vigente en un territorio determinado para los fines de monitoreo y control ambiental.

d) Cuantificación sistemática del diferencial de gestión ambiental que demanda la actividad riesgosa para el ambiente.

- e) Integración de sistemas de monitoreo y control con la debida participación del gobierno, las empresas y la sociedad civil.
- f) Costeo de las actividades asociadas a la ejecución de los sistemas.
- g) Administración público-privada del sistema de monitoreo y control.
- h) Instrumentación de sistemas de fideicomisos para permitir que dichos esquemas de administración apoyen el sistema de administración de riesgos ambientales.

De esta manera se propicia:

-  Que la creación de riesgos por los particulares no comporte una externalización de costos hacia la Administración y, por extensión hacia los contribuyentes.
-  Que la administración de los riesgos tenga suficiente grado de transparencia frente a la sociedad civil y con ello pueda verificarse una tendencia hacia la reducción de la conflictividad socio ambiental.
-  Que pueda establecerse de la mejor manera posible la debida diligencia exigida y adoptada por los particulares frente a los riesgos ambientales que ellos crean.
-  Que en aquellos casos donde, a pesar de las precauciones empleadas, acaezcan eventos dañosos para las personas o el ambiente, puedan éstos ser advertidos con prontitud a fin de adoptar las medidas necesarias e identificadas con la mayor precisión posible las relaciones de causalidad implicadas en cada evento.

4. Rol de la comunidad internacional – Fortalecimiento de aspectos institucionales y mecanismos financieros: Proporcionar esquemas metodológicos en materia financiera e institucional que faciliten la implementación de estas matrices de financiación de la actividad de control suplementaria que es consecuencia de los mayores riesgos planteados por el desarrollo de la actividad ejecutada por particulares.

Los organismos financieros internacionales están llamados a cumplir un rol central en el desarrollo de estos esquemas de desarrollo sustentable, basado en su conocimiento de las herramientas a nivel nacional, comparado y global, así como de su mandato en la materia.

De la misma manera, el desarrollo de estas matrices de financiamiento debe realizarse en estrecha cooperación con las organizaciones no gubernamentales en todos los niveles que resultan centrales para identificar las asimetrías que actualmente se presentan entre los riesgos asumidos con la autorización gubernamental para realizar ciertas actividades y la limitada capacidad de monitoreo, control y acceso a la capacitación de los sistemas públicos, como también de la sociedad civil.

5. Refinamiento de los temas de la Conferencia: En relación a lo establecido en la Resolución 64/236 con respecto a los temas de la conferencia, se sugiere focalizar en el desarrollo profundizado de mecanismos financieros para asegurar la asignación efectiva de las contribuciones económicas tanto del sector privado como del sector público para la prevención de daños al ambiente.

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## Ecole et Vie

ONG ECOLE ET VIE

RECEPISSE N347/MIS-SG-SAPSC-DSC

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CONTRIBUTION POUR PRENDRE PART A LA CONFERENCE SUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

A/INTRODUCTION

Bien que l'éducation à l'environnement soit faite depuis plusieurs années, la plupart des populations ignorent les problèmes environnementaux en particulier en Afrique.

B/DESCRIPTION

Pour que les populations soient bien informées sur la dégradation de l'environnement afin qu'elles fassent des actions concrètes pour le protéger, la multiplication des actions éducatives de proximité s'impose.

Sensibiliser les populations sur ce que c'est que l'environnement, l'état de dégradation de l'environnement, les dangers de la dégradation de l'environnement, les méthodes de protection de l'environnement, le bien fondé de la protection de l'environnement par les meetings, les séminaires, les conférences débats, les films, les sketches, etc.

Réinstaurer l'éducation environnementale dans les programmes académiques (écoles primaires, collèges, lycées, universités etc ...).

Publier largement les résolutions des précédentes rencontres sur le développement durable car la plupart des populations ignorent ces résolutions.

C/CONCLUSION

L'éducation à l'environnement doit précéder toute action de protection de l'environnement.

PRESENTE PAR:

Koffi AKOUTSE

DIRECTEUR DE L'ONG ECOLE ET VIE

Fait à Lomé Le 24-10-2011

ONG DE DEVELOPPEMENT: EDUCATION - FORMATION - PROTECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

## EcoNexus

Input to Zero Draft for Rio+20: towards the Outcome of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

1st November 2011

Any proposal taken forward at Rio+20 must address the basis of human survival: biodiversity, ecosystem resilience and the importance of trying to address climate change, by sharply and immediately reducing emissions.

This means rapidly phasing out fossil fuel burning as well as protecting and, where possible and appropriate, restoring and trying to regenerate ecosystems. In fact it means changing our models of economic development from energy intensive to low energy models, with major implications particularly for industrialized economies.

As the Global Biodiversity Outlook, 2010, says:

The action taken over the next two decades will determine whether the relatively stable environmental conditions on which human civilisation has depended for the last 10,000 years will continue beyond this century. If we fail to use this opportunity, many ecosystems on the planet will move into new, unprecedented states in which the capacity to provide for the needs of present and future generations is highly uncertain.

We cannot “eradicate poverty” without first attending to the basic needs of life: clean water, accessible and nutritious food and access to land on which to produce it. In addition we need to protect the ecosystems that are fundamental to the planetary “web of life”

Furthermore, as the the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) says:

Climate change, which is taking place at a time of increasing demand for food, feed, fiber and fuel, has the potential to irreversibly damage the natural resource base on which agriculture depends. Climate change is affecting the distribution of plants, invasive species, pests and disease vectors and the geographic range and incidence of many human, animal and plant diseases is likely to increase. A comprehensive approach with an equitable regulatory framework, differentiated responsibilities and intermediate targets are required to reduce GHG emissions. The earlier and stronger the cuts in emissions, the quicker concentrations will approach stabilization.

... Successfully meeting development and sustainability goals and responding to new priorities and changing circumstances would require a fundamental shift in AKST [Agricultural Knowledge Science and Technology], including science, technology, policies, institutions, capacity development and investment. Such a shift would recognize and give increased importance to the multifunctionality of agriculture, accounting for the complexity of agricultural systems within diverse social and ecological contexts. It would require new institutional and organizational arrangements to promote an integrated approach to the development and deployment of AKST. It would also recognize farming communities, farm households, and farmers as producers and managers of ecosystems.

These extracts emphasize the urgency of real and immediate cuts in emissions, which should be strongly emphasized by Rio+20.

Agroecological approaches to food production must be prioritised.

There are many potential, highly beneficial synergies to be derived from agroecological approaches. Many of them are already apparent in smallscale agricultural systems, pastoral and fishing systems and fisherfolk systems. They can help to address the need for more employment, provide more nutritious and accessible food, and boost local economies through local food production and markets, with the generation of additional employment around food production. Besides these advantages there are many more: the conservation and generation in situ of locally adapted varieties of fruits, vegetables and staple crops, regained control over food production at local level, closer contact between producer and consumer. And there are major ecological benefits too: adding organic matter to soils, improving soil structure and capacity to retain moisture, rebuilding the soil food web that is basic to the production of nutritious food and which has been so seriously undermined by industrial agriculture and related inputs. Agroecological approaches are basic to the concept of food sovereignty.. Agroecological systems can also play an important role in addressing climate change.

We urgently need political will and policy frameworks for all this.

However, we find the quality of debate leading up to Rio+20 disappointing. There is a lack of discussion about the fundamental issues mentioned above. The Rio+20 process needs to build on the insights gained in the conventions that were established in 1992 on climate, biodiversity and desertification.

### Green Economy

We believe that the term green economy needs far clearer definition. Currently it is used very loosely, without explanation and becomes more like a slogan than a meaningful term. It often appears to seek to conflate two things that are currently in deep conflict: the ecology of the planet and the economic model that is based on externalizing the costs of the destruction of ecosystems, biodiversity, soils, water in order to generate profits.

The term sustainable development is ambiguous, but the term green economy is even more so. This means that we are not ready to discuss a 'green economy roadmap'. As noted above, we have to define what we mean by a green economy first. Unfortunately the time available to prepare for the Rio+20 meeting and to discuss the issues is so limited that the debate is unlikely to mature sufficiently in time. Key principles towards an acceptable definition include: justice, equity, equality, accountability, transparency, inclusivity, ethics. However, without the relevant policy frameworks, these also become mere slogans. Rio+20 should begin the process of developing such frameworks. Two principles derived from the Convention on Biological Diversity should be basic here: the Precautionary Principle should be applied to the evaluation of new technologies and approaches and the principle of Free Prior Informed Consent is also crucial to generate inclusivity and to ensure that the wisdom of indigenous peoples and local communities is able to inform decisions taken at international level. This must be genuine otherwise it risks being merely the Engineering of Consent.

Civil society in all its rich diversity needs to be included more centrally in discussions of how we move forward but it is difficult for civil society to participate effectively. This is a major issue with the Rio+20 process and in different ways is a problem for all the UN instruments that urgently needs to be addressed by opening more spaces for civil society participation.

### Precautionary principle and technology development

Some see the development of technology as a way to address the multiple challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and the need to provide food and energy. However, we believe that applying genetic engineering, synthetic biology, nanotechnology or geoengineering as solutions is more likely to compound than solve our problems. We do not have sufficient understanding of the dynamic systems or climate and biodiversity for which these solutions are proposed. However our multiple crises are being used as a means to try and force acceptance of their use. In the face of increasing pressure to apply these technologies prematurely and inappropriately, we believe that it is urgent to apply the precautionary principle to such technologies for assessing new technologies before they are deployed.

### Biodiversity and climate offsets and Payments for Environmental Services

Attempts are being made to solve problems our economic model has caused to the planetary ecosystem by developing market instruments such as climate (carbon) and biodiversity offsets and other ecosystem-related (e.g. water) offsets and market-based Payments for Environmental Services. This approach is deeply flawed and will not address our multiple crises. Carbon offsets at best maintain the same level of emissions, and more often increase rather than decrease overall emissions. Further, they are a distraction from taking meaningful action.

Biodiversity offsets risk fragmenting and undermining the integrity of ecosystems. The term ecosystem services is increasingly used instead of ecosystem functions. The term "services" immediately connects to the idea of marketing such services and the idea that they can be priced and set in order of importance. However, ecosystems function as interactive wholes. We believe this market approach is extremely dangerous to biodiversity and the integrity and resilience of ecosystems.

Addressing the power of corporations

Many civil society organizations saw the Earth Summit of 1992 as an opportunity to prioritise discussion of how to control corporations. However, this did not happen. The UNCTC was absorbed into UNCTAD and work on the proposed code of conduct for corporations was suspended in 1993. At the Johannesburg Earth Summit in 2002, governments acknowledged the need for global rules for global corporations. Since then, it has become ever clearer that we need to control corporate power. Corporate social responsibility is not the way forward: we need binding regulation, not voluntary commitments that are more public relations than substance.

At Rio 2012, governments should agree to the development of a binding global instrument that ensures full liability for any social or environmental damage corporations cause.

EcoNexus

Biofuelwatch

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## Ecotrans – DestiNet

Sustainable and Competitive Tourism at Rio + 20 and the London Olympics 2012 Connecting Sustainable Tourism

- Building a Mosaic of the Global Green Economy

through Responsible, Sustainable & Competitive Tourism |V

An Olympic Effort at Rio+20

Submission to Rio + 20 Outcome Process Deadline 1st November

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From: Ecotrans - DestiNet Executive UN Type II Partnership

Prepared by: Gordon Sillence, Executive Director

30h October 2011

Summary - Expectations of the Outcomes

In order to move from words to action, and thinking on the level of using the Rio + 20 process to help to shape a peace-based, global green economy to meet current world-wide challenges, this paper presents a clear strategy to achieve this by prioritizing sectoral activity related to tourism sustainable consumption and production. Its offers a practical outcome of Rio+20, building a showcase Global Mosaic of Responsible, Sustainable and Competitive Tourism and then planning to use large-scale events to mainstream peace, responsibility and sustainability messages through developing this mosaic. This mosaic would model a solutions-based approach to restructuring the global economy as global peace-based, green economy, using tourism stakeholder activities;<sup>1</sup> cross-cutting socio-economic power as an instrument for sustainable development, as well as ensuring the sustainability and competitiveness of local and global tourism offers in an uncertain future. It calls for the governments who signed the Olympic Truce Resolution this October 2011, who are also attending Rio +20 to work together to shape an international sustainable tourism campaign that delivers a map of the global responsible and sustainable tourism offer as a strategic path to the green economy. The UN Type II DestiNet Partnership set up after WSSD in 2003 and working on item 43 of the JPoI, has been dealing with these issues for the past decade, and can report on how this can be achieved as an outcome of the UN Agenda 21 Rio+20 event in June next year.

The outcome of Rio should have a very practical working model of sustainable production and consumption, a solutions-based model that takes into account current food, financial and environmental crises and the Millennium goals targets. The mosaic of the sustainable tourism supply chain, including businesses, destinations and travellers good practice shows a path to global cultural and environmental exchange, and economic equity. The aim would be to invite governments to shape this model for Rio+20 and then mainstream the message by the London Olympics in July-August 2012, bringing together the dimension of the need for a peace based global economy that moves us from a culture of violence to a culture of peace. Therefore Rio+20 should declare the six week Olympic Truce period that UN Members have just voted for as a time to mobilize inter-cultural exchange as a catalyst for sustainable development, using tourism and sport to bring the sustainable development agenda a mass audience to speed up progress on the millennium goals.

This proposal is based on Ecotrans Network for Sustainable Tourism Development participation in WSSD 2002 and the authors;<sup>1</sup> previous engagement in WSSD in Johannesburg in 2002 when working as a Commission staff member of DG Enterprise Tourism Unit alongside the EU team of 50 people listed to attend, and now acting as executive director of the DestiNet Sustainable Tourism Portal UN Type II Partnership. See [www.destinet.eu](http://www.destinet.eu).

Background - Development of the DestiNet UN Type II Partnership

Guided by Agenda 21 and EU SDS I & II implementation policy lines, the European Environment Agency followed through on the WSSD by creating a UN Type II Partnership with the UN WTO, UNEP and the Ecotrans Network for Sustainable Tourism Development, with the aim of building a portal for sustainable tourism knowledge networking to achieve the WSSD plan of implementation. In 2005, the Portal was further specified in DG Enterprises;<sup>1</sup> innovation in tourism process as a knowledge networking tool to



develop learning areas and regional clusters in the field of tourism-based sustainable consumption and production. Now the Portal has been through an 8 year development cycle, is operating at a global scale, and is host to the Commissions' latest efforts in the field of sustainability and competitiveness to develop a European-level virtual tourism observatory concept and on-the ground, working regional tourism innovation clusters in Europe.

In March 2011 the DestiNet Portal team demonstrated a complete supply chain mosaic of sustainable tourism at Berlins ITB1. Currently the Portal houses a growing list of 387 European examples of certified and awarded sustainable tourism products and services in its Best Practice Atlas of Excellence (the worldwide database contains over 500 examples). Included in this are 70 EDEN award winners - shortly to be updated to list all 98 current winners. This forms the world's leading best practice knowledge base to showcasing the field of sustainable tourism

Introduction: Progress Assessment, Remaining Gaps - Agenda 21/WSSD follow through

Helping to shape the next ten years of global policy-making at Rio+20, this proposal deals with a decade of policy and market developments in the field of sustainable tourism, providing a contribution to planning actions centred on Agenda 21/SDS follow through at Rio+20 and the London Olympics next June and July 2012. The UN has set the agenda of Rio +20 to focus on the two key themes the Green Economy and Institutional Change. To face multiple challenges of economic and social instability, increasing levels of violence and civil wars, climate change, etc, the concept of a peace-based, knowledge-driven green global economy will be a strong feature of Rio+20, as will the value system of good governance. The EU has been a leading force in many respects on these issues, being founded on the concept of forging European peace, creating a global knowledge economy for its businesses and citizens, and heading the world in terms of certified green tourism businesses and protected area networking, within the framework of its own SDS good governance process.

As part of a synthesis of a decade of the Agenda 21/EU SDS implementation efforts of UN, EU, national, regional, local governments, global businesses, NGOs and other civil society groups - all working on sustainable development issues, this action is designed to meet long term Agenda 21 and WSSD policy coherence, following through on stakeholders WSSD commitments. At the same time it provides support for a number of existing initiatives by creating synergy through their combination.

Sectoral Priority -Building the Green Economy through Showcasing Sustainable Tourism

The frameworks of both the green economy and institutional change discussions taking place in the run up to Rio+20 will both be better informed though the action Taking Sustainable Tourism Small Businesses to the Global Stage A Mosaic of the Global Green Economy. Using tourism activity as a motor for the green economy and institutional change, the aim would be to develop a global mosaic of responsible, sustainable and competitive tourism as part of the national contributions to Rio+20 and the London Olympics.

Promoting the Mosaic - Specific Cooperation Mechanisms

Under the heading Taking Sustainable Tourism Small Businesses to the Global Stage A Mosaic of the Global Green Economy, a map of international certified and awarded tourism destinations, products and services can be developed and then showcased at Rio+20 and the London Olympics. The global offering of peaceful, green, diverse tourism destinations of excellence can be broadcast by taking certified SMEs to the international market place at these two events alongside other certified and awarded tourism products and services. Rio+20 and the Olympics bring the theme of human excellence and our greatest challenges together, and the temporal coincidence of the two globally significant events next year offers great potential.

In order to realize this action, the following practical ideas can be implemented:

- 1) This knowledge can be attractively displayed as a stand with promotional paper-based and audio-visual material, and delivered at the Rio+20 event.
- 2) A series of short commercial style video adverts for sustainable tourism destinations can be made, linking destinations of excellence to relevant Olympic athletes and prominent politicians supporting tourism, culture, peace and sporting initiatives (cf Hungarian president, Lord Sebastian Coe).
- 3) A workshop at Rio+20 can be held on the theme of sustainable and competitive business development based on tourism, showcasing examples of excellence throughout the overall tourism supply chain and in destination good governance.
- 4) A short video on the role of tourism in creating peace can be made, calling for a peaceful global world in which all nations and their citizens can benefit from better tourism business the world over.
- 5) A partnership strategy can be used to broadcast the materials in Rio and then in London. Partners would include media, tourism business stakeholders, NTOs, NGOs and global institutes.

Modeling an Institutional Framework with Agenda 21 Good Governance Values Prosperity through Peace for People in Need

The key messages of Johannesburg were based on the slogan "People, Prosperity and Planet", moving the narrower initial focus of sustainable development on environment to include broader socio-economic and cultural sustainability. Ten years on, we have identified that a peace-based global economy can deliver 2 trillion dollars a year to the global economy with a 25% reduction in conflict<sup>1</sup>. It is this money that could be used to construct a new institutional framework of sustainable development that would be fleshed out with agricultural, industrial, energy and transport sustainability innovations around the global to local tourism supply chain and destination management infrastructure.

The process to achieve this this would involve helping make the London Olympics a time of global peace using the six weeks of designated peace during the Olympic competition as a contribution to realize the Millennium goals, and to celebrate the best of human nature whilst creating a unique business opportunity for global responsible/sustainable tourism in participating countries. If linked to Rio+20, the London 2012 Games will open the floodgates of cultural understanding and exchange in the spirit of the Millennium Declaration. A tourism bonanza can be created during the Olympic media coverage of each country, to put responsible and sustainable tourism businesses and destinations from Africa, Asia, Latin America and elsewhere on the international consumer map<sup>2</sup>. This action would benefit both residents as visitors and host countries as global destinations. In the spirit of making the national contribution to tourism activity and development more responsible, sustainable and competitive, each participating country can profile its responsible/sustainable tourism offers in an Olympic showcase of the best that country has to offer on a safe and welcoming global tourism trail. This second map (alongside the map of Global Destinations of Excellence) can be created for the Rio+20 event and as preparation for the Olympics, aiming to show how the Agenda 21/WSSD sustainable tourism process is developing globally, and then take it to mainstream markets.

Three specific actions to achieve this would be:

„h Support for a Responsible & Sustainable Tourism Business & Destination Support Travel Initiative - showcasing community-based responsible and sustainable tourism best practice offers next to a country's Olympic icons. Responsible tourism can be targeted at the poorest nations of Earth to give a boost for local communities to benefit from global tourism opportunities for economic, cultural and environmental recovery.

„h Support for the VISTAS Peace through Tourism Award<sup>3</sup> an international award to highlight those countries which works most towards to Peace, with the aim of

developing the peace-based green global economy.

„h Use the Global Peace Index<sup>4</sup> as the basis for monitoring the Olympic peace after Rio+20, as a practical outcome of Rio +20, and further develop the DestiNet UN Type II Partnership Sustainable Tourism Platform as technical tools to manage the implementation.

#### Conclusion

To avoid being seen as just a talking shop process, the outcome of Rio should have a very practical working model of sustainable production and consumption, a model that takes into account current food, financial and environmental crises and the Millennium goals targets. This proposal shows the possibility of the creation of a mosaic of the sustainable tourism supply chain, including businesses, destinations and travellers good practice showing a path to global cultural and environmental exchange, and economic equity. The aim would be to invite governments to shape this model for Rio+20 and then mainstream the message by the London Olympics in July-August 2012, bringing together the dimension of the need for a peace based global green economy that moves us from a culture of violence to a culture of peace. Therefore Rio+20 should declare the six week Truce period that UN Members have just voted for as a specific time to mobilize inter- cultural exchange as a catalyst for sustainable development, using tourism and sport to bring the sustainable development agenda a mass audience to speed up progress on the millennium goals.

Please contact Gordon Sillence or Herbert Hamele to discuss this proposal further.

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## Edmund Rice International

This submission, from Edmund Rice International (ERI), a faith-based NGO with offices in Geneva and New York, draws on the work of several thousand colleagues, who, based on their faith, are working for social justice and ecojustice in over thirty countries, and building a global network to protect and promote human rights and ecological sustainability.

The RIO+20 Conference is undertaking, in its Outcome document, two major tasks: to re-design previous work on sustainable development into a more coherent and effective movement, and to meet new challenges. ERI is proposing a possible philosophical framework for this document, and a sharper focus for its goals.

#### The Need for Integration of Themes in the Rio+20 Outcome Document

The two major themes for Rio+20, the Green Economy and Sustainable Development Governance, seem to lack coherence. Is Green Economy to replace Sustainable Development in our language? Both promote an ongoing dualism between ecological and economic language, where 'Green' is pitted against 'Economy' and 'Sustainable' against 'Development'. Yet ecology and economics are both science-based disciplines, dealing with energy flows in systems. The Outcome document can reflect the fundamental unity that guides the energy flows.

Some acknowledgement is needed in the Outcome document of the relationship between ecology and economics, with economics being depicted as embedded within ecology. As both disciplines involve human reflection on human behaviour, including human interaction with the environment, the Outcome document can include both disciplines within a perspective of human freedom and human rights, working within a more fundamental respect for human limitations.

There are many documents already in circulation that integrate human aspirations within the limits of natural systems. ERI would suggest the Earth Charter is one that uses clear concise language to outline the fundamental issues, and its principles could underpin the Rio+20 Outcome document.

From both a faith-based and science-based perspective, the Earth Charter neatly includes the major issues facing the human race. It can serve as a philosophical context for the Outcome document.

While the Rio+20 Conference itself proceeds from an ethical imperative, it is important to highlight the ethics that proceed from the Earth Charter perspective. If 20% of Earth's people consume 80% of the available resources, and if Climate Change is largely the result of this 'overdeveloped' 20% using these resources unsustainably, there is clearly a call for rational acknowledgement of this responsibility, and commitment to resolving the imbalance and the damage done by it. As all decisions have consequences, the ethical commitments by States, as enshrined in the Outcome document, need to specify outcomes, timeframes, and sanctions for non-compliance.

#### The Need for New Language

ERI suggests the last fifty years of international debate has left the word 'development' in semantic tatters. While the world celebrates twenty-five years of 'the right to development', others are saying, more bluntly: 'Development causes Climate Change. Climate Change prevents development. We need a new paradigm.' The Outcome document can address this challenge by dropping the term 'sustainable development'.

ERI proposes that sustainability could well replace 'sustainable development' in the Outcome document. The term has a secondary meaning, of 'financial self-sufficiency', in some circles, but the Outcome document can address the inclusion of balanced accounting within ecological sustainability.

ERI's experience is that sustainability can be applied effectively as a guiding principle to large systems (such as nations, global economies, corporations) as well as to micro-systems (such as individuals, households, local centres). It is measurable (through such instruments as the Ecological Footprint, Carbon Footprint, Water Footprint, etc) and universally applicable, with variations in local climate and soils factored in.

Sustainability can emerge in the Outcome document as a personal, group, social, national, regional and global goal, thus providing unity to all the aspirations and recommendations. It avoids the 'parallel politics' of a 'global governance mechanism for sustainable development'. Yet it provides clear, measurable criteria for all nations and groups, and lends itself to easy monitoring and assessment. It also avoids the resistance to such notions as 'no-growth economics, or 'reverse development', and stimulates human creativity, including the technological, in its achievement.

#### Recommendations

1. That the Outcome document adopt a philosophical framework that presents human aspirations within the limitations of natural systems, with principles such as those outlined in the Earth Charter being used to unite the goals and recommendations on governance and energy flows.
2. That the Outcome document adopts a structural perspective that embeds economic principles within ecological principles.
3. That the Outcome document enshrines the ethics of the Earth Charter principles in specific commitments, within clear timeframes, by States assuming responsibility for their actions.

4. That the Outcome document strengthen the ethical framework of the decisions made by specifying the sanctions that will apply if States do not meet their obligations within the agreed timeframe.
5. That the Outcome document adopts the term 'sustainability' as its overarching goal, and does not use 'sustainable development'.
6. That the Outcome document uses sustainability as the single pillar of national progress and human advancement.

## Education Dialogue Group ( EDG)

A Rio narrative from the Education Dialogue Group (EDG), formed around the Co-Chairs four key questions, with the four responding EDG key issues.

1. What are the expectations for outcomes of Rio +20 and what are the concrete proposal including views on the possible structure of the outcome document?

Educations response to unsustainable development has been substantial, arising from Rios call to re-orientate education systems toward sustainable development. Conjoining the three pillars of sustainable development: environment, society and economy, across curricula, campus and communities to develop the emerging pedagogy and practice of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), or even more holistically the Welsh Education for sustainable development and global citizenship, has mandated education systems to develop policy and practice aimed at forging a sustainable future. The resulting systems change has affected every level; the competencies of ESD educators, the transmission of ESD practice and the genesis of lifelong ESD learning across formal and informal learning . From the initial UK Government panel frameworks, responses across learning sectors have diverged, with an added focus on culture across Higher Education and on inclusion in the youth sector, but successes are manifold, with trends including:

- i. Awareness of the moral imperative for ESD in Higher Education.
- ii. A vision of schools in UK as leading children and communities in ESD.
- iii. The recognition of the value of human, natural and social capitals in education.
- iv. An increased awareness of the importance of the relationship between children and their local environment.
- v. A search for new directions for education.

ISSUE 1: 'Re-orienting education towards sustainable development' must accelerate, if Rio+20 is to achieve the transformational effect of Rio; a new Chapter 36 is fundamental to sustainable development exerting continued influence over education systems.

The impact of all this could be lost unless Rio+20 calls on governments to redouble their efforts and build on the valuable work that has been undertaken to date.

2. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, SD goals, a revitalised global partnership for SD or others?

The details of the nature of the transformation, into a world which conserves its environmental/ natural, human and social capitals; the limits we set collectively for that growth; the indicators of success such as well being (in the North) or poverty reduction (in the South), and the indicators of failure such as climate change, loss of biodiversity, increase in natural disasters, human health failures and human migration i.e. the narrative of the green economy, will be negotiated through the Major Groups across the globe. However, the realisation of that future will be via learning and change at each system level: the personal, institutional, community, administration, national, transnational and pan national. 12 The landscape has changed; Climate change is a reality for many, while the developed world plans for both mitigation and adaptation simultaneously, even in our schools.

ISSUE 2: To transform, or green, the economy and hence society; we must transform our education systems; coupling curriculum (skills, attitudes and values) campus and community aspects of formal education, along with informal and non-formal learning, to that new agenda.

3. What are the views on implementation and how to close the implementation gap which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved? Governments, Specific Major groups, UN systems?

Emerging challenges include youth poverty and alienation across the globe and the time may be right to update Chapter 25 11 with its focus on youth participation, youth employment and youth human rights, to incorporate current Youth Caucus views<sup>6</sup> around the need to turn crises into opportunities. Rio 1992, agreed 25 overarching principles 5, including youth participation (Principle 21) but youth engagement continues to be a challenge, and this, combined with youth poverty and the well documented need for the developed world to reduce its global footprint requires this Summit to re-address this issue, as a priority.

ISSUE 3: A Future generations principle is needed, to uphold the rights of future generations to meet their needs and ensure that the Youth of today are engaged in decision making for their future, with the subsequent appointment of an ombudsmen for future generations, at national and international levels, to uphold that principle and advocate for complaints.

4. What specific co-operation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented? Rio + 20 comes two years before the end of the UN Decade for ESD (DESD) in 2014, and three years before the Millennium Development Goal deadline in 2015 . In UK planning frameworks for ESD run to 2020, but the background on Carbon emissions timescales are complex, with 2020, and 2050 offering milestones. Complex change is already underway and Rio+20 must draw fully on the experience of Agenda 21 and the wealth of evaluative documents drawn together by WWF-UK<sup>13</sup>, and through the DESD3 . Similarly resilience, both individually and at the community level, enabling both adaptation and mitigation, is proving necessary for sustainable development being generated through new social movements like Transition Towns<sup>13</sup> and the rise of volunteering in the north and participation in community education in the south<sup>14</sup> .

ISSUE 4: ESD momentum, and the centrality of children, must be maintained and the proposal to form a Sustainable Development Board to oversee the One United Nations country programme, integrating measurement of childrens well being with food production and sustainable development would ensure that this is safeguarded during the transition from the the Decade for ESD and the Millennium Development Goals.

At the most fundamental level, can faith in the future only be restored through education? drawing on learning from other cultures and time periods, enabling the limitless innovation required for humanitys survival?

Education Dialogue Group History

Earth Summit The Education Dialogue Group was originally set up by UNEP-UK in 1991 to prepare for the Rio Earth Summit. For the Earth Summit it produced the

publication: Earth Matters. It also input to the preparations to the UK Government for the preparatory meetings for Rio and Rio itself. Although Agenda 21 didn't recognise the Education Community as a Major Group UNED-UK did. Therefore from the beginning of its existence UNED-UK had a position on its Executive for the Education Community.

In 1994 The Education Task Group (now know as the Education Dialogue Group) developed the Education 21 concept which was focused on two deliverables;

- Recognition for the Education Community as a Major group; embracing representatives of all those individuals (and groups) with a commitment to education in support of sustainable development.
- Amendments to chapter 36, of agenda 21, identifying the rights and responsibilities of the education community; across formal and non-formal sectors.

In 1995 the group set up the education caucus at the UN as part of the CSD NGO Steering Committee and lobbied for the objectives mentioned above. In 1996 the ETD and the Education caucus successful sought for the UNESCO Task Managers report to be rejected at the CSD. It was the view of the community that UNESCO had not fulfilled its objectives in Chapter 36. In 1996 it also organized a major conference in preparation for the five year review of Agenda 21. WSSD Preparations For WSSD the group working in the UK hosted a number of events and developed a template to enable a review of Chapter 36 of Agenda 21. It also held a Conference with South Bank University to prepare input to the UK Government and also to the relevant UN Task Manager. Its objectives for WSSD there three fold:

- Recognition for the Education Community as a Major group;
- A new chapter for agenda 21 identifying the rights and responsibilities of the education community;
- A Decade for Education for Sustainable Development Education.

Out of these three it achieved the Decade and has education community mentioned as another key stakeholder group iV the closest to Major Group status yet.

Rio + 20 The EDG continued to meet regularly until 2008, with annual meetings in 2009 and 2010, convened around iVthe Green New Deali and Rio+20 respectively. It continues to operate as a national list-serve, fulfilling its original function of connecting international policy with national implementation.

## Egis

Egis : concevoir des constructions et des territoires durables au service des populations locales

Egis ancre, depuis plus de 60 ans, son action au cœur de l'intérêt général et de l'innovation, participant ainsi à la réduction des inégalités par la création de valeurs au niveau des territoires.

Imaginer et accompagner des solutions d'aménagement durables, avec et au profit des populations, c'est la contribution d'Egis à une économie plus responsable.

Groupe d'origine française réalisant 800 millions € de chiffre d'affaires dont près de 50% à l'international, Egis intervient dans les domaines de l'ingénierie et du conseil dans le domaine de l'aménagement des territoires (transports, ville, bâtiments, eau, énergie, environnement, industrie). Egis a également une forte et longue expérience en matière d'aide Publique au Développement.

Akteur du développement des territoires à travers son savoir-faire et sa stratégie d'innovation, sur des sujets comme la ville durable, l'adaptation au changement climatique, l'inter modalité dans les transports, l'efficacité énergétique ou encore la biodiversité, le groupe s'attache à faire de sa politique de responsabilité sociale le « marqueur » de sa stratégie de développement, en cohérence avec la politique de son actionnaire de référence, la Caisse des Dépôts.

Avec 11 000 collaborateurs, dont 7000 dans l'ingénierie, Egis intervient dans une centaine de pays. Il est le seul groupe dans l'ingénierie française de la construction à figurer dans le classement des 10 premiers européens et des 20 premiers mondiaux.

Parce qu'il conçoit et contrôle chaque année des investissements de l'ordre de 10 milliards € de travaux, l'effet de levier d'Egis est très significatif sur l'aménagement durable des territoires. Son intervention en amont des projets et son rôle de prescripteur lui permet de proposer des critères de minimisation de l'empreinte environnementale des travaux et de l'exploitation des ouvrages, tout comme une approche globale et intégrée de la performance environnementale, énergétique et sociale.

Par la variété de ses différents métiers (conseil, ingénierie, montage, exploitation), Egis est organisé pour répondre aux enjeux de Rio + 20. Son impulsion en faveur d'une croissance verte passe par l'aménagement durable, la solidarité entre territoires et la préservation des milieux naturels et participe ainsi à la réduction des inégalités et à la lutte contre la pauvreté dans le monde.

EGIS : L'EXPERIENCE ET L'INNOVATION AU SERVICE DE L'AMENAGEMENT RESPONSABLE

Une expérience d'acteur dédié à l'accompagnement des territoires

L'expérience et le savoir-faire d'Egis dans tous les domaines qui touchent le cadre de vie des citoyens (transport, aménagement, bâtiment, environnement, énergie, eau, santé...) permettent d'alimenter par des critères objectifs le débat démocratique sur les projets d'aménagement durable des territoires.

Egis, de par ses différents métiers, accompagne ses clients, tant en France qu'à l'international, de l'amont des projets jusqu'à l'aval des réalisations. Ce positionnement unique permet à Egis de capitaliser et de valoriser l'expérience acquise sur l'ensemble du cycle de vie des ouvrages et d'avoir une compréhension globale des défis en termes de maîtrise environnementale, d'efficacité économique et d'équilibres sociaux.

De par son positionnement en amont des projets et son rôle de conseil et de prescripteur, Egis joue un rôle important et différenciant dans l'orientation des investissements réalisés par ses clients. Pour préserver et améliorer le sort de notre planète, il est essentiel de se poser la question de comment le faire le plus en amont possible dans la définition, le choix et la conception des aménagements et infrastructures qui contribuent au développement du territoire. C'est pourquoi l'accompagnement d'Egis auprès des financeurs s'attache à proposer des options techniques établies tout autant sur la base de critères relatifs au développement durable qu'au regard de critères financiers. L'allotissement des projets doit être approché de façon plus globale et intégrée. Il s'agit ensuite que les constructeurs, concepteurs, maîtres d'œuvre soient sélectionnés sur des critères de même type afin d'être les garants de l'optimisation environnementale et sociale des projets dont ils ont la charge.

En tant que maître d'œuvre, l'approche pluridisciplinaire d'Egis basée sur toute une palette de compétences (ingénieurs de différentes spécialités mais aussi économistes, environnementalistes, paysagistes, urbanistes ...) permet de concevoir des projets en objectivant autant que possible leurs dimensions économiques, sociales et environnementales.

Par ailleurs, Egis bénéficie de près de 60 ans d'expérience sur des grands projets de développement financés par des bailleurs de fonds internationaux : interventions s'inscrivant explicitement dans les stratégies nationales de réduction de la pauvreté et les Objectifs du Millénaire.

Egis, à travers son institut de formation, Forhom, contribue à la réduction des inégalités, à la lutte contre la pauvreté et à la bonne gouvernance, à travers des dizaines de formations réalisées chaque année, en France et à l'étranger, auprès d'une centaine de cadres de haut niveau d'institutions publiques africaines, qui relayent dans leurs propres pays, ces approches, et valeurs lorsqu'ils mettent en place des projets et des politiques.

Une politique volontariste d'innovation

Egis mène une politique volontariste d'innovation pour se mettre en capacité de proposer aux donneurs d'ordre des outils d'aide à la décision et des solutions opérationnelles permettant de relever les défis socio-économiques, énergétiques et environnementaux des territoires : ville durable, adaptation au changement climatique, optimisation du trafic pour réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre, économies d'énergie, choix des matériaux et des technologies ...

La force d'innovation du groupe trouve ses racines dans la combinaison de plusieurs facteurs-clés : une écoute des besoins des clients et des partenaires, des compétences spécialisées de haut niveau sur tout le cycle de vie des ouvrages, une fertilisation croisée sur ses différents métiers et une longue expérience de la mise en œuvre opérationnelle de terrain.

Pour étayer ses politiques d'innovation et de responsabilité sociale, Egis participe activement à de nombreux programmes de recherche partenariale nationaux et européens avec des grands maîtres d'ouvrage, constructeurs et laboratoires de recherche. Egis poursuit également une logique de dialogue constructif avec ses parties prenantes (création d'un comité d'orientation développement durable à l'échelle du groupe en 2010).

Notre volonté : transformer la responsabilité inhérente à nos métiers en leitmotiv de nos ambitions d'excellence et d'innovation

Pour les années à venir, Egis veut être précurseur pour redéfinir la place et le rôle de l'ingénieur : nous devons réinterroger le rôle du concepteur et le poids du prescripteur vis-à-vis de la dépletion de l'ensemble des ressources disponibles sur la planète : énergies fossiles et épuisement des matières premières. Parallèlement, Egis souhaite œuvrer, avec l'aide des pouvoirs publics français, auprès des pays émergents, des bailleurs de fonds et des grands groupes de construction, pour changer la culture du moins-disant économique, archaïque et obsolète, au profit du mieux disant en développement durable.

Dans la structuration de ses compétences, Egis entame la réécriture systémique de ses compétences en développant des offres de service transversales, organisées par flux essentiels, dans leur logique de cycle de vie : énergie, eau, matériaux, économie du projet.

Pour chacune de ces thématiques, Egis souhaite catalyser des approches qui concourent au recyclage et au retraitement, à la reconversion et à la rénovation, comme de façon globale à l'économie de moyens. Dans le cadre de son cahier d'acteurs Rio +20, Egis portera plus particulièrement l'accent sur :

l'aménagement des villes pour répondre aux enjeux démographiques,  
l'accompagnement des autorités locales dans leur développement et la lutte contre la pauvreté,  
la protection de l'environnement pour préserver les capacités de développement des territoires,  
la facilitation de l'accès à l'énergie pour tous,  
le respect et le partage de la ressource en eau.

## LES PISTES D'EGIS POUR UNE CROISSANCE RESPONSABLE

### 1. Aménager les villes pour répondre aux enjeux démographiques à venir

L'exigence de nouvelles approches

Les villes sont diverses par leur histoire, leurs conditions géographiques, topographiques, climatiques, sociales, économiques et culturelles. La réflexion et l'action sur le devenir d'une ville lui sont donc spécifiques. On ne peut définir de façon normative ce qu'est ou devrait être LA ville durable.

Cela impose de sortir des approches purement fonctionnalistes et technicistes qui depuis plus de 50 ans ont façonné nos villes. Construire une ville véritablement durable nécessite des approches plus étendues et intégrées, capables d'appréhender la complexité urbaine, la multiplicité des attentes de ses utilisateurs et la diversité des échelles à prendre en compte.

La conception de tous les composants qui constituent la ville : l'urbanisme, l'énergie, le déplacement, le paysage, le cycle de l'eau doivent se traiter de façon interdépendante avec un objectif majeur : le confort et la performance environnementale et ceci dès la conception.

De la ville à l'homme, de l'homme à la ville pour un projet urbain porteur de sens

Ainsi, il n'est plus possible de venir plaquer des solutions techniques « clés en main » sans trop se préoccuper des contextes et problématiques locales. Chaque problème urbain est spécifique et complexe et nécessite écoute, inventivité, transversalité et respect de l'esprit du lieu.

Egis s'attache particulièrement au développement de solutions innovantes pour réduire la vulnérabilité des villes et des bâtiments vis-à-vis de la demande énergétique, des enjeux climatiques et sanitaires.

Grâce à son expérience, sa multidisciplinarité et sa R&D, Egis a développé des solutions d'aménagement et de design urbains, innovantes et modernes, recherchant la cohérence entre la planification des transports et l'aménagement et basées sur les plus-values culturelles et physiques de chaque lieu.

Exemples de réalisations

A titre d'exemple, Egis a conçu, en partenariat avec le cabinet Valode et Pistre, le master plan d'Akademia City, ville durable qui a pour objectif d'accueillir en 2025 près de 325 000 habitants sur 1300 hectares, en périphérie d'Ekaterinbourg.

Pour la Banque mondiale, Egis a conduit une étude pilote pour accompagner plusieurs grandes villes d'Afrique du Nord (Alexandrie, Tunis, Rabat, Casablanca) pour leur adaptation au changement climatique.

Egis accompagne l'agence djiboutienne de développement social pour la mise en œuvre du projet de développement urbain intégré de Balbala et l'appui à la décentralisation (Djibouti).

Solutions innovantes et recherches partenariales

Tendem Empreinte : outil de pilotage de la performance développement durable des projets

Egis a mis au point une démarche innovante, Tendem Empreinte®, pour optimiser la performance durable des projets d'aménagement. Pragmatique et participative, cette méthode définit les objectifs, les indicateurs et surtout les actions qui renforcent le caractère durable d'un projet. A chaque grande étape, il est possible de visualiser les

bénéfices et les impacts pluridisciplinaires des choix de programmation, de conception, de mise en œuvre et d'exploitation.

Egis assure le leadership de programmes de recherche partenariale ambitieux sur la ville durable :

IMPETUS (programme Villes Durables – Agence Nationale de la Recherche) : élaboration de référentiels, d'indicateurs et d'outils d'aide à la décision pour des projets d'aménagement d'une ville durable associant mieux qu'avant le bâti et la mobilité.

projet URBACONCEPT (pôle de compétitivité Advancity) : conception d'une plateforme collaborative proposant aux différents acteurs de l'urbain de partager des outils (bases de données, maquette numérique ...) permettant de travailler de manière plus collaborative sur la planification, l'éco-conception, la construction et la gestion de la ville. RESILIS (programme Villes Durables – Agence Nationale de la Recherche) : développement de la résilience urbaine grâce à l'amélioration des aides à la gouvernance des systèmes urbains en cas d'événements extrêmes, par exemple climatiques.

## 2. Accompagner les autorités locales dans leur développement et la lutte contre la pauvreté

La consolidation de régimes démocratiques et de la bonne gouvernance politique passe par la promotion d'un cadre politique et administratif rénové, l'adoption des principes de transparence, de déconcentration et de décentralisation, mais aussi par l'appui à l'émergence et au renforcement d'une société civile forte et responsable.

Inscrite dans les objectifs du millénaire pour le développement fixés par les Nations Unies, l'assistance technique fournie par Egis va de la définition des programmes jusqu'à leur évaluation en visant trois objectifs : augmentation du niveau de vie des communautés, appui au débat démocratique sur les projets et qualité de la gouvernance.

La bonne gouvernance, la sécurité financière, juridique et technique à long terme des grands projets apparaissent essentielles pour leur appropriation par les territoires et leur contribution aux dynamiques de solidarité territoriale.

Egis est aujourd'hui reconnu comme un spécialiste du processus de décentralisation et du renforcement de la capacité des pouvoirs publics à structurer leur territoire et à organiser les transports ou encore l'approvisionnement en eau et en énergie.

### Démarches exemplaires

Assistance technique en appui au Commissariat aux Droits de l'Homme, à la Lutte contre la Pauvreté et à l'Insertion en Mauritanie

Ce programme de développement local en faveur des communes de l'Assaba et du Guidimakha contribue à la réduction de la pauvreté des deux wilayas (collectivités publiques territoriales) par le renforcement des capacités des communes à développer, en partenariat avec tous les acteurs locaux, un niveau d'investissement soutenu, en vue d'assurer à la population des services durables répondant à leurs besoins.

### Réduction de la pauvreté en zones rurales au Tchad

Le projet, tout en cherchant à accompagner le processus naissant de décentralisation au Tchad, a pour finalité de contribuer à améliorer les conditions de vie et à réduire la pauvreté en zones rurales. Le rôle d'Egis, comme opérateur d'une composante du projet, est d'abord celui d'un ensemble capable de concevoir, de promouvoir et d'animer une véritable démarche de développement local.

Assistance technique à l'Agence d'exécution du Programme de développement rural du bassin agricole du Moungo Nkam (Cameroun)

Le Programme de développement rural du bassin agricole du Moungo Nkam (PDRBA Moungo-Nkam) a pour objectif global de contribuer à la réduction de la pauvreté par un appui à la relance de la production agricole, un renforcement des capacités des acteurs locaux et un soutien à la réalisation d'infrastructures socio-économiques essentielles.

## 3. Protéger l'environnement pour préserver les capacités de développement des territoires

Il est réellement possible de redonner une place à la nature dans nos projets. Pas celle d'un sanctuaire, mais bien d'un écosystème qui rend des services économiques et sociaux. Cela concerne aussi bien les grands ensembles, les zones protégées, les trames vertes et bleues, que la biodiversité plus commune des villes et de leurs abords. Au-delà des approches classiques d'inventaire et de plans de gestion, Egis a développé de véritables savoir-faire dans l'éco-conception d'infrastructures et d'ouvrages qui développent des fonctions positives en faveur de l'environnement et participent à une économie circulaire : création de biomasse, cohabitation d'activités, maîtrise de risques sanitaires ... Autant d'atouts qui renforcent l'acceptabilité des projets et facilitent le dialogue dans les situations complexes.

### Démarche exemplaire

Projet de traitement des déchets à Conakry (République de Guinée)

Egis a été choisi en juillet 2011 par le Ministère Délégué à l'Environnement et aux Eaux et Forêts de la République de Guinée pour prendre en charge la maîtrise d'œuvre de conception et de travaux et le suivi d'exploitation du projet de traitement des déchets de la ville de Conakry (déchets ménagers, industriels spéciaux et hospitaliers).

Egis a proposé des solutions techniques adaptées pour réhabiliter la décharge, récupérer et traiter, selon les normes européennes, les déchets. Le projet prévoit ainsi la création d'un centre de tri (avec emploi local) et une aide à la construction d'une école. Les installations de traitement des déchets seront en partie financées via des dispositifs de « crédit carbone ».

## 4. Favoriser un accès à l'énergie pour tous

Egis intervient à l'international sur les thématiques Kyoto comme la réalisation d'électrification rurale en utilisant des énergies renouvelables ou la mise en place de politiques industrielles de production propre.

En matière de conseil, Egis a développé différents outils permettant d'aider les décideurs territoriaux à définir leur politique énergétique dans le domaine des énergies renouvelables.

Parmi les projets exemplaires développés par Egis, on peut citer les études de modélisation de l'énergie des vagues pour l'installation d'usines houlomotrices sur l'île de la Réunion, l'étude de micro-centrales hydro-électriques sur les bassins versants atlantiques centre et sud au Maroc ou encore l'assistance technique à maîtrise d'ouvrage pour le Programme Régional Solaire Photovoltaïque du Tchad.

Par ailleurs, Egis est conseiller technique auprès de Waste to Energy, projet mené en partenariat avec le « R20 – Regions for Climate Action », émanation de l'ONU-UNDP dont l'objectif est d'encourager la création de production d'électricité renouvelable dans les pays en développement.

## 5. Mieux respecter et partager la ressource en eau

Egis mène de nombreux projets en lien avec la gestion de l'eau (alimentation en eau potable, assainissement, aménagement des cours d'eau...), un domaine sensible et vital pour les populations locales.

Pour ce faire, Egis est en capacité de mobiliser des équipes pluridisciplinaires : environnementalistes, écologues, ingénieurs en ouvrages portuaires et de protection du littoral, architectes, paysagistes, urbanistes et géographes...

#### Démarches exemplaires

Le projet d'irrigation dans la région de Phan Ri et Phan Thiet, vise à développer la production agricole et ainsi réduire la pauvreté dans une des zones les plus sèches au Viet Nam (Province de Binh Thuan).

En qualité de pilote d'un groupement international, Egis fournit une assistance technique au Ministère des Ressources en Eau et de la Météorologie du Cambodge pour l'élaboration et la mise en œuvre de sa politique sectorielle de l'eau. Le projet vise à développer l'agriculture irriguée dans les zones rurales défavorisées du nord-ouest du pays par la mise en place d'un système de gestion intégrée des ressources en eau.

#### Eco-conception portuaire : le projet GIREL

La réduction de l'impact des zones portuaires sur la biodiversité a été à l'origine d'un appel à projet de recherche lancé par l'Agence de l'Eau Rhône Méditerranée Corse (AERMC), le Pôle mer PACA et l'IFREMER. Le Grand Port Maritime de Marseille a répondu en partenariat avec Egis (associé à CDC biodiversité) en lançant le projet GIREL sur les 3 000 ha de la zone portuaire. L'objectif est de diminuer l'empreinte écologique d'un port industriel d'au moins 50% à partir de 2014. Ce projet constitue une innovation majeure car le concept d'éco-conception d'infrastructures portuaires n'a jamais été exploré en France ou en Europe.

#### SYNTHESE

Depuis 1960, Egis a développé des compétences opérationnelles lui permettant d'être aujourd'hui un acteur global du conseil et de l'ingénierie. Sa vision, sa présence internationale et son approche intégrée viennent nourrir les enjeux de Rio + 20 à travers cinq pistes :

- 1 Aménager les villes pour répondre aux enjeux démographiques
2. Accompagner les autorités locales dans leur développement et la lutte contre la pauvreté
3. Protéger l'environnement pour préserver les capacités de développement des territoires
4. Favoriser un accès à l'énergie pour tous
5. Mieux respecter et partager la ressource en eau

Par cette démarche de responsabilité, Egis participe à un développement soutenable des pays dans lesquels il opère et à la lutte contre la pauvreté à travers la création de valeur générée par les projets où le groupe est impliqué. Egis est un acteur à la disposition des Nations Unies et de tous les acteurs publics et privés, en France et à l'international, qui entendent contribuer concrètement à ces objectifs.

## ENDA Tiers Monde

Rio + 20 sur le sentier d'un développement plus durable

Par Jean-Philippe Thomas, ENDA Tiers Monde<sup>1</sup>

Le mouvement international de prise en compte de la planète Terre et de l'environnement date de 1972 avec la première Conférence des Nations Unies sur l'Environnement Humain (CNUEH, Stockholm - Suède). Les questions écologiques entrent de plein pied dans les préoccupations internationales avec la mise en place du Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement (PNUÉ). Le contexte est favorable, puisque c'est à la même période que le Club de Rome lance l'objectif de « Halte à la croissance ». Egalement, le pas est donné puisque les dirigeants de la planète s'engagent à se rencontrer tous les dix ans pour faire le point sur l'état de la Terre. Après l'échec de la Conférence de Nairobi en 1982, dû aux tensions sur le plan international, tous les espoirs se reportent sur la Conférence de Rio, en 1992. Les résultats de cette Conférence des Nations Unies sur l'Environnement et le Développement (CNUED) sont considérés, par tous, comme une réussite puisqu'il en ressort le programme d'Action 21 (avec plus de 2500 recommandations) et trois conventions majeurs : Changements climatiques, biodiversité et lutte contre la désertification. Le développement durable est né.

En 2002, le « Sommet Mondial sur le Développement Durable » (SMDD, Johannesburg), organisé par les Nations Unies, a, au-delà des bilans, pris des décisions dans les sens du développement durable, entre autres, sur l'eau, l'énergie, la santé, l'agriculture et la diversité biologique. Il faut y ajouter le renforcement des partenariats entre le nord et le sud et entre les secteurs publics et privés. Ce sommet s'inscrit dans une trajectoire de lutte contre la pauvreté consacrée, deux années plus tôt (2000), par l'adoption aux Nations Unies des Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement (OMD).

Que se prépare t-il alors pour Rio+20 en 2012 ? Au vu des premiers débats préparatoires et des premiers attendus, en particulier sur la notion « d'économie verte », des tensions existent et marquent l'absence de consensus. Force est alors de s'interroger sur le type de trajectoire que l'on veut maintenant imprimer au développement durable.

Des réponses existent, nous en proposons ici (point 1), en mettant en exergue (point 2) les enjeux pour l'Afrique (principalement les tendances lourdes). C'est en ce sens que l'on peut nourrir le débat et des propositions dans le processus de préparation de Rio+20.

1 Jean-Philippe Thomas, Docteur d'Etat en sciences économiques, est membre du Secrétariat Exécutif d'ENDA Tiers Monde (Siège à Dakar). Il a dirigé le Programme « Energie, Environnement et Développement » d'ENDA et collabore depuis plus de 20 ans avec cette organisation sur la problématique « Climat-Développement » principalement dans le cadre des pays d'Afrique. Il était auparavant enseignant-chercheur, successivement aux Universités Paris V et Paris XI. Il a également dirigé l'IUT Gestion de l'Université du Maine. Il est l'auteur de

nombreux articles et documents de position.

- Remerciements à Jean-Pascal Corréa ainsi que les autres collègues d'ENDA pour leurs commentaires.

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voir :

C'est d'ailleurs de cette manière qu'ENDA Tiers Monde, créée dans la mouvance de la Conférence de Stockholm, il y a presque quarante années, a constamment participé aux différents sommets de la Terre en apportant ses contributions aux débats et aux positions et en mobilisant les membres des sociétés civiles des pays du sud. Le « développement d'abord » et la lutte contre la pauvreté ont toujours été, pour ENDA dans ce processus, le centre des préoccupations<sup>2</sup>.

1 - Les attendus de Rio + 20 sonnent t'ils l'échec des approches actuelles du développement durable ?

Dans sa présentation la plus succincte, le sommet des Nations Unies sur le développement durable (2012), dit Rio+20, a pour objectif de « garantir le renouvellement des engagements politiques avec le développement durable; évaluer les progrès vers les objectifs accordés au niveau international sur le développement durable et relever des

défis nouveaux et émergents ». Ce type de déclaration souffre de peu de commentaires, c'est la phase bilan, évaluation et prospective.

En revanche, la définition des deux thèmes spécifiques à aborder, d'emblée, pose problème.

« Le sommet mettra également l'accent sur deux thèmes spécifiques: une économie verte dans le contexte de l'éradication de la pauvreté et le développement durable, et une structure institutionnelle qui favorise le développement durable » - <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/> et <http://www.earthsummit2012.org>

Les pays en développement engagés sur la voie d'un développement plus durable depuis plusieurs décennies doivent aborder ces thèmes avec une certaine circonspection. En effet, l'introduction du nouveau « paradigme », qui consiste à tout repeindre en « vert » (de l'économie verte aux emplois verts via la croissance verte et autres), dans les discours officiels ne masque t'elle pas la remise en cause du sentier de développement durable sur lequel les PED se sont, à grands efforts, engagés. Ces nouvelles appellations, fortement influencé par les travaux de l'OCDE sur la « green economy » méritent un détour afin de cerner quelles sont les originalités et les valeurs ajoutées qu'elles apportent (ou n'apportent pas) dans l'analyse et l'opérationnalité.

L'expérience des cinquante dernières années doit conduire à une certaine prudence sur l'appropriation de nouvelles notions : croissance économique, écodéveloppement, croissance zéro, ajustement structurel, objectifs du millénaire, développement durable. Les changements d'appellation sont-ils des changements de paradigme pour des politiques identiques ?

2 Par exemple, pour la Conférence de Johannesburg, « Le développement d'abord : un pré-requis pour un monde plus durable ».- Jean-Philippe Thomas et Youba Sokona, ENDA, Dakar, 2002.

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Le développement durable, issu du premier sommet de la terre en 1992, constitue un projet collectif mondial qui faisait le pari de jouer sur les synergies entre mondialisation des échanges, développement et environnement avec, en toile de fond, un changement de modèle de développement tant au Nord qu'au Sud. Il se basait sur un abord homogène et non hiérarchisé des aspects économiques, sociaux et environnementaux du développement, les « trois piliers ». Cette notion mettait fin à l'économisme à tout crin de la période des « trente glorieuses » abondamment relayé par les banques multilatérales de développement, le Fonds Monétaire International, les agences bilatérales et l'OCDE. L'objectif de croissance économique primait alors sur toutes les autres composantes du développement, en particulier sur ses aspects sociaux et environnementaux. Avec le développement durable prend donc fin la primauté économique du développement qu'on retrouvait d'ailleurs dans les paradigmes antérieurs de croissance ou d'ajustement structurel.

Or, Rio+20 remet en exergue l'économie (dite « verte ») par rapport aux deux autres composantes du développement : le social et l'environnement : «Le sommet mettra également l'accent sur... une économie verte » (cf. première partie des deux objectifs de Rio+20). En d'autres termes Rio+20 remet en cause l'approche du développement à partir des « trois piliers » du développement durable. On aurait pu tout aussi bien privilégier l'approche du « contrat social » et des transformations comme développée par le German Advisory Council on Global Change (« World in transition, a social contract for sustainability ».- WBGU, Berlin, 2011). Bref, le retour à la primauté de l'économie n'est pas neutre. Quatre explications peuvent être avancées :

1. Comme le note l'IDDRI (RA 2010) la gouvernance du développement durable, institutionnalisée par le Sommet de la Terre de Rio en 1992 et ses trois conventions (Désertification, Biodiversité, Changements Climatiques), a subi des transformations profondes au cours de la dernière décennie, marquée à la fois par la diffusion large de l'idée de développement durable dans les discours et des résultats insatisfaisants, sinon décevants. En d'autres termes, le développement durable a été largement mis

à mal par les vingt dernières années.

2.L'imprécision de la notion dont on a mieux défini et opérationnalisé les contours depuis Rio a subi, de plein fouet les chocs de la mondialisation qui ont rompu les liens et les soutiens qui se tissaient entre les trois « piliers » - économiques, environnementaux et sociaux ; Il en est de même en ce qui concerne les objectifs du millénaire alors que l'éradication de la pauvreté doit rester un objectif majeur et non un simple « contexte » de l'économie verte.

3.La notion de durabilité du développement n'a jamais été profondément admise par les secteurs économiques et financiers, en particulier le secteur privé et les économistes « libéraux ». L'avatar de la responsabilité sociale et environnementale de l'entreprise est plus un argument de positionnement commerciale vis-à-vis des

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consommateurs, de plus en plus soucieux de ces dimensions, qu'une réelle prise en compte de la durabilité du développement ;

4.Au stade actuel, le financement du développement durable à partir des seules contributions des Etats (Aide Publique au Développement – APD ou fonds dédiés et additionnels, comme pour les changements climatiques) subit une contrainte majeure liée, pour partie, aux crises financières successives et l'endettement rencontrées par les pays développés. Les marges de manœuvre des pays et de la communauté internationale, appelées encore « flexibilité » comme dans le Protocole de Kyoto, relèvent principalement de l'implication du secteur privé et de tous les mécanismes permettant de faire jouer l'effet de levier sur l'investissement privé.

Sous ces aspects, il fallait, pour Rio+20, retrouver un discours mobilisateur pour les secteurs privés. C'est sur ces bases que s'est construit le discours des Nations Unies pour Rio+20 en s'appuyant sur les travaux réalisés par l'OCDE qui s'était employé depuis plusieurs années à développer des processus de recherche et de concertation dédiés à la « green economy » ; Il faut souligner que ce discours a été largement relayé, en matière de lobbying, par des ONG internationales comme le WWF.

Le retour à la primauté de l'économisme devenait un message incontournable et majeur. Or, le risque est grand de marginaliser les aspects environnementaux et sociaux et de rentrer de plein pied dans les scénarios« A1 » de l'IPCC, dits de convergence par croissance, à savoir une tendance d'évolution qui privilégie l'économie et le matérialisme par rapport aux aspects environnementaux et sociaux du développement.

Ceci est conforté par le « flou » qui est donné de la notion d'économie verte. Point de définition mais des descriptions d'approches. Quatre, selon le rapport général du Secrétariat des Nations-Unies :

- 1.L'analyse des défaillances du marché et l'internalisation des externalités ;
- 2.L'approche systémique des structures économiques et leurs impacts sur le développement durable ;
- 3.Les objectifs sociaux et l'examen des politiques qui doivent réconcilier les objectifs sociaux avec les autres objectifs de politique économique ;
- 4.Le cadre macroéconomique et les stratégies de développement avec l'objectif d'identifier la dynamique des « sentiers » vers un développement durable.

En d'autres termes, on constate qu'analyse macroéconomique, analyse systémique, analyse institutionnelle et analyse des régulations formeraient ici la base « théorique » de l'économie verte. A partir de là, la présentation du Secrétariat Général passe directement aux aspects pragmatiques des approches en proposant une liste d'options politiques ; liste



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dans laquelle les décideurs des pays en développement peuvent puiser leurs bonnes pratiques. Cette liste, présentée sous forme de sept « tracks3 » dans le document du Secrétariat, est reprise ci-dessous, en prenant des exemples de type de politique ; elle est très hétérogène et on en cherche encore la logique ou l'architecture générale.

(a)Vérité des prix avec suppression des subventions, évaluation des ressources naturelles et taxes environnementales (pollueur-payeur). L'objectif est d'internaliser les externalités, de soutenir la consommation "durable" et de motiver les « bons » choix dans les affaires.

(b)Réformes des taxes environnementales basées sur l'expérience des pays européens. L'idée de base étant de supprimer les taxes sur les « bons » facteurs de production (comme le travail) pour les appliquer aux « mauvais » facteurs (comme la pollution), ce qui doit permettre d'obtenir un double dividende en corrigeant les externalités environnementales tout en « boostant » l'emploi ;

(c)Politiques publiques pour promouvoir le « verdissement » des affaires et des marchés “;

(d)Appui public ciblé en matière de recherche et développement dans les domaines des technologies “saines” pour l'environnement, pour une partie, en vue de compenser les investissements privés pré-commerciaux dans le domaine de la recherche et du développement et, pour une autre partie, en vue de stimuler l'investissement dans les domaines critiques (comme les énergies renouvelables) qui peuvent potentiellement bénéficier d'économies d'échelle et, enfin, en vue de compenser les biais actuels des recherches sur les technologies « sales » ou « hasardeuses » ;

(e)Investissement public dans des infrastructures durables (transport public, énergies renouvelables, reconfiguration des infrastructures existantes et des bâtiments en vue d'en améliorer l'efficacité énergétique) et restauration du capital naturel en vue de le maintenir et, là où c'est possible d'en augmenter le stock ;.

(f)Investissement stratégique via le financement du développement du secteur public, des programmes de mobilisation et de partenariat afin de poser les fondations d'une croissance économique autoentretenue et durable sur le plan social et environnemental ;

(g)Politiques sociales pour réconcilier les objectifs sociaux avec les politiques économiques proposées ou existantes.

Des analyses plus poussées sont, malgré tout, proposées. En particulier, celle du

« Stakeholder Forum » en introduction aux approches systémiques et celle du Secrétariat lui-même sur l'évaluation et les coûts des services écosystémiques. On pourra y revenir.

3 “green stimulus packages; ecoefficiency; greening markets and public procurement; investment in sustainable infrastructure; restoration and enhancement of natural capital; getting prices right; and eco-tax reform”. Objective and themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development - Report of the Secretary- General, pages 12-17, mars 2011.

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Pour nous, ce qui découle de cette liste, c'est principalement qu'il devient impératif d'élargir les « piliers » du développement durable à deux critères supplémentaires, à savoir la technologie, cf. (d) principalement, et l'institutionnel. Cela rejoint explicitement le cadre d'analyse du développement durable qu'a déjà proposé ENDA et qui se trouve largement corroboré par les conclusions du UN High-Level Dialogue on the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, (July 2011, Solo, Indonesia, attending by 300 policy makers, diplomats, NGOs and experts). Following Martin Khor, Third World network (TWN) « The main consensus was that there has been a big implementation problem – the goals of sustainable development have not been implemented, either at the global level (such as in the UN, or IMF and WTO) or in national policy making.

A major reason is the weakness of absence of institutions. The UN's Commission on Sustainable Development, the main agency to follow up on the 1992 Rio Summit, has too small a secretariat and meets for only three weeks in a year.

All three sustainable development pillars – environment, economic and social – are very weak at the UN. The agencies interact too little, if at all, with one another. The governments do not have adequate fora, such as a powerful UN economic committee to discuss the financial crisis and economic recession, or a UN environment committee with authority to act.

This weakness is also reflected at the country level. National councils of sustainable development were set up after Rio 1992, but many have not functioned well. Economic policies are still made with little regard for the environment”.

L'institutionnel, avec sa part de gouvernance et de cohérence des politiques, était jusqu'ici le grand absent du développement durable. Les cinq piliers du développement durable peuvent ainsi être présentés comme suit :

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Les options politiques proposées par le rapport du Secrétariat correspondent alors à un ensemble de liens entre les cinq « piliers » du développement durable ; on peut citer, à titre d'exemple :

Lien économie – environnement : (a), (b) et (c)

Lien technologie – économie : (d) et (e)

Lien social – environnement – économie : (f)

Institution - social – économique : (g)

Bref, plutôt que de verdir à tout prix le vocabulaire économique, Il nous semble préférable de renforcer l'approche développement durable déjà largement utilisée par un bon nombre de pays.

Il s'agit donc de partir des trois piliers du développement durable (économique, social et environnemental) et d'y adjoindre, selon notre démarche, deux critères supplémentaires afin de combler le manque d'exhaustivité, quand on s'en tient aux trois piliers traditionnels. Ces deux critères correspondent à la technologie et à l'institutionnel (donc la gouvernance), dernier critère qu'on retrouve d'ailleurs dans la seconde partie des thèmes à aborder à Rio+20. Pourquoi ne pas les englober dès maintenant dans une approche étendue et renforcée du développement durable ? C'est ce que nous proposons.

A titre d'exemple et pour opérationnaliser la démarche, une fois les cinq critères définis, on en pose les conditions de durabilité en y adjoignant les indicateurs de vérification. Il en serait de même pour toutes actions politiques qui relieraient deux ou plusieurs de ces critères.

## Critères Développement Durable

Critères	Conditions de 'durabilité'	Indicateurs (exemples)
Economique	Efficience/Efficacité	- Valeur produite > valeur consommée - Valeur ajoutée (VA) - PIB (productivité des facteurs)
Social	Équité	- Répartition de la VA (ou PIB) - Population pauvre bénéficiaire - Réduction pauvreté (% femmes, enfants)
Environnemental	Viable/Conservation	- Émissions GES, stockage de carbone - Synergies désertification, biodiversité, ...
Technologique	Propre	- Émissions, stockage de carbone - Synergies désertification, biodiversité, ... - Degré de pollution
Institutionnel	Coherence/Régulation	- Convergence des actions & politiques - Gouvernance - Degré de conformité des processus

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Selon la nature des activités à analyser en termes de durabilité, une sélection de critères et d'indicateurs pourra être opérée. Deux exemples :

- Au niveau macro-économique, on privilégiera les trois critères-piliers plus le critère institutionnel.
- Au niveau d'un projet, il est conseillé d'adjoindre la technologie qui joue un rôle prépondérant sur la durabilité du développement de l'activité.

En conclusion provisoire, on peut avancer qu'une définition plus précise du développement durable à partir de critères et d'indicateurs serait plus conséquente, comme base de travail pour Rio+20, plutôt que de s'ouvrir à de nouvelles notions, comme l'économie verte, dont on sait déjà qu'on a beaucoup de mal à en définir les contours. Les nombreux travaux et les innovations politiques (en particulier dans les pays émergents) qui ont opérationnalisé la notion de développement durable constituent des matériaux sur lesquels on peut largement s'appuyer pour lever les ambiguïtés actuelles de la notion. On participerait ainsi à la refondation de la notion de développement durable en tenant compte des sentiers de développement différents des diverses catégories de pays.

## 2 - Rio+20 : Enjeux et propositions pour l'Afrique

Faire des propositions, c'est tout d'abord tenter de s'accorder sur une vision commune reposant sur les tendances « lourdes », à long terme, partagées par le plus grand nombre.

Nos propositions ne sont donc pas exclusives, elles sont une première étape dont les caractéristiques majeures doivent être enrichies et partagées par le plus grand nombre.

Les tendances « lourdes » sur lesquelles s'appuie ce premier cadre d'analyse sont résumées ci-dessous :

1. Le développement de l'Afrique est mu par une évolution démographique très en dessus des moyennes mondiales. Les projections comparées, d'ici 2050, pour la population mondiale, celle de l'Afrique, de l'Afrique de l'ouest et d'un pays comme le Sénégal, sont révélatrices des disparités « Monde versus Afrique ».

Les projections de population

	Mi-2009	2050
Monde	6,8 milliards	9,5 milliards
Afrique	1 milliard	2 milliards
Afrique de l'ouest	297 millions	623 millions
Sénégal	15,2 millions	26 millions

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Le doublement de la population africaine au milieu de ce siècle va jouer un rôle moteur à tous les niveaux : pression sur la satisfaction des besoins de base, incluant la sécurité alimentaire, sur le dimensionnement des infrastructures, sur l'occupation des sols, etc. Dans chaque pays, les décideurs doivent largement intégrer la variable « population » et ne pas se contenter, comme c'est souvent le cas, de reporter des extrapolations purement linéaires. Le grand défi lié à l'accroissement de la population est tout à la fois de résorber les inégalités actuelles d'accès aux services et aux infrastructures de base et de répondre, en même temps, aux mêmes besoins des nouvelles générations. Cela nécessite, entre autres, un changement radical des modes de production et de consommation, principalement dans les pays du nord et un développement endogène de ces mêmes modes dans les pays du sud, en particulier en Afrique ; tous les scénarios prospectifs de la croissance par convergence du nord et du sud sont unanimes sur ce point.

2. L'urbanisation croissante, à forte composante d'exode rural, tend, en Afrique, à remplacer le modèle lignager rural par des comportements de plus en plus sensibles à l'épargne et à la capitalisation monétaire ou matérielle. L'investissement des ménages devient plus économique que social, cela est particulièrement vrai dans le domaine de l'accès à la propriété individuelle. Il est difficile aujourd'hui de juger de l'irréversibilité ou non de cette transformation ; en effet, si cette modification de comportement est significative chez l'encadrement et la classe moyenne, il n'en reste pas moins que l'urbanisation génère une nouvelle forme de population, dite périurbaine, dont les comportements de consommation sont difficiles à classer car relevant généralement d'une très grande pauvreté. Le risque majeur des capitales africaines est de développer des villes « à deux vitesses », opposant les populations

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aisées aux populations pauvres. Ce phénomène peut être amplifié par le fait que les villes sont confrontées à la double nécessité de lutter immédiatement contre les premiers effets du changement climatique (vagues de chaleurs, pollution, etc.) tout en définissant des plans d'action et d'adaptation à plus long terme. Selon « Le changement climatique et les villes : premier rapport d'évaluation du Réseau de recherche sur le changement climatique en milieu urbain », (Cambridge University Press, 2010), quatre secteurs sont particulièrement vulnérables face aux impacts du changement climatique, et devraient par conséquent concentrer l'attention des politiques d'atténuation et d'adaptation : les systèmes énergétiques locaux, l'approvisionnement en eau, les transports, et la santé publique.

La ville durable sera celle qui unifie, qui réduit les inégalités d'accès aux services de base, qui permet de satisfaire les besoins urbains de manière durable, en particulier en limitant les émissions de gaz à effet de serre et en créant les conditions de la résilience urbaine aux effets néfastes des changements climatiques.

3. La décentralisation administrative et institutionnelle qui s'opère dans la plupart des pays africains à l'heure actuelle est révélatrice de la nouvelle configuration des centres de décision. Le rôle économique et social des Etats tend de plus en plus à s'effectuer dans des pôles de subsidiarité comme les collectivités locales ou territoriales. Cette dévolution, en multipliant les centres de décision, sera effective lorsque ces centres de décision décentralisés jouiront pleinement des possibilités de planification, de collecte de l'imposition et d'accès direct à des sources de financement nationales ou internationales (financement direct « Climat », par exemple).

L'exemple des fonds « Climat ».

Par tradition centralisatrice, les programmes de développement sont régis par les ministères de tutelle. Les financements « climat » n'échappent pas à la règle dans la quasi-totalité des pays africains. Les banques de développement multilatérales et les agences, en particulier s'adressent à des pays dits « clients » responsables de la mise en œuvre des activités financées. Il existe, malgré tout un certain nombre d'actions décentralisées dans le cadre de coopération avec des collectivités locales ou via les ONG qui appuient des collectivités locales ou des activités à la base dans des quartiers de grandes villes ou en milieu rural.

Perpétuer ces circuits dans le domaine du climat génère le risque que les populations les plus vulnérables, de par les échelons administratifs à franchir, ne soient jamais les bénéficiaires des fonds qui, pourtant, leur sont destinés. Or, comme on le sait, l'adaptation aux effets des changements climatiques correspond à des activités tout d'abord étroitement liées à celles de développement et, ensuite, ayant pour objet de permettre aux populations d'apprendre à faire face et à anticiper sur les effets néfastes des changements climatiques.

Un des critères incontournable de bonne gouvernance des fonds « climat » réside dans le fait que ces financements soient effectivement utilisées par et pour les populations. Il s'agit donc de définir des niveaux de subsidiarité dans l'affectation des fonds en fonction des lieux où se décident les plans, programmes et activités de développement. C'est une remise en cause importante de la manière dont sont gérés et administrés aujourd'hui les financements internationaux. L'échelle uniquement nationale ne garantit pas l'efficacité de l'appui.

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Lorsqu'une collectivité locale définit son plan de développement local dans lequel elle intègre l'adaptation aux effets des changements climatiques (mainstreaming climat et développement) elle doit pouvoir accéder directement aux sources de financement, et assurer la gouvernance tant des activités que du financement de celles-ci. Les populations qui relèvent de cette collectivité peuvent alors directement apporter leur critique (positive ou négative) sur l'effectivité des actions par rapport aux objectifs qui avaient été définis de manière participative par les parties prenantes, en particulier la société civile.

La décentralisation de la gouvernance va de pair avec l'ouverture de l'accès direct aux financements pour les collectivités décentralisées ayant des objectifs de développement formalisés.

4. Au niveau international, face aux processus de mondialisation/globalisation, se pose avec une grande acuité le problème de la gouvernance mondiale pour l'économie, le commerce, le monétaire et financier, l'environnement, et disons, par extension, tous les biens collectifs mondiaux. S'il existe un consensus sur deux défis majeurs - l'éradication de la pauvreté et la sauvegarde de la planète – la diversité des formes de capitalisme actuel (avec plus ou moins d'Etat ou de marché) engendre des dérégulations en chaînes matérialisées par les suites de crises (financière, des matières premières, de l'immobilier ou du foncier,...) que rencontre l'ensemble des pays du monde, certes à des degrés divers. Ce qui signifie que les réponses obtenues jusqu'à aujourd'hui par rapport aux défis sont très en deçà des objectifs poursuivis. Le bilan dressé par les Nations Unies, cinq ans avant l'échéance des objectifs du millénaire (OMD), est très mitigé, car il est peu probable que l'ensemble des objectifs soient atteints. Il en est de même de la sauvegarde de la planète pour laquelle les attermoissements des négociations sur un agrément post 2012 sur le « Climat » conduisent à des choix d'objectifs de réchauffement climatique très au dessus des recommandations de la communauté scientifique, si l'on veut effectivement lutter contre le réchauffement de la planète.

Inverser la démarche

Sous les aspects développés ci-dessus, les populations les plus pauvres, en particulier en Afrique, voient leurs vulnérabilités économiques, sociales et environnementales augmenter. Il faut donc inverser la démarche, c'est-à-dire avoir une vision plus holistique des défis en intégrant (mainstreaming) la lutte contre la pauvreté et celle contre les changements climatiques que ce soit sous les aspects d'adaptation (résilience) ou d'atténuation (limitations des émissions de GES).

Les limites du marché, en tant que mécanisme de régulation sont maintenant admises, c'est ce que l'on appelle la crise de la régulation « libérale ». La question des mécanismes d'une nouvelle régulation se trouve ainsi posée. C'est le retour du débat marché/Etat, mais au niveau international. Quelle institution peut jouer à l'international ce rôle de régulateur. Des réponses partielles sont données, les Conventions sur l'environnement, en particulier le Climat, en sont un exemple. Mais

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au niveau global, la réponse de la communauté internationale est, depuis plusieurs décennies, constituée par les divers « G », réunions informelles des Présidents de Nations auto désignées, puisqu'au départ constituées uniquement de pays industrialisés (G8). Ce que d'aucun appelle une « Diplomatie de connivence<sup>4</sup> », constituait jusqu'à aujourd'hui le mécanisme ultime de la régulation mondiale basée principalement sur l'évaluation par les pays industrialisés du rapport de force avec l'ensemble des autres pays, ce qui permettait aux pays membres de trouver « entre eux » des arrangements (connivence) pour une « meilleure » régulation mondiale. Mais ce comité de pilotage rigide ne peut survivre à la montée des pays émergents comme la Chine, le Brésil, l'Inde ou l'Afrique du sud, qui représenteront, en 2015, 60% du PIB mondial et presque 50% de la population mondiale. L'extension du comité est en cours (G20), principalement pour répondre à la pression des pays émergents. Cette extension répond aux contestations de plus en plus marquées sur bon nombre de problèmes entre les pays industrialisés et les pays émergents qui ne partagent pas le même sens des responsabilités au niveau mondial. Quoiqu'il en soit, ce système oligarchique n'est pas durable et c'est un des enjeux de Rio+20 de proposer une configuration institutionnelle de gouvernance mondiale qui, de notre point de vue, doit permettre à chaque pays du monde d'être représenté et d'avoir « une voix » dans la régulation mondiale. Cette participation de tous est le gage de la réussite, à long terme, de l'entreprise. Il n'est pas sûr que les propositions actuelles de mise en place d'une Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement (OME) soit une bonne réponse (même partielle) à la problématique posée, même si les solutions sont à chercher du côté du multilatéralisme.

5.Regarder au-delà des financements. Depuis des décennies, le débat international est focalisé sur les aspects du financement du développement, en particulier autour de l'engagement des pays industrialisés de consacrer 0,7% de leur PIB à l'Aide Publique au Développement (APD). Vécue au nord et au sud comme une sorte de « charité ou générosité organisée », le débat s'est heureusement élevé sous de meilleurs auspices autour du financement des Biens Collectifs Mondiaux (BCM). Leur prise en compte devient une nécessité équitablement partagée entre le nord et le sud sous forme d'une approche coopérative entre les pays développés et ceux en développement. Tous les pays ont intérêt à ce que ces biens et services, bénéfiques à tous, soient pris en charge au niveau de la planète : l'environnement, les dépenses dans et pour « l'humain » et la politique mondiale.

Plus encore, et si on prend l'exemple du Climat, on le sait, les pays en développement n'ont pas de responsabilité historique dans les concentrations actuelles de gaz à effet de serre dans l'atmosphère. Les financements internationaux engagés pour répondre aux défis climatiques constituent, pour les pays développés,

4 « La Diplomatie de connivence ».- Bertrand Badie. Editions de la Découverte, Paris. 2011.

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la voie choisie pour éponger leur dette climatique, en tant que responsables historiques du phénomène. Encore faudrait-il que ces financements :

i)soient suffisants et accessibles tant aux Etats qu'aux communautés de base et aux collectivités décentralisées,

ii)soient intégrés dans les plans de développement aux différents niveaux mentionnés.

Toutefois, de même que la lutte contre la pauvreté ne peut se réduire à des financements qui satisfassent les objectifs du millénaire, de même le financement de la lutte contre les changements climatiques ne peut se résumer à des financements de projets ou de programmes d'adaptation ou d'atténuation.

Il faut engager la transformation de ces visions actuelles en initiant ou en inventant des politiques de développement durable à partir des expériences déjà développées dans un certain nombre de pays afin que les objectifs de lutte contre la pauvreté et contre les changements climatiques prennent corps dans un ensemble cohérent et durable. Comme le note l'IDDRI (RA 2010, page 30) « les pays où la pauvreté recule significativement,... ce sont des politiques intérieures financées par la croissance qui en reçoivent l'essentiel du mérite, et non la générosité des contribuables des pays de l'OCDE ».

C'est bien ainsi sur la voie d'une transformation des modes de développement qu'il faut s'engager pour répondre aux besoins des plus pauvres et accroître leur résilience face aux changements climatiques. Ce faisant, on s'éloigne des débats sur le financement international du développement pour se rapprocher des problématiques de développement endogène.

Ces cinq tendances lourdes (enjeux ou défis) annoncent déjà ce qu'on peut proposer pour l'Afrique à Rio+20

Bâtir sur l'existant et se projeter sur les vingt années à venir, telle doit être la toile de fond de la réflexion. Cette vision à long terme dépasse le cadre purement politique car ce sont tous les acteurs qui sont concernés, en particulier la société civile. Devant les interrogations des Etats sur ce que doit être Rio+20, la société civile se doit d'apporter ses réponses et tout d'abord convaincre la classe politique quant à la nécessité de respecter ses engagements sur le développement durable.

Donc Rio+20 c'est avant tout l'ensemble des acteurs, des parties prenantes et des populations concernées.

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Notre avenir ne peut découler ou être scellé par un document de plusieurs centaines de pages longuement discuté et amendé par des représentants des Etats.

Le processus se veut inverse5 :

1.Il faut d'abord, dans chaque pays, convaincre les politiques de respecter leurs engagements : qu'avez-vous fait des Agenda 21 ? Pourquoi les objectifs du millénaire ne sont pas atteints dans tel ou tel secteur ? Quel est votre bilan sur la lutte contre la désertification, contre les changements climatiques ? etc. C'est la première étape.

2.Il faut ensuite montrer ce que nous faisons et ce que nous avons réalisé dans le domaine du développement durable, l'assainissement, les énergies renouvelables, la gestion participative des ressources naturelles, la santé, l'accès à l'eau, la lutte contre l'érosion des sols et des côtes, etc.

Cela existe effectivement, il faut le montrer en s'appuyant sur les critères du développement durable tels qu'on les a définis afin de démontrer la durabilité des démarches. C'est la deuxième étape.

3.Enfin, troisième étape, voilà ce que nous pourrions faire en multipliant par 10 ou par 100 nos activités durables et ainsi étendre celles-ci à un maximum de populations. Mais pour cela, il faut que, vous, les politiques et gouvernants, vous vous engagiez plus au-delà, que vos engagements dans des choix politiques soient plus forts tant au niveau international qu'au niveau national.

Notre démarche aura d'autant plus de poids qu'on saura mobiliser, en amont, de nombreux partenaires. En d'autres termes, faire comme le Brésil, mobiliser en amont pour démontrer la force de nos propositions.

En résumé, la voie de Rio+20 est formée de trois composantes :

i) opérationnaliser de manière plus précise et concrète la notion de développement durable à partir de ses cinq piliers : l'économique, le social, l'environnemental, le technologique et l'institutionnel ;

ii)s'inspirer des tendances lourdes, en particulier celles concernant l'Afrique, afin d'éviter des propositions ou recommandations reposant sur des visions de court terme alors que l'empreinte des évolutions de la population, de

5 Voir en particulier « Options futures ».- n°4, 2011.

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l'urbanisation, de la décentralisation, des nouvelles régulations et de la primauté du développement endogène, dessinent des transformations à long terme plus durables ;

iii) proposer, à partir des expériences et de l'existant en Afrique, ce que les engagements de Rio+20 doivent apporter aux populations africaines selon un calendrier réalisable. Il faut alors un maximum de mobilisation des parties prenantes pour soutenir ces propositions.

Dakar, août 2011

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## Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC)

Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges - UK

Input for the Compilation Document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20, 2012

The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges - EAUC is the sustainability alliance for the United Kingdom. Established in 1996 the EAUC comprises 312 UK universities and colleges plus another 160 governmental, professional and support organisations and private companies.

Our vision is a university, college and learning and skills sector where the principles and values of environmental, economic and social sustainability are embedded.

Our Mission is to lead, inspire and equip Members and stakeholders with a shared vision, knowledge and the tools they need to embed sustainability within curriculum and operations.

To develop a position to inform the Rio +20 submission, in October 2011 the EAUC conducted a survey of its members. We had a very significant response reflecting the aspiration (and frustration) from within the TE sector to play a more significant part in leading change. In addition to the survey a consultation event was held at the University of Exeter. I am grateful to EAUC Board Member Harriet Sjerps Jones at the University of Exeter for leading the EAUC response.


Why the critical role of Tertiary Education Institutions to Global Sustainable Development must be central to Rio+20 discussions


The role that tertiary education can, should and does play in achieving sustainable development has often gone unrecognized and/or under represented. In the past two decades, it has become clear that tertiary education institutions:

- Provide relevant and critical education to our future government, business, industry, education and community leaders. By integrating sustainable development into curriculum, skills training and student development, tertiary education will equip the future with people who have the ethical principles, knowledge and capacity to positively impact the global economic and educational systems, to eradicate poverty and improve access to education for all;
- Are critical homes for the research that provides sustainable solutions to the complex problems of development. Indeed, Secretary Ban Ki-moon pointed out in his call for the world's academic community to find solutions to global hunger, water shortages, and energy issues, "the academic community can help us connect the dots"; and
- Serve as the "test beds" for examining the context in which innovative sustainability practices are executed. As these institutions implement a variety of context-specific sustainability practices through education and operations, they demonstrate the viability of these practices and provide models for sustainable development.


However, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is still not being supported at the national level. This is the conclusion of the UNESCO first report on the DESD (2009). International frameworks such as the UN DESD and UNFCCC have presented ESD models but these have not been implemented or supported by national agencies particularly in further and higher education.


In light of this, it is recommended that:


 Tertiary institutions and governments alike should provide resources and funding to facilitate the fundamental shift to embed sustainability in the curriculum, research, and operations of tertiary education. The development of tools, resources and appropriate professional development for academics and institutional leaders are required for this fundamental shift in our collective approach to sustainable development to be successful;

 Each tertiary institution within developed countries should partner and work with a tertiary institution from a developing country, for the purpose and mutual benefit of research, knowledge and resource exchange. Each institution should make this partnership explicit through registering on a dedicated UNCSD page, though we do have concerns that this could become a meaningless window-dressing exercise.

 Every tertiary institution should commit to sharing and learning from one another in the spirit of international partnership and long-term global societal benefit.

 Tertiary institutions will act as a locus for catalytic research, learning and action for a transition towards a 'Green Economy'. We are divided over the use of the words 'green economy' or 'green growth' as to many of us this still emphasises economy and growth, and could neglect the importance of social value like social capital and community participation.

 The EAUC would like to see Rio Plus 20 provide incentives and governance frameworks to ensure that the role of education and learning for sustainability is understood by national agencies and supported through grants and other incentives particularly within FE and HE.

 Actions and implementation frameworks are being identified for Climate Change, Biodiversity, MDGS and similar thematic areas. ESD should have a similar set of actions and implementation framework which identifies what constitutes progress in ESD in TE (amongst other sectors).

Iain Patton, Chief Executive, Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges

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## Environmental Commissioners of Canada and Quebec

Submission by the Environmental Commissioners of Canada and Quebec to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

Lessons in Good Governance: Performance auditing and reporting from the Environmental and Sustainable Development agenda in Canada

For consideration at the Second Earth Summit 2012 Intersessional

## Executive Summary

- This paper provides observations and lessons learned on good governance from the work of two independent Commissioners of the Environment and Sustainable Development in Canada.
- Environment and sustainable development (ESD) audits can play a critical role in providing practical, objective, and rigorous examinations of how environmental and sustainable development laws, regulations, policies and programs are managed and implemented, and how they achieve their intended objectives at the sub-national, national, and international levels. Audits support good governance by advancing accountability.
- Comparing observations made in ESD audits of the Canadian Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act and of Canada's implementation of its obligations under the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer illustrates that good governance and accountability are critical factors in the success of domestic and international legal instruments.
- Existing and future multilateral environmental agreements should integrate implementation and accountability mechanisms, and a performance reporting framework.

## Background

Since the United Nations (UN) Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in 1972, governments around the world have been working to address environmental issues through the creation of national and sub-national government departments, agencies, policies, programs, regulations, and expenditures, and through the creation or adaptation of international institutions, treaties, and soft law (for example, international declarations). A key step in this process was the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro and its action plan Agenda 21. Although multilateral environmental agreements and institutions were established, current scientific assessments indicate that many ecosystems are worse off now than they were 20 years ago. These assessments also reveal that environmental degradation is proceeding at accelerated levels.

During this same period, people have formed growing expectations that organizations affecting the environment should be accountable for their actions. Many people now believe that representations that governments make in the field of environment and sustainable development should be subject to independent audit to assess how well these tools are implemented.

## Purpose

This paper is submitted as a contribution to the discussion on the second theme of the Rio+20 conference, "the institutional framework for sustainable development". It addresses the second objective on assessing progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of sustainable development. This paper shares perspectives obtained from the work of the Environmental Commissioners of Canada and of Quebec, with a view to improving the implementation of environmental policies, programs, regulations, and partnerships. It is hoped that these lessons will be particularly useful to countries that are still developing their environmental governance frameworks and institutions.

## Audit and good governance

Good governance is essential for ensuring that commitments to environmental protection and sustainable development produce credible results. National and sub-national (provincial) environment and sustainable development audits play a critical role in supporting good governance by advancing accountability and by providing practical, objective, and rigorous examinations of how environmental and sustainability laws, regulations, and programs are managed and implemented at the national and international level against their objectives and targets.

Audit and performance reporting provide a well established, internationally accepted, and respected means of finding out if governments have done what they said they would do. These tools can help hold governments to account for implementing policy commitments and program delivery, and can lead to improvements in the implementation of international and domestic agreements.

## Issues Identified in Environmental Audits and Evaluations

The Commissioners of the Environment and Sustainable Development of Canada and of Quebec have been conducting their work for many years. The two Commissioners have identified a number of common issues in their audits of government programs and activities. A 2011 survey of the 71 nation states that are members of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) Working Group on Environmental Auditing identified key issues observed in environmental audits. (See Appendix A for an overview of the work of the Commissioners and of INTOSAI.) Responses to the survey echo many of the issues that the Commissioners identified and can be summarized as follows:

- Lack of coordination between sub-national levels and the national level. Through the audits conducted, it has been noted that since environmental problems occur at all levels, actions must involve municipal, regional, and national governments. There is a need to improve integration and coordination between governance institutions at different levels. When local entities are involved in implementing national policies, it is essential that credible and verifiable means exist for reporting on how these funds were spent and what results were achieved, in the interest of transparency and accountability for national funds and results.
- Insufficient assessment of environmental impacts of government policies and programs. Audits have noted that governments are not using policy tools to ensure more timely consideration of environmental outcomes or negative impacts before large sums are committed to a policy, program, or project. Many governments do not yet widely use high-level regulatory impact assessment or strategic environmental assessment, or they do not use them effectively to inform policy decision making.
- Lack of analysis (economic, social, and environmental) supporting decisions. In some audits, the findings have noted that policy makers are not taking into account the three pillars of sustainable development—economic, social, and environmental aspects—when making decisions. Several audits have found that full-cost accounting is rarely done. Sustainable development governance requires robust analysis and better integration of economic, social, and environmental policies, and recognition of tradeoffs, particularly within the broader development planning frameworks.
- Lack of long-term planning to implement environmental policies and programs. Audits have noted that issues requiring long-term planning to resolve, such as climate change adaptation, do not have corresponding planning processes or plans in place. This situation may lead to a planning and accountability gap that can increase the risk of not meeting long-range commitments.
- Inadequate financial management of environmental policies and programs. Audits have noted that financial management problems can be caused by several factors: insufficient planning, resulting in high, incorrectly anticipated costs of delivering environmental policies and programs that then require large amounts of additional unanticipated funds; lack of an appropriate financial management framework to support the implementation of environmental policies and programs; lack of financial management skills; and misuse of funds.

- Lack of enforcement of domestic environmental legislation. National and sub-national audits have indicated that environmental laws are not self-executing. Governments must ensure compliance with domestic environmental legislation by taking appropriate, effective, and proportionate policy measures. This approach requires administrative capacities and strong government commitments to implement and enforce the regulatory framework.
- Deficient monitoring and reporting systems. Audits have noted that high-quality accountability and reporting systems are often lacking. Evaluation of key policy choices, and of the effectiveness and efficiency of the instruments used to implement them, is not always in place. Without good evaluation, it is difficult for governments to report and measure their progress toward sustainable development and to identify where further policy action is needed.
- Lack of environmental data for decision making. Audits have noted that government bodies do not have sufficient and robust environmental data to support their policy and program decisions and to evaluate their performance against objectives. There are problems with the availability, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of data. Overall, there is a lack of knowledge and information on ecosystems and their responses to pressures; and a failure to use the existing information adequately to support management decisions. Independent environmental audits can collect and report information for decision makers where information is lacking.

#### Lessons learned for good governance and accountability

Drawing from these identified issues, we can point to core lessons learned for effective implementation of environmental commitments. For years, the Commissioners of Environment and Sustainable Development in Canada have stressed the importance of applying the principles of good governance—effective accountability mechanisms, adequate transparency, credible reporting, and protection of the public interest—to federal programs, partnerships, and practices. More than ever, we believe these principles are key to future success of national and international law, policies, plans, and programs, and to determining whether commitments made by governments to address environmental and sustainable development objectives are being met. In practical terms, the design of these instruments and measures must:

1. Provide a plain language description of the commitment and what it means in terms of intended outcomes and results.
2. Identify the new actions that are needed, along with those already under way, complete with realistic timetables and milestones.
3. Assign clear and specific roles and responsibilities to the departments and agencies at all levels that are responsible for these actions.
4. Establish concrete performance expectations and indicators of progress.
5. Provide the necessary resources to implement the actions that have been identified.
6. Monitor and review progress that is made.
7. Report to the public regularly and in a transparent way.

#### Lessons in good governance – Comparing audit observations for the Montreal Protocol and the Canadian Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act

In 2011, the Canadian Federal Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development conducted an audit of Canada's Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act. The Commissioner found that the federal government had not put in place the management systems and tools needed to achieve, measure, and report on reductions of greenhouse gas emissions. The report noted that key elements were missing, such as clear roles and responsibilities, goals and objectives, and effective performance measurement—including transparent financial reporting and quality assurance on greenhouse gas emissions reported. The report found that Canada's Climate Change Plans are not in compliance with the federal Kyoto Protocol Implementation Act and that Canada is not on track to meet its target for greenhouse gas emissions under the Kyoto Protocol.

In 1997, the Office of the Auditor General of Canada conducted an audit of the federal government's implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer and found that Canada had met—and, in some cases, exceeded—its obligations under the Montreal Protocol. The Montreal Protocol has been remarkably successful in achieving its objectives to date at the international and national levels. As a multilateral environmental agreement, it broke new ground in many areas and is often hailed as a model for solving environmental issues of a similar nature. Many factors have contributed to its success to date, including the following:

- mandatory data reporting facilitated tracking of countries' performance against their commitments and country-to-country comparisons;
- clear, measurable phase-out targets and schedules allowed for effective measurement of progress;
- the adoption and application of alternative technologies were greatly facilitated through cooperation and collaboration initiatives, including bilateral assistance projects, industry-led workshops and technical assistance, and government-to-government training;
- the establishment of the Scientific Assessment Panel provided an effective forum for obtaining and reporting consensus among international scientists and research institutions and for supporting policy decisions;
- special provisions for developing countries, based on the principle of mutual but differentiated responsibilities, such as a grace period for phase-out of Ozone Depleting Substances (ODS) and direct financial assistance through the Multilateral Fund.

These examples illustrate that good governance and accountability mechanisms are important factors in the success of international legal agreements and national governments' implementation of their respective obligations.

#### Aspirations for Rio+20 outcomes

We believe that more effective accountabilities and implementation mechanisms would ensure more effective agreements and outcomes. For this reason, we submit the following for consideration at the Rio +20 conference:

- Existing and future multilateral environmental agreements could include enhanced implementation and accountability mechanisms. These mechanisms could be built into the agreements and a performance reporting framework could be established. The UN Convention on Biological Diversity's Strategic Plan and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets may provide useful examples.
- International, national and sub-national audits and progress reporting can play a critical role in supporting good governance by advancing accountability, and providing practical, objective and rigorous examinations of how environmental and sustainability policy, programs, regulations, targets and laws are managed and implemented.
- Existing national and international mechanisms could be enhanced, or new ones designed to enhance accountability and transparency could be created.
- Capacity building and institutional development in developing countries should be enhanced in the field of environmental governance, and performance auditing and reporting.

## Appendix A

### Background on the Commissioners

The Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development, within the Office of the Auditor General of Canada, and the Commissioner of Sustainable Development of Quebec are independent officers of democratic legislatures. During the course of their work over the last 20 years, they have studied, observed, audited, and verified the extent to which their governments have made and kept their commitments to protect the environment and to promote sustainable development through domestic and international commitments and agreements.

Since it was established in 1995, the federal Commissioner of the Environment and Sustainable Development (CESD) has produced over 100 performance audits and studies on environmental issues ranging from air and water quality to climate change, hazardous spills, and species at risk. The CESD has examined the implementation of federal regulations, programs, partnerships, and multilateral environmental agreements.

Also, the CESD has played an important role in the oversight of the implementation of the federal government's climate change plans and the Federal Sustainable

Development Strategy - the latter calling for the integration of environmental, economic, and social factors in all decisions governments make. The CESD also manages a transparency and accountability tool, known as the environmental petitions process, which raises environmental and sustainable development issues to the ministerial level within and, at times, between departments.

The Commissioner of Sustainable Development in Quebec makes comments and recommendations concerning the application of Quebec's Sustainable Development Act, which established a management framework within the provincial government to ensure that its powers and responsibilities are exercised in the pursuit of sustainable development. The Commissioner's objectives include raising awareness of sustainable development issues to parliamentarians, ensuring accountability of provincial departments in relation to their sustainable development action plans, and integrating the principles established by Quebec's Sustainable Development Act in the evaluation criteria used in value-for-money auditing.

The International Organization for Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI) is the professional association of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in countries that belong to the United Nations or its specialized agencies. INTOSAI established the Working Group on Environmental Auditing ([www.environmental-auditing.org](http://www.environmental-auditing.org)) in 1992. At INTOSAI's most recent triennial International Congress of Supreme Audit Institutions, held in 2010 in Johannesburg, South Africa, the resulting Johannesburg Accords noted that "[by] exercising the highest values of professionalism, independence, objectivity and transparency, and through effective cooperation, Supreme Audit Institutions can make significant contributions toward addressing sustainable developments issues that are becoming increasingly regional, and even global, in nature."

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## Environmental Law Institute

### Environmental Emergencies

Environmental emergencies are increasing in both severity and frequency, and are an emerging issue for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20"). In this context, the Environmental Law Institute proposes the following points for consideration in the Zero Draft Compilation Document:

Environmental emergencies cause substantial harm to human life and national economies, and developing and operationalizing international frameworks for environmental emergency response and preparedness is a priority.

The impacts of environmental emergencies on human health and national economies extends beyond the tally of lives lost and property damaged. Disasters frequently destroy critical infrastructure, such as a ports or power plants, or release toxins that cause persistent health problems and can burden a country for years or decades to come. Minimizing these impacts is critical to preserving human health and welfare and safeguarding national economies. Therefore, it is imperative that government agencies and other actors at all levels recognize the threat posed by environmental emergencies and take measures to prevent, minimize, and respond to them.

The international framework for environmental emergency response and preparedness needs to be strengthened to account for the increasing frequency, greater damage, and changing geographic distribution of environmental emergencies, particularly in light of climate change and urbanization.

As environmental emergencies increase in scope and severity—especially due to climate change and urbanization—the likelihood that they will overwhelm a nation's capacity to respond is amplified. As such, the international framework addressing disasters needs to be strengthened. Currently, the frameworks result in gaps and overlaps in aid which negatively impact and decrease efficiency of response efforts. Greater coordination and sharing of information, expertise, and resources will strengthen the international preparedness and response frameworks to ensure more effective international assistance.

Climate change and urbanization will influence the changing vulnerabilities of communities and countries around the world. They also present new opportunities for improving response and preparedness as increased attention is paid to environmental emergencies. Failure to address the changing needs in environmental emergency response and preparedness could result in more costly outcomes. The international community needs to anticipate these changes and develop a global framework that meets these challenges.

The international community needs to build capacity of local responders, particularly in large cities, and integrate local response with national, regional, and international response systems.

Coordination between different levels of response improves the effective and efficient use of resources for assistance. Local responders often know the area and the people most affected, and are the first on the scene. In order to optimize international assistance, local responders need to possess the tools and knowledge necessary to request national or international support (taking into account the need prerogative of national authorities for managing international relations). Likewise, international responders would benefit from earlier notification and more clear direction to minimize aid overlap. Measures that facilitate greater communication and integration are needed to improve coordination and effectiveness.

### Natural Resources and Post-Conflict Peacebuilding

Since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, post-conflict peacebuilding has emerged grown rapidly, with experiences in many countries. Natural resources are essential to post-conflict economic development, stabilization of security, social equity, and good governance. The actions that are taken – or not taken – in post-conflict peacebuilding substantially affect whether a country successfully transitions to a path of sustainable development or it relapses into conflict.

The Environmental Law Institute (ELI) submits the following comments for consideration in the Zero Draft Compilation Document for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20"). These comments might best fit within the "Emerging Issues" discussion, but could also be relevant to "International Governance for



Sustainable Development.”

War is inherently damaging to sustainable development, and many post-conflict countries struggle with the transition from conflict to sustainable development; post-conflict peacebuilding seeks to lay a foundation for durable peace and sustainable development.

- Since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit—and the end of the Cold War—there has been a rapid growth in post-conflict peacebuilding. Efforts to help countries to recover from war have had been uneven, and the risk of relapse into conflict is significant. In the 2011 World Development Report, the World Bank noted that “every civil war that began since 2003 was a resumption of a previous civil war.” Moreover, natural resource-linked conflicts are more likely to relapse into violence than other conflicts, and do so twice as quickly.

- Conflicts are often linked to natural resources. Natural resources may be one of the root causes of the conflict. The extraction and trade in natural resources often finance conflict. Since 1990, natural resources have fuelled conflict in at least 18 countries. Scorched earth tactics, land mines, and other military strategies often target natural resources during conflict.

- The international community is devoting increasing attention to the emerging issue of how to design and implement peacebuilding initiatives to more effectively support the transition to sustainable development and prevent relapses to conflict.

- From the outset, peacebuilding requires a long-term view that integrates economic, social, and environmental dimensions. Such a holistic approach is needed to avoid exacerbating existing tensions or creating new, unintended consequences that could undermine the transition to a durable peace. Effective management of natural resources is essential to post-conflict peacebuilding because post-conflict societies rely on natural resources for food security, livelihoods, economic development, basic services, and other peacebuilding objectives.

- Natural resources can be important to almost every aspect of post-conflict peacebuilding.

- To establish security in post-conflict situations it is imperative to secure the trade in conflict-linked natural resources. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) can use natural resources to provide a source of civilian livelihoods for former combatants (particularly as farmers, but also in other resource-dependent sectors).

- The livelihoods and food security of many post-conflict situations are tied to the sustainable management of natural resources because a majority of the population often works in agriculture, forestry, fishing, artisanal mining and related fields.

- The economic development of post-conflict countries may also depend substantially on the extraction and processing of natural resources, such as timber, oil and gas, minerals and cash crops.

- Natural resources are essential to providing basic services such as drinking water, hydropower, and inland water transport.

- Governance and the rule of law can be supported through shared management of natural resources using inclusive political processes in local, national, and regional resource management institutions. The planning and implementation of post-conflict peacebuilding have often failed to adequately address natural resources, which has undermined the effectiveness of peacebuilding.

- There have been many experiences, largely ad hoc, from which we can learn to improve the effectiveness of peacebuilding initiatives.

- Many of these experiences have been analyzed by a global initiative led by the Environmental Law Institute, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the University of Tokyo and McGill University. This project assesses more than 150 case studies of peacebuilding initiatives from around the world, authored by 230 researchers and practitioners in 50 countries, and it disseminates the findings in a six volume series of books. While individual peacebuilding experiences have been successful, the bulk of the case studies point to the need for approaches that better integrate natural resources.

To strengthen the effectiveness of post-conflict peacebuilding, institutional and operational approaches need to be developed and implemented to mainstream natural resource management into peacebuilding efforts.

- The institutional and operational approaches suggested herein would improve institutional learning, build capacity, mobilize expertise to provide technical assistance, consider natural resources in the assessments of specific post-conflict situations, and increase coordination around natural resources.

- Learning—More systematic approaches are needed to collect, analyze, and disseminate information on managing natural resources to support peacebuilding on an ongoing basis.

- Capacity building—To operationalize lessons learned on managing natural resources in post-conflict settings, it is necessary to build the capacity of post-conflict countries and the bilateral, multilateral, and nongovernmental organizations that support them. This would include staff trainings, workshops for partner organizations, operational guidance on both strategic and project levels, templates for contracting guidelines, monitoring and evaluation strategies tailored to natural resource management in post-conflict settings, and checklists for conflict-sensitive natural resource management.

- Mobilizing expertise for technical assistance—Searchable rosters of experts and pools of experts on call could help to mobilize the expertise necessary to provide post-conflict technical assistance on a range of natural resource-related issues. These experts may include both in-house staff and external experts.

- Considering natural resources when assessing specific post-conflict situations—For each post-conflict situation, careful analysis is needed to identify whether and how specific natural resources should be integrated into peacebuilding strategies. This analysis should identify conflict-linked natural resources and address them in the peacebuilding strategy. Planning processes should consider which natural resources can support the security, economic, social, and governance needs of the specific post-conflict situation. Natural resources that could constrain proposed peacebuilding activities must be evaluated before peacebuilding activities are initiated.

- Coordination—Natural resources can provide as-yet underutilized opportunities for coordination around a resource. Although coordination among local, national, and international actors is essential to effective and efficient peacebuilding, there has been very little coordination to date, particularly at the operational level.

Programs and projects should coordinate through donor conferences, during program or project design, and throughout the implementation process. Evaluations of programs and projects should consider whether there has been effective coordination with the other initiatives and communities that rely on or affect the same resource.

A publicly available database of projects and the natural resource or resources relied upon or affected would allow post-conflict countries, donors, and other actors to more readily identify with which groups they should coordinate.

Implementation of the Transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment principles into the Zero Draft document – TEIA as a relevant environmental policy instrument for sustainable development

#### Rio Principles on Transboundary Impact Assessment Should be Strengthened

Achieving sustainable development will require enhancing international cooperation in assessing the environmental impact of economic activities, specifically the impact that may occur due to climate change.

Transboundary environmental assessment procedures are an opportunity for climate-vulnerable countries to consult with local governmental authorities during the planning phases of economic activities about possible impacts that may affect their sustainable future or even their existence.

With the aim to help mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and provide opportunities for vulnerable states to be heard, we call for global discussion on TEIA in relation to (1) climate change impacts, (2) the determination of the methodology and established threshold for triggering the transboundary procedures, and (3) the obligation for States to take action if there is a finding of negative transboundary impacts.

An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (or Strategic Environmental Assessment - SEA) is an important tool for making critical predictions about the costs, risks and benefits involved in a proposed activity. This tool can raise public awareness of the effects of climate change. It can also be a test in determining whether a state has fulfilled its duty of due diligence to avoid causing harm to another state. The importance of the TEIA was recently recognized also by the International Court of Justice judgment Case concerning Pulp Mills on the River Uruguay (Pulp Mills).

In order to improve global climate policy and decision-making with potential climate impact, we propose revisiting the Rio Principles concerning transboundary environmental impact. The principles should be strengthened and applied more consistently to encourage effective participation by climate-vulnerable states in impact assessment procedures.

#### Practical Challenges in Conducting Transboundary Assessments

While TEIA is firmly established within international law and practice, there are several issues regarding its application.

Firstly, there are no clear and defined standards for the application of EIA in a transboundary context. There are no thresholds for the obligatory assessment setup, and the potential use of the TEIA is in most cases dependant on the national EIA legal provisions. Furthermore, in the context of climate change, there is no methodology on how to assess a project's impacts on the climate.

Although international agreements about EIA exist, the legal provisions are fragmented and thus the use of EIAs and TEIAs varies from state to state. The application of the TEIA principles should no longer be dependent on national law only. It could be agreed that it is nearly impossible to establish a single comprehensive procedure for impact assessment "[d]ue to variation in political regimes, natural systems, and cultural values." Nevertheless, if uniform and consistent standards of TEIA are to be achieved among states, a multilateral cooperation is needed. Possible solutions include the development of TEIA treaties that explicitly cover climate change impacts and, as an initial step, for the states to consider becoming parties to the Espoo Convention and the Protocol on SEA.

Among these challenges another problem exists relating to the notification and consultation procedures. Once it is established that a TEIA is required for a proposed activity, the next challenge is to determine the scope of the EIA and to what extent "affected states" should be involved in the process. There is no universal rule regarding the procedures governing the notification process and the extent to which an affected state is allowed to participate in the TEIA, if at all. The notification and consultation procedures remain vague for states that are not party to the transboundary agreements.

#### Case Study: Transboundary Assessment on Climate Impacts

The low-lying island nations are among the states most threatened by climate change. A recent case has demonstrated a possible way for these nations to be included in the decision-making process of the major emitting countries such as the EU Member States.

In a landmark intervention in 2010, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) requested a TEIA of the Prunéřov II brown coal-fired power plant in the Czech Republic. It was the first-ever "transregional" use of transboundary Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). FSM asserted its right to be heard as a sovereign because the plant's greenhouse gas emissions may contribute to potential and possible climate change impacts.

FSM was able to participate because the Czech EIA law uses a broad definition of parties eligible to initiate and participate in a transboundary EIA procedure. The Czech law allows any state whose "territory can be affected by significant environmental impacts" to initiate and participate in a TEIA. In addition, the Czech EIA law requires a project's developer to include, as an obligatory part of a project's documentation, an assessment of the project's climate impact.

While some of the other European countries — for example, Germany, Netherlands, Austria, Norway, or Sweden — have EIA laws with similarly broad participation rights, other countries restrict transboundary participation to signatories of the Espoo Convention or members of the EU (in the context of SEA). The island nations, therefore, have inconsistent access to transboundary procedures worldwide.

The Czech Ministry of Environment finally issued an affirmative EIA statement on the project. The statement declares that FSM submitted its viewpoint and it summarizes the fact that FSM expressed its disagreement with the climate protection and the Best Available Technique (BAT) compliance elements of the plan. An assessment of climate impacts of the plan took place and although FSM concerns were officially denied in the final statement, the developer of the plan, the CEZ company, is obliged to save over 5 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from its other projects over the next 25 years.

FSM's involvement in the EIA process for the Prunéřov II Power Plant in Czech Republic is a unique example, and we believe it is important to build on this experience.

#### Conclusion

Climate change is a cross-cutting issue, and there is no common strategy on how to tackle it, nor there is established instrument for addressing its adverse effects.

International agreements contain general commitments, but many questions related to mitigation of climate change remain. Needless to say, an easy solution is not in sight.

Already, island nations such as FSM are threatened by tidal surges, destruction of food crops, coastal erosion, submersion of islands and reduced water supply to rivers.

These environmental threats are likely to be exacerbated by climate change, and affected states cannot afford to wait.

It is our belief that the international community should give guidance regarding current obstacles to effective use of TEIA in the context of climate change. Moreover, in our opinion, TEIA as a cooperative transboundary tool should be firmly established in the system of the international law.

RIO+20 is envisaged as a Conference at the highest possible level having an impact on the whole globe. It is our belief that the promotion of the TEIA within this global forum has its place and can lead to the effective policy instruments that will help us towards a more sustainable future and climate justice. This concept falls under the focus of the Conference that will include the institutional framework for sustainable development. We suggest that the TEIA principles should be included in the Zero draft document and should be included in the later discussion and negotiations during the Conference.

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#### The Environmental Law Service (ELS)

ELS is a public interest law organisation founded in 1995 in Brno, Czech Republic. The vision of ELS is that of a free society that enables everybody to aspire to personal happiness while being aware of their responsibility to the public, including the state of the Earth. ELS lawyers support those who seek to protect their rights and the interests of the public. We protect human rights and advocate the rule of law, the transparency of state power, and the responsibility of corporations for consequences of their actions. ELS has represented pollution victims of ArcelorMittal steel plants, helped Polish municipalities to fight against relocation to give way to Europe's biggest coal mine, assisted Bulgarian grassroot organisations to craft legal strategy against the plans of Dundee Precious Metal company to use cyanide technology in local gold mines, and tested the

first ever trans-boundary environmental impact assessment based on climate change concerns, in the case between the Czech Republic and Federated States of Micronesia regarding the biggest Czech coal-fired power plant, Prunéřov.

## Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility (EMLI)

### Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility

Environmental Management for Livelihood Improvement Bwaise Facility (EMLI) notes with concern the historical, new and emerging challenges Africa as a continent faces ever since Rio conference in 1992. Some of these challenges include the continent's vulnerability to climate change, ecosystem and biodiversity loss, accelerating desertification, HIV/AIDS and Malaria, declining fish stocks, wide spread pollution, unregulated toxic chemicals and hazardous waste, poverty, immigration control, unemployment, energy and food crisis.

Furthermore, Africa water towers are drying up at a much more precedent rate for example the drying of Lake Chad, the erosion of the Nile Delta, the declining Lake Faguibine in the Niger River Basin and falling water levels in Lake Victoria and unreliability and predictability of African rains despite efforts to setup early warning systems.

Despite efforts to implement commitments from Rio in 1992, stem political momentum to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, the continents' efforts are still futile to realization of the level of development attained by other continents. In this retrospect, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) MUST reinvigorate the commitment of the global community to concentrate on leap-frogging Africa to a continent sustainably developed and equitably sharing the global space.

Governments should commit on the following so as to leap frog Africa to a sustainably developed continent;

African civil society including the Major groups be fully engaged in processes towards during and after Rio+20 through; regular inclusion in national delegations; recognizing rights of indigenous peoples; granting full access and participation during negotiations and establishing predictable financial mechanisms so as to enhance representation and participation

#### 1. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Ensure that green economies enhance human well being, narrows the gap between rich and poor, create decent green jobs

Ensure that actions and mechanisms to achieve a green economy do not increase social inequalities, exacerbate negative socio-economic environmental impacts such as monoculture and land grabbing BUT address structural limitations that always put women, youth and vulnerable groups at disadvantaged position

Ensure that National Development Plans be the driving policy instruments towards realizing a green economy baring in mind that this transition be sector specific such as through waste management, forestry, agriculture and tourism The African 10-Year Framework of the Programme on Sustainable consumption and production be implemented and the necessary technical and financial support availed with a mechanism taking into consideration national action plans Ensure that tariff, non-tariff barriers and market distortions are removed from least developed countries especially Sub-Saharan African countries trade in environmentally-sustainable goods and services

Provide access to energy especially renewable energy by ensuring that 35 percent of Africa's rural population has access to energy by 2020

Establish a global mechanism building on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to regulate and protect oceans, seas and coastal zones and also reduce fishing pressure, restore productivity and prevent any form of pollution

#### 2. Institutional framework for sustainable development

At global level, a clear coordinated framework of United Nations agencies be strengthened with the Commission on Sustainable development elevated to a status of a Council with decision making mandate whereas United Nations Environment Programme transformed into a specialized institution for the environment based in Nairobi, Kenya

An implementation mechanism be established with Long term, scaled up, new and additional, predictable and adequate funding, capacity building, technology development and transfer frameworks that will see more practical undertakings in the next 20 years with poverty eradication, youth employment and food security high on the agenda

A more precise, clear and actionable indicator framework for sustainable development be developed fully integrating systematic assessment and reporting on the main environmental and human dimensions challenges and constraints, building on and incorporating existing assessments such as Human Development Index

Promote sound management of chemicals and waste especially e-waste through availing the required technical and financial support so as to implement national and regional strategies on chemicals management

At Regional level, The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) be revitalized, implemented and monitored with actionable indicators so as to ensure effective vertical and horizontal linkages, as well as effectiveness implementation of NEPAD's Principles, Programme of Action, Priorities and desired Outcomes

Ensure full implementation of the right to access to environmental information, participation and justice enshrined in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration

At National level, National Sustainable Development Councils/Forums be revived and further strengthened with the necessary financial and technical capacity so as to address the challenge of integrating economic, social and environmental pillars through ensuring multi-stakeholder engagement

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## Environmental Pillar of Social Partnership

### 1. Introduction

The Environmental Pillar of Social Partnership in Ireland welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the Rio +20 Conference on Sustainable Development. The Environmental

Pillar is one of the 5 National Social Partners established by the Irish Government to enable civil society interaction with government. The Environmental Pillar is an advocacy coalition made up of 27 national Irish environmental NGOs.

The major outcomes of the Rio Conference in 1992 "The Earth Summit" included the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21, and the Sustainable Forest Principles. For the first time at international level, it was agreed that economic development must incorporate principles like environmental sustainability, public participation, human rights and poverty reduction. The outcomes of the Earth Summit made it clear that protection of the environment was essential for the well-being of societies and the economic systems that they create. The fundamental concept of sustainable development has evolved since and is best described by means of the "Russian doll model". This model shows human society evolving from and entirely reliant on the environment from whence it came. It also shows the economic systems that were created by humanity as a subset of human society and one that can be and has been changed to suit the needs of the time.

Human Society emerged from, and is entirely reliant for its survival on, the natural environment. Economic systems are created to serve society and can be changed by society. Human society on its present course, with a rapidly growing population, and with an economic system based on an ever increasing use and abuse of natural resources, is destined to destroy the natural systems on which it relies.

In recent developments, a Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth has been drafted and the Ecuadorean Constitution (2008) and Bolivia's Law of the Rights Of Mother Earth (2011) both now recognise the Rights of Nature. "in an interdependent living community it is not possible to recognize the rights of only human beings without causing an imbalance within Mother Earth."

Some progress has been made since 1992 including through the elaboration of regional, national and local sustainable development strategies, the adoption of a binding agreement on Climate Change, the progression of the Convention on Biological Diversity and associated international, national and local biodiversity Action Plans, and the ratification of the Aarhus Convention on environmental democracy by 44 states in the UNECE region. In developing countries, the Rio Declaration allowed for the incorporation of Human Development considerations and greatly influenced the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) agenda. However wealth is increasingly concentrated in the hands of a small percentage of the population, undermining the sense of solidarity necessary for concerted efforts to resolve the global crises of poverty, environmental degradation and economic chaos.

Overall, though, 20 years on, tangible change has been negligible as evidenced by the collection of global crises today: crises in democracy, global economics and finance, climate change, accelerating biodiversity loss and food security. While much has been achieved through the MDGs, sadly over 1 billion people continue to live in absolute poverty worldwide while the international framework which is expected to help them is fragmented and incoherent. Agenda 21 has largely been paid only lip service, and has failed to integrate the key challenges of sustainable development in to various sectors. The Convention on Biological Diversity has driven some progress and raised profile of the global biodiversity crisis however biodiversity loss continues at an unprecedented rate. The Sustainable Forest Principles are still not being implemented or progressed.

Even though the agenda for the Rio +20 conference is somewhat restrictive and lacking in vision, the 20th anniversary still represents a major opportunity for states to re-commit to and prioritise the fulfilment of the principles which underpin the Rio Declaration and to agree and implement a programme which moves humanity forward in that direction.

However, political will to fulfil commitments has waned since 1992 and the institutional framework for making real progress on sustainable development is inadequate.

For this to change, the involvement of major groups and stakeholders will be critical in the preparatory process and in the conference itself, as civil society will play a central role in gathering support and momentum for dealing with the global challenges discussed there. Civil society will also bring knowledge, expertise and resources as well as advocacy skills that will promote the environmental and developmental priorities and obligations, helping to ensure the following outcomes as the absolute minimum required to tackle the many crises facing humanity and nature:

- 1.1 an explicit expression of the need for a seismic shift in the prevailing economic model to one based on the understanding of the limits to growth, together with an outline mechanism for moving towards a new model;
- 1.2 a reiteration of commitment to implement the principles of sustainable development contained in the Rio Declaration of 1992, together with timelines for action;
- 1.3 a clear statement that sustainable development will underpin the narrative for a "post Millennium Development Goals" framework;
- 1.4 a declaration of the rights of nature.
2. Responses to specific questions
- 2.1. What have been the main successes/failures in progressing sustainable development since the Earth Summit in 1992; what are the key remaining gaps and how do you think Ireland should best address these issues?
- 2.1.1. Cross-cutting Issues

If humanity is to survive and flourish then the kind of radical thinking that marked the Earth Summit needs to be turned into action. Twenty years on, the public and the public authorities at all levels of governance still need to be informed and educated about the real issues that face them. The "bread and circuses" that make up much of what is provided by both the public and privately owned media, together with their continual reference to members of the public as "consumers", drives society further towards the brink of social and environmental collapse. The continual and inexplicable emphasis on basing all decisions on the pursuit of continual GDP growth underlies this myopic drive towards the destruction of our life support systems. The measurement of our success as a society needs a new yardstick based on well-being and environmental integrity. We need to measure qualitative not quantitative growth.

The main failure then has been the lack of integration of the principles of the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 in to all sectors and policy drivers (e.g. finance, construction and development, energy, transport planning, agriculture and forestry).

By contrast and taking Principle 10 of the Declaration as a positive example of where action has occurred, the UNECE countries together with the Environmental NGOs developed the Aarhus Convention in 1998. This regional convention has had and is continuing to have significant impacts on EU governance as well as on that of the 44 Parties. However Ireland, some 13 years later, remains the only EU country yet to ratify it. Despite this latter fact, in 2008, Ireland decided to be the lead country in the establishment of the Aarhus Convention Taskforce on Public Participation a body that has the potential to lead the way in developing all aspects of civil society engagement with decision-making, at a time in history when it is absolutely essential to develop new ways of having conversations. The implementation of agreements and commitments on Sustainable Development emanating from the Earth Summit has been disappointing. Compliance and enforcement procedures are at best inadequate and in most cases non-existent. RIO+20 presents an opportunity to revisit agreements and commitments made in 1992 and to consider how we will deliver on these, both collectively and individually. Furthermore governments will be expected to make firm commitments on how to tackle emerging issues.<sup>3</sup> Ireland could lead the way by for example in promoting compliance and enforcement procedures/mechanisms, and new approaches to tackling emerging issues. Ireland must show the political will to fulfil commitments made in 1992.

The establishment of Comhar as the National Sustainability Council with its 5 stakeholder pillars was one of the shining lights in the general gloom during the property bubble "boom". Sadly the Council is to be disbanded in December 2011. Some of the functions and resources of Comhar are to be transferred to the National Economic and Social Council (NESC). Whilst it is a major step forward that the issue of sustainability is now to be discussed and researched in NESC which is an advisory body directly to the Government, it is currently unclear how much of the valuable work initiated by stakeholders within Comhar will continue, including the Biodiversity Forum, and the Ramsar committee.

The Biodiversity Forum exists to monitor the implementation of the National Biodiversity Plan. The new Plan has recently been signed by cabinet and is due to be published very soon. The National Biodiversity Plan outlines Ireland's actions to fulfil CBD commitments that arose from the Rio Earth Summit to halt the loss of biodiversity, as well as actions to be taken by various state agencies to address the biodiversity commitments and some of the major ECJ rulings against Ireland on compliance with the Birds and Habitats Directives.

It is enormously important to continue to facilitate stakeholder participation in the delivery of the new National Biodiversity Plan and in the monitoring of the implementation of the plan. The Forum has been run as a working group of Comhar and as such will now need to be housed and appropriately resourced elsewhere if Ireland is to ensure successful delivery of the NBP actions.

If, as proposed, Comhar is being subsumed in to NESC, then the Biodiversity Forum should also be run as a working group of NESC. This would be likely to facilitate improved participation of the social partners in the implementation of the National Biodiversity Plan. Similarly, the Ramsar Committee should also be considered in the new arrangements.

ENFO (the Environmental Information Office), once an international example of best practice in information dissemination, was effectively axed in all but name in 2009. ENFO was a well known and utilised source of environmental information. If we are to see growing public awareness of the likely impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss and degradation of essential services provided by the environment ('ecosystem services'), then a well-resourced environmental awareness strategy is needed to replace ENFO. The roll out of additional ENFO points is a welcome development although these will need to be more active and more dynamic in their approach to disseminating environmental information and education than is currently the case. Environmental NGOs have been very successful in providing environmental education, in a manner that facilitates real public engagement at minimal cost. This should point towards greater resourcing and inclusion of these groups in the making and implementation of an environmental awareness strategy. Involving the public in decision-making requires as a prerequisite both active and passive availability of information. Involving the public is essential to the effectiveness of the hard decisions that will have to be made over the years ahead.

## 2.1.2 General Areas of Concern

Some general areas that have not received the attention they badly need include:

2.1.2.1 Implementation of European environmental law has been extremely poor in Ireland, with 6 ECJ cases currently open against Ireland for failures to implement wider ranging environmental safeguards including EIA and biodiversity protection. This is a strong indicator of Ireland's lack of strategic and resourced approach to strengthening sustainable management of our natural environment and is one of the key issues that needs to be addressed by Ireland to achieve the SD objectives.

2.1.2.2 GDP is a totally inadequate measure of progress or development. Unfortunately there is very little political will or commitment to change this, nor a sense of urgency to achieve goals set in 1992. There is still no widely accepted environmental index or measure.

2.1.2.3 We rarely see equity mentioned as a necessary ingredient for achieving sustainable development.

2.1.2.4 There needs to be greater investment into public involvement in sustainable development. The institutional framework to catalyze this is very important at local, national and international levels.

2.1.2.5 Education, information and participation generally relies more on the informal sector than the formal sector we need to work to change this.

2.1.2.6 Business and Industry are central to our lives and there are great opportunities as well as great obligations. Since RIO 1992 there has been much erosion of state influence and regulation.

2.1.2.7 The social partners must be actively involved in greening the work environment.

2.1.2.8 A policy framework to make technology available to Less Developed Countries is needed. This would for example contribute to a sense of equity.

## 2.1.3 Energy and Climate

Since 1992, Ireland has made limited progress in the area of clean energy and actually gone backwards in terms of climate change. Current projections indicate that Ireland will only meet its Kyoto obligations as "a direct result of the current economic recession" and is likely to miss annual obligations under the EU's 2020 target after 2015.4 Advances in the share of renewables in Ireland's energy mix are welcome but are clearly not sufficient in terms of delivering overall greenhouse gas emissions reductions. Energy efficiency measures are also progressing but need to be accelerated if Ireland is to meet its international emissions reduction targets.

Energy policy must integrate climate change concerns if greenhouse gas reduction targets are to be met. Energy policy should also address the challenge of energy security. In 1990 Ireland imported 68% of its energy and this has increased to 89% in 2008, peaking at 91% in 2006. Moreover, Ireland is heavily dependent on the importation of oil and gas which leaves it very vulnerable to increases in the prices of these commodities on the international markets.

The work of the Sustainable Energy Authority Ireland in promoting the move away from fossil fuels and reducing energy inefficiencies has been a positive if limited force. Work on an energy "pay as you save scheme" should lead to a pilot soon.

## 2.1.4. Local Agenda 21

The establishment of the County and City Development Boards as the engines of Local Agenda 21 would have been a positive step, but the limited terms of reference given to them left them largely without an environmental remit. Efforts made by the Environmental Pillar to introduce Sustainability into the actions of these bodies are generally being greeted by the members of the Boards with interest and by some with enthusiasm. However, unlike the movement to add social inclusion to the work of the CDBs, there is no significant support from Government for the move to incorporate sustainability into their Terms of Reference. Sustainable Development: A Strategy for Ireland, published in April 1997, provided for local authorities to complete Local Agenda 21 Plans for their areas. Each county council and county borough was to have a designated Local Agenda 21 Officer, and these were to be networked at regional and national levels. Sadly this strategy achieved very little, and needs to be reviewed and replaced with a new strategy at the earliest possible time. There are good examples of local authorities taking local initiatives, such as Dublin City Council, Roscommon County Council etc.

The role of county and city based Community Forums needs to be enhanced in order for the wider community to engage with the governance structures more effectively at

the local level.

## 2.1.5. New Directions for Ireland

Instead of trying to get from the earth as much as we can, as fast as we can, paying as little as we can to get it, we must start trying to nurture it, like we would a bountiful garden. Ireland with a relatively small, well-educated population should avoid invasive/destructive technologies/industries.

GM food crops and Hydrological Fracturing "fracking" (for oil/gas) are examples of technologies that give short term monetary gains to a few, and cause long-term problems/crises for humanity, biodiversity and planet. The Earth is the living system that sustains our species. All living systems have their limits; and the complex biosphere that supports us is gradually being pushed towards a number of very serious tipping points.

## 2.2. What contribution can the current focus on the green economy contribute to advancing sustainable development, particularly from an Irish perspective?

### 2.2.1. Green Economy

A 'green economy', by itself, does not incorporate many of the other core principles of sustainable development. A "sustainable" development model must not just respect environmental boundaries, but also promote social justice, reduce poverty and inequality, encourage inclusive and participatory decision-making and be based on clear principles and mechanisms for accountability. Furthermore, the definition of a green economy proposed by the UNEP and supported by the European Commission does not represent a significant departure from the current economic model which is driven by the over-consumption of scarce natural resources. While the promotion of the 'green economy' may well move states towards sustainable development, its reliance solely on efficiency (as per Europe 2020 Strategy) fails to address the fundamental change required to move to sustainability. A green economy can be seen as one which is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive. Our existing economic model and our current focus on it will not deliver a green economy.<sup>6</sup>

Many hi-tech aspects of the "business as usual" Green Economy include the use of "rare earths", the reserves of which are in countries with large indigenous hi-tech industries such as China, or in conflict zones such as the Congo. Other reserves are in countries where the EU is attempting to undermine the development of local industries through forcing the removal of export duties on raw materials. There are many ethical and sustainability issues here. Ireland must collaborate with the other states in tackling the many accelerating global crises. The participants at the Rio+20 Conference must work to establish mechanisms to protect the less developed countries and the global biosphere from the kind of resource grabbing that is the latest expression of colonisation, exploitation and empire building.

In a green economy market prices must adequately reflect environmental costs, and fiscal policy must shift taxation from work to resource consumption.

#### 2.2.1.1. A 'green' economic system must promote social equity, gender equity and inter-generational equity.

A truly sustainable 'green economy' functions within the limits of the planet, and ensures a fair distribution of resources among all countries and social groups - as well as between men and women. We need an economy that provides incentives for zero-waste, low-carbon economies that enhance and restore the natural environment, while also providing new 'green' livelihoods, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for women as well as men. The 10 Year Framework Programme (10-YFP) on Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP)<sup>7</sup> implementation should be an important part of the basis of for the development of Green

Economy policies. 2.2.2. Climate and Energy The green economy should represent the internalisation of climate change and clean energy issues into each national economy, in addition to other environmental concerns. The focus on the benefits of moving towards a low carbon, energy efficient economy and the accompanying business opportunities is important but should not detract from the fundamental objectives of avoiding catastrophic climate change, decarbonising the energy sector and addressing the risks of energy security.

2.2.3. Agriculture The agricultural sector in many parts of the world needs thorough review from the perspective of the green economy and maintaining food security for all, preserving the natural capital of the land and its biodiversity resources, and promoting resource efficiency. There is a particular need to manage and conserve water resources better. New targets are needed in these areas. Effective measures for better, more transparent functioning of agricultural markets should be introduced. The volatility of and unacceptable increase in food prices must be combated. The use of renewable resources in energy production must not happen at the expense of global food supply. Security of food supply should be ensured by maintaining stocks at regional level. We should also aim to make more use of residual biomass from agriculture and food production. The protection of soils as a fundamental resource should take centre stage in the debate on food production.

2.2.4. Marine Environment The marine environment is characterised by pollution, overfishing and overexploitation of other marine resources. Conference participants should mandate the competent UN bodies to initiate a new international process to strengthen and coordinate existing mechanisms for protecting the marine environment and to protect fish stocks, marine

biodiversity and other marine resources more effectively than under existing arrangements. The introduction of Marine protected areas over 20% of the world's oceans should be a high priority. This would create an estimated 1 million jobs worldwide and contribute to preserving fish stocks and establishing a sustainable fishing industry and marine food resource.

2.2.5. Natural Resource management and Biodiversity protection are key issues of environmental sustainability, underpinning agricultural productivity, tourism, climate change adaptation. Ecosystem services are enormously valuable and currently undervalued in Ireland despite making a huge contribution to flood alleviation, climate regulation, soil fertility, water quality and fisheries, to name but a few.

## 2.3. Can the green economy contribute towards Ireland's efforts in assisting developing countries and what priorities should we be addressing in this regard?

2.3.1. As a wealthy country, Ireland should take the lead in developing a genuinely green economy. The benefits for developing countries are multiple but include:

2.3.1.1. Avoidance of the negative impacts of climate change

2.3.1.2. Avoidance of destructive and exploitative extraction of natural energy resources

2.3.1.3. Technology transfers that allow developing countries to "leapfrog" to a low-carbon economic model

2.3.1.4. Demonstration of a successful, low-carbon developed country

2.3.1.5. In order to achieve a truly green economy, we need better regulation of international financial actors and financial flows.

### 2.3.2. Specific instruments to achieve a greening of the economy:

2.3.2.1. New indicators for well-being. It is in the interest of youth and future generations, that bold steps will be taken towards a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. In order to achieve the transition to green economies, the actual political implementation of concepts such as new indicators for

measuring development and the internalisation of external costs must be ensured and backed up by effective governance systems.

2.3.2.2. Planetary boundaries must be assessed and made the basis of decision- making on the using of best available scientific knowledge, whilst always taking into account the precautionary principle.

2.3.2.3. The introduction of a global Financial Transaction Tax, to contribute to financing protection of our global commons and of sustainable development and investments in green and inclusive economies. E.g. a "Robin Hood Tax" or a "Tobin Tax"

2.3.2.4. Eco-efficiency instruments are important, but there is also an urgent need for 'sufficiency' instruments (social innovation, caps on resource use etc.), especially in the Northern countries to tackle the over-consumption of - and excessive pressure on - natural resources.

2.3.2.5. If a green economy is to be a tool for achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication we need to highlight the importance of improving national environmental governance. Achieve sustainable development will require making policy decisions that involve balancing competing interests and reaching good compromises. If decision making processes are secret, non-participatory and unaccountable, a few selected and powerful interests will influence policy and developmental decisions. Principle 10 and good national environmental governance which recognizes coordination, efficiency, transparency, engagement and accountability becomes a foundational and enabling requirement for the success of a green economy and sustainable development.

2.3.3. Independent Technology Assessment The need for a Multi-stakeholder technology assessment for existing and emerging technologies mechanism that guarantees prior informed consent and rights of communities impacted by the financial flows, timely information, effective participation, and redress mechanisms. At Rio+20, Ireland should commit to such an agreement for assessment and monitoring of new technologies before their widespread use – e.g. geo-engineering. 2.3.4. Nuclear & uranium lifecycle control Based on the UNEP foresight report, governments must start developing legally binding mechanisms to address the cost of decommissioning and clean-up of nuclear power-plants, nuclear waste and uranium mines. Currently, most countries have no funds to pay for decommissioning of closed nuclear power- plants or containment and clean-up of uranium mining tailings, causing long- term, inter-generational and partly cross-border pollution and security risks for water, food, and eco-systems. To this end there is a need to develop a global strategy to address the risks that nuclear energy and the whole uranium cycle, such as mining and waste disposal, pose to global environment and human lives and health, and decide on an effective and rapid global government response. In particular:

2.3.4.1. the establishment of a UN rapporteur on uranium and nuclear risks.

2.3.4.2. the establishment of a global financial mechanism to redress and clean- up of damage and pollution of nuclear and uranium lifecycles;

2.3.4.3. the establishment of an independent institutional framework to document, monitor and assess the environmental damages and risks of nuclear and uranium activities and increased lifecycle control. Such an institution must assure effective public participation, transparency and access to information.

2.4. What impacts can the EU 2020 strategy, and in particular, the Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative, have on advancing sustainable development in Ireland and what priorities should Ireland establish in implementing the Initiative?

#### 2.4.1. Energy

Energy is a key input into any economy. As such, efforts to improve efficiency in energy consumption should be a priority for the Irish government. Implementation of the EU Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative in Ireland should focus on increased investment in R&D in clean energy technologies.

Priorities should include:

2.4.1.1. A serious effort to integrate all sectors of the economy/govt. depts. behind this initiative and develop a coordinated strategy and action plan in through a fully transparent, consultative and adequately funded process.

2.4.1.2. A serious effort to move quickly and ensure adequate funding is in place.

2.4.1.3. Society must be encouraged and empowered to participate actively at all stages of this initiative from design stage to evaluation and monitoring

2.4.2. The Irish government should set strong energy efficiency targets and create regulatory certainty to ensure the necessary investment.

2.4.3. A strong and effective climate law will ensure a whole of government approach to climate change mitigation that moves away from a silo mentality within departments. The three main planks of climate legislation are targets, carbon budgets and an expert committee on climate change. Legislation should contain and be supported by Climate Change Strategies.

2.5. How should we pursue improvement of governance under the four headings below? Which areas should be prioritised? Is strengthening UNEP necessary? Do you think that changes are also needed in the way sustainable development is managed at the UN level?

2.5.1.1. The UNEP needs to be strengthened and allocated sufficient resources in order to fulfil its remit.

2.5.1.2. A serious effort to put in place procedures for compliance and enforcement of environmental law is urgently required. Compliance was not mentioned in the Helsinki outcome document.

2.5.1.3. The proposal for an International Court for the Environment should be considered.

2.5.2. Sustainable Development Governance which needs to be reinforced and mainstreamed within the UN system.

2.5.2.1. Strong International Environmental Governance is needed. This can be achieved by:

2.5.2.1.1. Upgrading UNEP with new responsibilities and resources, proposals include:

2.5.2.1.1.1. Upgrade from a programme to a specialized agency

2.5.2.1.1.2. Strong programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production under UNEP

2.5.2.1.1.3. Further strengthen the Trade and the Environment activities of UNEP

2.5.2.1.1.4. Further strengthen civil society participation in UNEP, by applying the Aarhus Convention Guidelines on 'public participation in international environmental policy processes'

2.5.2.1.1.5. Upgrade the mandate of Panel of Natural Resources (under UNEP), to govern better the use of natural resources and the fair distribution of those.

2.5.3. International Environmental Governance is weak, largely due to institutional fragmentation, and needs to be strengthened. Over the past decade attempts to improve environmental governance have been made – most recently as part of high-level consultative group under the aegis of UNEP; however, progress has been difficult.

2.5.3.1. Establish a trusteeship for the transitional governance of the global commons until they are adequately governed by legally binding rules. This should have a clear mandate to negotiate effective structures at national and international levels for the governance of global commons.

2.5.3.2. A Strong Technology Assessment Body. The need for inter-disciplinary approach, the application of precautionary principle and the rights of the impacted communities must be at the heart of the work of the assessments.

2.5.3.3. Rio+20 presents a unique opportunity to develop institutional arrangements necessary to the effective implementation of the precautionary principle.

2.5.3.4. Decision-making based on best available science urgently requires systematic research on planetary ecological boundaries, which must be used for the assessment at the international level of the impact of emerging practices and technologies.

2.5.3.5. Decision-making needs to be framed by the system perspective of sustainable development impacts. Furthermore, the development of an insurance scheme for social and environmental risks would enable to the pricing of such risks.

2.5.3.6. Establish an ombudsperson for future generations at the UN level, e.g. as part of a strengthened mandate for UNEP or in combination/rotation with other UN bodies

2.5.3.7. Establish an ombudsperson for future generations at national levels with the mandate to work independently from the heart of government monitoring and ensuring that long-term goals and the rights of future generations are guaranteed in all policy decisions and their implementation.

2.5.3.8. A serious effort to put in place procedures for compliance and enforcement of environmental law is urgently required. Compliance was not mentioned in the Helsinki outcome document! The proposal for an International Court for the Environment should be considered.

2.5.3.9. Citizen Enforcement: In many countries, law enforcement officers are spread thin, with little ability to prioritize among serious environmental issues. For that reason, a number of progressive governments have created citizen suit provisions allowing for citizen enforcement of laws.

2.5.4. International Economic and Social Governance is addressed by a number of institutions, international financial institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, regional development banks, and other bodies such as the World Trade Organisation.

2.5.4.1. In order that a truly green economy is established based on the fundamental principles of sustainability then these bodies will at the very least need to be radically reformed and given new terms of reference. Whilst such important bodies are operating on the GDP growth model with a few green tinges, it will be very difficult for open economies such as Ireland's to break the downward spiral. Ireland should therefore work to create this change.

2.5.5. Non-State Actors (the "Major Groups") have an important role which include indigenous people, women, youth, workers, farmers, local government, the scientific community, business and industry. Their role and impact has been limited in scope and there is a need to strengthen it. There is a need as well to strengthen the role of business which is already active in committing to greening their operations, with many companies are embracing sustainable development in their operations and corporate governance.

2.5.5.1. A successful transition to a sustainable economy depends on it being accepted and supported by civil society. The involvement of civil society will be critical in the preparatory process for Rio+20, in the conference itself and in the follow up to the conference. CSOs bring knowledge, expertise, credibility and advocacy skills to the table. In this regard, Parties and Signatories to the Aarhus Convention are required to enable the involvement of the public in international fora. Ireland should take a lead on this by including its civil society representatives in the national delegation.

2.6. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

2.6.1. The focus on the Green Economy as a major part of the conference would be a hopeful one if it includes any radical thinking. However if the business as usual input of the EU is a sample of the level of ambition for the conference then the Environmental Pillar would have very low expectations.

2.6.2. The political document adopted at Rio+20 to be (a) visionary (b) build on the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of implementation, (c) identify the gaps in achieving the goals set by these decisions and (d) spell out concrete steps that will be taken by governments in the next decade to fill these gaps.

2.6.3. To focus on particular targets Ireland should for example support the move for three new framework conventions

2.6.3.1. Regional conventions for the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration

2.6.3.2. Corporate Social Responsibility based on the ISO 26000 outcome

2.6.3.3. Develop the Precautionary Principle into a framework convention to include issues on emerging technologies, bio-engineering and nano-technology.

2.6.3.4. Maintaining or achieving adequate food security, energy security, and resource security for all current and future generations in a world of increasing population and limited natural resources is one of the biggest new challenges facing the world in the century ahead. Ultimately, qualitative economic growth is needed that helps to eliminate poverty and social injustice whilst preserving natural resources for future generations. Establishing institutional structures for meeting this challenge should be a central issue for the 2012 summit.

2.7 What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

2.7.1 In order for any of these proposals to succeed there is a need for a major shift in the awareness and understanding of the issues that need to be resolved. Time is not on our side. The oncoming climate chaos and the likelihood of the 6th great extinction barely register on the political horizon.

2.8 What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

2.8.1 Environmental law, at international, regional and national level(s) is not working. We need law that is affordable, intelligible, accessible, predictable, and clear to all - Law that is legally certain.

2.9 What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed



decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

2.9.1 An international court for the environment,

2.9.2 Ombudsman for the future generations at a national and international level

2.9.3 Governance The rights of access to information, public participation, and access to justice are essential to sustainable development. The 1992 Rio Declaration provided for these rights in Principle 10 and Agenda 21 helped the move towards establishing these rights in many countries. Renewed commitment is needed to establish these rights in every country. The use of regional conventions following the example of the Aarhus Convention in the UNECE region should be prioritised to enable this. The Rio 2012 Summit provides an opportunity for governments to transform Principle 10 from aspirational goals into actionable rights. Governments and civil society should use the opportunity to commit together in adopting, implementing, and exercising these rights in support of sustainable development. The 2012 Summit's focus on the theme of improving institutional frameworks should galvanize nations to improve their national environmental governance, develop international instruments giving legal force to Principle 10, and implement these principles into international bodies' decision-making processes. The lead on this latter point should be taken by the parties and signatories to the Aarhus Convention<sup>8</sup>.

2.9.4 Robust International Framework. The main aim of the conference should be to establish a robust institutional framework within the UN system for implementing the conference decisions, a framework which would have on-going responsibility for promoting sustainable development throughout the world and for driving an action programme to green the global economy over the coming years. The emerging concept of a new top-level Sustainable Development Council, involving all the countries of the world, that would report directly to the General Assembly and integrate and strengthen the work currently done separately in the UN ECOSOC and CSD should be supported by Ireland.

2.9.5 Measuring progress towards a greener economy: Parameters need to be established that give a clear indication of the progress that is being made towards greater sustainability. Methods should be developed for measuring economic progress in terms of improvements in human welfare and quality of life, with reference to the fight against poverty, the creation of decent working conditions and preservation of the natural environment. In particular, methods must be agreed for measuring the use of various kinds of natural capital in the soil, water and different ecosystems that results from economic activity.

This also raises the question of the current disconnect between consumption and the environment which has led to the struggle to find a "value for the environment. This lack of valuation and subsequent bypassing of the market has translated into increased environmental vulnerability with a marked degradation of ecosystems and the loss of biodiversity. Thus, it is necessary to allocate consideration to this by using previous models and studies, such as The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity study (TEEB)<sup>9</sup>, to develop a means by which the value of the environment can be measured using tried and tested methodologies, so as to decrease the current environmental degradation that is occurring due to its lack of market value. A healthy biodiversity is crucial to the economic success of Ireland with the National Biodiversity Data Centre stating that Biodiversity accounts for €2.6 billion of Ireland's economy annually from the goods and services it provides.<sup>10</sup> Therefore in our current economic context it is imperative that we document, understand and take advantage of our rich biodiversity, and for this to occur a new method of managing natural capital must be initiated. The same arguments apply globally.

2.9.6 A timetable for establishing a system to measure progress towards a green economy should be agreed at the summit

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Tackling Technology: Three Proposals for Rio

Contribution to the Rio+20 Zero Draft

ETC Group

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## Introduction

The most dramatic technological transformation in history - involving information technologies, biotechnologies and engineering - has occurred since the first Rio Earth Summit in 1992; during the same period, however, governments have systematically downsized or eliminated their capacity to understand science and monitor technologies. While technology has thus far played an extraordinarily prominent role in preparatory documents for Rio+20, technology's potential contribution to sustainable development and/or new Green Economies cannot be realized as long as the world lacks trusted and transparent mechanisms - at global, regional and national levels - for technology evaluation. The absence of such mechanisms incites distrust and invites disaster.

At Rio+20, governments need to adopt forward-looking strategies that will make tangible progress toward sustainable development through policies empowered to:

1. Assess in a comprehensive way the social, economic and ecological impacts of new technologies and to share information about them;
2. Ban geoengineering (the large-scale technological manipulation of the Earth's systems as they affect the climate; and
3. Support small-scale peasant-led agriculture that reduces waste, protects biodiversity and enables rural livelihoods.

All of this must be accomplished with the active participation of civil society groups, especially the communities that are most likely to be affected by decisions at the Summit.

## 1. Technology Assessment: Orphaned in Rio

In the lead-up to the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the Swedish government prepared a proposal for a global facility called "SIESTA" (Stockholm International Institute for Environmentally Sound Technologies Assessment). Somewhere on the road to Rio, the initiative went to sleep but, nevertheless, Agenda 21's Chapter 34<sup>1</sup> called for regional capacity-building for technology assessment.

Post-SIESTA developments " "While we've been sleeping." A year after Rio, the UN all but eliminated its Center for Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD), moved the remnants from New York to UNCTAD in Geneva, and, simultaneously, eradicated its Centre on Transnational Corporations (UNCTC), thus terminating the minimal global capacity that had existed to monitor and advise on new technologies and on private sector technology transfer. In other words, as IT and biotech ushered in the so-called "Knowledge Economy," the UN gave itself a frontal lobotomy.

Since the Earth Summit... ·IT: From a handful of clunky mobile phones in 1992, there is now a cell phone for everyone; almost half of Africa has a mobile, up from one in five six years ago; and, more than 800 million people are on Facebook;

·Biotech: At a cost of \$60-\$100 million per trait, biotech has invented herbicide-tolerant crops, Terminator seeds that die at harvest forcing farmers to buy seed every season; and (under development), Zombie seeds that can only regenerate when immersed in proprietary chemicals;

·Knowledge Economy: We're being told that we are moving from the "Knowledge Economy" of the late 20th century to the "Green Economy" of the 21st but the real change is

in ownership and control. The world's markets sell 10 billion products based upon an estimated 100,000 chemicals based upon 100 elements and the four nucleotide bases that comprise DNA. Whoever controls the chemical elements and the A, C, G and T of DNA controls the fate of sustainable economies;

·Genomics: The speed and cost of mapping the human genome has dropped from 13 years and \$1.3 billion to 14 days and \$5000 en route to 15 minutes and a few hundred dollars soon after 2012;

·Nanotechnology: Governments have spent more than \$50 billion on nanotech R&D; the cost of carbon nanotubes has dropped by a factor of 20 since 2001; there are thousands of consumer products; and, there is no agreed nanotech definition or regulation;

·Synthetic biology: Undergraduates with \$400 gene synthesizers can download templates to build DNA while scientists can create self-replicating artificial microbes and six letter DNA; six of the world's top 10 energy corporations have partnerships with synthetic biology start-ups, as do six of the world's top 10 grain traders and six of the world's top 10 chemical corporations.<sup>2</sup>

·Robotics: Amateurs with \$1300 3-D printers can collaborate to build unmanned aircraft (drones) in seven days for around \$8000;

·Convergence: Governments and scientific institutions are predicting the unification of "Bits, Atoms, Neurons and Genes" (BANG) as the next Industrial Revolution transforming trade, economies and industrial production;

·Engineering: Industry now displaces more earth per annum than is lost through natural erosion; the annual runoff from aquifer mining nearly matches the sea level rise from the "melt" of Polar glaciers; and there is 3 to 6 times more water dammed than in natural rivers;

·Geoengineering: Since 1993, governments and/or corporate consortia have conducted a dozen major ocean fertilization experiments and are proposing solar radiation management techniques that could alter global or regional climates.

The greatest technological transformation in history has occurred over the last 20 years while governments systematically downsized or eliminated their capacity to understand science and monitor technologies.

The Case for Technology Assessment: A trusted, transparent pathway for technological advancement could be beneficial for societies, governments and those introducing new technologies. Major innovations inevitably lead to Schumpeter's "creative destruction," but innovators and their backers seek to minimize risk. Especially, re-insurers and investors welcome steps that make government intervention and/or public responses more predictable.

Stabilizing the Playing Field and Getting Off the Rollercoaster: From very different vantage points, both science and society feel they have had a rough ride the last couple of decades. The rollercoaster has almost derailed leaving not only scientists but start-ups and venture capitalists technologically traumatized. A few socially and financially costly examples - all since the 1992 Earth Summit - follow:

·1996: Mad-cow disease/Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) (UK);

·1996: GM crops (Europe/global);

·2001: Hoof and mouth disease (UK/Europe);

·2006: Nanoparticles (Germany, China/global);

·2007: Agro(bio)fuels (global);

·2009: Intellectual property distortions (global);

·2010: Deep water drilling (USA/global);

·2011: Nuclear power (Japan/global).

1996 - Mad-cow disease/Bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE): Although British regulators knew in the 1970s that the public was being exposed to BSE, the information was covered up until 1996<sup>3</sup>. The fallout from the regulatory failure has meant continuing societal distrust in the UK and Europe.

1996 - GM crops: Civil society initially warned that the biotech industry was developing herbicide-tolerant plant varieties in 1981. Governments and societies were nevertheless shocked when, in 1996, the first genetically modified crops were planted. In several parts of the world, small-scale producers immediately opposed the GM seeds as a potential threat to their environment, their health and their markets. Likewise, many food retailers and their customers opposed GM foods in the absence of credible scientific evidence that the products were safe - or had even been tested. Because some governments adopted the precautionary principle while others simply adopted the technology, markets and global trade became uncertain and many parts of the food system suffered. All parties agree that the story of the introduction of GM crops is now the textbook example of how governments and industry should not function.

2001 - Hoof and mouth disease: The regulatory scandal and financial losses from the 2001 outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the UK (and then Europe) severely undermined citizen confidence in government regulation. In the end, the outbreak's cost totaled \$16 billion in the UK, where 7 million sheep and cattle were killed. Governments haven't learned from 15 other outbreaks of the virus - including another in the UK in 2007. According to the US government, the risk of an accidental escape of foot and mouth disease virus from a federal lab is 70% over 50 years at a cost of around \$9-50 billion. The US National Academy of Sciences said the government's estimate was low.

2006 - Nanoparticles: The estimated annual global market for nanotechnology varies widely between about \$100 million and \$100 billion and predictions for the near-term range from hundreds of billions to almost \$3 trillion. There is agreement, however, that governments have spent more than \$50 billion on nanotech R&D since 2001 and industry is now outspending governments in nano research. Several thousand products - including foods, pesticides and cosmetics - are in the marketplace today. Where so much money has been spent (and so many products are already on the shelf), it is unlikely that governments will respond well to scientific concerns for health and environmental risk. Even today, there is neither an inter-governmentally accepted definition of nanotechnology nor agreed methods for measuring or evaluating nanoparticles. In 2006, a housecleaning product called "Magic Nano" was briefly on shelves in Germany but was withdrawn almost immediately when nearly 100 consumers telephoned poison-control centers concerned that the product had caused respiratory and other problems. In the absence of any agreed definition, industry insisted that the product was not actually "nano" and while the product was removed, nanotechnology companies insist the experience had nothing to do with nanoparticles. More recently, seven female workers in China who were exposed to a polymer/plastic ingredient in an adhesive paint containing nanoparticles became sick with breathing problems; two of them died. A team of Chinese scientists examined the lung tissue of all seven women, found nanoparticles lodged in cells of the lungs and concluded, cautiously, that the seven cases raised concerns that long-term exposure to some nanoparticles could be related to serious damage to human lungs. Again, absent rules and regulations and definitions, there is no certainty as to the role of nanoparticles. The only certainty is that nanotechnology is virtually unregulated anywhere in the world.

2007 - Agro(bio)fuels: In October, 2011, a special report commissioned by the High-Level Panel of Experts of the UN Committee on World Food Security concluded that the world food price crisis that became evident at the end of 2007 was greatly exacerbated by the rapid rise in production of so-called biofuels. Since 2007, governments around the world have been engaged in internal and external debates on the biofuels issue. From the beginning, industry and some governments have insisted that a second or third generation of biofuels would soon be available that would allow governments to feed people and fuel cars simultaneously. Every growing season has witnessed new pronouncements of the imminent arrival of these new technologies. Four years and almost a billion hungry people later, the world is still waiting. If the UN had had a technology assessment capacity in place, the biofuels illusion would not have prevailed and 170 million additional people would not have gone hungry.

2009 - Intellectual Property Distortions: More an ongoing dilemma than a singular event, IP is a different kind of regulatory failure. There is widespread agreement that the intellectual property system, rather than facilitating innovation, is a financial and legal barrier to new technologies. The very system that was constructed to propel creativity, we were told, is now - obvious to all - one of its worst enemies. This is not a situation where the physician can heal himself. According to a 2009 study, total US corporate profits from patents (excluding pharmaceuticals) average around \$4 billion annually - but the associated litigation costs are \$14 billion per year.

2010 - Deep Water Drilling: The BP Gulf of Mexico oil disaster of 2010 is well documented. Less known is that in 2008, a near-disastrous offshore gas leak in Azerbaijan led to the biggest personnel evacuation in the driller's history. The company was BP and a WikiLeaks disclosure says that officials at the time blamed the leak on faulty cement casings - the same problem identified in BP's Deepwater Horizon spill 18 months later. Hubris has no memory. BP estimates that the cost of the Gulf of Mexico spill could reach \$40 billion. Between 2007 and 2009 there were 381 fires (reported) on oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico - about one every three days. Every year, 760 million litres of oil spill into the world's oceans - that's an annual BP Gulf disaster.

2011 - Nuclear power: The Fukushima tragedy that began March 11, 2011 is the latest in a succession of scandals that has befallen the commercial nuclear power industry since its inception in 1953. The Fukushima facility was assessed to be tsunami-resistant because a high cliff separated the construction site from the ocean. Immediately following this assessment, however, the cliff was removed to allow boats to bring heavy equipment to the site. Following the tsunami, Fukushima was plagued by a number of other technical and political failures. The nuclear power industry's situation worsened when subsequent studies revealed that 88 of the world's 442 operational nuclear plants have been built on seismic faults. Additionally, for almost 60 years, the industry has struggled with nuclear waste disposal. Despite constant assurances, no country has solved the problem. The UN's 2011 World Economic and Social Survey reported that the industry has been beset with problems since its Cold War beginnings. The industry originally adopted nuclear submarine standards that prioritized compactness and mobility - both irrelevant to the industry. The decision caused enormous difficulties, delays and cost overruns. By the 1970s, the nuclear companies were confronted with new regulations every day, forcing the near-collapse of one of the world's most powerfully-backed technologies.

In preparation for Rio+20, governments and UN agencies have focused on further elaborations of the concept of sustainable development and/or proposals for new Green Economies. The potential for new technologies has played an extraordinarily prominent role in preparatory documents. UNEP's report (Towards a Green Economy) references technology 655 times while the UN's World Economic and Social Survey ("The Great Green Technological Transformation") mentions technology over 1200 times. While these documents focus, importantly, on technology transfer and capacity-building, such a heavy emphasis on new technologies must include a strengthened global, regional and national capacity to monitor and assess the technologies. To do otherwise would be to incite distrust and invite disaster.

Elements of Technology Assessment - the dual track imperative:

Enormous financial and political interests are often mobilized to block "game-changing" new technologies from disrupting the status quo; or, as often, to propel new technologies into the marketplace prematurely to gain first-mover advantage. Given the importance of new technologies in government and social planning, "backup" assessment mechanisms are necessary. The intergovernmental assessment system must be supplemented by a civil society mechanism that can offer alternative perspectives. In brief...

- Intergovernmental assessment;

- Civil assessment.

Intergovernmental assessment: Decisions at Rio+20 should ensure that the United Nations will expeditiously develop the institutional capacity to identify and monitor significant technologies, and to provide assessment of the technologies' social, economic, cultural, health and environmental implications. This should be done at the time of the application to release a new technology and, preferably, in advance of such an application in order to minimize waste and risk. Monitoring and assessment of new technologies should be based on the Precautionary Principle, and led by designated working groups, including a diversity of experience in science and other forms of knowledge, as well as a range of stakeholders. Reports of working groups should be submitted to an intergovernmental body that facilitates the full participation of civil society. The working group's report should be appended to the final report and recommendations of the intergovernmental body. The intergovernmental body should also monitor and report on the diversity of available technologies and the safe archiving of technologies no longer (or seldom) in use.

Civil assessment: Recognizing the power and impact of major new technologies, governments and the United Nations should encourage the formation of dynamic civil society mechanisms that can offer an independent monitoring and assessment capacity to accompany intergovernmental processes. This initiative should encourage the formation of self-organized civil society mechanisms at the regional and inter-regional level that could guide Technology Observation Platforms (TOPs) capable of undertaking regionally-relevant reports on technology risks and opportunities to be considered by the intergovernmental body identified above. Secondly, governments and the United Nations should encourage the formation of a "Technopedia" as an open access, web-based technology assessment tool monitored and maintained in the participatory style of Wikipedia.

Technology Assessment's Place in the Multilateral Firmament:

Given the pace, power and complexity of new technologies, "due diligence" requires that governments seeking technology transfer or capacity building or funding science and technology (through grants, tax breaks and/or intellectual property policy, etc.), have effective capacity for technology monitoring and assessment. Recognizing the global impact of many new technologies developed at the national level, there is obvious need for - and efficiency in - technology assessment at global and regional levels. There are several ways in which this could be accomplished:

- Treaty - International Convention for the Evaluation of New Technologies (ICENT);

- Mainstreaming across the UN system;

- CSD/ECOSOC expanded capacity;

- UNGA Office of Technology Assessment; ·Special Rapporteur on the Right to Innovate/Imitate

Treaty - International Convention for the Evaluation of New Technologies (ICENT): The negotiation and implementation of a discrete treaty for technology assessment might ultimately prove to be the most efficient and least costly mechanism for global technology monitoring. ETC Group has drafted the template for such a treaty that governments may wish to consider. It is possible that Rio+ 20 could adopt a process and timetable for Treaty negotiation. However, it would likely involve a 5-10 year negotiating process.

Mainstreaming across the UN system: The United Nations has constructed a number of science/technology instruments in recent years that offer useful elements that could evolve into technology assessment mechanisms. In every case, however, the scope or "terms of reference" of the instrument is restricted to a specific field such as agriculture or climate or biodiversity. While it is entirely possible to enlarge the mandates of some of these initiatives and to link them together, the task of creating and maintaining these linkages may prove more difficult than establishing a unique entity.

Some examples of existing scientific instruments...

·IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change): a very large community of scientists collaborating on the assessment of the science of climate change that has achieved broad social and governmental support almost everywhere in the world. However, the IPCC has only been mandated to review existing studies about climate change - not to evaluate new technologies. It would be difficult - and possibly dangerous - to add to the IPCC's burden by giving it the responsibility to evaluate climate-change related technologies.

·SBSTTA (Subsidiary Body on Science, Technology and Technical Advice): Both the CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity) and the UNFCCC have scientific subsidiaries that offer a combination of scientific and political advice to their respective Conferences of the Parties (COPs). In effect, the SBSTTAs have functioned as intersessional bodies for the COPs rather than as scientific advisers.

·IAASTD (International Assessment of Agricultural Science, Technology and Knowledge Systems for Development): At the request of governments at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (Rio +10), FAO, the World Bank, governments and UN agencies collaborated to create an extraordinarily broad assessment of agriculture, which included input from small-scale producers and considered different knowledge systems. The report has won broad support. Rio+20 should ensure that this work carries on either as an independent entity or that it be built into another evaluation mechanism.

·HLPE (High-Level Panel of Experts on Food and Agriculture): In 2009, the UN/FAO Committee on World Food Security (CFS), in conjunction with FAO, established the HLPE as a widely representative panel of experts to examine critical issues and to provide independent reports to the CFS. Thus far, the panel has worked remarkably well and has earned the respect of diverse stakeholders. While the mandate of the HLPE is broad, it does not include the full range of new technologies that could impact the earth and its inhabitants.

·IPBES (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services): Initial meetings to establish the IPBES are still underway and the outcome remains uncertain. IPBES is expected to have a strong mandate to address biological diversity and ecosystems services and this could readily include the assessment of technologies affecting these systems. However, its future relationship with the IPCC on climate change or the HLPE on agriculture remains to be negotiated. Nevertheless, if one of the predicted outcomes of Rio is an enlarged UNEP with additional resources and membership - and responsibility for IPBES (not yet decided) - then it would be important to make sure that technology assessment is part of its new agenda. In sum, while each of the initiatives identified above can play a useful role contributing to technology assessment, either their mandate or their history limits their ability to function on a global cross- or multi-technology platform. Because its role and work are still being negotiated, IPBES may be the one exception that could be given wider duties.

CSD/ECOSOC expanded capacity: Were governments in Rio to agree to expand the mandate and strengthen support for the current CSD into a Council on Sustainable Development - or to commit additional resources to ECOSOC - then it would be logical to place a committee secretariat for technology assessment within the revitalized body.

UNGA Office of Technology Assessment: Perhaps one of the most straightforward and attractive options would be to establish an Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) attached to the UN General Assembly. The OTA could undertake studies and report directly to the General Assembly. The OTA would need a strong secretariat and resources commensurate with its task, and governments in Rio would have to move carefully to ensure that the OTA is capable of meeting its mandate.

Special Rapporteur on the Right to Innovate/Imitate: Appropriate technologies, if carefully evaluated and globally shared, could help us develop more sustainably and meet the Millennium Development Goals. It is well established that current systems of technological innovation and dissemination are failing the global South, and that developing countries encounter many obstacles in accessing appropriate technologies, and being able to use, maintain and develop them. This is an overlooked human rights issue: the right to share in the benefits of scientific progress (or, more prosaically, the right to innovate and imitate) are established within Article 27 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and Article 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The creation of a position of a Special Rapporteur on Article 27 could help document the human rights dimensions of technological developments, encourage appropriate technology transfer policies, warn of rights violations that new technologies might entail and highlight the right of all human beings to share in the benefits of scientific progress. Governments at Rio+20 should agree to establish this position and ensure it has the resources it needs to fulfill its mandate effectively.

Governments, at Rio+20, should agree to convene, within three years, a UN Innovation Summit to fundamentally re-examine and evaluate mechanisms for the promotion of innovation through diverse knowledge systems.

The Road from Rio: It will be important for governments and civil society to know what has been accomplished in the Rio process. We believe the following are reasonable indicators of progress or failure for the advancement of technology assessment within the United Nations:

We have made progress if Rio...

- Adopts a Technology Assessment Mechanism at the global level (at least), and/or;
- Accepts a negotiating process and timetable to establish a mechanism, and/or;
- Identifies potential locations and a process/timetable for discussion.

We have failed if Rio...

- Invites agencies/treaties to consider tech assessment in upcoming meetings, and/or;
- Concedes only that technology transfer does not exclude assessment, and/or;
- Sets no process/timetable for further discussions.

## 2. Geoengineering - Planetary Technofix?

Geoengineering is the intentional, large-scale manipulation of the Earth's climate systems by artificially changing oceans, soils and the atmosphere. Simply put, geoengineering is a technological fix for climate change on a planetary scale - one that may have devastating environmental, economic and social impacts, particularly in the global South.

The idea of re-engineering the planet used to be the stuff of science fiction, but a group of increasingly vocal advocates and policymakers in Western capitals is rapidly

moving these controversial ideas from the margins to the mainstream of climate policy. Controversial experiments are being proposed and no international authority is overseeing decision-making. The list of governmental and intergovernmental bodies now dealing with the topic is growing: Parliamentary and Congressional Committees in the UK and USA, the US Government Accountability Office, the UK Royal Society, the US National Academies, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the London Convention and Protocol.

The peoples and countries and peoples that will be the first to suffer the impacts of these experiments have not been consulted. The 193 Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity were alarmed enough at COP 10 in Japan in October 2010 to adopt a moratorium on geoengineering activities that could threaten biodiversity and have transboundary impacts. Rio+20 needs to buttress that decision with a firm global ban on the testing and deployment of all geoengineering technologies in the absence of a clear international consensus. The legal precedents exist in international arms control.

Disarming the Weather Warriors: Most discussions on the governance of geoengineering have revolved around the potential applicability of various international legal regimes to specific geoengineering techniques (e.g., London Convention and Protocol on Ocean Dumping, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Vienna Convention on the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol. While these treaties are useful tools, a more comprehensive and simple solution, in keeping with the spirit of the moratorium adopted by the CBD in October 2010, would be to ban the testing and deployment (through any form of in situ experimentation) of all geoengineering technologies either through the ENMOD treaty (on environmental modification) or drawing on our experience with disarmament. This would allow theoretical research, computer modeling and laboratory tests to proceed but would draw the line at real-world experimentation.

A ban on geoengineering testing could be negotiated during the remaining months of the preparatory process and adopted at Rio+20. Alternatively, states at Rio+20 could signal their intention to submit a resolution to the UN General Assembly banning geoengineering. A General Assembly resolution could launch negotiations on a treaty or even form the basis for a treaty, which would then be opened for formal signature and ratification. A treaty would specify that no Party could engage in the real-world experimentation of geoengineering technologies. An international body, akin to the International Atomic Energy Agency, would then have oversight and inspection powers in order to ensure compliance. This could be a new or an existing body with an expanded mandate.

Under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (1968), which 190 states have ratified, non-nuclear weapons states agree not to seek or manufacture nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons states agree to engage in disarmament talks. The only states that do not honour the ban on military research are the five nuclear powers that are the permanent members of the Security Council (USA, China, Russia, UK, France) and the four other states that have more recently acquired nuclear strike capability (India, Pakistan, Israel, North Korea). The Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, which has been ratified by 155 states but has not yet entered into force, prohibits all nuclear explosions. Parties also agree to prohibit any such testing in areas under their jurisdiction and refuse to participate in any way in such tests.

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) is an arms control agreement that outlaws the production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and it has been ratified by 185 states. The Biological and Toxins Weapons Convention expanded the Geneva Protocol, which prohibited the use (but not the possession) of biological weapons. Currently, 165 states are bound by its provisions, which prohibit the development, use and stockpiling of the instruments of biological warfare. While both these treaties have weaknesses, particularly in terms of their monitoring and compliance mechanisms, the basic framework of the treaties is relevant to geoengineering: What is prohibited is not the actual biological agents, but rather their uses. What is made illegal under these conventions is the preparation for the waging of biological warfare. The parallel that can be drawn with climate modification through the deliberate, large-scale technological manipulation of the Earth's systems is straightforward: It is the testing of technologies that purport to engineer the climate at a large-scale that would be prohibited, not the actual materials or processes that would be used.

Advocates for geoengineering sometimes argue that a ban or even an international governance system cannot be adopted because the technologies have not yet reached a stage of maturity, and scientific exploration should not be hindered by "premature" regulation. This argument is wrong-headed. What the history of the nuclear arms race shows is that problems are created precisely because some states already possess the technology. The reason the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty has not entered into force is that an insufficient number of states with nuclear technology have signed on. Likewise, the "new nuclear states" resent having restrictions on testing that the "old nuclear powers" do not have. This is seen as inequitable and ineffective. With geoengineering technologies at a stage of relatively immature development, the world actually has a small window of opportunity to prohibit them before financial and geopolitical interests become entrenched.

#### Nine Questions to Debate Before Considering Geoengineering Deployment

Intergovernmental discussion on geoengineering should include careful consideration of each of the following nine questions. ETC Group offers preliminary thoughts:

I. How intrinsically risky is geoengineering? The risk is proportional to the planetary scale upon which it would operate and, like nuclear war, its effects are not reversible or predictable. Scientists agree that the outcome of geoengineering cannot be certain, therefore, the risk is commensurate with that of nuclear war.

II. Are the risks evenly distributed among regions and peoples? Scientists agree that the impacts of geoengineering would be uneven and probably unpredictable within and between hemispheres and continents. People would also be differently vulnerable depending upon their livelihoods, locations and mobility (wealth). Marginalized people in fragile environments - exposed to extreme hydro-meteorological events and circumstances - would experience disproportionate risk.

III. Could geoengineering's development/deployment negatively impact other responses to climate change? All parties recognize that the prospect of even temporary technological fixes to climate change encourages some governments and industries to lower their (already weak) commitment to mitigation and adaptation. Further, if technological alternatives are thought to be "cheaper", other options and funds will attract less support. There are also direct impacts on other mitigation responses, such as less effective solar power in the presence of solar radiation management techniques.

IV. How will decisions be made? This is unknown. However, as with nuclear weapons and other major global military and economic issues, geoengineering decisions will be made by those who have power. Because geoengineering could conceivably be undertaken by just one (or a few) countries, multilateral endorsement is not a prerequisite for action.

V. What is our experience with responsible global crises management? Humanity's only comparable experience is with war. Powerful governments have never left such decisions to an inter-governmental vote. These governments have conducted ocean and stratospheric nuclear testing without UN support. It could be argued, of course, that hunger, disease and poverty are also global crises requiring a coordinated multilateral response. At least since the 1960s, we've been told that these problems are financially and technically solvable. Concerted, constructive action has been rare.

VI. What is our global record with equitable problem-solving? Governments have negotiated thousands of treaties that achieve practical solutions to practical problems. The solutions have sometimes been equitable. However, when it comes to the "big" issues of war and peace, justice, or equitable distribution, humanity has very few beneficial experiences to draw upon.

VII. What are the mechanisms for the participation of less powerful parties and those regions and peoples that could be most negatively impacted? The issue has not been addressed. There have been discussions about governance in general, but proponents of geoengineering have not developed any mechanisms to meaningfully engage marginalized peoples or countries.

VIII. What risk is there that scientific advice could be superseded by short-term political interests? As climate change shows, scientific advice is routinely marginalized or distorted to meet immediate political interests. Scientists lose control of their information/advice the moment it encounters the political agenda. This distortion has been consistent: from the health effects of tobacco, asbestos and radiation to BSE and nuclear safety today (see below, Table 1). The greatest consistency, however, is that scientists have failed to learn from history.

IX. What is Plan C if geoengineering fails or exacerbates climate change? Good question. No answers - just wasted time and money.

The Road from Rio: Rio+20 affords all of the world's governments their best opportunity to make a clear statement on the unacceptability of geoengineering. If the message from Rio is not clear, some governments and some companies will pursue ocean fertilization and/or solar radiation management research that could threaten the environment and well-being of other peoples. The following might be considered indicators of governments' views coming from Rio:

We will have made progress if Rio...

- Makes a clear statement that geoengineering is unacceptable, and/or;
- Adopts text hostile to geoengineering with no loopholes, and/or;
- Welcome/approves the existing CBD moratorium without reservation, and/or;
- Exposes geoengineering as a controversial and dangerous initiative being pursued by parties sidestepping climate change obligations.

We will have failed if Rio...

- Calls for further scientific experimentation in geoengineering techniques, and/or;
- Implies that "all options" must be "on the table," and/or;
- Asks one or more scientific "taskforces" to study and report.

### 3. Agriculture - The BioMasters' Greed Economy?

ETC Group supports the important emphasis given to agriculture in Agenda 21 and agrees with governments that food and agriculture must play an essential role in the movement toward sustainable economies. We believe that the IAASTD report, requested by governments during the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, is the basis for strengthening the role of small-scale producers in achieving Food Sovereignty. We also commend the leadership of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), World Food Program (WFP) in restructuring the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), ensuring the full participation of small-scale producers, civil society and multilateral institutions, including the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), and creating new policies and new governance structures for food and agriculture. The High- Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) established to work with the CFS has also made an important contribution. We believe that the revitalized CFS - guided by the findings of the IAASTD - is the appropriate body to work with governments to develop sustainable economies for food and agriculture. Governments should give consideration to the CFS model as a possible template for the development of any new or revised environmental mechanisms that may result from the Rio+20 conference.

The Need to Shift from Food Chains to Food Webs:

Today, six corporations (Monsanto, DuPont, Syngenta, Dow, Bayer, and BASF) control 71% of crop chemicals, 58% of commercial seed sales; and, with their biotech partners, control 77% of the world's so-called "climate-ready" crop patent claims. The six-company oligopoly stifles innovation, encourages energy waste and promotes their polluting chemicals.

The industrial food chain offers the same sadly simplistic solution to all the problems it creates: governments and consumers must give them more money to develop technological "quick fixes" that will give agribusiness the power to adjust food supplies to climate change; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; conserve the world's diminishing water resources; safeguard biological diversity, and; feed 9 billion people in 2050. All governments need to do is suspend their common sense and trust the oligopoly that has made our food system so unsustainable and left almost 1 billion people hungry. In reality, it is sound policies - not unproven science fiction - that will address humanity's needs. Below are 20 practical policy initiatives that can be implemented now that will immediately strengthen food sovereignty, reduce environmental damage and support the innovative work of peasant producers.

Fundamental policies for the land and people

1. Restore public support for agriculture to address the food crisis. Corporate concentration in the food chain has, since at least the 1970s, severely reduced public- sector support for both research and rural development. Agricultural assistance declined from \$8 billion in 1984 to \$3.4 billion in 2004 (2004 US\$). Governments should cooperate to place an annual \$5 billion surtax on the food oligopolies over at least the next 25 years to recoup a portion of these losses. The recovered funds should go directly to peasants' organizations to support their initiatives.
2. Convert "land-grabs" to peasants' fields. There is growing international recognition that public or private internal or cross-boundary land grabs are destructive of the environment and food security. The estimated 80 million hectares of land involved in these transactions should be made available to peasants and converted into 26.7 million farms of roughly 3 hectares each.
3. Convert biofuel land to food. In 2007, both the US and EU devoted \$11 billion to state subsidies and tariffs in support of biofuel production. As of 2006, 14 million hectares (1%) of all arable land was being used for biofuel production (providing only one half of 1% of global primary energy use.) New policies should transfer biofuel land to 4.6 million landless or land-poor peasants (3 hectares each) - potentially doubling farm production (average farm size in Africa and Asia is currently 1.6 ha). The \$11 billion annual subsidy should support agro-ecological developments on the farms.
4. Secure sufficient, nutritious and appropriate food for at least 9 billion people by 2050. Today, the cereals used for animal feed could meet the annual caloric needs of more than 3.5 billion people. The current world population is 7 billion. There is no technological barrier to meeting our future food needs.
5. Adopt policies that reduce soil erosion to protect long-term food security. Today, the industrial food chain leads to an annual loss of topsoil amounting to 75 billion tonnes and costs the world \$400 billion. An oligarchy of ten global fertilizer companies discourages good soil management. Peasant soil conservation systems utilizing naturally occurring soil microorganisms are responsible for fixing 140-170 million tonnes of nitrogen - equivalent to \$90 billion in chemical fertilizers. Policies must support these conservation strategies. Improved land management, especially using peasant techniques, could increase agricultural GDP between 3% and 7%.
6. Reduce crop losses: Today, annual food losses equal more than half of the world's cereals crop (2.3 billion tonnes), meaning unnecessary production of roughly 500 million tonnes of GHG. Food losses in industrialized countries range between 90 and 111 kg per person per year. New policies should immediately lower OECD crop losses by 90% -

at least to sub-Saharan African and South Asian levels of 9-11 kg per person per year.

#### Policies to transform the food chain into a food web

7. Strengthen the food web and break up the food chain. Oligopoly in agricultural inputs reduces efficiency and discourages the resiliency necessary to respond to new health and environmental challenges. Competition policies must break up the food chain. New policies must encourage market diversity and research support for agro-ecological systems. Market diversification, for seeds alone, could reduce prices by at least 30%, saving the world's peasants more than \$9 billion per annum.

8. Advance the rights of women food producers: Women account for 60 to 80% of peasant growers and produce 90% of food in Africa and about half of all food worldwide. Yet in sub-Saharan Africa, only 15% of landholders are women and they receive less than 10% of credit and 7% of extension services. Policies that address gender inequalities could, conservatively, increase over yield by 2.5% to 4% and bring 100 million people out of hunger.

9. Diversify food processing and retailing. Today, the largest supermarket oligopolies control 40-50% of the food market in Latin America, 10% in China, 30% in South Africa and 50% in Indonesia. The leading 100 processors control 77% of global packaged foods and 10-11% of world retail food sales. Peasant systems feed 70% of the world - including the most vulnerable. Competition policies should eliminate oligopolistic practices. New policies must diversify consumer options, reduce the need for processing and support local food storage and distribution.

10. Improve the North's Food/Energy Ratio to Match the South's: Today, on average, OECD states use up four kilocalories (kcal) of energy to produce one kcal of food whereas, in general, the global South takes one kcal of energy to produce one kcal of food. OECD government should consider incentives (including negative tax pressure) to bring the industrial food chain's energy consumption at least into alignment with peasant food production. This would amount to a massive saving in fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions.

11. Reduce freshwater waste in food and beverage processing industries. Five global food and beverage corporations - Nestle, Danone, Unilever, Anheuser-Busch, and Coca-Cola consume enough water to meet the daily domestic needs of every person on the planet. Today, it takes, for example, 12,000 L of water to produce and process one-half kilo of chocolate. The water required to produce 65 million kg of ground beef - the amount recalled and destroyed due to food safety violations in the United States in 2008 - was equivalent to the water required to irrigate 100,000 hectares of dry land for one year. Peasant production models that privilege local consumption waste little or no water. Policies must prioritize local consumption and heavily tax wasteful processing companies.

#### Policies to shrink agriculture's environmental footprint and improve health

12. Improve health and reduce environmental damage. Today, the average adult in an OECD country eats an unnecessary and unhealthy extra meal each day (roughly an extra 750 calories). About 25% of the energy and water - and the associated greenhouse gas produced - used in OECD countries goes to "waste food." At least 50% of OECD adults are overweight or obese. Obesity costs OECD states almost \$300 billion per year - an amount that is more than enough to meet all of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, with around \$100 billion leftover.

13. Reduce OECD meat and dairy consumption. According to UN estimates, demand for meat and dairy products will double by 2050. Per capita OECD meat consumption is 10 times that of the global South. A 25% reduction in livestock product consumption worldwide would reduce our GHG emissions by 2.5%.

14. Eliminate waste and environmental devastation in the fisheries industry. Today, industrial fish farming takes 6 tonnes of wild fish to produce 1 tonne of fishmeal and between 1.5 and 3 tonnes of meal to harvest 1 tonne of farmed salmon. Peasant fishers and family fishponds recycle nutrients and have almost no waste. Policies must incorporate this waste into industrial fish farm taxes.

15. Strengthen urban and peri-urban food systems. Today, British consumers throw away 243 L of water per day in wasted food. This amounts to 6% of total UK water usage and one and a half times more than personal daily fresh water needs. Today, 25 to 30% of fresh water - about 45 billion L - in urban areas is lost through leaky pipes costing municipalities \$14 billion a year. The urban water wasted through leaky pipes could provide the water needs of 200 million people or 4.5 million urban micro-gardens. If the 243 L of water lost each day from food thrown away were available to urban gardeners it could produce 18,000 tomatoes per annum, 3,240 lettuces every 60 days, 900 cabbages every 90 days or 9,000 onions every 120 days. Policies should promote urban agriculture (including its access to safe water) that will improve water efficiency, recycle wastes, and support nutrition.

#### Policies to encourage innovation and diversification in the food web

16. Support in situ peasant conservation strategies. There is general agreement that the adaptation of agriculture to climate change will depend upon the conservation and introduction of crop wild relatives. Current efforts, however, are only collecting 700 species. Peasants conserve 50-60,000 species of wild relatives. Their in situ conservation and community breeding must be supported.

17. Encourage breeding and production of underutilized crops. Today, the industrial food chain concentrates on 150 species with almost all research going into 12 species. The peasant food web breeds and nurtures 7,000 food crops, offering enormous potential to respond to climate change. Policies must strengthen their efforts to diversify the food web.

18. Restructure research priorities to support peasant breeding. Over the last half-century, industrial breeders have produced about 80,000 plant varieties (including 7,000 from international research centres). Almost 60% of private commercial breeding has been ornamental. Over the same period, peasants have contributed close to 2.1 million food and feed varieties. Policies must surrender breeding direction to peasant organizations, duplicate gene bank accessions for peasant breeding and inter-farm exchange, and eliminate monopolistic regulations that inhibit innovation.

19. Promote resilient livestock breeds and species diversity: Today, 3-4 multinationals control breeding stock for each of the four key livestock animals (cattle, pigs, broiler chickens, laying hens and turkeys). In total, about 100 breeds account for almost all commercial meat and dairy production. Furthermore, three agribusinesses account for 43% of veterinary medicines and three others control 25% of industrial feeds world-wide. While the industrial food chain continues to narrow the range of species and breeds available to meet climate changes, peasants maintain 40 livestock species and 7,616 breeds that may otherwise become extinct. Policies must support peasant conservation and breeding of these animals and the rights of traditional livestock keepers.

20. Conserve and promote marine and freshwater fishing. Today, industrial fisheries commercialize 363 species and the industrial system has wiped out 20% of all freshwater species while overfishing virtually all popular marine species. Peasant fishers protect and harvest more than 22,000 freshwater species alone. Policies must strengthen support for peasant fishers.

#### The Road from Rio:

We have made progress if Rio...

·Calls for the full involvement of small-scale producers' organizations, and/or;



- Commends the CFS as the template for other UN bodies and treaties, and/or;
- Proposes a process/timetable for the continuation of IAASTD, and/or;
- Condemns land grabs and agrofuels, and/or;
- Criticizes "top-down," "technology-driven" industrial agriculture. We have failed if Rio...
- Calls for further research on "intensive smallholder production," and/or;
- Champions "new technologies" to address climate change, and/or;
- Identifies CGIAR as the model for research, and/or;
- Proposes nothing more than "multi-stakeholder" initiatives or "public-private partnerships," and/or;
- Leaves opening for land grabs and/or agrofuels.

#### 4. Conclusion

The months leading up to Rio+20 in June 2012 are a time of risk and opportunity. Current governance structures for sustainable development in the UN system suffer from a lack of coordination among institutions; a lack of effective representation for most governments; and an absence of involvement of civil society and social movements. Rio+20 offers a real opportunity to strengthen democracy and peoples' participation within the UN system, and to take three crucial steps forward: (1) establish a pathway for precautionary, inclusive technology evaluation; (2) ban geoengineering; (3) and commit to support small-scale peasant-led agriculture. [\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this table\]](#) ENDNOTES: 1 Agenda 21, Chapter 34 took a holistic approach to technology transfer, underlining the importance of adequate information on environmentally sound technologies as well as improving access to them, strengthening South countries' technological capacities, information and choices. Governments agreed to enhance the transfer of technologies, to build capacity, to foster successful long-term partnerships, to revalorize indigenous knowledge, to foster public sector research, and to build capacity for technology assessment and to finance technology transfer. Virtually none of this has been done and the technology gap between North and South has continued to widen, while high-risk technologies enter the globalized marketplace with inadequate attention to their medium- and long-term social, economic and ecological impacts.

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ETC Group is an international civil society organization (CSO), addressing the socioeconomic and ecological issues surrounding new technologies that could have an impact on the world's poorest and most vulnerable. We investigate ecological erosion (including the erosion of cultures and human rights); the development of new technologies (especially agricultural but also new technologies that work with genomics and matter); and we monitor global governance issues including corporate concentration and trade in technologies. We operate at the global political level. We work closely with partner civil society organizations and social movements, especially in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

ETC Group has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), Framework Convention on Climate Change, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and FAO Committee on World Food Security, Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). We also have a long history with the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

## Ethos Institute

Proposals from the Signatories Institutions for Brazil, Civil Society and Government positioning to the negotiations to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

### CONTEXT

The UN Rio+20 Conference, as we all work to guarantee its success and effectiveness, is a privileged experience to discuss measures and mechanisms to implement decisions and agreements firmed 20 years ago, at the Rio(Eco) 92 Conference. The latter was able to advance themes previously proposed, still in an elementary way, at the Stockholm Conference, in 1972, and to produce a robust set of agreements among nations, expressed under the 27 Principles of the Rio Declaration, the Agenda 21, the Declaration of Forest Principles and the Conventions on Biological Diversity, Climate Change and to Combat Desertification. It also opened the way to later agreements, such as the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Doha Declaration, the Barbados Programme of Action for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Mauritius Strategy and the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building. It will be Rio+20 responsibility, therefore, to build a substantial political agreement, increasing the implementation capacity of the multilateral agreements previously signed and provide effective mechanisms to decisions already taken.

There are expressive contextual differences between the last big conferences (Stockholm, 1972 – Rio, 1992 – Johannesburg, 2002) and the 2012 summit. The first three represented, in their discussions and decisions, parallel worlds in relation to the economic context to which they were immersed in. The Stockholm Conference took place at the end of the period of real effectiveness of the Bretton Woods institutions and preceded two oil crises (1973 and 1979) that changed the global economy. Rio92 occurred along with the process of economic deregulations, the overcoming of national frontiers and the reduction of social protection networks, in contradiction with the sustainable development effort. The agreements generated from Rio92 were fundamental, but were not implemented, as they contradicted the logic of a growing globalization that also tried to sustain itself. The Johannesburg Summit happened at the climax of the movement of financialization of the global economy, when the world's capital was allocated predominantly in service of its own reproduction. In each of these historical moments it was verified a disparity among the summit's proposals and deliberations and daily decisions from governments and businesses. With these, the traditional economic vision and logic predominated over the political agreements.

Rio+20 will face the challenge and the opportunity to analyze the global crisis – started in 2008 and unfolded in 2010/2011 –, taking into account the exhaustion in the traditional development model and the reinforced imposition of short term economic imperatives over political decisions, proposing a change of course based on sustainable development principles and imperatives. Surely, there will be conflicts of interests and of visions, being the responsibility of more advanced voices, Brazil among them, to defend a political affirmation in its multilateral dimension with impacts in internal orders, also leading to the end of the crisis. In this sense, concrete proposals must be presented to internalize decisions in the real politics and in the real economy, in their global and local dimensions, observing the principle of non-regression in relation to previous commitments. If Rio+20 is not able to construct the path, there will be a great risk to miss the accumulation of all decisions mentioned above, which are fundamental in building a fairer, inclusive, whole, and environmental friendly global order. With this context, and with this spirit, we offer the following suggestions, proposing the internalization of Rio92 decisions in the political sphere, as well as the economic sphere through the adoption of goals and concrete actions that, we believe, will contribute to overcome the crisis and to build a new development paradigm.

### 1. CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRANSITION TO A GREEN ECONOMY IN A POVERTY ERRADICATION CONTEXT

Given the accumulation of compromises and agreements shown above, as well as the difficulties in implementation imposed by choices based on a short term financial-economic vision, it is necessary to develop a road map to internalize compromises in the economic order, internally and externally, fostering a transition agenda to a green, inclusive and responsible economy. These concepts are understood as follows:

A green economy seeks to ensure a friendly relationship between society's production processes and natural processes, promoting conservation, restoration and the sustainable use of ecosystems, treating the services they offer to life as assets of public interest.

An inclusive economy seeks to meet the needs and the rights of all human beings, promoting a balanced development among financial, human, social and natural capitals, equitable distribution of wealth and of income-generating opportunities, access to public goods and services, securing decent life conditions for all the population, eradicating poverty and reducing social inequalities.

A responsible economy seeks to strengthen a set of humanistic and universal principles and values that sustain the democratic functioning of societies and markets, through the development of ethical and integrity values, promoting a transparency culture and mechanisms to fight corruption.

For the internalization of compromises in national economies, we propose that all participating countries at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) commit to adopt the following directives:

- i. Adoption, progressively, of a new national accountability standard to measure development, while the United Nations system develops a standard that could, in the medium term, be adopted by all nations (according to item 2.ii). The new national standard should redefine the concept of prosperity at a national level, considering not only the effective GDP (for mediation) and the potential GDP (for planning purposes), but also the costs of natural assets and services implied in the production of goods and availability of services, the social impacts resulting from the growth model adopted and the level of national income vis-à-vis the local population's access to adequate sanitation, health, education, consumption, mobility, culture and well being. The new national standards should, therefore, measure the natural, social, human and financial capitals, modeled in the studies developed by the Stiglitz-Sem-Fatoussi Commission and by research conducted by Ethical Markets in partnership with GlobeScan (Beyond GDP);
- ii. Pricing of carbon and the creation of an internal carbon market. It is suggested to study the adoption of a local standard for carbon pricing, considering the characteristics of local markets and economic agents, as well as the creation of an internal carbon market so the agents can operate and contribute to the achievement of national emission reduction goals;
- iii. Payment for ecosystems services. It is suggested to study forms of pricing of natural resources and environmental services as a way to make individual perceptions and market controls effective, leading to productive systems that considers the closed, full cycle of production and the sharing of generated benefits from the use of biodiversity and of traditional knowledge;

iv. Establishment of Minimum Operating Standards. It is suggested to study and define local minimum sustainable operating standards for public national companies and utilities, as well as national companies that operate internationally (in issues such as decent work relations – inclusion of minorities and equality –, socio-environmental practices compatible with sustainable development and production's closed cycle), or submitting them to global minimum operating standards, when these are already established (see item 2.1.v). National states must also create conditions in order for multinational corporations to operate locally based on their best world standard, when this is above the local or global minimum. Furthermore, it is suggested to include among the minimum operating standards – as a requirement for large national companies that operate internationally, as well as to public companies and utilities – the public annual disclosure of sustainability activities modeled in global reporting standards (e.g. GRI) or a justification of impossibility of report;

v. Inclusion of four aspects in the decision-making process: social, environmental, economic and ethical, encouraging a culture of peace and solidarity among nations and translating in concrete objectives on poverty eradication, reduction of inequalities, promotion of decent work and of a system of integrity and combat against corruption;

vi. Linkage between public and private actions in developing and follow through with the national plans. Additionally, the articulation between governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, market and civil society based (major groups) is also fundamental for the transition to a new economic model;

vii. Adoption of sustainable purchasing policies for governments, in a way to redirect local production, as well as measures that encourage both production with less pressure on natural resources, low emissions and decent work conditions – studying differentiated taxation regimes to encourage it – as well as new consumption patterns, establishing mechanisms that promote the acquisition of more sustainable products. At the same time that production patterns are shifting, it is imperative that there is a change of culture and behavior from consumers. In this sense, it is suggested to promote a responsible advertising that act as guidance to consumers, according to the proposed by the EthicMark Award for Advertising that Uplifts the Human Spirit and Society. Finally, it is necessary to encourage the sustainable treatment of waste from producers as well as consumers, and the financing of R&D process to develop sustainable products;

viii. Effective investments, public and private, in a new education model focusing on developing values and culture aiming to develop citizens aware of their socio-cultural heritage, of their position in relation to the environment and of their power to influence and their responsibility as citizens, voters, parents, consumers, investors and entrepreneurs. Assessment mechanisms of the internalization of concepts and practices from a student perspective can be particularly effective in this sense;

ix. Incorporation to regulation tools, inducing the planning and development of sustainable cities, through urban and rural infrastructure investments, such as greater sanitation coverage, depollution and recovery of water resources, promotion of a sustainable urban transportation system and energy generation from a diversified and renewable matrix.

Even as the plans are of national character, it is encouraged, whenever possible, the exchange of experiences and the search for cooperation among countries.

## 2. CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Regarding the internalization of commitments in national and international politics, we understand as fundamental:

2.1 A real commitment from countries to align their national planning and development agendas with sustainable development criteria, through the elaboration of national plans on sustainable development, to be presented to the new “umbrella body”, to be created within the United Nations (see item 2.2), within a deadline convened with the parties (suggested, initially, two to four years).

The plans should be adapted to the different local realities and should contemplate, necessarily, a minimum agenda, consisting of goals in:

- a) Reduction of ecological footprint, considering reducing the consumption of resources, the impacts on ecosystems and their conservation and restauration;
- b) Poverty eradication and reduction of social, political and economic inequalities, translating into access to goods, income and public services;
- c) Implementation of a system of integrity and transparency for the commitments in public- private relations, including a mandatory public annual disclosure of sustainability policies and practices by multinational corporations, public companies and utilities, or justification of impossibility of report.

It will be the responsibility of the United Nations the Encouragement and Support of National Plans and to promote spaces for sharing and exchanges that provoke synergies and scale gains, through:

i. Establishment of a International Fund to guarantee the feasibility of the national plans, which could be based on: the proportional contributive capacity of member countries of the United Nations, advancing the agreement (during the 34 Session of the UN General Assembly , 1980), which was never fulfilled, of 0.7% of GDP from developed countries, to 1% of GDP ; resources from the rights of maritime and air space usage; and a tax of 0,05% on speculative international financial transactions (Tobin Tax). These resources would be redistributed according to voluntary goals and commitments agreed by nations, submitted to external and independent accountability.

ii. Adoption, by the UN, of a new national accountability standard to measure development and monitor the national voluntary plans, taking into consideration recent research– among which we highlight the works of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission and the studies conducted by Ethical Markets in partnership with GlobeScan (Beyond GDP) –, as well as the experiences from the various nations and blocs of nations on defining their internal prosperity and development standards (according to item 1.i). The accumulation of these researches and information, and their thorough evaluation should develop, in the medium run, into a new standard that can be adopted by all nations;

iii. Pricing of carbon and creation of a global carbon market. It is suggested to study the adoption of a global standard for carbon pricing, as well as the creation of a global carbon market. Both the carbon pricing and the operational model of the carbon market shall consider countries' experiences and the overall information from the implementation of the Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM), within the Kyoto Protocol context;

iv. Payment for ecosystems services. It is suggested to study forms of pricing of natural resources and environmental services as way to direct production systems to a closed cycle. Experiences from countries and blocs will serve as reference for global definitions that shall also consider the effective access to biodiversity and the sharing of generated benefits from its use, in accordance with previous commitments (Convention on Biological Diversity);

v. Establishment of Global Minimum Operating Standards. It is suggested to establish, at a global level, minimum operating standards for multinational corporations (in issues such as decent work relations – inclusion of minorities and equality –, socio-environmental practices compatible with sustainable development and production's closed cycle); Furthermore, it is suggested to present annual disclosure reports of sustainability activities modeled in global reporting standards (e.g. GRI) or a justification of impossibility of report;

vi. Redefinition of a Geography of Technical and Scientific Cooperation, suggesting the coordination of efforts and the creation of networks that encourage the exchange of experiences, expertise and skills among regions that are similar geographically (organized by biomes), geopolitically, and by their development stage, in a way to create synergies and accelerate scale gain, with a resulting lowering of costs to the transition agenda.

2.2 Overcoming the current global institutional failure, modifying the institutional framework both in the national and global spheres, in a way to eliminate the imbalance among


the four sustainable development dimensions (social, economic, environmental and ethical). Only the creation of a new institutional framework can offer the mechanisms of coordination, cooperation, evaluation and control necessary to an ambitious transition agenda.

In this sense, it is proposed to strengthen the management systems in the social, environmental and ethical dimensions within the United Nations, and the creation of an “umbrella body” responsible for planning, coordination, encouragement and implementation of sustainable development commitments. This new body, that shall have a hierarchical level comparable to the Security Council level and absorb the Commission on Sustainable Development, shall provide directives to other bodies, agencies and programmes within the United Nations system, specially: ECOSOC, UNEP, UNDP, WTO, WCO, ILO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, FAO, OHCHR, UNPA and UNESCO. The new body shall also articulate policies and efforts from multilateral financial institutions (International Monetary Fund and the World Bank), settle disputes, mediate conflict of interests and litigate within the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, gather and provide subsidies to other multilateral organizations (such as G20 and G77), and maintain a dialogue and consulting forums with non-governmental organizations (market and civil society based), guaranteeing legitimacy to decisions and process.

Besides being responsible for the encouragement and support to the agendas and national plans, this new multilateral institutional architecture would intervene in all situations of social, financial, food, energy, environmental, and cultural crises and in any other issues related to sustainable development.

#### Signatories Institutions


(In Alphabetical order, with international organizations highlighted in bold)

 Global Union for Sustainability

 Instituto Ethos de Empresas e Responsabilidade Social


 ACQUA AMAZÔNIA

 Agropalma


 Amarribo Brasil (Coalizão Brasileira contra Corrupção)

 Amata S.A.


 ARP Ambiental Limpeza e Conservação


 Associação Brasileira de Celulose e Papel (BRACELPA)

 Associação de Marketing Promocional


 Associação Nacional dos Procuradores Federais

 Belcar Caminhões

 Beraca Sabará Químicos e Ingredientes

 Brasitest

 Café Faraó

 Carbone Química


 CARONETAS CARONAS INTELIGENTES

 CHAMA AZUL

 Comunicarte Marketing Cultural e Social

 CONCESSIONÁRIA LITORAL NORTE

 Confederação dos Servidores do Poder Legislativo e Tribunais de Contas do Brasil (Confelegis)


 Conselho Brasileiro de Construção Sustentável


 Conservação Internacional

 Contemar Ambiental

 CORPORE BR


 CPFL Energia 6


 Cushman & Wakefield


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-  Estre Ambiental
-  Ethical Markets Media
-  Faculdade Zumbi dos Palmares
-  Federação Nacional dos Servidores dos Legislativos e Tribunais de Contas Municipais (Fenalegis)
-  Fersol
-  FNQ
-  Forum Empresa
-  Fundación AVINA
-  Fundación Conama
-  Gelita do Brasil
-  GHANEM LABORATÓRIO CLÍNICO
-  Givaudan do Brasil
-  Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
-  Grupo AES Brasil
-  Grupo de Institutos Federações e Empresas (GIFE)
-  H.Melillo Grupo de Articulação Social
-  Hidroazul Indústria e Comércio
-  Instituto Alana
-  Iochpe Maxion
-  IP - INSTITUTO DE PESQUISAS QUÍMICAS
-  ISOQUALITAS
-  Itaú-Unibanco
-  Jeserv Serviços
-  MACIEL NETO ADVOCACIA
-  Marcas Brasil Consultoria
-  Moraes Leme Consultoria
-  MORAIS DE CASTRO
-  Muda Práticas
-  Natura
-  Natureza em Foco
-  Nortech
-  Núcleo Engenharia Consultiva S.A.
-  ONG Parceiros Voluntários
-  PARTNERS GESTÃO EMPRESARIAL
-  Portobello Salvador Hotéis e Turismo
-  Precisa Comunicação e Eventos
-  Proteste
-  RL Sistemas de Higiene
-  Rubens Naves - Santos Jr - Hesketh
-  Sindicato dos Servidores do Poder Legislativo Federal e do Tribunal de Contas da União (SINDILEGIS)
-  Six Stars Serviços de Hotelaria e Restaurantes 7

 Sociedade Afrobrasileira de Desenvolvimento Socio Cultura

 SOFTNET INFORMÁTICA E CONSULTORIA

 Solgenix

 Sonae Sierra Brasil

 SOS Mata Atlântica

 Souza Cruz S.A

 SUPERGASBRAS

 SUPREMA ASSESSORIA CONTÁBIL LTDA

 Suzano Papel e Celulose

 TerraSistemas

 Territória Desenvolvimento Global

 TV PAJUÇARA

 Unimed do Estado de Santa Catarina

 Unimed Federação Rio de Janeiro

 VALE

 Vitória Supermercados

 WFERRY Marketing Sustentável

 White Martins / Praxair

 Wilson, Sons

## Eurodad

Driving sustainable development through public procurement

Eurodad submission for the Rio+20 compilation document

Public Procurement can be a major driver of sustainable development and should therefore be on the Rio Summit's agenda. Public procurement accounts for at least 15 percent of global GDP. It is the largest share of government spending besides wages. Moreover, it a section of the economy which is directly under public control, and can be directed towards achieving development goals. Thus, if wisely used, it is a major policy tool for driving sustainable development, in both developed and developing countries.

Sustainable Public Procurement (SPP) is often defined as a process whereby organizations meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities in a way that achieves value for money on a whole life basis in terms of generating benefits not only to the organization, but also to society and the economy, whilst minimizing damage to the environment. SPP takes developmental, social and environmental criteria into account and makes public procurement contribute to reaching the Internationally Agreed Development Goals.

The relevance of SPP has already been identified by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation contains an SPP chapter. However implementation since then has been limited. Several UN Member States conducted smaller, more fragmented reforms but scope, depth and speed of reforms leave much room for improvement. The European Union is considering adopting some SPP approaches to modernize its own procurement policy, but has a narrow focus on the environmental dimension.

SPP implementation in developing countries is promoted under the Marrakesh process, but just a small number of countries participate in pilot programs. Most larger public procurement reform programs in developing countries are designed, funded and implemented by the World Bank. Independent research found that SPP criteria are hardly ever considered in technical assistance provided. Consequently, the laws, institutions and human capabilities resulting from such programs do not enable developing countries to apply SPP in practice. This has received criticism from experts who argue that the ongoing process of building functional systems offers a unique opportunity, to develop and implement the most modern SPP procurement systems, in line with the concept of sustainable development.

International debate about 'best practice' in procurement largely takes place in a donor and IFI-dominated discourse – at the OECD Task Force on Procurement – and the concept of SPP does not feature much in this influential policy-making process. Neither do SPP criteria feature in diagnostic tools for procurement systems developed by the Task Force, such as the Methodology for the Assessment of Procurement Systems (MAPS), which have been developed by this Task Force.

The Rio Summit can give a new impetus to Sustainable Public Procurement. The Outcome Document should include:

- A deepened and strengthened global agreement on sustainable public procurement.
- A detailed roadmap, targets and timelines for reform.
- The commitment to found a new UN-hosted Global Partnership for Procurement – to replace the OECD Task Force on Procurement – which builds on the SPP concept and draws on the experience of UN organizations such as the UNDP, UNCTAD, UNEP and the ILO, works with parliaments and civil society, and ensures that in future SPP principles guide public procurement reforms in both developed and developing countries.
- The commitment to mainstream SPP criteria in diagnostic tools used for assessing procurement systems.
- The commitment to reform procurement practices of bilateral aid agencies, multilateral development banks and international organizations. This implies full untying of aid

grants and development loans, using and strengthening SPP country procurement systems of partner countries or giving preference to local and regional procurement; and taking developmental, social and environmental considerations into account.

## Euromontana

From Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond: 20 years of Sustainable Mountain Development - What have we learnt and where should we go?

### Key messages

Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the demand for goods and services from mountains has grown considerably.

We assert that mountains are territories with a future and opportunities for Europe and the world. They have much to deliver to society at large and have great potential for smarter, greener and more inclusive development. They are also distinctive areas, because of their altitude, their steep slopes, their low population density, their challenges and their opportunities, and consequently should be addressed specifically. We call for public and private investment in these areas. The return on investment might indeed take longer in these areas than in urban areas or lowlands, but the investment itself will undeniably be more sustainable.

At the same time, these mountain territories are faced with a number of challenges. Indeed, the ability of mountain systems to provide essential goods and services for all of humanity is increasingly under threat from climate change, globalization, a chronic lack of investment, ongoing land degradation in some areas, the absence of an integrated approach to territorial development in many countries, and increasing trends to the concentration of population in ever bigger agglomerations. We recognize that, despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development in many mountain regions, most national and international development agendas still tend to treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments.

On the basis of its experience in the field of sustainable mountain development, its role in development of mountain policies at European, national and regional level, and its specific economic, environmental and social contexts, EUROMONTANA recommends that the United Nations, in the discussion at UNCSD, to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012:

- „h recognise the specific role of mountains and the corresponding need for integrated mountain development policies and targeted investment;
- „h recognise in particular the role provided by mountain ecosystems in providing services that support and enhance the Earth's sustainability, and the key role that mountain communities play in delivering these services, by developing concepts of payment and compensation for ecosystem services, and implementing such concepts, and considering the economic value of services provided in the general interest (green accounting);
- „h integrate the assets of mountain regions in processes leading to sustainable development and green Economies, recognising that a geographical differentiation is needed; to identify therefore the conditions required to fully unleash mountain development potential and invest to secure that these conditions exist;
- „h adopt a multi-sectoral, multi-level and multi-stakeholder approach enabling the UN to direct its Sustainable Development policy towards concrete areas of interest and to identify and strengthen entities for cooperation and the implementation of such policies at the appropriate levels, whether regional, local or mountain range,
- „h promote networks and partnerships of mountain stakeholders at all levels (governmental, civil society, private sector) and encourage the relevant national and international organisations to consider mountain-related concerns.
- „h to support mountain-specific observation, research, knowledge development and awareness on environmental, economic and social aspects of mountain areas.

### Mountains can deliver green growth

Mountains and their economies are particularly well placed to deliver green growth, due to their rich natural and cultural heritage. They are the water towers of the world and major reservoirs of biodiversity and natural resources. Due to their topography, altitude and large forest areas, the renewable energy potential in mountain regions is superior to that of many lowland areas; though this also represents a challenge for landscape and biodiversity. As mountain agriculture provides many high-quality products and services, including organic or environmentally friendly farming and extensive rangelands, this sector, often in cooperation with others, can serve as a laboratory for the conservation of biodiversity in balance with human use of resources and interest. Mountains are also among the most exposed to global change. This means that greening the economy is important for mountain economies to reduce their vulnerability and to increase local added value and employment as well as secure synergy between economic growth, environmental protection and social progress.

With their natural and cultural diversity and importance for downstream regions in terms of resources and ecosystem services, mountain areas are important innovation motors in Green Economies, particularly in sectors where they are ideally placed to invent new and promising solutions, such as green transport, renewable energy supplies, life sciences, new forms of food supply chains, sustainable tourism, or remote service delivery.

However, innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to foster governance models and decision support systems aiming at both the integration of the social, ecological and economic capital at all scales in mountain regions, and the mainstreaming of mountains into overall national development and conservation processes.

This requires in particular:

- „h major investments to assemble the conditions allowing these areas to fully and sustainably exploit their potential, notably in the sectors of environmentally-friendly transport, energy, ICT and services of general interest;
- „h a multi-sectoral approach aiming, inter alia, at adequately rewarding the provision of ecosystem services from mountain areas in the general interest, where necessary by correcting market failures related to the specificities of mountain territories. Land managers such as farmers and foresters should, in particular, be equitably remunerated for the provision of public goods resulting from their economic activities .
- „h general support to the development of initiatives adding value to mountain products (food, crafts) and services (tourism) in relation to their specific cultural and environmental features.

Euromontana has elaborated, in relation to these issues, recommendations on how to remunerate positive externalities provided by mountain land managers; foster the innovation potential of mountain areas; support development of sustainable tourism renewable energies, and services of general interest in mountain areas. It also has developed the European Charter for Mountain Quality Food products, launched at the European Parliament in 2005 and signed by almost 70 governments and organisations. This should lead to the adoption soon of specific protection for mountain food products at European level, opening the way to a specific market segment for mountain quality products, expected by many consumers.

### Mountain development can contribute to a more inclusive global development

Enhancing global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit mountain communities, some of which are very poor, and indirectly humanity as a whole. Mountain regions are likely to contribute widely to social innovation, thanks to their intense community life. Their governance and cooperation models are often unique, but may also provide valuable models for other regions. Furthermore, sustainable mountain development is a component of a more



balanced territorial and place-based development which is highly needed and likely to contribute to a more even and socially sustainable distribution of population and wealth on Earth.

A more inclusive and place-based approach to development requires the adoption of a multi-stakeholder approach and a multi-level governance approach.

Across the world's mountains, the numerous networking entities active at different (governmental, NGO, research level, development agencies) demonstrate a strong identification in the search for sustainable development solutions for mountains. The dynamism of the Euromontana network, bringing together different sorts of actors at different levels, since its creation in 1996, is a good demonstration of this. The UN can build on the European expertise in this respect including European networks, inter-governmental conventions such as Alpine or Carpathian conventions, as well as emerging institutions in mountain research and policy development.

The UN must also promote the development of multi-level governance. Mountain ranges are functional areas whose geographical extent often overlaps multiple administrative boundaries. Euromontana is convinced that a focus on functional areas such as mountain ranges can help UN Sustainable Development policies to approach environmental and Green Economy challenges on a regional level, according to the Local Agenda 21 concept (thinking globally, acting locally). Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, as well as low carbon technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends, strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

\*\*\* Euromontana is the multi-sectoral association for cooperation and development of mountain areas. It embraces regional and national mountain organisations throughout greater Europe, including regional development agencies, local authorities, agriculture organisations, environmental agencies, forestry organisations and research institutes. Euromontana's mission is to promote living mountains, integrated and sustainable development and quality of life in mountain areas. In order to achieve this, Euromontana facilitates the exchange of information and experience among these areas by organising seminars and major conferences, by conducting and collaborating in studies, by developing, managing and participating in European projects and by working with the European institutions on mountain issues. Euromontana is a member of the Mountain Partnership, former focal point for Europe for the FAO Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development in Mountains project, member of the UN ECOSOC, observer at the Alpine Convention, and provides expertise in groups advising various EU Institutions.

[www.euromontana.org](http://www.euromontana.org)

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## European Association of Elected Representatives from Mountain Regions

Association Européenne des Elus de Montagne

Associazione Europea degli Eletti della Montagna

Associação Europeia dos Eleitos de Montanha

Europäische Vereinigung der Mandatsträger aus Berggebieten

Asociacion Europea de Autoridades Políticas de Regiones de Montaña

European Association of Elected representatives from Mountain Regions

AEM's position paper on RIO +20 conference – The crucial role of mountains in the achievement of Rio +20 objectives

The European association of elected representatives from mountain regions (AEM) welcomes the RIO + 20 conference and especially the consultation of the stakeholders in preparing this event that can be a milestone similar to the Earth summit in 1992. In the outcomes of this previous conference, mountain territories' issues have been acknowledged, thanks to Chapter 13 of Agenda 21. This highlight has permitted the creation of numerous organization dedicated to the preservation and the valorization of mountain territories and people.

Europe's mountain ranges have similar issues to other mountain ranges on the rest of the planet. Ecosystems are in danger, as well as the quality of life of mountain people. In spite of Chapter 13, mountains are still in critical condition, because of the climate challenge but also because of the economic conditions (crisis, lack of access to services). Moreover, "one size fits all" policies do not take into account mountains added costs and specificities. To sum up, mountains deserve a specific attention but they are still too often considered as only rural or strictly marginal.

AEM has been contributing to the European debate for more than 20 years. Our association has called for a better acknowledgment of mountain specificities within European policy making.

For a long time, policies related to mountain territories have mainly focused on tourism and agriculture (e.g. natural disadvantage compensations from the CAP). However, AEM's lobbying has contributed to a shift. Indeed, the Lisbon Treaty (adopted in 2009) now grants a specific attention to regions with a permanent natural or demographic disadvantage, such as mountain regions (art.174). Mountains are also naturally considered as a key element of the EU official objective of territorial cohesion (art.3). As a consequence, it is now established in the Treaty that European mountain territories should benefit from a particular attention from all of EU sectoral policies (art. 175).

Green Growth and mountain regions

In 2010, the European Union has launched a new global strategy. Europe 2020 defines EU's priorities for the next 10 years which are gathered in three broad objectives: smart, inclusive and green growth.

Green economy is also the main theme on RIO +20 agenda. AEM fully agrees on the fact that a new model of sustainable development must be set up in order to tackle the climate change challenge.

AEM has lead numerous works that prove that mountain territories have a lot of assets regarding this objective and, hence, will have a role to play at the EU but also at the global level. Besides agriculture and tourism, mountain assets are obvious: they include most of the water resources (which implies most of the hydroelectric production), a large part of the wood industry, many specialized and precision industries, flexicurity as a result of pluriactivity and seasonality, local development through formation and a great biodiversity. The economic profile of mountain regions is deeply linked to environment, biodiversity and landscape, while at the same time ecological innovation and green growth are becoming a major dynamic at the European and international level (as RIO +20 proves it).

AEM argues that mountain ranges have to renew and promote their economic potential considering their environmental assets and their traditional know how. Of all territories, mountain regions are aware of the importance of the mitigation and the adaptation to climate change. This issue has to trigger new model of endogenous development. Such sustainable development must be based on mountain assets, be well balanced between preservation of ecosystems, as it will be a key element to green growth and the

production of carbon free energy.

Because of its specificities and its wealth in natural asset, mountain territories can become pilots for new initiative based on green growth and social inclusion.

However, the environmental challenge is far from being abstract. It implies that every territory, every ecosystem, must be taken into account and must be the target of tailor made policies. As a result, mountain people and stakeholders have to be associated to the policy making in a broad multilevel governance based system.

Multilevel governance, cooperation and territorial cohesion

AEM calls for the setting up of a multilevel governance that associate every level of government and stakeholders to the policy making. In Europe, "one size fits all" policies that do not take into account the territory have proved to be misadapted, with the failure of the Lisbon Strategy. This type of governance could also be implemented at the global level for environmental issues. New academic works lead by the University of Geneva on Regional Environmental Governance show that cooperation between regions with the same ecosystem is mandatory to tackle climate change and shape adapted policies. Mountain ranges have the particularity to be often transboundary. They request a special type of governance that could then be implemented at a global scale. Once again, mountain ranges request cooperation, which will be a key element for the success of RIO +20 and the following initiatives. However, such a model is not "mountain exclusive" and should be applied at a global scale.

With the Lisbon Treaty, the European Union has adopted a new objective: territorial cohesion. This aim goes hand in hand with the need of multilevel governance and cooperation. Territorial cohesion stipulates has assets and should then contribute to EU strategies. No region should be left behind as every territory has potentials. To achieve this, a key element is the concept of functional area. Each area should be defined according to its territorial cohesion. The actual EU debate on macroregional strategies is another sign of this tendency. Macro regions aim at creating more synergies between the various strands of the cohesion policy, in a more efficient and relevant way than with segmented sectorial policies. There is a clear interregional added-value regarding the European territorial challenges "transform diversity into strength" and development of macro-regional strategic approaches that clearly fits to mountain ranges. The integration of policies, the acknowledgment of territorial cohesion both go beyond traditional administrative border would also be great inputs to RIO +20.

Conclusion

AEM understands that RIO +20 will not include mountain orientated initiatives, as the earth summit did. However, in order to reach a model of endogenous development, mountain ranges need reinforcement and development of regional, national and international (multilevel) governance that articulate mountains and lowlands, facilitate transboundary coordination and support capacity building and the exchange of good practices for innovation and sustainable development. Mountain territories are different. They need a specific attention granted by the Earth Summit even if it has not been sufficient, as mountain ranges are still treated as marginal environments.

Green economy and the new focus on environment is positive news for mountain ranges. They have a lot of assets to valorize. But environmental issues imply a new model of governance and a focus on each territory specificity.

Since 1991, AEM brings together elected representatives, from mayors to members of the European Parliament, local and regional authorities from mountain areas, as well as various similar networks. AEM gathers, directly and indirectly, members from 12 000 municipalities, 100 provinces, 50 regions from 11 European Member States. The composition of the Executive Board is based on a political and geographical balance.

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## European Cancer Patient Coalition (ECPC)

October 31, 2011 Re: Contribution to Rio + 20 Outcome Document

Dear Ms. Tonya Vaturi , Dear Mr. Arthur de la Cruz

The European Cancer Patient Coalition welcomes the opportunity to contribute to discussions on the Rio + 20 Outcome Document. We recognise that behind the Rio Conference is a commitment at the highest levels of Member State Governments to focus on areas of society where policies to promote innovative mechanisms and solutions that could help to generate increased development and to tackle poverty.

We would encourage the delegates to put a strong emphasis on health, especially on Non- communicable Diseases. As you are aware, this issue is just barely on the radar screen of economic policy-makers, who most often do not see that NCDs pose a threat to development, economic growth and poverty alleviation. Over the next 20 years, NCDs will cost more than US\$ 30 trillion, representing 48% of global GDP in 2010, and pushing millions of people below the poverty line. For example:

-Cancer: an estimated US\$ 290 billion in 2010 rising to US\$ 458 billion in 2030.

-Cardiovascular disease: an estimated US\$ 863 billion in 2010 rising to US\$ 1.04 trillion in 2030.

As it will be evidenced by our contribution below: a unified front is needed to turn the tide on NCDs. Governments, but also civil society and the private sector must commit to the highest level of engagement in combating these diseases and their rising economic burden. The economic impact of not dealing with NCDs, in particular cancer would be devastating to developing economies and health care systems alike.

Therefore, in order to achieve positive economic impact and growth as well as in a number of other policy areas for developing countries, we advocate that it is essential that the international community adjust the framework so as to include actions on NCDs in particular cancer on Rio+20.

Yours Sincerely,

Francesco De Lorenzo ECPC Vice President FAVO

ECPC Contribution to Rio + 20 Outcome Document

Overview

i. The current focus of the structure for the future RIO+20 Conference does not take into account sufficiently the economic burden of health inequalities nor the economies benefits that can be realized through the establishment of effective health systems so as to tackle poverty and ill health for future generations. Health impacts several economic outcomes: wages, hours worked, labour force participation, early retirement, labour participation of those caring for a ill member of the household, education outcomes (good health in childhood reduces school absenteeism and early drop-out rates.

ii. In the area of health, priority should be given to focus on Non Communicable Diseases (NCD): they are responsible for the majority of disability adjusted life years lost and therefore threaten the economic viability of developing countries. The World Economic Forum has identified NCDs as the second most severe threat to the global economy in terms of likelihood and potential economic loss. Currently, more than 60% of all deaths worldwide stem from NCDs. Health inequalities have been estimated to cost the EU around €141 billion in 2004 or 1.4% of GDP, when taking into account labour productivity lost and costs to social security. A recent study conducted by the American Cancer Society estimated the cost of DALYs due to cancer worldwide in 2008 at US\$ 895 billion (John & Ross, 2010).

iii. An improved management of NCDs would render the biggest positive impact in terms of increased well-being, economic growth and in a reduction of the economic burden of non-communicable disease.

iv. The economic impact of not dealing with ill-health would be devastating to developing economies and health care systems alike. Therefore, in order to achieve positive economic impact and growth, it is essential that the Rio+20 agenda adjust its framework so as to address Health and the issue of Non-Communicable Diseases.

v. The most cost effective solution to reduce NCDs are through public health interventions that take a health prevention approach, which address the determinates of health (nutrition, alcohol, tobacco, physical activity and the social determinants of health.). vi. Addressing this imbalance through projects to combat health inequalities, potential discriminating legislation and attitudes, to raise awareness and improve data collection should be a strong priority for the inclusion of this in Rio+20 Conference. Furthermore, by tackling the economic burden of diseases and health inequalities, the Rio+20 could accomplish much towards achieving the goal of ensuring sustainable health systems and relieving the economic burden that this has on developing countries.

In the following pages, we have provided suggestions to the questions posed in the Guidance Document on the 'Inputs for Compilation Document'.

Question 1: What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

#### ISSUE 1: REPRESENTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR A HEALTHY POPULATION

i. While the emergence of the G-20 at the level of heads of states and governments provide the opportunity for strengthening global economic and financial governance to a kind of a steering committee of the global economy.

ii. Nevertheless, institutions need to be legitimate and have credible enforcement power in order for global governance to work. The G-20 seen to be effective, needs to deliver a good solution to the serious problem of health imbalances in developing countries. G20 nations represent around 88% of world GDP and 65% of the population. However, 35% of the world's population and 80% of countries do not have a voice around the table.

iii. Additionally, the world population is increasing. The UN projections indicate that there will be approximately 2 billion more people by 2050. In addition, the share of those aged 60 and older has begun to increase and is expected to grow very rapidly in the coming years. Since NCDs disproportionately affect this age group, the incidence of these diseases can be expected to accelerate in the future. Increasing prevalence of the key risk factors will also contribute to the urgency, particularly as globalization and urbanization take greater hold in the developing world.

iv. In the Report by the Secretary General for the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, 17-19 May 2010, the report stated that 'The concept of sustainable development is like a bridge. It seeks to bring together not only the three domains — economic, social and environmental ..Development is the midwife of sustainability, just as sustainability is the life support system for development'.

v. There is now a growing body of evidence to support the principle that the bridge to sustainable development is through a healthy population which will allow sustained economic growth, and evidence indicates that well directed investment designed to improve the health of a population is one of the most cost-effective means of stimulating gross domestic product (GDP) growth. For example, the WHO has identified a set of interventions they call "Best Buys".

vi. The commonality of the challenges facing the developed/developing countries and the opportunities for growth through better health make a strong argument for its inclusion within the Rio+20. Health has a particular value as a unique bridge and offer an important complement to the orientation of Rio+20 and reinforces its focus as outlined in Resolution 64/236 which states that the focus of the Conference will be on 'the following themes of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".

vii. Most of this burden of disease is preventable, given the will and resources to do so; the means to address the relevant risk factors is known: what is needed is more innovation in the application of these means to populations. Improving the health status of the people worldwide is very largely a challenge to health promotion (which includes health education, health protection, and disease prevention), and health inequalities need to be addressed also in the context of improved systems of health promotion. Other policy areas, such as tax, education and transport, are important for achieving a reduction of risk from lifestyle determinants. . Policy of health professionals is for instance connected to vertical policies such as labour- and migration policies, which determine the efficiency of healthcare professionals. Another important policy area to bring about an efficient healthcare system is research, which can help develop new instruments, one example being e-Health. 1

#### - EXPECTED OUTCOME 1:

##### 1.1 Inclusion of Health and Health Indicators

i) To meet the aspiration of the G+20, we need to improve the well-being of all people, so that they can actively participate to the societal and economical

world. There is a need to promote the value of healthcare to the wider economy. ii) Indicators should be coherent with the aims of the UN Declaration on Non-

Communicable Diseases and the Millennium development Goals. iii) Objectives should either be seeking to produce outcomes and recommendations that feed directly into future policy development or be used to augment the implementation of health policies.

iv) For example in Europe, three areas of ill-health (cardiovascular diseases, cancer, and neuropsychiatric disorders) are the cause of 74% of deaths in Europe, and contribute 54% of the overall disease burden in Europe, as calculated in Disability Adjusted Life Years (DALYs). The most effective way to make improvements in these three areas would be to focus on the underlying determinates of health.

a. there is considerable coincidence between the risk factors for these conditions which need to be influenced and improved if the disease burden they create is to be

reduced which can be tackled at the international level

through the WHO. 1.2 Involvement of Civil Society – Patient Organisations

i) National control mechanisms should not only depend on agents of horizontal accountability (the system of checks and balances in the partner country and the capacity of state institutions to provide oversight and to audit the use of public resources), but also on mechanisms of vertical accountability (mechanisms used by citizens and non-state actors such as civil society, nongovernmental organisations and the media to hold government to account).

ii) Capacity development of NGOs and the media with regard to budget scrutiny and audit reports should be actively supported by the EC.

iii) Support mechanisms of social accountability such as for instance social audits, participatory budgeting and citizen report cards to increase the accountability of government not only to parliament, but most importantly to its citizens.

## 2: 'HEALTH IS WEALTH'

### 2.1 Funding

i. Funding from the international community has been widely recognized as crucial if the world's poorest countries are to stand any chance to "safeguard their hard-won economic gains". The financing gap was estimated by the IMF in September 2009 for low-income countries in 2009–10 as likely to increase by around US\$25 billion a year. In January, the World Bank's Chief Economist estimated that poorest countries that rely on subsidized loans may require an additional \$35 billion to \$50 billion in funding just to maintain pre-crisis programs.

### 2.2 Health Expenditure

i. In Europe, health expenditure accounts for nearly 10% of EU Gross Domestic Product and is one of the biggest economic sectors in the EU. The health sector employs one in 10 workers in the EU, with a higher than average proportion of workers with a tertiary level of education and is on the leading edge of innovation and technology. The sector plays a major role in achieving the EU 2020 targets for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

ii. According to the recent report by the World Economic Forum and the Harvard School of Public Health: 'Over the next 20 years, NCDs will cost more than US\$ 30 trillion, representing 48% of global GDP in 2010, and pushing millions of people below the poverty line'. Therefore, if no measures are put in place to tackle NCDs, this estimate cost of US\$ 30 trillion will contribute to the overall burden of poverty on developing countries. As such, there is a growing attention to the potential economic benefits of improvements in population health. The report by the WHO Commission on Macroeconomics and Health report in 2001, demonstrated that health improvement can be seen as a key strategy for income growth and poverty reduction in low-income and middle-income countries.

iii. This is far from new: historically, one of the origins of the public health movement lies in the awareness that the prosperity of nations is partly dependent on the health of their populations.

### 2.3 Health is Wealth

i. We would emphasize that "Health is Wealth" and point out that by achieving good health, a developing economy can be more viable and competitive. Health is the greatest wealth, expresses the understanding that illness is a real economic cost and good health is a precondition for full productivity. This requires an active engagement of many policy sectors, not only of the public health and healthcare systems but also of many other policy areas, including education, social security, working life, city planning and so forth. Without implementing this action, it is estimated that 'the period 2011-2030, the total lost output from the four NCD conditions that are the focus of the UN High-Level meeting and mental health conditions is projected to be nearly US\$ 47 trillion.

### 2.4 Health in All Policies

i. An integrated approach to health is therefore necessary. We need to ensure that a health dimension remains in the core of all policies in general, but especially in innovation and research policy, social policy, regional policy, education policy and agriculture policy.

ii. Developing synergies with all sectors is crucial for a strong development policy. Member States of the UN have acknowledged that the challenge of maintaining a sustainable healthcare system cannot be met without more integration in other policy areas such as employment, social, regions, agriculture and research including innovation. Health is very unevenly distributed across society. In all countries, significant inequalities in health exist between socioeconomic groups in the sense that people with lower levels of education, occupation and/or income tend to have systematically higher morbidity and mortality rates.

## - EXPECTED OUTCOME 2:

i. Health should be included on the agenda Rio+20 Conference and Agenda. This should be introduced as a cross-cutting approach so as to avoid "silo trap":

ii. Suggest the inclusion of a holistic approach to health and ill-health: from an increased understanding of what determines health and what determines ill-health, citizens can be encouraged and supported to lead healthy lives by pursuing the former and avoiding the latter. This builds resilience and resistance in citizens so they can remain healthy, resist stressors that could potentially make them unwell and thus enable them live longer productive and independent lives.

iii. The Rio+20 should support health policies which are based on evidence and provide a stimulus with which to implement recommendations and policies to improve citizens health, address entrenched health inequalities, which, as an outcome, will ultimately lead to sustainable health systems.

iv. To ensure that the IMF deliver its package of measures to assist low-income countries, and monitor the IMF's disbursements to those countries, and the conditionalities attached to them so as to realize health gains

## ISSUE 3: CLEAR TARGETS AND INCLUSION OF HEALTH

i. One of the main sources of criticism on the previous meetings was the lack of clear targets. This allowed the building-up of unsustainable levels of health imbalances that is destabilising for development and reduces global welfare.

ii. Many of the policy orientations articulated by this forum would have to be implemented by the relevant international institutions. Effective global economic and financial governance would, thus, require continuation of intensive reforms in the existing institutions, and also increased collaboration with NGOs such as patient organisations.

iii. The international community should reaffirm the economic burden that NCD will have on developing countries as they have done through the UN Declaration on Non-Communicable Diseases.

## - EXPECTED OUTCOME 3:

i. Support a concentrated prioritisation approach. In the past, it was insufficiently transparent, vested interests are poised to dominate, and there has been duplication of efforts without proper evaluation. The choices of priority need re-appraisal so as to

ensure that they meet the health need of the citizens. ii. Programme should support health in all policies which are based on evidence and provide a stimulus with which to implement recommendations and policies to improve citizens health, address entrenched health inequalities, which, as an outcome, will ultimately lead to sustainable health systems.

iii. Including an objective better regulation and harmonization of health development policy aimed at simplifying and improving existing regulation in order to enhance the design of new regulations and reinforce rule compliance and effectiveness in line with the needs of the different peoples

Question 2: What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

#### ISSUE 1: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH

i. Current development policy is based on the principle that the good health of a population is a precondition for meeting the basic objectives of prosperity, solidarity and safety. All peoples should have access to universal, quality health care, including preventive healthcare, and healthcare should be patient-centred and based on scientific evidence.

ii. To ensure social cohesion, inequalities in health both between and within countries should be reduced. Because of the multidisciplinary character of health issues, Health Policy has to be well coordinated with other policies, and new partners such as the private sector and civic society must be involved.

iii. Additionally, please refer to comments in Q1 as a contribution to the response to this question.

#### ISSUE 2: CLIMATE CHANGE:

i. Potential adverse effects of climate change on human health include both direct and indirect effects. Direct effects concern impacts on the human organism, for example in consequence of heat waves or extreme weather events.

ii. In particular the elderly and people with a weakened immune system and children are at risk. High pressure weather conditions in the summer can increase ground-level ozone causing mucous membrane irritation and respiratory problems. Indirect effects and risks are caused by environmental changes. These include improved living conditions for vectors of disease pathogens, the possible geographical extension of allergenic plants and animals and influences on food and drinking water.

iii. Besides measures addressing health effects of climate change, attention should be paid to synergies and possible antagonisms between climate change mitigation and air pollution control so as to prevent diseases such as cancer.

iv. Although successful reductions in the levels of several air pollutants were achieved, particulate matter and ozone remain a major environment-related health concern, linked to a loss of life expectancy, acute and chronic respiratory and cardiovascular effects, impaired lung development in children and reduced birth weight.

#### ISSUE 3: GREEN ECONOMY

For a green economy, the following policy options are proposed:

i. Provide additional funds for cross-border collaboration across Member States to improve ambient air quality. Address the synergies, as well as the conflicts, between air quality management and other policy areas such as climate change mitigation.

Establish a coherent policy framework for indoor air policies and support the development of worldwide guidance on indoor air quality.

ii. Adopt a systemic approach to chemicals assessment which, besides addressing and energy use, toxicity and eco-toxicity, should also include material, water a transport, release of emissions as well as waste generation.

iii. Fill knowledge gaps concerning mixture toxicity and the contribution of chemical exposure to the total burden of disease especially cancer.

iv. Involve citizens through education and participation.

v. Improve regulations concerning labelling to provide transparent information for consumers on food and nutrients (nutritional labelling, health claims, clean labelling).

Question 3: What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

In the 'Synthesis report on best practices and lessons learned on the objective and themes' by the Preparatory Committee for March 7th/8th, it stated that 'Political commitment is best measured through legislation Factors such as budgetary allocation, development of institutions and stakeholder participation are strong indicators of political commitment translated into action. Quantitative indicators (such as budgetary allocation and financial support) can be effective.'

i. Stakeholder Involvement: Both because smaller and poorer countries will need to be part of any lasting solution to the global imbalance problem and because corrective action by systemically significant G-20 members will necessarily impose externalities on these states, the G-20 quickly needs to find a credible way of bringing these voices into its deliberations. It could do this either through a constituency based system such as through the use of a bicameral system where the G-20 could be made accountable to a body such as the UN General Assembly.

ii. Civil Society Involvement: At the national level, key strategies for increasing patient empowerment and enabling meaningful patient participation in healthcare and effective self-care. Such empowerment will be an essential element of future healthcare over the next 20 years as health is predicted to shift increasingly towards a home and community environment and towards using eHealth and ICT based solutions for patient- centred chronic disease management.

iii. Implementing Best Practices from Other Member States: New effective preventive strategies are currently available that offer the potential to reduce the morbidity and mortality from this cancer in low- and medium-, as well as high-income countries. Surveillance, including high-quality cancer registries, linked to screening and vaccination registries is essential to track the impact of these prevention strategies and to provide the foundation for advocacy, national policy and global action.

In the Report of the Secretary General, the report stated that 'There is evidence of progress towards convergence between the economic and social pillars, but evidence of convergence between those pillars and the environmental pillar is far more limited and the overall picture is one of divergence; progress to date is also threatened by the series of crises that affected the global economy starting in 2008'.

i. For the policy area "resource efficiency", the following policy options are proposed:

- a. Increase the relevance of resource efficiency, e.g. by proposing a directive on resource efficiency, which could contain quantitative resource efficiency targets and/or provisions for preparing resource efficiency plans.
- b. Provide financing for projects which focus on resource-free ways to satisfy consumer demands, sustainable lifestyles, immaterial services and the efficient use/maintenance of products.
- c. Put more focus on how to cover consumer needs in an immaterial way and on how to provide low-resource consumer services.
- d. Develop the ecosystem services concept further and make use of it when assessing materials, products and processes.

Question 4: What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

#### 1) Focused Measurable Impacts

If spending programmes are to have any measurable impact, they need to be concentrated on selected activities that are identified through strategic planning according to a rigorous set of priorities. The number of priorities should be commensurate with the available budget, as having too many priorities will reduce the chances of achieving impact in any individual area.

If spending programmes are to have any measurable impact, they need to be concentrated on selected activities that are identified through strategic planning according to a rigorous set of priorities. The number of priorities should be commensurate with the available budget, as having too many priorities will reduce the chances of achieving impact in any individual area.

- Developing sharper priorities that are driven by stakeholder expectations and citizens' needs as well as meeting policy goals and high standards of probity; monitoring its activities against not only the aims of each project but also the overall aims of the programme decision;
- Communicating its priorities and actions more crisply to stakeholders, and targeting tailored messages to members of the wider public health community.
- Understanding what is required to deliver this would be facilitated by developing a logic model capable of tracing the precise causal relationships that are anticipated to connect the programme activities to its intended outcomes.'

#### 2) Possible approaches to ensure implementation

i. education of health and finance ministers of countries on the association between healthy populations and GDP growth, on the main health challenges in preventing such good health, and on potential actions within countries, needed to remedy these;

ii. financial incentives by international community,

iii. involving the inactive countries in the design of the call for projects, the call for projects. Their participation will ensure that projects will meet health needs in their country, thus increasing the possibility that local stakeholders will apply for projects;

iv. assisting countries not involved to develop relevant capacity (especially public health capacity) where serious capacity deficiencies are identified; and specifically targeted towards low-GDP countries (for example leadership development in health, or change management courses) could increase the number of participants from low-GDP countries and awareness of the Programme and its activities.

v. organising high-level conferences or technical consultations about Health topics in countries with low participation levels as an instrument to deliver impulses and mobilise country representatives

vi. tackling language barriers which occur in the comprehension of terminology and applying it in the national context;

vii. more involvement of essential stakeholders in countries, e.g. a special initiative to educate and to collaborate with academic institutions and civil society representatives in MS, at which worldwide plans and priorities could be publicised;

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## European Committee of the Regions (CoR)

93rd plenary session

14 - 15 December 2011

DRAFT OPINION

of the  
Committee of the Regions

CONTRIBUTION OF THE EU'S LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES  
TO THE UN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2012 (RIO+20)

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Rapporteur: Ilmar Reepalu (SE/PES)  
Member of Malmö Municipal Council

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Reference document

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Rio+20: Towards the green economy and better governance COM(2011) 363 final

I. POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

## THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

### A. General remarks

1. welcomes the decision of the UN General Assembly to convene a United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at the highest possible level in June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro (UNCSD or "Rio+20" Summit), with the objective of securing renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major previous summits on sustainable development, and addressing new and emerging challenges. It will do so in the context of two specific themes: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development;

2. calls on all those involved in the Rio +20 conference and its follow-up to ensure the success of the conference and achieve real progress for sustainable development;

3. has emphasised on different occasions the importance of measures and changes to support and develop the work on sustainable development. The CoR is of the opinion that all players – global, within the European Union as well as national, subnational and local governments – have a shared responsibility in creating a sustainable society that is responsive to the natural resources available. The CoR's members, cities and regions, have an important role to play in this and are to a large extent the driving forces in the work devoted to bringing about sustainable development, not least due to their proximity to EU citizens;

4. therefore calls for explicit reference to and empowerment of subnational governments and local authorities<sup>1</sup> in all Rio+20 deliberations. Subnational governments and local authorities need to be actively involved in both in the preparation of, during the Summit and in its follow-up and implementation. Member States are encouraged to establish forums with subnational governments and local authorities for preparing for Rio+20;

5. calls upon the European Council and the European Commission to work out a clear and unified EU position for the UN conference and ensure that the political agreements reached in Rio de Janeiro will also lead to concrete action; declares, in this connection that public involvement, competence and power on a local and regional level is a basic precondition for a sustainable society. In order to support this, the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality must be respected and developed between all layers of governance, from the global via the European Union's planning and decision-making process to the national and sub-national levels. Subnational governments and local authorities must be recognised fully adequate partners in the efforts for a sustainable development, both when preparing for the UN conference and when implementing its results;

6. calls for explicit recognition by the Rio+20 Summit of urbanisation as one key emerging challenge the world needs to address. Urbanisation is of particular relevance to subnational governments and local authorities, as they are at the forefront of dealing with the challenges and opportunities it poses. Since the beginning of this century the majority of the world's 6 billion people live in cities. World population may rise from the current 6 to 9 billion people by 2050 and some scenarios predict that 60 per cent of this population will live in cities by 2030. This trend is especially apparent in developing countries or countries in rapid transition. Sustainable urban development requires a holistic and integrated approach to managing economic, environmental and socio-cultural dimensions of development within a spatial and physical framework. The CoR recommends stronger efforts to develop and support sustainable urban development;

7. emphasises that 'sustainable development' is based on social, environmental and economic factors being in harmony and that combating poverty and social exclusion must be just as much a key concern of the Rio+20 conference as conserving resources, combating climate change and other goals of environmental policy;

8. would like to see greater efforts to produce, evaluate, present and disseminate good examples of sustainable urban development. There is a substantial demand for the exchange of experience and a transfer of knowledge, concerning both institutional factors and a holistic and integrated system approach in the planning and decision-making processes. Good urban governance, spatial planning, systems for land management, legislation and policies, financing, public and private cooperation, public participation, education, training and information are all areas in which there is a significant need for the exchange of experience and transfer of knowledge between cities and regions on a global scale;

9. wishes to emphasise how important it is to focus on and develop the connections and the interaction between cities and their surroundings. A growing population in cities results in heavy demands on production and supply of goods, for example foodstuffs, as well as the accompanying management of waste products and refuse. A concrete example of the need for greater cooperation between cities and their surroundings is the management of biological waste, where functioning systems are needed for the return of plant nutrients to agricultural land in order for the biological ecocycle to work within a closed loop;

10. believes that education, training and dissemination of information are of crucial importance to increase public awareness. The development of learning programmes is especially important for the transition that is needed, including not only technical knowledge on specific aspects, but also on a holistic and integrated system approach;

11. wishes to point out that many of the challenges and concrete measures facing the international community in its work on creating sustainable development cannot solely be solved by new technology and increased financial investment. Measures are also needed to build knowledge in order to adapt and change people's behaviour, consumption patterns, etc.;

12. stresses that both traditional and social media are particularly important in this regard. Measures should be taken to support the development of these media as tools for exchanging information, mobilising people, linking up initiatives and creating critical public groups, thus promoting a sustainable society;

13. underlines that one of the tools used in the efforts to achieve a sustainable society is the town twinning. Many twinning projects are already in place or are being established on local and regional level. A number of players are involved in this processes on both a national scale, within the European Union and internationally. Twinning is an especially effective tool when it has tangible content, aims to be sustainable and involves national governments and local authorities in a north – south perspective. The CoR believes that further efforts are required, to coordinate existing efforts and to improve the evaluation and dissemination of experience;

### B. Enabling the transition to a green economy

14. wishes to point out that sustainable development with the three dimensions economy, ecology and social constitutes the basis for growth, more job opportunities, a green economy, greater prosperity and a cleaner and healthier environment; 15. notes that the current economic system is outstripping the planet's capacities when it comes to the sustainable use of resources and that, increasingly, the European Union is becoming an importer of fossil fuels and raw materials. So me of these are of strategic importance for the present and future of the EU but may run short in future decades. This makes an economic shift towards a mode of development that is more sustainable and more responsive to these resources imperative;

16. expressly stresses that the transition to a more sustainable pattern of development does not only represent a problem but, on the contrary, offers a whole series of opportunities particularly when environmental improvement and the generation of economic and social value added are considered in terms of potential synergy. The opportunities must be made use of through appropriate measures in the fields of economic policy, education and social change;

17. concludes that under the current financial conditions in the European Union and internationally, efforts should be made to achieve a sustainable economy and create sustainable employment conditions;

18. recommends that the Rio+20 Summit delivers a new alternative model to measure growth and welfare beyond GDP. This is necessary in order to re-orient the debates on policies and achieve fundamental change in the way 'progress' is understood. Indicators are needed that take into account climate change, biodiversity, resource efficiency and social inclusion;

19. is convinced that the EU in particular can play an important role at the UN conference if it can go there itself with a good example: its bargaining position would be strengthened if it set itself ambitious goals on the road towards a 'green economy', for example in the areas covered by the Europe 2020 Strategy Flagship Initiative "A resource-efficient Europe";

20. supports the proposal of the European Commission that the Rio+20 Summit should adopt a green economy roadmap that sets targets and appropriate indicators, formulates both direct international action and a clear framework for global, EU level, national and local initiatives, and includes as well as a timeline for their implementation;

21. believes that the roadmap should include a specific section on Green Local Economy, which recognises the key role played by subnational governments and local authorities in the transition to a green economy. This section should in particular address the major challenges of urbanisation and green urban economy, promote an international Covenant of Mayors and Regions, and support decentralised cooperation for development by subnational governments and local authorities;

22. requests that the many successful cases of subnational governments and local governments promoting a green economy should be included in the Rio+20 green economy toolbox that is proposed by the European Commission;

23. recalls the important role and many activities of the local and regional tiers in the area of development aid and decentralised cooperation in close cooperation between the CoR, its members and the EU Commission, such as the CoR's "Atlas", the web portal and the so-called "Assises of decentralised cooperation";

24. would like to see measures on a global level to support the development of an environmentdriven business sector, which could be brought about by:

- supporting the development of green technology and green solutions, among other ways through increased investments in R&D, including investment that, by applying the ecosystem service approach, aims to contribute towards protecting biodiversity and (re)developing ecosystems while simultaneously generating new economic opportunities,
- implementing measures to facilitate the export and import of green products and services on a global level and promoting smart work,
- imposing environmental, climate and ethical demands in connection with public
- encouraging the development of industrial ecology and the circular economy (from cradle to cradle), which aims to close production and consumption cycles, thus placing the materials necessary for these processes within a closed loop, in order to minimise the extraction of natural non-renewable resources,
- developing and implementing methods for functional procurement,
- coordinating and developing models for the environmental certification of goods and services produced by companies by means of comparative life-cycle analyses for goods and services, etc.,
- coordinating and developing models for environmental management systems for companies and organisations, by means of environmental accounting for instance, and
- producing new models for the financing of green solutions and green companies;

25. reiterates that one of the key challenges today is to radically reduce our climate impact, both at global and local level, while at the same time securing energy supplies and ensuring prosperity. Municipalities and regions have major roles in this process. Cities and regions in the European Union are assuming responsibility for a broad range of initiatives aimed at reducing climate impact, securing energy supplies and adapting to climate changes. The Cancun agreements, adopted in December 2010, recognise local governments as governmental stakeholders and open access to international financing mechanisms for cities. Subnational and local governments need to be actively involved in national climate action plans and expect access to financial support;

26. emphasises that measures must be taken to protect, secure and redevelop key resources, materials and natural capital. In particular, the CoR would like the Rio+20 Summit to place a special focus on water. Access to water is a rapidly growing problem and a major challenge, especially for big cities. The CoR therefore supports the establishment of an international partnership on water to tackle this problem and refers in this connection to its recommendations on the role of local and regional authorities in promoting sustainable water management (Opinion CdR 5/2011 fin);

27. emphasises the need to improve the governance and the protection of the marine environment and oceans and consider that it becomes one of the key pillars of the Rio Framework, aside climate and biodiversity;

28. highlights the European Commission's comment that "the sustainable use of land and agriculture will be a cornerstone of the green economy", and therefore takes the view that sustainable urban development and spatial planning mean minimising the extent to which productive agricultural land is built on in such a way that it cannot be used for farming in the future;

29. believes that to enable the transition to a global green economy, large-scale financial resources have to be mobilised. Taxation and pricing should better reflect environmental costs and benefits. The CoR reiterates its calls for mainstreaming the polluter pays principle for a series of specific and tightly scheduled steps for eliminating all environmentally harmful subsidies by 2020. This would free up extra funds for other activities. In addition, reduction targets and efficiency standards like those which have been developed in the EU for a range of products and processes should be applied at international level;

#### C. The institutional framework – towards better governance

31. recommends a transformation of the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) into a World Environment Organisation (WEO). Transforming UNEP into a UN Specialised Agency would create a global multilateral environmental organisation, as the most promising way forward to improve international environmental governance. It should have a revised and strengthened mandate and operate on an equal footing with other UN specialised agencies. Moreover, it should include an implementation arm, decentralised at regional or national level, and aimed at providing countries, subnational governments and local authorities with more direct support on effective implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements, such as on climate change or biodiversity;

32. also recommends the creation of a Sustainable Development Council (SDC) instead of the existing Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD). The aim of this proposal is to achieve better governance, a common view and coordination in the work on sustainable development on all levels;

33. supports the development of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in particular those with a long-term perspective, following the example of the Millennium Development Goals. A broad political commitment based on common goals should be then broken down into a set of specific and concrete targets and ways of measuring them;

34. insists that the Rio+20 Summit recognises that governance needs to include all government levels, from the local and the subnational, via the national and regional, to the global. Rio+20 should subscribe to a consequent multilevel governance approach, based on interaction, synergy and complementarities between all governance levels;

35. draws attention to the fact that within the Rio Conventions, subnational governments and local authorities have recently been given increased recognition of their special status as governmental institutions, including for example their recognition as "governmental stakeholders" in the Cancun Agreement, and Decision X/22 of COP 10 CBD



"Plan of Action for Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities". The CoR was an active supporter of these developments;

36. requests that subnational governments and local authorities need to have a place in the institutional framework for sustainable development alongside national governments and UN entities. The CoR deplores that in the current international governance architecture, despite their specific role in governance, their representation at UN bodies is often putting them on the same level as civil society and business as other major groups;

37. suggests in this regard that the Rio+20 Summit mandates UNEP (or the future World Environment Organisation), or the Sustainable Development Council (SDS) to create a standing committee for subnational and local governments as a new structure that adequately reflects multilevel governance and offers a permanent mechanism of consultation of and cooperation with subnational governments and local authorities across the world. The Committee of the Regions could serve as a model in this respect;

38. recognises that responsibilities and roles of the subnational and local levels differs widely, both within the European Union and globally and local and regional self-governance is constantly developing. It is therefore necessary to bear these differences in mind when trying to involve local and regional governments as closely as possible in the processes of developing sustainable societies;

39. wishes to stress the importance of common views and coordination to be developed in the work for sustainable development on a global level. In this process, cities and regions are principal players. An important platform for coordination and exchanging experience is the Covenant of Mayors;

40. stresses that the emphasis of the European Commission on the private sector should not divert attention from the need for the Rio+20 Summit, the EU and Member States to promote sustainable development governance at the level of subnational and local public authorities, including the empowerment of citizens;

41. wishes to emphasise the importance of making citizens the focal point in working towards a sustainable society. Therefore the goals and measures of this process need to be adapted to different regional and local situations. The dialogue concerning both physical and financial measures as well as changes in consumption and behaviour must be based on the existing conditions at regional and local levels. Action is required to support the direct participation of citizens in working for a sustainable society, such as

- developing consultative processes and creating meeting places for dialogue and the exchange of experience,
- supporting regional and local development projects, both nationally and internationally, and
- raising the level of knowledge and insight concerning the need for joint efforts to achieve a sustainable society;

42. would like to see the Rio+20 Summit to support the promotion of environmental democracy globally. This could be done by the Aarhus Parties reiterating at Rio+20 their willingness to open the Convention to the whole world, but also in other ways – for example by supporting the introduction of other regional conventions like the Aarhus one, or initiating negotiations on a global Convention on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration;

43. would like to see a development and revival of the Agenda 21 work. Rio+20 should define the future governance frameworks necessary to further develop Local Agenda 21 in this respect. The local Agenda 21, which was initiated after the Rio Summit in 1992, is a good example of a grass-roots process that has produced good and lasting results in the form of both concrete measures and greater insight into, and increased involvement in, sustainability issues among society's players. The insight and participation of citizens is the basis of the local Agenda 21. In many cases local Agenda 21 work has lead to new green jobs;

44. would like to see in particular better knowledge support to the regional and local levels. In order for the work for a sustainable society to be effective, all players need an accessible planning and decision-making basis. This is also important in connection with follow-up, evaluation and feed-back of the results and experience gained in the work for a sustainable society;

45. expects that the Commission in its continued work in preparation for the Rio+20 Summit will develop and strengthen the dialogue with the CoR and its members. The CoR hopes that the EU delegation to the Rio+20 Summit will include an appropriate number of delegates from the CoR.

## II. PROCEDURE

Title	Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Rio+20: Towards the green economy and better governance
Reference(s)	COM(2011) 363 final
Legal basis	Optional referral, Art. 307(1)
Procedural basis	
Date of Commission letter	20 June 2011
President's decision	11 July 2011
Commission responsible	Commission for the Environment, Climate Change and Energy (ENVE)
Rapporteur	Rapporteur: Ilmar Reepalu (SE/PES) Member of Malmo Municipal Council
Analysis	26 August 2011
Discussed in Commission	October 2011
Date adopted by Commission	October 2011
Result of voting in the Commission	Unanimously
Date adopted in plenary	scheduled for 14 and 15 December 2011
Previous Committee opinions	Draft Opinion on "A resource-efficient Europe - Flagship initiative under the Europe 2020 Strategy", CdR 140/2011 rev. 1 Opinion on "EU development policy in support of inclusive growth and sustainable development - Increasing the impact of EU development policy", CdR 408/2010 fin3 Opinion on International climate policy post-Copenhagen, CdR 245/2010 fin Opinion on "Measuring progress: GDP and beyond", CdR 163/2010 fin Opinion on EU and international biodiversity policy beyond 2010, COM(2010) 4 final - CdR 112/2010 fin6 Opinion on "Local Authorities: Actors for Development", CdR 312/2008 fin

Outlook Opinion on The Contribution of Local and Regional Authorities to the European Union's Sustainable Development Strategy, CdR 85/2007 fin
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Opinion on "Ten years after Rio: Preparing for the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002"; CdR 37/2001 fin
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## European Environmental Bureau (EEB)

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (RIO+20)

Rio de Janeiro, June 2012

Submission by the European Environmental Bureau to the 'zero draft' of the outcome document

### Introduction

The European Environmental Bureau (EEB) is the largest federation of environmental organizations in Europe. It comprises more than 140 environmental groups from almost 30 countries in Europe with a combined membership of some 15 million environmentally concerned citizens. The EEB seeks to promote sustainable development, participatory democracy and environmental justice.

The Rio+20 Conference provides a crucial opportunity to renew the global commitment to sustainable development at a time when many governments are deeply preoccupied with the tackling economic problems.

A starting point for any negotiation at UNCSD should be that much has already been achieved internationally in terms of agreed targets and plans, but that just as much remains in terms of implementation. For example, the Rio Conventions on climate, biodiversity and desertification, as well as Agenda 21 and the outcome of various UN summits on e.g. social development (Copenhagen 1995), women (Beijing, 1995), and financing for development (Monterrey, 2002), all include proposals for sustainable development that are more or less just as valid today as when agreed. For Rio+20 to be successful, improved implementation should be a focal point for deliberations and agreements and in particular developed countries should commit to strengthened implementation and support. UNCSD should reaffirm already agreed principles, such as those in the 1992 Rio Declaration, but even more so, agree on how to realise what has been agreed. In doing so, the greening of the economy, new institutions and treaties should be put at the forefront of any outcome.

### Green economy

The Rio Conference should adopt an approach to greening the economy based on full respect for ecological constraints. Developed nations and emerging economies in particular should commit to adapting their societies so as to live within those constraints so as to allow the less developed nations the possibility to realise their legitimate aspirations to developing their societies.

We generally support UNEP's definition of a green economy as one that "results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities" and consider it key to underline reduction of problems to within planetary boundaries without neglecting or sidelining poverty eradication and equity.

The green economy should not be regarded as a green part of the total economy. Rather entire economies need to be 'greened'. The natural environment provides the basis for all life and thus for all economic and social activity. It is therefore dangerous to regard the environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainable development as more or less equal 'pillars' between which compromises must be struck. All three aspects are important and furthermore interrelated but without fulfilling certain environmental goals, namely those related to staying within planetary boundaries and avoiding the triggering of ecological tipping points, it will be impossible to reach other important goals in the social and economic pillars. The economy should rightly be seen as a circle within the social circle, in its turn within the ecological circle.

A truly green economy implies the use of new ways of measuring success in economic development in which the quality of life and related parameters, rather than GDP, play the dominant role.

Advances in science mean that sustainability can increasingly be quantified. We begin to be able to assess the quantity of resources that can be taken from the environment, and the quantity of outputs (emissions, wastes etc) that can be absorbed by the environment, on an indefinite and ongoing basis. With this knowledge, and with an ethical framework based on the principles of sustainability and equity, we are able to develop the concept of each person's entitlement in principle to consume and to emit those resources for which there is a planetary limit. This concept should, as a starting point, guide our understanding of sustainable development and the green economy. It implies that in the developed world we do not only need to promote resource efficiency, but also to achieve absolute and in some cases substantial reductions in our use of scarce resources. The notion that the green economy is one in which we accelerate our way beyond ecological constraints through innovation is attractive but not necessarily entirely valid, even though we do not exclude such win-win outcomes from innovation.

The science of sustainability also requires us to address the issue of projected population levels and to promote policies with a view to ensuring that eventually, in order to ensure a better quality of life for future generations and with full respect for human rights, human population levels do not exceed the carrying capacity of the Earth.

Most governments strive for economic growth while at the same time professing to believe in the concept of sustainable development. However, the assumption that economic growth can be sustained at the same time as the human population moves to living within ecological constraints and poverty is eradicated seems to be based on ideology or wishful thinking rather than on science. It is true that the wise application of increased wealth can result in the reduction of ecologically destructive impacts. However, empirical evidence suggests that this rarely happens, at least not automatically, and that periods of economic growth are often accompanied (for example) by increased consumption of resources and increases in polluting emissions. This is not to argue against economic growth per se (indeed, the alleviation of poverty, which is a key priority, often depends on economic growth), but rather to argue that the kind of growth that has occurred in the developed world to date is not compatible with living within environmental limits and therefore not with sustainable development. On the other hand, the transition to sustainable development might result in increased economic growth, but if so growth is neither the desirable objective nor the means for accomplishing such a change, merely an outcome of less value than other welfare-related parameters. The important thing is not whether the economy grows or not, but rather that economic incentives and institutions develop in a way that promotes transition to sustainable development.

Many instruments already exist which contribute to greening economies, though in many cases these are not sufficiently robust and need to be strengthened. Experience shows that legally binding approaches tend to be more effective than voluntary approaches. Despite this, pressure from commercial interests has led to deregulation or has prevented the introduction of further regulation where there is a demonstrable need for it. Apart from having negative consequences for the environment, this tendency tends to penalise the progressive parts of industry. The right kind of regulation can provide confidence for green investment and stimulate the creation of green jobs.

The EEB regards two broad strategies as central to greening the economy, in particular in developed countries, namely phasing out environmentally hazardous subsidies and imposing internalising environmental taxes, preferably within the framework of a green tax reform which could amount to some ten percent of developed nations' tax base within a decade.

Considering primarily developing nations, nearly a billion people in the world are starving and about 1.4 billion are living without access to electricity. The green economy must provide measures to guarantee food security, the right to clean water and access to electricity without jeopardizing the planetary boundaries. It is urgently needed to reform agricultural policies, stimulating a development away from resource intensive, in some cases heavily subsidised, agriculture, while facilitating sustainable agricultural and agro-ecological practices. The world's many smallholder farmers need access to appropriate resources and fair markets.

In many parts of the world, energy consumption must decrease (definitely that based on fossil and nuclear fuels) and there is a great potential for energy savings and for improved efficiency due to technological innovation. A green economy must grasp these opportunities and set signals securing definite energy reductions, while supporting the poor parts of the world with more electricity. It is very unlikely that poverty will be combated successfully without proper access to electricity for poor people. Access to clean energy for all will require large amounts of financial transfers in the form of grants.

Taking into account the effectiveness of legally binding measures, the Rio+20 Conference should result in commitments to the development of a number of legally binding instruments:

- At national level, mechanisms such as environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment have proven to be valuable in ensuring that environmental factors are taken into account in the process of development. The Conference should launch negotiations towards an international treaty on environmental assessment, embracing decision-making at both the strategic and project levels.
- The emergence of new technologies posing new threats to health and environment justifies the introduction of a new treaty on technology assessment, based on the precautionary principle.
- An agreement to phase out environmentally hazardous – in particular fossil and nuclear fuel – subsidies is needed.
- An agreement on setting up environmentally effective and socially friendly fiscal incentives, in particular in terms of environmental taxes should be introduced.
- An agreement on mobilising and operationalising a wide-range of innovative sources of finance for eco-social development is also needed.

#### Institutional framework for sustainable development

The institutional framework for sustainable development needs to be strengthened at all levels: international, regional, national and local.

At international level, the status of UNEP should be upgraded to that of an international organization equivalent to, for example, the International Labour Organization or the World Health Organization. The mandate of the UN Economic and Social Committee should be revised to reflect the overarching goal of sustainable development. The international financial institutions should be obliged to report to it on their activities. International environmental treaties should in general be made superior to e.g. trade treaties.

Multilateral financing bodies, such as the World Bank, as well as international trade law, investment policies and bilateral investment treaties, should be reshaped to make trade and investments work for sustainable development, including human rights, social equity and protection of natural resources.

To implement the possible Rio +20 outcomes, sufficient finance, technology and related capacity building will be needed. The principle of common but differentiated responsibilities should be acknowledged and for many developing countries support from other countries is a prerequisite. To cover the financial need, there is a need to develop and operationalise new innovative financial mechanisms.

The Rio+20 Conference should be used to strengthen the legal framework for sustainable development at the international level with respect to a number of specific areas, including the seas and oceans and the field of chemicals:

- Even seas that are within national jurisdictions do not enjoy adequate legal protection, but the situation is much worse with respect to the high seas and oceans beyond national jurisdiction, where no appropriate legal framework has ever been designed to guarantee their protection from human activities. In 1992, heads of state and governments put high on the agenda two crucial environmental global challenges: climate and biodiversity. 20 years after the Earth Summit, a new deal for the seas and the oceans should be sealed. Such a treaty could regulate access to marine genetic resources.
- A new international treaty on chemicals built on, in particular, the Strategic Approach to Integrated Chemicals Management (SAICM), Agenda 21 (chapter 21), and the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions, needs to be established. Such a treaty should establish a clear phase out objective for all hazardous substances, in particular substances of very high concern (SVHC). Furthermore, an automatic export and import ban for all SVHC identified is needed. A differentiated timeline for developing countries may be established if necessary on these points. However, mandatory obligations for all countries are needed to share the chemicals data with third countries. Moreover, any new agreement should recognise and meet the challenges following from exposure to cocktails of chemicals and should place vulnerable groups, not least children, in the focus and design protective measures for such groups. One function of strengthened global environment institutions could be to establish a UN-based International Chemicals Inspection Agency, to facilitate and implement any global chemicals regulation. Green chemistry should be an integral part in the discussions on transforming the world economic system into a "green economy".
- We call for the establishment of an intergovernmental negotiating committee to create a framework convention on corporate environmental and social responsibility (CSR) for the accountability of corporate investments for all companies listed on stock exchanges worldwide and take into account the ISO 26000 standard on corporate accountability.

At national and sub-national levels, sustainable development governance is enhanced by national councils for sustainable development. The Rio+20 Conference should promote the establishment of such councils where they do not exist. Where they do exist, they should be adequately resourced and should be afforded sufficient status to ensure that they have a meaningful influence on government policy. The Conference should also promote the institution of ombudsperson for sustainable development. This is a valuable model which should be applied more widely.

The Rio +20 Conference should also agree on an ambitious work program to operationalise additional innovative sources of finance needed to meet the financing requirements for sustainable development.

#### Engaging and empowering civil society

One issue that is linked to both of the major themes of the Conference, namely the green economy and the institutional framework for sustainable development, is the key role

that civil society can and must play in promoting sustainable development. A true greening of the economy cannot take place without the basic mechanisms for democratic governance being in place. Similarly, an institutional framework that supports sustainable development must be transparent and allow for participation of the public through democratic governance structures.

This principle is widely recognised and received global endorsement in 1992 with the adoption of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. However, more than 19 years since the adoption of Principle 10, its implementation remains uneven at best. The most significant progress has been made in Europe and Central Asia where 44 States are Parties to the Aarhus Convention. The adoption in 2010 of guidelines on Principle 10 under the auspices of UNEP was also an important step forward, despite their non-binding nature.

Governance needs to be made more transparent and participatory at all levels. At national and sub-national levels, this should be achieved by development of a global treaty on environmental democracy guaranteeing public rights to information, participation and justice, building on the 2010 UNEP Guidelines and drawing on the example of the Aarhus Convention.

As regards civil society participation in international processes, this should be strengthened through the development and adoption of a set of global guidelines establishing recommending minimum standards for civil society participation in international decision-making processes related to sustainable development. Such guidelines could draw on relevant instruments such as the Almaty Guidelines adopted under the Aarhus Convention.

The Rio+20 Conference should launch negotiating processes for both of these instruments, with a view to their adoption by 2016.

In addition, the Conference should encouraged interested States to accede to the Aarhus Convention or to develop similar regional conventions.

1 November 2011

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## European Population Alliance

Population Growth: the Neglected 'Green' Issue

A Text for Rio+20

"Population stabilization should be a priority for sustainable development": Kofi Annan, former UN Secretary-General. (Key Recommendation of GHF 2009).

"Either we reduce our numbers voluntarily, or nature will do it for us brutally": Maurice Strong, Secretary-General first Earth Summit, Rio, 1992.

"It's no use reducing your footprint if you keep increasing the number of feet": popular saying.

### 1. Population Growth as a Multiplier of all Other Environmental Problems:

Each additional person: needs more food, water, energy, land, timber and minerals; and produces more waste, CO<sub>2</sub> and pollution; the rich consuming and polluting more than the poor. Thus rising populations: increase soil exhaustion, erosion, desertification, habitat destruction, deforestation, aquifer depletion, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, sea level rise, climate change and chemical pollution; and reduce the finite and dwindling natural resources available per person, increasing long term poverty. Thus all environmental, and most economic problems become harder, and ultimately impossible, to solve with ever more people. Population stabilisation is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for sustainability.

### 2. The 'Sustainable Development Goal':

Impact (on the environment) = Population x Affluence (resource consumption) x Technology – the 'IPAT' function. Thus long-term biophysical sustainability requires: improved technology, giving greater resource efficiency; and reduced resource-consumption by the rich; and stable or reducing populations. Smaller populations can sustainably consume more resources per person than larger ones, while remaining within the biophysical limits of a finite planet; and indefinite growth being physically impossible, it is certain that population growth will end in any case at some point. This can only happen: either (preferably) sooner by fewer births; or later by more deaths, overwhelming any attempt at a 'Green Economy'.

### 3. Population Growth as a Variable, not a 'Given':

As the global population passes 7 billion in 2011, its growth (at 80 million per year, 10,000 per hour) is clearly a driver of all thenew and emerging challenges. The UN nowproject the population for 2050 between 8.1 and 10.6 billion – a range of 2.5 billion, or the Earth's entire population in 1950. Clearly sustainable prosperity will be far easier to achieve, the nearer to 8.1 bn the population stabilizes. This will need priority, and resources: in developing countries for non-coercive family planning and women's education and empowerment programmes; in developed countries for public information programmes/incentives, aiming to balance reproductive rights with social and environmental responsibilities to current and future generations.

### 4. Resources for Family Planning:

There are currently 215 million women (and rising) with an unmet need for family planning (FP). Total world aid for FP is only 10% of the Goldman Sachs bonus pot – a derisory figure. EU aid for FP is 0.4% of total EU aid. Priority for FP is low, partly because the 'population' problem has in recent years been marginalised as one largely of sexual and reproductive health and women's rights; whereas in reality it affects the long-term prospects of success for all programmesacross all Departments. Some 40% of all pregnancies world-wide remain unintended. The cost of meeting the unmet need for FP, some \$6.7 bn per year, is less than Americans spend on Halloween.

### 5. Action at Rio+20 - a draft Text:

Ignoring the population multiplier guarantees ultimate failure for all sustainable development initiatives, since ever-rising populations will overwhelm any development gains. To address this, the following draft text for Rio is proposed:

[The Conference]

Recognises: that all population growth, especially in developed countries, increases impacts on the environment, and reduces the natural resources available per person; that population stabilization in all countries is therefore a necessary condition of biophysical sustainability; that prospects for sustainable development will thus improve, the sooner population can be stabilized within ecologically sustainable limits; and that this can best be achieved by non-coercive population stabilization/reduction policies in all countries, comprising the provision of family planning and women's education and empowerment programmes to meet all unmet need for contraception, and the promotion of a cultural shift in favour of smaller families;

Calls on:

- All Governments to give priority to the introduction, promotion and resourcing of such programmes;
- All Governments to implement a programme of assessment and evaluation, both of their resources relevant to the well-being of their people, and of the impact of population growth on it;
- Donor countries to give priority to support of these programmes.

Population Matters (UK)

[www.populationmatters.org](http://www.populationmatters.org)

On behalf of the European Population Alliance: Demographie Responsable (France); Herbert Gruhl Society (Germany); BOCS (Hungary); Associazione Radicale Rientro dolce (Italy); ECOPOP (Switzerland).

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## European Students' Forum (AEGEE)

European Students' Forum

Contribution to the Outcome Document

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012

November 1, 2011

Focus and scope of the input to the Outcome Document

AEGEE - Europe focuses its input on the shaping of a green economy and sustainable lifestyles. This document deals with a set of practical actions judged as required for a timely transition to a sustainable future for the planet Earth and its future generations. A variety of actors are involved in this process. These actors interact in a network structure. Below both actions and structure are treated and a number of interventions are recommended.

Networked Institutions: inter-disciplinary, inter-ministerial, and inclusive decision-making

Several inputs to the Outcome Document have asked for a better focus other than the 'Institutional framework' for sustainable development, which is argued to be overly general or unclear. We propose to focus on the decision-making tools and approach used within and across the institutional spheres of government, industry, university, and civil society. Regardless of the different institutional functions they have, there are common grounds for reforming their decision-making. This has implications in terms of network structure within and across these institutions.

The process of deciding on future actions shall encompass the three pillars of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental sustainability. Accordingly, the indicators used to support decision-making need to include these three dimensions. For instance, 'Green Public Procurement' is developing new indicators to include environmental sustainability in the public procurement processes. These types of integrated measurements shall be diffused to other institutions and settings. Any organization specializing in such activities has a profitable advantage to exploit. Yet, in order for these measurement and practices to be widely diffused, the networks across different institutional spheres should be increasingly integrated in order to share practices and knowledge on the development and use of such indicators.

Decision-making shall become increasingly networked. Collaboration and integration of knowledge perspectives are key to a knowledge-based world. This is because no single actors may have full access to necessary knowledge and resources for decision-making and implementation of programmes and actions. The three pillars of sustainable development are inherently different from a knowledge and socio-cultural perspective. These perspectives need to be integrated. Therefore decision apparatuses shall become more horizontal, inter-disciplinary, inter-ministerial, and inclusive of multiple stakeholders.

How to enable these decisions on structural changes? Network analyses of decision-making relations should be increasingly adopted to foster more agile structures where information flows and decisions are taken more efficiently. This is all about surveying and visualizing networks within and across different institutions, so that interventions to increase the agility of these networks can be implemented. Network science and analytic tools are readily accessible and well developed for practical use.

Connecting the disconnect between Youth Organizations and Companies

"Youth will be one of my topmost priority in my second term as Secretary General for the next five years" (UN Secretary General, 2011).

More than 50% of the world's population is constituted by young people under the age of 30. This includes the current and future youth. More than a quarter of the world's population is aged 10 to 24 and accounts for 1.8 billion people (UNFPA 2011). Most of this young population is concentrated in developing countries.

Policy-makers and civil society argue, to a different extent, that youth shall be the "latest engine" of a green economy and active citizenship. Yet, young people at large currently play a marginal role in the building of a green economy.

Youth are daily users of a range of products and services in developed as well as developing countries accounting for a large share of the so-called "bottom of the pyramid". The user role co-evolves with lifestyles which are one of the key drivers of current societies and economies. A green economy shall be built upon green lifestyles co-mingling with new patterns of product design and use. Young people are carriers of new lifestyles. They are able to think out of the box. They can be a source of innovation for establishing greener lifestyles and impulsing the transition to a green economy.

The user experience, flexibility and creativity of young people may turn out to be a widely accessible resource to capitalize on. Youth organizations are increasingly interconnected worldwide and often tied to universities and public organizations locally. To different extents, they are also naturally connected with other organizations within the civil society. Yet, there is still a key disconnect between youth organizations and producers.

Youth organizations may collaborate with companies adhering to the UN Global Compact and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development in order to identify new ways of using or adapting their products and services, and green needs these companies could satisfy. Networks of collaborations need to be established and backed with institutional support at the international, national and local level in order to provide legitimacy to their activities. The overall outcome is the collaborative shaping of new patterns of production and use, and the education of future generations to establish a greener society and economy.

Training and incubation of social entrepreneurship and youth-led sustainable development are increasingly available within youth organizations and other civil society. Some initiatives are also backed with the support of companies which recognize the potential of youth and their ideas. These trends need to be recognized and increasingly supported by International Organizations within the UN system and beyond. This institutionalization may generate further public and private funding of such kind of activities, and a higher connectivity among youth organizations and companies. Overall, the above considerations show a potential to be unleashed: the link between innovation and youth employment in the shaping of green economy and lifestyles.

#### Economic and tax-based incentives

A system of economic and taxation-based incentives shall be created to support the transition to a green economy. This system is to be linked to both production and consumption patterns. Its first aim is to foster greater adoption of clean technologies, products, and services by making them more economically convenient vis-à-vis competing ones. Its second aim is to foster cleaner production by making 'environmental dumping' and carbon emissions expensive. The system could use an adaptive system that adjusts the levels of taxes and incentives by covering most of the budget required for the incentives via the environmental tax revenues.

This system would be highly beneficial on the market, as it would make environmental friendly products spread more easily among consumers. A deregulated market can only play a limited role in supporting the green economic revolution, if not adequately supported by an innovative fiscal system: even in the most advanced societies, early adopters account for a limited market share, and significant effects on the environment can be achieved only when the masses adopt the innovative and more environmental friendly solutions. The system would also have a beneficial effect on the production system, as it would cause a race among companies to continue technological innovation, to raise occupation in R&D and to increase efficiency and environmental compatibility of products, thus not waiting for the market to adjust to the available supply, but continuously driving innovation in a virtuous cycle.

Certainly these measures are difficult to be set up. This is due to the tensions between environmentally-friendly incentives and free economic competition both on the consumption and production sides. These tensions are linked upstream to international trade and Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) flows and need to be fixed. This will result in increasing case-based law feeding the transition to green regulatory settings at the local, national and international levels. It is necessary for WTO law to move forward from the status quo.

#### Carbon tax

A carbon tax would be part of the needed policies, to implement worldwide, to readjust the panel of energy resources, and to internalize the environmental effects of production cycles. This becomes even more urgent given the on-going degradation of environmental conditions, and the need to act quickly on the market to rebalance the panel of resources used in energy production and other production cycles. Besides, a carbon tax, together with the system of incentives described above, would reduce the consumption of new materials, and support an efficient system of reuse and recycling, reducing the need for landfills and the contamination of adjacent land and water resources.

#### Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions

It is necessary to define the imposed reductions in Greenhouse Gas Emissions and to respect such a plan. A plan for reducing greenhouse gas emissions should be architected, including a timeline with intermediate steps and a system of enforcement that are applied to countries that do not comply with this regulation.

#### Energy efficiency

A strategically important field includes the definition of standards for energy efficiency. It is necessary to define a system of legally-binding standards for energy efficiency in all fields: energy production and consumption, production cycles, heating and air conditioning, consumers' appliances, insulation of buildings, transportation, etc. Technologies that do not comply with the energy efficiency standards should be banned from the market. Energy efficiency standard should be revised no later than every 3 years to define the following steps and deadlines.

#### Sustainable transportation

Transportation on average accounts for one third of energy consumption and pollutant emissions worldwide, and is responsible for severe health damages to the world's population. We ask to the current leaders a strong commitment to reorganize the transportation sector, and set up the basis for the long term investments that will ensure rebalancing the mode share for short and long distance travel, reducing the prevalence of private vehicles and other polluting means of transportation. To do this, we ask a strong commitment to give priority and to support the development of public transportation systems and reduce accessibility to destinations by cars. A possible way of financing the required investments in this sector would be the introduction of an "environmental fee", which could be set at 0.05\$/liter which would be charged in every country, and that would generate significant revenues to be used entirely to finance investments in public transportation.

#### Education

An important role is associated with the definition of education programmes, to develop an environmentally-driven culture, and to understand that the creation of a better future, first of all, goes through the respect for the environment. These programmes need to be coupled with investments in the green economy. Further education, both formal and non-formal, should develop on the links between lifestyles, environmental protection, poverty eradication, and economic development.

#### Support to research and development

It necessary to prioritize funding for R&D aimed at advancing science and technology to the benefit of the three pillars of sustainable development. Research on systems (e.g. city, transportation, water cycle system etc.) should be increasingly funded, requiring higher inter-disciplinarity, coherently with the institutional structure proposed above.

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## European Youth Forum

European Youth Forum  
Contribution to Outcome Document

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012

### Introduction

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, known as "Rio+20" as it comes 20 years after the 1992 "Earth Summit", will be profoundly significant for young people. During this conference world leaders are expected to renew a political commitment to sustainable development, assess the progress made to date in sustainable development policies and make profound, binding decisions to address new and emerging challenges that threaten the progress and development of young people and future generations. The conference will aim to overcome the often disconnected but equally important dimensions of sustainable development: social, environmental and economic sustainability. A coherent and interlinked strategy is needed in order to make real progress.

Current and previous generations have put our future at risk. Concerted and cross-cutting action is required in the name of inter-generational solidarity, the future prosperity and health of humankind, and the preservation of our bases of living. With this in mind, this resolution will closely analyse the two core themes of the conference, the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty reduction; and the institutional framework for sustainable development, and will evaluate them from a youth perspective, and emphasise the need to actively involve youth in the development, adoption, implementation and evaluation of policies at all levels. It will also propose a number of actions that need to be taken to safeguard the economic, social and environmental future of everyone, including the young people of today.

### Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

The importance of the Rio+20 Conference in pushing forward the sustainable development agenda and addressing the shortcomings of the past 20 years is difficult to understate. In the light of the failure of multiple recent summits and major conferences dealing with environmental issues and bearing in mind that – despite the urgency – a "green revolution" on a global level seems unlikely to be achieved in just one 3-days summit, binding agreements must be made in Rio to ensure that young people will be able to live in stable environments in years to come.

A "green" rhetoric and minor financial adjustments to facilitate a moderate increase of investment in renewable energy and technologies that may slow climate change are not enough. The environmental, legal, structural and economic measures decided upon in 2012 must be governed with regard for young and future generations around the globe, rather than aiming to placate the demands of the time in the most moderate way.

The recent global economic crisis has yet again discredited unsustainable economic practices that have little regard for future consequences. Employment opportunities need to be developed in new sustainable industries and technologies. In recent years some work has been done to invest in green entrepreneurship and encourage the growth of sustainable consumption and production patterns. In this regard the work of young people and other actors in changing traditional business paradigms from a simple focus on economic capital to a focus on social and environmental capital should be embraced.

There must also be a new educational focus on sustainable development, recognising the need to instil the sense of common responsibility for our future, enabling change in consumer patterns and thus production patterns and develop international solidarity. Through education for sustainable development, young people in particular can reflect on their role and responsibilities in a global society and on the contribution they can make to social justice.<sup>2</sup> Making this a reality presents a number of economic and political challenges and will require significant institutional restructuring, but it is clear that only major action will be enough to address global economic, environmental and social challenges, such as the increasing social and health impacts of climate change.

Green industries provide an opportunity for job creation and economic growth for both developed and developing countries. In Europe alone, by increasing investment from 18% to 22% of GDP towards green industries, in particular the reorientation of the energy grid towards renewables, a construction boom could be generated that would increase economic growth rates by up to 0.6% a year and create a further 6 million jobs.<sup>3</sup> The move from fossil and other finite energy resources to clean renewables also has huge potential benefits for developing countries. However, it is important to stress that not all forms of renewable energy production are sustainable, especially when related to deforestation, the loss of biodiversity, impacts on food production and security and social exploitation. The European Youth Forum therefore calls for a change in perspectives and major global economic restructuring to accelerate the transition to sustainable and green industries. To do this, governments must continue to develop and adapt the current financing mechanisms to allow for further research, development, technological cooperation and adaption. These industries must remain open to young people and seek to harness the creativity and innovation of a new generation that is more dedicated to attaining sustainable development. There must also be greater exchange and openness with regards to research, policies and practices on sustainable development issues, particularly between industrialised, emerging and developing countries.

### Sustainable resources for All

A key concern of young people is the management of natural resources as current patterns of consumption are jeopardising young people's future, with both the rate of consumption and the distribution of remaining resources giving cause for consternation. Natural resources must be managed in a way that does not compromise future generations' needs. A new framework of sustainable consumption and production patterns needs to be established to ensure equality in access to, and consumption of, resources. The continued depletion of the planet's marine and land ecosystems is unacceptable and directly challenges the development and security of current and future generations. For example, although the rate of deforestation has slowed over the last 10 years, each year an area roughly the size of Costa Rica is still destroyed. Similarly, due to a lack of regulation around 85 percent of fish stocks are exploited or in danger of extinction. Governments and the multilateral negotiations should focus their discussions on green economy, and more specifically on greening growth. Growth will remain the driver of international development, but we need to urgently move towards environmentally sustainable growth patterns to ensure the right to well-being of young and future generations.<sup>6</sup> To address these issues a simultaneous approach is required of involving local communities and youth at grassroots level, enabling them to be actively engaged in sustainable resource management; at the same time the role of international institutions in regulating the consumption of natural resources must be strengthened, also by involving all stakeholders, including youth, in a meaningful way.

### The Right to a Future

One of the core principles of a green economy must be the need to improve social wellbeing through simultaneously achieving greater economic stability and ensuring the fulfilment of human rights, including the right to safe water, thus improving the living conditions of millions of young people globally. Poverty eradication remains a core issue with regards to social wellbeing. The Millennium Development Goals are far from being achieved with around 900 million people still living in extreme poverty, a significant amount of which are children and young people.<sup>8</sup> Economic measures to tackle poverty must shift from simply generating capital that may trickle down to the poorest of society to furthering human development, closing the gap of inequality and creating decent jobs for all.

While it is understandable that a large focus is placed on the environmental and economic aspects of the green economy, only an integrated approach which values human development, in particular social-economic relations in society, will provide global sustainable development.

Climate change in itself is increasingly affecting human wellbeing globally. The warming of the earth's climate threatens to increase heat related mortality, malnutrition and starvation from destroyed crops. It will also rapidly increase desertification, destabilising food security and commodity prices and increase the scarcity of resources. As a result there will most likely be a large increase in the number of environmental migrants as people try to escape the day to day realities of climate change.<sup>9</sup> Without agreement on appropriate mitigation measures, environmental and economic migration risk leading to social conflicts, civil unrest and has a high potential to destabilise already fragile states.. This can be prevented by developing coherent and comprehensive strategies implemented at all levels and which include all relevant stakeholders. Only with a radical paradigm shift in terms of the international economy to green growth and assisting affected countries in dealing with climate change and poverty, as well as an investment in green technologies and education on the impacts of climate change, can these issues be addressed. Young people and youth organisations, as those who are most affected by these issues and the most vulnerable demographic in terms of poverty and health inequalities must be given a core role in the decision making processes at all levels and throughout all stages.

#### Institutional framework for sustainable development

In terms of the institutional framework, the integral nature of the three interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development are crucial. These encompass economic development, social development, and environmental protection. A key reason that progress since the Earth Summit in 1992 has been haphazard is that international institutions have lacked the necessary powers to enforce sustainable production, encourage sustainable lifestyles, reduce social and economic inequalities, encourage the necessary investment in green industries and build up infrastructure that can deal with the effects of climate change. A fully-fledged and appropriately funded International Sustainable Development Organisation with universal membership and a strong mandate is required in order to ensure that environmental issues are addressed in a holistic way, integrating and strengthening the work done separately by the UN, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) and ensure that the balance between economic, social and environmental interests is brought to a functional level. Regardless of the final format of such a body, it needs to be ensured that its work contributes to the well-being of everyone. Such an organisation must be truly global in its character, involving also the weakest and most vulnerable stakeholders including an intergenerational approach with a focus on youth participation.

Until such an organisation is established immediate reforms can be taken including the reform of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) which must be strengthened with a clearer mandate and remit. Similarly, despite some good analyses of environmental, social and economic issues over the past 20 years the CSD is no longer effective in its present form. A more powerful structure within the UN system is required in order to give sustainable development the prominence that it deserves.

A key issue with regards to decisions that are made now is that those that will be most effected by future environmental damage and the economic and social instability in the future do not have a voice. Political decisions are firmly rooted in short-term thinking and a danger of a new green economy is that it will be "business as usual" with the business sector stretching weak, short-term environmental restrictions to the very limit. For this reason an International Ombudsman for Future Generations must be established to ensure the representation of the interests of future generations with the authority to rule on all areas relating to sustainable development.

The United Nations and its Agencies and Programmes remain the most relevant space to deliberate and decide on issues of global importance such as sustainable development and human rights. Any institutional reform of the UN in this regard must integrate sustainable development throughout its structures, rather than limiting it to the remit of the Economic and Social Council. Sustainable development needs to become one of the core areas of the work for the General Assembly, any attempts to departmentalise the issue should also be avoided. Reform is also required to further integrate the role of young people in UN decision-making processes, ensuring that young people and their representative organisations from across the world have an equal and strong say. Unless young people and their organisations are part of the setup, the implementation of decisions and the necessary changes in the mindset towards a more sustainable future will be difficult to achieve.

#### Environmental Justice

Since the 1992 Earth Summit countries have adopted carbon trading schemes, essentially charging polluting industries for the carbon they produce. The largest and most ambitious carbon trading scheme is that of the European Union, other schemes also exist in Australia, New Zealand as well as parts of Canada and the United States. The European Youth Forum believes that these schemes must be significantly strengthened and that industries of all sectors should pay the full price for their carbon footprint. A harmonised scheme must be developed and implemented throughout all industrialised, emerging and developing countries to ensure that "environmental dumping", where developed countries outsource polluting industries to countries with less strict laws, is stopped. Europe can and must lead the way with regards to concrete action on climate change by reducing carbon emissions by 30% on 1990 levels by 2020. This is the minimum recommended level as endorsed by leading experts and, in this regard, the current EU target of 20% is simply not enough. In order to truly achieve sustainable development long-term Sustainable Development Goals need to be established, building on the model of the Millennium Development Goals, setting a clear roadmap for the future in a way that measures human development that goes beyond simply Gross Domestic Product and other wealth indicators.

#### Conclusion – Youth Matters

Unfortunately the role of youth and youth organisations is too frequently overlooked in sustainable development processes. Youth were given "major group" status over 20 years ago, but this needs to be developed into a representative body. Youth organisations are important actors in the development field and actively contribute to sustainable development by providing development education, breaking down barriers between young people, engaging in dialogue at all levels, ranging from the local to the global level, and changing consumption patterns in younger generations and leading by example in an intergenerational dialogue. Youth organisations that are democratic and youth-led, such as those represented in the membership of the European Youth Forum, are truly representative of the interests of young people and must be given a core role in the Major Group for Children and Youth.

Young people need to be fully recognised as important stakeholders in all levels of decision making processes that affect them, not just because they will have to endure the extreme economic and social consequences of climate change and the depletion of natural resources, but also because they can help find solutions to current problems by contributing a new and fresh perspective. In this regard youth organisations must be given a central role as decision shapers and co-implementers, not only in Rio+20 negotiations but in the entire cycle of managing and governing a sustainable global society for centuries to come.

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## European Youth Meeting



## STATEMENT

### OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH MEETING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2011.

#### Introduction

Young people from around Europe and the world gathered from 19 to 24 July 2011 to participate at the European Youth Meeting on Sustainable Development (EYM2011) held in Tallinn. The meeting was part of the build up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to be held in June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro.

This document is a record of the discussion that took place during the meeting and forms part of the process of developing a global youth position ahead of Rio+20. Participants were representatives of youth organisations and young individuals from all fields of work and life. This statement is intended as a clear and strong message to mobilise young people across the globe ahead of Rio+20.

The participants focused on the first Gretheeme n econoo f mRyio+20: in the contexu t of sustainable development and poverty eradi. Theyc woratikoned on the following seven topics:

- Natural resources
- Education for sustainable development
- Urban development
- Agriculture
- Renewable energy
- Waste management
- Social wellbeing

This document contains the key challenges and the ways forward from each topic. Best practices were also explored and have been made available separately.

The meeting recognises that all these topics are intermærelated with particular synergies between Natural Resources, Urban Development, Agriculture, Renewable Energy and Waste Management. The meeting also particularly noted that Social Wellbeing and Education have a crosscutting application and should be attached to all areas of sustainable development. Furthermore, in synthesising the discussions, common areas and shared ways forward have been clustered under the most relevant topic. No area should be seen in isolation, and overlapping topics have been cross-referenced.

#### 1. Natural resources

##### Key challenges

##### Lack of distribution of information

Transforming our mind-sets to use natural resources more sustainably in our daily lives is one of the key challenges of our century. Informed, educated and aware people are more conscious and more likely to respect natural resources. A circular rather than a linear approach should be brought into peoples utilization and behaviour of natural resource management. We borrow from nature rather than own it.

##### Mismanagement of natural resources

Natural resource use is currently oriented to a short-term perspective. Long-term vision must be instated to ensure the availability of natural resources for current and future generations. Young people have the responsibility to ensure that governments, institutions as well as the private sector commit to manage natural resources in a sustainable way, as we will be inheriting any mismanagement and associated problems.

##### Access to natural resources

Unequal distribution of natural resources is a fact, however, it is civil society's responsibility to cooperate and ensure that they are equally accessible to everyone. Natural resources essential to life should be available to and protected for everyone regardless of their location, economic situation or socio-cultural background, in particular indigenous peoples.

##### Transfer of knowledge and technology

Although the technology to manage natural resources sustainably is available, it is accessible only to a restricted number of actors. Moving towards global green economy, information sharing and mutual exchange needs to be largely developed and improved. Moreover, human know-how and infrastructure are essential for a successful implementation of knowledge transfer.

##### The link between trade and natural resources

A fair and green economy is essential for sustainable development. It is a challenge as well as a solution to link trade and natural resources, as the trade of natural resources determines their management. The Doha Development Round as well as other global platforms has to include a strong sustainability perspective.

##### Ways forward

##### Changing mind-sets

States, youth-led organisations, and young individuals should aim to raise awareness on the sustainable use of natural resources among youth by different media & networking on topics such as: spreading best practices of sustainable behaviour, promoting integrated educational systems, changing the focus on material consumption to valuing natural resources as a global commons rather than a commercial amenity.

##### Good governance of natural resources

In order to attain a long-term vision on sustainable management of resources, research and development needs to be improved, exchanged and made accessible to decision makers. A strategic approach has to be followed by all institutions and the decisionmæmaking process needs to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach to ensure accountability

and participation.

Multi-lateral process for fair and secure access to natural resources

In order to improve fair and secure universal access to basic natural resources, we have to ensure commitments to international treaties by member states through ratification and implementation by 2030. The establishment of a monitory body is suggested to prevent land grabbing and penalize unfair large scale corporate land acquisition.

Enabling transfer of knowledge and technology

Transfer of knowledge and technology requires national and international finance mechanisms. Technological innovation should be encouraged through research and development and made accessible to all stakeholders. New knowledge and technology that is highly effective in the protection of natural resources or in the provision of access to the most vulnerable persons should not be withheld, patented or privatized.

Introducing sustainable resource management into current trade systems

Multilateralism and multi-stakeholder approaches are essential to avoid contradiction between environmental agreements and trade policies. The international trading system must be transparent and equitable. The conclusion of the Doha Development Round as well as Rio+20 must link trade and natural resources. Local sourcing of natural resources should be actively encouraged.

## 2. Education for sustainable development (ESD)

Key challenges

Lack of engagement outside the formal education system

Only a small proportion of youth is engaged in ESD. The challenge is to reach people in the first place, as well as to inspire and educate them. Without this process youth are inhibited from becoming agents of change for a more sustainable world.

Lack of support for non-formal ESD

There is a lack of funding for non-formal ESD, as well as a lack of effective partnership and collaboration between government and civil society organisations (CSOs) working to implement ESD. There is also a lack of political will to increase the quality of non-formal ESD.

Implementation of ESD

It is a challenge to implement ESD at all levels of the formal educational system, including kindergartens, primary and secondary schools and higher education, as well as driving schools and professional training centres. Part of this challenge is not only to include ESD in the curricula but to take a multidisciplinary approach, providing equal gender access and integrating ESD across all subjects.

Inadequate teacher training

There is a need for more quantity of and quality in teacher training in the area of ESD. This teacher training is essential in order to engage more people in ESD and have a larger impact.

Monitoring and evaluation

There is a need for methods and indicators to measure the impact of ESD in both formal and non-formal education, in order to improve its implementation and ensure that it reaches the targeted groups.

Ways forward

Simple, short and attractive campaigns

Run by CSOs (including youth-led groups), these campaigns will target youth to encourage debate on sustainable development. The funding should come from the national body\* according to the national ESD strategy (\*explained later on in the document). The experiences and materials of existing simple, short and attractive campaigns should be exchanged.

Creating more networking opportunities

To give CSOs access to knowledge, experience sharing, support for their projects, creating new and merging existing ideas and projects, an open source based network is required. There is a need to create or improve umbrella networks such as youth councils and forums for youth CSOs, that act as national and regional representatives for the CSOs. These CSOs should meet regularly for sharing experiences, new ideas and create policy proposals for youth activity in ESD, from grassroots to the top. Creation of a national body and a national ESD strategy A national body, including representatives of youth organisations, should be created for the allocation of funds for ESD projects, in line with national SD, regional and global policies. More cooperation and collaboration between research organisations and other Civil Society groups should be encouraged to present new ideas and emphasize existing national policies on ESD.

ESD implementation and integration into the curricula on all levels of education

Governments should ensure the efficient implementation and integration of ESD in all levels of the education system and in all subjects by 2015, the final year of the MDGs. To achieve long-term and high impact change in society, the teacher training institutions should also include specialised and integrated training on sustainable development. Schools should be transformed into comprehensive learning environments, where sustainable lifestyles are promoted daily, hence imparting practical skills on sustainable living.

Global partnership for ESD

Effective partnership between developing and developed countries should be promoted through open coordination methods. This should be implemented on regional and global level by 2015 and beyond, using existing experience from international platforms of UNESCO and regional cooperation organisations.

Evaluation and monitoring

An online form is created where all people who participate in formal or non-formal ESD will be registered. After participating in SD projects or activities, they will register the activity online. Registration of participation can be done either by the person themselves or by the direct educator or project manager. This is an effective way of measuring

approaches, success and the long-term effects of ESD on people attitudes and behaviour.

### 3. Urban development

#### Key challenges

##### City planning

City planning is not being done with the appropriate independence of city planners, but under the influence of interest groups, technical and financial difficulties. Implementation of already existing best practices, know-how and case studies in the future planning is not ensured. There is a lack of a holistic approach in terms of changing citizen behaviour, mentality and attitudes. There is no transparency in environmental budgeting and expenditures.

##### Transportation

Intensive urbanisation and daily migration lead to mobility inefficiency. Public transport coverage cannot meet the needs of the rapid dynamic of cities. Lack of eco-friendly transportation leads to pollution and health hazards. Modern technologies such as GPS and GIS are not used enough in order to improve the mobility efficiency.

##### Housing, work and services

Cities are occupying new spaces instead of re-adjusting and re-using existing ones. Jobs and services such as health, education, culture and recreation are not in close proximity of residential zones. There is a lack of symbiotic planning in cities as an organic entity at the neighbourhood scale, where all the needs of the population are at a reachable distance. This would reduce movements and therefore general traffic issues.

##### Waste management, water and energy distribution

Public services cannot meet the needs of growing population. Out-dated network systems lead to great loss of resources.

##### Green architecture

Green architecture still is not a standard, rather an option. Planning policies and architectural practices neither require, nor encourage the development of cities according to principles of sustainability.

#### Ways forward

##### City planning

Urban spaces should be re-designed and adjusted into new multifunctional contents. City planning must not endanger the social and cultural heritage of cities and should be co-ordinated with rural development. We encourage cities to implement already existing good practices and methodologies, as well as certification and confirmation of cities efforts toward sustainable urban development. We call for participatory decision-making approaches in order to build trust between cities and their inhabitants.

##### Transport

Cities should focus on fast, frequent, effective and renewable energy powered transport that is affordable and accessible for different social groups in all city areas. Authorities should be exemplary and supportive in using more eco-friendly means of transport in cities such as bicycles, electric and hybrid cars, carpooling, park and ride, and increase awareness among the population. Satellite technologies must be used for route optimising and monitoring systems.

##### Housing, work and services

Policymakers should develop residential areas with locally provided services contributing to social cohesion. In these areas local businesses, manufacturing of goods and urban farming should be integrated. This will reduce the need for commuting and create a closer link between the urban population and the products they consume.

##### Water, energy and waste management

Public funding programmes should aim at raising efficiency and modernisation of supply networks and households. Also, awareness on sustainable consumption and saving technologies should be raised through information campaigns. Furthermore, the cities must secure reuse of resources, primary waste separation, waste collection coverage and ensure adequate treatment.

##### Green architecture

Governments should promote the introduction of innovative and sustainable technologies in architecture through financial incentives and technical standards. These standards should include national criteria, indicators and benchmarks that will serve as the base of sustainable green architecture along with a pool of available green features.

### 4. Waste management

#### Key challenges

Lack of awareness of waste creation and ways to minimize it People are unaware of the actual amount of waste they produce in their everyday life and therefore they have no intention to reduce waste.

Imbalanced culture of consumerism, which leads to increased waste production

Present consumption externalizes the costs of the full production cycle, thus producing too many short lifecycle products. Consumers remain unaware of waste production during this process.

Long-term thinking and investments is overshadowed by short-term profit

Investment is often focused on short-term profit rather than sustainable profit. This prevents infrastructural development in waste management systems.

Lack of responsibility for resource lifecycle

The responsibility of manufacturers to the production of waste is often limited and ends after the sale of goods. Consumers have little access and no legal responsibilities to reduce, reuse and recycle.

Few economic incentives for waste reduction

Economic and legal frameworks do not encourage sustainable production. Cradle-to-cradle design and production is often provided with less incentive than cradle-to-grave.

Ways forward:

Raising awareness to minimise waste

Awareness of methods for waste prevention and reduction should be raised using multiplying effects. Governments should finance more studies and research on waste management. Zero-waste-school programs should be established at a national level and implemented at a local level. Companies and workplaces should invest in strategies to decrease their waste production, including information towards and participation of employees.

Balancing consumerism and production cycles

The production process should be made more transparent by introducing uniform global standards and labelling systems for the whole product lifecycle. The lifecycle of resources and products should be extended by increasing the quality of products and by creating re-use centres, where broken products can be repaired, recycled and resold. At these centres, craftsmanship professions would be revived and the centres would eventually become self-financing.

Promoting long-term and sustainable investment

A higher tax rate on disposable single-use products should eventually lead to a shift towards manufacturing of more reusable products. An international program should enable capacity building and sharing of knowledge and skills to countries with a lack of sufficient infrastructure for recycling. An online database for secondary resource exchange could foster local cooperation and resource management between businesses.

Foster responsibility regarding the lifecycle of products

A legal framework for extended product lifecycle should be created in order to increase responsibility of manufacturers and consumers. It should lead to a larger scale production of versatile products and product components such as universal chargers. Products must have a spare parts catalogue available, where the price of spare parts must be cheaper than the product itself. Re-use or use of recycled products should be promoted and disposable products should be phased out.

Increasing economic incentives for resource management

Government should implement sanctions for excessive packaging and non-biodegradable packaging. Tax breaks should be granted to manufacturers that use recycled sources for the production of their goods. Separate food waste collection in every urban area at a very favourable price should be organised. Local government should ensure material flow (resources) rather than final disposal (landfill in general) by increasing landfill taxes and banning waste export.

5. Agriculture

Key challenges

Oil dependency

The agriculture industry is heavily dependent on oil for the production of fertilisers, transportation of products, and the heating of greenhouses. In the time after peak oil, this will pose an increasing challenge to productivity and profitability.

Socio-economic inequalities

Small-scale farmers have to compete with agro-multinationals. Food prices are determined on the international market in a game of supply and demand, but with huge differences in negotiation power among producers and between producers and buyers.

Price structures

There is a lack of transparency as to what causes the large and sudden jumps in food prices. Also, externalities such as the ecological cost of long-distance transportation are not fully taken into account in the price.

Biodiversity and the challenges of biotechnology

Deforestation for agriculture leads to a loss of biodiversity. The increasing use of GMOs also decreases biodiversity, as well as the fact that the funds invested in the development of GMOs are therefore excluded from other endeavours.

Depletion of water food resources

Many commercial fisheries are getting depleted. There is a need for an international regulation of fishing rights in coastal and international waters.

Soil and fresh water management

Over 70% of global fresh water is used for agriculture, often in unsustainable ways. The increasing use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides lead to degradation of soil quality. Deforestation often leads to erosion of the soil, further reducing the fertility of the land.

Land use competition

The use of land for production of food crops conflicts with many other interests, especially the production of agrofuel crops, feed crops for livestock, cash crops for export and the preservation of natural environments.

Ways forward

To promote the sustainable use of natural resources in agriculture and food systems

Greater efforts should be made to improve awareness of resource utilisation in land and water ecosystems. Furthermore, appropriate policies and economic incentives must be designed and implemented to ensure that the sustainable use of natural resources is achieved.

To plan and implement a worldwide transition to systems of sustainable post-oil agriculture

Appropriate policies and economic incentives must be designed and implemented to deliver a transition from conventional monoculture-based and input-intensive agriculture to agro-ecological, biodiverse farming systems. This should include but not be limited to decentralised, small-scale, organic, permaculture, and urban systems of agriculture.

To empower disadvantaged rural people and their communities

Appropriate policies and regulations must be designed to empower small-scale and subsistence farmers. These must promote rural development by ensuring social inclusion, universal access to tools and vocational training, and more equal power distribution between producers and buyers.

To ensure inclusive governance and decision-making processes

Meaningful participation of vulnerable stakeholders, such as women, indigenous peoples, landless rural workers, and small-scale farmers should be increased in agri-food governance, policy-and decision- making processes, from a local to a global level.

To strengthen the global partnership that supports adaptation to climate change

Increase availability of existing knowledge and technology to farming communities in regions vulnerable to the effects of present and projected climate change such as decreasing rainfall, rising temperatures and more frequent natural disasters.

## 6. Social Wellbeing

### Key challenges

Lack of widespread access to quality and affordable health care

Health is presently focused on the physical aspect and often excludes mental and social wellbeing. The main challenges are the effect of human activity and climate change on human health. The current symptomatic rather than preventative approach, the lack of awareness and education on health related issues as well as lack of widespread access to quality and affordable healthcare are also challenges to tackle.

Lack of social cohesion and solidarity

Cohesion and solidarity between different groups in society, while essential to social wellbeing, is often neglected. The gaps between rich and poor, men and women, and different ethnic groups are large. These social divisions encourage misunderstanding, lack of cooperation, and even cause conflicts.

Lack of individual participation in civil society, politics, and the media

Many people do not feel empowered to make decisions that affect them. Areas that lack participation include the labour market, politics, volunteering and media. Barriers to participation include poverty, lack of access or opportunity, apathy, and lack of awareness. Participation between different groups and sectors of society is also lacking, for example between individuals, and corporate and civil sectors.

Lack of appropriate education

Education is currently considered in a limited context, instead of being lifelong and encompassing both formal and non-formal methods. Education is not updated to reflect local cultures and evolving ways of learning, is not universal or affordable, and local learning opportunities are often mismatched to the local employment market.

Lack of respect for cultural and individual diversity

Equality is seen as a human right, but many people are discriminated for such things as their sexuality, gender, race, religion and culture. Diversity and equality are endangered by competition for resources, fear of the unknown, political manipulation, feelings of superiority and a lack of interaction between different groups.

Unemployment and related discrimination

The right to work, financial autonomy, adequate working conditions and a healthy work-life balance are crucial to social wellbeing, yet are unachieved by many. It is difficult to connect basic work rights for people within an international consensus. The relation between work, unemployment and human rights is still unclear. The ILO is a tool to tackle these issues, but it is still not used to its full potential.

### Ways forward

Health: Pollution and awareness

All polluters must pay and repair the damage they create, as measured by independent agencies. This money should be used for victim compensation and research and development. An international court on pollution should be created. Awareness campaigns should spread information on pollution and its sources, nutrition and healthy lifestyle, hygiene, HIV/AIDS prevention, and other local issues.

Promoting and establishing social cohesion

Governments should increase support for organisations and activities that promote solidarity through grants, interest free loans, or tax incentives. Primary school programs can teach children about other cultures and groups to inspire feelings of solidarity and responsibility towards others. Moreover, governments should enable mobility within and between countries in order to facilitate meeting others of different backgrounds.

Participation in society, politics, and the information society

Civil society should be able to meet governments and take part in co-decision making on matters that affect them. In the interest of this, youth forums should be strengthened and where they do not exist established; in order for youth to meet, discuss issues and come up with a unified position. Youth forums should be demographically representative and should emphasize a frequent renewing of participants.

Education and personal development

Incorporate youth into the design and management of the education system in order to adapt to new ways of learning. Increase the cooperation with professionals and provide quality information on career and internship opportunities. Promote non-formal educational methods and social participation by including volunteering and/or entrepreneurship as a part of school curricula.

#### Exchanges for cultural and individual diversity and equality

Governments should arrange and finance exchanges in order to develop and promote diversity and equality. These exchanges can be realised on an individual, group or social media level. Interacting and seeing life through the other person's eyes will increase cross-cultural awareness, understanding of social contexts and solidarity.

#### Employability and sustainable values in companies

Corporate actions and policies must reflect sustainable values. Relevant topics such as entrepreneurship, diversity and corporate social responsibility should be reflected in educational curricula and professional training. Furthermore, companies should have inter-generational and intercultural transmission of knowledge based on educational approaches inter alia peer-to-peer learning, non-formal education, and mentorship.

### 7. Renewable energy

#### Key challenges

##### Overconsumption

Current energy consumption in industrialised countries has increased to an unsustainable level. Technologies to reduce energy consumption have not yet been implemented successfully. In addition, there is a lack of awareness on sustainable way of usage.

##### Profitability of renewable energy

Subsidies of fossil fuels do not enable energy resources to be compatible. New technologies for renewable energy and upscaling plans for current renewable energy are not sufficiently supported.

##### Decentralisation

The market is dominated by a limited number of players, leading to centralised energy supply. Energy production on household level is not actively encouraged, disincentivising small-scale renewable energy initiatives.

##### Different countries realities

The effectiveness of the renewable energy resource varies in different local circumstances. There is a current lack of locally suitable implementation plans for renewable energy.

#### Ways forward

##### Reducing our energy footprint

In order to achieve a carbon neutral world by 2050, major steps need to be taken within the next ten years. More economically developed countries have to take a higher burden of reducing their energy consumption. We must achieve 80% of all energy to come from renewable sources by 2050. The EU should unilaterally increase its emission reductions targets from 20-30% by 2020.

##### Activating the private energy production sector

Governments should give economic incentives to the private sector to encourage investment in renewable energy, such as tax exemptions, low interest loans, seed funding, and Feed-In Tariffs. Subsidies and tax exemptions to the fossil fuel sector should be phased out. Research and development should be supported, and the resulting knowledge and technology shared with developing economies.

##### Investing in the implementation of a smart electricity grid

In order to enable the transition towards local renewable production of electricity, investments have to be made in the development and implementation of a smart grid allowing efficient production coordination and two-way electricity transport. Following the German policy of Feed-In Tariffs, the guaranteed access of net-producing systems to the grid should be regulated.

##### Taking into account and taking advantage of country specifics

All countries have specific realities, which need to be taken into account when investing in renewable energy technology and infrastructure. All countries need to research the potential they have for renewable energy, and start supporting the investments into these areas. The unleashed potential of solar energy in the south of Europe and wind energy in the north of Europe should be utilised to its full potential. Networks between countries to support the transfer of technology, knowledge and energy infrastructure need to be implemented.

##### Researching and addressing the possible negative aspects of renewable energies

The negative side effects of the production of each renewable energy source should be researched in order to benchmark and fully assess the sustainability of each source. Social and environmental aspects should be taken into account in the development, advancement and implementation of renewable energy technologies. Rio+20 should decide on international ethical guidelines and regulations for production of agrofuels and the usage of biomass as an energy source.

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## Eurostep

#### Contribution to the Zero Draft of the outcome Document for Rio2012

The future of the world, its 7 billion people and the generations to come will be determined by the way in which we respond to the significant challenges that confront us. Our current practices are threatening our very existence. The same sense of urgency was expressed 20 years ago at the 1992 Rio conference. Unfortunately, despite the adoption of strong commitments and appropriate plans of action for sustainable development, implementation has been limited. The political will needed from the international community to respond effectively to the urgent challenges identified in 1992 has not been forthcoming. While there have been some important achievements resulting from previous conferences the overall trends are negative.

Human activity has been the major cause of the environmental, social and economic problems that we face. The present challenges cannot be tackled in isolation and

responses must be global.

Rio2012 constitutes the best opportunity to give renewed political impetus to putting in place effective measures for working towards effective sustainable development practices. This will require the adoption of comprehensive and binding internationally agreed time bound commitments and strategies. These must build on the agreements reached in 1992 and 2002.

Countries have common but differentiated responsibility for contributing to current unsustainable practices, and for the consequence unsustainable use of the world's natural resources. This must have implications for responses that are needed. Developed countries must fundamentally change their own development model so as to ensure their economies are sustainable and enable, rather than obstruct, the implementation of sustainable approaches to development of others, not least developing countries. The particular situations of developing countries must be fully recognised and assistance provided in order for them to be able to develop sustainably in full respect of their sovereignty and democratically agreed priorities.

High-income countries must show their willingness and determination to bring about real changes that radically transform the way economic development is envisaged. Emerging countries that are growing quickly and transforming their economies must take on the increased responsibility that this brings for ensuring sustainable practices are at the core of their strategies. Greening the Economy alone will not bring about sustainable development.

Increased liberalisation has shown its limits. In too many instances economic growth has increased inequalities with poorer sections of societies benefiting least. Humandevlopment and environmental protection must be at the core of analysis and actions for sustainable development to be achieved.

Adherence to human rights, the effective promotion of equitable societies, ensuring better regulation of economic and financial activities to ensure conformity with principles of sustainable development, increasing the coherence between the three pillars of sustainable development, protecting the environment and enhancing democratic participation and accountability are key elements for a sustainable world. They should be reflected in the outcome document of Rio2012. Ambitious actions and strengthening the institutional framework for ensuring appropriate implementation and compliance with commitments made must be agreed upon at Rio2012.

## 1. Introduction

At the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 the international community adopted a set of principles and obligations in response to the global challenges to pursuing sustainable development. These addressed development and environmental protection, as well as the need for global responses to the supranational problems of poverty, social inequity, desertification, global warming, loss of biodiversity and deforestation. The Rio Summit endorsed the principles of sustainable development including that of common but differentiated responsibilities, with a view towards an equitable use of the world's finite resources for the benefit for all.

As the world prepares for the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) that will mark the 20th anniversary of the Earth Summit the need to tackle global environmental problems and to put in place a just and sustainable management of the world's resources has become more urgent than ever before. Too many people, particularly people living in poverty and vulnerability do not have access to their basic rights because of the disastrous consequences of unsustainable practices. While there has been increased consciousness about the challenges facing the global community, and some actions have been taken to promote sustainability, overall there has been a marked failure to implement the commitments made at the Rio 92 Summit despite the recognition at that time of the urgent need to adhere to the principles adopted by the international community.

The failure extends to the Johannesburg Plan of Action of 2002 and other UN Summit outcomes related to the social and economic dimensions of sustainable development. This includes the commitments of industrialized countries to provide the means (financial resources and technology transfer) to implement the Earth Summit's agreements that they have failed to honour. Industrialised countries have also failed to provide the leadership needed to change production and consumption patterns, particularly in their own countries, that are crucial for sustainability to be achieved.

Human activity has been the major cause of environmental degradation, climate change and social disparities, which are threatening our very existence. Scientific and technological developments have brought unprecedented benefits to large numbers of people, particularly in so-called 'advanced regions' of the world, but with the consequence of unsustainable ways of living. The development path pursued by the world's wealthiest nations has drawn disproportionately on the planet's non-renewable natural resources and continues to do so. This responsibility for creating the current global challenges must be fully understood and recognised and actions to achieve far-reaching transition must be undertaken. This requires radical and urgent transformation in current approaches to the economy and to patterns of production and consumption that are promoted towards a low carbon economy and sustainable lifestyles.

Rio2012 constitutes a major opportunity to give new impetus to promoting an approach that can fulfil the principles of justice, equity and sustainability. These are fundamental for the future. The outcome of Rio2012 must build on the principles and commitments adopted in 1992 and 2002, which constituted major progress in the way in which economic development should be understood. The summit will take place in a context where successive crises illustrate the increasing vulnerabilities that we collectively face, largely resulting from the accumulating effects of past economic, financial and development strategies and practices. These crises have a devastating impact on increasing numbers of people around the world, particularly in poorer countries and communities. Their negative impact on strategies to promote sustainable, just and equitable development will grow, and be exacerbated by the interconnections between the different crises. Our collective ability to respond to these challenges requires drastic changes to policy approaches in line with the principles adopted in 1992.

The stated commitment and willingness of some countries to make Rio2012 a success is to be welcomed. However, acknowledging the need for radical changes in approaches to the economy are fundamental to a successful outcome. Our collective ability to move towards a sustainable planet will only be achieved when we address the inequalities that are the source of injustice experienced by people and communities in different parts of the world.

We believe that the concept of Green Economy, for which there is no common understanding and conceptualization at the global level, gives too much emphasis to environmental aspects of sustainability, but may fail to address the equally critical questions of social equity, economic justice and political inclusion. It relies too much on changes in practice that are more ecologically sustainable than in the past, and the use of new technologies that contribute to this objective, but do not address fundamental changes that will impact on all aspects of our lives. Changes based only on modifications to existing approaches will neither tackle the root causes of poverty nor imbalances within the current macroeconomic system that are central to past unsustainable practice.

## 2. Recognizing the principle of Common but differentiated responsibilities and its implications as a prerequisite for sustainable development

As nations that enjoy relative wealth, and which have consumed a disproportionate share of the world's natural resources to achieve their position, high income countries need to demonstrate their commitment to make the far reaching changes needed to achieve global sustainability. They need to act both towards their own economic, social and ecological framework, as well as in their interactions with the rest of the world.

Acknowledging in international agreements and practices the special situation and needs of developing countries must also be systematic in compliance with Principle 11 of the 1992 Rio Declaration. Sustainable development standards, objectives and priorities should fully take into account "the environmental and development context to which they apply".

Since the actions of industrialised nations have contributed most to creating the global environmental problems we collectively face, they should actively assist developing countries in mitigating and adapting to the adverse effects they now face, not least to climate change that is one of the results. The provision of adequate financial resources and facilitating technology transfer (providing that the precautionary principle is fully recognized and applied) are urgent obligations to be taken, but by no means the only actions needed.

Because of the disproportionate influence that high income countries have on international relations, as is increasingly the case for emerging economies too, and because of the impact of their policies on other countries' development, Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development must be recognized as a guiding principle at Rio2012 and appropriate mechanisms must be put in place to control compliance with this principle.

Putting in place the actions needed to address the threats to sustainability requires an analysis, understanding and acknowledgement of challenges. In preparation for Rio+20 every country, region and the global community as a whole must update past analysis and clearly define the problems we face today.

Taking the actions necessary to change approaches to the economy, and to put in place effective mechanisms for the sustainable management of natural capital and resources will inevitably impact on economic actors. The Green Economy will create new "green jobs" but will also destroy "brown jobs". Thus, during the transformation process towards the Green Economy some individuals, groups, communities and countries will lose<sup>2</sup> whereas others will win. This has to be addressed by identifying those affected, quantifying their losses and benefits against a business as usual scenario and creating compensation mechanisms.

### 3. The limits of the Green Economy

Tackling inequities is central to Sustainable Development

International definitions of sustainable development, to which the international community subscribes<sup>3</sup>, are rooted in the Brundtland Commissions original definition of sustainable development namely "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". In this perspective, sustainable development is about improving the well being of both present and future generations, which in turn is concerned with social, economic and inter<sup>4</sup> <sup>5</sup>generational justice.

Eradicating poverty, diminishing inequalities, striving for more inclusive and just society, an adherence and respect for the environment and ensuring accountability should be core pillars and goals of any sustainable development strategy<sup>4</sup>. This requires the effective representation of developing countries in international fora. It also requires increased participation by citizens, civil society organisations and other stakeholders at all stages of public policy formulation and implementation – be it local, national regional or international. A transformation is needed in the way we design and implement policies as well as in the way we do business; systematic evaluation of long term versus short costs and gains, based on sustainable development principles and objectives, should be undertaken and transparency ensured by making the results available to stakeholders and concerned citizens.

Transforming economies so that they draw less on finite natural resources and utilize increased proportions of renewable resources is an important aspect of any strategy for achieving sustainable development. A "Green" economy less dependant on natural resources will continue to promote inequity unless other fundamental changes are also made. Delinking can even exacerbate inequalities if ownership and control of new technologies remain in the hands of existing dominant economic actors. Broader approaches are needed that ensure sustainability, and in which social dimensions of the economy, and the right to development are explicitly recognized<sup>5</sup> and addressed. This will promote a balance between human development and environmental responsibility as equal and interdependent pillars of sustainable development. Furthermore, it necessitates acknowledging that actions taken within national boundaries can cause environmental, social and economic impacts beyond national jurisdictions, requiring cooperation in the development of international law that allows for independent judicial arbitration in such cases<sup>6</sup>.

Strategies to achieve Sustainable development must go beyond resource efficiency and technological innovations

By analysing the example of the EU's position towards Rio+20 the general limits and concerns over the concept of Green Economy can be highlighted. The idea of rethinking the conventional model of economic progress is envisaged by the EU<sup>7</sup>. This rethinking is primarily based on the notion of a transformation to a Green Economy which is closely linked to the concept of efficiency, as developed in the Europe 2020 strategy<sup>8</sup>. The EU's flagship initiative "A resource efficient Europe" is emphasised by the Commission and the Council as being particularly relevant for the EU's position towards Rio+20. While the overall objective of this initiative of "ensuring a more sustainable use of natural resources" is an important factor, and valuable proposals for policies and strategies such as decoupling natural resources use from economic growth and phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies are put forward, much emphasis is placed on technological innovations. An approach that relies too much on technological innovations, but remains fundamentally unchanged will invariably fail<sup>9</sup>. The impact of technological innovation can be positive for sustainable development but we must acknowledge the limitations as well as there remains the potential for detrimental unintended side.

Relying too heavily on the magic bullet of technological innovation to mitigate the consequences of current unsustainable practices allows governments, the private sector and citizens to believe that fundamental change is not necessary, and to consequently avoid taking responsibility for their unsustainable practices. It also carries risks from unintended side effects that trigger new challenges to the sustainability of the ecosystem. These risks could be magnified without adequate and rigorous verification of the potential impact of these new technologies, particularly where their promoters seek early deployment ahead of any competitors, so as to maximise benefits to themselves. Fully respecting the precautionary principle should be the absolute priority. New innovations (i.e geo<sup>10</sup> <sup>11</sup>engineering techniques, nano<sup>12</sup> <sup>13</sup>technology or synthetic biology) have the potential to contribute to sustainability, but must be subject to rigorous systematic impact assessments<sup>10</sup> that are subject to independent external evaluation, where there is scientific uncertainty and the possibility of irreversible damage (Principle 15 of the 1992 Rio declaration),.

Furthermore, sustainable development is a concept that goes beyond resource efficiency. While recognising that the question of efficiency needs to be addressed in any economic model, radical reforms are needed to the current model if the multi dimensional aspects of sustainability are to be properly addressed. Reforms that deal with production and consumption patterns, social and political rights as well as economic practices towards more regulation and equitable redistribution of resources are needed.

Natural capital must be protected and managed under different economic mechanisms

The current definition for the Green Economy<sup>11</sup> adopted by the EC and the Council of the EU focuses on growth and job creation. Such an approach does not in itself tackle inequity, essential to achieve sustainable development, or necessarily result in the eradication of poverty. In addition, the ambition to eradicate poverty by investing in natural capital is unlikely to be realized in an economic system that prioritizes monetary value. Although it is argued that this provides the best mechanism for ensuring an efficient use of the resources, in reality the emphasis on generating monetary returns tends to promote short<sup>12</sup> <sup>13</sup>term gain rather than longer term objectives including inter<sup>14</sup> <sup>15</sup>generational justice. Speculative tendencies are inherent within current predominant economic approaches which can be detrimental to sustainability, particularly as the "natural capital" on which the world's sustainability depends is seen as an opportunity to generate financial gain through speculation. Current economic approaches encourage the acquisition of such assets by private interests whose primary interest will be in generating profit, and not as an asset for long term preservation, or sustainability. Their true value will be grossly misrepresented.

Natural capital is essentially the stock of natural ecosystems that yields the flow of valuable ecosystem goods or services into the future. With this in mind, natural capital must be maintained and managed under fundamentally different economic mechanisms than those we currently have in place. The promotion of recycling and reuse of natural



resources as a more sustainable approach for the use of those resources requires regulatory intervention. In an economy that is driven by growth and depends on increases in production, the demand for material input grows.

Policy promoting the notion of natural capital must serve to change fundamental behaviours that lead to the exploitation and degradation of natural capital. A sustainable management of natural capital, and the kind of investment required for natural capital to be utilised as a sustainable asset requires a regulated, redistributive and resilient economy that serves to eradicate poverty by placing the principle of equity at its core.

There is an urgent need to revert to sustainable production and consumption patterns, and the limitations of the earth's resources must be acknowledged. The value of natural capital must be integrated into the economy, but not as a disposable commodity. This value, and the quantifiable costs associated with its use should be fully reflected in costs of production. This will impact on patterns of production and consumption, and would contribute to more sustainable practices.

The Convention on biodiversity signed at the Earth Summit must be adhered to and strengthened so as to protect and restore the genetic resources of our planet and natural habitats which are crucial to human wellbeing. A system of governance is needed to prevent any further irreversible damage.<sup>12</sup>

Natural capital is an asset that belongs to everyone, over which a system of democratically accountable stewardship is entrusted to ensure they serve the interests of all, in the present and in the future. If the concept of the Green Economy is to be meaningful it must derive from an approach that is people centred, sustains and protects the ecological basis of our planet of which we are a part, and on which we depend.

The current definition must be broadened to one that places the characteristics of a social economy<sup>13</sup> and ecological protection at its core.

Trade should serve poverty eradication and sustainable development

Trade needs to be fair and pursued through sustainable practices. The global trading system is dominated by prominent and powerful trading interests, who have disproportionate leverage in the setting of trade rules. In this context the adoption of new restrictions promoted by major trading nations in the name of sustainability raise concerns over their potential use as additional conditionality towards countries with less leverage in the trading system. It is already difficult for many producers in developing countries to access global markets, the promotion of sustainable development should not be used to increase this trend and constrain the development of already poor countries. Much of the scepticism from developing countries regarding the Green Economy is based on concerns that new restrictions will be inappropriately used by more powerful trading nations for trade protectionist purposes. In particular, rich countries may use this to justify unilateral trade measures against the products of developing countries, or to impose product and technological standards that impact on producers in developing countries. Trade should be a supportive tool to processes of sustainable development, while avoiding green protectionism between countries (as stated in Principle 12 of the 1992 Rio Declaration). For those purposes, trade agreements that organize global trade flows should be revised and reshaped for the benefit of developing countries, including allowing developing countries more flexibility to support agro-ecological agriculture in order to reflect the principle of special and differential treatment and ensure the right of countries to regulate for the benefit of sustainable development objectives.

#### 4. Equity, Empowerment, Human rights and Democratic Participation as central to sustainable development

The first Principle of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development stated that "human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development". In this perspective promoting social, gender, economic and environmental equity, the reduction of inequality and the observance of human rights should be the basis of any development strategy. This requires the acknowledgement of (disproportionate) responsibility for the consequences of past and current actions and practices, and a commitment to make the changes necessary to ensure sustainability.

This can only be achieved by engaging citizens in such processes of change (Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration), pursued with full transparency and accountability. Ensuring access to information, raising awareness on sustainable development issues and improving participation of citizens and stakeholders in decision making processes are key elements for sustainable development; a development based on democratic ownership and accountability. The present major challenges will only be overcome by bringing coherence and harmony between global sets of goals, actions and regulations with bottom-up approaches retaining the focus at the local level. As these global challenges are interrelated, enhancing coherence between policies must be the overall priority at the global, regional and local level. A human rights based approach to development priority should be taken to addressing poverty in financing and development strategies with a particular focus on women.

#### Food security

A challenge facing the world is to feed 9 billion people by 2050. The majority of people living in absolute poverty live on small farms. Yet small holder farmers are responsible for growing much of the world's food. Agro-ecological<sup>14</sup> approaches to agriculture have proven effective in increasing yields while at the same time acting to protect the environment. Efforts to ensure sustainable development need to include these small farmers. Recognition must be given to the role of women who produce 60-80 percent of food in most developing countries. They are responsible for preparing food, and are the primary caregivers.

A woman's nutritional status is critical not only to her own health but also to her ability to maintain a secure livelihood and ensure that her children are properly nourished and healthy. Women therefore play a critical role in tackling food and nutrition security, and ensuring sustainability. Food production however, is not necessarily synonymous with production of nutritious foods. As such they have a perspective and understanding that is crucially important for defining effective approaches that help ensure sustainable development. Meeting increased demand for food must primarily be about producing the right type of food, foods that contribute to dietary requirements.

#### Energy

Access to energy is fundamental to achieving poverty eradication and is a prerequisite for social and economic development. The huge potential in developing countries to develop and rely on renewable energy is acknowledged by many. However, the choice of strategy towards harnessing this potential will be critical for determining whose interests that are really being served.

Globally 1.5 billion people are currently without access to electricity, the majority of them living in rural areas. Achieving increased equity in access to reliable and affordable sources of sustainable energy is central to reducing inequalities and enabling people to fulfil their potential. There is a predominant use of traditional biomass fuels for cooking which impacts on health and contributes to environmental damage.

According to forecasts the need for energy is going to exponentially increase in the coming decades. For poverty to be addressed and sustainable development ensured, prioritization needs to be given to providing access to renewable energy through small scale decentralized energy projects. There is a particular need for this in many least developed countries. Giving undue prominence to large scale energy programmes for which the primary objective is not the provision of access to the majority must be treated with caution. In addition, the sustainability of controversial energy generating schemes such as biofuel, nuclear energy or hydroelectric must be assessed not only on their projected carbon emissions, but also on their social, economic and ecological impacts in both the short and long term.

Furthermore, to ensure that energy access will benefit people living in poverty the particular social, economic and environmental situations in those countries should be assessed and taken into account in establishing strategies and targets. The rights of communities must also be fully respected. Improving energy efficiency in industrialised

countries and helping developing countries to achieve efficient use of natural resources is also crucial to ensure sustainable development. Diversifying energy sources is important for energy security; over relying on one source of energy for power generation such as hydropower or imported fossil fuel cannot ensure sustainable access to energy. There is an urgent need to scale up investments in small scale decentralised energy projects, renewable energy and energy efficiency practices.

Policy coherence for sustainable development is also an important concept to take into account and comply with in this context; countries' energy needs and their strategy for ensuring sustainable energy supplies must not be pursued in conflict with the needs of people in developing countries<sup>15</sup>.

#### Social protection and justice

Social protection is recognised as an aspect of the right to livelihood and social security. In a number of developing countries social assurance schemes are being put in place, mostly for formal sector employees.

In most countries the majority of people remain outside the system, including those living in poverty, with the least security and most vulnerable. The promotion of decent work is an important part of the social protection agenda and encompasses a broad set of issues, but for most developing countries additional provisions will need to be put in place for all parts of society to be covered.

In the context of the preparations for Rio+20 social protection and equity can be seen as being critical for developing a Green Economy. A sustainable Economy cannot be achieved without involving all parts of a society, without empowering people, without educating people, without social justice and people subject to living in poverty. Social protection needs to be extended to all as a right, and not just to those in formal employment. The provision of universal social protection is a role in which the international community as a whole must take responsibility.

5. Going beyond GDP is imperative to correctly measure sustainable development The domination of GDP per capita as a principal indicator of a country's development is inadequate for assessing the well being of its population. New indicators that go beyond GDP need to be used in order to

These indicators should fully take account of and integrate the three dimension of sustainable development. Well being should be redefined and human and environmental health in addition to the quality of life and social equity should be measured. Further, while it is important to widen the concept of well-being beyond income, the sustainability component needs to be measured as depletion (or renewable use) of "assets". While this is not an easy task, science is well advanced in the case of the atmospheric "space" and its depletion by gas emissions and in the case of fisheries. Unsustainable production and consumption patterns can be identified and changes in them can be measured.

These should also build on already existing initiatives such as the Human Development Index, the Better life Index, the Basic Capabilities Index, the Stiglitz commission's proposals or the International System for integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA), amongst others.

#### 6. Financing for sustainable development

Despite the world's current financial challenges significant levels of financing will be required from advanced countries for the implementation of strategies to achieve effective approaches to sustainability.

The private sector has an important role to play in this respect, within the context of a regulated framework, but this cannot be a substitute for public financing.

Commitment to achieve the development aid target of 0.7% of GDP by 2015 must be renewed; such promises need to be kept for developed countries to retain their credibility. The commitment for new and additional finance towards tackling climate change also needs to be recognised within this context.

New forms of innovative financing that have been under discussion for more than a decade can also be an important contribution towards the implementation of sustainable development strategies. The proposal for a financial transaction tax (FTT) should be taken forward, not only as a mechanism to generate financial resources but also as one means to reduce instabilities from speculation.

Ultimately the ability to effectively utilize much of these financial resources will rely on mechanisms that enable collective action to be pursued by the international community as a whole. These mechanisms need to operate with integrity and in accordance with principles underlying the concept of sustainable development.

Taxation systems need to be revised so that they promote sustainability. Taxation has an important redistributive role, and this needs to be encouraged in the outcome of the Rio 2012 conference. It can also encourage sustainability by penalising unsustainable practices and encouraging goods ones. These systems must be based on the principle that polluter pays, and all subsidies that undermine sustainable development must be eliminated. Sustainable practices must also be encouraged while more equitable distribution of the fruits of economic growth must be ensured. In developing countries, assistance should be provided to enable efficient tax systems to be put in place. In our current economic system too often taxation schemes favour unsustainable practices and contribute to increasing inequalities, this must change.

#### 11 7. The Role of the Private Sector in a Changing Economic Paradigm

Private sector actors are central to economic activity – as producers, service providers, and innovators.

They serve society, promote development and are crucially important for enabling a sustainable economy to be realised. Their ability to perform these roles depends on their viability, and on their ability to generate financial returns on their activities. Through their activities they contribute to the welfare of society, and respond to consumer demand. However, their need to remain viable and to generate financial returns does not automatically lead them to pursue sustainable practices. Recognition of the need for a regulatory framework is well established. The role of the private sector in promoting sustainable economies requires appropriate regulatory frameworks

Distinctions also need to be made between different actors within the private sector and the roles that they play. The role that small local enterprises play within their local community is very different from that of a transnational corporation with their leverage over markets, products, consumption patterns, trade rules, and indeed decisions taken by governments. Between these two extremes lie many variations.

Too often regulatory regimes in many countries are inadequate – in terms of environmental, social and financial policies. In addition tax systems are often not in place, ineffective, and/or distorted This enables private sector interests to be pursued, which are intrinsically driven by profit making, and which are not necessary compatible with sustainable approaches, or with promoting social justice. Some donor policies and current economic approaches tend to reinforce this situation, in part to encourage foreign investment.

For the contribution of the private sector towards sustainable development to be maximised there is a need for adequate regulatory mechanisms to be in place. A regulatory framework must ensure that private interests respect environmental sustainability. Modifying regulations so as to provide incentives that merely "encourage private green investments" without attaching obligations to private sector's activities (European Commission's communication) will not be enough. A proper assessment of human rights and environmental implications of present and future activities should be systematically undertaken, with appropriate actions being available to counter adverse results. In addition, solutions such as capital and trade regulations across all developed countries have yet to prove their validity and the first steps in that direction have been met

with financial speculation and abuse of the system leading to windfall profits for private agents.

Applying the UN principles of Corporate Social Responsibility, establishing independent control mechanisms and ensuring democratic accountability as well as implementing the UN "Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework for business and human rights should be made mandatory at Rio2012. There is also a need to establish binding country by country financial reporting as an international standard applying to all multinational companies, to adopt automatic, multilateral information exchanges which take account of the needs of developing countries, and sanctions should be imposed on countries that practise banking secrecy and make transactions to such jurisdictions.

Sustainability will only be possible through promoting social and economic justice for all, and where public rights are given preference over corporate privileges. The rights of indigenous peoples require special attention, and the importance of their participation in debates and actions for sustainable development should be fully recognized and promoted, as stated in Principle 22 of the Rio92 Declaration on Environment and Development.

#### 8. The institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

The international community must identify goals, targets and indicators for sustainable development that are based on and incorporate the three dimensions of sustainability. It must also recognise the importance of achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as an important essential step towards achieving sustainable development. The conference must recall the commitment to the achievement of the MDGs by 2015. New sets of commitments and goals for sustainable development should not be used as a substitute for the MDGs but build on them and reinforce the potential for their achievement. Reforms must be adopted that strengthen the international institutional framework so as to ensure the implementation of commitments by the international community. The global mechanism overseeing the implementation of sustainable development objectives should be strengthened by increasing the scope of its mandate and enhancing its capacity to ensure compliance with international commitments made on sustainable development. Such mechanisms must be transparent, accountable and adhere to democratic principles. They must encompass in a coherent manner the three dimensions of sustainable development and not favour one at the detriment of the two others.

This could include establishing an ombudsperson or commissioner to safeguard environmental and social conditions for present and future generations both at UN level and replicated nationally. At national level, ensuring better coherence and consistency between different policy portfolios such as trade, environment, economy, finance, development or social cohesion is a priority. The same applies at international level, linkages between institutions or organisations working on trade, development, finance or environment must be enhanced and an integrated, consultative and participatory approach to sustainable development must be adhered to. The participation of all stakeholders should be encouraged and ensured in all relevant fora and at every level.

#### 9. Conclusions

The recent crises have shown the limits of our economic model, one that has been promoted for decades by the world's most powerful nations. Despite increased trade and economic growth, inequalities between and within nations have not diminished but on the contrary have increased<sup>17</sup>.

Increased liberalisation will not deliver development, understood as a multidimensional concept encompassing economic, environmental and social progress, and even less sustainable development, a development where the notion of intergenerational equity determines the way policies are shaped and implemented.

On the contrary this model has led to increased instability, the emergence of multiple crises in part resulting from an inadequate global regulatory framework, an over emphasis on personal accumulation of wealth and inequitable global mechanisms, environmental degradation and increasing social inequalities. Our development model can only be sustainable by undertaking profound radical changes in the way we envisage economic development. The concept of the Green Economy is interesting through an environmental and economic point of view but it is too restrictive; it does not encompass the level of change needed for sustainable development nor does it sufficiently integrate the social dimension of sustainable development.

The structural imbalances in the global economic system that perpetuate inequalities and trap millions in cycles of poverty must be addressed. Redistributing power and putting in place democratically managed control and regulatory mechanisms that seek to enhance and protect public rights as opposed to corporate privileges are of crucial importance.

The purpose of policy should be to put people at the centre of any strategy and to ensure social, economic and environmental security. Sustainable development needs a proper balance between the three pillars of sustainable development and promoting equity. This will not only address poverty and contribute to economic development but has the potential to reduce conflict and foster increased tolerance. Sustainable development in all its manifestation must be central. A nation's policies should promote sustainable development without undermining that of other nations.

Rio2012 is an important opportunity to build on past commitments and secure their implementation. Governments need to recognise the urgent need to effectively address the challenges of past and present unsustainable practices and to commit to the far reaching changes that are necessary to place human development and environmental protection at the core of international relations and of the development model.

Contributions from stakeholders should be taken fully into consideration to ensure a good outcome at Rio2012. Unsustainable practices affect all of us and enhancing citizens' and stakeholders' participation is a key principle of sustainable development (principle 10).

Adopting binding internationally agreed time bound commitments and strategies for their achievement must be the ultimate objective of the Rio2012 conference. To achieve this requires the involvement of government leaders at the highest level. Countries must be represented at the level of Head of State and/or Governments in order to give the conference the importance it deserves.

October 2011

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## EvK2CNR

Mountains around the world supply a considerable number of ecosystem services of which we know partially the potential. In Italy, for example, mountain regions contribute about 20% to GDP. In order to recognize, value and capture of benefits deriving from mountain ecosystem services, and anticipate the threats to which they might be exposed it is important to constantly monitor in a rigorous and scientific way the natural capital from which these services are produced in order to preserve their flow. Italy, through Ev-K2-CNR, is contributing to this endeavour at the international level with the SHARE Project (Stations at High Altitude for Research on Environment).

Mountains host a wide range of ecosystems, different in quantity and quality and generally in a good state of conservation. These differences are so many that they are recognizable from regional scale down to valley level. This kind of richness in terms of diversity stands as a warning light to escape from the temptation to find monocausal explanations.

Considering the need of a reliable valorisation and preservation of the Natural Capital in mountains and also the abovementioned ecological, economic, and cultural diversity

(Human Capital) of the global mountain systems, it is recommended to establish regional centres of excellence and knowledge since approaches to Green Economy in mountains shall be designed according to local conditions and must be context appropriately, taking into account the specificities such as environmental fragility, vulnerability and low economies of scale. The creation of a network of multilevel integrated databases on global, regional and local scale with standard, reliable and certified data on Natural and Human Capital will represent a fundamental tool for the calculation of the economic values and the identification of the different development models.

## FAIR & Sbilanciamoci

### INDICATORS FOR A MORE SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE WORLD

Joint signature by FAIR and Sbilanciamoci!

The world is faced with more and more urgent major challenges questioning the living conditions of humanity, first of all the climatic disorders, but also the lack of very unequally distributed resources, water, food, energy. The Rio+20 conference offers an opportunity to mobilize, collect and coordinate national and international wills to move towards the solution of these challenges.

To do this, we need multiple indicators, economic, ecological and social ones, to fight against thirst, starvation, the multiple dimensions of poverty, environmental pressure, and for the respect of human rights. Widely available indicators (GDP) or biased ones (ANS, Adjusted Net Savings) are in fact irrelevant to take these challenges into full account, either to alert the world opinion, or, finally, to guide and coordinate the national and international policies needed.

Early in the 2000s, the FAIR (French acronym for Forum for other indicators of wealth) and Sbilanciamoci collectives have been thinking and acting on indicators of wealth, inequality, welfare and sustainability. We will mention quickly the extent of the shortcomings of the dominant indicators (1). Then we will consider the method to select more relevant indicators in order to alert the public opinion and to guide national and international policies (2). Finally, for some global issues, we will suggest first possible indicators in order to bring them under discussion (3). At the end of this document, we rapidly develop some complementary points and specify what the FAIR and Sbilanciamoci collectives are.

#### 1 Inadequate or misleading monetary indicators dealing with global challenges

Monetization, or evaluating with the same monetary unit, seems, at first sight, to be a very convenient tool for making commensurable goods and services that enhance the well-being (which is a positive aspect), and deterioration of the natural heritage or pollution due to production and transportation (which is a negative aspect). But at the same time it is a dangerous instrument because it develops the fiction that it is possible to make equivalent, and thus to add very different dimensions of well-being or ill-being. Even worse, monetization gives the illusion that it would be possible to compensate these damages to the environment through investments or additional consumption. But such valuation conventions are the basis of the dominant economic indicators, like GDP (and their more or less green variations) and the ANS, which add quite dissimilar values and so, may mislead us about the meaning of progress.

##### The GDP and its growth

Therefore we consider that, whatever the potential statistical usefulness of GDP in its domain of validity, it should not serve as a benchmark for policy-making, since it does not make a distinction between useful and harmful production. Moreover, the GDP indicator has contributed to conceal a number of major threats, including the environmental degradation that has spawned the ecological crisis and climate change to which the whole of humanity is now exposed. We welcome the fact that a number of renowned economists have underlined several of this indicator's drawbacks and expressed their criticisms of the GDP growth objective, which has made a major contribution over the last few decades to pushing our societies against the wall which now stands in our way.

##### The Adjusted Net Savings (ANS) and the "green GDP" expressed in monetary units.

These indicators may draw the attention of the economists who tend to evaluate everything in money. We believe that these indicators are inadequate to face the challenges of sustainability, not transparent and incomprehensible to non-specialists. They would necessarily lead to the same mistakes as those resulting from the excessive use of GDP. You should know that because of the assumption founding these composite indicators (the total substitutability between the economic, human and natural capital), countries that follow clearly an environmentally unsustainable path (China, USA) obtained much better results than poorer countries with low environmental footprint!

#### 2 How to choose appropriate indicators?

We have to build benchmarks for another world and for the transition. They must have a high legitimacy and they therefore cannot be defined from above even by the most renowned experts. We must thus dig in the participatory and deliberative democracy to define and to choose them. To do this, the right to speak up has to be given to the citizens involved (NGOs, trade unions, movements and civil society networks). It is up to such collectives to say what accounts, what can emancipate, what core values should underlie politic, economic, social and environmental choices, and what the indicators must be considered in order to lead us in the right direction.

#### 3 Some first proposals for possible indicators to put in the debate

FAIR and Sbilanciamoci do not intend to propose a list of solutions. This would be contrary to their approach favoring an indicator democracy. But as part of the involved civil society, we wish to point out the indicators that in our opinion deserve attention in the context of RIO + 20 and could be put into debate.

- National indicators of greenhouse gas emissions (per capita and total) in CO2 equivalent, using the method of "carbon footprint" of a population, which accounts for the "carbon imported" by the population (See for example <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/EN.ATM.CO2E.PC> )
- A composite indicator of environmental pressure: the ecological footprint (per capita and total) for the major renewable resources converted to "global hectares" or to "global acres" (cf. tables of ecological footprint and biocapacity, 2007, in [http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/footprint\\_for\\_nations/](http://www.footprintnetwork.org/en/index.php/GFN/page/footprint_for_nations/))
- Indicators of water consumption, according to the "water footprint" method considering "imported water".
- Indicators of deforestation.
- Physical indicators of biodiversity (see the EU report entitled "Halting the loss of Biodiversity by 2010: Proposal for a first set of Indicators to monitor progress in Europe", EEA Technical report No 11/2007" in: [http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical\\_report\\_2007\\_11/en/Tech\\_report\\_11\\_2007\\_SEBI.pdf](http://reports.eea.europa.eu/technical_report_2007_11/en/Tech_report_11_2007_SEBI.pdf)).
- Indicators of malnutrition and of the degree of populations' food security. See for example: <http://www.combat-monsanto.co.uk/spip.php?article478> .
- Indicators of national energy consumption (per capita and total) and the degree of energy dependence and sovereignty of the people.

- Indicators of rights and freedoms for all, drawing particularly from the proposals of the ILO Decent Work. (<http://www.ilo.org/integration/themes/mdw/lang--en/index.htm> , and <http://www.emploi.belgique.be/moduleDefault.aspx?id=23882>) and from the ideas of the Stiglitz Commission on this point.

- Indicators of income inequality such as the Gini index and indicators assessing the level of the informal economy in each country.

- Indicators of inequality and human poverty, including for example the Inequality-adjusted HDI (IHDl) and the Gender Inequality Index (GII) from the UNDP (Human Development Reports in the world, see the latest edition 2010, <http://hdr.undp.org/en/reports/global/hdr2010/> ).

## COMPLEMENTS

### About FAIR

The FAIR (Forum for Other Indicators of Wealth) Collective gathers some fifty scholars and activists thinking critically on the issues of the economic and societal progress indicators. The Stiglitz Commission was set up in 2008 by the French President to explore the limitations of current measurement indicators of socio-economic performance. FAIR was formed following the establishment of the Stiglitz Commission in order to ensure that existing work on these issues is taken into account. It also aims at ensuring that civil society is broadly involved in the Commission's deliberations.

FAIR actors state, in the conclusion of their manifesto translated into several languages and adopted in early December 2008: « It's by giving meaning to non economic trades and to "what matters the most for us" that we will be able to redefine the notion of wealth, to refund sharing rules, but also how to account or to redistribute in an appropriate way. We will be able to restore its fair place - not the whole place - to the economy. »

See for more information <http://www.forum-fair.org/>

### About Sbilanciamoci

Sbilanciamoci is an Italian coalition of 50 civil society organizations working on economic alternatives, globalization, peace, human rights, environment, fair trade and ethical finance. Since 2000, Sbilanciamoci has developed an alternative regional indicator called QUARS and, each year, applies it to elaborate an annual report reviewing the Italian Budget Law and to develop alternative proposals about how to use public expenditure for society, environment and peace arguing for social and environmental priorities. Sbilanciamoci! promotes national debate through the weekly web journal sbila

nciamoci.info. See for more information <http://www.sbilanciamoci.org/about-us/>

### An assessment of the Stiglitz Commission Report according to FAIR

The FAIR collective welcomes the publication of the report from the "Stiglitz Commission", formed on the initiative of the President of the French Republic. Overall, this report sends out a useful signal in as much as it calls into question the excessive dominance of GDP as an indicator to guide public policy.

However, two aspects of the report remain highly problematic. First, the report's conception of sustainable development is focused on the specific needs of future generations while ignoring two essential elements: on the one hand, the current unbearable social impact of the economic policies in place and, on the other hand, the demands of governance and democracy that should be taken into account in global wealth indicators.

The second problem concerns the role played by monetized indicators, which is excessive in our view. This is particularly the case of a proposed indicator derived from Adjusted Net Savings (ANS, developed by the World Bank), which is poorly suited, lacking in transparency and ungraspable for non-specialists. It would necessarily lead us to fall into the same misguided ways as those we should be seeking to correct. The report has been compiled as if the make-up of the Commission had rendered it unable to put into perspective what monetary accounts can tell us about human progress and "sustainability".

More information concerning the FAIR's statement on the Stiglitz Commission Report in: [http://www.idies.org/public/FAIR/FAIR\\_release\\_english.pdf](http://www.idies.org/public/FAIR/FAIR_release_english.pdf)

## SOME ASSESSMENT OF THE ANS AND GREEN GDP ACCORDING TO FAIR

### The "Green" GDP and other monetized indicators

One of the ways suggested to go beyond GDP is an improvement of the system of national accounts in terms of social and human progress and sustainable development objectives. At the forefront of these initiatives, "green GDP" is an extension of the GDP to which monetarily expressed variables are added or subtracted.

Although several of these indicators monetarily assess the cost of the environmental degradation and resources depletion, they are not in themselves synonymous with sustainability. They do not explicitly indicate the distance which separates the current situation from a goal of sustainability. The Adjusted net savings (ANS) claims to bridge this gap. This sustainability indicator developed by the World Bank aims at measuring the net change in wealth over a year. Derived from the traditional measure of gross national savings (share of national income not consumed during the year), ANS deduces an estimate of the consumption of fixed capital, the estimate of the depletion of natural resources and damage due to global pollution. The current expenditures in education are added to reflect the investment in human capital. As in the Green GDP, the value of changes in wealth is monetarily valued. For its promoters, a negative ANS launches a signal of over-consumption of capital in relation to a goal of sustainability. It is nevertheless a great mistake.

In fact, these indicators assume that the various capitals can be substituted to one another. In doing so, they are part of a "weak sustainability" approach, where the physical constraints of the ecosystem, easily violated by investments and technological improvements, somewhat contribute to shape collective and individual behavior. Other indicators, like the Ecological Footprint, are based instead on stronger sustainability conceptions.

These radically different visions might explain that many advanced economies accumulate a huge ecological debt, according to their Foot Print, even though their ANS presents them as sustainable.

### What monetary value to assign?

Both the "green GDP" and the ANS share a monetary unit of account. Summing monetary variables is often presented as a less arbitrary mode of aggregation than bringing together variables with assigned weights in a composite heterogeneous variable. Though, monetizing is often more questionable than explicit and democratic weighting.

First of all, currency means price. But giving a price to goods and services whose nature is not to be monetary exchange objects (domestic work or volunteer services, ecosystem services, etc.) is just as arbitrary as to grant them an explicit weight. Secondly, even in the case of market exchange, prices do not always take into account the whole costs for the society: for example, prices of goods that generate negative externalities underestimate these costs. Thus the economic value poorly or wrongly reflects social wealth. More fundamentally, can we reduce everything to a quasi-monetary value, with the risk, especially, of reducing the natural patrimonies of goods, gifts and activities to paid services? The choice to monetize is not neutral because in this choice the market is supposed to provide the central point for determining the monetary value

and thus the price of activities and assets.

However, determining the well-being that goods and activities bring to the society is not the exclusive characteristic of markets! Other methods, much more democratic, are needed, opening up the possibility of assessing their positive or negative impacts, including environmental pressures through the ecological footprint.

#### The limits to monetizing the living

The biological richness is largely ignored by our indicators of monetary wealth. Strictly speaking, as a 2005 United Nations report said, "a country could devastate its forests and deplete its fisheries resources, this would only show an increase in GDP despite the obvious loss of natural capital" (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2005). Some people, like the banker Pavan Sukhdev (2008), do not hesitate to say that this lack of monetary value of nature "is one of the underlying causes of its degradation." With the monetary valuation (PES, Payments for Ecosystem Services), the ecosystem services become externalities since they provide benefits which are not paid for. Payments for ecosystem services fail to account for value in a broader sense, beyond monetary value, and obliterate other social and ecological qualities. Finally, giving payments for ecosystem services disregards ecosystems complexity in order to facilitate market transactions based on a single exchange value (and imposes a market-driven conservation for biodiversity).

Several studies have provided findings these last years. Following the Stern Report, which has been trying to assess the global warming medium and long-term cost, the Sukhdev report (commissioned by the European Commission), or also the Chevassus-au-Louis report (2009) (commissioned by the French Government), have recently supplied the news. The Sukhdev report estimated for example that the current changes of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, as a result of human activity, could eventually cost \$ 100 billion a year and destroy 27 million jobs.

However, the process of giving a monetary value to nature finds its limits. The evaluation of actual services provided by nature, such as crop pollination by bees (that a group of researchers recently estimated at \$ 150 billion per year, Gallai and al., 2009), might go on. But the process becomes more difficult in the case of values less directly related to production: how much, for example, is the estimated loss of a living species that has no market value, directly or indirectly? In order to answer this question, economists often use surveys based on the populations' willingness to pay: the estimated value is based on the average price that people interviewed are willing to spend, for example, for preserving a species or protecting a medium. These valuation methods are the subject of criticism (Milanesi, 2010).

Many aspects are very difficult (or impossible) to accurately assess with a monetary approach. This approach may thus be limited, still for a long time, to a utilitarian approach, focusing on its service to the human economy. However, the report of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005) is unambiguous in this regard: why we want to protect biodiversity will largely determine the degree of protection that we will choose. Non-utilitarian and non-monetary values set more ambitious conservation objectives than utilitarian values do. What we do for biodiversity is therefore a societal choice, not just an economic choice.

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## FAIRTRADE International

Contribution to Rio + 20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

#### About us

Fairtrade is a global movement with a people first approach to trade. We tackle poverty and injustice by offering producers a better deal and an opportunity to improve their lives and invest in their future. In 2010 around 1.2 million farmers and workers in over 60 countries benefited directly from Fairtrade sales.

Fairtrade also offers consumers a powerful way to reduce poverty through their every day shopping. The international FAIRTRADE Certification Mark is the most widely recognized ethical label globally. Products carrying the FAIRTRADE Mark have met Fairtrade Standards, which are designed to address the imbalance of power in trading relationships, unstable markets and the injustices of conventional trade.

Fairtrade International (FLO) is an independent, non-governmental, not for profit organization working to secure a better deal for producers and is part of the wider Fair Trade movement<sup>1</sup>. Fairtrade International sets international Fairtrade Standards, organizes support for producers around the world, develops global Fairtrade strategy, and promotes trade justice internationally. For more information see [www.fairtrade.net](http://www.fairtrade.net).

#### Introduction

The resolution that endorsed the Earth summit 2012 re-affirms that "changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption (...) are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development". It further reiterates that "fundamental changes in the way societies produce and consume are indispensable for achieving global sustainable development and that all countries should promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, with the developed countries taking the lead and with all countries benefiting from the process (...)".

The Brundtland report already spelt out the clear link that exists between sustainable consumption and sustainable development. Although this link was reinforced in Agenda 21, there has been no shift in our consumption patterns in the last few decades. Unsustainable production and consumption patterns have led to severe environmental and social degradation. Moreover, the current economic model allows grossly inequitable trading relations to continue and fails to eradicate hunger, deliver sustainable livelihoods or development opportunities to people in developing countries. A "race to the bottom" ensues, with the environmental and social effects all too apparent.

More and more consumers are bucking the global trend and, through their daily purchases, are supporting schemes like Fairtrade that give farmers and workers better terms of trade, enabling them to improve their production practices, have more stable incomes and invest in their communities. Through Fairtrade, producers are able to access markets that recognize their efforts to improve their social and environmental practices, but that also recognize them as equal trading partners.

As the summit approaches, the proposals to move towards a green economy (in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication) are welcomed. It is concerning, however that although everyone agrees that sustainability is an economical, environmental and social issue, the focus still lays chiefly on environmental matters. The current argument is that human-wellbeing will increase at the same time as the move towards a green economy takes place. Reality shows however that this is not the case. Principle 5 from the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development states: "eradicating poverty is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development".

#### Fair Trade as best practice

The increasing popularity of Fair Trade in the last two decades shows people's appetite to consume more sustainably from an economical, environmental and social point of view. It also demonstrates that a different economic model is possible. Rio + 20 presents a unique opportunity to change the trajectory of current consumption and production

patterns.

On sustainable production

At the end of the supply chain, producers feel the pressure to deliver goods and services at increasingly low prices. But sound environmental and social production practices can only be achieved when they are economically feasible.

We call on governments to

- Promote the achievement of sustainable livelihoods through the payment of fair prices and the empowerment of small scale men and women producers as a keystone to achieve a sustainable and humane food system.
- Promote producers' access to trade under Fair Trade conditions and facilitate access to schemes such as Fairtrade, which empower producers to trade their way out of poverty.
- Support the creation of an enabling environment that allows Fair Trade producers to comply with market expectations in a greener economy through appropriate funding mechanisms (i.e. funding for adaption to climate change).

On sustainable consumption

In the context of a green economy, the sustainable consumption agenda focuses on the need to minimize the environmental impact without considering the possibility to maximize the social and economic impact of our purchases. The plight of disadvantaged producers in developing countries, particularly small scale men and women farmers, continues to be an important global issue as poverty and inequality abound. We call on governments to

- Acknowledge that sustainable consumption needs to consider the minimization of the environmental impact of purchasing decisions as well as the maximization of the social and economic impact of our purchases.
- Implement national sustainable procurement policies that include sourcing Fair Trade products. Fair Trade procurement guidelines pertaining to cotton uniforms, food, and beverage products need to be included in the traditional government procurement policies, and complement green procurement at the national and sub-national scale.
- Promote mutual supportiveness between trade and sustainable development, providing positive incentives for Fair Trade products or products that comply with certain environmental, social and human rights standards, in particular by ensuring fair revenues for producers and living wages for agricultural workers.

On the role of the private sector in sustainable development There is an increased expectation and support to the private sector as an actor to deliver sustainability outcomes.

We call on governments to continue supporting

- The private sector's role in development under the premises that it contributes to the human development of the people living in the areas where these interventions take place. In particular, we call on governments to prioritize the involvement of women and men smallholder farmers and other small scale private actors in such partnerships.
- Credible, transparent, multi stakeholder governed and owned certification systems like Fairtrade Trade can deliver sustainable outcomes, but only if an international, enabling policy environment is put in place to foster partnerships between all actors. This includes not only national governments but also local authorities, consumers and the private sector in global supply chains. We call on governments to send their Heads of State or Government to Rio + 20, and commit themselves to the above mentioned "Calls on Action".

Contact

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## Faith based organisations, by Franciscans International

This joint statement is the contribution of a coalition of faith based organisations<sup>1</sup>.

The Rio+20 Conference will take place at a crucial moment when our global community is facing a multidimensional crisis.

We reaffirm the importance of Principle 1 of the Declaration of Rio which states "Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature".

We also recognize that all human beings are part of an ecosystem comprising all living beings on earth, therefore both humans and nature must be at the center of our attention, when we work for human development in a sustainable way. All living beings are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with each other.

We stand for a holistic and ethical approach. The human person is a created being, as are nature and all its creatures. Not only are men and women good, but so too are all created beings and ecosystems. The Earth and cosmos don't belong to humanity but to God. Men and women need to be responsible for caring for creation.

Abuses committed because of arrogance and greed lead to injustice which results in suffering for all creation. In the context of a liberal market ideology, everybody works for his/her own interest primarily. Some will profit and many others will not. As long as free markets and maximization of profit are the only agreeable basis for a market economy, greed and non-solidarity are necessary prerequisites for its functioning.

(1. faith based organizations: Franciscans International, Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, Dominicans for Justice and Peace (Order of preachers), Edmund Rice International, Daughters of Charity, Vivat International)

We draw two criteria from this perspective: justice and the common good. Recognition and respect for the legitimate rights of individuals and peoples are at stake. The common good is "the good of all of us, made up of individuals, families and intermediate groups who together constitute society. It is a good that is sought not for its own sake, but for the people who belong to the social community and who can only really and effectively pursue their good within it. To desire the common good and strive towards it is a requirement of justice<sup>2</sup>. We highlight the need to link environmental issues with the common good. In order to take into consideration individuals as well as peoples, it is necessary to use a human rights based approach.

### OUR CONCERNS

The mainstream economic system is a market-based approach. Any single good is commodified. In the same logic, the human being is trafficked. Economic wealth is not the

only value. You cannot trade the value of a forest or a human body.

The “business as usual” system is predominant and contravenes strongly the Rio Declaration statement:

“All states and all people shall cooperate in the essential task of eradication of poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in order to decrease the disparities in standards of living and better meet the needs of the majority of the people of the world.”<sup>3</sup>

Our statement addresses the theme: “Green Economy and the eradication of poverty”.

UNEP currently states: “For the purposes of the green Economy Initiative, UNEP has developed a working definition of a green economy as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities”.

The Green Economy, while positive in principle, raises some concerns.

Economic growth is not the problem. The economy needs to generate benefits. The concern is about equity and shared benefits. “The world's wealth is growing in absolute terms, but inequalities are on the increase. In rich countries, new sectors of society are succumbing to poverty and new forms of poverty are emerging. In poorer areas some groups enjoy a sort of ‘super development’ of a wasteful and consumerist kind which forms an unacceptable contrast with the ongoing situations of dehumanizing deprivation. The scandal of glaring inequalities continues”<sup>5</sup>.

The Green Economy should be regarded as a mechanism which addresses social issues for eradicating poverty and environmental protection, rather than as a particular type of economic system. Climate change increases this growing chasm of inequality. It also calls all peoples to a new degree of partnership, where traditional knowledge is valued and where scientific knowledge is shared.

This will require the implementation of the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (Principle 7 Rio Declaration). This will enable less developed countries to make a technological leap, bypassing environmentally harmful stages of the development process, and moving directly to green technology.

We are living in a world with limited material resources. The production of ever more goods and services is only possible at the risk of the collapse of the earth's ecosystems as such. Green Economy must address the question of production and consumption patterns.

As environmental issues are global in scope, States need a system of global governance to develop and adopt a common policy on Sustainable Development, so as to ensure an effective implementation by public and private actors.

As the world has been experiencing a series of global crises, for instance the food crisis, banking crisis and is beginning to feel the effects of the climate crisis, it is crucial that we seek to protect the most vulnerable from shocks that affect their livelihoods and their rights to development and wellbeing. The provision of a social protection floor ensuring access to cash transfers and social services is an essential element of a comprehensive sustainable livelihood approach to development in the 21st century.

Access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice on environmental matters (Principle 10 of Rio Declaration) is a prerequisite to empower peoples, to respect self-determination, and to promote a rights-based approach. Women should be part of the process equally with men. In many countries, they are the custodians of the family, of the environment, and of traditions (Principle 20 of Rio declaration).

The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples advocates “free, prior and informed consent” (Article 19) to recognize indigenous peoples' inherent and prior rights to their lands and resources and to respect their legitimate authority to require that third parties enter into an equal and respectful relationship with them, based on the principle of informed consent.

## OUR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) We call for an ambitious strategy and fundamental reforms which will fill the gap of lack of accountability of governments in implementing agreements and meeting their international responsibilities to address Human Rights obligations.
- 2) We call for all States to put in place a social protection floor for people living in poverty.
- 3) We call for the equal participation of women in all decision-making processes.
- 4) We call for all States to implement the Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities.
- 5) We call for a renewed framework which will take into account the free prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples in all policies that affect them, at local, regional and national level.
- 6) We call for all States to recognize the inherent value of every human being and of the natural environment.
- 7) We call for all States to ensure that the shared benefits of the economy assure the common good and are not merely for personal profit.

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## Farmers

Farmers Major Group Submission to Rio +20

### Introduction

Farmers represent one-third of the world's population and one-half of its poor. Support for farming contributes to social and economic growth, including reducing poverty and hunger in developing countries, and fostering rural development and employment. Farmers and fisherfolk provide multiple goods and services to society, such as production of food, fibres, delivery of ecosystem services, and land stewardship.

### Call for Action

1) Increase the proportion of overseas development assistance focused on agriculture and rural development to 20%. Encourage countries to meet their commitments in IqAquila, CAADP (Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme), and other regional commitments. Reduce poverty by supporting smallholders since farmers represent one half of the world's poor and despite high profile promises, woefully few resources have truly begun to flow to help farmers break the poverty cycle. Agriculture and rural development must be treated in a holistic manner including establishing enabling conditions for investments for sustainable development in rural areas, which prioritize the needs of small scale food producers, including women, indigenous peoples, peasants and the rural poor.



- 2) Use a knowledge-based approach of best practices that sustain production and minimize the negative impacts of farming activities on the environment. Committing to increasing support for participatory approaches to farmer-to-farmer training, and participatory extension systems. Modern extension services must increase their capacity for two-way information sharing between experts in research and farmers themselves who have essential information on farming. Research and extension should be functionally linked and there should be pluralism in the approaches to implementing this form of education. Mobilisation of the scientific, donor, business, NGO, and farmer communities are needed to improve knowledge sharing. Recruiting, training, and retaining young people to farming and agricultural sciences is essential.
- 3) Develop new approaches to reward farmers for ecosystem services that also foster sustainability and address poverty by enabling smallholder farmers to break the subsistence cycle and include women farmers in these approaches.
- 4) Rural Women need equitable access to secure land tenure; programs to address poverty, worklessness, and poor educational options; foster value added and collective marketing options; and increase their participation and representation in farm organisations and politics. Women account for 60 to 80% of peasant growers and produce 90% of food in Africa and about half of all food worldwide. Yet in sub-Saharan Africa, only 15% of landholders are women and they receive less than 10% of credit and 7% of extension services. Policies that address gender inequalities could, conservatively, increase yields on women's farms by 2.5% to 4%.
- 5) Guarantee the rights of farmers to participate in decision making processes in all aspects of agriculture processes including research, production, distribution, pricing, marketing, standard setting, policy making and regulation of the agricultural commodities market, and empower them to exercise these rights.
- 6) Agriculture must be enabled to nourish all people and communities, both today and in the future, with healthy, diverse and culturally appropriate food that respects animal welfare and the integrity of natural ecosystems at both the local and global level.
- 7) Prompt the creation and development of regional, national and local agricultural policies, in collaboration with representative farm organisations. These must be able to provide a framework adapted to developing sustainable agricultural production, to mobilise investment, accompany the development of local production, open up rural areas, ensure the viability of agricultural activity which guarantees a fair income for farmers, the installation of young farmers and the renewal of generations and strengthens farm organisations.
- 8) At the same time, the reduction of post harvest losses, food waste and excessive consumption are essential to improve health and reduce environmental damage. Today, the average adult in an OECD country eats an unnecessary and unhealthy extra meal each day (roughly an extra 750 Cal). About 25% of the energy and water and the associated greenhouse gas produced used in OECD countries is wasted. At least 50% of OECD adults are overweight or obese. Obesity costs the OECD states almost \$300 billion per year an amount that is more than enough to meet all of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, with around \$100 billion leftover.
- 9) Ensure small scale food producers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, peasants and the rural poor are provided with enhanced access to information as a basis for decision-making; access to justice; and free, prior and informed consent for both policy development and implementation actions on the ground, including issues that pose a threat to local food security and tenurial rights such as land-grabbing.
- 10) Reference the recent and successful work of CSD-17 as negotiated text and develop means to implement the outcome. Agriculture and the Green Economy All three aspects of sustainable development social, economic, and environmental remain equally important. The goal must be to: continuously improve agriculture around the world through knowledge sharing to improve the lives and livelihoods of farmers while reducing the footprint of farming.

#### The social aspect

Achieving Millennium Development Goal #1 of alleviating poverty and hunger demands a focus on agriculture to:

- Develop policies with farmer-centered approaches;
- Understand, analyze, and appreciate the knowledge of farmers at the local level;
- Focus research on farmers' needs and involve participatory processes with farmers;
- Popularize new policies, extension programs, practices and technologies to beneficiaries in their languages and considering the farmers' level of education;
- Ensure that investments made in agriculture must be beneficial to local communities;
- Develop special, culturally-sensitive programs for women smallholder farmers and indigenous communities;
- Engage youth in current social and economic transformations, including farming;
- Increase access to health and social services in remote areas;
- Fight against all kinds of social inequalities.

#### The economic aspect

Considering the fact that farmers feed the planet and contribute to the world economy, it is shocking that they are the first victims of food insecurity and chronic poverty. Accordingly, policy makers must:

- Empower farmers in organizational frameworks and encourage them to organise in marketing groups;
- Evaluate agricultural improvement not only in terms of production but also in terms of farmers' income indicators;
- Analyze and take care of their decisions' impact on local farmers;
- Consider the impact of the agricultural sector on national economies, and allocate budget to this sector matched with its real value;
- Reduce administrative costs of agricultural programs so that beneficiaries can benefit from them;
- Ensure international and regional markets don't impede local ones;
- Develop infrastructure in rural areas where agriculture is done.

#### The environmental aspect

It is vital to safeguard our natural resources such as land, water, air, forests, animals and others. So, human beings have to:

- Control exploitation of natural resources;
- Increase resource efficiency, particularly of nutrients and water;
- Create a better collaboration with farmers, the scientific world and environmental policy makers;
- Use practices which improve our biodiversity, soil quality, and watershed management;
- Encourage breeding and production of underutilized crops;
- Foster sustainable and humane livestock management and encourage good animal husbandry;
- Focus research on new practices which address climate change, sequester and store carbon in the soil and reduce releases from waste materials and energy sources;
- Clearly explain environmental issues in easy terms understandable by a farmer;
- Regularly inform farmers on weather conditions to allow them to plan their farming activities accordingly;
- Respect equity and equality principles on natural resources use and benefits.

#### Governance

1) Sustainable Development is a valuable concept that requires a unique mechanism for governance linked to ECOSOC. It is important to remain focused on approach that integrates all elements of sustainable development.

2) Science and scientific review and research are vital to policy development in sustainable development and sustainable agriculture. This is needed in international, regional, and national policy making and decisions should be science-based. Research is needed into all forms of agriculture and respecting traditional knowledge. Funding for community-based knowledge systems, such as participatory extension services, must receive equal priority to agricultural research and development, both public and private.

3) UN specialist agencies, such as FAO, IFAD, and WFP, must retain leadership in their areas of core expertise. Agriculture requires better co-ordination throughout the UN system under the leadership of the specialist agencies.

#### Emerging Issues

1) Disaster Risk Reduction is more than forecasting disasters. It is creating resiliency to cope with change and challenge. A particular focus is needed on disaster risk reduction for smallholder farmers and those affected by long and short term climate change.

2) Drought and Desertification is increasing. Programming must support better rain water harvesting, more efficient use of water in agriculture, and crops better adapted to dryland conditions. Targets for reclamation of lands are essential.

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## Farming First Steering Committee

Agriculture for a Green Economy: improved rural livelihood, reduced footprint, secure food supply

The transition to a green economy is fundamental for addressing the social, environmental, and economic pillars of sustainable development.

As a sector, agriculture is essential to the green economy. With a predicted 9 billion people by 2050, agricultural production will have to increase to meet new demands, for food, feed, fuel and fibre.

Agriculture must not only meet demand – it must also do so while minimising its environmental footprint and creating sustainable livelihoods for farmers and others along the supply chain. In a time of food insecurity and with the largest share of its population in developing countries living in rural areas, the world cannot afford to ignore the potential of agriculture to achieve the triple goals of a secure food supply, poverty reduction through improved rural livelihoods, and environmental sustainability through reduced footprint of production and climate change adaptation.

Agriculture by nature represents a mosaic of solutions and practices, focused on farmer needs and knowledge sharing. Sustainability is a moving target towards which farmers in different geographies and farming systems are already moving and they will need support to continuously improve.

Agriculture for a Green Economy:

improved rural livelihood, reduced footprint, secure food supply

Agriculture in a green economy means a broad-based, knowledge-centred approach to agricultural development. Key to achieving this goal is a focus on:

- Addressing implementation gaps through support for knowledge sharing; and advisory and training services;
- Ensuring agricultural policies are based on science;
- Supporting productivity through innovation and best practices.

The Farming First coalition supports the implementation of the outcomes of CSD17 on agriculture as the basis for any outcome on agriculture for Rio+20.

#### 1. Reducing Poverty

Agriculture can be a potent driver for poverty reduction. The World Bank estimates that GDP growth from agriculture generates at least twice as much poverty reduction than any other sector. Currently 65 percent of people in developing countries are involved in agriculture. 1.3 billion of them are small farmers, with limited access to inputs, infrastructure and markets<sup>1</sup>. In countries where agriculture represents one of the primary livelihoods, concerted efforts to improve productivity through sustainable practices could change the lives of millions.

A dynamic and productive agriculture sector is also essential for the urban sector. In 2010, for the first time ever, more people lived in urban areas than in rural areas globally. Urban populations are dependent on the agricultural sector for most of their consumption, so improving local production and trade is crucial; but it also means a world of opportunities for farmers who can reach the urban market.

Making agriculture a dynamic sector will require the adoption of supportive frameworks and investment in infrastructure and markets. Farmers need to be able to access markets at the local, regional and global level in order to sustain a livelihood from their activities. In some areas, this means improving access to transport, storage and market

facilities. In Tanzania, US\$2.4 billion of investment is being directed towards tripling the area's agricultural output and maximising the trade potential of the Dar es Salaam port for Tanzania's neighbouring landlocked countries. Through the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania project (SAGCOT), both public and private sector organisations are supporting 20,000 smallholders to become commercial farmers to bring in annual revenues of an estimated US\$1.4 billion into the country.

Access to weather and price information and improved seeds also helps farmers grow better crops and sell at better prices. For instance, in India, a late December harvest of mustard seeds was causing up to 30 percent of crop to be lost to frost, so breeders worked on a seed with a shorter duration period. This enabled farmers to harvest in early December, avoiding the issue of frost. Farmers also benefited from better prices as they were able to bring their seeds to the market before the usual excess occurred in January.

## 2. Enhancing sustainable productivity

Improving the footprint of agriculture while increasing production needs a concerted effort in two areas: first closing the uptake gap of existing best practices and technologies by focusing on knowledge sharing and creating supportive extension services networks; and second investing in innovation and research to provide the solutions for tomorrow and ensure agricultural policies are science-based.

Enhancing sustainable productivity must be the centre of efforts to make agriculture both environmentally sound and economically dynamic – we need to achieve more crops per drop of water, per acre of land, per measure of inputs. This is essential to ensure the surface of land under cultivation does not expand, in order to preserve biodiversity and natural carbon sinks. Producers need to be integrated in value chains and new activities need to be developed in processing and other sectors to improve rural incomes and ensure that growth in productivity translates into better livelihoods.

The 2009 Keystone 'Field to Market' research found that gains in yield per acre in the past 20 years in the USA had also been accompanied by significant improvements in the overall efficiency of resource use. The project looked at key crops such as soybean and maize and found reduced use of irrigated water, reduced soil loss, habitat loss, energy use, and lower carbon emissions. The Field to Market study clearly showed that progress has been made by farmers in the path to increased sustainability while enhancing their productivity.

Additionally, efforts should be increased to promote sustainable agri-food systems throughout the lifecycle. In 2010, FAO estimated that poorly developed systems for handling, storage, packaging, transportation, and marketing of agricultural products in developing countries results in post-harvest losses ranging from 15% to a staggering 50%. Investment in food infrastructure and handling could reduce losses and improve food safety. Developed countries also face losses due to food waste from harvest, through delivery to food services, and in households. Waste is worst in fresh produce which delivers vital nutrients to humans around the globe.

## 3. Innovation, Research and Extension services

Agriculture is a knowledge-intensive sector. Farmers need to have access to training, extension services, and sharing of traditional knowledge that can encourage the production of abundant and nutritious crops and mixed diets. Knowledge helps farmers adopt practices that maximise the efficiency of the inputs they use and help protect the natural resources they depend on. Training programmes should specifically involve women farmers in developing countries as essential 'gatekeepers' for household nutrition and welfare.

Providing this education to rural communities in a systematic, participatory manner is essential to improving their production, income and quality of life. Extension services disseminate practical information related to agriculture, including correct use of improved seeds, fertilisers, tools, tillage practices, water management, livestock management and welfare, marketing techniques, and basic business skills to address poverty. Extension is also an essential pillar for rural community progress including support for the organisational capacity of farmers' groups and the formation of co-operatives.

Modern extension services must increase their capacity for two-way information sharing – between experts in research and farmers themselves who have essential information on farming. Research and extension should be functionally linked and there should be pluralism in the approaches to implementing this form of education. Mobilisation of the scientific, donor, business, NGO, and farmer communities are needed to improve knowledge sharing, as well as local, reliable SME's such as agro-dealers to be able to adopt new practices and technologies.

The Empowering Smallholder Farmers in Markets (ESFIM) programme promotes this collaborative approach to research. Working in eleven developing countries, the initiative both partners farmers' organisations with local researchers to voice their requirements more effectively, and provides farmers' organisations with information and knowledge that will strengthen their ability to collect, organise and exchange experiences and knowledge.

Farmers must constantly adapt, and the challenge of climate change is making that need ever more acute. Investing in research and development, in both public and private sector, is essential to ensure farmers have the tools they need in the future and that the gains obtained in productivity and footprint are not undermined.

Targeted investment in research, combined with supportive frameworks for the roll out, diffusion and uptake of the products of research are essential to support continuous improvements in agricultural sustainability. In particular, research on the needs, aspirations and knowledge of smallholders in the developing world can help ensure agricultural solutions are appropriate for local conditions. Interdisciplinary research into agricultural production, supply chains and consumption needs to be supported to ensure a holistic approach to agricultural development.

The Farming First coalition supports prioritising the following areas of research:

- Conduct agronomic research related to water availability, soil fertility and post-harvest losses, as well as climate change challenges
- Conduct research into crop varieties needed by the poorest and most vulnerable regions
- Promote farmer-centred research in accordance with their needs
- Explore alternative and efficient uses for agriculture products and by-products along the value chain • Support research on the nutritional quality of foods.

## Recommendations to Policymakers

As global leaders prepare to meet at the Rio+20 (UNCSD) summit in 2012, they should not neglect the central role of agriculture in delivering a green economy and to the role of farmers as drivers of these changes.

Comprehensive solutions are needed for sustainable agriculture, and the Farming First Principles offer a comprehensive view of how this may be achieved. In the context of discussions on the Green Economy, Farming First supporters offer the following recommendations for incorporating agriculture into their agenda focusing on the "green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication".

1. Poverty reduction: Make agriculture a driver for poverty reduction by ensuring policies link producers to markets and enable value to be created throughout the supply chain to help create income opportunities and diversify rural activities.
2. Focus on enhancing sustainable production and productivity: the world will need to produce more with less to meet demand and reduce its environmental footprint. Increasing production and productivity should be a priority to protect habitat.
3. Invest in training, knowledge sharing, extension services, as well research and development to close the uptake gap for existing tools and ensure new solutions are available for tomorrow.

## Farming First Principles

### A Call for Action

Farming First provides a call-to-action for policy-makers and practitioners to develop a locally sustainable value chain for global agriculture. It emphasises the need for knowledge networks and policies centred on helping subsistence farmers to become small-scale entrepreneurs. The framework highlights six interlinked imperatives for sustainable development.

1. Safeguard natural resources. Land management should be improved through the widespread adoption of sustainable practices of land use.

- Conservation agriculture can be used to prevent soil erosion and land degradation.
- Manage watersheds and water use more efficiently.
- Protect wildlife habitat and biodiversity through an integrated ecosystems approach.
- Provide incentives for improving ecosystem services.
- Promote a sound management of chemical substances, including through the improvement of health and safety conditions for agricultural workers.

2. Share knowledge. While much of the knowledge needed to improve global agriculture already exists, including within remote indigenous communities, it often does not reach those farmers that could benefit most.

- Increase the level of education on crop and natural resource management for farmers and agricultural workers, including women.
- Take substantive measures to eliminate child labour and make sure children benefit from decent work conditions and access to education.
- Promote the development of village-based knowledge centres.
- Provide access to scalable information technologies for farmers, including women and young farmers, to receive weather, crop, and market alerts, as well as other early warning systems to help them make the right decisions for sustainability and productivity.
- Establish open and transparent two-way exchanges that capture the 'voice of the farmer' in the process of policy formulation and implementation.

3. Build local access and capacity. Fundamental resources should be available to farmers, including women and young farmers, to help them manage their production process more reliably and at less cost.

- Secure access to land and water resources, especially for women farmers.
- Provide rural access to microfinance services, especially to microcredit.
- Build infrastructure – particularly roads and ports - to make supplies available to farmers.
- Establish training programmes in infrastructure management, operations and maintenance for local and regional settings.
- Improve access to agricultural inputs and services, including mechanical tools, seeds, fertilisers, and crop protection materials.
- Encourage and co-ordinate multiple local actors to ensure information and supplies get into farmers' hands.
- Invest in bioenergy to achieve energy security and rural development through sustainable, local production.

4. Protect harvests. In many of the poorest countries, 20-40% of crop yields are lost because of inadequate pre- and post-harvest support. Likewise, vast quantities of food are squandered during the production and consumption phases of the food chain.

- Build local storage facilities and transportation mechanisms, including cold chain storage for food preservation.
- Localise the application of agronomic knowledge, pestidentification and meteorological information.
- Educate the public on sustainable consumption and production needs and behaviours, including the need to reduce food waste.
- Provide risk management tools to support farmers in managing weather and market variations.

5. Enable access to markets. Farmers need to be able to get their products to market and receive equitable price treatment when they do.

- Provide remote access to up-to-date market pricing information.
- Develop well functioning markets through transparent information, fair prices, sound infrastructure and reduced speculation.
- Encourage co-operative approaches to marketing for smallholders.
- Improve smallholder farmers' marketing skills through entrepreneurship training.
- Reduce market distortions to improve opportunities for all strata of agriculture worldwide.

6. Prioritise research imperatives. Achieving sustainable agriculture requires intensified, continuous research, prioritising locally relevant crops, stewardship techniques, and adaptation to climate change.

- Conduct agronomic research related to water availability, soil fertility and post-harvest losses, as well as climate change challenges.
- Conduct research into crop varieties needed by the poorest and most vulnerable regions.
- Promote farmer-centred research in accordance with their needs.
- Improve productivity through the responsible use of science and technology.

- Establish public-private research collaboration around integrated solutions.
- Increase investments from governments and business towards relevant R&D.
- Explore alternative uses for agriculture-based by-products along the value chain.

#### About Farming First

Farming First is a global coalition calling for a broad-based, knowledge-centred approach to increase agricultural output in a sustainable and socially responsible manner. The coalition includes scientists, farmers, engineers, business, and NGOs.

For more information on Farming First's work on climate change, please visit our website at [www.farmingfirst.org/climatechange](http://www.farmingfirst.org/climatechange)

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## FDI World Dental Federation

Statement by the FDI WORLD DENTAL FEDERATION to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

Rio+20, June 2012

FDI World Dental Federation, Geneva, Switzerland

Contact: Jean-Luc Eiselé, FDI Executive Director; [jleisele@fdiworldental.org](mailto:jleisele@fdiworldental.org)

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Statement by FDI World Dental Federation: Oral health – an essential component of poverty eradication and sustainable development

FDI reiterates its commitment to the principles outlined in the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and of Agenda 21. In particular, we believe that human health and well-being must be a central tenant of any global agreement made at the UNCSO Rio+20.

The World Health Organization recognised the relevance of oral conditions in a World Health Assembly resolution in 2007 and adopted an action plan for oral disease prevention (WHA60/R17). We urge governments to act on this resolution, which also includes a plea for strengthened global collaboration.





The Political declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (NCDs), adopted in New-York on 19th September 2011, recognized that oral diseases pose a major health burden for many countries and share common risk factors with NCDs, notably unhealthy diet (particularly high sugar consumption), tobacco, and harmful alcohol use, related to poverty and social inequalities.

Furthermore, FDI applauds the Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health, adopted in Rio de Janeiro on 21st October 2011, reiterating in Art 16.4 "the important policies needed to achieve both sustainable development and health equity through acting on social determinants." FDI fully supports item C.42 of the Objectives of the Rio+20 conference (A/CONF.216/PC/): "Poverty eradication and enhancement of the livelihoods of the most vulnerable deserve priority in measures promoting a green economy transition."

FDI recommendations for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

Focus on poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development

In the final outcome documents of UN Conference on Sustainable Development, FDI would like to see:

-  Clear recognition that the prevalence of oral diseases should become a key indicator for poverty eradication and sustainable development
-  Strong support for all measures contributing to a reduction of common risk factors for NCDs such as unhealthy diet, tobacco, harmful alcohol use, and lack of exercise.
-  A focus on the environmental, economic and health benefits of adopting a collaborative approach to the prevention of oral diseases within the institutional framework for sustainable development.
-  Develop policies and strategies to support effective and sustainable 'green dentistry' initiatives, which emphasise the lifecycle approach.

These recommendations derive from:

The link between health, poverty eradication and sustainable development

Evidence and experience have demonstrated that health and sustainable development are closely linked. Whilst acknowledging the considerable improvements achieved in development and poverty eradication, FDI regrets the limited progress made in bringing together historically independent social, environmental and economic policy at a national and international level.

This should place health at the centre of the international negotiation process as a necessary precondition for sustainable development and fundamental to social, environmental and economic development. Such an approach should address the social, environmental and economic determinants of health as a means of reducing health inequities through the integration of health into all outcomes of the summit. These should call for the provision of access to medicines, health services, adequate food and clean water for drinking and sanitation. FDI looks to Rio+20 to enhance and further validate the social determinants of health as a core concept in sustainable development.

We urge governments to ensure that all people have equal access to at least basic oral care and prevention through the integration of oral diseases into the context of poverty eradication and NCDs. The recognition of oral health as part of global priorities would provide a strong basis for concerted national and international action. It is imperative that global, comprehensive strategies to eradicate poverty must include oral diseases; in addition, effective prevention strategies should also address the social determinants of health.

The scale of the challenge

Oral diseases are some of the most common chronic diseases, affecting more than 90% of the world's population. They have a significant impact on overall health, mental and physical well-being, as well as on child development and educational performance. Moreover, the prevalence and severity of oral diseases are on the rise due to lifestyle

changes, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, which can least afford to deal with the consequences.

With many countries reaching a critical threshold of development in the near future, it is even more important to address the rising trend of lifestyle-related diseases in the context of sustainable development before it is too late.

In terms of health economics, oral diseases are the second to fourth most expensive area of national health budgets. However, for large segments of the world's population, oral conditions remain untreated due to unavailable or unaffordable oral health care services. The socio-economically disadvantaged suffer most from oral diseases, as they do from other chronic diseases; oral and general health are closely interrelated and conditions like cardiovascular disease, HIV/AIDS, diabetes, arthritis, low-birth weight infants, underweight children and malnutrition all have significant links to oral conditions.

The need for enhanced global collaboration

As a member of the World Health Professionals Alliance WHPA the FDI strongly recommends addressing workforce planning, health system strengthening and collaborative practice for oral health as integral part of national planning. An intersectoral approach to poverty eradication should include prevention of oral diseases and will have significant benefits in terms of strengthening health system care delivery and improving access to care; thus resulting in measurably improved health outcomes.

FDI World Dental Federation

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FDI World Dental Federation is a membership organisation composed of more than 200 member National Dental Associations and specialist groups, altogether representing more than one million dentists worldwide. The FDI vision is leading the world to optimal oral health, acknowledging that oral health is a fundamental part of general health and well-being. This vision is brought to life through being the global voice for oral health and delivering excellence in oral health policy and promotion, continuing professional education, and access to care.

The FDI's Mission Statements are:

 To be the worldwide, authoritative and independent voice of the dental profession

 To promote optimal oral and general health for all people

 To support the member associations in enhancing the ability of their members to provide oral health care to the public

 To advance and promote the ethics, art, science and practice of dentistry

The organisation is governed by a Council of delegates from member associations that are elected by a General Assembly during the FDI Annual World Dental Congress. Five standing committees carry out work in the key areas of communications and member support, dental practice, education, science, and world dental development and health promotion. FDI World Dental Federation is a non-governmental organisation (NGO) in official relations with the United Nations (UN) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

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## Federal Institute for Less-Favoured and Mountainous Areas

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24 October 2011

Sustainable Mountain Development

(Contribution for the compilation document towards Rio+20)

Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the recognition of the need for mountain-specific development strategies has risen in many regions. As the demand for goods and services from mountains has grown considerably a stronger targeting of respective policies is sought. Moreover, the ability of mountain systems to provide essential goods and services for all of humanity is increasingly under threat from ongoing land degradation, a chronic lack of investment, climate change and globalization.

The Federal Institute for Less-Favoured and Mountainous Areas (BABF), a Mountain Partnership member, recognizes that despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development of mountain regions, national and international development agendas still treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments. As a result, poverty rates are in general higher than in non-mountain areas, depicting the excessive dependency of mountain regions on development centers. Regional initiatives to foster innovation and cooperation of mountains have started, but need further policy incentives and priorities for enhancing effectively the development process.

A positive example for international efforts to support sustainable mountain development and promote mountain ecosystem goods and services at the institutional framework level and green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication in Europe is the Alpine Convention (partners: eight alpine member states and the European Union; see: [www.alpconvention.org](http://www.alpconvention.org)). Recently similar transboundary activities were established in other mountain ranges like the Carpathians ([www.carpathianconvention.org](http://www.carpathianconvention.org)) and the Balkans and the Dinaric Arc (<http://www.mtnforum.org/en/content/towards-network-mountain-protected-areas-balkans->

and-dinaric-arc) and others. Specific support for mountain farming and organic farming are of crucial importance for sustainable development in mountain areas in Europe.

In the context of a Green Economy, new opportunities for investments by the private sector are emerging in mountain regions, especially in sustainable agriculture and forestry, and ecosystem goods and services. However, innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to trigger governance models and decision support systems aiming at both the integration of the social, ecological and economic capital at all scales in mountain regions, as well as the actual mainstreaming of mountains into overall national development and conservation processes. Future action has to reflect increasingly the linkages to food supply and food sovereignty issues at a global scale.

Enhancing the global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit poor mountain communities and indirectly humanity as a whole. Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, activities for a fair distribution of natural and human resources, as well as low carbon technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential for the future of sustainable mountain farming, integrated development in mountain areas, people living in mountain areas and also people living in lowlands depending on mountain ecosystem services.

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## FEED BRAZIL 2012

### FEED BRAZIL 2012

#### General Content:

The UN Rio+20 Conference will consider two important themes: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the institutional framework for sustainable development.

#### Executive summary for submission

This submission, evolved from a workshop and subsequent related meetings held October 2011, in Norway arranged by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), Department of International Affairs; in co-operation with the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research and the Norwegian Year of Science, and in association with the OECD Steering Group on Governance of International Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation to Address Global Challenges (STIG). There was representation from a wide range of interest groups including universities, research organisations and private companies.

One of the main issues considered was "International Co-operation in Science, Technology and Innovation to address global challenges: Food, Water, Energy and Community." In addition to this was the issue of "Making it Happen."

The aim of this submission is to raise awareness of the need for sustainable case studies in the field that demonstrate ways to resolve or ameliorate environmental issues associated with food production. We aim to test a new innovative environmentally friendly greenhouse that is suitable for arid or urban areas where water is an issue. A green socio-economic business model is being designed for this project as part of the plan to integrate the project into the local community and reduce poverty.

The FEED BRAZIL 2012 submission is a live demonstration project, currently evolving. FEED stands for Food and Energy Eco Dynamics. The submission is being lodged by a multi-disciplined working group that attended the workshop and subsequent meetings in Norway. The Working Group Committee for FEED BRAZIL 2012 include representatives from: Hydro ASA (international aluminum company); Westvik Innovation Foresight & Communication (social and business development consultant); Life Synthesis AS (technical advisor for innovative greenhouse building system); Phoenix Planning Design AS (sustainable development consultants); with Norwegian University of Science and Technology (as the proposed educational and scientific partner); Lindum ASA (consultant for engineered eco-systems for food production); and SINTEF Water and Environment (as the proposed advisor on water systems).

Ongoing meetings and workshops are planned for November and December 2011, with the aim of forming a steering committee for a Government/Private cooperative project. This will include representation from relevant government institutions; local grass roots organisations; educational and research organisations as well as other appropriate new partners to deliver the project in the first half of 2012, so that a presentation can be made to the Rio +20 Summit on progress of this case study.

The following comments for the Rio +20 Summit developed out of issues that were discussed at the workshops. They are presented from the FEED Working Group.

a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

Support for new methods of food production to address the impacts of climate change.

The impacts of climate change are increasing at an alarming rate and the unpredictability of droughts, storms and temperature fluctuations are having a major impact on food production. We need new approaches on how we can supply food and nutrition. It is important after 20 years of talking since the first World Summit in 1992 that steps be set in place to reduce or ameliorate the impacts of man on the environment be given support and made a matter of priority.

Existing technology and traditional methods of farming alone are clearly not coping, so new innovative ways that will help reduce the impact of man on the environment need to be found. Science, Technology and Innovation have an important role to play in the process of developing and testing innovative radical solutions. However, for the solutions to be truly sustainable, they also need to be integrated into a social and economic framework.

It should be noted that the concepts outlined in the Rio 1992 World Summit, Agenda 21, Item 31.1 are just as relevant today as when they were first made.

#### SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COMMUNITY INTRODUCTION

31.1. ...The cooperative relationship existing between the scientific and technological community and the general public should be extended and deepened into a full partnership. ....Decision makers should create more favourable conditions for improving training and independent research in sustainable development. Existing multidisciplinary approaches will have to be strengthened and more interdisciplinary studies developed between the scientific and technological community and policy makers and with the general public to provide leadership and practical know-how to the concept of sustainable development. .... ;

a. It is recommended that the RIO+20 Summit resolve:

1. that projects using the principles in accordance with Agenda 21, Item 31.1, should be supported and encouraged by their relevant Governing bodies.

2. that there is a need for multinational policy initiatives for developing new modes of governance of international research and innovation projects for addressing global challenges.

b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

b. It is recommended that the RIO+20 Summit resolve:

3.to note that many of the global challenges faced by the world today are caused by systemic failure consisting of social, economic, cultural, biological, technological and/or environmental factors, and that there are impact-chains between challengeslike climate change, energy supply, water access, food delivery and health. This means that global challenges cannot be adequately addressed by single actors, or by the use of one technology or one instrument only.

New knowledge and new technologies are needed, as well as new insight into the feedback loops of these systems. Governments and relevant international organisations and enterprises should therefore be encouraged to strive towards developing new and improved modes of governance of international research and innovation collaboration, and to fund and coordinate such research and innovation processes.

c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

c. It is recommended that the RIO+20 Summit resolve:

4.that as part of the search for solutions to the impacts of climate change, Government and Private initiatives should be more flexible and expand their criteria for funding developing innovative technology and new multi-partner workgroups that create a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

d. It is recommended that the RIO+20 Summit resolve:

5.to note that innovative projects that inspire and encourage people to find alternative and sustainable solutions that involve joint Government, Private and Community projects such as FEED Brazil 2012 are very important in the process of demonstrating that we can start to have an impact on the environment and social fabric, now rather than later.

6.To note the findings of a future report to be presented at the Rio +20 Summit on the implementation of the FEED BRAZIL 2012 project.

Specific Elements: a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges. Contributions could include possible sectoral priorities (e.g., (e.g., energy, food security and sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, water, oceans, sustainable urbanization, sustainable consumption and production, natural disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, biodiversity, etc.) and sectoral initiatives that contribute to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20.

Refer to the proposed case study proposed for northeast Brazil for first half of 2012, described in the Section b, below.

b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

## MAKING IT HAPPEN

Case Study for sustainable food production using innovative greenhouse technology and development of a local green economy.

FEED BRAZIL 2012 is the first of a planned series of Proof of Concept global field tests by the FEED (Food and Energy Eco Dynamics) initiative, who are coordinating innovative approaches in agriculture and aquaculture production and developing socio- enterprise.

It is proposed to deliver a progress report on economic, social and environmental issues to the RIO +20 conference in June 2012.

The aim of the project is to show how Science, Technology and Innovation can make a substantial contribution in relieving chronic food shortage sustainably within the context of a green economy. We will study a radically new and innovative greenhouse that is carbon neutral and uses soap bubbles for insulation will be studied in a proof of concept test case. This will involve field tests of energy consumption and production yields analysis to understand how efficient the new technology is in comparison with traditional existing production.

The objectives of the project include:

- making a demonstration field test project (Proof of Concept) in northeast of Brazil.
- producing food in a sustainable way in areas where normal agriculture is not possible due to poor and infertile soil conditions;
- testing and developing an innovative greenhouse that reduces the amount of water required during the food production process;
- developing new business models for social economic enterprises;
- bringing a SIA perspective (Social Impact Assessment) into the project from start to give basis for foresighted recommendations of the possible impact on life quality of persons and communities affected;
- working with NGOs, local media, youth and women's organisations to deliver the project;
- creating a FEED college/training scheme as part of the business development program; and



·lead the way globally to demonstrating innovative solutions in food production while respecting the environment.

#### Delivery of project

To find a solution to food production and develop a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, it is necessary to form multi-disciplined teams to deliver the project.

There are a number of components to this venture, which will be a combined Private / Government project. New partnerships are required and a draft outline of partners required is outlined below:

a.Steering Committee and a Project Management team;

b.establishment of a training scheme for the business and delivery partners who will do the growing of the food. This will be done with a company or organization who specializes in working with grass root community groups who will deliver the project.

The program also needs to be prepared in conjunction with the NTNU;

c.liaison with interested parties, including National and local participants;

d.design resolution of a new innovative greenhouse. This will be done with a commercial industrial company as part of their CSR program;

e.development of an electrical and ICT program for control of the greenhouse environment. This needs to be prepared in conjunction with NTNU.

f.development of efficient water technology in co-ordination with SINTEF.

g.select a suitable agriculture institution to advise and develop programs for growing agriculture and possible aquaculture crops;

h.establish growing with organic fertilizer made from organic waste and investigate suitable bio-fuel technology for medium sized socio-enterprise projects with Lindum.

i.conduct a foresighted SIA study to address social and cultural possible impacts, both positive and negative, with a primary purpose to bring about optimal and sustainable effects of FEED Brazil 2012 for all the involved parties

An outline timetable for FEED BRAZIL, 2012 is shown below:

·Initial Norway Workshops 1 & 2, held 5 October 2011, NTNU in Trondheim and 19 October 2011, in Oslo.

·Co-ordination meetings November in Oslo.

·Workshop 3 to be held in week between 5 and 10 December 2011.

·Project meetings in Brazil early 2012.

·Site work March/April 2012

#### Expansion of the roles and expectations of FEED BRAZIL 2012 participants

1.Steering Committee, consisting of members of different partnership organisations would need to be assembled to oversee the running and delivery of the project.

2.The main competencies or elements to be addressed to create a demonstration project include:

a.project management team. A project management team would be required to co-ordinate and support the running of the each project. Initially it is important to keep this structure simple;

b.funding of different components should be sourced from one or a number of different sources including Government, private or socio-enterprise funding to deliver the project;

c.creating new partnerships between established local grass roots organisations and international organisations to create support with local and high level government national support for these demonstration projects;

d.providing education support to local grassroots organisations, who will develop local businesses to grow and distribute food produced to people who need it;

c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels <sup>100</sup> local, national, regional and international.

#### The way forward.

There will be a second group workshop to establish the Steering Committee to supervise the project. A Project Organisation needs to be formed to manage and deliver the project. In addition to the above a number of co-operative ventures will be formed after a demonstration version of the greenhouse has been built and tested.

Various funding sources need to be considered. Possible source of funding include using CSR funds provided by larger companies to test of new concepts. Also funds used for community training and education could be directed to the project for education component required to deliver the project.

Discussions will be held with Government officials to consider the option of government support for delivering the project as a joint project with established NGO's organisations.

It is important that local people participate and take ownership of these schemes so that are embraced and become an integral part of the local community.

#### Conclusion - Making it happen

We aim to deliver a working proof of concept, environmentally efficient solution to the challenge of delivering food to people and communities who need it, using less water and reducing the carbon footprint normally associated with agriculture work. The delivered concept will be a key contribution to establishing a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development.

The proposal from the FEED Brazil +20 Working Group, is a proposal for action and solutions to the focus of the UN Rio +20 Summit Conference aim of achieving:

a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development"

FEED BRAZIL 2012

Submission Working Group:

The submission is being lodged by a multi-disciplined working group that attended the workshop and subsequent meetings in Norway. The Working Group Committee for FEED BRAZIL 2012 includes representation from:

- Hydro ASA (international aluminum company);
- Westvik Innovation Foresight & Communication (social and business development consultant);
- Life Synthesis AS (technical advisor for innovative greenhouse building system);
- Phoenix Planning Design AS (sustainable development consultants); with
- Norwegian University of Science and Technology (as the proposed educational and scientific partner);
- Lindum ASA (consultant for engineered eco-systems for food production); and
- SINTEF Water and Environment (as the proposed advisor on water systems).

For any enquires please initially contact Bruce Michael Edgar, submission co- ordinator by email on [bruce.edgar@phoenixplanningdesign.no](mailto:bruce.edgar@phoenixplanningdesign.no) or phone 0047 4677 1661.

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FEED BRAZIL 2012

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## FIA Foundation

Safe and sustainable mobility – the new development challenge

A submission to the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development

1. The FIA Foundation is a UK-registered charity with an international remit. Our charitable objectives include road safety, sustainable mobility and the environmental sustainability of vehicles. The FIA Foundation is a partner, together with the UN Environment Programme, the International Energy Agency and the International Transport Forum, of the 'Global Fuel Economy Initiative' (GFEI) which promotes policy and technical solutions to improve vehicle fuel economy with the objective of reducing average fuel consumption across the global car fleet by 50% by 2050. The FIA Foundation is also a partner in the UNEP-led 'Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles' which recently announced the elimination of leaded fuel from almost all countries in the world. This Partnership, established following the 2002 Johannesburg Summit, is an excellent example of the types of focused public/private initiative that should result from the Rio+20 Conference. The FIA Foundation was also the founder of the Commission for Global Road Safety, which has also made a submission to this Conference. We associate fully with the comments and recommendations of the Commission for Global Road Safety.

2. The FIA Foundation welcomes Rio+20 as an important opportunity to identify the major sustainability challenges facing the world and to contribute to the design of a post-MDG framework that will meet the needs of developing nations in the second and third decades of the 21st Century. The UN Conference on Sustainable Development must acknowledge the forecast of dramatic growth in vehicle use over the coming decades. It has taken more than one hundred years to reach a global vehicle population of 700 million vehicles. Yet it is predicted that another 700 million vehicles may be added to the world's roads by 2020, a doubling of automobiles in a period of less than ten years, with the growth taking place entirely in middle-income and low-income countries (Booz & Company, Automotive Forecast 2011). Unless political leaders take an active, and unlikely, decision now to attempt to prevent these market forecasts with severe restraint measures much of this anticipated vehicle growth will occur, with consequent impacts on urban air quality and congestion; fuel supply and security; greenhouse gas emissions; and road traffic fatalities and injuries. There is therefore a compelling and urgent need to put in place policies and practices to ensure that cars are as safe, clean and fuel-economic as possible, and also to prioritise the safety, health and access to mobility of non-motorised transport users who, across the developing world, will remain in the majority.

3. As part of this action global road traffic death and injury, and wider issues of safe and sustainable transportation policy, must be recognised as sustainability challenges at the Rio+20 Conference. The FIA Foundation encourages the secretariat, member nations and participants to include reference to safe and sustainable road mobility in the 'Outcomes Document' of the Conference and to use Rio+20 as a platform to launch new initiatives for road injury prevention.

4. According to the World Health Organization road crashes kill an estimated 1,300,000 people each year and injure between 20 - 50 million more. The vast majority – more than ninety per cent - of these casualties are occurring in middle-income and low-income countries where road safety awareness and the capacity to tackle the problem is low, and where both traffic levels and road casualties are rising rapidly (Global Status Report on Road Safety, WHO, 2009).

5. Despite the absence of road safety from the mainstream sustainable development agenda there is now a global mandate for action to reduce global road traffic injuries. UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/64/255 has established the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020 with a goal to 'stabilise and reduce' road deaths by 2020. The Commission for Global Road Safety has estimated that if this ambitious goal can be achieved up to 5 million lives and 50 million serious injuries could be prevented over the course of the Decade ('Make Roads Safe: A Decade of Action for Road Safety', Commission for Global Road Safety, 2009).

6. In its Resolution proclaiming the Decade of Action for Road Safety, the United Nations General Assembly described road traffic injuries as a "major public health problem with a broad range of social and economic consequences which, if unaddressed, may affect the sustainable development of countries and hinder progress towards the Millennium Development Goals". According to leading development experts and international agencies, the impacts of failure to address road safety can go beyond the immediate toll of death and disability to undermine policies on poverty alleviation, child survival and development, and climate change (The Missing Link: Road Traffic Injuries & the Millennium Development Goals, Watkins, K; 2010).
7. There is growing evidence and recognition that addressing road safety will also help to achieve environmental objectives. In urban areas managing vehicle speed to provide safe and accessible streets for non-motorised transport users, combined with road design measures that protect and encourage walking and cycling (such as pavements, safe crossing points and bicycle lanes), will both reduce casualties amongst 'vulnerable road users' and support greener modes of transport, reducing modal shift to motorised vehicles. Dr Watkins, who was the author of a major 2008 'Human Development Report' on climate change for the UNDP, also highlights that transport policy "can play a central role in combating climate change not just by creating fuel-efficiency incentives and supporting the development of low carbon fuels, but also by supporting the development of safe public transport and creating the conditions for safe non-motorised transport. When safe sidewalks and cycle lanes are available, people are far more likely to undertake trips by walking or cycling", (The Missing Link: Road Traffic Injuries & the Millennium Development Goals, Watkins, K; 2010).
8. The UN Environment Programme is also urging a change in emphasis in transport planning in developing nations to support and protect non-motorised mobility and to encourage safe and affordable public transport (low income families in developing countries can currently spend up to 25% of their income on public transport), citing the benefits for a range of environmental objectives. UNEP points out that "cities with a better modal mix between cars, public transport, walking and cycling have lower energy use per capita. By incorporating non-motorised transport facilities in the transport grid, a large, lasting impact can be made on fuel use, congestion, air quality and CO2 emissions". Furthermore, UNEP argues that "designating road space for pedestrians and cyclists in proportion to the demand for non-motorised transport is crucial. It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives. For example, the top two countermeasures for improving safety in Nairobi, Kenya, recommended by the International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP) are pedestrian crossings and sidewalks", ('Share the Road: Invest in Walking & Cycling', UN Environment Programme and FIA Foundation, 2011).
9. Despite the projections of significant increases in car use the majority of people in low-income countries or in the significant low-income segments of the population in middle-income countries are unlikely to ever own a car. Yet it is these people who are overwhelmingly affected by road traffic crashes and other consequences of road traffic, including poor air quality (which is estimated to contribute to 800,000 deaths a year). Designing safe transportation, urban planning and land use policies that meet the commuting, social and healthcare needs of this 'green majority' is a pre-requisite for building the 'green economy' of the future and for achieving social justice.
10. The Rio+20 Conference can play a critical role in encouraging such action by building on recognition that road traffic injuries are a public health and sustainable development challenge that needs to be addressed, and that doing so will benefit the wider agendas of tackling climate change and working towards the Millennium Development Goals. Rio+20 can play the invaluable role of bringing road safety and wider issues of sustainable mobility in from the margins of public policy, by highlighting the cost-effective contribution safe and sustainable transport can play in helping to achieve many development goals.
11. The FIA Foundation believes that Rio+20 should aim to foster networks for practical outcomes across a range of policy areas contributing to safe and sustainable mobility. Our positive experience as a member and donor of the 'Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles' (<http://www.unep.org/transport/pcfvl/>) has demonstrated the potential of focused campaigns and initiatives harnessing the combined strengths of governments, institutions, NGOs and the private sector. The PCFV has succeeded in its goal of eliminating leaded fuel. It is now leading the global effort to reduce sulphur content in fuel. Partnerships of this kind (with funding support from OECD governments, corporations and philanthropies) should be established to focus on specific, solvable aspects of road safety, vehicle environmental performance and many of the other important issues considered in Rio.
12. In the area of road safety, for example, public/private partnerships such as the Global Helmet Vaccine Initiative [www.GHVI.org](http://www.GHVI.org) (working to increase motorcycle helmet wearing) and the Latin New Car Assessment Programme [www.latinncap.org](http://www.latinncap.org) (an independent vehicle crash test programme in Latin America) have the potential to prevent many thousands of deaths and injuries. The 'Share the Road' initiative led by UNEP and the FIA Foundation, working for policy and design solutions to improve access to safe walking and cycling in Africa, is an example of a hybrid safety and environmental programme which, if brought to scale, could make a significant positive impact on the liveability of cities and prevent some modal shift to motor vehicles. The new Road Safety Fund [www.roadsafetyfund.org](http://www.roadsafetyfund.org), established by the WHO for the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety and co-managed by the FIA Foundation, is fostering connections and funding partnerships to support this kind of activity. The Rio+20 process should be used to encourage and develop this type of partnership.
13. Safe and sustainable mobility has not had a voice at previous global development conferences. The FIA Foundation is pleased to be supporting the 'Safer Roads at Rio+20' coalition which argues for safe and green mobility to be included in the policy toolkit that emerges from Rio+20. As a new global development challenge, and as an essential element of the 'green economy', safe and sustainable mobility must be a new priority for the international community at Rio+20. The compelling moral and environmental case for action - as both vehicle numbers and global road fatalities are predicted to double in the coming years, with the the burden in injury and other health impacts falling overwhelmingly on the poor - means this is an issue that can no longer be ignored.

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## Finnish Association for Nature Conservation (FANC)

For a just and fair one-planet politics!

In the summer of 2011, Finnish Association for Nature Conservation ran a project targeting the nine major groups of the UN sustainable development governance to collect views on what must be achieved in the Rio+20 summit. We gathered views from the representatives of all the nine major groups as well in a seminar as in an online survey.

The proposals were presented to the Finnish parliament in a parliamentary hearing in September 2011, and they have been used as a basis for these answers.

a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

The starting point for the Rio+20 has to be a just one-planet politics. To get started with sustainable development and Rio+20, it's high time that we focus on the essentials: food and water, energy, and democracy. Thus, we need the following:

- Food and clean water for all. The poorest fifth of the world needs all our support in securing the basic necessities of life for themselves.
- The basic needs of the people must be guaranteed. The consumption of the natural resources will not be sustainable, until at least a basic safety net for the people in the global south can be provided. A social security system that fulfills at least the basic needs would probably curb population growth and the use of natural resources.
- The on-going mass extinction must be stopped by 2020 and a carbon neutral society created by 2050. Apparently, the first steps taken in Johannesburg in 2002 are not

enough. This work needs to continue in Rio in 2012.

- Energy consumption must fall heavily in the industrialized countries. Reducing emissions is not enough, because energy consumption produces also indirect emissions. To lower the environmental impacts, the energy consumption of the richest fifth of the world must be made reasonable at once.

- From the power of capital to the power of people. Transition from the power of capital to the power of people is a prerequisite for a sustainable future. The poorest must be given the power to decide on the use of the world's resources, too. Instead of prioritizing the growth of the capital we must prioritize the well-being of the weakest.

More concretely:

- The developed countries must acknowledge their ecological debt and stop adding to it. The citizens in these countries must be directed to adopting a less consuming lifestyle.

- A convention on the use of natural resources and a strong international panel on natural resources is needed. Annual quotas for resource use and emissions and a global environmental tax on energy should be implemented.

- It is necessary to establish the United Nations Environment Organization (UNEO), an International environmental court, and a Council for future generations, and to promote the UN Commission on Sustainable Development to a Council, like the Human Rights Council. Taking the environmental crisis and the well-being of future generations seriously requires a new kind of a strong and democratic international governance.

b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

The society must free itself from the obsession of economic growth, because an indefinitely growing GDP is incompatible with environmental sustainability. Green and service-intensive economy can be sustainable only when its material basis and natural resource consumption are shrinking globally. We need:

- Global progressive environmental tax. We need progressive environmental taxes in order to promote social security, equality and environmental protection. These taxes function as effective economic incentives and generate revenue for the state. Income tax works well for that purpose, but energy taxes and luxury taxes on consumption need to be developed further.

- Global basic income for women. A basic income of two dollars a day for every woman and girl would be one of the most efficient ways to increase well-being and curb population growth.

- Abolition of harmful subsidies and arms race. Cutting fossil fuel subsidies, indirect subsidies to nuclear power, and excessive armament would release hundreds of billions of euros for investments in a sustainable future.

c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

- Restricting the influence of multinational corporations. Twenty years after Rio, the climate emissions are still growing, the extinction of species is accelerating, and global economic inequality is higher than ever. The single most important reason to this is the strong opposition of the multinational corporations to the implementation of the Rio agenda. In the future, the lobbying by corporations and their interest groups has to be transparent. The connection of corporations to the decision-making process has to be communicated clearly to the citizens, e.g., in the form of an open and mandatory register.

d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented? " Protecting the rights of civil activists. In many countries, activists working for a sustainable and just future are being persecuted for their actions, at worst even murdered. Protecting civil activism and the rights of civil activists is a fundamental task of all the states that must not be neglected.

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(For additional points, see the joint proposal submitted by the Finnish Service Center for Development Cooperation, the "Finnish NGOs' Contribution to Rio+20 Bureau Compilation Document")

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About us:

The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation (FANC) is the largest membership-based environmental non-governmental organization in Finland. FANC has over 30,000 individual members in almost 200 local member associations in 15 district organizations all over the country. It has similar but bigger sister organizations in the other Nordic countries Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. FANC works on nature conservation and environmental policy on the municipal, regional, national, and EU levels. Important fields of work are forest protection, climate change prevention and sustainable energy policy, mire and water protection, sustainable production and consumption and ecological fiscal reform, management and protection of cultural landscapes, land use issues and protection of endangered species, and waste policy and chemicals.

FANC is a member in several international coalitions, such as Coalition Clean Baltic (CCB), European Environmental Bureau (EEB), World Conservation Union (IUCN), OCEAN2012, Climate Action Network (CAN), Green Budget Europe (GBE), Taiga Rescue Network (TRN), and Northern Alliance for Sustainability (ANPED). More information: [www.sll.fi/english](http://www.sll.fi/english)

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## Fondazione Eni Enrico Mattei (FEEM)

FEEM contribution to the Rio+20 Compilation Document

An economic research perspective on the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

## Key global challenges

According to the UNEP definition (2010), a green economy is 'one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities...'.

Existing threats to the environment - directly and indirectly related to human activities - can seriously affect socio-economic systems. These threats often intensify environmental and socio-economic vulnerability, particularly in the poorest regions of the world, thus impairing sustainable development and a balanced path towards a world green economy.

The relationship between growth, poverty eradication, the society, and the environment shows complex dynamics and multifaceted dimensions, involving different systems and sectors of production, and varied models of consumption, carrying out different economic, environmental, and distributional impacts worldwide.

Even if it is often difficult to disentangle them, the following key challenges can be identified, providing scope and guidance for research and policymaking.

· Climate change - Climate change is probably the most urgent and debated global challenge, affecting many domains and cutting across other challenging issues. To reach the ambitious 2° target accepted by the international community in Cancun, it is necessary to implement massive and timely mitigation policies globally, stabilising GHGs emissions at the levels deemed consistent with the target by the scientific community. Adaptation actions must also be planned and implemented, particularly in the most vulnerable world regions that are already suffering from the effects of climate change. From an economic perspective, key issues to tackle the climate challenge are:

- The design of a more effective system for climate governance, possibly leading to an international agreement on climate policies.
- A better understanding of the economic dimension of existing and new mitigation instruments and technologies for climate stabilisation and the overall economic valuation of alternative international climate strategies, including the assessment of current governments' pledges.

- The assessment of the full costs of climate change impacts and adaptation, aiming to provide a comprehensive and integrated assessment of climate impacts and policies, accounting for landuse, forestry cover, atmosphere, biosphere modules, and other complex feedback dimensions.

- The inclusion of uncertainty in the mutual responses of climate and socio-economic systems.

- A clearer understanding of climate finance, investigating the nature, (i.e. public vs. private), and the amount of financial efforts needed to support the technological transformation towards a low-carbon economy and to adapt to the impacts of climate change. The design of an international carbon market, as well as the additionally of climate funds, are two priority issues, which call for a strategic partnership and cooperation between private and public finance.

· Energy - Energy is clearly intertwined with climate change, due to the fundamental role played by energy in generating greenhouse gas emissions. In a world where more than one billion people still live in energy poverty without access to clean cooking facilities, access to energy is key to pursue poverty eradication and sustainable development. While energy is crucial to feed the developing world and the rapid economic growth of emerging economies, as well as to maintain the high consumption standards in the developed world, a real technological 'revolution' in the energy sector is needed to meet the climate challenge. Energy systems vary widely across countries, given their level of development and their endowments of primary energy sources. Crucial issues to be addressed in this area are:

- Energy poverty

- The affordability and security of energy supply

- The development of a reliable system for international energy governance

- A better understanding of the drivers of energy demand, globally as well as regionally

- A better understanding of the dynamics of innovation, diffusion, and adoption of energy technologies

- A detailed representation of the energy systems at the country level

- The environmental impacts of energy production and consumption, including global warming and impacts on local air pollution, land-use, and water utilisation

· Biodiversity - Biodiversity is a measure of the health of ecosystems and is in part a function of climate, being thus directly affected by climate change. Biodiversity loss potentially poses high damages to human health and well-being. Our well-being is totally dependent upon the continued flow of ecosystem services such as: food, fibres, clean water, healthy soil and carbon capture. These services are predominantly public goods with no markets and no prices, and are rarely detected by our current economic compass. Valuation efforts on ecosystem services are often undertaken and available at the micro level. The key challenge is to scale up from the micro to the macro dimension, to help policy makers understand the economic value of ecosystems and assess the full benefits of alternative policies, both at the global and local level.

· Land-use - Land is a scarce resource and competition in the use of land places land-use at the centre of the climate-energy debate. The use of land indeed fulfils basic needs, namely food security, feeds the growing appetite for cleaner energy and supports forestry and sustainable forests practices. Bio-fuels and their expansion contribute to cleaner energy production and compete with land-use for food production. This competition is deemed responsible for the increased volatility of food prices, with perverse economic effects particularly on developing economies. Regarding forestry, reducing and/or preventing deforestation is one of the mitigation options with the largest and most immediate carbon stock impacts in the short-term at the global level. Proponents of bio-carbon sequestration activities stress that land-use, land-use changes, and forestry (LULUCF) initiatives, if properly designed can bring important multiple benefits to climate change mitigation, biodiversity conservation, rural development, and poverty eradication in developing countries. There are several important methodological issues regarding the design of these initiatives including baselines, monitoring, permanence, and insurance, which are still at the centre of the policy debate. Synergies and trade-offs between these competing land-uses must be further studied and analysed in an integrated way.

· Water - Water is also a scarce resource, precious to agriculture, forestry, biodiversity, and more broadly, to the ecological balance, although rarely priced in the market. Water will be directly affected by climate change since climate extremes will lead to a higher frequency of droughts and flooding in various regions of the world, and sea-level rise will severely damage coastal areas and small island states. A more efficient and effective management of water resources and coastal zones is needed. Furthermore, water should be included in the integrated assessment of policies towards a green economy.

· Migration - Human migration induced by climate change is a potentially relevant and massive phenomenon, affecting the socio-economic systems of both sending and

receiving regions. Direct effects of climate extremes in rural and coastal areas, or indirect effects of climate change, such as diminished opportunities in agriculture due to productivity losses, may trigger out migration of labour, inducing rural-urban as well as international migration. A better understanding of the socio-economic and environmental dynamics at play is crucial to design effective policy answers.

#### Key methodological challenges

- Integrated assessment - Given the strong interdependencies described above, socio-economic science must be able to provide an integrated assessment of the key dynamics at play between the economy-energy-climate systems. The integrated assessment should aim at capturing all the interactions across issues and sectors, identifying potential synergies and trade-offs in order to guide effective policies. Integrated assessment should account for land-use, forestry, water and biodiversity, atmosphere and biosphere modules, human health and labour migration.
- Full life cycle assessment - On the path to a green economy, the full life cycle of economic activities should be assessed, accounting for external costs throughout the whole production chain, to be able to compare the real net benefits of alternative environmental policies.
- Welfare indicators - The quantitative measurement of a green economy should move beyond GDP, capturing the three fundamental dimensions of sustainable development, namely the economy, the society, and the environment, as well as their potential trade-offs. Welfare indicators that move beyond the pure economic dimension should become the benchmarking instruments for policy assessment, bringing the equity perspective into the framework.
- Data consistency - Monitoring, reporting, verification, and consistency of data across world countries and regions should be enhanced in many sectors key to green growth. Often data are not reliable and not comparable.
- Dealing with uncertainty - Uncertainty is a central feature of climate science, which inevitably, in the interaction between the climate and economic systems, pervades several dimensions of future economic and development scenarios. Uncertainty should be incorporated in the economic assessment of development policies. More emphasis on the study of the probability of extreme events and natural disasters may help to address climate uncertainty, outlining emergency plans and doing contingency planning should worst-case scenarios occur.

#### Research input and policy insights for a world green economy from selected ongoing FEEM research projects

##### Research inputs

· Over the years FEEM has developed and refined robust modelling tools addressing both mitigation and adaptation policies to advance knowledge in the economics and policy of climate change. These modelling tools aim to fill the existing gaps and address the key challenges previously identified in this area of research. On the mitigation side, FEEM has built the energy-economy-climate WITCH model (World Induced Technical Change Hybrid Model). WITCH is specifically designed to assist in the study of the socio-economic dimensions of climate change and to help policy makers understand the economic consequences of climate policies. On the impact side, FEEM investigates climate change impacts on the world economy through the use of ICES (Intertemporal Computable Equilibrium System), a model designed to assess the final welfare implication of climate change impacts, capturing the production and consumption substitution processes at play in the social-economic system as a response to climate shocks. Essentially focused on modelling and policy analysis, the following selected projects aim at assessing the full costs of climate change impacts and adaptation, and of existing and new mitigation instruments and technologies for climate stabilisation, in order to provide a comprehensive integrated assessment of climate policies. Within the same modelling frameworks some of the projects highlighted also investigate the issues of climate and energy policy governance and climate and energy-related innovation and technological change:

- Impacts Quantification of global changes - Global-IQ
- Vectors of Change in Oceans and Seas Marine Life, Impact on Economic Sectors - VECTORS
- Low climate IMpact scenarios and the Implications of required Tight emission control Strategies - LIMITS
- Innovation for Climate chAnge mitigation: a study of energy R&D, its Uncertain effectiveness and Spillovers - ICARUS
- PARadigm SHifts Modelling and INnovative Approaches - PASHMINA
- Diffusion of Climate-Friendly Technologies. The Role of Intellectual Property Rights, Human Capital and Environmental Policy - ClimTech

· With the aim to provide a useful tool to measure welfare beyond-GDP, FEEM has developed the FEEM Sustainability Index (FEEM SI). The FEEM SI is an aggregate index through which novel techniques summarise and merge the information derived by a selection of relevant sustainability indicators to assess welfare. Thanks to its foundation in a recursive-dynamic computable general equilibrium model, ICES-SI, the FEEM SI can provide future assessment of sustainability as well as a past one, building a dynamic and comprehensive picture of the sustainability of world countries through time. Since it is possible to compute the index under different economic, social, and environmental assumptions, the FEEM SI can be used to assess the sustainability of alternative policies of economic, social, or environmental in nature, both in a snapshot and through time. A new version of the FEEM SI will be released in December 2011, presenting several methodological advancements, among which, a novel indicators' aggregation methodology based on experts' elicitation techniques.

· Building on earlier work on the design of a methodology to assess the external costs of energy (the ExternE project series), FEEM has followed up on this stream of research leading the EXIOPOL project - A New Environmental Accounting Framework Using Externality Data and Input-Output Tools for Policy Analysis. The main research products of this project include: a detailed Environmentally Extended Input-Output database, covering 43 individual countries plus the aggregation of the rest of the world, to perform full cost accounting and impact assessment of different activities; policy relevant case studies; and the comparison of different methodological approaches to environmental accounting. EXIOPOL thus provides precious tools and data for a comprehensive analysis and a full life cycle assessment of a broad set of economic activities in Europe.

· To bring a more realistic view into modelling and in the design of future scenarios, FEEM has initiated a research stream on the development and application of experts' elicitation techniques. Within the ICARUS project, aimed to provide a unique analysis of energy related innovation mechanism, expert elicitation methods will be used in order to assess the potential effectiveness of technology-specific R&D. ICARUS carries out a systematic process of collection and elaboration of qualitative and quantitative estimates from the experts, drawn from the world of business and institutions. This process characterises the uncertainty dimension of innovation in selected technologies, including Solar PV and CSP technologies, nuclear, and bio-fuels. Expert elicitations' results will be used as building blocks to shed light on a number of disguised areas relevant for the modelling community, improving the models capacity to project a more realistic image of the world. The same methodology will be used within the TEaM Project -Technology Elicitations and Modelling Project. The project aims to integrate the data sources on technology supply, with expert elicitation techniques and to share them with the Integrated Assessment Modelling community.

· To enhance communication and cooperation among the different communities involved in sustainable development issues, FEEM is involved in several research networks.

As an example, FEEM leads the dissemination activities of the Network of Excellence LIAISE- Linking Impact Assessment Instruments to Sustainability Expertise, aimed to build a bridge between science and policy in the field of impact assessment for sustainable development. Among the various activities of the network, a toolbox on available instruments for impact assessment has been designed and made freely accessible to practitioners working in the field.

#### Policy insights

- An integrated assessment approach in economic research aims at enhancing harmonised and integrated policies towards a world green economy. Policies should be harmonised not only across sectors, but also around the most challenging issues, such as climate change. The system of governance of the relevant policies should allow for integration and cooperation at the regional and international levels.
- To pursue a green economy approach, the assessment of development policies should move beyond GDP, by benchmarking new measures of welfare. 'Beyond GDP' indicators should account for environmental and social externalities of economic activities, reflecting the concept of social equity.
- The modelling of the transition to a low-carbon green world, under multifaceted dimensions of uncertainty, requires a long-term perspective. Based on the outcome of research, policy recommendations also require a long-term horizon. Policy makers should start adopting a longer-term perspective, implementing policies that may become effective beyond their political lifetime.
- Policy should communicate more effectively to science, to the business sector, and to the civil society to involve all key stakeholders in the difficult path towards a green economy. Efforts from both the demand and supply side are absolutely necessary. Only a productive cooperation between science and policy can build and provide the right incentives and motivations along that path, communicating also through the media.
- Policy should be aware that a public-private alliance is desirable to address more effectively many of the key challenges identified such as: climate finance, the support to R&D investment in new energy technologies, the implementation of full life-cycle assessment analysis in many economic sectors, and the more efficient management of natural resources such as: water, biodiversity, and ecosystem services.

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## Food & Water Watch

Submission to the Zero Draft Outcome Document for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

Endorsed by 10 organizations on 5 continents, collectively representing over 1.5 million people.\*

As members of the global movements for climate, water and food justice, we wish to echo those who are expressing deep concern for the false solutions proposed in the name of reducing carbon emissions and combatting global warming. Market mechanisms that commodify nature have not only failed to reduce global warming at a sufficient rate, but serve to create ownership of and profitability from natural resources that belong to the global commons and must be protected in the public trust.

The delicate balance among the earth's ecosystems is the basis of survival for all species, including humans. Yet the health of these ecosystems has been subjugated to economic growth with little recognition of their inherent relationship. There is broad agreement that we must reduce carbon emissions, clean up polluted water sources and preserve biodiversity, but until we change our paradigm, our efforts will be insufficient.

The undeniable effects of climate change are driving recognition that the earth has a tipping point and cannot support status quo patterns of production and consumption. Increased droughts, flooding and erratic weather patterns are severely impacting hydrologic cycles and food production. Global warming will be felt most acutely by the poor. Achieving the parallel goals of reversing global warming and feeding our growing global population will require transparent, participatory, community-centered solutions that prioritize both the human rights to water and food, and the right of the earth to maintain ecosystem balance. There is enough food to feed the global population and there is enough water to quench the world's thirst, but there is not yet the political will to make it happen.

#### Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

The "Green Economy" has become a controversial term used broadly without clear definition, though it has been used most commonly to encompass strategies that counter environmental damage through market mechanisms. As such, it should not be used in any CSD documents unless and until a definition is established by consensus of the General Assembly prioritizing those mechanisms which do not commodify nature.

Nonetheless, the focus of the CSD with respect to the three pillars of sustainable development should be to lower global carbon emissions while meeting the needs of the poorest. Developed countries must help finance developing countries to address human rights violations that emerge from natural resource deficiencies accelerated by climate change. An economy based on nuclear energy, oil and coal, genetic engineering, toxic chemicals or the overexploitation of our forests and seas will never be sustainable or green. Instead, a fair green economy is one that provides sustainable livelihoods for all while fully respecting ecological limits.

#### The Human Right to Water and Sanitation and Climate Change

It is not possible to protect the human right to water and sanitation without recognizing the inherent rights of nature and other species. Thus we must first prioritize source water protection and the integrity of hydrologic cycles. The UN General Assembly and the Human Rights Council have now both recognized the human right to water and sanitation and the CSD must advance this mandate in Rio. We strongly support the call of the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation in stressing the value of applying a human rights framework as it specifically targets those with greatest need and prioritizes non-discrimination.

According to the World Health Organization, about 20 percent of the world's population lives in countries where water is scarce. By 2025, 800 million people will be living in countries or regions with absolute water scarcity (when demand outpaces supply), and two-thirds of the world will live in water stressed areas.

The problem of water scarcity is being driven by many factors, including climate change, population growth, pollution and misuse of water resources, all of which must be addressed in an integrated manner. By 2050 we will likely reach 10 billion people and without increased conservation, this will require 80 percent more water supply to meet our needs for household consumption, agriculture and industry.

It is generally estimated that 70 percent of global fresh water use is for agriculture and irrigation, and much of that is for animal feed. Approximately 20 percent of water is used by industry while less than 10 percent is used by households for basic health and sanitation. This highlights the fact that any effective conservation efforts must target agriculture and industry. Household consumption has been found to be relatively inelastic because barring the purchase of energy-efficient appliances, people require a static amount of water for drinking and bathing.

Pollution, in the form of human and animal waste and toxic chemicals, must also be addressed. One out of three urban dwellers are without access to sanitation. And of the almost 10 million chemicals known today, approximately 100,000 chemicals are used commercially for agriculture, industry and household use.

"Virtual water" refers to the water used in the production of crops or manufactured goods for export. If a country exports a water-intensive product to another country, it amounts to exporting water, which decreases the amount of water available in the home country. While this may seem like an innocuous step in global trade, many countries are using their most productive land to grow cash crops for export, regardless of the impact on water depletion and ability to feed the local population.

As awareness grows of freshwater limitations, so too does the drive to profit from this scarce resource. Private sector advocacy towards establishing water markets, water trading schemes and speculation is increasingly succeeding and is being helped along by financially constrained governments, often with the hope that outsourcing responsibility will bring private financing.

Private water companies have often been unable to meet obligations to shareholders while also meeting their obligation to maintain and expand water systems and to provide acceptable quality water at affordable prices. Private companies have little incentive to expand access to potable water when large sectors of the population are poor and unable to pay market rates.

The only long-term solution for achieving universal water is to establish government policies that use tax dollars to finance water infrastructure and to use cross-subsidies to make water access affordable. When only twelve percent of the world's population uses 85 percent of the world's water, we have clearly failed in justly distributing the most essential resource to life.

#### Agriculture Policy, Food Sovereignty and Climate Change

We have created a global agriculture system that rewards industrial food companies for producing luxury foods for those who can afford them. Millions of dollars are spent in northern countries to combat the health effects of obesity, while in other parts of the globe, millions of people are dying of hunger or malnutrition.

The dueling paradigms for combating global warming are mirrored in the debate over feeding the world. On one hand, some believe that transferring the latest technological advances, most of which are capital intensive, to every corner of the world will improve agricultural productivity and thus solve the problem of hunger. In this view, hunger is caused by lack of sufficient production.

However, there is ample evidence that hunger is primarily caused by distribution and power dynamics. The vast majority of agricultural technology is privately owned, capital intensive, and dependent on finite resources.

In 2009, the International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development<sup>10</sup> or IAASTD report<sup>11</sup> concluded, the way the world grows its food will have to change radically and argued for an agroecological approach to food production. The four-year, UN-sponsored project included the work of 400 researchers and was funded by \$12 million from the World Bank.

This elaborate report rocked the status quo by concluding that an agroecological approach is the most effective route to meeting the world's increasing food needs, starkly contrasting the strategies promoted by industrial agriculture firms that claim bioengineering will feed the hungry. When 80 percent of global food is grown by small scale farmers, an agroecological approach is, by definition, better suited to adapting to local conditions and generating agricultural production from locally available resources, and without the same heavy reliance on capital. In that sense, agroecological systems are neither traditional nor industrialized but are uniquely appropriate for their conditions.

Concentration of the industrial food complex is legion. This increasing concentration also has serious impacts on land tenure distribution and thus exacerbates poverty. We cannot continue to degrade our soil with genetically modified mono-crops and their requisite fertilizer-pesticide packages and expect yields to perpetually feed our growing population.

#### Corporate Influence at the UN and in the CSD Process

We are deeply concerned that the corporate sector is increasingly impacting policy debates within the UN system. While there is certainly a role for business in implementing sustainable development practices and decreasing their environmental footprint, corporations are pushing for the implementation of market mechanisms from which they can profit. Particularly in the water sector, corporations are using the CEO Water Mandate to promote a private market system for water delivery and access at the expense of the public and the poor.

This close relationship between corporations and the UN legitimizes the growing influence of these corporations on policy, both at the UN and at the state level.

Resolution E/2005/29 calls upon the CSD to review the implementation of international water and sanitation decisions at its session in 2012 (p. 19, paragraph 4). A Review of Private Sector Influence on Water Policies and Programmes at the United Nations by the Council of Canadians found evidence of significant corporate lobbying and influence in past water-themed discussions and proceedings of the CSD, including during processes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002. The CSD must work to correct and prevent the presence of corporate conflicts of interest in international water governance. By addressing corporate pressures at Rio +20, governments have a greater opportunity to explore the full range of options that exist for addressing the global water crisis. This includes viable options of private sector participation in the provision of water and sanitation services, often presented under the guise of greening the economy.

#### Financing Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

The World Bank and other international financial institutions have used the same flawed ideology that supports tax havens to promote lower tax structures in resource-rich developing countries. Mining companies across Africa are failing to pay royalties and are avoiding billions of dollars in taxes. The IFIs should begin by stopping tax avoidance, corporate tax subsidies, secret contracts, speculation and creative accounting that pit one country against another and propel a race to the bottom. Even a fraction of this money would go a long way toward providing basic services for everyone.

Implementation of an international financial transactions tax could potentially raise millions of dollars for countering climate change and poverty, and would slow the speculation that has rocked commodities markets.

We recommend the following Sustainable Development Goals:

- A mandate that states develop national water plans that include source protection at the watershed level and a human rights framework for achieving water and sanitation provision, including sufficient quantity, quality and affordability guidelines.
- Governments must raise the priority of providing safe water and sanitation to their people by financing water infrastructure and sanitation with tax dollars and applying cross-subsidies to make water affordable to all. Likewise, Northern countries should help finance these goals in less developed countries.
- Agroecological methods of food production should replace the growing trend toward industrialization. Such methods sequester carbon in the soil, promote biodiversity and promote local food sovereignty.
- The UN must implement a strong set of system-wide standards and safeguards to prevent and address corporate conflicts of interest, based on the existing Guidelines on Cooperation between the United Nations and the Business Sector. This must include a grievance procedure for concerned parties to raise



questions about private sector engagements in UN proceedings on water and to ensure appropriate action and receive coordinated responses to the issues raised.

- Implement a financial transactions tax and use the funds to combat climate change and poverty.

We also support the following objectives, targets and possible actions proposed by the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation:

Objective:

Ensure universal access to sanitation and safe drinking water through the adoption of plans for accelerated implementation of all dimensions of the human right to water and sanitation: safety, availability, accessibility, acceptability, affordability, non-discrimination, participation and accountability.

Proposed targets:

- Universal access to basic sanitation and improved water sources by 20xx
- Universal access to safe drinking water by 20xx
- Development of good quality services in cities at a rate that exceeds the rate of urban growth
- Drinking water networks to supply water continuously (24/7) in order to ensure safety and availability of water

Objective:

Common vision of wastewater management. Governments together decide to strengthen their respective actions on pollution of freshwater by adopting a shared vision of urban, industrial and agricultural wastewater management including collection, treatment and water reuse.

Proposed target:

- Reduce the percentage of wastewater that is not collected safely from households
- Reduce the percentage of wastewater that is discharged into the natural environment without treatment
- Increase the percentage of urban wastewater that is treated for safe reuse in agriculture and industrial processes
- Reduce the amount of water pollution arising from agriculture
- Reduce the amount of water pollution released by industry

Possible Actions:

- Establish or strengthen national policies and regulations for wastewater collection, treatment and discharge in order to ensure that individual and collective practices and systems are sufficient to protect health of individuals against potential contamination by others and by economic activities and to protect natural ecosystems against harmful pollution
- Get organized to monitor and stimulate at national level progress of wastewater collection and treatment by collective systems and individual facilities
- Get organized to monitor and control potential contamination of drinking water sources by manmade pollution
- Introduce or strengthen laws and other forms of regulation to support the reduction of pollutants and make water reuse possible, including the recovery of positive substances
- Request the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) or another UN agency to collect national statistics on wastewater management and report on its global progress.

Submitted by:

The Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach (CCAO) promotes the social justice priorities of the U.S. region of the Missionary Society of St. Columban. We represent Columban missionaries: Catholic men and women who work with and serve those who are poor in fifteen countries worldwide, as well as communities in the U.S. Through advocacy, solidarity, and education, the CCAO is dedicated to raising the peace, social justice and ecological concerns of the people with whom we live and serve. We represent 30,000 individuals in the United States. The Council of Canadians, founded in 1985, is Canada's largest citizens' organization, with over 70 chapters across the country. We work to protect Canadian independence by promoting progressive policies on fair trade, clean water, energy security, public health care, and other issues of social and economic concern to Canadians.

FIVAS: The Association for International Water Studies. FIVAS is a civil society organisation working to monitor consequences of water projects and construction in the global South. Our focus is on the topics of water as a human right and hydropower. Based in Norway, FIVAS has an active body of skilled volunteers working on varying projects, but no formal members.

Food and Water Watch is a non-profit, nongovernmental consumer rights organization based in Washington, D.C. with 15 satellite offices in the U.S., Europe and Latin America. We fight for safe food and clean water through public education, legislative lobbying and by supporting local campaigns for local control of food and water resources. We collectively represent over 300,000 consumers.

Our Water Commons is a collaborative program of On the Commons, an organization formed in 2001 to advance commons-based solutions that will help achieve environmental restoration, social justice, global cooperation and a brighter future for all. OWC seeks to transform societal decision making for water stewardship towards participatory, democratic, community-centered systems that value equity and sustainability as a strategy.

The Polaris Institute seeks to enable social movements to re-skill and re-tool themselves to fight for democratic social change in an age of corporate driven globalization. The Institute works with citizen movements in developing strategies and tactics to unmask and challenge the corporate power that is the driving force behind government public policy making on economic, social and environmental issues. In so doing, the Institute serves as a catalyst with constituency-based social movements, increasing their capacity to do their own strategic campaign planning on issues of vital concern to their members and allies. The work of Polaris with social movements is carried out on both a national and an international basis, representing more than 5000 people.

The United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries is one of four Covenanted Ministries in the UCC, which helps local congregations and all settings of the church

respond to God's commandments to do justice, seek peace and effect change for a better world. We represent over one million congregants.

The United Church of Christ, Global Ministries commits to a shared life in Christ and to an ecumenical global sharing of resources and prophetic vision of a just and peaceful world order, joining with God<sup>™</sup>'s concern for the poor and oppressed. This commitment will be reflected in common decision-making for the mission program which will visibly witness to the oneness of mission in and through the Church of Jesus Christ. We represent over one million congregants. Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (US Section) was founded in 1915 during World War I, with Jane Addams as its first president. WILPF works to achieve through peaceful means world disarmament, full rights for women, racial and economic justice, an end to all forms of violence, and to establish those political, social, and psychological conditions which can assure peace, freedom, and justice for all. WILPF works to create an environment of political, economic, social and psychological freedom for all members of the human community, so that true peace can be enjoyed by all. In the U.S. we represent approximately 2,300 members.

Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA), founded in 1984, is a registered non-profit making, voluntary development organisation working in the interest of poor and the marginalised in urban and rural areas on the issues of housing, livelihood and rights of urban poor children, women and youth and informal workers through action organization, capacity building, research and advocacy at Mumbai City, State and National levels. Based in India, YUVA is accredited as an NGO with general consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UNECOSOC).

## Ford Foundation

Submission to the Secretariat for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for the Zero Draft of the Rio+20 Compilation Document from the Ford Foundation

### Purpose

The Ford Foundation is pleased to provide this input "for inclusion in a compilation document to serve as basis for the preparation of zero draft of the outcome document" from the United Nations 2012 Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20"). This document represents a summary of submissions developed by Foundation grantees for inclusion in the formal agenda for Rio+20.

The Ford Foundation's overarching interest in the Rio+20 Conference is to secure renewed and strengthened political commitment for sustainable development. In pursuing this objective, the Ford Foundation is supporting a wide range of civil society organizations (CSOs) that are promoting policy efforts and public leadership to advance several major agendas within the Rio+20 process, including:

- Sustainable and Equitable Cities/Urbanization;
- An Inclusive Green Economy Agenda that includes the Global South;
- Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Natural Resources and Sustainable Livelihoods;
- Strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development by seeking greater transparency at the G20 and improving alignment with the goals of Rio+20 and the sustainable development conventions associated with the 1992 Earth Summit;
- An Agreement regarding Corporate Social Responsibility.

Towards these ends, the Foundation has supported CSOs to: 1) develop white papers that identify urgent emerging challenges and opportunities, which have served as a basis for recommendations to be incorporated into the Rio+20 zero draft process; 2) build networks of stakeholders to expand and facilitate participation in the summit process; 3) achieve consensus on priorities for CSO networks and decision makers; 4) identify implementation challenges and gaps to be addressed through the Rio+20 process; and 5) advocate for reforms in policies and practices to their local, regional, and national governments, international decision-making bodies, and across sectors (e.g., the private sector, the media, researchers).

### Ford Foundation contributions to Rio+20 Theme One: The Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

The Ford Foundation's mission is to promote social justice and reduce poverty. Therefore, all Foundation-funded activities regarding Rio+20 focus on the green economy within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. These are described more fully below:

- Sustainable and Equitable Cities/Urbanization. The Foundation is working with a group of grantees called the Sustainable Cities Working Group to advance sustainable urbanization strategies that also increase economic opportunity and reduce poverty. The group's main message is that the ways in which we collectively grow and manage our cities will largely determine the quality of life for billions of people and the fate of the planet's sustainability. This working group has submitted several concrete proposals for consideration in the zero draft process that address implementation gaps, new partnerships, and new institutional frameworks, including:
  - o The creation of a UN Green Jobs Coordinating Group to ensure that the green economic efforts of relevant bodies within the UN system are well-coordinated, mutually reinforced, and integrated. This would be supplemented by a UN Green Jobs Best Practices Unit, which would collect and disseminate information to an international audience.
  - o Improved transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness regarding the sustainable urbanization process at the local level and the expansion of international legal mechanisms, including but not limited to the Aarhus Convention, to improve accountability at all levels of government.
  - o The creation of National Incentive Funds for Integrated Urban Region and Municipal Planning (similar to the US government's Partnership for Sustainable Communities); Funds to Invest in Innovative Financing Models for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development; and National Urban Sustainable Planning and Development Commissions to accelerate and improve the practice of sustainable urban and regional planning.
  - o A sustainable transportation goal that enables nations to commit to targets like reducing transport sector greenhouse gas emissions by 40 percent between a 2005 baseline and 2050; reducing by half the number of traffic fatalities in the world by 2025; and increasing access to affordable and sustainable modes like public transit, walking, and cycling.
  - o Ensure the public availability and utilization of data on urban operations and conditions, including information on water, sewer, transportation, housing, and other systems.
  - o Relying on available data, persuade national, regional, and local governments to adopt sustainability and poverty reduction performance indicators that can be tracked over time.
- An Inclusive Green Economy Agenda focusing on the Global South. The Foundation is working with CSOs—mostly Brazilian organizations—to develop a green economy

agenda that focuses on inclusion and equity. This would include:

- o Community Rights to Forest Resources: The Foundation is supporting efforts by communities to secure their rights to own and manage forests. Globally, community ownership of forests has increased significantly since the first Earth Summit in 1992, which has allowed significant improvements in livelihoods and the environment. The foundation suggests that the United Nations consider adopting a target of increasing the forest area under formally recognized ownership or control of forest communities by 100 million hectares by 2017.

- o The Ford Foundation supports indigenous and traditional peoples' efforts to guarantee their rights over territories and natural resources, as stated in the indigenous peoples' organizations recommendations for Rio +20 in the Letter of Manaus (24 April 2011): "The Green Economy proposal which will be a theme for discussion at Rio + 20, has not been clearly defined, and there are many concerns expressed by Indigenous Peoples. There is, for example, a concern that it will be used by Corporations and States to continue to replicate the same destructive and exploitative 'economic development' models that have caused the current global economic, environmental and climate crisis. Indigenous Peoples have the opportunity to define and implement their own holistic concepts of development in the context of, inter alia, Articles 3, 20, 25, 26, 31, 32, 33 and 37 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and taking into account equity, human rights and traditional knowledge principles and the concept of well-being as defined by Indigenous Peoples themselves. Our proposed model of development with culture, identity, self-determination and territory will be presented by Indigenous Peoples and should be carefully considered by States, at the Rio + 20 Conference."

- o The Ford Foundation supports the Brazilian Civil Society participation in the Brazilian Government National Commission for Rio +20 process. This Commission, headed by the Ministries of the Environmental and Foreign Affairs, is a multi-stakeholder organization and produced a document to be submitted as the Brazilian Contribution for Rio+20.

- Indigenous Peoples' Rights to Natural Resources and Sustainable Livelihoods. [From the aforementioned Letter from Manaus]: "International standards like the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples affirm that development is social and cultural, as well as economic. Indigenous Peoples maintain the right to define and freely pursue our own vision of development based on our needs, priorities, traditional understandings and responsibilities, including the cultural and spiritual relationships with the Natural World, our ancestral territories and the ecosystems that have sustained us since time immemorial."

- An Agreement Regarding Corporate Social Responsibility. The Foundation is exploring opportunities to assist in the development of a Convention on Social Responsibility as an outcome from Rio+20. It would include the mandatory requirement for companies listed on the stock exchange to produce sustainability reporting so as to ensure four key principles:

- o Transparency: companies should be required to integrate material sustainability issues within their reports and accounts;

- o Accountability: there should be effective mechanisms for investors to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including through an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM);

- o Responsibility: Board duties should explicitly include setting company's values and standards, and ensuring that its obligations to its shareholders and other stakeholders are understood and met;

- o Incentives: Companies should state in remuneration reports whether the remuneration committee consider ESG factors which are of material relevance to the sustainability and long term interests of the company when setting remuneration of executive directors; aligning remuneration with the interest of the shareholders, including customers and employees. Additionally, companies should be required to present their Corporate Sustainability Strategy to a separate vote at its AGM. The future convention should draw on experiences and content from the Global Compact, Sustainable Stock Exchanges initiative, Carbon Disclosure Project and the OECD guidelines. Governments may wish to look anew at the proposed Chapter 41 of Agenda 21 from 1991. This was called "Transnational Corporations and Sustainable Development"; it was submitted at Rio for consideration by the UN Center for Transnational Corporations.

Ford Foundation contributions to Rio+20 Theme Two: Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development.

Several proposals regarding institutional frameworks to strengthen the pillars of sustainable development are listed above. In addition, the Foundation proposes the following:

- Improved Alignment between the goals of the UN system and the G20. The Foundation is working with partners to improve alignment between the Group of 20 (G20) Development Action Plan (DAP) and the goals of the Rio+20 Summit. Improving coordination between the G20 and the United Nations system—particularly the UN Environment Program, the UN Development Program, the UNFCCC, and UN-WOMEN—has important implications for the writing of global rules on finance, sustainable development, and transparent and effective governance, particularly in light of the fact that the G20 stipulates that its growth frameworks should be implemented and financed by the United Nations and international trade, finance, and development institutions. But currently the G20's growth frameworks lack an integration of the three indispensable elements of sustainable development relating to the natural environment, the economy, and poverty reduction. If its orientation and growth frameworks are not revamped, the G20 could work at cross-purposes with the 2012 Earth Summit by increasing, rather than helping to close, the wide gap between the aspirations and commitments to sustainable development and the implementation performance of nations and institutions. However, such re-orientation can only occur if the G20 becomes an open, transparent and accountable body. At present, in contravention of Rio Principles (e.g., Principle 10 on Public Participation; Principle 20 on the role of women in sustainable development), the G20 operates behind closed doors, excluding 173 UN member countries and civil society.

- Creation of a new Chamber for Cities within a new Sustainable Development Council. This Chamber would fully recognize the leadership role that mayors and other local executives continue to play to advance the practice of sustainable and inclusive urbanization. In fact, it would present an opportunity for cities to define a different role in achieving sustainability worldwide. By providing official status to the world's mega-city mayors and other local officials, this Chamber would represent a formal and high-level way to provide an institutional home and leadership for sustainable urbanization efforts. Participating local officials can focus on pragmatic means of implementing green and inclusive development strategies.

- Forwarding the concerns noted by indigenous groups regarding changes to the UN-CSD: [From the aforementioned Letter of Manaus] "The proposal to upgrade the UN Commission on Sustainable Development to a new Council, similar to the Human Rights Council, while it may elevate discussions on sustainability within the UN system; it could also have the potential to reduce the space for Indigenous Peoples to participate and be part of any negotiation process. The experience with the recent creation of the Human Rights Council, from the former Commission on Human Rights, confirms the potential for reduced opportunities for participation. This is an issue that requires further discussion and analysis particularly in relation to the development of guiding principles, taking into consideration UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, current Indigenous-related UN mechanisms, as well as the role of self-governing bodies and autonomies within Indigenous territories."

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## Foreningen for Internasjonale Vannstudier (Association for International Water Studies) - FIVAS

FIVAS - The Association for International Water studies

## Contribution for the Rio+20 Compilation Document

## Food and water Security

There are today 2.6 billion people lacking access to improved sanitation, out of these are 1 billion slum dwellers without access to toilet facilities. 1 in 7 lack access to clean drinking water. The MDG on safe drinking water and sanitation is among those furthest away from fulfilment. Water is a global common good, shared by current and coming generations. Protection of source water and the integrity of hydrological cycles are key to a sustainable water usage. We strongly support the call of the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation in stressing the value of applying a human rights framework. Access to improved sanitation and safe drinking water are key to health and to economic development. Good management of water and sanitation underpins sustainable developments social, economic and environmental pillars.

Agriculture is responsible for 70 % of all freshwater withdrawals. More food must be made with less water. Agriculture must therefore be the focus for means of water conservation in all areas facing or approaching water scarcity. It is imperative that water systems for farming, both in irrigation and livestock care become more efficient.

Water based sanitation is costly to install and dependent on scarce water resources. Development of Productive Sanitation could hugely improve the process of providing improved sanitation by bypassing or alleviating the problems of high investment cost and water intensity associated with traditional sewage-based systems. CLTS - community led total sanitation is a tried and effective bottom up approach to productive sanitation which includes a focus on changing habits and a culture of good sanitation which is a prerequisite to health effects of sanitation projects.

Ensuring universal access to sanitation and safe drinking water through the adoption of plans for accelerated implementation of all dimensions of the human right to water and sanitation are therefore necessary.

## Recommendations:

- Low-impact solutions such as mechanic treadle pumps, drip irrigation, decentralized rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharging should be made priority of international organizations and national governments redirecting resources from high impact large scale projects.
- Strengthening water, energy and food security for the poorest population groups requires a shift of financial resources, research and institutional support from large, centralized projects to decentralized, small-scale projects that can be managed at the local level.
- Innovative mechanisms, including smart subsidies, should be implemented to ensure sanitation provision for the very poor.
- Supporting government policies for sustainable financing of water infrastructure, such as tax financing and cross-subsidies, are important in transnational and national processes.

## Energy Security D Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency

Hydropower will make up a considerable proportion of renewable energy. It is vital for environmental sustainability that an investment in renewable energy is paralleled by an investment in energy efficiency. Large hydropower construction is costly and has adverse consequences for subsistence, bio diversity and commercial fisheries. Large Dams are also empirically known to under deliver on goals of energy generation. Dams are also found to cause emission of greenhouses gasses several decades after their construction, in tropical areas potentially at dual the rate of coal plants on a kWh basis.

Building large dams and other centralised water and energy projects may still be appropriate under certain conditions. Mandatory guidelines on environmental and social aspects are a prerequisite, the guidelines recommended by the World Commission on Dams are the most appropriate framework for decision making on water and energy projects. Future development strategies need to include this framework.

Wind, small hydro, solar and geothermal technologies represent good alternatives for small scale bottom up energy projects. These projects empower poor people and promote climate resilience. There needs to be a recognising that small scale energy projects are not intended to meet the same generating capacity as large scale projects, but are an alternative approach based on the principles of sustainability and empowerment.

## Recommendations:

- Before energy programs are initiated national governments and international organizations should carry out participatory assessments of all needs and options including the including the principles of Free and Prior Informed Consent. These assessments should integrate social, environmental and economic aspects with equal weight.
- Low impact solutions, such as small scale projects and energy efficiency, should be made priority of international organizations and national governments redirecting resources from high impact large scale projects.
- Intergovernmental organizations and national governments should ensure the use of mandatory social and environmental standards for project selection and implementation.
- Intergovernmental organizations, national governments and parliaments should explicitly acknowledge and guarantee the customary and formal rights of local communities to their land, water, forests and other resources in their infrastructure strategies. This includes the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior informed consent (FPIC) regarding projects on their lands.

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## Forest Stewardship Council

Contribution Forest Stewardship Council to outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference

In particular on "green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication"

Oaxaca/Mexico, Bonn/Germany, 27 September, 2011

## Context

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) underlines key messages from UNEP in its Green Economy report of 2011: "Forests are a foundation of the green economy, sustaining a wide range of sectors and livelihoods".

"Short-term liquidation of forest assets for limited private gains threatens this foundation, and needs to be halted".

FSC agrees with UNEP in setting as objectives of a green economy: "improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities". This clarifies that economic activities need to respect ecological constraints but have clear social objectives.

FSC works in conjunction with and complements initiatives that aim to reduce deforestation and forest degradation globally and increase the total forest cover, also as part of climate mitigation and adaptation policies.

The urgency for responsible forest management is compelled by increased demand for forest products to sustain fundamental needs such as providing energy source, construction material, and other purposes.

UNEP describes certification of sustainable forest management, such as FSC, as a promising development, a relevant contribution to shift the trends. However, it needs to be applied at a much greater scope, in particular in the tropical and sub-tropical areas. It concludes that "There are reasons for optimism, but greening the forest sector requires a sustained effort. Various standards and certification schemes have provided a sound basis for practising sustainable forest management, but their widespread uptake requires a strong mandate and consistent policies and markets.

As Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the majority of UN governments have, in Nagoya last year, committed themselves to the "Aichi Biodiversity Targets" for 2020. These include the aim to halve the (annual) rates of losses of forests, "and where feasible brought close to zero", and to significantly reduce degradation and fragmentation. Sustainably managed forests will also contribute to "ensuring conservation of biodiversity", as well as the restoration of 15% of currently degraded ecosystems. The Parties have committed themselves to develop or update, by 2015, national biodiversity strategies and action plans to help implementing the Aichi targets.

FSC calls for inclusion of a "Certification Support Pledge" in the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference, with the following text:

Governments recognise that forests are a foundation of the green economy, sustaining a wide range of sectors and livelihoods; that forests also form an essential part of the world's ecosystems and play a crucial role in mitigation of, and adaption to, climate change. They are alarmed about the ongoing deforestation and forest degradation in many parts of the world. They are aware of the increased demand for forest products and the opportunities and threats this will create. Responsible forest management therefore is essential to protect environment, biodiversity and ecosystem services, ensure the respect of social and human rights, guarantee proper wages and prosperity and contribute appropriately to the domestic economies. Forest certification is complementary to nature conservation and provides a promising environmental, social and economic alternative to practices that result in destructive forest exploitation and deforestation.

Therefore, all governments taking part in the Rio+20 Conference, pledge concrete and systematic support and promotion of transparent, effective, balanced multi stakeholder governed forest and chain-of-custody certification systems, in all parts of the world, with special attention to tropical and sub-tropical rainforests. They do this in line with their individual responsibilities and possibilities, towards their domestic forests, as actors on the public procurement markets, as guardians of internal markets, as decisionmakers on consumer information criteria, and as initiators and supporters of development and training assistance at home and/or abroad. They recognise that forest certification can strengthen local economies, ensure the rights and interests of indigenous peoples and local communities and avoid the destruction of forests, their ecosystem services and their biodiversity, and, drive continuous improvements, provided it is based on robust principles, applied through transparent and balanced participatory, multi-stakeholder governed, processes, and includes independent, on-the-ground, monitoring, reporting and verification.

Governments engaged in Rio+20 commit to include support for credible forest certification in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans as well as in other plans focused on limiting or reducing the ecological footprint of their societies, including integrated product procurement policies.

They will furthermore support the success of such forest certification systems by aligning public procurement practices at all levels with certified forest products and services, as well as promote certified products with their citizens.

Those governments engaged in development cooperation with other countries, commit to include forest certification in their programmes, supporting the development of forest dependent local economies, social rights, and environmentally sound forest management.

Government activities to implement this pledge could include:

On the ground: develop and enforce appropriate policies and regulations for responsible forest management and guarantee efficient and effective controls; create favourable conditions for robust and balanced multi-stakeholder based forest certification schemes such as FSC (examples existing in South Africa, Brazil, Guatemala), including tax incentives for certificate holders (such as in Peru).

On the ground: support responsible forest management practice through education and training; support development of curricula to help people understanding the values of healthy forests and green economy; and . where appropriate - for training to understand processes of voluntary certification based on participatory processes. On the ground: where forests are public, seek FSC certification of these forests and demonstrate responsible management including stakeholder engagement.

On the ground: actively support and encourage FSC oriented multi-stakeholder decision making processes to achieve FSC Forest Management certification of private and community forests.

On the ground in other countries: promote and support assistance to forest management certification processes by social development organisations, in particular in the tropical and subtropical countries.

On the markets: inform and mobilise consumers to differentiate between products based on social and environmental impact, and to understand that forest products from questionable origin contribute to irresponsible forest management practices such as overharvesting, degradation, illegal activities, and violation of worker and human rights. Give confidence by identifying credible certification schemes that deserve consumer preference in public procurement policies.

On the markets: practice green public procurement, in a credible manner, and support a large, reliable market for certified products, including by setting progressive targets. On the FSC website we will present progressively examples of supporting activities governments have already been engaged in, in particular in/tropical and semi-tropical forests (<http://www.fsc.org/casestudies.html>). What is FSC:

The Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) is an independent, non-governmental, not for profit organization established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests. FSC is a unique forum where stakeholders from around the world meet and through strong multi-stakeholder processes define essential social and environmental criteria for forest management. These fundamental principles are realized in forests worldwide through FSC certification. Through programs, services and solutions that support FSC certification, the Forest Stewardship Council empowers organizations, businesses and communities to support forest management that meets the social, economic and ecological needs of present and future generations. Find more information at [www.fsc.org](http://www.fsc.org).

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## Fórum Empresarial RIO+20 (Brazilian Forum Empresarial)

CARTA DE RECOMENDAÇÃO E PRINCÍPIOS DO FORUM EMPRESARIAL RIO+20 PARA A UNCSD-2012

(CHARTER OF RECOMMENDATION AND PRINCIPLES OF FORUM EMPRESARIAL RIO+20 TO UNCSD-2012)

Nós, membros participantes do FÓRUM EMPRESARIAL RIO+20, atendendo à chamada pública de contribuições para a UNCSD-2012, entendemos que, para a perfeita aplicação e efetividade da Economia Verde, associada ao conceito de desenvolvimento sustentável, tornam-se necessárias ações, procedimentos e princípios que devem ser observados por qualquer ator da Sociedade Global, de acordo com as seguintes considerações:

1. Pretendemos alcançar o desenvolvimento sustentável, com equilíbrio entre o social, o econômico e o ambiental, que devem sempre estar inter-relacionados, e de acordo com o princípio da responsabilidade comum porém diferenciada.
2. Entendemos que a abordagem da idéia de " Economia Verde" não pode se desvincular dos princípios do Direito do Ambiente.
3. Os membros do FÓRUM EMPRESARIAL RIO+20, entendem que é necessário alcançar um compromisso básico para os seguintes temas:
  - a) Diminuição e posterior erradicação da pobreza extrema.
  - b) Restaurar a harmonia com o ambiente natural
  - c) Desenvolver ações que fomentem a geração de empregos verdes ( Green Jobs)
  - d) Integrar o conceito de desenvolvimento sustentável a um compromisso entre a empresa e a sociedade.
  - e) Aumentar a valorização dos investimentos e incentivos na área de P&D, com ênfase as atividades que envolvam a Economia Verde.
4. Reconhecemos a soberania dos países em relação ao acesso ao patrimônio e aos recursos genéticos, devendo estes países responsabilizar-se também pela segurança.
5. Reconhecemos a necessidade de defesa das matrizes energéticas mais limpas, com condições de contribuição para a diminuição do aquecimento global.
6. Entendemos que o Estímulo aos individuais, pequenos e médios empresários pode se configurar através das práticas decorrentes da Economia Verde.
7. Reafirmamos a essencialidade do desenvolvimento de práticas empresariais em respeito aos direitos difusos e transindividuais, destinadas a geração de oportunidades de emprego e renda para os idosos, crianças, adolescentes, deficientes físicos, consumidores e todos os cidadãos sujeitos de direito.
8. Entendemos que as práticas empresariais de sucesso que abordem o desenvolvimento sustentável devem ser disponibilizadas a todas as empresas que ainda não tiveram acesso, observados os sigilo industrial e comercial.
9. Entendemos que as Empresas devem se integrar aos processos de urbanização das áreas de seu entorno, considerando os princípios internacionais da Cidade Sustentável.
10. Entendemos que as ações empresariais devem sempre levar em consideração o conhecimento tradicional associado e o conhecimento ancestral, com ênfase à educação ambiental não formal.
11. Reconhecemos a necessidade de envolver a educação ambiental em todos os níveis de ação dos setores da empresa.
12. Entendemos que os sistemas de gestão ambiental devem considerar os modernos conceitos de Economia Verde, considerando os seus três pilares essenciais.
13. Reconhecemos a necessidade de perfeita interação entre as políticas públicas e as ações empresariais quando o objeto se tratar de gestão de resíduos sólidos.
14. Entendemos que a Gestão Integrada de Resíduos Sólidos é um instrumento essencial à economia verde e à diminuição da pobreza.
15. Reconhecemos que a Logística Reversa contribui para a implementação da economia verde e é um fator de grande importância e essencialidade à diminuição dos índices de pobreza no Planeta.
16. Entendemos que as bacias hidrográficas são essenciais à manutenção da vida no Planeta e essenciais ao desenvolvimento de uma economia verde associada ao compromisso socioambiental, porém o acesso aos recursos hídricos deve ser abordado de acordo com a característica individual de cada bacia.
17. Acreditamos que a bacia aérea é um meio de essencial importância à vida no Planeta e deve ser conservada de acordo com as modernas práticas da economia verde, com observância de suas características locais.
18. Entendemos que a agricultura é essencial à eliminação da fome e pobreza no Planeta, desde que respeitadas as práticas de economia verde.

Rio de Janeiro, 01 de Novembro de 2011. \_\_\_\_

ENGLISH VERSION

CHARTER OF RECOMMENDATION AND PRINCIPLES OF FORUM EMPRESARIAL RIO+20 TO UNCSD-2012 We, participating members of the FORUM EMPRESARIAL RIO+20, given the public call for contributions to the UNCSD-2012, we understand that for the perfect application and effectiveness of the Green Economy, linked to the concept of sustainable development actions become necessary, procedures and principles to be observed by any player in the Global Society, according to the following considerations: 1. We aim to achieve sustainable development, with the balance between social, economic and environmental, which should always be interrelated, and in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibility. 2. We believe that the approach of the idea of "Green Economy" can not unlink the principles of Environmental Law. 3. The members of the FORUM EMPRESARIAL RIO+20, it is necessary to understand achieve a basic commitment to the following themes:

- a) Reduction and eradication of extreme poverty. b) Restore harmony with the natural environment c) Develop activities that promote the generation of green jobs (Green

- Jobs) d) Integrate the concept of a commitment to sustainable development between the company and society.
- e) increase the valuation of investments and incentives in R & D, with emphasis on activities involving the Green Economy.
4. We recognize the sovereignty of countries over access to assets and genetic resources, these countries should also take responsibility for security.
  5. We recognize the need for defense of the cleanest energy matrix, in terms of contribution to the reduction of global warming.
  6. We understand that the stimulus to individual, small and medium businesses can be configured through the practices arising from the Green Economy.
  7. We reaffirm the essentiality of the development of practices business rights with respect to diffuse and trans, for the generation of employment opportunities and income for the elderly, children, teenagers, disabled, consumers all citizens and legal subjects.
  8. We believe that successful business practices that address sustainable development should be available to all companies that have not had access, subject to confidentiality industrial and commercial.
  9. We understand that companies should integrate the processes of urbanization of its surrounding areas, considering the principles International Sustainable City.
  10. Entendemos actions that business should always take into consideration the traditional knowledge and ancestral knowledge, with emphasis on environmental education and informal education.
  11. We recognize the need to engage in environmental education all levels of action in the company.
  12. We understand that the environmental management systems should consider the modern concepts of Green Economy, considering their three pillars.
  13. We recognize the need for perfect interaction between the public policies and business actions when the object it is management of solid waste.
  14. We understand that the Integrated Solid Waste Management is a essential tool for green economy and poverty alleviation.
  15. We recognize that contributes to the Reverse Logistics implementation of the green economy and is a major factor importance and essentiality to the decrease in poverty rates the Planet.
  16. We understand that watersheds are essential to maintenance of life on Earth and essential to the development of a green economy associated with social and environmental commitment, but access to water resources must be addressed in accordance with the individual characteristics of each basin.
  17. We believe that through an air basin is of essential importance to life on the planet and must be kept in accordance with the modern practice of green economics, in compliance with their local characteristics.
  18. We understand that agriculture is essential to the elimination of hunger and poverty on the planet, in compliance with the practices of economy green.

Rio de Janeiro City, 2011. 01st. November.

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## Forum Umwelt und Entwicklung

### Contribution to Rio+20 Zero Draft

Almost twenty years after the Earth Summit in Rio 1992 the stock-taking of global achievements for sustainable development leaves a bleak picture. Environmental degradation and depletion of natural resources have worsened and are likely to cause conflicts and insecurity for future generations. Widespread poverty as well as constrained development possibilities exist especially where the poorest countries and communities suffer the most from the global demand on resources and adverse environmental impacts. The development paths of the North and South remain alarmingly unsustainable well beyond the carrying capacity of the planet and do so at an increasing pace. The world, especially political actors in industrialised as well as in industrialising nations, has failed to deliver sufficiently on securing sustainable livelihoods for all within safe planetary boundaries. Even in view of the combined environmental, economic and food crisis, so far there is no sufficient political ambition in sight to address them adequately.

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) in Rio 2012 needs to generate the necessary political will to change course. The world must embark on a socially and ecological sustainable green economy path that achieves sustainable development and poverty eradication and breaks with the business as usual scenario. Bold actions are needed to achieve social and economic equity and environmental sustainability. This implies that deliberate decisions have to be made in order to create enabling policy environments, to redirect public and private funds that have catalysing effects to boost truly green economies that are able to deliver on basic societal needs such as energy and food for all in the north and south. Active governmental measures to strengthen the right to development for the poor and to support the most vulnerable groups are fundamental to decrease vulnerability to social and economic changes as well as the effects of distorted ecosystems for example climate change.

Governments should send their Heads of State or Government to Rio+20 and make following commitments:

#### 1) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The Rio summit offers the possibility to deliver an internationally agreed vision of development that catalyses fundamental changes in our economies towards more social and economic equity and environmental sustainability while ensuring poverty reduction focusing on the most vulnerable groups. Green economy might be seen as an useful tool to embark on a sustainable economic pathway with specific and ambitious goals to catalyse structural change.

Heads of states and governments therefore need to commit to a set of global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by 2030 - complementary to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The global community should agree on a mandate for the UN to develop the SDGs further and to define their scope. The scope must not fall behind internationally agreed targets and include short-term milestones in order to ensure immediate implementation and avoid gaps in political commitment due to election cycles. SDGs should be based on the following principles and cornerstones:

- Avoid unintended consequences of conventional decision making and overcome traditional sectoral approaches by avoiding solutions that aggravate problems in other sectors (Nexus-approach).
- Incorporation of guiding principles of sustainable development by other international finance and trade institutions, including those in- and outside the UN system.
- Measuring of societal goals beyond GDP growth that integrates societal well-being and preservation of natural capital and environmental resilience.
- Implementation of Rio+20 roadmaps established by every nation by 2015 with ambitious and clearly identified short term milestones leading to national SDGs. These roadmaps could be supplemented by national action plans addressing specific political areas as for example national low and zero carbon action plans for emerging and industrialised economies including national specific renewable energy and energy efficiency frameworks to be implemented and operational by 2030.
- Self-Commitment of Governments on national Rio+20 roadmaps and SDGs that clearly show national contributions to the achievement of the global SDGs.
- Mechanisms monitoring the achievement of national Rio+20 roadmaps and SDGs by a designated UN-Body sufficiently mandated assess the level of national achievement and provide policy recommendations.

## 2) Green Economy

Green Economy being part of sustainable development needs to be understood, as a system of economic activities to deliver societal goals of providing justice and equity, i.e. sustainable and improved human well-being and livelihoods for all, while fully respecting the ecological limits of planetary boundaries and without exposing future generations to significant environmental risks and ecological scarcities. Investing in greening high impact sectors and services, investing in people and in natural capital must go hand in hand. As a tool to embark on a sustainable economic pathway it supplies for a fair and equitable transition of today's economies and values and governs natural resources. In order to achieve this, heads of states and governments need to commit to a green economy that encompasses:

- Elimination of subsidies harmful to climate and environment by 2020 - especially subsidies on fossil fuels and in the agricultural and fishery sector.
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to reach the goal of limiting global warming to two degrees above the pre-industrial age level.
- Access to sustainable and renewable energy for all by 2020 for basic needs, inter alia by promoting community-owned decentralized energy supply.
- Socially or community control of basic living supplies such as water supply and incorporation of water use in frameworks of other sectoral approaches.
- Ensure food security for all by promoting sustainable agricultural and fishing practices and committing to policies and market mechanisms that support small-scale agriculture and fishery to manage sustainable food production.
- Preservation of ecosystems and their biodiversity in order to provide key ecosystem services to achieve food, water and energy security.
- Stop deforestation and preserve natural forests as well as modified natural forests by 2020 and implement policies and measures that stop the drivers for deforestation including safeguards to land use changes.
- Restoration of ecological and natural resources including forests as the base of economic activity including eroded soils.
- Address gaps in ocean governance for areas beyond national jurisdiction and establish a global network of Marine Reserves until 2017.
- A financial system that contributes to the realisation of human rights as agreed in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
- A trade and investment regime providing the necessary policy space for regulation in order to make it work for environmental protection, human rights, equity and justice.
- Regulations and incentives to promote sustainable production and consumption patterns.

## 3) Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Development

The objective to reform the institutional framework for sustainable development must be to fundamentally improve governance, accountability & liability.

In order to achieve this, heads of states and governments need to commit to:

- Strengthening the governance system by upgrading the UN Environment Programme through strengthening and extending its mandate to include means for consultancy of countries willing to enter a transformation process as well as better implementation, compliance and enforcement mechanisms.
- Creating a Sustainable Development Council (SDC) in order to coordinate the existing structures relevant to sustainable development in UN and outside the UN system and to monitor the progress in achieving SDGs on a global and on national levels.
- In order to achieve political acceptance of the sometimes difficult transition process participative and democratic principles should be developed, promoted and safeguarded.

## Framework Convention Alliance (FCA)

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

The Framework Convention Alliance (FCA) was created in 1999 and is made up of over 350 non-governmental organisations from more than 100 countries working on the development, ratification and implementation of the international treaty, the World Health Organization's (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC).

Renewed political commitment to sustainable development at all levels –social, economic, and environmental – is critical to address emerging global challenges and achieve progress on internationally agreed development goals.

In this regard, FCA would like to highlight that non-communicable diseases (NCDs) cause more than 36 million deaths annually, which represents 63% of all global deaths.



NCDs result in enormous human suffering and its economic consequences are staggering. Unless efforts to tackle NCDs intensify, cumulative economic losses to low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) from the four main groups of NCDs are estimated to surpass US\$ 7 trillion over the period 2011-2025.

Tobacco use is the one risk factor common to the main groups of NCDs. It kills more than 15,000 people a day and accounts for one in six of all NCD deaths. To date, more than 170 countries have become Parties to the FCTC. The treaty's measures are cost-effective, affordable and some of them, such as tobacco taxes, also revenue-generating. Yet implementation of the FCTC has been slow – tobacco control measures require more than just a health sector response. Whole of society commitment to accelerate implementation of the FCTC is needed and new approaches combining the social, economic, and environmental spheres are critical.

FCA urges the Rio+20 Conference Secretariat and the participating countries to consider the adoption of the following statement in the Conference Final Declaration:

We reiterate our commitment to accelerate the implementation by the State Parties of the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) and encourage countries that have not yet done so to consider acceding to the FCTC as we recognize that substantially reducing tobacco consumption is an important component of economic, social and environmental sustainable development strategies at the global, regional, national, and community levels.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

RIO+20 COMPILATION DOCUMENT: FCA SUBMISSION

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## France Nature Environnement

RIO+20 LES OCEANS A LA CROISEE DES CHEMINS

Plaidoyer

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## I. CONSTAT: 20 ANS APRES RIO, OU EN SONT LES OCEANS?

Lors du Sommet de la Terre de 1992, le chapitre 17 de l'Agenda 21 est adopté et consacre entièrement aux océans. Premier pas pour l'action, il presageait déjà de la préoccupation grandissante sur l'état de nos océans. Pres de vingt ans plus tard, un tout récent rapport publié en juin 2011 par l'IPSO (International programme on the state of the oceans) a tiré la sonnette d'alarme : la santé des océans est dans un état inquiétant, menaçant la vie marine dans des proportions jusque là grandement sous-estimées. De la santé des océans dépend pourtant la santé sur la terre:

- Ils absorbent et stockent une grande quantité du CO<sub>2</sub> de la planète.
- Ils génèrent la majorité de l'oxygène présent dans l'atmosphère.
- Ils déterminent grandement le climat et le temps.
- Ils abritent une grande majorité des formes de vie sur la terre.

## Des pressions humaines croissantes

Longtemps considéré comme inépuisable et infini, notre monde océanique est pourtant à la croisée des chemins. Subissant de plein fouet un large ensemble de pressions d'origine humaine, sa capacité de résilience est en grand danger. De nombreux scientifiques craignent ainsi qu'une crise d'extinction massive ne les frappe rapidement de plein fouet. On assiste en effet à la destruction d'une grande partie de la chaîne alimentaire qui façonne l'équilibre chimique de la planète. La destruction des barrières de corail, sur lesquelles reposent l'alimentation et l'économie de millions de gens, est à cet égard frappant.

Trois grands phénomènes perturbateurs peuvent d'ores et déjà être identifiés:

- Le dérèglement climatique

Selon le GIEC, le réchauffement climatique tend à diminuer la capacité de séquestration du carbone des océans et cette augmentation des concentrations de dioxyde de carbone dans l'atmosphère provoque une acidification des océans. Les conséquences de ce changement de la chimie des océans sur les organismes marins sont encore mal connues mais constituent une menace réelle pour la survie de certaines espèces. L'effondrement du plancton risque d'entraîner une perturbation majeure des capacités d'absorption du CO<sub>2</sub>. La faune benthique est en outre fortement liée au recyclage du carbone et à la minéralisation du fond des océans; elle contribue ainsi à la genèse des nodules polymétalliques.

- La contamination quasi généralisée des mers et des océans

Ces pollutions industrielles, agricoles et menagères apportées par les cours d'eau et les canalisations représentant selon le PNUE environ 80% des pollutions marines. Le cas des déchets en plastique est à cet égard marquant. D'après un rapport du PNUE de 2006, chaque kilomètre carré de nos océans contiendrait 46000 objets en plastique flottant en surface au entre deux eaux.

Mers et océans sont ainsi le réceptacle d'une grande partie des déchets humains, par la voie des fleuves, du ruissellement, des « retombées » atmosphériques, de rejets directs côtiers ou maritimes. Une fraction croissante de ces déchets est toxique pour l'environnement et la santé humaine ; même pour des substances largement interdites comme les PCB, compte tenu de leur durée de vie.

- L'exploitation non soutenable des ressources marines

La majorité des stocks halieutiques sont aujourd'hui en surexploitation, avec en parallèle un développement forcé de l'aquaculture qui a des impacts non négligeables sur les milieux marins. L'exemple du thon rouge en Méditerranée est probablement l'exemple le plus frappant de la surpêche. Mais les pressions peuvent être multiples. L'effondrement des stocks de cabillaud en Atlantique nord-ouest sont également liés à des éléments naturels - modification du milieu avec le réchauffement climatique. Sans compter que les impacts socioéconomiques de disparition de pêcheries entières sont considérables.

Par ailleurs, les mers et les océans sont les victimes d'une exploitation non durable liée par exemple au pétrole, au granulats ou autres extractions de ressources minières, autant d'activités humaines dont les impacts environnementaux sont bien loin d'être sans conséquences.

## Une foulditude d'acteurs aux compétences limitées

Les organismes qui ont compétence sur le monde marin sont nombreux et peu coordonnés:

- Nations Unies - Océans: agence placée sous l'égide de l'ONU devant favoriser les coordinations entre notamment la Convention sur le droit de la mer (dite Convention de Montego-Bay) et les dispositions du chapitre 17 de l'Agenda 21 concernant les mers et les océans.

-AIFM (Autorite internationale des fonds marins): administre les ressources des fonds marins et de leur sous sol au dela des zones de juridiction nationale.

-FAO (Organisation mondiale de l'agriculture et de l'alimentation) : s'occupe de peches et d'aquaculture, mais sans pouvoir de gestion.

-OMI (Organisation maritime internationale) : marine marchande.

-Commission oceeographique intergouvernementale de l'UNESCO (Organisation des Nations Unies pour la culture, la science et l'education) : tente de faire avancer les sciences marines.

- OMC (Organisation mondiale du commerce) : peut intervenir sur le secteur de la peche au les barrieres tarifaires sont tres basses.

-CCNUCC (Convention cadre des Nations Unies sur le changement c1imatique)

- CCDB (Convention cadre des Nations Unies sur la diversite biologique)

-CNUDM (Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer) avec son Tribunal international du droit de la mer.

- CITES (Convention internationale sur le commerce international des especes de faune et de flore sauvages menacees d'extinction)

-Commission baleiniere internationale

-Convention internationale sur les especes migratrices d'animaux sauvages

-Programme sur les mers regionales du PNUE (Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement) .

-Etc ...

Au total, pres de 140 traites internationaux concernent les oceans. Dans ces conditions, il est difficile d'avoir une vision integree des problematiques maritimes.

Une incoherence du cadre d'action

Malgre le nombre des organes de gouvernance mis en place, l'environnement marin ne cesse de se degrader. L'imperieuse necessite d'accéder de maniere soutenable aux ressources de l'ocean et de les exploiter doit presser la communaute internationale a revoir en profondeur le systeme de gouvernance des oceans. L'Assemblee Generale des Nations a par ailleurs constamment attire l'attention des Etats sur le besoin d'arneliorer la cooperation et la coordination a tous les niveaux (regional, national et international). Des 1996, la Commission developpement durable du Comite economique et social des Nations Unies avait en outre identifie la specificite des oceans et des mers justifiant une gouvernance specifique.

La situation actuelle encourage l'heterogeneite des reqlementations autant que des modes de gestion. Les mandats souvent etroits des divers organismes et conventions entrainent des grandes insuffisances autant dans l'elaboracion des regles que dans leur mise en œuvre. Quant aux relations entre ces divers organismes, elles sont quasi inexistantes. Des lors, aucune coherence n'existe et chacun s'occupe de ses propres affaires, sans en reterer aux autres.

L'immobilisme flagrant de la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer (CNUDM)

Difficilement adoptee en 1982, elle est souvent consideree comme la « Constitution des oceans ». Elle ne dispose cependant que de tres peu de preconisations environnementales et les clauses specifiques a l'environnement sont beaucoup trop generales et imprecises pour etre reellement efficaces. Sans compter que c'est bel et bien le principe fondateur de cette Convention, la liberte de circulation, d'exploitation et le refus de toute autorite prevalant sur celle des Etats, qui est au final en grande partie responsable du declin des pecherles et de la grande menace qui pese aujourd'hui sur la biodiversite marine et les geo-ecosystemes marins.

Au final, aucun Etat ne peut pretendre a l'utilisation exclusive des oceans et en refuser l'acces aux autres ; et aucune police ne s'y exerce autre que celle des Etats, et ce dans des limites tres etroites (lutte contre la piraterie, trafics de drogue).

Il convient cependant de noter que cette Convention a ete adoptee dans un contexte international particulier de guerre froide ou l'accord du plus grand nombre impliquait de faire des concessions.

C'est des lors en faveur de la liberte que s'est construit progressivement le droit de la mer. La CNUDM distingue ainsi differentes zones oceaniques avec des domaines de competences distincts :

-La mer territoriale : la largeur ne doit pas depasser 12 milles marins.

-La zone contigue : entre 12 et 24 milles marins.

- La zone economique exclusive (ZEE) : comprend la zone contigue et jusqu'a 200 milles marins.

- La haute mer : au dela de la ZEE. C'est a partir de cette zone que cesse de s'appliquer la competence des juridictions nationales.

Lors de la troisieme Conference des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer en 1967, l'Ambassadeur de Malte propose d'interdire l'exploitation et l'extraction des ressources minieres par les Etats dans les zones au-dela de leur propre juridiction. Il en appelle a « un patrimoine commun de l'humanite ». Avec l'adoption de la CNUDM, ce principe s'applique aux seules ressources minieres de la zone (au -dela des juridictions nationales), qui sont alors encadrees par l'AIFM (Autorite internationale des fonds marins). L'emergence progressive d'un droit international de la mer a ainsi permis de reglementer les espaces oceaniques et leurs ressources pour les Etats cotiers adjacents. Pres de 70% de l'espace marin demeure pourtant aujourd'hui toujours soumis au principe de liberte d'exploitation, qui conduit facilement au pillage pur et simple des ressources. Et le transport maritime, qui assure pres de 80% des echanges mondiaux, echappe pratiquement atout controle en haute mer, ce qui menace egalement la sante des mers et des oceans.

C'est que lors de l'adoption de la Convention, les signataires sous estimaient aussi probablement l'enjeu de la protection de la biodiversite marine au-dela de la ZEE.

La CNUDM prevoit la reunion des Etats parties, sur le meme modele que la CCNUCC ou la CCNUDB. Ils sont helas releques aun examen purement budgetaire et administratif et influencent peu l'evolution du droit de la mer. Ils n'ont pratiquement aucun role sur les questions politiques de fond. L'ONU a un role a jouer pour faire evoluer le droit de la mer. Mais en l'absence d'un cadre institutionnel integre autant que de mecanismes de surveillance et de mise en oeuvre appropries, il est difficile de proteqer reellement le milieu marin.

Objectif Rio: adopter une feuille de route ambitieuse pour nos oceans

Face à cette situation, l'action contre le dérèglement climatique et contre les pollutions, notamment telluriques, concordent avec tout un tas de comportements, de politiques publiques et d'activités économiques à l'œuvre sur nos territoires. L'engagement du mouvement associatif France Nature Environnement est donc intimement lié à tout ce qui peut avoir un effet sur la santé de nos océans et le partage des richesses qui en sont issues.

En mettant à l'ordre du jour de la Conférence Rio+20 à la fois l'économie verte et la gouvernance internationale du développement durable, les Nations Unies ont laissé une grande place à tout un tas d'enjeux planétaires majeurs. La protection des océans a la particularité d'être au cœur de multiples défis environnementaux, économiques et sociaux de notre temps. La situation actuelle n'est plus tenable et constitue une menace pour l'humanité.

Cependant, force est de constater que la gouvernance des océans, et plus particulièrement de la haute mer, est le parent pauvre des politiques environnementales internationales. Rio+20 devrait saisir l'occasion d'une mobilisation de la communauté internationale pour adopter une feuille de route ambitieuse pour nos océans.

## II. PROPOSITIONS: ADOPTER UNE GOUVERNANCE INTERNATIONALE EN HAUTE MER

La haute mer est aujourd'hui la dernière frontière du droit international. De fait elle est définie négativement : le régime de la haute mer s'applique à l'espace constituant la zone internationale des grands fonds marins s'étendant au-delà de 200 milles (art. 87 de la CNUDM), à l'exclusion du sol et du sous-sol. Le régime applicable à cette colonne d'eau est fondé sur un principe de liberté (art. 87 de la Convention). Il s'agit donc d'un espace libre de toute souveraineté alors que l'on peut le considérer comme le bien commun de tous.

Si la grande majorité des défis environnementaux de l'humanité font l'objet d'une attention particulière de la communauté internationale, la liberté de la haute mer semble intouchable tant les considérations militaires et les appétits financiers y sont attachés. Cette situation doit cesser au plus tôt. Tout comme le climat ou la biodiversité, les océans, et plus particulièrement la haute mer, représentent un défi global qui ne pourra trouver de solution qu'à une échelle internationale. Ce constat est d'ores et déjà partagé :

-Une étude parue dans le dernier numéro de Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, souligne l'urgence de la mise en place d'un cadre légal international pour la protection de la biodiversité en haute mer et l'utilisation des ressources génétiques marines.

-En juin 2011 la dernière réunion des parties du Groupe ad hoc de l'ONU sur les questions liées à la conservation et à l'usage durable des ressources marines au-delà des juridictions nationales s'est pour la première fois entendue pour qu'un accord multilatéral puisse rapidement être adopté.

Faire face à une situation critique de la biodiversité marine

La biodiversité marine est d'une grande richesse, pour une large part encore totalement inconnue, et concerne à la fois le sous-sol et le sol marins, la colonne d'eau, la surface de l'eau et la colonne d'air. La tentation est souvent grande de séparer la biodiversité terrestre de la biodiversité marine. On observe ainsi des situations ubuesques comme sur les îles Galapagos. Aujourd'hui, près de 97% de ces terres sont protégées alors que les espaces marins aux alentours sont totalement ravagés par la surpêche. Mais les écosystèmes dépendent grandement les uns des autres, de la terre à la mer (ZEE et haute mer) : c'est le cas par exemple de l'avifaune, bien souvent oubliée.

Cette forte interdépendance des écosystèmes et la difficulté à les protéger dans le cadre juridique actuel s'illustrent notamment par les problèmes des stocks de poissons dits « chevauchants ». La situation alarmante de certains stocks de ressources halieutiques a d'ores et déjà conduit des États riverains (Canada, Argentine, Chili) à revendiquer des compétences dans la zone de haute mer adjacente à leur ZEE ou à leur zone de pêche au nom de la conservation des pêcheries.

La dégradation de cette biodiversité marine s'aggrave ainsi aujourd'hui dans un espace jusqu'alors considéré comme inépuisable : la haute mer. Les progrès techniques et les appétits commerciaux ne cessent de repousser les limites de l'exploitation des fonds marins. Toujours plus loin, toujours plus profond, y compris au-delà des zones de juridiction nationale. Dans les faits, il y a désormais une accélération des autorisations de permis minier à l'échelle planétaire et pas uniquement sur les nodules polymétalliques (encroûtements ferro-manganifères, sulfures hydrothermaux, diamants, phosphates, etc.)

La principale pression exercée sur les espèces est le prélèvement d'espèces ciblées et non ciblées, essentiellement d'océan à la pêche, tandis que les autres pressions importantes concernent la perte ou la détérioration des habitats et la pollution. De grands changements océanographiques liés au changement climatique, notamment l'acidification des océans, la montée du niveau de la mer et l'augmentation de la température de la mer, sont susceptibles de devenir de plus en plus importants dans les décennies à venir. L'introduction d'espèces non indigènes et les déchets divers représentant également des pressions inquiétantes.

Les plus importantes pressions affectant le milieu marin sont la perte d'habitats, causée par exemple par l'aménagement du littoral, l'extraction minière et pétrolière ainsi que les projets d'exploitation de ressources minérales à grande échelle (méthane par exemple), ainsi que par le chalutage de fond. Au large des côtes d'Afrique de l'ouest, l'extraction du pétrole et du gaz offshore se développe sans qu'aucun des pays riverains ne soit en mesure de contrôler les méthodes et les actions des compagnies pétrolières. Les toutes nouvelles extractions de Total au large de l'Angola en sont un exemple marquant.

Ainsi, depuis plusieurs décennies, l'industrie pétrolière, ayant désormais accès aux techniques de forage à grande profondeur, est à l'avant-garde de l'exploitation des ressources fossiles profondes. Pour l'instant limitée aux ZEE des 200 ou 350 milles (plateau continental), la question fait rage pour l'Atlantique. Les États Unis n'ont toujours pas ratifié la Convention sur le droit de la mer et ne reconnaissent donc toujours pas l'autorité de l'Autorité internationale des fonds marins.

Aller plus loin que la Convention sur la diversité biologique

Entre Convention sur le droit de la mer et Convention cadre sur la diversité biologique, difficile de savoir à qui se raccrocher pour protéger la biodiversité marine au-delà des zones de juridiction nationale. L'adoption du Protocole de Nagoya sur l'accès et le partage des avantages semble avoir donné une réponse diplomatique mais claire : cela relève du champ de compétence de la Convention sur le droit de la mer.

Une Décision spécifique a en effet précisé à la marge les enjeux de coordination entre la CNUDM et la CCNUBD et indique :

-« Qu'il convient d'identifier et d'évaluer les menaces à la diversité biologique dans les aires marines au-delà des juridictions nationales. »

-« Qu'il convient de coopérer avec l'Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies, et en particulier avec le Groupe de travail ad hoc informel étudiant les enjeux liés à la conservation et à l'utilisation soutenable de la diversité biologique au-delà des juridictions nationales ; et de soutenir les parties signataires ainsi que les organisations internationales compétentes en matière d'enjeux scientifiques et techniques pour l'identification de zones marines écologiques et biologiques significatives, en accord avec le droit international, et notamment la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer. »

Cela signifie qu'en l'état actuel du droit international, la grande majorité des formes de biodiversité planétaire ne relève d'aucun cadre de protection spécifique. 65% de la surface des océans est totalement laissée à l'abandon. Situation qui permet de relativiser l'apparent succès du Protocole de Nagoya.

Définir un statut juridique pour la haute mer

L'usage durable des ressources biologiques et genetiques requiert des mesures de protection en haute mer. Tous les organismes onusiens produisent de maniere relativement isolee du droit de la mer ou de la biodiversite sans qu'aucun n'ait la capacite d'englober les aspects environnementaux de la haute mer (connaissance, suivi, reglementations, exploitations, controles et sanctions...) Une gouvernance specifique doit etre envisagee.

La Convention cadre sur la diversite biologique a ete concue dans une approche essentiellement territoriale, visant des activites qui s'exercent sur des espaces juridiquement appropries. Au sein des zones economiques exclusives, et sous reserve d'une adaptation des legislations nationales, la CCOS encadre la protection de la biodiversite marine. Au-dela, c'est le vide juridique de la « zone ».

La Convention sur le droit de la mer applique quant a elle nous l'avons vu le principe de liberte totale en haute mer et de facto conserve competence sur cet espace. En l'etat actuel des equilibres geopolitiques, il semble cependant plus qu'improbable d'engager une reforms en profondeur de la CNUDM. Un protocole additionnel devrait permettre de donner un statut juridique specifique a la haute mer, impliquant sans aucun doute une remise en cause du sacro saint principe de liberte. A partir de l'article 15 de la CCNUDB sur l'acces et le partage des avantages tires de l'utilisation des ressources, ce protocole pourrait proposer en outre un partage specifique des benefices qui pourraient etre reinvestis dans la protection du milieu marin. L'AIFM (autorite internationale des fonds marins) pourrait avoir competence pour une telle mise en oeuvre. Ou un organe subsidiaire directement rattache a l'ONU.

Enfin, les Etats du pavillon pourraient sanctionner les navires soumis a leur juridiction. Malgre les difficultes d'une telle option, des protocoles additionnels aux Conventions regionales existantes pourraient egalement etre signes engageant en haute mer les Etats riverains des mers regionales. Cette approche ne devrait cependant pas empecher de penser la regulation internationale dans une demarche cooperative. La gestion des biens communs merite une regulation multilaterale laissant le plus possible de cote les tentations des Etats a grignoter des competences en dehors de leur ZEE.

Reguler l'acces anarchique aux ressources genetiques marines

La course aux ressources genetiques marines est lances depuis plusieurs annees et semble s'intensifier. La sonnette d'alarme est tiree regulierement, sans qu'une reelle volonte politique ne parvienne a controler les velloutes de nombreux industriels (souvent soutenus par les Etats) sur les ressources genetiques de la haute mer et des fonds marins.

Au Sommet de la Terre en 2002, les Etats se sont engages a promouvoir le partage loyal et equitable des benefices provenant de l'utilisation des ressources genetiques, dans le cadre des negociations de la Convention sur la diversite biologique. Ils ont egalement encourage la mise en place de procedures sous les auspices du Cornite Intergouvernemental sur la Propriete Intellectuelle et les ressources genetiques (ICIP) et de l'Organisation mondiale de la propriete intellectuelle (OMPI). Ils se sont en outre engages a promouvoir des mesures pratiques permettant l'acces aux resultats et aux benefices provenant des biotechnologies basees sur les ressources genetiques (echanges d'experts, formation de personnels, developpement d'institutions de recherche, etc.), toujours dans le cadre de la Convention sur la diversite biodiversite.

A plusieurs reprises, le def emergent de l'acces et le partage des ressources genetiques marines, notamment en haute mer a ete identifie:

-Sommet de la Terre en 2002 : une plus grande action sous l'auspice de la Convention cadre sur la diversite biologique avait ete reclamee. Dont nous venons de voir les limites avec l'adoption du Protocole de Nagoya n'ayant aucune competence en haute mer.

-Rapports annuels sur les oceans et le droit de la mer depuis 2007: l'importance des ressources genetiques marines a ete constamment mise en lumiere par le Secretaire General des Nations Unies.

La capture d'especes nouvelles en haute mer est libre d'acces et les captures peuvent etre exploitees dans le respect des regles de la CNUDM : tous les produits issus de ces captures ainsi que les process mis en oeuvre peuvent beneficier d'une protection par des brevets en toute legalite, dans les limites de l'accord sur les droits de propriete intellectuelle qui touchent au commerce de l'OMC (Adpic).

- Controler le brevetage des ressources genetiques marines

Les avancees technologiques recentes dans l'observation et l'echantillonnage de l'ocean ont permis le developpement considerable de la bio-prospection de zones vierges d'exploration en haute mer. De plus, la mer est une source extraordinairement vaste de diversite genomique, avec 34 des 36 phylums3 principaux (« embranchements » animaux) decrits a ce jour sur Terre. Consquence : une augmentation spectaculaire du nombre de brevets et d'applications associees a des gimes d'organismes marins. L'augmentation du nombre de brevets est dix fois plus rapide que la description de nouvelles especes marines.

Le champ d'applications est vaste : plus de la moitie des brevets vise des applications biomedicales (55%), les autres domaines sont notamment l'agriculture et l'aquaculture (26%) et l'industrie cosmetique (7%). Un nombre grandissant d'applications concerne les domaines de l'eco-toxicologie, de la bio-remediation et de la production d'agro carburants.

Les octrois actuels de brevets sont grandement contestables. Aucune Convention ou protocole d'accord ne lie la CCDS, la CNUDM et l'ADPIC. Le vivant sauvage est aujourd'hui considere comme une marchandise alors que les regimes juridiques en vigueur n'ont pas ete pensés pour integrer cette forme particuliere qu'est l'exploitation des oceans, notamment en haute mer.

- Reglementer strictement l'activite de bio-prospection

La bio-prospection interesse des domaines tels que:

-La recherche medicale sur les substances a fonction anti cancéreuse et anti tumorale ou sur les substances permettant de traiter le VIH-Sida.

- La recherche contre des maladies infectieuses telles que le paludisme.

-Le developpement de nouvelles enzymes a utiliser dans les processus industriels et manufacturiers, le traitement des dechets, etc.

Malgre l'absence de donnees fiables, plusieurs etudes ont estime la valeur commerciale de cette nouvelle activite. Selon une etude de la Commission europeenne de 2005, la biotechnologie marine etait estimee en 2004 a 2,2 milliards d'euros (hors aquaculture, algues et industries de traitement afferentes).

Les impacts environnementaux de l'activite de bio-prospection tout autant que le bio-piratage sont bien loin d'etre neutres et sont insuffisamment analysees. L'obtention de composés actifs necessite un approvisionnement en matiere premiere (l'organisme marin vivant) souvent dans des rapports de un a un million, ce qui avec la destruction potentielle (meme partielle) de l'environnement sous marin et marin de ces organismes provoque des impacts aujourd'hui peu connus. D'ores et deja, la vulnerabilite des communautes faunistiques en cas d'exploitation miniere sur des surfaces relativement restreintes est connue. Une telle exploitation pourrait conduire a l'extinction des biocenoses dans le cas des ecosystemes des fonds d'encroulements riches en cobalt.

En Australie, l'evaluation de l'impact environnemental du prelevement d'echantillons biologiques aux fins de recherche, de developpement technique et economique est une

condition préalable aux autorisations de bio-prospection. L'Australie a en effet mis en place dans sa zone économique exclusive un accord d'accès et de partage de ses ressources marines, et dispose ainsi d'une réglementation spécifique. L'Union européenne est quant à elle en panne alors même que le principe de précaution doit s'appliquer dans le cas par exemple de l'exploitation minière.

Renforcer la transparence pour une meilleure mobilisation des citoyens

De fait, cette situation d'attribution profite aux États privilégiés et à quelques entreprises de ces États, qui continuent dans un relatif anonymat leurs travaux, travaux en partie financés par des fonds publics. La France fait partie de ces États très actifs dans le domaine de l'exploitation des ressources marines et génétiques.

En l'absence d'information et de transparence sur ces activités, les citoyens et les associations sont dans l'expectative et ne disposent que de très faibles informations précises sur la nature des recherches entreprises, autant que sur les modalités d'utilisation à des fins privées et commerciales de ces recherches. La société civile au sens large est exclue de ces approches et les débats sont limités à des enceintes très fermées. Or, le poids de la société civile peut influencer les gouvernements et sa mobilisation devrait permettre de modifier l'équilibre des forces en présence.

Élargir les compétences de l'AIFM

À un moment où la concurrence pour l'accès aux ressources naturelles s'exacerbe, est-il possible de renforcer la préservation des milieux marins tout en développant les activités extractives? L'équilibre est difficile à concilier.

L'Autorité internationale des fonds marins est probablement une première clef d'entrée pour entamer une réglementation internationale de protection de la biodiversité en haute mer. Placée sous l'égide de la CNUDM, elle est la seule à avoir une compétence spécifique sur certaines ressources de la haute mer. Elle est chargée de veiller à ce que les avantages économiques tirés de l'exploitation des ressources minérales des fonds marins internationaux soient partagés par les exploitants et la communauté internationale. L'appellation « patrimoine commun de l'humanité » ne concerne donc bien que les ressources minérales, liquides, solides ou gazeuses (Art. 133 de la CNUDM) à l'exclusion des ressources vivantes qu'elles soient. Pour l'ensemble des autres activités liées à l'exploitation des ressources marines et des ressources génétiques, le statut juridique est celui de res nullius. Elles sont librement exploitables par le premier venu. Cela encourage la surexploitation (et ce d'autant plus que chaque espèce est peu représentée).

L'AIFM pourrait voir ses compétences élargies :

- À l'ensemble des ressources biologiques et génétiques en haute mer.

- Aux activités de bio-prospection.

Afin de garantir la plus grande transparence et efficacité d'une telle gouvernance, le mouvement associatif France Nature Environnement souhaite que des parties prenantes émanant des associations de protection de la nature et de l'environnement participent activement au suivi de la mise en œuvre de ces nouvelles compétences. Cela nécessitera une refonte radicale de ses conditions de fonctionnement.

Une modification profonde des conditions d'accès aux ressources génétiques et minières des grands fonds marins est enfin indispensable pour que dans un proche avenir la législation et les réglementations sur l'exploitation des nodules polymétalliques et d'autres ressources comme les sulfures polymétalliques et les cratères de cobalt intègrent l'obligation d'entreprendre des études d'impact environnemental des activités industrielles ou scientifiques.

Créer un réseau mondial d'aires marines protégées

Dans le plan d'action de Johannesburg de 2002, les États se sont engagés à mettre en place un réseau mondial d'aires marines protégées d'ici à 2012. À Nagoya, un objectif de 10% de zones marines et côtières, y compris en haute mer, a été adopté. Le chemin sera long : moins de 1% des océans sont aujourd'hui concernés par les aires marines protégées contre plus de 10% des zones terrestres aujourd'hui protégées. Atteindre ces objectifs nécessitera sans aucun doute l'appui d'un cadre juridique nouveau pour la haute mer.

- Une première étape dans l'Atlantique sous l'auspice de la Convention OSPAR

Une première avancée importante a été permise avec la désignation de 6 A.M.P. en haute mer en 2010 dans l'Atlantique. Une des zones envisagées, la zone de fracture « Charlie Gibbs » est une section particulièrement complexe de la dorsale médio-atlantique qui se trouve entre l'Islande et les Açores. Dans cette zone, la dorsale médio-atlantique présente de nombreux pics d'une profondeur inférieure à 1500 m et elle offre à la faune benthique le seul substrat dur à ces profondeurs en plein océan Atlantique Nord.

L'aire « Charlie Gibbs » dans les eaux subarctiques a été amputée de 160.000 km<sup>2</sup> et est toujours en cours de négociation, notamment en raison des revendications récentes sur le plateau continental océanique déposées par l'Islande. La France a joué un rôle actif dans le sauvetage partiel de « Charlie Gibbs » et a proposé que le réseau des A.M.P. se prolonge jusqu'en Arctique. Une feuille de route a été acceptée pour que les négociations se poursuivent sur la protection de la colonne d'eau au-dessus du plateau continental revendiquée par l'Islande.

- Quelle gouvernance adopter pour ces aires marines protégées?

Il reste à mettre au point le principal : de quoi, comment et par qui ces Aires marines seront-elles protégées? Un certain nombre d'organismes dans le cadre de la CNUDM, y compris la Convention OSPAR, partagent les mandats des mesures de protection de ces zones : il faut donc déterminer les principes communs de la protection des écosystèmes marins vulnérables dans ces zones, au moyen d'une coopération et d'une collaboration internationales. Ce type de mesures conservatoires ne doit en aucune manière entraîner une forme de revendication nouvelle de territoires au-delà des zones de juridiction nationale.

Un réseau écologiquement cohérent d'AMP bien gérées soutient l'écosystème au sens large. Les espèces et habitats d'une AMP dépendent des processus se déroulant en dehors de cette AMP et y contribuent. Ces rapports sont souvent complexes et s'établissent à une échelle plus grande que les écosystèmes terrestres et présentent une importance particulière pour les espèces très mobiles, telles que certains oiseaux de mer, mammifères marins et poissons. Un réseau écologiquement cohérent d'AMP implique, entre autres, la sauvegarde de zones importantes pour certaines étapes du cycle de vie.

Quelle que soit la solution retenue, le temps presse. L'exploitation industrielle des nodules polymétalliques et des gisements contenus dans les amas sulfures n'est plus qu'une question d'année, voire de mois. Les richesses en hydrocarbures de l'Arctique poussent les pays riverains (le Canada, les États-Unis, le Danemark, la Russie et la Norvège) à empêcher l'établissement de toute mesure de protection de la région. Mais sous l'effet des changements climatiques, des populations de poissons, comme les maquereaux de l'Atlantique du nord-est, remontent déjà vers le nord en quête d'eaux plus froides.

Améliorer les connaissances scientifiques du milieu marin

Les connaissances sur la biodiversité des zones côtières peu profondes se sont beaucoup améliorées au cours des dernières décennies, mais d'importantes lacunes subsistent concernant les organismes et les communautés vivant dans des zones de plus grande profondeur. Il est probable que les bactéries et les virus jouent un rôle crucial de « force motrice » dans les chaînes alimentaires et les cycles biogéochimiques, mais ce phénomène n'est pas suffisamment bien compris.

La compréhension de leur réaction aux changements environnementaux causés par les activités humaines, notamment le changement climatique, comme celle des habitats des eaux profondes et de leurs fonctions pour les espèces et les communautés benthiques comportent des lacunes importantes. Des initiatives majeures de recherche exploratoire continuent à être nécessaires afin d'aborder les diverses lacunes et de soutenir les efforts de protection et de conservation des écosystèmes et de la biodiversité. On ne protège bien que ce que l'on connaît.

Le futur IPBES autant que le GIEC actuel doivent intégrer toujours plus d'éléments sur la connaissance de nos océans.

## Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung

### CONFERENCE REPORT

#### RETREAT FOR PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES ON THE UN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

October 2011

- The Retreat was organized by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) and held in Greentree, Long Island, United States, on 30 September-1 October 2011

- Representatives of 35 member states attended the Retreat as well as the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary General of the Rio+20 Conference, Ambassador Sha Zukang; the Director of FES, Dr. Werner Puschra; and other representatives from FES and UNCSD Secretariat.

- Two experts also participated in the meeting: Dr. Michael Dorsey, expert on environmental studies from Dartmouth College, and Mr. Soogil Young, Chairman of the Presidential Committee on Green Growth of South Korea

#### 1. Introduction

The objective of the Retreat was to provide an informal platform for candid, constructive dialogue among Member States on what Rio+20 can and should deliver. The core agenda of the retreat included discussions on: (i) identifying what the world needs from Rio+20; (ii) identifying critical areas of divergence and convergence among Member States; (iii) examining how best to integrate the objective and themes of the conference by creating synergies among them; and (iv) fostering a common — and concrete — vision of the Conference outcome.

This Conference Report Summary provides a succinct record of the views expressed during the Retreat with the purpose of facilitating further discussion during the UNCSD preparatory process.

#### 2. Main Topics of Discussion

The deliberations were preceded by the opening statements of Mr. Sha Zukang and Dr. Werner Puschra. Both underlined the need to respond to the millions of people worldwide who need sustainable development to get out of poverty and encouraged participants to identify concrete actions towards a green transition and sustainable consumption and production. They also drew attention to the importance of an adequate institutional framework conducive to implementation and pointed out the relevance of appropriate and sufficient means of implementation.

The presentations of the two keynote speakers focused on green economy and green growth. Dr. Michael Dorsey advocated for concrete proposals for a green economy which recognize the finite limits of the planet and address economic inequality between and within societies and generations. He cautioned that 20th century biodiversity “prospecting” had profited neither firms nor communities. Mr. Young explained the Republic of Korea's national strategy and institutional framework for green growth. A number of initiatives have already kicked off, including restoration of rivers as well as projects on wind, solar and tidal energy. Rep of Korea is aiming at reducing substantially the reliance on oil and coal as energy sources and achieving a 30% reduction of GHG emissions by 2020.

The discussions elaborated on expectations for Rio+20, covered the two themes of the Conference and exchanged views on the content and format of the outcome document of the Conference as well as the procedures to facilitate agreement in the negotiation phase. A summary of these discussions is presented below.

#### 3. Expectations for Rio+20

Many participants mentioned that UNCSD should cover broad sustainable development issues, benefit from the experiences gained in the past and build a strong vision for the future in order to achieve sustainable development within planetary boundaries. Human well-being should feature at the center of the debate at Rio+20, as well as a concern for the weakest members of the international community. A success in Rio will require that all countries have a stake in the conference outcome, which can be achieved by looking holistically at issues including inter alia climate change, energy access, food security, natural disasters, migration, and others. The broad nature of sustainable development calls for active engagement of different ministries in the conference and, as many participants noted, the engagement of the finance ministries is a difficult challenge.

#### 4. Principles

Many participants underlined that the Conference should not renegotiate the principles of sustainable development, but rather reiterate the Rio principles, including Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. In this regard, the principle of intergenerational equity, as outlined in the Brundtland report, and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities were particularly emphasized.

#### 5. Integration of the three pillars

There was a general consensus on the need to ensure integration of the three pillars of sustainable development. It was noted that this would require a conducive institutional framework in the form of a high level body with the mandate to bring together agendas pertaining to three pillars of sustainable development. This will mean the participation of different ministers, and not only environment ministers, in the sustainable development fora. This is going to be a big challenge, but could possibly be addressed by, for instance, providing a specific role and mandate to different ministries in sustainable development bodies.

#### 6. Implementation

Re-affirming the commitment to sustainable development should begin with delivering on the existing commitments. CSD is currently the only intergovernmental body

mandated to review implementation of the sustainable development agenda. Any reform should ensure that this element is not only maintained but further strengthened. Monitoring implementation – through for example setting up timelines, benchmarks and SD goals – can be an important vehicle to push implementation.

#### 7. Involvement of all stakeholders

Participation of all stakeholders was perceived by many participants as crucial to the success of the conference. In particular, Major Groups<sup>1</sup> have an important role to play and thus more innovative ways should be found to involve them in both the preparation of the conference and the conference itself. In addition, some participants mentioned that the Conference could provide a platform for voluntary initiatives, pledges and commitments from both private sector and civil society, especially in the four days between the Third PrepCom and the Conference.

#### 8. The role of media, education and information

Education and the media have an important role to play as key elements for reenergizing societies in the area of sustainable development, especially as behavioral shifts will be necessary. Regional commissions and regional organizations as well as parliamentarians and local authorities are also major players in disseminating information on sustainable development.

#### 9. Partnerships

Several participants emphasized the need to reinvigorate the enthusiasm in partnerships and to enhance their role and effectiveness in triggering sustainable development and ensuring implementation. Ways to outreach to civil society and the private sector in particular should be explored. Some participants suggested the creation of a platform at the Conference for announcing concrete partnership initiatives by all stakeholders. Partnerships were considered especially important for addressing the vulnerability of certain groups of countries, like LDCs, SIDS and mountain countries, since they often find themselves on the receiving end of the negative impacts of global problems (such as land degradation, desertification, drought and the impact of melting of glaciers).

#### 10. Monitoring progress

Some participants were of the view that the world should be able to translate its vision of sustainable development into universal sustainable development goals (SDG), complemented with a concrete action plan, timeline and roadmap to insure implementation. However, any monitoring process should rely on a good balance between national sovereignty and universal commitments. To achieve this balance, a suggestion was put forward to have each country create a program emphasizing its own national priorities. Then, a tailor-made system at the international level could contribute towards monitoring these programs.

#### 11. Sustainable Development goals

Many participants indicated that sustainable development goals (SDG) could be relevant for priority areas like food security, energy, agriculture, water, sustainable cities, among others. There were however two main concerns: (i) initiating an SDG framework prior to 2015 could undermine the MDG process; (ii) getting the negotiations on technical issues regarding SDGs and agreeing on SDGs may prove infeasible.

To address these concerns, two alternatives were suggested: (i) to launch the process of SDGs at the Conference without agreeing on the SDGs themselves; or (ii) to agree at the Conference on SDGs on relevant areas not covered by the MDGs. In the latter option, the post-2015 development agenda could then encompass some SDGs as well as those MDGs which are lagging behind. Overall, participants emphasized the need for further discussion on the relation between MDGs and SDGs to make sure that the two processes will not compete with each other. There was also some discussion on how the Rio+20 outcome will fit into the post-2015 agenda. Integrating SDGs in this framework could contribute to making this agenda conducive to sustainable development.

#### 12. Green economy

The discussion on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication stressed the need for a new paradigm for economic growth, reflecting social, distributional and environmental dimensions. In particular, it was recognized that GDP growth does not automatically translate into poverty eradication and should not be used as the only standard measure for development. Some suggested the need to revisit this concept in its entirety while building on existing initiatives. Others underlined that concerns of developing countries still have to be addressed, especially loss of jobs, new conditionalities, flexibility of implementation and policy space. Important issues of adequate financing, technology transfer and capacity building were also discussed with reference to green economy. One participant cautioned about putting a price on the environment and on natural resources as the pursuit of sustainable development should respect the right of nature

#### 13. Institutional framework for sustainable development

Real political commitment was considered fundamental to effectively reforming institutions and moving away from business as usual. The discussion suggested a balanced approach between reforming existing institutions and creating new structures to support and complement existing ones. It was also proposed that the reform should be pragmatic: revising the UN charter is a lengthy process and thus a reform of the ECOSOC may not be a wise way forward. However, the IFSD reform should not be seen in isolation of the ongoing ECOSOC reform. Other proposals for reforming the current institutional architecture on sustainable development included:

- a. To create an intergovernmental forum at a high level – like a SD council – with a mandate covering the three pillars and the inter-relations among them to ensure that there is an intergovernmental body mandated to review implementation of the sustainable development agenda;
- b. To integrate, in a more coherent manner, relevant parts of the UN system;
- c. To engage all stakeholders in the institutional structures made responsible for sustainable development;
- d. To engage the IFIs in the development and implementation of the sustainable development agenda;
- e. To increase the participation of ministries of finance, development, social affairs and foreign affairs in the sustainable development fora by creating a specific role for them in the intergovernmental body on sustainable development;
- f. To strengthen the role of the UN agencies and Regional Commissions on the ground in order to enhance implementation;
- g. To strengthen the environmental pillar by: (i) strengthening UNEP, especially its scientific base; (ii) transforming UNEP into a specialized agency with a coordination mandate over all environmental conventions; (iii) addressing the political aspects of the environmental pillar by setting meetings of environmental institutions in New York, where the political agenda is set.
- h. To establish an effective bridge between science and policy-making by creating a space to discuss the state of the planet, where the scientific evidence can be assessed to inform policy makers.



#### 14. Planetary champion

With the objective to safeguard the “state of planet”, several participants mentioned that the planet needs a sustainable development champion. This “champion” could raise awareness and mobilize political support. In this regard, a proposal was made to appoint a high commissioner for sustainable development.

#### 15. Means of implementation

It was noted that implementing sustainable development and transitioning towards green economy will require substantial resources — finance, technology transfer and capacity building. Those are most necessary for the countries with the least capacity, especially LDCs. There were proposals for: strengthening international cooperation for sustainable development; relying on traditional forms of cooperation such as ODA; using public resources to leverage private sources of financing; but also using new and innovative sources of financing. There was also one proposal to establish a tax on international financial transactions.

#### 16. Outcome document

There was a general call for a forward-looking, action-oriented document, focused on practical results and leading the world to a sustainable future. It should reach to the people and not be constrained by policy and technical language. Participants suggested that the outcome document should reiterate political commitment; be based on the Rio principles, including the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities; take stock of progress and gaps including new challenges; include a road map on green economy with flexibility for countries to apply their own options; address the institutional framework of sustainable development; and outline a way forward for accessing resources, ensuring technology transfer, and strengthening capacities. Poverty eradication should assume center stage of the agreement.

#### 17. Structure of the outcome document

There was recognition that the structure of the outcome document is important and should be discussed and agreed upon at an early stage. Several suggestions on the structure were put forward during the Retreat:

- a. To organize the document according to key overarching concepts such as poverty eradication, integration of the three pillars, etc.;
- b. To structure the document following a sectoral approach (the Monterey Consensus document could be a possible model for consideration);
- c. To start the document by providing a vision followed by the action plan (on the latter, the principle of “simpler the better” is preferable);
- d. To divide the document on the vision, the goals and the institutions;
- e. To build the document around five major blocks, namely (i) an introduction noting agreed principles, (ii) a list of goals related to energy, food, and others, (iii) a green economy roadmap, complemented by a toolbox (regulations, certification, public procurement, etc.), (iv) a section on institutional framework for sustainable development; (v) a section on cooperation for development that includes capacity building, technology transfer and financing.

#### 18. Negotiations

To expedite convergence of views and compromise solutions, participants suggested avoiding a “rolling text” that is being constantly changed with everybody adding to the text. Instead, the co-chairs should control the process and propose the revised text on the basis of discussions during negotiations. The Bureau co-chairs should make sure that the discussions remain focused. Some participants encouraged as much informal contact as possible, using the available time to understand differences of opinion on critical issues. It was also judged useful to reflect on how to support negotiations by establishing an informal consultation with the major groups.

#### About the Editor

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## Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland (EWNI)

Submission from Friends of the Earth

England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Recommendations concerning resource efficiency: measuring our resource use

Desired outcomes:

That governments commit to measuring their consumption of natural resources with a view to managing consumption within limits of equitability and sustainability.

The challenge – why bother measuring how much we’re using?

As a species we are using ever more of the world’s finite resources, with developed economies in particular consuming well more than is equitable or sustainable in a resource constrained world. This for many is also a security issue since it has left some, Europe in particular, highly dependent on imported resources than other global region. In spite of this we remain hugely wasteful –Europe throws away over 5 billion euro’s worth of valuable resources every year. The Earth’s ability to sustain humanity’s

increasing rate of consumption is being pushed to the limit. Through their overconsumption developed economies in particular are playing a massive role in degrading the natural environment on which we all depend.

Friends of the Earth EWN is calling for all economies to measure their use of resource use. The most developed should measure across four resource categories: land, water, materials and greenhouse gases (GHGs), and adopt policies to increase resource efficiency, such as higher recycling targets. The least developed economies could adopt a more limited system of measurement such as limited to materials flows only. Developed economies in particular should devise long-term targets and strategies in order to reduce their use of the world's resources.

#### How to measure resource use

Given that no major economy currently measures its total use of resources, it is difficult for targets to be set or policies to be evaluated. A 2009 study by Friends of the Earth Europe and Sustainable Europe Research Institute (SERI) in Vienna looked at how to measure Europe's use of resources in a way that is achievable and comprehensive. It concluded that the best way would be to use four indicators:

- Land (in hectares), including land used outside the EU (for example to grow crops for food or energy sources).
- Material (in tonnes), including those used to make products that are imported into Europe (sometimes called the material rucksack of products). Data sources allow this figure to be broken down into different forms of materials, for example biological and mineral resources.
- Water (in litres), including water used outside the EU to produce imported products (eg cotton).
- Greenhouse gas emissions created by consumption (in CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent), which includes both Europe's Kyoto emissions, and the carbon footprint associated with imported products.

These indicators already exist in research literature, and they are all quite transparent, measuring clear physical quantities.

The indicators do not directly measure impacts on biodiversity. But they can be used to highlight issues that need to be investigated. For example, if a new policy such as a biofuel target or reform of the Common Agricultural Policy results in a measurable big increase in EU land use, then there should be further investigation. Nor do the indicators address issues of hazardous chemicals or pollution; but it has been found that specific regulation (such as the REACH chemicals policy) is more effective in this area.

#### How would these indicators be used?

- The indicators can be used by governments to set targets, measure progress, establish policies and assess the impact of policy changes.
- Companies can use them to assess and improve the resource use associated with their products and activities.

As global population grows, and standards of living rise in many countries, the pressure on the world's resources – whether land, materials, water, or the climate – becomes ever greater. This pressure will affect people, the environment, governments and businesses around the world.

The Rio+20 conference must respond to these trends and seize the opportunity to set in train an ambition to accurately assess and reduce humanity's resource use. The indicators that Friends of the Earth and SERI have developed provide a workable and effective way of helping governments measure and reduce their consumption of natural resources. By advocating the adoption of these resource-use indicators the Rio+20 Conference will be taking the first steps to developing a decarbonised and highly resource efficient global economy, with the benefits for people, the environment and the economy that would bring.

#### Recommendations concerning sustainable agriculture and food sovereignty at Rio+20

20 years after the Rio Summit, the global food system is in deep crisis. Industrial agriculture, based on monocultures and heavy inputs of chemicals, fossil fuels, water and land is depleting our common natural resources at a rapid pace and is causing a host of environmental problems including climate emissions, loss of biodiversity, loss of genetic resources and destruction of soils. At the same time, 20 years of deregulated agriculture and liberalised agricultural markets are destroying small scale family farming, which is the primary method for most of the world's population, especially some of the most vulnerable communities, to feed themselves. The combination of industrial agriculture and global governance and trade models that are based on food as a tradable commodity rather than as a Human Right that States must uphold have left nearly a billion people hungry. The rest are increasingly being fed with unhealthy diets which is creating global health crises.

Viable food systems already exist. Small scale food producers provide the food for about 70 per cent of the population today, and there is widespread recognition that taking into account the needs of small holder farmers is vital to feed a global population in the future. Yet marginalisation of small scale farmers in policy making and investment combined with a focus on producing for export markets means most of the poor and hungry in the world today are small farmers in rural areas. 10 The global market is failing to feed them. Therefore we need policies that allow small scale food producers to feed themselves.

At the same time agro-ecological methods of production have been shown to have the potential to reduce climate emissions, reduce hunger and poverty, restore biodiversity and soils as well as improve livelihoods. The 2008 International Assessment of Agricultural Science and technology for Development report stressed the importance of agro-ecological farming combined with systems that work for small scale farmers as the way forward to a sustainable food system in the future.

#### Desired outcomes:

- 1) Give strong and increasing support to small scale, agro-ecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological and humane food production, research in this area and enabling conditions, to ensure a shift away from environmentally and socially destructive industrial food production in order to produce enough and healthy food for the projected 9 billion people or more;
- 2) Regulate, encourage and support the transformation of industrial and other forms of unsustainable agriculture towards smallholder based agroecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological, low energy food production;
- 3) Recommend a new global trade system that prioritises countries abilities to feed their populations and achieve the Right to Food over trade agreements, investments treaties that undermine this;
- 4) Support the development of comprehensive short and long-term national and regional food security strategies to address high food prices and volatility. These strategies should include a wide range of agricultural and price policies and instruments, adapted to specific national and regional contexts and the transition to agro-ecological practices;
- 5) Support food sovereignty as the overall framework for food and agricultural policies; 6) Emphasize the important role of the organizations of small scale food producers in decision making on food and agriculture;

- 7) Welcome the reformed UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) as the primary as the foremost inclusive international and intergovernmental platform for food security, with a mission based on defending the right to food;
- 8) Start to develop a work plan for implementing the findings of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD);
- 9) Resist the commodification and commercialization of natural resources and carbon trading, such as REDD+, the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM), that would include agriculture and soil carbon sequestration in speculative market schemes
- 10) Support the adoption of a UN Declaration on Peasant Rights;
- 11) Support the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- 12) Condemn multi-genome patent claims and encourage governments to block or rescind such claims;
- 13) Focus research spending on agriculture on agro-ecology and small scale farming as well as improving local and traditional crop varieties and peasant breeding instead of biotechnology, GM crops and a narrow focus on genetic breeding;
- 14) Underline that the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities must be respected;
- 15) Call on Governments to stop the global land grab and return the more than 80 million hectares of land that has been taken from small scale farmers, pastoralists, indigenous communities with immediate effect;
- 16) Abolish all incentives for the production of bio fuels including targets and mandates;
- 17) Recognise the environmental damage and inequitable consumption patterns promoted by industrial, grain fed livestock systems. Support integrated, low input, humane farming systems;
- 18) Take action to reduce overconsumption of meat and dairy products in the industrialised world;
- 19) Promote resilient livestock breeds and species diversity; and re-introduce traditional and local animals on farms;
- 20) Break-up oligopolies in agricultural input corporations and in the food retail sector;
- 21) Promote and encourage improvement of traditional plant and seed varieties, stop monopolistic genetic patents and halt planting of genetically modified crops.

Recommendations concerning the implementation of Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration

Desired outcomes

- 1) The Rio+20 Conference should take a decision to start negotiating a global treaty on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, in order to have a text ready for adoption in 2017. The negotiation process itself should be transparent and participatory.
- 2) The Rio+20 Conference should (a) encourage the development of regional treaties on Principle 10 along the lines of the Aarhus Convention, and (b) encourage interested States to accede to the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on PRTR, both of which are open to accession by any UN Member State.
- 3) The Rio+20 Conference should request UNEP to provide assistance to countries to enable them to better implement the Bali Guidelines on Principle 10, and invite donor governments and institutions to provide financial assistance for this purpose.
- 4) Any new instruments or processes established pursuant to the Rio+20 Conference should be 'Principle 10-proofed', i.e. they should contain provisions and/or requirements promoting effective access to information, public participation and access to justice in relation to their subject matter.
- 5) In its conclusions on the institutional framework for sustainable development, the Rio+20 Conference should invite the governing bodies of and Parties to international treaties relating to the environment, including but not limited to multilateral environmental agreements, to ensure that the substantive outcomes under such instruments promote effective access to information, public participation and access to justice.
- 6) The Rio+20 Conference should adopt a set of guidelines guaranteeing minimum standards for civil society participation in international decision-making processes.
- 7) Such Guidelines could build on the Almaty Guidelines adopted under the Aarhus Convention and Agenda 21 and would address, inter alia, the following issues: definition of civil society, openness of meetings, access to documentation, modalities of participation (right to circulate proposals, right to make interventions, right of peaceful assembly, etc), access to justice (grievance mechanisms, Ombudsperson institution for international forums), capacity building and funding.

Recommendations concerning Energy Access and Climate Change

Climate change is one of the greatest threats we face, driven by our combustion of fossil fuels for energy. Yet 2.7 billion people still rely on traditional biomass for cooking, heating or lighting, a figure that is not set to improve by 2030 if we continue current policy trajectories. Of those, 1.3 billion do not have access to electricity. If Rio+20's focus on the 'green economy' is genuinely about sustainable development and poverty eradication, it needs to find a way of addressing the energy needs of the 2.7 billion people while not contributing to climate change; in short, a transformation away from fossil fuels.

Friends of the Earth welcomes the focus given to energy access as a means of development, seen through Ban Ki-moon's three Rio energy goals, as well as 2012 being the Year of Sustainable Energy for All. He rightly acknowledges the need for a 'clean revolution'. However, if this is to be a revolution the whole world benefits from, then we need to find synergy between policies; doubling the share of renewable energy in the mix by 2030 will not deliver it; doubling the rates of improved energy efficiency will not do it; and a target of universal energy access by 2030 will condemn too many to poverty for too long. Focusing on energy access means focusing on decentralised, off-grid energy that empowers local communities and democratises energy. The IEA, REN21 and the World Bank have all shown that a renewable-powered decentralised mini-grid is cheaper, more efficient and more socially and environmentally sustainable than either extending the grid or using diesel. Climate change also necessitates addressing on-grid energy and ensuring 100 per cent of new capacity is renewable (currently 50 per cent), while we also try and replace the dirtiest sources of fossil fuel energy.

Moving to a renewable future will require heavy levels of investment. The IEA sees \$18 trillion needing to be spent by 2035 – or \$1.2 trillion a year – to stand a 50 per cent chance of keeping temperatures within 2 degrees of pre-industrial levels. We currently spend \$500 billion. Yet research by UN-DESA shows that investing \$1.5 trillion in the next 10-15 years would bring down the cost of renewables to become cheaper than fossil fuels, making them the default choice for energy investment in developing and developed countries, and making the economic case to keep fossil fuels in the ground and catalysing the 'clean revolution'. Both the IEA and UN-DESA say the market alone will not deliver this scale of funding in the small time-frame required, therefore it needs to be an upfront public investment.

Desired outcomes:

#### UNCSD IN RIO 2012 SHOULD

1. Lay the foundations for a global policy that can deliver the principles of community- focused energy access, development, and tackling climate change, while realising that each country needs to define its own energy needs according to those principles and must be supported in doing so.
2. Adopt best practice through using the most effective and successful public policies for increasing the uptake of renewable energy. Research by the IPCC, Deutsche Bank and others has shown that nationally appropriate feed-in tariffs (FITs) have led to the widest uptake of renewable technology.
3. Recognise the principles of Common but Differentiated Responsibility in any mechanism designed to address sustainable development and poverty eradication. This means richer, industrialised countries recognise their historical advantage from cheap, abundant consuming fossil fuels, and pay this climate debt to developing countries through new and additional finance as well as the transfer of technology.
4. Look to innovative sources of finance rather than emphasising the private sector, as conservative estimates place potential revenues from the redirection of fossil fuels, levies on bunker fuels, IMF Special Drawing Rights, a financial transaction tax and curbing tax avoidance (among others) between at least US\$400-US\$600.
5. Avoid the increasing reach of international corporate interests over satisfying the basic needs of the world's poor. Any effort to tackle energy access and climate change cannot lead to wide-spread privatisation and the transfer of wealth from South to North under the pretence of green growth. Socially, economically, and environmentally just policies should form the basis of a green economy if it is to deliver sustainable development and poverty alleviation.
6. Ensure the right principles are followed when drawing up and evaluating policies, not prioritising metrics such as value for money or carbon savings as they will skew policies away from genuine developmental gains and clean, affordable energy access. If done well, rolling out renewable energy can stimulate local economies, employment and poverty alleviation.
7. Involve civil society at each stage of the conceptualisation, design and implementation of any mechanism addressing energy access and renewable technology as they will be best placed to comment on what needs should be addressed as well as which principles should be prioritised.
8. Prioritise community-owned energy projects that catalyse local-level democracy and development. With regards to rural electrification, the use of co-operatives in Bangladesh, Nepal and even the United States have shown they increase participation, bring down energy costs and are overall more effective at delivering energy access and development.
9. Follow best practice in including accompanying enabling policies to ensure civil society partakes fully at a local, national and international level in any policy mechanism, including but not limited to providing the capital, institutions and working culture that facilitate capacity building and empowerment.
10. Respect and promote the rights of local communities and Indigenous Peoples, including rights to self-determination and self-government; the right to free, prior and informed consent; the right to management and customary use of natural resources; land rights; and rights of redress.
11. Establish a process for selecting eligible technologies that is transparent and participatory and take full account of the environmental and socio-economic impacts, including in countries and communities where the raw material inputs will be produced. 12. Ensure good governance, including participation of affected workers and communities in the development of policies and measures to tackle climate change, and transparency, accountability and democratic control over decision making.
13. Ensure jobs and decent work by minimising job losses, maximising opportunities for job creation, and protecting pay conditions and health and safety for workers; protect low- income groups, and guard against the creation of further economic and social injustice. 14. Ask those with experience and expertise in the areas of providing energy access to communities. Large, centralised fossil fuel companies like Eskom or Duke Energy should not be included in high level panels addressing sustainable energy for all.

#### Recommendations concerning Land Use Planning

Goals for sustainable development could be set into national legislative frameworks to ensure that a clear trajectory of action is undertaken. There is an implementation gap which could be addressed by focussing land-use planning systems, particularly land-use plans held by local governments, on the delivery of sustainable development. This means that policy- making and decision-taking on the ground would work towards addressing resource use, food security and energy access and climate change, and ensure public participation.

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## Fundação Brasileira para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável

### Guidelines for a Green Economy

Submission to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Rio de Janeiro, 4-6 June 2012

The FBDS is a nonprofit organization, founded in 1992 by 24 major business groups whose prime objective is to promote sustainable development. FBDS's mission is to spread best practices in sustainability and environmental management through knowledge generation, contributions to public policy formulation, and implementation of consulting projects, in order to influence key stakeholders.

In 2011, the FBDS has led a nationwide effort in conjunction with major Brazilian corporations with the purpose of detect barriers and set up guidelines for the transition to a green economy<sup>1</sup>, based on the report Towards a Green Economy (UNEP). The process involved the academy, corporations, and discussions with major stakeholders and produced a set of recommendations to government and corporations. Those relevant to the Rio+20 context were selected and are now being submitted to the UNCSD2012 to be taken into account for the "zero draft" document.

The Conference should encourage countries to adopt the following guidelines in the energy, water resources, transport, solid waste, agriculture, forests, and finance areas when developing their domestic policies:

#### Energy

- To quantify GHG emissions from fossil fuel, and take actions intended to incorporate the externality costs of such energy option for suppliers and consumers, as a form of encouraging a more rational use of those sources of energy, through the regulation and/or market mechanisms.

- To develop a renewable sources market (wind and solar energy, small hydroelectric power stations, biomass) in the mid and long term, making them more competitive and ensuring remuneration for investors, cutting risks and bringing more investors to this area. In addition to specific auctions for renewable energy suppliers, potential options include feed-in tariffs and other tax methods aimed at promoting positive impacts linked to renewable energies.

- Governments and multilateral credit entities should promote the increasing use of biofuels, with programs that encourage offering and enabling the technological changes required by the demand. It is important to use the best practices in the industry without affecting each country's main ecosystems.

- To develop the research on renewable energy sources to be applied in industrial processes, urban solutions, facilities, etc. Governments should develop a tax system intended to encourage research and corporate investment in training skilled professionals in this area, in addition to offering adequate resources for the realization of these goals.

efficient equipment, and installing of intelligent home meters are actions considered crucial by specialists for promoting energy efficiency. Governments should be more restrictive regarding the commercialization of inefficient equipment.

- Overall access to good quality energy (and renewable energy, whenever possible) is critical for social inclusion. Programs intended to abolish energy exclusion can improve the quality of life of populations with low human development index, while creating higher energy efficiency by reducing the consumption of less efficient energy sources, like firewood.

#### Water Resources

- To tax water consumption, whenever and wherever possible, respecting the characteristics and limitations of each region, as a way of encouraging efficient actions regarding its use. The permanent measurement of water consumption, in addition to measures to fight its illegal use, is a crucial action to rationalize the employ of water resources.

- Resources obtained from water consumption taxation should be invested in incentives aimed at basin recovery and waters supply protection. Additional incentives worth investment include environmental services aimed at safeguarding watersheds, protecting riparian Forest, and reforesting degraded areas.

- Water resources should be managed in a decentralized and transparent system with the ability to implement management and regulation of economic tools and methodologies intended to survey the various uses of said resources.

- Since irrigation is a key factor when it comes to the use of water resources, with considerably inefficient processes, it is important to use more efficient irrigation techniques which rationalize water consumption and draw on local expertise.

- Sewage collection and treatment systems are critical for protecting water resources and their long-term availability, thus preserving the quality of drinking water. Nations must universalize their sanitation systems through different solutions aligned with local characteristics and needs.

#### Transports

- To develop a governance model in the freight transport sector which better defines the accountabilities and responsibilities of sectorial policy makers on planning and regulation, of executive agents, establishing additional control and incentives so that businesses and individuals may use newer, more efficient vehicles, and the tax system may discourage inefficient corporate logistic decisions.

- To boost investments in transport facilities and adjust them to the domestic needs (especially in developing countries) using more efficient forms of transport whenever possible, focusing mainly on the planning activity (by developing the capability of the various modes and of intermodal transport integration), on the execution (using more sustainable and durable goods, respecting the labor law and offering skilled manpower training), and taking into consideration the need of maintenance and inspection for the adequate use of transport systems.

- Urban mobility should be planned in conjunction with land use occupation, encouraging the supply of public and private services near major intermodal integration stations, and the rational displacement of city inhabitants. The planning should also include incentives for rational use of private vehicles, collective transport quality inspection, and the optimization of the various modes, so as to explore the capabilities of each mode and their complementarities.

- Fare integration, together with system predictability and information available to users (like the time it takes to arrive to bus stops or train stations) and the exclusive use of urban facilities in some cases should prevail in public transportation, thus encouraging the use of public transportation system instead of private transportation.

#### Solid Waste

- To promote the integrated management of urban solid waste, taking into account the solid waste management hierarchy (non generation, reuse, recycling, composting, final disposal), specific characteristics of each location; to plan the integration of the entire chain involved on a long term basis, and to train local management teams.

- The solid waste management improvement should take into consideration the activity of low income people who make their living from inadequate waste disposal processes. With the implementation of selective collection, volunteer delivery sites and the entire well-planned recycling chain, these people could be included in the process, thus adding to the enhanced use of recycled material and the upgrading the living conditions of such workers.

- It is necessary to invest in the improvement of databases, which should contain reliable information showing the real situation of cities, and enabling the quantification of the goals to be attained, including the amount of required investments. This could facilitate waste management planning in individual countries and the establishment of goals to be met.

- All agents (communities and both the private and public sector) involved should be aware of their shared responsibility in waste management. This awareness should not simply refer to information, but rather to a cultural change as well, since some good practices, like food waste reduction and choosing more durable or reusable goods, have not been quite well perceived yet by part of the population. It is important to promote green consumption policies among individuals, corporations and public entities, with consumption goals for products made with recycled material, whenever feasible.
- To propose motivational actions to the recycling industry, including the development of industrial clusters for these activities and lower taxes for recycled products.
- Setting goals for the acquisition of recycled material goods, especially for major state-owned corporations and governments. This practice would be influential in the public sector by showing the best practices to be adopted by other businesses when purchasing their products.
- To take into consideration, whenever feasible, the incineration of nonorganic and nonrecyclable waste associated with steam and/or energy generation, especially in big cities, and invest in composting and biomethanization for the correct use of naturally biodegradable organic waste.

#### Agriculture

- To improve actions related to the use of technologies intended for agricultural production sustainability, offering incentives to producers adopting good agronomic practices planned to minimize greenhouse gas emissions, in addition to improving the productive processes and rearranging the energy matrix with the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- To increase the industry competitiveness, intensifying technological developments in sustainable production systems, soil-plant system, microbiology and recovery of degraded areas.
- To improve the quality of agricultural products: the market requires special products with a low degree of impact on the environment which causes no risks to human health from chemical contamination (pesticide remnants) and biological contamination (presence of pathogenic microorganisms).
- To improve the production processes and rearrange energy matrices with the purpose of reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- To offer compensation for environment services provided by small farmers or family farming. Farmers should be rewarded for preserving the environment either with payment in money or with production incentives.
- Implementation of studies on Climate Risk Zones as a basis for a public policy focused on an efficient production regionalization.
- To establish special lines of credit to benefit the modernization of properties, offering a climate insurance coverage to farmers in investment operations, based on the Climate Risk Zones.

#### Forests

- Governments should encourage businesses to adopt decentralized policies for developing the forest base, with the purpose of avoiding extensive monoculture and increasing the participation of farmers in its supply, promoting social inclusion.
- To further the consumption of forest chain products as an alternative to the mineral chain. To issue a nationwide campaign showing the environment edges arising from the energetic use of planted forests.
- Governments should work together with forest management organizations in order to denounce and prevent degrading work practices or any other questionable social practices.
- Deforestation is a major source of GHG emissions, mainly in tropical developing countries. Therefore, it is very important to develop new projects, and consolidate and integrate existing ones, which seek to generate income from the maintenance of forests and protected areas. The main initiative at this moment is the payment for environmental services (particularly REDD), which promotes economic incentives for environmental preservation.
- To create strategies that foster sustainable use of natural resources and the development of forestry activities (such as sustainable forest management), associated with social inclusion programs. Governments should also create incentives for the implementation of technologies that improve the productivity of non-wood forest goods, including technical assistance to small-scale producers.
- It is essential to plan the expansion of agricultural activity to occur primarily in already modified or degraded areas, thus preventing the clearing of new locations. In order to succeed in this effort, governments should enforce preservation laws, consolidate a network of protected areas and promote the use of more advanced technologies for the management of agriculture and livestock, restoring the productivity of abandoned or underutilized land.

#### Finance

- Development of green criteria applied to government fiscal incentives in times of crisis, so that the actions intended to reduce the impacts of economic slowdown on society do not include environmentally predatory measures. The transition to a green economy requires a high amount of investment, and such anti-crisis packages are a helpful tool to do it.
- Increasing the financial support to infrastructure works in developing countries is a key factor to their sustainable development. However, governments should outfit their control and inspection institutions on a proportional basis (especially in the environmental sector) so that the benefits arising from such works are not overcome by the project's negative impacts.
- A tax reform which promotes a clean technological innovation, the preservation of valuable natural resources, and the payment of environmental services, in addition to a social cost price internalization in goods and services, is a key factor for the financial system to allocate - on an optimum and sustainable basis - the resources available for investment and consumption. A system intended to foster sustainable materials and solutions in public purchase bids should also be considered an efficient strategy to encourage the private sector to adopt better practices.
- The finance system regulation should search and promote high social-environmental indicators solutions, punishing investments and financial resources applied to predatory solutions with a high social cost.
- Governments should encourage financial institutions to expand micro-credit participation in their portfolios, as a form of offering banking system benefits to disadvantaged people, thus promoting the development of entrepreneurial actions within those communities. It is crucial that such expansion comes together with education and information policies regarding the system operation and its risks.

## Fundación Agreste

Text not available.

## Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN)

TALLER PARTICIPÁ EN RÍO+20

CONCLUSIONES

11 y 12 de octubre de 2011

Megaciudades argentinas hacia Río+20

11 de octubre de 2011

Se realizó una mesa redonda con las autoridades ambientales de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, La Plata y Rosario, ciudades en franca expansión territorial, para que puedan compartir sus perspectivas en materia de estrategias de Desarrollo Sostenible y asimismo pensar en propuestas desde un eje común hacia la Cumbre de Río + 20. Los expositores fueron:

- Lic. Javier Corcuera, Presidente de la Agencia de Protección Ambiental del Ministerio de Ambiente y Espacio Público de la Ciudad de Buenos Aires.
- Lic. Sergio Federovisky, Presidente de la Agencia Ambiental de La Plata.
- Ing. Cristina Marozzi, Directora General de Planificación y Gestión Ambiental de Rosario.

La facilitación de la mesa redonda estuvo a cargo de Daniel Ryan, Director de Política Ambiental y Desarrollo Institucional de FARN.

PRINCIPALES EJES DEL DEBATE

Es posible identificar tres ejes centrales alrededor de los cuales giraron las exposiciones de los panelistas y el debate posterior:

1. En primer eje se refirió a la cada vez mayor importancia de las megaciudades (dado los mayores niveles de consumo, generación de infraestructura, impacto sobre el territorio, etc.) como escenarios centrales en los cuales abordar la problemática de la sustentabilidad global, y por ende la creciente relevancia que los gobiernos y actores locales van asumiendo en relación a esta agenda.
2. En segundo lugar, se planteó que si bien las ciudades son escenarios centrales, la gestión local tiene limitaciones para abordar la problemática de la sustentabilidad, por ejemplo, en su capacidad para modificar estructuralmente pautas de producción y consumo.
3. En este contexto, se subrayó la necesidad de la innovación en términos de políticas y formas de abordar la problemática de la sustentabilidad. Por ejemplo, se planteó que las megaciudades deberían asumir un rol más activo en las negociaciones internacionales, lo cual puede ayudar a mover la agenda de sustentabilidad global, superando los bloqueos que se dan entre los Estados nacionales. Asimismo, se enfatizó la necesidad de la cooperación y mayor articulación entre los gobiernos locales que forman estas megaciudades. A título de ejemplo, se planteó la necesidad de avanzar con políticas conjuntas de compras gubernamentales sustentables, la necesidad de generar estrategias conjuntas para intervenir en escenarios de riesgos y emergencias ambientales, y en generar políticas comunes para tratar la relación salud, pobreza y ambiente.

Esta actividad contó con los auspicios de las autoridades de las tres ciudades que conformaron el panel de análisis y diálogo

Gobierno de la Ciudad Autónoma de Buenos Aires

La República Argentina hacia Río+20

12 de octubre de 2011

El objetivo de la actividad fue analizar el contexto internacional y los procesos que se están generando en nuestro país para la próxima Cumbre de la Tierra Río+20, mediante un diálogo participativo, intersectorial y plural entre los distintos actores involucrados en la temática del desarrollo sostenible.

Esta actividad constó de una mesa redonda gubernamental y otra intersectorial sobre la República Argentina hacia Río+20. También se desarrollaron talleres participativos sobre Gobernabilidad y Economía y un plenario final.

MESA REDONDA RELATIVA A LAS PERSPECTIVAS DEL ESTADO HACIA RÍO+20 Y LA ELABORACIÓN DEL DOCUMENTO PAÍS

La primera mesa congregó a autoridades gubernamentales del ámbito nacional quienes presentaron su visión respecto de Río+20, los desafíos relativos a nuestro país en el contexto regional e internacional y los principales aspectos del documento país que se presentará a Naciones Unidas. Los expositores fueron:

- Emb. Silvia Mérega, Directora Área Ambiental, Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
- Dra. Silvia Revora, Subsecretaría de Planificación Ambiental, Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable
- Dr. Maximiliano Moreno, Director de Negocios Multilaterales, Ministerio de Agricultura de la Nación.
- Lic. Juan Ignacio Paracca, Secretaría de Energía de la Nación.
- Ing. Rodolfo Burkart, Dirección Nacional de Conservación y Áreas Protegidas, Administración de Parques Nacionales (APN).

Facilitación: Lic. Miguel Pellerano, Consejero Regional UICN Sur

PRINCIPALES CONCLUSIONES DE LAS EXPOSICIONES DE LA MESA

- De cara a Río+20 es importante abordar los encuentros en el marco de un proceso participativo con una mirada intersectorial y diversa. Es una oportunidad que no se debe

dejar pasar para una evaluación de lo que hicimos estos 20 años, quiénes queremos ser, cómo relacionarnos con el planeta y cuál será el legado para las generaciones futuras. Río+20 nos invita a plantearnos dónde estamos y cómo seguir adelante.

- Río+20 llega en un momento de profundas transformaciones cuando se están superando los límites biofísicos del planeta, en una crisis económica, donde ya se cuestiona el modelo económico vigente, donde se incrementa la relevancia de las economías emergentes. Este proceso de cambio debería comprender dinámicas democráticas e inclusivas donde se debe incorporar a aquellos excluidos a través de un proceso participativo que contemple los aspectos sociales en vinculación con lo ambiental y lo económico.
- Se planteó la necesidad de debatir las bases de un nuevo modelo de gobernabilidad y economía. Argentina, como presidenta del G77 tiene la capacidad de liderar este proceso a través de espacios de diálogo y articulación entre la sociedad civil y el Estado.

#### MESA REDONDA ACERCA DE LAS PERSPECTIVAS DE LOS DISTINTOS SECTORES HACIA RÍO+20 Y LA ELABORACIÓN DEL DOCUMENTO PAÍS

Esta mesa congregó a representantes de la sociedad civil, el sector privado, académico y gremial quienes presentaron su visión respecto de Río+20, los desafíos relativos a nuestro país en el contexto regional e internacional y los principales aspectos del documento país que se presentará a Naciones Unidas. Los expositores fueron:

- Lic. Roque Pedace - Amigos de la Tierra, miembro del Foro del Buen Ayre
- Dr. Sebastián Bigorito - Director Ejecutivo del Consejo Empresario Argentino para el Desarrollo Sostenible (CEADS)
- Ing. Diego Luzuriaga - Cofundador y Director Ejecutivo de Equitas Ventures, Director de la Maestría en Dirección Estratégica y Tecnológica del Instituto Tecnológico Buenos Aires (ITBA)
- Lic. Joaquín Turco, Asesor de la Secretaría de Relaciones Internacionales de la Central de Trabajadores de la Argentina (CTA)
- Dra. María Eugenia Di Paola, Directora Ejecutiva Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN).

Facilitación: Lic. Pablo Lumerman, Director Ejecutivo Fundación Cambio Democrático

#### PRINCIPALES CONCLUSIONES

- Se mencionó y analizó la propuesta de agenda del PNUMA en materia de economía. Se destacó la importancia de dirigir el capital hacia una economía distinta, aunque surge como principal desafío el consensuar y ponerse de acuerdo entre todas las partes.
- Río+20 tiene que ser visto como un proceso que refuerce la agenda internacional, debemos trabajar en una articulación que incluye lo público, privado, el mercado y los consumidores.
- Se planteó el tema de los fondos de inversión social y la necesidad de fomentarlos para darle entidad al concepto ya que se habla mucho y aplica poco.
- Se ratificó que el camino hacia la sustentabilidad es con justicia y equidad.
- Al analizar la actualidad ambiental se observan avances en algunos aspectos y deudas en varios temas de la agenda nacional e internacional.

#### TALLERES PARTICIPATIVOS

##### GOBERNABILIDAD

- Internacional

Se identificaron cuatro ejes en el diagnóstico: debilidad institucional, desarticulación entre instituciones e instrumentos generados, aumento en los conflictos ambientales y limitados espacios institucionales para dirimir este tipo de conflictos. En relación al primer eje del diagnóstico, se planteó la necesidad de jerarquizar y fortalecer el PNUMA. En relación al tema de los conflictos ambientales, se propuso la creación de tribunales internacionales ambientales.

En relación al Principio 10 de Río, se observaron pocos avances en materia de accesos y participación ciudadana y se propuso la generación de un convenio internacional/regional. Sitio web: [www.farn.org.ar](http://www.farn.org.ar) Twitter: @ambienteactual Facebook: Farn Argentina para la implementación del Principio 10. Se planteó la necesidad de seguir trabajando en la definición de desarrollo sustentable.

- Nacional

Existe un aumento de planteamientos que pretenden debilitar los ámbitos de gobernabilidad ambiental nacional y la legislación nacional de presupuestos mínimos de protección ambiental. Este es especialmente verificable en ciertos ámbitos provinciales, que son más plausibles de influir por intereses económicos. En este sentido, se planteó la necesidad de no retroceder en lo ya logrado en cuanto legislación de presupuestos mínimos.

En el aspecto institucional, se debe fortalecer los espacios federales y jerarquizar la Secretaría de Ambiente (se planteó en ascenderla a la categoría de Ministerio).

También resulta necesario entrecruzar la legislación ambiental con leyes sectoriales anteriores a la normativa ambiental (Ley de Fauna, Pesca, Código de Minería, Agricultura, Ganadería, Industria) y generar más presupuestos mínimos de protección ambiental, porque se identifica una tendencia de debilitamiento de este tipo de instrumentos.

Es menester fortalecer el proceso de reglamentación de las leyes de presupuestos mínimos (que se lleven a cabo aquellas pendientes y que se destinen mayores recursos a las leyes ya reglamentadas), por ejemplo en el caso de la Ley de Bosques, que no percibe la totalidad del dinero establecido en el Fondo de Compensación.

Se propuso la creación de juzgados y fiscalías ambientales, como así también la figura de Ombudsman ambiental para facilitar el acceso a la justicia de los grupos vulnerables.

##### ECONOMÍA VERDE

Para la mayoría era un tema nuevo, con contenidos diversos y que implica un cambio de paradigma, produciendo una tensión entre lo deseable y la realidad. En lo real es un concepto muy limitado pero en lo deseable se trató de buscar una definición que genere armonía entre diferentes sectores en relación al desarrollo sustentable, el crecimiento, la equidad social y el cuidado de los recursos naturales.

La metodología de trabajo en la mesa fue la discusión en pequeños grupos previa a la puesta en común con el resto de los participantes de la mesa. En una primera



instancia se enumeraron cuáles son las principales dificultades que se perciben para promover políticas económicas que integren criterios de sustentabilidad ambiental, social y erradicación de la pobreza. Las mismas se dividieron en 4 pilares: políticas, económicas, de información y culturales.

Entre las primeras, aparecen dificultades como la falta de voluntad política, el lobby de las empresas multinacionales y la resistencia al cambio, la amenaza sobre el empleo, el choque de intereses sectoriales, colectivos e individuales, la necesidad de inclusión social y de políticas públicas que incluyan al medio ambiente. Asimismo se observa que los países desarrollados transfieren las externalidades generadas por sus actividades productivas a los países no desarrollados y la escasa participación de la sociedad civil y comunidades originarias en el modelo de desarrollo.

En lo económico, se observó la falta de mecanismos compensatorios, la interposición de barreras para-arancelarias y restricciones comerciales, la falta de incentivos fiscales y económicos (por ejemplo para cambiar matriz energética), el avance de la frontera agropecuaria, la falta de valoración de los servicios ecosistémicos y las externalidades negativas.

Entre las dificultades informativas se destacaron la falta de datos en torno a la huella ambiental de algunas actividades, la falta de fondos para desarrollo e innovación, la asimetría en la información y la falta de información pública sistematizada. Entre las culturales se mencionó la importancia del compromiso y de medidas políticas específicas que deberían tomar los gobiernos (nacionales, provinciales y municipales), como por ejemplo fomentar un transporte eficiente y generar un cambio cultural en relación al consumo responsable.

A continuación se trabajó en relación a las medidas y políticas específicas que podrían tomar los distintos niveles gubernamentales para la promoción de una economía verde. En lo que respecta a las áreas de inversión a ser priorizadas el listado incluye sectores como la energía renovable y sostenible, ecuación y concientización, consumo responsable, transporte, investigación, agricultura sostenible, fortalecimiento de la sociedad civil (con una importante consideración de los pueblos originarios), procesos de certificación ambiental (a nivel público y privado) y el mapeo de oportunidades de inversión en función de los servicios ecosistémicos (con su consecuente valoración económica).

La modificación de la política impositiva se abordó desde distintos puntos de vista. El primer cambio a introducir se relaciona con un crecimiento exponencial de los tributos en función del nivel de contaminación en la producción, bajo la premisa de "el que contamina paga". El destino de la recaudación sería el transporte sustentable. Asimismo, el sistema tributario debería combinar impuestos a la renta con impuestos al consumo con el objetivo de reducir el consumo de los productos más nocivos, y con un especial énfasis en las explotaciones primarias, por ejemplo fomentando la eficiencia energética en detrimento de la contaminación ambiental y el uso irracional de los recursos. Se propone introducir un esquema de premios y castigos diferenciando a las empresas por tamaño y tipo de explotación. Es primordial, facilitar un mayor flujo financiero a las iniciativas de la sociedad civil por ejemplo, mediante políticas de exención en el impuesto a las ganancias. A nivel internacional se mencionó la necesidad de un impuesto a las transferencias financieras y evitar el uso de temas ambientales como barreras para-arancelarias (ej. Impuesto al carbono).

Se evaluaron los cambios que se deberían promover desde el sector privado para alcanzar una economía sostenible. Aquellas herramientas de mayor relevancia fueron el establecimiento de estándares de calidad y certificaciones, buenas prácticas y responsabilidad social empresarial (entendida como ética laboral, ambiental, comercio justo e inclusión social), como un método de penetración de mercados y reconocimiento de los productores con prácticas sustentables. Asimismo se destaca la importancia de la visión en cadena, es decir, el establecimiento de compromisos mínimos sectoriales y la generación de manuales de gestión ambiental y seguridad e higiene. También extender la responsabilidad del productor a todo el ciclo de vida del producto. Desde el sector financiero, sería importante contar con créditos e incentivos para el desarrollo sustentable. Por último, se analizaron las acciones del consumidor y políticas para un consumo responsable, social y ambientalmente. Satisfacer las necesidades básicas es el punto inicial a través de una política de inclusión social. El acceso a la información es primordial y ofertar alternativas que fomenten el consumo sustentable como por ejemplo, infraestructura ferroviaria para disminuir el uso de automóviles. Otras políticas fueron el diferimiento impositivo y/o premios para el consumo responsable y publicidad restringida para aquellos productos no ambientales, así como la reducción de packaging y la separación de residuos en origen.

## Fundación Compromiso

Buenos Aires, 31 de octubre de 2011

CIUDADES SUSTENTABLES 2011

En el año 2011, Fundación Compromiso desarrolló un trabajo territorial en el que más de 1000 representantes de la sociedad civil, del sector público y del empresariado debatieron el concepto de desarrollo sustentable y las competencias de los actores para la producción de políticas públicas en la construcción de ciudades sustentables.

Las Jornadas Regionales tuvieron lugar en Rosario, Salta, Mendoza, Misiones, Rio Cuarto, Bariloche y Buenos Aires. El próximo 15 de noviembre, en la ciudad de Buenos Aires, tendrá lugar la XVII Jornada Argentina de Articulación Pública Privada:

Ciudades Sustentables 2011, donde, además de integrarse los aportes de las jornadas regionales, se debatirán los ejes de la Conferencia de Naciones Unidas Rio +20, que se desarrollará en 2012. Una oportunidad importante para redoblar el compromiso con un desarrollo que nos permita vivir mejor a todos.

Más información en:

<http://www.compromiso.org/2011/xvii-jornada-argentina-de-articulacion-publicoprivada-ciudades-sustentables-2011>

A continuación se presenta un pequeño informe del recorrido territorial desarrollado en la Argentina con los objetivos de:

- Promover la convergencia de la Empresa, el Estado y la Sociedad Civil, para la generación de políticas públicas que construyan un desarrollo sustentable con inclusión social.

- Contribuir a la visibilidad de experiencias de nuestro país y del contexto regional e internacional respecto de la conformación de las ciudades sustentables.

1) Contexto: el rol de los actores en la construcción del desarrollo sustentable A partir de la segunda década del siglo XX, el crecimiento poblacional en las ciudades se aceleró hasta cobrar niveles alarmantes. En el año 2025 dos terceras partes de la población vivirá en ciudades. Este proceso de urbanización trajo aparejadas una fuerte degradación ambiental y una agudización de la pobreza.

Las grandes ciudades suelen ser los principales centros de actividad económica, pero también fuente de grandes desequilibrios sociales. A la contaminación del aire, el agua y el suelo se le suman los déficits de servicios básicos. En América Latina y el Caribe, millones de personas viven en ciudades sin acceso a servicios de agua potable y saneamiento básico. El tratamiento de residuos sólidos urbanos es, en general, completamente deficiente y el aumento de basura compromete el ambiente, causa enfermedades y lleva a la muerte a millones de personas. Las plantas de tratamiento de aguas servidas, los vertederos industriales, las industrias contaminantes, los basurales se encuentran ubicados en las comunidades más pobres. A esto se le debe sumar problemas vinculados con el acceso al empleo, la educación, la vivienda y la

salud. La inequitativa distribución del impacto ambiental se relaciona con la desigual distribución de la riqueza: ambiente y pobreza se retroalimentan en un círculo negativo, potenciando los conflictos socio ambientales. Los problemas vinculados a la contaminación industrial llegan a ser tan evidentes que el entusiasmo inicial por la radicación de fábricas ha dado paso paulatinamente al rechazo de estos emprendimientos, poniendo en jaque muchas veces a la actividad económica.

Las condiciones en las que se encuentran las ciudades llevaron a pensar una nueva forma de planeamiento, de accionar, alrededor del mundo se comenzó a hablar de la sustentabilidad de las ciudades. Una ciudad sustentable es aquella que promueve actividades económicas y patrones de consumo que no dañan el ambiente. Tiende a un aprovechamiento estratégico del suelo con perspectiva de mediano largo plazo, garantizando áreas verdes y espacios deportivos y recreativos. Asegura el acceso al empleo decente y a viviendas dignas, con servicios de agua y saneamiento de calidad, así como a buenos servicios de salud y de educación, con niveles aceptables de seguridad ciudadana.

El desarrollo sustentable es una responsabilidad compartida entre diferentes sectores de la sociedad, a fin de hacer converger, de una manera positiva, la actividad productiva, el desarrollo social y el impacto ambiental en pos de una mejor calidad de vida para las actuales y futuras generaciones.

De esta forma, el concepto de sustentabilidad combina tres dimensiones: la dimensión productiva, la dimensión social y la dimensión ambiental. Si lo pensamos como un triángulo, éste está en constante tensión, procurando generar un equilibrio entre la eficiencia económica, el cuidado ambiental y el impacto social. Es este equilibrio el que nos permitirá pensar en largo plazo, en el futuro de las ciudades y en el futuro de las próximas generaciones.

Cómo lograr el equilibrio? ¿Cómo recorrer el camino hacia la sustentabilidad? La respuesta a estas preguntas es la articulación público-privada, es decir, la coordinación y articulación de esfuerzos entre el Estado en sus diferentes niveles – nacional, provincial y municipal –, el sector empresarial y las organizaciones de la sociedad civil en pos de construir estrategias de desarrollo que lleven a una mejor calidad de vida. La calidad de las políticas públicas en general y dirigidas al desarrollo sustentable, en particular, va a depender de la calidad de los procesos de articulación público-privada. Es imprescindible profundizar la interacción entre el Estado, la sociedad civil y el mundo empresario. Estos procesos de articulación de actores plantean tres desafíos: el primero es la construcción de confianza, el segundo es la superación de las asimetrías, económicas y de acceso a la información y el tercero es la construcción de capacidades que permitan la convergencia de acuerdos cuando existen intereses contrapuestos.

Esto lleva a que los distintos actores redefinan sus roles con respecto al desarrollo sustentable. En primer lugar, proponemos recuperar la política como camino para definir el rumbo y sostener el desarrollo de cualquier territorio. La política no es cosa exclusiva de los políticos, es patrimonio de todos. Los procesos de articulación público privada para la producción de políticas públicas son procesos políticos. Tienen una dimensión técnica, metodológica, pero son fundamentalmente procesos políticos y sus resultados son resultados políticos.

Respecto al Estado, es necesario fortalecer su liderazgo y centralidad en la planificación del desarrollo sustentable. Sin embargo, hoy no puede afrontar los desafíos del desarrollo sustentable en soledad. Es importante generar desde el Estado los dispositivos y lazos con los diferentes actores sociales y políticos que legítimamente pueden aportar a la calidad de las políticas públicas, tanto en su diseño, implementación y evaluación.

Por otro lado, la rentabilidad no es el objetivo exclusivo de las empresas. Para que exista un compromiso con el desarrollo sustentable se debe poner en valor y darle contenido a la responsabilidad social empresarial (RSE). La RSE debe ser el compromiso de las empresas con el desarrollo sustentable de su territorio.

Respecto a las organizaciones de la sociedad civil no deben ser consideradas un camino alternativo al Estado en la aplicación de las políticas sociales ni complemento del mercado en aquellos territorios donde al mercado no le interesa llegar. Las ONGs debemos repensar nuestro rol a la luz del nuevo contexto mundial. En este nuevo desafío las organizaciones deben jugar un papel de promotor y facilitador de la articulación de los diferentes actores que deben participar activamente en el desarrollo sustentable de nuestros territorios y ciudades.

Finalmente, este proceso necesita del acompañamiento activo de la academia, fundamentalmente que las universidades pongan el conocimiento al servicio del desarrollo sustentable en sintonía con las necesidades y demandas de la sociedad. Para que la articulación público-privada se dirija eficientemente hacia el desarrollo sustentable, se debe bajar el concepto de sustentabilidad al territorio, ya que son los procesos de sustentabilidad local los que están desempeñando un papel cada vez más importante en el logro de objetivos globales. Cada territorio es único, la forma que tomen los actores, la forma en que se relacionen y la dinámica de las variables productivas, sociales y ambientales – las tres puntas del triángulo – dependerá del contexto social, histórico y político. Es así que cada ciudad debe darle su identidad al proyecto; utilizar el conocimiento y las experiencias comunes y compartidas para conjugar esas variables y los actores de forma concreta y en relación a su realidad local.

2) Metodología y actividades desarrolladas Durante 2010 Fundación Compromiso inició una línea de trabajo territorial que permitió analizar los procesos de constitución, desarrollo y sostenibilidad de experiencias de Articulación Público-Privada y evaluar su impacto en la generación de desarrollo local sustentable con inclusión social. Es en la profundización de dicho análisis que, a lo largo del año 2011, tomamos este espacio para abordar la temática de las Ciudades Sustentables. Para ello, se realizaron seis Jornadas Regionales a lo largo y ancho del territorio argentino (Salta, Misiones, Rosario, Río Cuarto, Bariloche, Mendoza) y un Seminario de Desarrollo Sustentable y RSE en la ciudad de Buenos Aires.

Nuestro trabajo territorial tiene como objetivo profundizar el diálogo y habilitar nuevos espacios de participación para autoridades, tomadores de decisiones, expertos internacionales y ciudadanos sobre el desarrollo y monitoreo de políticas orientadas a conocer el «estado del arte» de la sostenibilidad en nuestras ciudades, a poner en común lo hecho y lo no hecho, los alcances, las limitaciones y los desafíos; y generar un proceso de construcción colectiva que culminará en la Jornada Nacional a desarrollarse el próximo 15 de noviembre.

En consonancia con la misión de Fundación Compromiso, los participantes de las Jornadas y del Seminario alcanzaron un total de más de 1000 personas, de los cuales 380 provenían del sector empresario, 250 del sector público y 400 de las organizaciones de sociedad civil. Asimismo, estas organizaciones públicas y privadas se nuclearon bajo una diversidad de áreas relacionadas con el ambiente (uso de suelo, gestión de residuos, etc.), la educación, la salud, el empleo, la planificación, la vivienda, el marketing, la comunicación y los derechos humanos.

En cada Jornada se organizaron dos momentos principales:

El primer momento, de carácter expositivo, consistió en un panel de expertos en el que especialistas presentaban su visión acerca de distintos aspectos de la sustentabilidad, entre ellos, la planificación territorial, el diseño urbano y las ciudades que queremos para el futuro, el rol de las organizaciones sociales, los empresarios y el Estado en el camino hacia la sustentabilidad y la articulación de estos actores, y un panel de casos donde representantes del sector público, organizaciones locales e internacionales, empresas y academia presentaron casos exitosos de articulación público-privada hacia el desarrollo de ciudades sustentables. (consultar los programas de las Jornadas Regionales en:

<http://www.compromiso.org/2011/xvii-jornada-argentina-de-articulacion-publicoprivada-ciudades-sustentables-2011>)

El segundo momento, de carácter participativo, se centró en el trabajo de Mesas de Diálogo y Construcción Colectiva. Se desarrollaron tres actividades: la construcción grupal de una definición de sustentabilidad, la determinación y priorización de los principales problemas del territorio que deberían ser abordados desde la política pública y

un juego de roles alrededor de un conflicto socio-ambiental.

3) Algunas conclusiones Existe una preocupación y un deseo de que el desarrollo sustentable sea un asunto público. De esta forma, surge como un desafío la concientización de la ciudadanía en este aspecto. También es importante trabajar en las formas de incidencia en la política pública que cada sector puede lograr. Es necesario comprender que todos y cada uno de los actores pueden contribuir en la construcción de la sustentabilidad.

A su vez, existe un consenso entre los participantes respecto al concepto de desarrollo sustentable: implica responsabilidad, equidad, inclusión y equilibrio, debe tener en cuenta necesidades colectivas y particulares, debe desarrollar un compromiso con la preservación de los recursos y el ambiente y debe beneficiar a las actuales y futuras generaciones.

A la hora de señalar los problemas prioritarios del territorio, existen algunos problemas comunes a resolver en una primera instancia (si bien cada región definió problemas particulares):

1. En primer lugar, los distintos grupos señalaron la existencia de marcos normativos inadecuados, antiguos e ineficientes para enfrentar los problemas que obstaculizan el desarrollo sustentable.
2. En todas las regiones existe una creciente preocupación por el manejo inadecuado de los recursos forestales, hídricos y energéticos.
3. Finalmente, se observó que, para abordar estas temáticas, se necesita una distribución equitativa de los servicios sociales y una gestión urbana del territorio que tenga como foco el desarrollo sustentable.

Respecto a la gestión de conflictos socio-ambientales, se reconocieron obstáculos que se interponen en el planteo de soluciones viables. Estos radican principalmente en los intereses contrapuestos del Estado, los empresarios y las organizaciones de la sociedad civil. Por un lado, las empresas, que generalmente son las señaladas por causar contaminación, se sienten sancionadas y desprestigiadas, lo que genera la oposición activa a cualquier tipo de solución. La sociedad civil desconfía del discurso de las empresas y, junto con ellas, responsabilizan al Estado por no encontrar una solución viable. Por otro lado, el Estado impone obstáculos burocráticos que dificultan la presentación de la problemática y su solución.

En este marco se identificó una falta de competencias de los actores (en los tres sectores) para:

- Identificar, precisar y analizar problemas comunes (planificación situacional / diagnóstico)
- Favorecer la definición de rumbos compartidos (estrategias)
- Identificar oportunidades para la creación de valor público en situaciones no tradicionales (innovación)

#### 4) Algunos desafíos planteados

A partir del desarrollo de las Jornadas, los participantes se concientizaron e incorporaron el concepto de desarrollo sustentable y comenzaron a definir un camino crítico para transitar la brecha desde la planificación territorial tradicional a una que concilie la inclusión social, el equilibrio ambiental territorial y el impulso productivo. Quedó de manifiesto que:

- la sustentabilidad no es una opción, sino un camino que no tiene retorno;
- el objetivo principal es generar valor público;
- todos los países y sus componentes locales tendrán que pensar y buscar soluciones propias para atender a esta cuestión;
- es necesario redefinir y redirigir la política pública hacia el desarrollo sustentable con una mirada de mediano y largo plazo; incluyendo la participación de todos los actores;

Para ello se necesita:

- a) un gobierno efectivo y transparente que trabaje junto con una ciudadanía informada y participativa;
- b) nuevas instituciones y formas de planificar políticas públicas en red, espacios multidisciplinares, multiactorales y multisectoriales;
- c) la construcción de indicadores concretos que nos permitan saber desde dónde partimos y que nos permitan producir metas y objetivos mensurables de hacia dónde vamos; y
- d) abordar el tema de la sustentabilidad desde una escala territorial.

Tomando en cuenta la información que se generó en las Jornadas Regionales y el Seminario de Desarrollo Sustentable, reconocemos que la sustentabilidad y su desarrollo en las ciudades deben asumir un carácter particular en cada país, región, ciudad, pueblo y comunidad, no extrapolar modelos y experiencias sin antes realizar una reflexión crítica de los mismos.

Esta experiencia de reflexión a través de las diferentes regiones y junto a actores diversos, sumada a la Jornada Nacional a realizarse el 15 de noviembre próximo, constituyen un aporte a la discusión que se realizará en Río+20, ya que pone en valor la visión que cada territorio tiene con respecto al desarrollo de ciudades sustentables; sus problemas y desafíos.

Fundación Compromiso, octubre 2011.

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## Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo (ECODES) - Ecology and Development Foundation

Propuestas de ECODES (Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo) al Zero Draft de Río + 20:

S.O.S.: Es urgente devolver el sentido a las palabras para construir una Economía Sostenible En ocasiones, el éxito de una palabra puede vaciarla de contenido. Eso es, en cierta medida, lo que puede estar ocurriendo con expresiones como sostenibilidad o desarrollo sostenible. Por eso, es preciso recuperar el sentido de las palabras y reivindicar su contenido.

La apuesta por la sostenibilidad suponer reconocer que existen límites al crecimiento y que, por tanto, debemos repensar nuestro modelo de desarrollo situando la sostenibilidad en el centro del debate. Así, si queremos construir una auténtica Economía Verde, es necesario desarrollar nuevos nichos de mercado y reverdecer la

economía en su conjunto. Por otro lado, apuestas estratégicas de Naciones Unidas como los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio, cuyo cumplimiento debería apoyarse al máximo desde Río + 20 no serán posibles si no se adopta la sostenibilidad como elemento clave del desarrollo. Estos objetivos no son ninguna utopía: el propio PNUMA afirma que el acceso a agua potable y saneamiento estaría garantizado si se destinara a estos fines, durante 4 años, tan sólo el 0,16% del PIB.

En el caso del agua, estamos ante un elemento transversal, y por lo tanto, estratégico en la búsqueda de nuevos nichos de empleo verde y en el reverdecimiento del conjunto de la economía. El agua tiene una estrecha relación con la producción de alimentos, con la calidad de los ecosistemas, con la producción de energías renovables, etc. Es clave visibilizar los potenciales retornos del ciclo del agua y hacerse preguntas tales como ¿Cuáles son los retornos económicos de un acuífero contaminado? ¿Y el de uno de buena calidad?

Para poder extraer todo el potencial que el agua encierra, es necesario actuar activando las tres palancas del cambio. Para Ecodes, este trabajo debe hacerse teniendo como objetivos las siguientes METAS:

1. Hacer efectivas las metas y compromisos recogidos en los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio.
2. Garantizar la implementación del Derecho Humano al Agua, instando a los Estados a su reconocimiento en el derecho interno.
3. Objetivos de Desarrollo sostenible

Para conseguir estas metas, es imprescindible construir una gobernanza política para la globalización económica, donde los Estados, poseedores de la legitimidad democrática, marquen el rumbo de la política internacional, y el resto de actores contribuyan a estos objetivos de manera proporcional a su responsabilidad. Esta idea de corresponsabilidad, liderada desde lo público, debe servir para activar las tres palancas del cambio social, de manera que las metas planteadas se puedan alcanzar.

**LAS TRES PALANCAS DEL CAMBIO:** Regulación pública, incentivos de mercado y cambio cultural. Regulación pública:

Lo público es más que lo estatal:

El concepto de lo público va mucho más allá de lo estatal. Público es todo aquello no busca exclusivamente el beneficio privado, bien sea mediante la acción de los Estados o de la sociedad civil, que actúan en defensa de lo colectivo. En este sentido, experiencias como las Juntas Comunitarias de Agua en Latinoamérica han demostrado ser una buena alternativa para garantizar el acceso al agua y al saneamiento en esos territorios. El apoyo a estas experiencias, en sus distintas vertientes, es crucial para estas zonas del planeta.

Desde lo público también se genera empleo:

En el mundo existen buenas y malas experiencias de gestión pública y privada del agua. Sin embargo, pocas veces se pone en valor lo que las empresas públicas están aportando. En España hay buenos ejemplos de empresas públicas que hacen transferencia tecnológica, gestionan de manera eficiente y son capaces de reportar beneficios a sus respectivos municipios. Son, por tanto, creadoras de empleo y riqueza.

Prioridad: una buena Gobernanza

Más allá de los modelos de gestión que se puedan adoptar, es crucial insistir en la idea de una buena gobernanza, destacando la transparencia y el control. La disyuntiva entre regulador y gestor ha presentado enormes carencias en los casos en los que se ha implementado. De ahí que sea necesario recuperar la capacidad del Estado para actuar, sin hacer dejación de responsabilidades, diseñando e implementando políticas públicas que garanticen el servicio desde el compromiso con la sostenibilidad y la equidad.

Por otro lado, a nivel de cuenca, la experiencia española de las Confederaciones Hidrográficas como garantes de la unidad de cuenca puede ser exportable a otros sitios. Estas entidades deberían reforzarse, además, desde la participación de todos los usuarios y la transparencia en la gestión.

**Incentivos de mercado:** El mundo financiero al servicio de la sostenibilidad

Construir un modelo económico al servicio de las personas y el bienestar, poniendo a las finanzas a trabajar por la sostenibilidad:

Para ello, se deberá Incentivar la Inversión Socialmente Responsable con productos financieros ad hoc que ayuden a construir la economía verde del agua.

Además, es necesario reformar los mecanismos de financiación del FMI y del BM, con un porcentaje de los fondos destinado a la gestión del agua, y condicionados por criterios de transparencia y la lucha contra la corrupción.

**Replicar, donde sea posible, iniciativas exitosas:**

En el mundo existen experiencias que han demostrado su viabilidad, cuya replicabilidad debería estudiarse. En concreto, queremos hacer énfasis en dos:

- Las experiencias de Pagos por Servicios Ambientales desarrolladas e implementadas en América Latina.
- La iniciativa francesa desarrollada mediante la Ley Oudin, como herramienta de solidaridad hídrica con el sur, que permite a los municipios donar un porcentaje de la factura del agua para proyectos de solidaridad relacionados con el acceso al agua potable y al saneamiento.

**Definir el papel de la iniciativa privada:**

Las experiencias que han existido ya de colaboración público - privada, nos han enseñado que es necesario establecer claramente las reglas del juego, marcando desde lo público los criterios a seguir y teniendo siempre la transparencia en el frontispicio de cualquier actuación.

Estas alianzas público – privadas han demostrado ser una buena herramienta para buscar soluciones de manera conjunta, aportando desde cada ámbito la experiencia recogida. Por tanto, debe seguir apostándose por este ámbito de colaboración, pero siempre desde la definición de roles.

**La tríada mágica: eficiencia – ahorro – reutilización.**

En momentos de crisis como los que vivimos, ya no es suficiente con hablar de ahorro. Es necesario ir más allá y apostar por las tres variables: eficiencia en el uso de los recursos, ahorro y reutilización donde sea posible.

**Cambio cultural y de valores:**

Las metas que hemos planteado en este documento suponen un replanteamiento del modelo de desarrollo actual. La magnitud de este desafío hace que no sea posible asumirlo sin una profunda transformación cultural que parte de los valores que rigen nuestras sociedades. Para ello, es necesario:

**Un esfuerzo pedagógico:**

Que Administraciones Públicas, medios de comunicación, centros de investigación y ONGs, hagamos un esfuerzo por hacer entender el significado de la buena gobernanza y la economía verde.

Que seamos capaces de poner en valor la “excepcionalidad” del agua, que está en lo pre-racional, es constitutiva de la vida, ejemplifica la hospitalidad, y en buen número de ocasiones, ha jugado un papel de unión y comunicación entre los pueblos.

**Una apuesta por la participación:**

Que involucremos a todos los actores del cambio. En este sentido, experiencias como “Zaragoza con el agua”, en la que se han conseguido más de 100.000 compromisos ciudadanos con el uso eficiente del agua, pueden ser una referencia.

Este documento se ha elaborado con las conclusiones del taller: "Agua y Economía Verde: propuestas al Zero Draft de Rio + 20", organizado por Ecodes en el marco de la "Conferencia Internacional de ONU-Agua: Agua en la Economía Verde en la Práctica: Hacia Rio+20" organizada por la Oficina de la Década del Agua de Naciones Unidas. Queremos agradecer a la Oficina de la década del agua de Naciones Unidas, así como a todos los participantes en el seminario, su dedicación y trabajo desinteresado.

## Fundación Lonxanet

SUSTAINABLE CO-MANAGEMENT OF FISHING RESOURCES:

SUSTAINABLE SEAS AND RESPONSIBLE CONSUMERS

Submitted by Fundación Lonxanet, Spain

28 October 2011

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### INTRODUCTION

Fundación Lonxanet (Spain) is grateful for the opportunity to provide input for inclusion in the compilation document to serve as basis of the Zero Draft for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD 2012).

As the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) was underway in Johannesburg in September 2002, Fundación Lonxanet para la Pesca Sostenible was created in North West Spain, in part to respond to the WSSD's call for the creation of an international network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). Fundación Lonxanet is an innovative initiative that promotes a change in the mind-set of artisanal fishermen to minimise the loss of living marine resources and achieve sustainable development.

We work with artisanal fishing communities and organisations whose livelihoods depend on any water system (rivers, lakes, estuaries, seas and oceans) from Spain, Latin America and Africa. We develop and promote best practices both by and for artisanal fisherfolk and give visibility to their efforts and contributions to a more sustainable sea and world.

### RELEVANCE TO THE CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2012 (UNCSD 2012)

Fundación Lonxanet welcomes the efforts to address the sustainable use of marine resources as a central theme of UNCSD 2012. We concur with the view that major conferences on the environment and sustainable development cannot ignore the importance of healthy seas for sustainable development, especially in light of the role played by artisanal fisherfolk in global food security, including what some have described as the blue economy.

Our proposal is fully consistent with the goals and objectives of UNCSD 2012 as well as with the Millennium Development Goals. The proposal departs from our assessment that progress achieved to date for sustainable seas and oceans has been insufficient and, that there is a gap remaining in the implementation of ocean-related outcomes from past major summits on sustainable development, especially the commitment in Johannesburg to establish and maintain an international network of Marine Protected Areas. Our proposal relates directly to key issues listed in the Co-Chairs' Guidance Note for inputs for Compilation Document: oceans, food security, biodiversity, sustainable consumption and production (including the "green jobs") and adaptation to climate change. This successful experience stems from Lonxanet's initiative and works accompanying artisanal fishermen, and contributes to the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental.

Within this framework, Fundación Lonxanet facilitates the development of processes aimed at aligning artisanal fisherman and the State in the common goal of a sustainable management of fishery resources to achieve social, economic and environmental benefits for both fishing communities and society in general. The creation of symmetric spaces of dialogue between the state and the fisheries sector promotes a change in the fishermen's mind-set leading to co-responsibility of the future of the oceans, empowering and involving them in the management of fishery resources under an adaptive and ecosystemic approach.

### CONTEXT: CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE GLOBAL FAILURE IN FISHERIES GOVERNANCE

Living marine resources in the world are in a critical state. According to the UN FAO, 80% of the world's fisheries are at risk due to excessive fishing efforts. Within this percentage, 52% are completely exploited, 19% is over-exploited, and 8% has been depleted. Although virtually all governments acknowledge the gravity of the problem and are making efforts to regulate the exploitation of these resources with sustainability criteria, the global state of the oceans and its resources continues to deteriorate. In accordance to the FAO's analysis, only 1% of the world's fisheries appear to be recovering from past over-exploitation. The European Union, with the largest Exclusive Economic Zone in the world, 88% of its fisheries are over-exploited and 69% are in danger of depletion.

The problems and its consequences can be summarised in six points:

(1) Market forces that favour overfishing, (2) Overfishing and depletion of resources, (3) Increasing impacts of climate change; 4) Pollution, environmental degradation of coastal ecosystems and biodiversity loss; 5) Failure of governance in resource management, since it is centralised and hierarchical, (6) Loss of oceans' resilience. This leads to the following consequences: a) Depletion of fishery resources; (b) Crisis of artisanal fisheries sector and local communities; c) Loss of future expectations for the families of those fishermen who abandon fishing: emigration and depopulation; d) Loss of food sovereignty and security.

An over-centralised management model, where the artisanal fisherman neither participates nor is represented, brings about an incompatibility between the sustainability objective pursued by the States and maximising fishermen's economic objectives favoured by market forces.

The world fish trade sources its products in developing countries to be sold in developed countries. Therefore, the fishing industry and consumer markets in the most developed countries are the main contributors to the fall in resources from the world's coastal, sea and ocean ecosystems. In accordance with the principle of "common but differentiated responsibility" enshrined in the Rio Declaration of 1992, these countries have a special duty to correct and avoid this dramatic situation. Increasing controls on fishermen to correct bad practices is not enough. It also requires a more equitable and sustainable redistribution of fishery resources as a public good between the fleets exploiting them, to correct social imbalances affecting artisanal fisherfolk.

Artisanal fishing is often characterised by relatively low impact practices on marine ecosystems, using more selective fishing gear, with a less destructive impact on habitats, less fuel consumption and less fishing effort, far below that of industrialised fishing. Furthermore, as showed by FAO statistics, it should be taken into account that artisanal fishing employs a large number of the people who play a very important role in the social and cultural life of most coastal countries.

To address the abuses and excesses of the market, producers and consumers must be made co-responsible. Yet to date the impact of the majority of awareness policies and

campaigns applied to fishermen and consumers remains low.

#### WHAT HAS BEEN DONE, WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED

Over the last decade, with a systemic, participatory and bottom-up approach that empowers local artisanal fishing communities through human, economic, social and environmental projects, Fundación Lonxanet has developed ways to minimise the obstacles to sustainable development that artisanal fisherfolk and fish workers have encountered and to develop locally workable conditions that favour comprehensive sustainable development.

The Fundación Lonxanet initiative started as a pilot project in the region of Galicia, North West Spain, which included the creation of two Marine Protected Areas of Fishing Interest co- managed equally by artisanal fishermen and the public authorities. In addition, a marketing company was created to directly distribute sustainable seafood produced in this area to consumers, with a view to increasing the revenues of the artisanal fishermen and, at the same time, protecting and conserving their resources ("from a sustainable sea to a responsible consumer"). All of this led to the creation of the international Network of Artisanal Fishing communities for Sustainable Development (RECOPADES), active in Europe, Latin America and Africa.

These experiences demonstrate that dialogue and collaboration between public authorities and artisanal fisherfolk is not only possible but successful. Placing the artisanal fisherman at the heart of fisheries management on an equal footing with the public administration has opened a consolidation process regarding new ocean governance. This experience has important benefits for the coastal ecosystem and for society in general. A greater involvement of fisherman has been achieved regarding environmental sustainability goals. The catches of certain species have been greatly increased. Conflicts have been reduced and the fishermen feel involved and co-responsible for their future, applying sustainability criteria in fisheries management. They are being referenced as an example of sustainable experience at an international level.

Our experience to date shows how the involvement of fishermen in the co-management of fishery resources and the green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions (social, economic and environmental), together with the eradication of poverty. This is its added value, in line with the Co-Chairs' Guidance Notes, asking to emphasise what has worked and how to build upon success to seize opportunities for possible elements of an agreement in the outcome document.

The proposals we present here address the implementation of a series of guidelines that promote a convergence of state and fisheries towards sustainability as a common goal. It represents a very important step to build an active and participatory citizenship, co- responsible for the management of natural resources.

#### EMPOWER ARTISANAL FISHERMEN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE GREEN ECONOMY:

We urge the UNCSD 2012 to express in Rio the necessity and their willingness to empower artisanal fisherfolk to both participate in similar processes and in resources management in order to address the changes in production and consumption models that have failed to secure the sustainability of fishery resources worldwide. We also urge the states to enable that fishermen and state representatives go hand in hand in the process of co-management of fisheries.

The approach we request UNCSD 2012 to support comprises a series of measures to promote processes of change in the artisanal fishing sector that can lead to a culture of sustainability and can be applied in a wide range of contexts and scales, with a convergent and coherent view about the future of artisanal fishing and the collective interest of their communities:

- <sup>[4]</sup> Respect for fishermen's local environmental knowledge in the design of management plans for fishery resources.
- <sup>[4]</sup> Action plans, with a bottom-up approach, and participatory processes to build trust and encourage the participation of small-scale fishing communities with a leading role.
- <sup>[4]</sup> Empower partnerships and networks with other fishing communities and other actors (governments, NGOs, companies, public administrations, etc.) at local, national or international level.
- <sup>[4]</sup> Promote, as a result of the required mind shift, artisanal fisherfolk as custodians and guardians of the living marine resources and their habitats.

Based on RECOPADES' experience, we urge UNSCD 2012 to encourage and support:

- <sup>[4]</sup> Artisanal fishermen's involvement in the process of change through projects that promote the co-responsibility of future fishery resources, promoting a thinking where they consider themselves trustees and custodians of the sustainability of marine resources and their habitats for future generations.
- <sup>[4]</sup> The creation of opportunities for participation and dialogue between states and the artisanal fishing sector directed towards the co-management of fisheries, by promoting the participation of artisanal fishermen in the diagnosis, planning, management and monitoring of artisanal fishing.
- <sup>[4]</sup> The creation of Marine Protected Areas of Fishing Interest, co-managed as a suitable tool in different contexts, giving the central role of sustainable management to the artisanal fishermen and giving them prominence and visibility in their efforts to develop projects aimed at sustainability.
- <sup>[4]</sup> The promotion of differentiated marketing of artisanal fishing as a denomination-of- origin product with added social and environmental value.
- <sup>[4]</sup> The transfer of sustainable development methodologies and knowledge among artisanal fishing communities and organisations worldwide and the sharing of successful experiences, in order to disseminate and enhance the good practices developed by artisanal fishermen.
- <sup>[4]</sup> Bestowing artisanal fishermen a more equitable representation in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations so they can defend the sustainability of resources.

#### ANNEXE: THE CASE FOR CO-MANAGED AREAS OF FISHING INTEREST

##### Challenges:

- <sup>[4]</sup> There is excessive competition for fishery resources.
- <sup>[4]</sup> Exploitation costs grow higher due to the increase in fishing efforts and the decrease in resources.
- <sup>[4]</sup> Control and audit systems are inefficient despite high investment from public administrations.
- <sup>[4]</sup> Tensions between fisherfolk and public administrations often impede the necessary spirit of mutual understanding and compromise.
- <sup>[4]</sup> In certain regions, these tensions can be aggravated by short-term local political interests within both the fishermen's representative organisations and the public administrations. This can result in favourable treatments for some organisations which create obstacles for comprehensive agreements with the artisanal fishing sector as a whole.

<sup>EN</sup> Fisheries management systems, influenced primarily by industrial fisheries' interests, fail to address the complexity of artisanal fishing communities and the variety of fishing gear and interests.

<sup>EN</sup> The majority of current management models fail to involve artisanal fisherfolk and their knowledge.

<sup>EN</sup> Illegal fishing contributes to worsening the situation.

Proposals: Co-managed Protected Areas of Fishing Interest represent...

<sup>EN</sup> Pilot projects, managed by a management body made up equally of public administrations and artisanal fishermen, in order to create a more complete and co- responsible scenario to build a new shared decision culture between the state and civil society.

<sup>EN</sup> Opportunities for consolidation of this entire scenario, through continuous dialogue and negotiation between artisanal fishermen and public administrations to accomplish the sustainability objectives identified.

<sup>EN</sup> A response, from the artisanal fishing sector itself, to the lack of productivity of the coastal ecosystems on which they depend.

<sup>EN</sup> A practical formula to reduce excessive competitiveness for limited resources.

<sup>EN</sup> A tool to avoid the over-exploitation of fishery resources.

<sup>EN</sup> An effective way to address administrative loopholes and the pace of bureaucracy, biased in favour of capital-intensive industrial interests, and local specificities.

<sup>EN</sup> A bottom-up opportunity for artisanal fisherfolk to be partners for sustainable development, thus minimising the management costs, which, in most cases, make the current system unsustainable.

## Fundacion Santa Lola

Aportes de REPÚBLICA DOMINICANA.

CAMINO A RÍO + 20: LA CUMBRE.

Objetivo: Presentar las aportaciones de la República Dominicana a la Secretaría de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sustentable de las propuestas-país para tratarse en la Cumbre de Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno Río + 20.

Tomadas. Por la Fundación Santa Lola, Avenida Freddy Prestol Castillo #13, San Pedro de Macoris, República Dominicana.

Descripción: Estas opiniones son concretas, conforme lo establece el párrafo 20 de la Resolución 64/236 de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas.

1- ¿Cuáles son las expectativas en relación con los resultados de Río +20 y qué propuestas concretas hay a este respecto, incluidas opiniones sobre una posible estructura de documento final?

La Fundación Santa Lola, se ha convertido en la Organización de la Sociedad Civil que ha representado a la República Dominicana en eventos pre-Río +20, convirtiéndose en Punto Focal para dichos movimientos. Dentro de la postura oficial, tanto del país caribeño, como de los hermanos latinoamericanos se resumen un interés de:

- a. Se cumplan los puntos tratados, acordados y firmados.
- b. Que comience la transición y el abordaje en Dominicana del tema de la Economía Verde, es decir, que se profundicen los estudios y se empiecen a implementar empleos verdes y producción y consumo sostenibles, que generarán un resultado positivo al planeta.
- c. Tener la "Educación Ambiental" en las currículas educativas de los países latinoamericanos, (en especial República Dominicana, que es el caso que estamos trabajando), para de una vez y para siempre tener formación desde la escuela de las prácticas adecuadas para cuidar el medioambiente.
- d. Que la población dominicana se EMPODERE y adopte estilos de vidas sustentables, cuyas buenas prácticas ambientales lleguen a todos.
- e. Crear un Plan de Acción o Agenda de Acción Nacional, que involucre a los principales actores sociales, políticos y económicos de Latinoamérica (especialmente República Dominicana), donde haya previo una Consulta Nacional, que permita a los participantes opinar, sugerir y asimilar los conceptos, compromisos y acciones derivadas de la Declaración que surja de la Cumbre de Río + 20.
- f. Que el gobierno dominicano reconozca que el tema de Desarrollo Sostenible no está reservado única y exclusivamente al cuidado del medioambiente; sino que también aborda los problemas de salud, educación y economía latentes en la población.
- g. CUMPLIR, CUMPLIR Y CUMPLIR, dando información previa de qué se hará y por qué e informaciones posteriores qué se hizo y por qué. ¡Se puede!

POSIBLE ESTRUCTURA DEL DOCUMENTO FINAL: En ese documento, poco importa la cantidad de texto vertido, sino la calidad y el contenido benefactor para el planeta, donde los gobiernos son quienes juegan el papel principal (por su VOLUNTAD POLÍTICA) y la sociedad civil es quien, agita, motiva o desmotiva a una población que se deja confundir por otros problemas materiales, sin enfocar que el problema medioambiental es por hoy y por siempre: un riesgo de subsistencia, pues depende de lo que hoy se hace para ver los frutos (cizaña o trigo) mañana.

2- ¿Cuáles son las observaciones, en caso de que las haya, en relación a las propuestas existentes?

República Dominicana es un país permisivo a la firma de todos los acuerdos y resoluciones (en demasía), sin embargo el punto negativo es el cumplimiento de todo aquello que se firma, pues nos llenamos de trabajo y le damos mérito o importancia a temas relevantes, pero no tan riesgosos. Hablar de los daños al planeta, lo enfocamos como un riesgo, porque son nuestras acciones las que permiten que el lugar donde vivimos pueda desaparecer.

Los gobiernos, mejor que nadie, tienen que conocer para qué da y para qué no da su país; por ello tiene que saber qué firma y por qué lo firma. La declaración, no es sólo el resultado de una cumbre, de un encuentro, es el cambio en papel, es la motivación a la acción; pues de las propuestas existentes queremos: CUMPLIMIENTO.

Los temas que se traten en la Cumbre de Río +20, son importantes, sin embargo no todos los países los dominan igual. El caso de República Dominicana, tiene como punto neurálgico el carecer de centros de reciclaje, pues no surte todos los efectos esperados cuando clasificamos los plásticos/enlatados, papel/cartón y otros materiales, ya que

quienes se encargan de recoger los desperdicios municipales todo lo ligan en una zona llamada Vertedero. BASURA CERO, por ejemplo, que fue tratado en el Congreso Latinoamericano de Jóvenes "Camino a Río +20" es un proyecto que la Fundación Santa Lola define "fenomenal y apto para una cultura de producción responsable de basura", empero es imposible que la sociedad civil difunda esta campaña, hasta que el gobierno dominicano o empresas (tanto nacionales o internacionales) se instalen como centros de reciclajes. OBSERVACIÓN A LA CUMBRE: Enfocar la realidad de todos los países, clasificando lo que se tiene y lo que no se tiene y que la Comunidad Internacional pueda ayudar a países como República Dominicana a cumplir con sus metas, por medio de suplir sus carencias.

Otro interesante punto a observar es el hecho de la EDUCACIÓN AMBIENTAL. Si bien la Agenda 21, hace mención de los principales temas ambientales como son (atmósfera, montañas, desiertos, bosques, mares, océanos, agua, biodiversidad, entre otros), no hay un programa educativo a implementarse en los países dentro de sus currículas educativas. Una recomendación sería, que las Naciones Unidas elabore una Resolución o Declaración (según corresponda) con temas, actividades y observaciones. Que la misma sea realizada por un equipo multidisciplinario de expertos en el área. Y no hay duda, que debe de haber un tiempo, de unos 5 años, para implementar definitivamente la Economía Verde, en lo que se capacitan profesores, se preparar los centros educativos, etc.

El tema de ECONOMÍA VERDE, tiene una esfera de trascendencia para el desarrollo, y lo es la producción y el consumo sostenible. La Fundación Santa Lola en República Dominicana, es de criterio que la producción es necesaria, ahora bien se necesitan estándares de calidad que protejan y cuiden el medioambiente. Y luego una cultura de consumo, de igual forma responsable. Habrá una Economía Verde que logre el desarrollo sostenible, cuando se empiece a ver el empleo, como un hilo conductor al avance del pueblo, es decir, que se humanicen los trabajos, que la gente sea un empleado, no un objeto, que se creen patrones ambientales, donde se protejan los recursos naturales y los ecosistemas, que se invierta en educación pre-asignación de un empleo verde, que se rindan cuentas, que se inspeccione o supervise, que haya responsabilidad social ambiental.

3- ¿Qué opiniones existen sobre la implementación y sobre cómo reducir los desfases al respecto? ¿Cuáles son los agentes cuya participación se contempla?

De lo antes planteado, entendemos que las legislaciones y los organismos existen hoy, por hoy, pero o no tienen claro sus funciones o simplemente no las cumplen. La implementación de lo que aquí surja, conjuntamente con otras herramientas internacionales (que estén en uso y en vigencia) tienen que ser debatidas a lo largo y ancho de los países. Debe de crearse una especie de CONSULTA NACIONAL o DIFUSIÓN NACIONAL, donde se presente qué es la declaración que surja en Río de Janeiro, pero también que sean todos los miembros de la comunidad, sociedad civil quienes se sumen a ello. Si una ley no está clara o no se ha creado, pues que el Congreso de la Nación que se encargue de hacerle los trabajos pertinentes, pero que no se convierta en un limbo de cumplimiento. Agentes de Participación.

Gobierno

•Ministerios •Congreso

SOCIEDAD CIVIL ORGANIZADA

•Organizaciones nacionales e internacionales

Gente Comun •Local •Nacional •Regional

Sobre los agentes de participación, entendentendemos que el PRINCIPAL responsable del cumplimiento de la declaración es el GOBIERNO, a través de sus Ministerios y el Congreso Nacional. Necesita para ello "Voluntad Política". El SEGUNDO actor es la SOCIEDAD CIVIL, donde organizaciones no gubernamentales nacionales e internacionales se unan a una sola voz para denunciar los incumplimientos, las fallas, los deterioro, etc. Y el ultimo, pero no menos importante es EL PUEBLO, su gente comun en lo local, regional y nacional que se empodere, como senala la Agenda 21: Saber + querer = Actuar.

4. - ¿Qué mecanismos de cooperación específicos, arreglos de asociación u otros medios de implementación están previstos utilizar y cuál es el plazo pertinente para que se adopten las de apliquen las medidas?

En el referido congreso en Cordoba, Argentina: "Camino a Río", se creo la iniciativa, que luego se convirtio en estrategia denominada: "De Río a la Gente", que no es mas que la creacion de una plataforma virtual para la comunicacion entre instituciones, para que estas a su vez desarrollen actividades con el enfoque de cumplir lo tratado en Río + 20, es decir que se realicen actividades, encuentros, reuniones virtuales, entre muchas otras cosas. De Río a la Gente es involucrar a la gente común y corriente, que no puede ir a las reuniones ni gubernamentales ni no gubernamentales, pero que son quienes producen el daño o la mejoría al planeta donde vive... De Río a la Gente es más que una estrategia de corto plazo, es cumplir paso por paso, es presionar a los gobiernos, es... la DECLARACIÓN hecha institución.

FUERA DE RELIEVE. En Dominicana, los temas más latentes, son los siguientes.

1- Seguridad alimentaria. La alimentación es un fuerte en sectores marginados e inhóspitos a Santo Domingo (la capital), donde abunda el hambre, la pobreza y el hacinamiento. La pobreza golpea a muchas áreas de la población dominicana.

2- Escasez (por un lado) y derroche (por otro) del AGUA. Dominicana está dividida por clases sociales. La menos pudiente, sufren de escasez, mientras que la más pudiente, la derrocha por no tener conocimientos del ahorro del agua.

3- Desastres Naturales (poca capacitación) y falencia a la adaptación del cambio climático.

LIC. CLAUDIO CORDERO.

Director General F. Santa Lola, Rep. Dominicana.

## GDF SUEZ

GDF SUEZ's contribution to Rio+20

As a leading company in the energy and environmental services sectors, GDF SUEZ wishes to offer all its expertise to contribute to the Rio+20 preparations. In particular, GDF SUEZ develops its businesses around a model based on responsible growth to respond to today and tomorrow's major economic, societal and environmental challenges: meeting energy needs, ensuring the security of supply, fighting against climate change and optimising the use of natural resources. Based on this experience, GDF SUEZ would like to make the following proposals with regard to the main expectations for this Summit.

### KEY MESSAGES

-Rio+20 deliverables should be concrete and focus on efficient and credible commitments and solutions, supported by alliances of stakeholders, including governments, business and civil society. As the business sector plays a major role in the success of the implementation of international commitments, it must be recognized as a key player



capable of articulating and applying new and complex business models aligned with sustainable development goals.

-As business requires predictability and regulatory certainty, stable legislative contexts and market mechanisms have to be set up appropriately in order to support the sustainable business development. For GDF SUEZ, these are more specifically related to mitigating the GHG emissions through energy efficiency and the development of low carbon energies (e.g. natural gas) and free carbon energies (renewable energies), circular economy, the city of tomorrow, preserving biodiversity, and, on the societal side, ensuring the access to energy for all.

-In order to promote the sustainable economical growth, new financing models will be required. Open rules, based on trade and investment, are critical enablers to achieve the objectives in the most effective and efficient way. Investment in infrastructure projects (energy, water, waste, transport) is an important instrument for the support of sustained economic growth. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) can provide effective ways to deliver infrastructure projects, to provide public services and to carry large-scale innovation as well as supporting the deployment of clean technologies.

-GDF SUEZ's contribution to Rio +20 has been set up in accordance with the ONU guidelines.

## GENERAL REMARKS ON THE RIO+20 PROCESS

### A. EXPECTATIONS FOR THE OUTCOME OF RIO+20 AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS

The Rio+20 summit should constitute a unique opportunity to:

- review progress achieved and renew political commitment on the principles agreed during the related previous UN summits in Stockholm (1972), Rio de Janeiro (1992) and Johannesburg (2002),
- develop a common view on remaining gaps and identify emerging challenges, and
- take concrete actions to address these gaps and challenges.

Significant progress on sustainable development issues is essential to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. Global and substantial shift of developed, emerging and developing economies towards a more responsible, fair, inclusive and low-carbon economy is essential. Indeed, these are the pillars of the "green" growth concept. A major issue is the establishment of global governance which allows discussing, and dealing with, this global concern. The implementation of sustainable development, as a human development goal, requires moving from a major item on the political and business agenda into large-scale concrete, workable and affordable solutions accessible to all. Rio+20 deliverables should be concrete and focused on efficient and credible commitments and solutions, supported by alliances of stakeholders, including governments, business and civil society:

1. energy efficiency, cleaner energy mix, circular economy are topics on which long-term commitments from all stakeholders can build a major milestone for future work on achieving sustainability;
2. research and innovation need to be reinforced on topics such as smart grids / networks, CCS, renewable energy, fuel cells, power storage...
3. concrete solutions to provide universal access to essential services (energy, water, mobility, ...) and to reduce poverty must be embedded in workable sustainable development road-maps. Social and economic development must be a key objective on the path towards responsible growth;
4. globally, our economies require more visibility, transparency and a supportive international framework for businesses and communities already engaged on the path towards workable sustainability;
5. effective, transparent and reliable market mechanisms that are capable of valuing and financing different dimensions (ecological and social externalities) of the green economy must be established to support sustainable business activities and to foster resource efficiency (including financial resources).

Rio+20 should engage stakeholders towards achieving global sustainability goals and accelerate the pace of the reorientation of our economies on the road to a greener and more responsible development model, with differentiated but shared responsibilities of mature, emerging and least developed countries.

### B. COMMENTS ON EXISTING PROPOSALS

#### Sustainable growth roadmap

A clear, consensual, comprehensive regulatory framework should be established to shift the current economic paradigm of markets towards efficient, responsible and greener growth. Such a framework should combine several sets of regulatory incentives for smart greener investments, helping to establish an increasingly globalised and efficient carbon market as well as spurring smart and responsible end-use of energy and resources.

In a context of fiscal efficiency, public spending should focus on supporting sustainable growth, without technological prejudices, notably by promoting a resource-sustainable economy and, more broadly, the circular economy. Inefficient and environmentally harmful subsidies should be abandoned in favour of promising low-carbon technologies and markets.

A greener growth should also be a responsible, socially inclusive growth. Local development, access to energy and poverty eradication programmes should combine human well-being, wealth and environment protection, and economic and resource-use efficiency, with a long-term outlook.

This shift in the economic paradigm will have a positive effect on employment. Firstly, "green jobs" specifically to provide environmentally-friendly services and technologies, and secondly, jobs in any sector would indirectly be "greened". Therefore, the net job creation within sustainable growth strategies should remain positive. Continuous efforts in pedagogy, education and training are necessary to mobilise people in this direction within the public and private sectors, and in civil society.

#### Sustainable Development objectives

If we are to achieve a successful transition to a greener and more responsible economy, it is essential to build ambitious, comprehensive and differentiated objectives, on specific themes, shared among the business community, civil society and governments.

Possible themes might include : energy, water, food security, agriculture, sustainable cities, forestry, biodiversity, social matters; as these are key areas for sustainable development.

With regard to the objectives, open dialogue, accountability and shared but differentiated responsibility between parties and stakeholders are key success factors. The "Energy for a Sustainable Future" report, prepared by the UN Secretary-General Advisory Group on Energy and Climate Change, provides interesting and concrete examples of objectives in the energy field that could be part of the Rio+20 agreement. E.g.: expanding energy access, scaling up efforts to increase energy efficiency and

clean energy efforts to meet the climate challenge and achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

#### C. IMPLEMENTATION AND RELEVANT ACTORS TO BE INVOLVED

UN bodies and other Intergovernmental agencies are key players in this system. However, they need to better coordinate actions between themselves and with other external stakeholders. National and local governments, and local communities, must be involved in order to ensure synergy of policies and actions and thus spur global sustainable development and integration.

The private sector must be recognized as a key player that is capable of articulating and implementing new and complex business models aligned with sustainable development goals. The private sector can make a substantial contribution in the design and implementation of actions by UNCTAD and other UN entities if it is formally involved.

Informing, educating and involving the civil society in the definition and implementation of sustainability goals is key: changing consumer patterns, developing new solidarity mechanisms or making education the centrepiece in the global shift towards greener and more responsible societies. Individual responsibility plays a major role in engaging on a more sustainable path and should be put forward as such in the process of change.

Finally, one possible deliverable of Rio+20 could be the establishment of a "cooperative platform" allowing for the engagement of all stakeholders on relevant tools and instruments to support the transition to a responsible and sustainable economy, and allowing for reviewing progress.

#### D. TIME FRAME FOR THE PROPOSED DECISIONS AND ACTION PLANS

The Sustainable Growth Roadmap (see answer to question B), focused on various specific themes, should include a set of targets and a timeline for the implementation for each target. Global sustainable development objectives concerning, for example, energy efficiency or greenhouse gas emissions should be envisaged in the long term (e.g. up to 2050), but the roadmap should also contain intermediate targets to be reached if we are to succeed with such major shifts in our economic development.

Especially in the short term, public financial resources are limited, therefore solutions that spur resource and economic efficiency and the engagement of the private sector based on market solutions and public-private partnerships are, more than ever, essential. The contribution of all stakeholders, including civil society, in this effort, is also necessary.

#### SPECIFIC ELEMENTS RELATED TO THE OUTCOME OF RIO+20 PROCESS

##### E. KEY ITEMS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA IN THE ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT SECTORS

Among the items on which Rio+20 should focus, we would like to underline the following:

###### Sustainable business

- Development of Sustainable Business activities and, especially, resource efficiency (including financial resources) depend on an appropriate market design that allows the financing and valuing of different dimensions of sustainability and that are specific to each country and/or region.
- Smart local solutions, savings in resources or energy efficiency measures, as well as projects that were implemented under the global carbon market, can illustrate the concept and show that efficient environmental markets are essential to sustainable development.

###### Renewable energies

- Renewable energy is a key driver for the achievement of a sustainable and low-carbon economy. Currently, the main requirements for the development of an efficient and affordable energy production from renewable sources are :
  - o R&D related to renewable technologies, in order to attain levels of competitiveness which can fairly compete with fossil fuel technologies.
  - o Stable legislative contexts and market mechanisms which allow developing and extending further renewable technologies worldwide.
- The development of intermittent renewable energy capacities should be accompanied by measures that guarantee the security of supply, e.g. natural gas backup and reserve capacities, for example via incentives such as capacity remuneration or capacity markets, without generating market distortions.
- The large deployment of renewable energy sources should be well integrated within the market functioning, with transparency of costs for consumers (including related grid and backup costs) and enough stability to foster investments, without compromising the profitability of non-subsidised sources of energy. Taking into account the maturity of the technology, a gradual decrease of financial support – without retroactivity – and a review of specific priority rules should be envisaged.

###### Energy efficiency

- Energy efficiency is one of the major tools towards a sustainable world. In preserving resources, it provides environmental benefits in lowering local pollutions as well as in the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Energy efficiency also brings economical, technical and political benefits to governments by reducing the need for energy infrastructure, pushing towards innovation and decreasing dependence on imports.
- To achieve progress on this subject, governments should:
  1. launch awareness campaigns and support capacity building of the necessary skills.
  2. introduce legislations, regulations and mandatory codes to cost-efficiently phase out inefficient technical solutions (buildings, devices, ...) and enforce them. These requirements should also be tightened over time.
  3. set up the necessary frameworks for an energy efficiency market with subsidies to include externalities as required.
  4. show the way in applying energy efficiency measures for their own operations (transport, buildings, etc.).

###### Biodiversity

- Rio+20 should plead for the adoption of a process to develop agreed baselines and a commitment to adopt targets for resource mobilization at COP 11, provided that robust baselines have been identified and endorsed, and that an effective reporting framework has been implemented following COP 10 in Nagoya.

- Unfortunately, COP 10 in Nagoya failed to agree on targets for increased resources to implement CBD decisions (Strategic Plan 2011-2020). The necessity to mobilise financial resources, by innovative financing for example, is a pending issue to be tackled at Rio+20.
- There is a need to integrate biodiversity policy into other sustainable development policies. For instance, a new level could be reached by setting up a global unifying framework for developing joint activities, joint mechanisms among the three Rio Conventions. Circular economy: Reduce / Reuse / Recycle In order to facilitate the transition to a resource efficient green economy, governments should:
- Develop incentives to support the adaptation of business models for more resource-efficient societies and businesses.
- Lead extensive analysis and work on environmentally harmful subsidies.
- Set up regulatory frameworks that are conducive to investments in secondary raw materials use by industry and society.
- Elaborate a consistent reporting and benchmarking framework of environmental performance of the States, especially in the fields of resource efficiency (material recovery, efficient use of natural resources, particularly water, across key areas: agriculture, industry and urban water supply and the most sensitive raw materials : paper, metals, etc.).

#### The city of tomorrow

- Due to demographic evolution, the world will be sustainable if cities are.
- Responsible agriculture and sustainable rural development is fundamental to the sustainable development of cities.
- The discussion at Rio+20 largely evolves under the term "green". On our way to sustainable urbanisation, a broad and common understanding of 'green' is necessary, adequately addressing social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainability.
- Urban development requires an integrated approach, inviting all urban stakeholders at all stages, from conception to implementation.
- Improved technology and competitiveness are prerequisites for innovation for sustainable and greener cities. Governance and finance priorities need to be set accordingly.

#### GHG emissions reduction

- The progressive development of a global carbon market based on an international framework is necessary, where all major GHG emitting countries take binding commitments, and other countries make comparable efforts in reducing GHG emissions, following the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. Continuous action to establish an efficient global carbon market, in combination with ambitious GHG reduction targets, must assure that mitigation is achieved at the least cost, that adequate technologies are developed and transferred, and that developing countries obtain adequate financial support for the implementation of their mitigation policies. Under such premises, ambitious global GHG mitigation can be achieved and distortion of competitiveness or international carbon leakage, as well as global economic burden, can be minimised.
- When most competitive solutions are also the most emitting ones, we need an incentive to invest in cleaner technologies and sustainable solutions, and several tools could provide visibility to invest, such as the floor price of CO<sub>2</sub>, carbon taxes or sectorial regulations. Such solutions are capable of promoting global economic integration, trade and growth, while effectively combating climate change, and spurring the development of renewable energies, energy and resource use efficiency, new technologies and smart grid applications. They need to be based on global cooperation, a strong commitment on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and efficient and transparent regulation which avoid unnecessary bureaucracy and arbitrariness. Access to energy for all

A call to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by the year 2015 is among the seven Millennium Development Goals (MDG) adopted by the United Nations in 2000. Eleven years later, this challenge, though well known and appreciated by all, remains intractable: in 2011, 1.4 billion people have no access to electricity; 2.7 billion people rely on traditional biomass fuels for cooking; 880 million people are without access to drinking water, and nearly 2 billion individuals are without sanitation services. While generally focused on developing countries, the question of access to energy also affects developed countries where it is cause for social concern and a question of poverty level. Meeting universal energy access targets will require economical growth, social development and mobilisation of additional finance. Business investment and private finance can play a major role if the broader financing architecture is well-designed and appropriate consideration is given to the quality of the regulatory and investment climate, which significantly drives the risks and returns associated with these investments.

- Business has a role to play alongside public institutions and governments in meeting development challenges. While various major companies have already implemented such programs, they remain limited and generally deal with consumer goods only.
- We encourage the development of a 4P methodology for Participatory Public-Private Partnerships and expertise in the so-called "Base of Pyramid" (BOP) and Social Business projects in order to promote energy access for the very poor, as well as the development of innovative financial mechanisms in the private and public sectors.
- When it comes to basic goods such as energy, however, the issue is to build jointly sustainable businesses with high social impact rather than "selling to the poor." Suitable business models need to be promoted to support social entrepreneurs through investments and technical and managerial expertise.
- To be viable, this approach must encourage an innovative business model that could be integrated either in the core business of the company or as social business. Market-based solutions should be encouraged and also be in favour of the development of new energy sources and new technologies.

#### F. THE GREEN ECONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION

Sustainable development embraces three dimensions: social, economical and environmental, and none of these dimensions can supplant the others. Within the business context, we envisage sustainable development, on the one hand, as helping to reduce non-financial risks, and on the other hand, as creating value through the new opportunities of sustainable business. The green economy is based on this sustainable business, and efficiently developing the green economy is a means of achieving sustainable development.

Sustainable growth strategies and associated action plans should be based on a global sustainability policy framework, and be tailored to lead to a low-carbon, resource efficient, and socially inclusive economy. This framework should result from a consensus between stakeholders, and sustainable growth policies should be backed by a pro-active financial engagement from governments. Cooperation between international organisations, governments, regulators and companies is crucial for the success of greener growth strategies and action plans. Both the public and the private sectors should clearly engage towards all other stakeholders (customers, shareholders, employees, civil society, the environment...) onto a more sustainable path, which would lead to green, economically efficient and socially responsible long-term growth. Concerning action plans for the energy, water and waste sectors, we would like to emphasise the crucial role of items such as end-use efficiency, the role of R&D in new, green technologies, and the need for a clear pro-investment regulatory framework to help these new technologies take off and eventually become economically viable. Within the energy sector, end-use efficiency measures are essential for the transition from volume to value, a requirement of the green economy. Also, definition of Global Public

Goods, governing principles for Public-Private Partnerships, could be targeted at Rio+20.

Several in-depth studies on greening the energy sector and the economy as a whole have recently been released (IEA, OECD, UNEP). These analyses put forth propositions for concrete measures to be taken to curb climate change and to reorient the economy on a more sustainable path. Therefore, proposals for green strategies already exist and often result from international consensus between experts and stake-holders, and these could be considered by UNCSD. Our businesses are already advanced on many of the sectors of the green economy agenda: CCS, renew-able energy (notably hydroelectricity, photovoltaic, wind farms, biomass, geothermal, wave and tidal energy...), recycling and reducing resource use. A better coordination between market players, engaged in those sectors, and green policies promoters, is essential in order to ensure profitable growth for the sectors involved.

#### G. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development involves economic, social and environmental issues. There is, at present, an array of organisations within and outside the UN system working on the challenges of making sustain-able development and poverty eradication a foreseeable reality. Strong existing entities, such as the WTO, the World Bank, the OECD, the IMF etc., are capable of pushing the sustainable development agenda by systematically integrating social and environmental issues within their policies and their actions.

However, such an approach could be leveraged by a more robust and active management of sustainable development issues and it appears that there is a global consensus on this analysis. There is a clear ne-cessity to better coordinate the international governance of major sustainable development mat-ters. Strengthening and consolidating UNEP, providing it with more financial and human re-sources, direct input from the civil society, in particular from the business community, with enlarged powers to enforce decisions and to shape policies and bring guidance would be an impor-tant step.

Finally, we support the empowerment of local governments for more sustainable development action.

#### H. PROPOSAL FOR THE REFINEMENT OF THE TWO PRIORITY SUBJECTS: FINANCING SUSTAINABLE INFRA-STRUCTURE PROJECTS

In order to accelerate the development and deployment of key technologies, new financing models will be required. Carbon financing will bridge some of the gap, but multilateral development financing and other policy incentives will help accelerate deployment. Open rules, based on trade and investment, are critical enablers of the substantial increase in technological dissemination and financing that will be re-quired to move to more sustainable low-carbon, resource and energy-efficient pathways addressing en-vironmental responsibility while promoting economic growth and social development.

Investment in infrastructure projects (energy, water, waste, transport) is an important instrument to support sustained economic growth. Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) can provide effective ways to deliver infrastructure projects, to provide public services and to carry large-scale innova-tion, as well as supporting deployment of clean technologies. At the same time, PPPs are effective ve-hicles for the long-term structural development of infrastructures and services, bringing together dis-tinct advantages of the private sector and the public sector, respectively. Financing the sustainable economy is a critical element and a prerequisite for long-term success. In or-der to make longer term investment decisions in this direction, business requires predictability and regulatory certainty. As long as these enabling conditions are directional only, and without regulatory and market certainty, investments in 'green economy initiatives' will be slow and compete with invest-ments for conventional activities.

It is important to establish workable solutions to finance the huge expansion of the energy matrix in developing and emerging countries with clean or carbon efficient established technologies in the short term, complemented with more innovative, transformational technologies for cleaner energy solutions in the mid and long term. Given the large volume and the speed of the ongoing evolution, ef-fective solutions must be established in the short term. A combination of NAMAs with a revised CDM can allow an immediate start and help to minimize the installation of new fossil-fuelled infrastruc-ture.

The principles and rules for such a solution exist under the CDM, and if applied and expanded effec-tively, the private sector will be able to drive significant global mitigation. On the contrary, if such incentives are not provided in the short term, these countries will compromise their emission profile for decades, and the aggregate economic present and future cost of mitigation will obstruct sustainable global economic growth.

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## Gender and Education Office (GEO) of the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE)

Adult learning and education policies need to maximize the positive role that learning can play in technological and industrial change for mitigation and adaptation plans. To avoid jeopardizing the right to decent work for all, education and adult education will play a crucial role to change radically the ways we produce and consume.

Moreover adult education and education in general support a planet where nature is not taken as a capital to be exploited for furthering economic growth; where citizens become more vigilant and proactive at both global and local level; and where clean and safe energy is secured for all. Adult learning must include a holistic view that recognizes the interdependence of environmental, social, cultural and economic perspectives, and poses challenges that demand collective sharing of responsibility – both at local, regional, national and global level. The framework for equality and social justice prevails, when we overcome all forms of discrimination, and where patriarchy is overcome.

Environmental and social justice requires that states set urgent priorities that guarantee the right to education for young people and adults, and especially the fundamental right to basic education without discrimination, providing these key rights the legal status they deserve, and to allocate the resources required for their full implementation.

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## Generalitat de Catalonia

Barcelona, October 25th, 2011

Taking as a reference the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio (1992), given the relevance of the results achieved.

Affirming the need to promote a new international agreement in line with the Millennium Development Goals and the agreed international development goals.

Taking advantage of the unique opportunity offered by the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), and, in particular, the invitation of the organisers to contribute to the compilation document for the zero draft, which will serve as the basis for negotiations.

Taking into account that the Government of Catalonia, local governments and other government bodies have attribution of powers, and as such, responsibility, in areas that are key to sustainable development and green economy.

Considering the progress made by Catalonia in applying pioneering policies in matters of sustainable development and development cooperation, and being aware of the barriers to be faced in order to implement a green economic model.

Having assessed the contributions made by a wide range of economic, social and scientific actors as well as other government bodies, through the process of dialogue and debate surrounding Rio+20, Recognising that, in order to face the current economic, environmental and social challenges and respond to the effects of unsustainability, new cooperation and governance models are required on an international scale, as well as a comprehensive vision of human activity and the planet.

1- We call upon the need to update the international environmental governance system and to fully incorporate a multilevel and multi-stakeholder governance that allows the socio-environmental challenges and problems related to the provision of global public assets to be faced. This new governance must ensure participation from the whole of society (citizens, non-governmental organisations, businesses, trade unions, public institutions, the third sector, scientists) and, consequently, effectiveness and efficiency in the implementation of policies.

2- We demand that subnational governments are taken into account in the United Nations system, both in defining the political and technical agenda and in implementing the agreements reached, considering the importance of the role of these governments in attaining sustainable development, in line with this new governance model.

3- We affirm the importance of territorialising the agreements reached and, as a result, the need of creating sub-systems of governance on a regional scale, to facilitate their implementation and make available the corresponding regionalised economic funds. Therefore, we demand the recognition of the Mediterranean region as a priority area in terms of the complexity of the environmental, social, political and economic challenges that must be faced.

4- We stress the fact that education for development is an essential tool in the new international environmental governance framework, both for social transformation in the north and the eradication of poverty and inequality in the south. In addition, education for development facilitates the understanding of north-south relations and promotes values and changes in habits that favour solidarity, social justice, sustainable human development, sustainable production and consumption models, democracy and transparency.

5- We reiterate our support for the Parties of the United Nations so that Rio+20 sets the basis for the shift towards a green economy that a) contributes to the progress towards sustainable development, the eradication of poverty, and human progress, and b):

- ▶ Harmonises economic development with the improvement of the wellbeing and quality of life of citizens, the preservation of the environment and intra- and intergenerational solidarity.
- ▶ Recognises that the planet's resources are finite and, therefore, uses them in an efficient and sustainable manner; promotes responsible consumption; contributes to the conservation of natural capital; and guarantees equal access to resources.
- ▶ Internalises the environmental costs and recognises the benefits of ecosystem and biodiversity services.
- ▶ Increases resilience to social, environmental and economic risks and prevents forced migrations and the displacement of environmental refugees.
- ▶ Guarantees firm support for research and innovation in sustainability, to be able to face future challenges.
- ▶ Integrates global environmental objectives into economic competitiveness policies.

6- We encourage the Parties of the United Nations to ensure that the outcome document of Rio+20 highlights the importance of green employment and its promotion, as an opportunity to advance toward social cohesion. Green employment should be understood as decent employment where all economic sectors (both emerging and traditional) integrate sustainability. That is why education and training in sustainability at all levels must be considered as key elements in enabling the full development of these essential sectors.

7- We demand the valorization of the rural world and its placing in the model for a green economy, in light of its economic, environmental and social function. We underline the importance of producing and distributing quality and sustainable local agricultural products, the value of traditional knowledge, and the concept of the nature stewardship. We recognise the need to advance towards the development of new collaborative mechanisms and instruments between the public and private sector (including social and economic actors), especially in the form of multi-stakeholder partnerships, in order to develop and implement policies for a green economy.

8- We state that Rio+20 offers an opportunity to improve competitiveness and facilitate the inclusion of sustainability criteria in economic and fiscal instruments: a) by promoting the innovation of efficient products, services and technologies in using resources and preserving biodiversity, and b) by progressively phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies.

9- We recognise the need to advance towards the development of new collaborative mechanisms and instruments between the public and private sector (including social and economic actors), especially in the form of multi-stakeholder partnerships, in order to develop and implement policies for a green economy.

10- We support the establishment of an ambitious international agreement on green economy in the framework of Rio+20 to be ratified by the Parties of the United Nations, which includes a) a compulsory roadmap that sets quantified objectives to be met within a given timeline, b) the identification of policies, c) the development of lines of action, and d) the establishment of the necessary economic resources.

11- We demand, in line with the European Union, the opportunity and need to develop the resulting green economy roadmaps on a regional and local scale, which encompass the success achieved in the deployment of sustainability policies promoted by regions and cities, especially thanks to the Agendas 21.

12- We consider essential that subnational governments are included, within the future institutional framework for sustainable development, with complete recognition of their governmental status, and, as such, that they take part in the established participation and accreditation processes within the United Nations.

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## German National Committee for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

The German National Committee for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD, 2005-2014) calls upon to integrate and highlight (in the Rio + 20 Conference as well as its outcome document and possible follow-up) the prominent role of education, public awareness and training for sustainable development in moving societies towards sustainability.

A strategy aiming at achieving sustainability based only on political regulation, technical innovation and economic incentives is not sufficient. Sustainable development requires a comprehensive change in mindset and the acquisition by all citizens of forward-looking competencies in accordance with fundamental values - such as intergenerational and global justice - which only education can bring about. The 1992 Rio Conference and the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on sustainable development recognized that Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) represents a significant path towards achieving sustainability.

Working towards sustainable development is always learning for sustainable development which is why ESD aims to enabling everyone to acquire the values, competences, knowledge and skills required for engineering sustainable societies and green economies today and tomorrow. The goal of the DESD is to integrate Education for Sustainable Development throughout educational systems and learning contexts. This is in accordance with Chapter 36 of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration, the UN General Assembly Resolution 57/254 as well as the "Bonn Declaration" adopted at the UNESCO World Conference on education for sustainable development held in 2009 in Bonn, Germany.

The particular importance of ESD in the framework of a green economy was recognized in the joint statement by Heads of UN agencies on Green Economy from 2009 "Green Economy: A Transformation to Address Multiple Crises": "The shift towards a green economy requires education for sustainable development including training in new job skills and newly required health systems." ESD contributes to poverty eradication and the shift towards a green economy through the acquisition of so-called green skills but also thanks to the promotion of more general competencies like long-term and critical thinking, interdisciplinary approaches to problem-solving as well as the ability to act autonomously and participate in social decision-making processes. ESD encourages and supports life-long learning. Education for Sustainable Development doesn't happen only from 6 years old on and until the learner leaves the formal education system. It starts during the early childhood where the basis for future learning is laid out and continues in non-formal and informal settings during the entire work life and beyond.

Political decision makers at national and international levels will only be in a position to commit to sustainable development in the long term if citizens recognize the importance of this societal objective and therefore support and requests further efforts in the field of sustainable development. ESD has an essential role to play in this regard and needs to be highlighted at the Rio + 20 Conference. The German National Committee for the DESD 1 June 2011 calls for the outcome document of the Conference to integrate ESD - not only as example for inter-sectoral themes but as a main strategy for achieving sustainability and green economies. The German National Committee further calls upon the UN system and Members States to use the opportunity of the Rio + 20 Conference to discuss and plan follow-up activities to the UN Decade of ESD beyond 2014.

The German National Committee for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development was appointed by the German National Commission for UNESCO on the basis of a unanimous resolution by the Bundestag. The National Committee is the main decisional body for the national implementation of the DESD in Germany.

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## Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives (GAIA)

GAIA is a worldwide alliance of grassroots organizations, non-governmental organizations, and individuals who recognize that our planet's finite resources, fragile biosphere and the health of people and other living beings are endangered by polluting and inefficient production practices and health-threatening disposal methods.

We oppose incinerators, landfills, and other end-of-pipe interventions. Our ultimate vision is a just, toxic-free world without incineration. Our goal is clean production and the creation of a closed-loop, materials-efficient economy where all products are reused, repaired or recycled back into the marketplace or nature. GAIA's membership-based network brings together more than 650 grassroots groups, non-governmental organizations, and individuals in 90 countries, all of whom have signed on to the above shared vision statement.

Together, we are calling for changes in production, consumption, and waste disposal practices that are core to the goals of the Rio +20 Conference.

To achieve true sustainability and poverty eradication, we need to shift our economic paradigm away from the current "take-make-waste" system of resource destruction. In its place, we can reclaim long-held human values of resource conservation and equity, caring, trust, justice, and diversity – and build the local living economies that will be essential to ensuring that life on earth is harmonious with nature while all people's material needs are met. Changes in lifestyles and production systems must be global. The affluent, who consume disproportionate resources and are responsible for most pollution, bear a greater responsibility and must take proportionate steps for change.

GAIA asks governments engaged in the Rio+20 process to commit to full-scale investment in inclusive Zero Waste systems, with a transition goal for 2040. Our demands include:

### 1- Transform the economy to reclaim resources and revalue community well-being

Create and use development indicators other than GDP—which does not take into account environmental impact, sustainability, equitable distribution of resources, unpaid labor, or quality of life. Stop the export and import of cultures of overconsumption. Emphasize forms and indicators of development that take into account social and environmental well-being, such as those being explored by the OECD and various governments.

Ensure that all products and materials are returned back to the marketplace or nature at the end of the use, emphasizing the "best and highest use" principle in materials management decisions. Revive and strengthen rural life and livelihoods, recognizing that growth of urban areas is driven by poverty and concentrates consumption and waste generation.

### 2- Prevent waste in the first place, and reduce hazardous materials

Reduce the use of energy, materials and natural resources in the lifecycle of products and packaging, and reduce waste generation, toxicity and pollution by investing in green chemistry and clean production. Discourage disposable and toxic products and processes.

Promote local economies based on the provision of public use, rental and lending services, and the reuse of products.

### 3- Design for recycling and reuse

Increase the durability, safety, reuse, recycling and recyclability of goods, recognizing that recycling conserves resources, saves energy throughout the materials lifecycle, and prevents pollution.

Promote extended producer responsibility for products and packaging to inhibit and punish the practice of planned obsolescence or intentional wasting.

#### 4- Ensure best and highest use for organics

Put composting, biogas, and animal feed programs in place that return all organic matter, uncontaminated, to the environment to provide a healthy basis for a toxics-free agriculture. Such programs are critical, given the high percentage of organic material in most metropolitan waste streams.

Avoid using biomass resources for energy and fuel, creating a demand that will further deplete forestry and soils.

#### 5- Respect the rights of recyclers

Prioritize programs that, following the proximity principle, create green, sustainable, local jobs. Waste workers, whether private-sector, public-sector, informal or entrepreneurial, must be accorded due respect and integrated into comprehensive materials management strategies.

Promote social inclusion in activities related to waste management, particularly the dignification of urban recyclers, fostering the internalization of their positive environmental impacts.

#### 6- Invest in the future we want, and support real solutions through public policy

Guarantee that public funds and international and national legislation support increasing reuse, recycling and composting combined with ecodesign in order to guarantee that any product can be safely repaired, reused and /or recycled at the end of its life.

Shift current subsidies from extraction and waste disposal to resource recovery, creating significantly more jobs, while distributing income more equitably.

#### 7- Promote innovative community-led programs that protect public health

Encourage the adoption of materials recovery techniques and processes that are local, safe, and respectful of local and indigenous cultures; where technology transfer occurs, it must respect the sovereignty and rights of local communities.

Give communities real participation in the materials recovery programs; include them in the design, implementation and monitoring of the programs, pay attention to their needs and ideas. Zero waste policies and programs contribute to social cohesion and enable the active participation and involvement of communities in the transformation of development patterns and sustainability building.

#### 8- No incineration! Put technology at the service of people

Phase out incinerators and other end-of-pipe waste technologies, which are expensive, inefficient, and highly hazardous to human health. Such technologies undermine a Zero Waste economy and are incompatible with Zero Waste.

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## Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature

SUBMISSION FOR EARTH SUMMIT / RIO +20

By The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature

[www.TheRightsofNature.org](http://www.TheRightsofNature.org)

To achieve true sustainability, fundamental changes in laws and governance around the world are necessary – to move us from our current path of environmental harm and destruction, to one in which humankind's relationship with nature is re-established. The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature supports such change through the worldwide adoption of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth and laws securing the Rights of Nature, such that the rights of ecosystems and natural communities – upon which all life depends – are given the highest societal value and protection in law.

Overview of submission:

We urge the organizers of Earth Summit/Rio +20:

- to call upon all States, regional bodies, organizations and individuals participating in Rio +20 to adopt the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth and to actively support its implementation through law; and
- to include Plenary and working sessions on how to facilitate sustainable development in harmony with Nature by recognizing, implementing and defending the rights of Nature/ Mother Earth.

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature (the "Alliance") is a worldwide movement working to create and strengthen human communities that respect and defend the Rights of Nature or Mother Earth (see).

Executive Committee and Advisory Committee Members of the Alliance include: Dr. Vandana Shiva (Navdanya), Cormac Cullinan (EnAct), Bill Twist (The Pachamama Alliance), Natalia Greene (Fundación Pachamama) Mari Margil (Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund), Dr. Peter Burdon, (University of Adelaide School of Law, Australian Wild Law Alliance), Christopher Stone, (University of Southern California School of Law), and Alberto Acosta Espinosa (Economist).

Rights of Nature - Restoring natural balance for a sustainable future

Sustainable development requires humans to live in harmony with Nature

The objectives of the Earth Summit/Rio+20 are to secure renewed political commitment to sustainable development; to assess progress towards internationally agreed goals on sustainable development and to address new and emerging challenges.

Human development can only be sustainable if the social demands and needs of humanity are balanced against the need to maintain the integrity, health and functioning of natural systems. Our legal systems define parameters of acceptable behaviors and actions, how we humans relate to each other and to the world around us. In most countries, legal systems treat nature as property to be bought, sold and consumed. Under such laws, human concerns invariably prevail over Nature and the carrying capacity of natural ecosystems instead of being weighed against the needs of ecosystems and other beings in order to strike an appropriate balance.

Contemporary approaches to governance have failed

The international community has been attempting to stop and reverse damaging changes to the environment for more than three decades, and particularly during the last two

decades since the 2002 "Earth Summit". During this period an unprecedented volume of environmental treaties and laws have been adopted and implemented at the international, national, provincial / state and municipal levels. These have been almost universally ineffective in preventing humans degrading the ecological systems on which they and other species depend on for wellbeing. Indeed many negative trends continue to accelerate.

A new approach is required to achieve ecologically sustainable societies

One of the reasons why contemporary legal and governance systems have failed is because they have not been designed to facilitate and legitimate the unsustainable exploitation of Nature. For example, defining Nature as property has entrenched exploitative relationships between humans and Nature. Until this changes improving the efficiency or effectiveness of these systems will not stop and reverse environmental degradation. In other words, it will not be possible to achieve ecologically sustainable societies and to restore the harm done to the planet, without fundamentally restructuring governance systems.

In order to insure an environmentally sustainable future, humans must reorient themselves from an exploitative and ultimately self-destructive relationship with nature, to one that honors the deep interrelationship of all life and contributes to the health and integrity of the natural environment. An essential step in achieving this natural balance is to create governance systems that see and treat Nature as a fundamental, rights bearing entity and not as mere property to be exploited at will. Breaking out of the human-centered limitations of our current legal systems by recognizing, respecting and enforcing Rights of Nature is one of the most transformative and highly leveraged actions that humanity can take to create a sustainable future for all.

Benefits of recognizing rights of Nature

Recognising, respecting and enforcing rights for Nature will enable the legal machinery of the State to be used to require humans to negotiate the terms of their relationships with Nature and to establish new norms. Instead of entirely rebuilding the governance systems of industrialized societies, these systems can be re-oriented to promote living in harmony with Nature by widening the range of legally protected rights. Historically most social movements that have brought about dramatic improvements in human society have been brought about in this way, including the emancipation of slaves and the recognition of rights of indigenous peoples, women and children.

Legal systems built on the premise of Rights of Nature change the status of natural communities and ecosystems from being regarded as property under the law to being recognized as rights-bearing entities. These laws recognize that natural communities and ecosystems possess an inalienable, fundamental right to exist and flourish.

Residents of communities where Rights of Nature have been adopted possess the legal authority to enforce those rights on behalf of those ecosystems. In addition, these laws require the governmental apparatus to remedy violations of those ecosystem rights.

Rights of Nature laws eliminate the authority of a property owner to interfere with the functioning of ecosystems and natural communities that exist and depend upon that property for their existence and flourishing. They do not stop development; rather they stop development and use of property that interferes with the existence and vitality of those ecosystems. Rights of Nature lays the foundation for truly sustainable development to occur.

The time is now for Nations of the world to reexamine the systems that are the underlying cause and reinforcement of unsustainable practices that are undermining our natural systems. Recognizing Rights of Nature offers a viable, framework for sustainable development on our planet.

The Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature formed in 2010 to build a worldwide movement to recognize and implement the Rights of Nature.

Our founding Organizations include:

Latin America

- Fundación Pachamama, Ecuador [www.pachamama.org.ec](http://www.pachamama.org.ec)
- Centro para el Desarrollo del Indígena Amazónico (CEDIA) [www.cedia.org.pe](http://www.cedia.org.pe)
- Shinai [www.shinai.org.pe](http://www.shinai.org.pe)
- Fundación Herencia [www.herencia.org.bo](http://www.herencia.org.bo)
- Comité Permanente de la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos [www.cdh.org.ec](http://www.cdh.org.ec)
- Frente de Defensa de la Amazonia [www.texacotoxico.org](http://www.texacotoxico.org)
- Comité de Solidaridad con Bolivia
- Ecolex, Corporación de Gestión y Derecho Ambiental [www.ecolex-ec.org](http://www.ecolex-ec.org)
- Fundación Ambiente y Sociedad [www.ambienteysociedad.org](http://www.ambienteysociedad.org)

North America

- Community Environmental Legal Defense Fund (CELDF) [www.celdf.org](http://www.celdf.org)
- Global Exchange [www.globalexchange.org](http://www.globalexchange.org)
- The Pachamama Alliance [www.pachamama.org](http://www.pachamama.org)
- Council of Canadians [www.canadians.org](http://www.canadians.org)

Australia

- Earth Laws [www.earthlaws.org](http://www.earthlaws.org)

Africa

- EnAct International [www.enact-international.com](http://www.enact-international.com)

Europe

- The Gaia Foundation [www.gaiafoundation.org](http://www.gaiafoundation.org)
- WildLaw UK [www.wildlawuk.org](http://www.wildlawuk.org)

Asia

- Navdanya International [www.Nandanya.org](http://www.Nandanya.org)

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## Global Campaign for Climate Action (GCCA)

NEW, CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Submitted: November 1, 2011

CONTACTS:

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Introduction:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the Zero Draft for the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD 2012), also known as Rio +20.

The organizations listed below represent a wide range of perspectives and interests, united in our strong support for sustainable energy access for all. At a time when climate change threatens the lives and livelihoods of ourselves and future generations, we believe there should be no trade-off between poverty alleviation and sustainable development; we must tackle both at the same time.

We therefore welcome the fact that Energy for Sustainable Development has been identified as a key issue by the Preparatory Committee for UNCSD 2012. We also welcome the designation by the UN of 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All. Within this context, it is our hope that UNCSD 2012 can adopt goals and targets, including time-tables for their implementation, that are visionary and inspirational, while at the same time effective, realistic and anchored in national commitments. Goals, targets and time-tables can be realistic only if they move the world away from business as usual, and put us on a track that is effective in tackling climate change.

Our proposal for the outcome document of UNCSD 2012 reflects in part our concern for the insufficient progress by parties to the UNFCCC to establish a fair, ambitious and binding international climate agreement that is sufficiently solid and strong to protect the climate. This is the key objective of the Climate Convention as defined in its Article 2: "stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. Such a level should be achieved within a time-frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner." We have already exceeded the atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases that is considered a limit beyond which we will experience "dangerous climate change" and the need for urgent action grows daily.

Our submission also reflects the progress made since the World Summit on Sustainable Development of 2002 on the development and deployment of clean and renewable energy technologies. In 2010, renewable energy accounted for \$211 billion in new investments an increase of 32% from the previous year.

We therefore propose that UNCSD 2012 builds on the renewable energy sector's success to give new impetus to the efforts to secure an international climate regime that can work with the environmental constraints and imperatives that have been identified by the Fourth Assessment of the IPCC.

The Rio+20 alternative

Whilst UNCSD 2012 is an opportunity to look back at the last twenty years since the Rio Earth Summit of 1992, it is most importantly an opportunity to choose the track that we want to take for the next twenty years. Based on economic, social and environmental indicators, the choice governments will face in Rio is summarized here.

In order to take the right track, the Green Economy must:

1. Empower workers and give them access to green jobs: targets and resources for capacity -building, green technologies, operational level implementation and training;
2. Accelerate transition to a 100% renewable energy and energy efficient economy through effective government policies, education, investments in research and development etc.
3. Promote equity and justice at the heart of the green economy, ensuring the right to development for developing countries while meeting green and poverty eradication objectives;
4. Protect and conserve natural capital and biodiversity, and equitably share the benefits from their exploration and sustainable exploitation;
5. Effectively address the need for changes in production-consumption patterns first and foremost within the countries member of the OECD, in line with the concept of common but differentiated responsibility enshrined in the Rio 92 agreements; and
6. Enhance the full participation and consent of communities affected by development projects, and the stewardship of natural resources and biodiversity by local communities.

Climate Change and energy

A Green economy based on fairness, social welfare, and environmental integrity needs to be powered by green energy – that is energy that provides the services needed without destroying the local, regional or global environment or negatively impacting people. 100% Green energy means zero carbon, zero deforestation, sufficient to satisfy needs, and empowering local communities.

Delivering truly sustainable energy requires a re-think of the way we produce, use and distribute energy. We need to produce energy using renewable sources, we need to use energy efficiently and we need to have efficient local distribution networks and smart grids. Many reports (for example IPCC, UNEP, UNDP) recognise this and various scenarios have been produced that show how these changes can be implemented.

Consistent across these scenarios, reports and case studies is the clear need for supportive government policies. In other words, the barriers to the uptake of green energy sources are mainly political not technological. In this context, we urge governments to seize UNCSD 2012 as the opportunity to create a political environment that eliminates the obstacles and barriers and to commit to clear targets and timetables to provide the framework that will encourage the uptake of clean energy systems (energy efficiency, renewable technologies and decentralised schemes). This must go together with the removal of policies that undermine and suppress them (such as perverse subsidies; legal frameworks that support large centralised dirty power; loans and aid that support fossil and/or nuclear fuels). Existing barriers include lack of appropriate policy or poor policy implementation; inadequate fiscal and subsidies policies, difficulty accessing finance; inappropriate grid integration and infrastructure; poor planning, and lock-in of existing technology.

A renewed political commitment is needed because voluntary measures alone do not deliver what is required. Governments must lead and set the framework to send the necessary signal to the markets. Renewable energy targets

As identified in the UN Secretary General's report on the promotion of new and renewable sources of energy there are a number of long-term energy scenarios that provide

projections for renewable energy in primary energy, final energy, electricity generation and electric generating capacity. Governments need to set the framework to achieve the most ambitious targets.

Therefore, as a first step towards UNCSD 2012, we call on the Bureau and Secretariat to include the following elements in the compilation document and ultimately the Zero Draft for discussion in the coming weeks, in order to facilitate discussions and decision on these key issues:

- Vision: UNCSD 2012 should agree a long-term vision that bases the green economy on 100% clean and renewable energy sources and on energy efficiency, to guide and inspire policy decision-makers, and trigger incentives.

- Effective commitment to clean energy: we need a commitment to short and medium term actions which will implement this vision. We recommend by 2020, globally:

- o 30% of energy use from renewables up from 16 % as outlined in REN21's 2011 Renewables Global Status Report;

- o 40% decrease in energy intensity, and

- o Universal access to modern energy services and ending energy poverty: clean, reliable and affordable energy services for cooking and heating, lighting, communications and productive uses.

These goals require national, sub-national, municipal, and/or corporate actions to achieve them and should be implemented immediately (within a 2 to 5 year time scale) putting countries onto an ambitious pathway. The International Renewable Energy Authority (IRENA) and relevant national renewable energy authorities and organisations could play an important role in working with governments to develop national action plans as well as sharing best practices and progress.

Some key actions are identified below:

- Removal of fossil fuel subsidies and perverse incentives including aid, loans or other subsidies that encourage the further development of fossil or nuclear fuels: accelerate the phase out of subsidies in line with the G20 commitment, redirecting revenues to those in needs and to support renewable energy and energy efficiency programmes.

- National renewable energy targets, stable Feed in Tariffs or other incentive policies, local RE plans, corporate energy efficiency and GHG reduction goals, etc

- Establish an international financial transaction tax (FTT): which could raise as much as \$400 billion annually that would make a real impact on combating climate change and eliminating poverty.

#### Conclusions

A renewed political commitment is needed. Voluntary measures have not delivered what is needed, nor will they be able to do so at the rate required. Governments must lead and set the framework to provide the necessary signal because what is at stake is too important to leave to laissez-faire.

A key lesson of the last 20 years is that delays cause more pain whether that is economic, environmental or social. However, first we need to acknowledge where we have failed and why; then we need to agree that the situation is urgent and that change needs to happen rapidly. Then, governments must commit to the policies and measures needed to change direction with targets and timetables that translate into real actions and behavioural changes that start from day 1 after Rio.

We are committed to contribute to putting these measures, targets and actions into practice and offer cooperation and engagement as change will need multi-stakeholder approaches and partnering

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## Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI)

### GeSI response to public consultation on Rio+20

The Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI), representing over 30 of the world's leading vendors and service providers of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector, welcomes the opportunity to provide input to the public consultation on Rio+20. Our response addresses two areas: cooperation mechanisms and implementation tools that encourage transformative ICT solutions, and the expected outcomes of Rio+20.

#### 1. Cooperation mechanisms and implementation tools that encourage transformative ICT solutions

It is imperative that two decades on from the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro the discussions on sustainable development take into account today's societal and technology contexts. GeSI is calling on all Rio+20 stakeholders to fully recognise and take advantage of the role of transformative ICT solutions in fostering sustainable development and addressing 21st century challenges like climate change. Companies should no longer only be seen as a source of environmental problems, but certain sectors, such as ICT, should also be viewed as solution providers and "positive" contributors to the sustainability debate.

In particular, GeSI appeals to Rio+20 stakeholders to:

- Ensure that Rio+20 recommendations and structures created do not ignore, or undermine, emerging ICT solutions.
- Take advantage of existing and widely deployed ICT infrastructure. Most countries have national ICT and broadband plans, yet the utilisation of this infrastructure to deploy services and solutions that benefit sustainable development is largely untapped.
- Create an enabling policy framework that supports the deployment of ICT to deliver solutions, for example, in the areas of e-health, smart grids, transport and mobility, food and agriculture.

#### 2. Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 GeSI's expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 relate to a number of areas. Specifically, we call on stakeholders to:

- Focus on delivering the services that society needs, and not necessarily the traditional ways of providing them.
- Recognise the importance of including transformative ICT solutions in Rio+20 outcome documents and processes.
- Set targets for sustainability contributions of transformative ICT solutions.
- Encourage a policy framework that includes transformative ICT solutions.
- Encourage engagement of the private sector, in particular to foster innovation and dematerialisation perspectives through modern technological advances.

## Transformative ICT Solutions

The landmark report "SMART 2020: Enabling the Low-Carbon Economy in the Information Age" gave a clear picture of the key role that the ICT industry plays in addressing climate change globally and facilitating efficient and low-carbon development. While ICT's own sector emissions will nearly double by 2020, the strategic application and diffusion of ICT solutions in other business sectors can reduce total global emissions by as much as 15 per cent. These savings are five times larger than the total expected emissions from the entire ICT industry and with more focus on transformative solutions this contribution could be significantly larger.

Examples of sectors where transformative solutions can help reduce emissions by 80 per cent or more include:

- Smart transportation: Radio tags can be attached to items in a cargo and their journey tracked from manufacturer to warehouse and to shop. This makes it easier to move goods and stock more efficiently. Using ICT could help cut emissions from distribution and transportation by 1.52 billion tonnes. ICT can also facilitate decentralised and on-demand production that reduces the need for transport and storage to almost zero. In a similar way ICT can make commuting much more efficient while teleworking is even better and can support a much more resource efficient way of working.
- Smart grids: Connected electricity supply grids can be controlled so that energy is sent to industries and homes in the most efficient way, accelerating the uptake of renewable energy. By 2020, this could reduce carbon emissions by two billion tonnes. Smart grids can also support decentralised renewable energy distribution and the accelerated uptake of electric cars.
- Smart buildings: By using ICT in buildings for managing light and heat systems, resources consumption can be adapted to match demand in real time. Smart buildings could save 1.7 billion tonnes of emissions. ICT can also help a shift in approach where connected buildings in cities become net producers of renewable energy.
- Smart motor systems: In factories, the motors used to power machines such as pumps or conveyor belts can be made "intelligent" through the use of ICTs. With ICTs, emissions from motor systems could be reduced by 0.97 billion tonnes of carbon emissions, worth EUR €68 billion.
- Dematerialisation: Further savings can be achieved from the potential of ICTs to enable dematerialisation- replacing high-carbon physical products and services with virtual alternatives. For example, e-commerce leads to dramatic reductions of physical transport and could avoid more than a billion tonnes of carbon emissions. Virtual meetings and remote working will also significantly reduce carbon emissions caused by travel, saving half a billion ton of carbon emissions without any major investments.

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## Global Ecovillage Network (GEN); US Citizens Network for Sustainable Development; and the Association of World Citizens

### FULFILLING PRIOR AGREEMENTS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Rob Wheeler

Global Ecovillage Network

Investing in Sustainable Rural Development

While there has been a much needed focus on sustainable urban development in the Rio+20 and the 10YFPs Sustainable Consumption and Production processes, it is unconscionable that there has been so little attention paid to such community based development in rural communities and villages. This is especially troublesome when one considers that 70% of those facing extreme poverty live in rural areas. These people often face multiple problems that span across sectors, including such emerging issues and challenges as hunger, climate change, resource scarcity, natural disasters, and poverty. There is thus an urgent need to improve access in rural communities to energy, water, sanitation, healthcare, educational opportunities, agricultural markets, and transport, etc. and to do so in a sustainable manner.

Tens of millions of villagers are leaving rural areas every year to seek opportunities in cities that are not adequately prepared to provide for them, many because the conditions they faced in the rural area were becoming untenable. However, it has been repeatedly shown that an integrated multi-sectoral community based approach to sustainable rural development, such as has been developed in many ecovillage communities, can provide an effective way to overcome poverty, provide much needed access to goods and services, and re-establish sustainable practices and lifestyles.

It would make far more sense to provide opportunities and improve conditions in rural areas, while simultaneously addressing development needs in impoverished urban communities, than to have to provide such services for even more people in urban communities where the resources are already stretched so thin.

It is thus essential that more significant resources are invested in rural communities to support capacity development and an integrated, multi-sectoral community based approach to sustainable rural development. These resources could then fund and provide access to such things as renewable energy, green building and sustainable agricultural practices, access to clean water and sanitation, and good livelihood opportunities, etc.

As Article 37 in the Secretary-General's Gap Report states, "new evidence has emerged to suggest that climate change is a more imminent danger, and also that a number of other environmental trends have worsened far more rapidly than anticipated and that some "planetary boundaries" might even have been exceeded. Challenges have been exacerbated in developing countries by poverty, competition for scarce resources, the rapid pace of rural/urban migration, and the concomitant challenges to provide food, infrastructure and access to basic health, water and energy services."

Fortunately, all of these challenges can be addressed in a systematic manner using an integrated, multi-sectoral community based (or ecovillage) approach to sustainable rural and impoverished urban development.

The report goes on to state that, "While financial and other commitments of international support have been made, they have neither achieved greater coherence nor always been fully realized in practice. While the participation of Major Groups has become the norm, there is limited success in scaling up or replicating promising multistakeholder initiatives."

"In summary, one of the biggest challenges ahead for green economy initiatives will be to move from small-scale demonstration projects to policies and programmes with broad benefits at national and international levels."

We thus recommend that the international community support the development of a global network of regionally based resource and service centers coupled with training programs around the world in order to assist and support local communities in developing and implementing an integrated multi-sectoral, community based approach to sustainable rural and impoverished urban development in the regions and areas where they are most needed.

The Global Ecovillage Network and EcoEarth Alliance UN Partnership Initiative are well situated and have the experience needed to set up and help develop such a global

network of resource and service centers and training programs. Indeed we are already working with UNITAR on facilitating some of its training programs. We have established quite a number of Ecovillage Learning and Living Centers around the planet (<http://gen.ecovillage.org/education/livinglearningcenters.html>). And we have developed an Ecovillage Design Curriculum and on-line and on-site Training Programs which have been created by the Global Ecovillage Educators for a Sustainable Earth. See: [www.gaiaeducation.org](http://www.gaiaeducation.org)

Ecovillages provide one of the best examples for how we can live sustainably and adopt sustainable production and consumption practices as there is on Earth.

In rural communities interlinkages are perhaps more apparent and important than elsewhere; and yet approaches to development often if not usually address just one sector at a time. However this is not the case in ecovillage communities. We now know that agriculture is directly dependent upon and linked with our energy choices, energy choices are then linked with the built environment and green building practices. These then are linked closely with waste management and access to clean water, along with ecosystem services and restoration. And all of the above are then linked with education for sustainable development, recreational and cultural activities, small scale entrepreneurship, and access to financial services such as micro-credit. And if it is not yet apparent all of the above are directly dependent upon and can contribute to Sustainable Consumption and Production and creating a Green Economy.

In an ecovillage community all of these components are intentionally designed to support one another and to be built and operate in as sustainable a manner as possible. These communities usually include renewable sources of energy, which they often produce themselves, green building practices utilizing natural and locally based materials, biological waste systems, water catchments and harvesting, organic or sustainable agricultural practices, shared resources and facilities, cooperative recreational and cultural activities, and they often include efforts to restore and sustain the natural environment, etc.

The "involvement of all stakeholders" that the UN so often encourages has to include those living in rural communities and support is seriously and urgently needed for "means of implementation, technology transfer, and capacity building" for those living in these rural areas and communities as well.

Sustainable Rural Development must thus be included as one of the primary Programme Areas in the 10 Year Framework of Programmes; and support for it in a cross sectoral integrated manner must be included as one of the primary outcomes of the Rio+20 conference and process.

#### Addressing Existing and Emerging Challenges in a Sufficient Manner

Similarly, many UN studies and reports indicate that significant increases in providing resources and capacity development would provide major benefits in addressing emerging issues and global challenges that are particularly acute in both rural communities and impoverished urban areas. For example, UNEP has found that, "More than one and a half billion people have gained access to clean drinking water since 1990 – but due to stress on fresh water resources nearly three billion people now live in regions facing water scarcity. And more than one third of the growing urban population in the developing world now live in slums."

In addition, almost half of the developing world population still lack improved sanitation facilities; and in rural communities women often have to wait until night to go to the fields to take care of their personal needs. In the water and sanitation sector the greatest challenge over the next two decades will probably be the implementation of low cost sewage treatment that will at the same time permit selective reuse of treated effluents for agricultural and industrial purposes.

Indeed we know that in some cases close to 90 per cent of the GDP of the poor is linked to nature or natural capital such as forests and freshwaters. Thus it is appropriate that the Green Economy Report cites India, where over 80 per cent of the \$8 billion National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, which underwrites at least 100 days of paid work for rural households, is invested in water conservation, irrigation and land development. It is this type of a program that can help rural people meet their basic human needs. Thus, some type of a global program like this needs to be included as an outcome of the Rio +20 process in order to address urgent development needs.

UNEP's Green Economy Report also indicates that re-directing just a tenth of a percent of global GDP per year can assist in not only addressing the sanitation challenge but conserve freshwater by reducing water demand by a fifth by 2050 compared to projected trends.

Similarly, investing about one and a quarter percent of global GDP each year in energy efficiency and renewable energies could cut global primary energy demand by nine percent in 2020 and close to 40 percent by 2050. Providing access to renewable energy in rural areas particularly makes a lot of sense as they are typically distributive in nature.

Indeed UNEP found that the "Savings on capital and fuel costs in power generation would under a Green Economy scenario, be on average \$760 billion a year between 2010 and 2050."

A Green Economy would invest \$100 billion, up to \$300 billion a year until 2050, in agriculture in order to feed nine billion people, while promoting better soil fertility management and sustainable water use to improve biological plant management. And scenarios indicate that this would result in an increase in global yields for major crops by 10 per cent over current investment strategies.

It is thus essential that Time Bound Targets be established to meet such sustainable development goals as this and that sufficient funding, on the scale indicated, be put in place in order to achieve these targets and goals.

#### Providing Funding and Resources for Capacity Building and Implementation

UNEP's Green Economy Initiative also indicates that "in regards to food security, we are seeing neither widespread understanding of the nature of the problem, nor globally collaborative solutions for how we shall feed a population of 9 billion by 2050. Freshwater scarcity is already a global problem, and forecasts suggest a growing gap<sup>2</sup> by 2030 between annual freshwater demand and renewable supply. The outlook for improved sanitation still looks bleak for over 2.6 billion people; 884 million people still lack access to clean drinking water."

"Although the causes of these crises vary, at a fundamental level they all share a common feature: the gross misallocation of capital. During the last two decades, much capital was poured into property, fossil fuels and structured financial assets with embedded derivatives, but relatively little in comparison was invested in renewable energy, energy efficiency, public transportation, sustainable agriculture, ecosystem and biodiversity protection, and land and water conservation."

"Indeed, most economic development and growth strategies encouraged rapid accumulation of physical, financial and human capital, but at the expense of excessive depletion and degradation of natural capital, which includes our endowment of natural resources and ecosystems. By depleting the world's stock of natural wealth – often irreversibly – this pattern of development and growth has had detrimental impacts on the well-being of current generations and presents tremendous risks and challenges for future generations."

Again it is essential that the UN and its Member States take sufficient action to deal fully with these challenges that have been well known for at least the last twenty years.

The WHO/UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation also states in its Progress Report on Sanitation and Drinking Water: 2010 Update that, "The development path should maintain, enhance and, where necessary, rebuild natural capital as a critical economic asset and as a source of public benefits, especially for poor people whose livelihoods and security depend on nature."

"It is a myth that a green economy is a luxury that only wealthy countries can afford, or worse, a developed-world imposition to restrain development and perpetuate poverty in developing countries. Contrary to this perception, we find there are a plethora of examples of greening transitions taking place in various sectors in the developing world, which deserve to be emulated and replicated elsewhere."

Again, it is essential that the UN put in place much more resources and specific means and mechanisms for capacity development, investment for implementation and development at the community level, and training and resource programs. So many times the UN supports the development of model programs and best practices, but usually there is not much funding for scaling up these best practices and success stories and for replication.

It is thus time to put in place the means and mechanisms needed to support capacity development and reward people economically for their contributions and services. UNDP established a number of Thematic Trust Funds that included funding for capacity building but none of them were sufficiently funded; and it did not seem like they supported many civil society initiatives. New means must be established across all sectors to provide opportunities for civil society to be compensated for contributing to implementation.

One program that we believe has been quite successful is the GEF Small Grants Program. The Global Ecovillage Network - Senegal received \$650,000 from the Small Grants Program for 13 villages (\$50,000 per village) to implement and carry out a series of activities in an integrated, multi-sectoral community based approach to development after the Johannesburg World Summit for Sustainable Development. This has resulted during the past ten years in Senegal creating the first National Ecovillage Agency and the intention to carry out the ecovillage development model in all of the villages throughout the country.

#### INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

It has been recognized at the United Nations that insufficient progress has been made in integrating sustainable development into policymaking and implementation at all levels. It is thus most important that the UNCSD conference secretariat, Bureau, and UN Member States focus significantly on what would be required to fulfill and fully achieve the agreements and commitments that have already been made; and that this include a focus on how sustainable development could become the basis for policymaking and implementation at all levels of governance.

This should start with global support for fully implementing the Local and National Strategies for Sustainability; and a goal needs to be set to ensure that all of these Strategies are based on achieving the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and all of the other sustainable development agreements.

In particular we want to draw attention to Chapter 28 of Agenda 21 and its commitment to provide international financial support to local agenda 21 processes around the world, which has never been forthcoming and still needs to be provided, along with the failure of the UN community to follow Capacity 21 with the planned Capacity 2015 program - which should have continued to support UN Member States in implementing their national sustainability strategies as required and needed.

International programs and processes also need to be established as a primary outcome of the Rio+20 process to provide financial assistance and support all countries and communities in fully developing and implementing their local and national sustainability strategies; action plans on sustainable consumption and production; participation in the UN Decade on Sustainable Development; and all other international sustainable development agreements in an integrated fashion.

All of these programs and activities must also be based on the need to make a complete transition to full sustainability as rapidly as possible, along with achieving all of the MEAs and sustainable development agreements.

We also call on the UN to complete an agreement and enabling resolution on the Global 10 Year Framework of Programmes (10 YFPs) on Sustainable Consumption and Production as soon as possible; to include civil society initiatives as primary programs within the initial 10YFPs; to include a primary focus on Sustainable Rural Development in the 10YFPs; and to develop a supportive global program and review process to ensure that all countries develop and implement local and national action plans for SCP.

The Rio+20 process should also focus specifically on each of the earlier agreements that have been made and particularly on what would be needed to fully achieve each of them. Indeed a first step should be to agree that sufficient means, mechanisms, and funding must be put in place to fulfill and achieve each of them; and a process needs to be developed through the Rio+20 preparatory process to ensure that this is done.

Most importantly, a synthesis of the accumulated knowledge on sustainable development over the past two decades, in the form of a dynamic stocktaking exercise, could be undertaken with the objective of providing a sound basis for thinking ahead on how to address 21st century sustainable development challenges.

The UN Secretariat and agencies should thus be tasked to do a full scale analysis, article by article, of the extent to which each of the commitments made in Rio and Johannesburg has or has not been implemented or met, along with a full on evaluation as to what would be needed to fully achieve and fulfill each and every one of these commitments. This should then be coupled with an analysis of the failure of the governments to come up with the required funding mechanisms, along with a full on discussion as to what could be done to rectify this so that adequate funding and funding mechanisms are finally put in place that are sufficient to fully achieve all of the commitments that have been made. All stakeholders should be invited to contribute to this analysis in a proactive manner.

The Secretary-General's Gap Report includes a number of important findings, including that, "There are several critical gaps with regard to the fulfillment of national and international commitments, although a number of achievements have been made. While countries have expanded their menu of policy options, this has not led towards greater policy coherence. While integrated planning or policies and national sustainable development strategies have become acceptable, their impact remains limited because of ad hoc and inconsistent application."

"While important institutions have been established to promote or monitor the integrated pursuit of sustainable development, many have not received adequate support, some have languished, and most have not been able to synergize well with complementary processes or institutions."

"UNCSD will provide an opportunity to seek ways to strengthen knowledge creation and sharing with all major groups with a view to ensuring wise sustainable development decision-making and governance at the local, national, regional and global levels. " This is an opportunity that the United Nations, the Bureau, DESA, and the Governments must take advantage of; but if focused, proactive efforts are not made it will probably be missed.

"As of 2009, 106 countries have reported that they are currently implementing national sustainable development strategy (NSDS), but these are rarely viewed as the principal vehicles for policy coordination. In practice, a number of coordinating and planning mechanisms have been used in developing countries, often in parallel, and with similar or overlapping tasks, including conventional development planning, PRSP, UNDAF, DWCF, NCS, NEAP, and others. The resulting proliferation undermines their very purpose by weakening and fragmenting the efforts to introduce coherence."

It is thus essential that a support mechanism and process be developed (such as the Capacity 2015 program that was never implemented) to ensure that all countries and most communities have the resources and support needed to develop and carry out their strategy plans. And in addition, all local strategies should be linked with national strategies which should be linked as well with the SCP Action Plans, and with programs on Education for Sustainable Development at the local, national, regional, and global levels. There needs to be synergy, coherency, and collaboration throughout.

In addition, the Rio+20 Outcome Document should call for the adoption of a Commons Based Approach to Sustainable Development to ensure the equitable sharing and

benefits from the use of the Local to Global Commons.

Finally, if the UN and world community wish to create a Green Economy then we should put forward and focus on the requirements that are needed in order to achieve such a green and fully sustainable economy. Then the UN needs to set and agree on such goals. This should be required in order to fulfill and live by the Rio Principles. This would also require that we focus on achieving such prerequisites as:

Zero Waste Transitioning rapidly to 100% renewable energy Extended Producer Responsibility coupled with cradle to cradle production and consumption practices and including all externalities in all SCP processes Living within the Carrying Capacity of the Earth Getting the incentives right by shifting taxes onto Land and Natural Resources Phasing out the use of all toxic chemicals Restoring the Natural Environment Etcetra

In addition, a global protocol, convention, implementation process and secretariat needs to be created to assist all countries in fulfilling the commitment to phase out all harmful and unsustainable subsidies as soon as is possible.

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## Global Footprint Network

Realising a green economy, especially in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, will not be possible if humanity continues to consume more biological resources than the Earth can provide each year. Sustainable development can only occur when all humans can have fulfilling lives without degrading the planet. But nations cannot plan for what they do not measure. Living well within the means of one planet will require better indicators of progress than a fixation on Gross Domestic Product.

Therefore, the outcomes of Rio+20 should include:

- A commitment by all countries and international institutions to annually track and report national and global levels of natural resources and their consumption rates, both total and per capita, as part of standard economic and social welfare statistics
- Similar agreement to prioritise national and international policies that most contribute to achieving annual natural resource consumption rates smaller than those resources' annual regeneration rates

The concepts of Ecological Footprint and biocapacity present one way to monitor these trends. They are a transparent and rigorous standard for natural resource accounting, supported by continual improvements to their scientific methodology, and reviewed on an ongoing basis by an independent committee of scientific researchers and practitioners from throughout the world. Additional independent reviews of the Ecological Footprint and biocapacity methodology have been conducted by numerous governments, universities, and research institutes. Much progress has also been made to harmonize them with the United Nations System of Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA).

The United Nations Development Programme, and several countries, are already beginning to implement the above recommendations, using Ecological Footprint and biocapacity as part of their set of indicators. It is in the self-interest of the rest of the world's governments to follow their lead, in pursuit of a green economy.

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## Global Issues Division of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP)

Introduction A Sustainable Development Council

In the Run-up to Rio 2012: Options for Reforming the UN Sustainability Institutions SWP Comments

Marianne Beisheim, Birgit Lode, Nils Simon

At the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), the UN institutions that deal with sustainable development are to be restructured. This offers an opportunity to implement long overdue reforms. The planned restructuring should follow the objective to improve the visibility and priority of sustainability themes in the UN system. An important building block in these reforms might be the founding of a Sustainable Development Council (SDC) to replace the politically weak UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). The UN General Assembly could pass a resolution establishing such a council as its subsidiary organ.

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development is scheduled to take place in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012. The objective of the summit is to create the political framework for rapid transformation of the global economy into a green economy." This will require, first of all, the right economic incentives, and second, a reform of the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD). The United Nations system in its current form is incapable of providing adequate support for the restructuring measures needed to foster the development of a green economy. But how would the institutional architecture in the area of sustainability have to change in order for such a sweeping transformation to succeed? To date, the discussion has focused on transforming the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) into a fully fledged United Nations Environment Organization (UNEO or WEO). Besides the EU, an increasing numbers of countries are working toward strengthening the environmental pillar of the UN system. In addition, the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) needs to be reformed

The Commission on Sustainable Development—A Toothless Tiger

The CSD was founded in 1992 following the conclusion of the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio. It is charged with monitoring progress in the

implementation of its outcomes, including Agenda 21 and the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. Furthermore, it is responsible for providing political guidance to follow-up the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, adopted in 2002. Currently, it is not fulfilling either of these functions convincingly. As one of nine functional commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the CSD is not in the position to effectively perform its assigned role as a monitoring mechanism, much less to take on political leadership. Its strategy of working with seven two-year cycles, with each cycle focusing on selected thematic clusters, has indeed contributed to the desired topical focus. Yet at the same time, this has hindered the capacity of the CSD to respond flexibly to current developments.

Like the fifteenth session of the CSD in the year 2007, the nineteenth session in May 2011 ended without producing tangible results—the best evidence of how urgently a reform of the Commission is needed. The delegates did reach broad agreement on the content of a Ten-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP). They also achieved consensus in other areas of sustainable development that had been under discussion for some (transport, chemicals, waste management, and mining). Nevertheless, they failed to adopt a final version of the text due to disagreements over technological cooperation and the language on the rights of people living under foreign occupation. CSD-19 thus marked the lowest point to date in the history of an institution that was founded with high expectations. Reform of the CSD is absolutely essential for it to be able to fulfill its original mandate and support the global transformation towards a green economy.

#### Reform Goals

A reformed institutional framework for sustainable development should fulfill two key functions. To strengthen the UN institutions' ability to successfully implement effective sustainability policies, it should, first of all, provide high-level proactive leadership and political guidance. The United Nations can only accomplish what its Member States empower it to do. To this end, meetings should be attended by policy makers who have the authority not just to reach minimal consensus but also to negotiate ambitious and, wherever possible, binding targets that include timetables for implementation. Second, it is indisputable that, finally, decisions need to be implemented more consistently. This calls for effective mechanisms of monitoring and compliance management. To achieve both of these goals, there are several conceivable options for strengthening sustainability governance. Current discussions revolve around how the CSD, whose work to date has been inefficient, can be strengthened, enhanced, or indeed replaced. Overall, the reform proposals aim at making sustainability policy a higher priority within the UN system. In the past, there was a tendency to keep adding more new institutions instead of carrying out effective reforms of the existing institutions. The UN has succeeded in acting in a more coordinated way in the public time sphere—for example, with UN Water or with the Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB). However, these institutions have contributed little to providing political leadership or improving implementation. The existing strategy has been inadequate to meet present challenges in the area of sustainability policy.

#### A Council for Sustainable Development

A key building block for stronger UN sustainability institutions might be created by transforming the CSD into a Sustainable Development Council (SDC). This option is now even being discussed at official level in the preparations for Rio 2012.

So far, the CSD has been a subsidiary organ under ECOSOC auspices, reporting to it, and therefore suffering from the latter's weakness. The Economic and Social Council may make recommendations and draft agreements but cannot make binding decisions. ECOSOC, for its part, reports to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which exercises the actual political control. The new SDC is to be given a stronger mandate and positioned at a substantially higher level within the UN system. A number of options for this were discussed in July 2011, when high-ranking representatives of Member States, UN institutions, and civil society organizations met for talks in the Indonesian city of Solo.

The first option was that an SDC could be set up on the model of the UN Human Rights Council (HRC) as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly. This could be accomplished through a resolution of the UNGA, and would therefore not necessitate a revision of the UN Charter. The SDC could make recommendations directly to the General Assembly, which would then subsequently have to approve these. The implementation of UNGA resolutions would thereafter rest in the hands of the SDC. A council established in this way should meet at the same time as ECOSOC, thus each year alternately in New York and Geneva. This would improve the opportunities for coordination within the United Nations. A group of pioneer states", which still remains to be launched (e.g. a "UN Sustainability Group"), could use such a framework to act as a catalyst for this process. This solution would guarantee high visibility for sustainability policy. At the same time, the new Council would be in a more prominent position to exercise political leadership.

A second option might be to realign the the High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council. While it is already dealing with important economic, social, and environmental matters, it still lacks a specific focus on issues of sustainability, or rather an explicit nexus between the three pillars of sustainable development. This alternative would not require a revision of the Charter. Arguably, there would be the risk that the problems of ECOSOC, which is itself in need of reform—due among other things to its cumbersome decision-making processes and lack of effective political power—would have a negative impact on the SDC. In principle, however, it is conceivable that efforts to address sustainability issues could be enhanced by these kinds of high-level meetings, whether they involve the participating ministers in ECOSOC or the heads of state and government attending UNGA. This could provide the framework to generate the necessary political will and leadership in order to promote the outcome reached at the Rio 2012 conference.

A third option would be to fundamentally reform the Economic and Social Council itself. It could be renamed and its focus redefined by expanding its authority to cover environmental issues. It could thus replace the CSD. A reform of ECOSOC would be highly desirable in principle and has been attempted numerous times in the past. In order to change the ECOSOC mandate, however, one would need a two-thirds majority in UNGA and the ratification by two-thirds of all UN Member States, including the five permanent members of the Security Council. Most notably the minimum number of successfully concluded ratification processes would make this option a tedious and protracted procedure. But even without amending the Charter, ECOSOC in the final outcome document in Rio could be called upon to mainstream sustainability issues into all of its fields of activity.

Fourth, the currently inactive UN Trusteeship Council, being a principal organ of United Nations and thus established on the same level as the General Assembly and ECOSOC, could be transformed. Compared to the other reform proposals, this option would provide the highest-ranking formal framework for sustainable development within the UN system. But this, too, would require a change in the UN Charter. This makes the first option—the Council for Sustainable Development as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly—the most promising reform option for Rio 2012.

#### Membership and Voting Rights

Up to now, the adoption of recommendations is in the hands of the 53 Member States of the CSD. Each member has one vote; a simple majority shall suffice. When the new SDC is being established, the seats are to be allocated—just as they are in the CSD or HRC—to create a governing body with a geographically balanced quota. Again, each member would have one vote. As a rule, the members of the SDC would be expected to seek unanimous recommendations to lend more weight to their decisions. Only when no consensus appears attainable are majority decisions to be made.

Another option would be to introduce innovative procedural rules to prevent impasses and to avoid biased decisions. Linking decisions that entail financial costs to a double weighted majority, as is done in the Global Environment Facility (GEF), would be conceivable. This would require, in addition to a 60 percent majority of all Member State votes, a 60 percent majority of the total contributions.

One could also consider models in which the voting rights are allocated to stakeholders that are particularly affected by decisions. Here, the nine Major Groups of the CSD

could be granted voting rights. This could be accomplished by means of a “third chamber within the SDC (see below). In certain cases, recommendations could be adopted with a double or—when there are relevant financial consequences— triple majority. This would significantly increase the legitimacy of decisions and more effectively integrate civil society organizations being crucial for implementation and oversight.

#### Improving Coordination

In the past, the UN has taken important steps to better coordinate the work of its numerous organizations, programmes, and commissions. The Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) is a body of 28 UN institutions—primarily UN specialized agencies—that was established to ensure, on the highest level, a coherent and efficient world organization. Apart from this, there are other groupings including various institutions, such as the United Nations Development Group (UNDG), chaired by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the UNEP-led Environment Management Group (EMG). All three bodies have the stated aim of coordinating the set of issues pertaining to sustainable development. Additionally, there are thematically organized coordination groups such as UN Water, UN Energy, and UN Oceans.

Within the new Sustainable Development Council, a bicameral system could help to further integrate the thematically relevant bodies. The first chamber (State Chamber) would consist of UN Member States, and the second of UN organizations and programmes (Organization Chamber). In the first chamber, the Member States of the SDC would engage in dialog and discuss joint positions and draft recommendations for resolutions which, in the future, may be adopted by the UNGA. The second chamber would have no voting rights, but would work in parallel to provide internal coordination within the UN. It could work with various committees to facilitate voting processes that are as targeted and thematically focused as possible. The UN Development Group and the Environment Management Group could be integrated into these committees. This would benefit not only the coordination of the numerous multilateral environmental treaties and environmentally relevant UN institutions; it would also produce an added value by creating a joint segment linking the two chambers, thereby fostering exchange between the international community and the UN system and thus enable more precisely tailored political governance. Moreover, a high-level Interagency Sustainable Development Committee” could play a coordinating role both in preparing for sessions of the SDC and, subsequently, in ensuring that recommendations are implemented swiftly. Furthermore, it should be considered whether a third chamber representing civil society organizations (Civil Society Chamber) would be a meaningful addition.

#### Enhancing Participation

One positively evaluated area of the CSD’s activity is its cooperation with civil society. The new SDC should build on these elements and allow for the comprehensive participation of external stakeholders. The CSD understands the term civil society” in a broad sense being the set of persons, institutions, and organizations that pursue a common goal—namely, to drive forward an objective in the area of sustainable development through their ideas, campaigns, and demands. Potential actors may be individuals, religious groups, academic institutions or NGOs. The total number of civil society organizations involved in the CSD’s processes is an impressive 2,096. In terms of quality, too, the Commission at present has important mechanisms in place to engage civil society. For example, the nine Major Groups of the CSD have the opportunity to participate in the sessions of the Commission upon registration prior to the opening of the meeting. They receive access to the essential documents beforehand; and at the actual meetings, they have certain options to present their views. They are so closely involved that they are even allowed to participate in talks at the ministerial level. These mechanisms should be further developed, since after all, stakeholders are the driving force behind issues of sustainable development. They are able to mobilize a wider public when it comes to adopting and implementing international agreements.

Involvement of civil society could be strengthened, inter alia, by creating binding provisions for early participation in all relevant processes. The rules for participation should be adapted so that representatives of civil society in general are permitted to attend meetings unless no more than one-third of the Member States vote against this. All of the CSD’s nine Major Groups should be involved in the consultation processes, with all three pillars of sustainable development being equally represented—that is, taking into account environmental, social, and economic groupings. The question as to who is to represent which interest would be coordinated by the groups themselves, for instance, through forums such as the longstanding Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO), or newer ones such as the mainly Internet-based Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future. Assistance would have to be provided to groups from the global South to enable them to participate in the meetings.

In the new SDC, the consultation processes would need to be improved in order for them to be considered relevant and effective by the Major Groups. A particularly far-reaching model aims (in line with the International Labour Organization) at equal voting rights for civil society. This demand would have little prospect of success. The Major Groups could nevertheless be given the opportunity, for instance, through an additional third chamber of the SDC, to submit proposals on the wording of recommendations and to comment directly on the existing drafts. The basis for such participation so closely linked to the negotiation process would be better access rights to relevant information. Following the model of the Aarhus Convention, access to review procedures could ensue, which then apply if access to information has wrongfully been refused. Following a meeting in Bonn at the beginning of September 2011, organized by the UN Department of Public Information (DPI) in cooperation with NGOs, the civil society side demanded the appointment of a high-level Ombudsperson for Future Generations. This person would advocate for sustainable development in general, as well as investigating complaints received from civil society.

In addition to the formal involvement of a necessarily limited number of civil society representatives, the SDC should create informal forums so as to be able to regularly put its work up for discussion before a wider public.

**Improving Partnership Management** After the Johannesburg Conference in 2002, partnerships with industry and civil society should assist the United Nations in implementing the hitherto agreed objectives concerning sustainable development more quickly. Within the framework of such partnerships, knowledge of sustainable production processes could be disseminated, voluntary standards and certification tools developed, or independent projects financed and implemented. Similarly, for Rio 2012 plans are already in place to establish new green economy partnerships. It is not a case of reinventing the wheel— what is crucial is to learn from past experiences.

There are currently 348 partnerships of this type registered with the CSD. Politically, they have been controversial from the outset. While some expected them to generate an innovative and effective impetus, others feared a profit-oriented privatization of public services or the greenwashing of private sector business activities. What has been missing so far is a sobering appraisal of the results achieved by these initiatives. The CSD only registers the partnerships without being in any way involved in or evaluating their activities. Critical observers estimate that over half of the partnerships are dysfunctional.

The Rio Conference offers an opportunity for improvement here. In order to make partnerships an effective instrument, the new SDC should manage and monitor them from the very beginning. It would be useful to have clearly defined and transparent (sustainability) criteria for selecting the initiatives that the UN would like to (continue to) support. The partnerships would then be evaluated according to these criteria. The SDC should ask the initiatives to submit a report of activities based on these criteria at least biannually, referring to existing evaluation reports where applicable. The activity reports would then be published on the SDC’s website equipped with a comment function. Civil society would thus be able to exercise its monitoring role in a highly visible manner.

An evaluation system of this type would make it possible to identify which partnerships are actually effective and which are unproductive. Negatively evaluated initiatives would first be contacted and then excluded if they do not respond appropriately. The insights gained from the evaluation could then also feed into future initiatives. This would have the desired effect of scaling up successful models.

#### Further Developing Peer Reviews



In order to enable the objectives and agreements on sustainable development to be implemented more reliably in the future, innovative accountability tools are required. On the one hand, these must be effective and, on the other hand, accepted by states that have remained skeptical to date. A voluntary peer review mechanism could drive forward implementation of sustainability policies.

Peer reviews are based on constructive learning processes that make it possible to both provide quality assurance and raise awareness. They are conducted by external expert peer reviewers, who are just as familiar with the matter as those whose work is being evaluated. Ideally, peer reviews should have a mediating role. They should be kept less formal and take into consideration the diversity of the problems arising upon their implementation. Peer reviews can and are intended not to force implementation but at best advance it. Final, legally binding assessments or sanctions imposed at a higher level are not an integral part of the procedure.

Peer reviews are still a relatively new instrument in politics. A distinction should be drawn between expert and stakeholder reviews. The former are periodically conducted by representatives of political and administrative bodies. These include, for instance, the high-level UN Annual Ministerial Review (AMR) of development policy objectives and achievements that is conducted during the annual sessions of ECOSOC. Conversely, peers from relevant social groups are involved in the stakeholder variant. Thus, since 2006, the UN Human Rights Council has executed the innovative stakeholder peer review process of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). The situation of human rights in all UN Member States is evaluated at four-year intervals. The UPR of the Human Rights Council not only distinguishes itself through its universal character. It is also still unique in that NGOs can play an active part by contributing to the report and participating in the meetings of the UPR Working Groups. Such a peer review mechanism with a wide range of opportunities for participation by civil society could also assist an SDC in advancing implementation of national and regional sustainability policies. To avoid putting on a show, these processes should not necessarily be based in New York. Representatives of all nine Major Groups recognized by the CSD should be invited, as well as peers from the southern countries. Broad participation of this type would also serve to disseminate the results of the reviews as widely as possible. The high expectations associated therewith could then in turn promote the swift implementation of the recommendations.

Financing and Capacity Building Finally, the Sustainable Development Council should have its own financial resources in order to be able to iron out weaknesses of multilateral development cooperation in a targeted manner. Insufficient funding still presents a serious obstacle to development cooperation. Consequently, if the UN sustainability institutions are to be strengthened, significantly more financial resources must be made available. This is the only way to guarantee that the UN organizations fulfill their mandates and drive forward sustainable development through activities ranging from the global to local level.

In the face of tight budgets in industrialized countries, new sources of revenue are urgently required to enable the necessary transfers to be made. A tax on financial transactions, for instance, would allow considerable resources to be acquired in a relatively short time—this option is being discussed more and more seriously. Market-based financial instruments such as payments for ecosystem services (PES) will also be on the agenda of Rio 2012.

What should be avoided is establishing a new fund and essentially supplementing the numerous existing funds by yet another underfinanced one. An ambitious solution would be to interlink the Global Environment Facility with the SDC. At the same time its presently available funding, about one billion US dollars per annum, must be increased significantly. This would allow the facility to continue its present activities, while at the same time also breaking new ground, primarily with regard to technology transfer and the necessary capacity building. Thus, developing countries would be able to follow “green” development paths without having to take the resource-intensive and emission-heavy industrialization route.

Colombia has proposed supplementing the Millennium Development Goals with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Should this meet with approval in Rio, the SDC could accompany and monitor the operational implementation of the new goals in the medium term.

#### Countdown to Rio 2012

The deadline for submitting proposals to the UNCSD Secretariat for the Zero Draft of the Rio outcome document is November 1, 2011. This means that the opportunities to make an impact continuously dwindle. Consequently, specific proposals for a target-oriented and ambitious restructuring of the UN sustainability institutions should be developed now. The first two meetings of the Preparatory Commission for the UNCSD were disappointing in this respect. It was not until the above-mentioned meeting in Solo in July 2011—less than a year before Rio 2012—that the debate became more lively and creative. The remaining months should be used to develop specific proposals, to gain support for these, and then to introduce them into the official preparatory process. The objective of the Rio outcome document should be to recommend that the

UN General Assembly adopts a resolution approving the establishment of an SDC and, at the same time, calling upon the ECOSOC to dissolve the CSD. It would make Politik good strategic sense for Brazil as conference host to introduce this proposal. This would also be a logical step because the SDC is compatible with Brazil's original plan for Rio 2012 of founding an umbrella organization for environment and development. Germany and the EU should support the creation of a new Council. This would send a message to developing countries that the environmental pillar of the United Nations but also push for forcefully enhancing the institutional framework for sustainable development.

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## Global Kids

Dear UNCSD Secretariat,

I am writing in support of three billion young people who are worried about their — and their planet's — future. Joblessness brought on by over-exploitation of our Earth's resources and inadequate democratic decision-making is a clear indication that the status quo is unsustainable. I am calling on governments to respond to this emergency in full measure when world leaders meet next year in Rio de Janeiro to discuss the fate of the planet.

Exploitation of scarce ecological resources has led to corruption, global inequity and a damaging pattern of “brown” investments, and it cannot be the basis for ensuring secure employment for the next generation. Meanwhile, governments and consumers consistently fail to recognize that our planet has boundaries, exacerbating them through perverse subsidies and an unsustainable food system that cannot meet our growing needs. These trends must change.

First, we need all world leaders to recognize the urgency of the situation by attending the Earth Summit and educating their publics about the dangers of not acting. The United Nations should urge Presidents and Prime Ministers from every nation to commit resources and attention as early as possible in preparation for their participation at the Earth Summit.

Second, when world leaders come to Rio, they must deliver more than another agenda with lofty goals for a distant environmentally-responsible future. Young people from 118 countries recently called out the challenges with the hundreds of existing commitments, pledges, treaties and action plans. In their “Bandung Declaration”, they highlighted “weak implementation, corruption and the lack of transparency and accountability” as key failures of the international system. The Earth Summit, these young people demanded, should generate real actions on the ground from national and local governments, corporations, communities, and civil society organizations. I agree, and the United Nations should create a global registry of sustainability actions to track our progress and ensure we are holding everyone accountable.

Third, governments need to enable young people to take the lead in creating a green economy. Youth around the world are increasingly disenchanted by high unemployment,

corruption, massive subsidies to established industries, and lack of corporate responsibility. To overcome this unlevel playing field, governments need to make investments in education and training and in creating employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for young people.

We cannot wait another generation for sustainability: the time for talk is over.

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## Global Policy Forum Europe

Statement by the Civil Society Reflection Group on Global Development Perspectives on Rio+20 and beyond

31 October 2011

The following statement has been produced by the Civil Society Reflection Group on Global Development Perspectives. It is a pre- liminary statement and has not been fully discussed by all members of the Group yet. It is "work in progress". Therefore, not every recommendation in this statement was explicitly endorsed by each member of the Group. But the statement captures the ideas and the fundamental consensus, which were formulated in the previous meetings of the Reflection Group. The more comprehensive final report of the Group will be published in spring 2012. Members of the Reflection Group are: Alejandro Chanona , National Auto- nomous University of México;; Barbara Adams, Global Policy Forum;; Beryl d'Almeida , Abandoned Babies Committee Zimbabwe;; Chee Yoke Ling , Third World Network;; Ernst Ulrich von Weizsäcker, International Resource Panel;; Danuta Sacher, terre des hommes Germany;; Filomeno Sta. Ana III, Action for Economic Reform, Philippines;; George Chira , terre des hommes India;; Gigi Francisco, Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era;; Henning Melber, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, Sweden;; Hubert Schillinger, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Germany;; Jens Martens, Global Policy Forum Europe;; Jorge Ishizawa , Proyecto Andino de Tecnologías Campesinas, Peru;; Karma Ura , Centre for Bhutan Studies;; Roberto Bissio, Social Watch;; Vicky Tauli-Corpuz , Tebtebba Foundation;; Yao Graham , Third World Network Africa.

### I. The world in need of fundamental change

1. We live in a world in turmoil. Too many people are tossed around in a global boom and bust, a global casino gambling with our livelihoods, our security, our futures and our planet.

2. We live in a world where the top 20 percent of the population enjoy more than 70 percent of total income and those in the bottom quintile get only two percent of global income. Gains from economic growth and globalization have been unevenly shared. In most countries, the rich have become richer at the expense of the middle class and low-income groups. Unfettered economic growth has further increased social inequalities even though it has generated the resources to do the opposite and finance more equitable access to public and essential services. Persistent poverty, unemployment, social exclusion and higher levels of inequality are threat- ening care systems, social cohesion and political stability.

3. We live in a world where 50 percent of carbon emissions are generated by 13 percent of the population. Fast spreading unsustainable production and consumption patterns have been linked to the rapid depletion of natural resources, including clean water, as well as to unequal sharing of the promised "benefits" of economic growth and expanding trade. They have led to global warming that produces rising sea levels, higher frequency of extreme weather conditions, desertification and deforestation. For bio-diversity, the loss of envi- ronmental heritage is permanent. We have exceeded the ecological limits and ignore the planetary boundaries. With the climate change threat we are already living on borrowed time. However, we refuse to cut back on emissions and allocate the scarce resources to those who have not yet benefitted from their exploitation.

4. All too often national and international policies have not aimed to reduce inequalities. Their dedica- tion to stimulating economic growth has provided the incentives to exploit nature, rely on the use of fossil fuels and deplete biodiversity, undermining the provision of essential services as countries compete in a race to the bottom offering lower taxes and cheaper labor as incentives.

5. Persistent discrimination locks women in precarious reproductive work and violence. Women, espe- cially the poor, remain socially discriminated and in many places are deprived of their bodily, reproductive and sexual rights. This makes them more vulnerable to exploitation and violence inside and outside their homes. Care work which is often undertaken by women within households, is given no value or recognition. Women's livelihoods and productive activities that include all forms of health care work are often left unprotected and unsupported. All these are made more distressed during times of economic crises and by policies that favor profit over social provisioning.

6. Biodiversity and the bounty of nature, while cherished, are not respected, protected or valued. Communities and populations that seek to live in harmony with nature find their rights ignored and their live- lihoods and cultures jeopardized.

7. Why has this happened? Certainly it is not because of a lack of awareness or attention of policy makers at the highest levels. The climate change danger, cited in the mid-1980s at a conference of the WMO, was brought center stage in 1987 by the Brundtland Report, as was the urgency of biodiversity loss. The momentum carried to the Rio conference in 1992, which launched framework conventions on climate change and biodiversity as well as on desertification. It also adopted the Rio Declaration principles, the Forest Principles and a plan of action, Agenda 21. The global conferences of the 1990s focused on issues of human rights and social equity and adopted blueprints to tackle injustices from social exclusion and gender discrimination. In the Millennium Declaration of 2000, member states committed themselves "to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level" as "a duty to all the world's people, especially the most vulnerable and, in particular, the children of the world, to whom the future belongs".

8. Over the last 20 years, however, the ideals and principles of Rio have been overshadowed, as implementation has mostly not occurred. Similarly, a host of international commitments to human rights and gender justice have not been fulfilled. World product per capita has more than doubled in the last two decades, yet with widening disparities. Globalization has yielded millions of poor quality jobs. Financial and commodity speculation has undercut food security and turned millions of hectares of land away from growing food and into unsustainable uses. Little has been done to change patterns of production and consumption that pollute, erode biodiversity and lead inexorably to climate change. 45 countries with a total population of 1.2 billion people have managed to achieve social indicators that are better than the world average with per capita emissions of CO2 from fossil fuels below the world average. And none of them are labeled as "high income". Yet, similar to other middle-income countries and those considered as "least developed", they often find their space for making domestic policy choices to achieve sustainable development squeezed by external demands, conditionalities and impositions that press them to take steps such as to slash tax rates and spending on social services.

9. Economic policies have on many occasions contradicted the commitments made to rights and sustainability as they and their related national and international institutions occupy the apex of governance domains. They have relied too much on markets to allocate societies' resources and distribute their wealth, singling out GDP growth as the ultimate measure of well-being. The result has been increased concentration and bigger market share ratios of a few transnational corporations, including in the food and medicine sectors.

10. This deliberate policy choice of hands-off came to a head when, ignited in the USA, it exploded into the global financial crisis in 2008, intensifying inequalities further as the resulting job losses and income cuts hit low-income groups disproportionately. Yet, relentlessly, the policy responses squeezed societies and communities further, relying on the same market actors that had been wrong before, paying little or no heed to the already fragile human and ecological systems, and pushing societies and communities to the breaking point.

11. Despite evidence that counter-cyclical policies acted as effective shock absorbers and enhanced resilience, many governments have sacrificed social expenditures to neo-liberal orthodoxy and a stronger dependence on financial markets. The costs of inaction and the mal-action of business as usual are amassing a mountain of social and ecological liabilities. High unemployment especially of young people, increasing food prices and widespread unfairness have created a climate of social and political tension and unrest in many countries. In countries around the globe, from Cairo to Manhattan to New Delhi, people take to the streets to express their anger with the status quo and their unwillingness to accept it any longer. Their motives and goals may differ according to the unique circumstances they live in – but their demands are all similar: greater justice and more freedom from the pressure of the “markets” and their faithful agents.

12. Why is governance failing us so badly? States have reneged on their democratic values and governments have become less accountable to the people. Universal norms and standards are being ignored or side-stepped by new rules that favor markets. Risks are being borne by those who had no role in taking them while a new classification of “too-big-to-fail” has re-ordered the distribution of public resources. We are confronted with a hierarchy of rights with those protecting human and eco systems relegated to the lowest rungs. This situation finds its parallels in governance at the national and international levels. Further, the fragmented global governance has led to missing the big picture and setting low demands that treat symptoms not causes.

13. Decades of wrong-headed policies and the impact of multiple policy failures have inevitably highlighted the role of the state and how important it is. Responses to the failure of the financial system show that the state can act and will act quickly in the face of perceived disaster with money and policies. But, the required stronger role of the state must be based on democratic legitimacy and accountability and be balanced by effective participation of civil society.

We are living in a period of turmoil, facing societal and ecological disaster. We demand of states that they act now promptly and effectively in the face of this disaster.

## II. Reconfirming the foundation of sustainability: The framework of universal principles and rights

14. The need for universal principles. Every concept of development, well-being and progress in societies is based on a set of fundamental principles and values. These values are rooted deeply in our culture, our ideologies and our belief systems. We are convinced, that there is a set of universal principles and values that is shared by most of us. Common principles and values build the foundation of societies. We acknowledge the diversity of cultural expressions as a value in itself that has to be protected and promoted. In times of globalization and growing global interrelationship between societies, economies and people, universally agreed principles are the precondition for living together in justice, peace and in harmony with nature.

15. A set of existing principles as common ground. There is no need to invent principles and values of this kind. In national constitutions as well as in various international treaties, declarations and policy statements of the United Nations, governments have agreed upon certain fundamental principles, which are essential to societies and international relations. We propose the following set of eight principles as the foundation for a new sustainability rights framework:

» Solidarity principle. Solidarity has been a widely accepted principle in many national constitutions to govern the relationship of citizens within a country. Central to this concept is the equality of citizens and their shared responsibility for a common good. In the notion of solidarity, assistance is not an act of charity, but a right of every woman, man and child. Solidarity differs radically from charity and philanthropy. In times of globalization, this concept has been transferred to the international level. In the Millennium Declaration, governments listed solidarity as one of the core values: “Global challenges must be managed in a way that distributes the costs and burdens fairly in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice. Those who suffer or who benefit least deserve help from those who benefit most.” Today, the notion of solidarity is accepted as a key principle in various international agreements such as the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification from 1994.

» Do no harm principle. Originally a key principle of medical ethics reflected in the promise of the Hippocratic Oath “to abstain from doing harm”, this principle has become relevant to other areas. For instance it has been included in humanitarian principles of UNICEF since 2003 and has been adopted in a code of conduct of major humanitarian organizations. In essence, the commitment to implement policies in a way that they do no harm to people or nature should be regarded as a guiding principle in all policy areas and at all levels.

» Principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. This principle marks one of the milestones of the Rio Declaration from 1992. Its Principle 7 states: “In view of the different contributions to global environmental degradation, States have common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development in view of the pressures their societies place on the global environment and of the technologies and financial resources they command.” For the first time in history, governments recognized their differential present and historical contribution to environmental degradation and, thus, their differential obligation to pay for the remediation and mitigation. By including the historical dimension it goes beyond the principle of “special and differential treatment” based on economic capabilities and needs, as contained in WTO Agreements. The principle is a key element of the Kyoto Protocol but its application must not be limited to the climate negotiations.

» Polluter pays principle. The simple message of this principle is that the costs of pollution have to be borne by those who cause it. This principle has been part of international environmental law since the 1970s, and was reaffirmed in the Rio Declaration, Principle 16: “National authorities should endeavor to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution (...).” While this principle is widely acknowledged in international environmental law, it should be applied in other areas as well. In the context of the recent financial crisis, many asked for the “polluters”, i.e. the banks and the financial industry, to bear the costs of the crisis. As the European Commissioner Michel Barnier said: “I believe in the ‘polluter pays’ principle. We need to build a system which ensures that the financial sector will pay the cost of banking crises in the future.”

» Precautionary Principle. This principle states that in the absence of a scientific consensus if an action or policy has a suspected risk of causing harm to people or nature, the burden of proof that it is not harmful falls on the proponents of this action or policy. It is also laid down in the Rio Declaration, which says in Principle 15: “In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.” After Rio this principle has been incorporated into many other international agreements, such as the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety from the year 2000 with regard to the transboundary movement of living modified organisms and their products.

» Subsidiarity Principle. According to this principle political decisions must always be taken at the lowest possible administrative and political level, and as close to the citizens as possible, in order to ensure that women and men fully participate in decision-making. This idea is a core element of concepts of federalism and one of the central principles in the treaties of the European Union. Indigenous peoples regard this principle as an essential tool to preserve their identity, diversity and cultures. The principle recognizes the inherent democratic right to self-determination for people, communities, and nations, but only as long as its exercise does not infringe on similar rights of others.

Therefore, it must not be misused as an argument against central governmental action at national or international levels, but must always be applied in combination with the other principles, in particular the solidarity principle.

» Principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent. According to this principle communities have the right to give or withhold their consent to proposed projects and actions by governments or corporations, that may affect their livelihood and the lands they customarily own, occupy or otherwise use. This principle is a key element of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples from 2007 and recognized in the ILO Convention on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (169/1989). However, this principle is not limited to the rights of indigenous peoples. It is also laid down in the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade from 1998. This convention provides, inter alia, for importing countries to receive information on a chemical being exported from a country that has banned or severely restricted it for health or environmental reasons.

» Principle of peaceful dispute settlement. This principle is a core element of the UN Charter, which says in Article 2: "All Members shall settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered." In the Manila Declaration of 1982 governments reconfirmed that the peaceful settlement of disputes should represent one of the central concerns for states and for the UN (A/RES/37/10, 15 November 1982). These eight principles shall build the cornerstones of a universal sustainability rights framework. They are interconnected and must not be applied in isolation.

16. The essential values of freedom, equality, diversity and the respect for nature. In addition to the core set of universal principles, there are fundamental values, which are also essential to international relations. Governments referred to some of them in the Millennium Declaration. They include, inter alia:

» Freedom. Men, women and children have the right to live their lives in dignity, free from hunger and from the fear of violence, oppression or injustice. Democratic and participatory governance based on the will of the people best assures these rights. But there are limits to freedom – namely where the freedom of our peers is touched. "Freedom is always the freedom of dissenters" (Rosa Luxemburg). And freedom has its limits in the principle of "do no harm".

» Equality. No individual and no nation or group must be denied the opportunity to participate in and to benefit from development. Equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured. Equality includes the concept of intergenerational justice, i.e. the recognition that the present generation shall only meet its needs in a way that does not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

» Diversity. Human beings must respect one other, in all their diversity of belief, culture, language, looks, sexual orientation, and gender. Differences within and between societies should be neither feared nor repressed, but cherished as a precious asset of humanity. A culture of peace and dialogue should be actively promoted.

» Respect for nature. Prudence must be shown in the conduct towards all living species and the use of natural resources. Only in this way can the immeasurable riches provided to us by nature be preserved and passed on to our descendants. The current unsustainable patterns of production and consumption must be changed in the interest of our future welfare and that of our descendants. Respect for nature means much more than sound management of the human environment: it means that all living species have intrinsic rights. They should not be regarded as objects of human interaction but as subjects with value that goes beyond use and exchange. This understanding of nature as a living system is reflected in the thinking and believe systems of indigenous peoples, for instance in the concept of Buen Vivir.

17. Failure to translate the principles into practice. While all governments agreed to these principles in general, they have mostly failed to translate them into enforceable obligations and specific policies. If governments had taken the solidarity principle seriously, poverty and hunger could have been reduced dramatically;; if they really accepted the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, the Copenhagen climate summit would not have ended in such a disaster;; and had they complied with the precautionary principle, nuclear catastrophes such as those of Chernobyl and Fukushima could have been avoided.

18. Turning principles into rights. In order to ensure the functioning of a society and create safeguards against tyranny, values have to be translated into law, rights and legally binding obligations. At international level, the human rights system plays a key role in turning moral values into legal rights. Of particular importance is the International Bill of Human Rights that includes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Equally significant are the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. More recently, these key documents have been complemented by the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions (2005) and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007). Together with the Declaration on the Right to Development (1986) and complemented by the core set of principles we mentioned above, these documents can form the normative framework of a holistic concept of sustainability, well-being and societal progress.

19. Rebalancing Rights. While the norms of the international human rights system are generally accepted and ratified by most countries of the world, there is still a huge implementation gap. Even worse: while states and their organs at national and international levels too often failed to respect, protect and fulfill human rights, over the last two decades they have strengthened corporate rights and the rights of capital. They promoted the free movement of capital, but restricted the free movement of people;; they strengthened the rights of transnational investors, but weakened the rights of people affected by these investments. Transnational corporations may nowadays sue governments at international fora for any change in the rules, including health regulations, that affect their actual or planned profits, but people are hindered from suing companies for the pollution and other harmful practices inflicted upon them. There is an urgent need to rebalance rights, i.e. to reclaim human rights as the normative foundation of policy, and to roll-back the rights of capital in relation to the rights of people.

20. Filling the gaps in the rights system. There are not only gaps in the implementation of rights but also gaps in the international rights system itself. Certain principles and values, such as the principle of intergenerational justice and the respect for nature are not explicitly translated into (codified) rights yet. There is a need of intensified debate and research on how to include the concepts of the rights of nature and intergenerational justice in the international normative system and turn them into practice.

21. From theory to practice: Translating principles and rights into strategies, goals and policies. To translate fundamental principles into internationally agreed rights and obligations is only the first step. The next is to formulate political goals and strategies to implement these rights. Here, public policies play a crucial role. Democratically legitimized public authorities, particularly governments and parliaments, have the main obligation to implement a rights-based approach of sustainability, well-being and societal progress. They must not transfer this obligation to the private sector or to civil society.

### III. Redirecting policies towards present and future justice

22. Consequences from the failure to translate principles and rights into policies. In the past decades governments agreed formally on an almost comprehensive set of sustainability principles and human rights, but they failed to bring their policies effectively into line with them. Instead, policies are still too often sectorally fragmented and misguided with an overreliance on economic growth and self-regulation of the "markets". New concepts like "green growth" are at best attempts to treat the symptoms of the problems without tackling their root causes. What is therefore needed are fundamental changes at three levels:

» Changes in the mindset, the guiding concepts and indicators of development and progress.

» Changes in fiscal and regulatory policies (at national and international levels) in order to overcome effectively social inequalities and the degradation of nature and to strengthen sustainable economies.

» Changes in institutions and governance mechanisms (at national and international levels).

23. Changing the dominant mindset. The mindset of many opinion leaders and political decision-makers worldwide is still focused on economic growth and market-driven solutions as the panacea for all economic, social and environmental problems in the world. Governments are not (and should not be) in a position to change the dominant mindset by command and control. But they are obliged to draw lessons from the failures of the past and reformulate the overall objectives of their policies and related concepts and metrics that guide them. Instead of subordinating their policies to the overarching goal of maximizing GDP growth, the leitmotif of their policies should be to maximize the well-being of the people without compromising the well-being of future generations by respecting the planetary boundaries.

24. New metrics for sustainability and societal progress. Consequently, governments should recognize the need for new metrics for sustainability and societal progress beyond GDP to guide their policies. They should actively promote the research and discourse on alternative metrics at national and international levels, within a specified timeframe, and with broad participation of civil society. The discourse should build upon existing initiatives, for instance the report of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission, Measuring Australia's Progress (MAP), and the Gross National Happiness Index of Bhutan. It should also take into account the current revision of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounts (SEEA) coordinated by the Statistics Division of the UN Secretariat.

25. Sustainable Development Goals. The 1992 Rio Summit demanded further work on the definition of indicators of sustainable development which would be the basis both for defining the concept and establishing common international goals. Two decades later, more progress has to be achieved. Links have to be established to the human rights framework which sets clear goals, for instance on the rights to food, to health, and to education. Therefore, the debate should not be about these goals, as they have already been agreed upon, but about the "when" and the "maximum available resources" (including those of international cooperation) to ensure their progressive realization. Any formulation of Sustainable Development Goals that does not adequately address the human rights aspects and the sustainability aspects simultaneously and in a balanced way risks derailing the comprehensive sustainable development agenda without any compensatory gains.

26. Commitment to policy coherence for sustainability. In order to translate the universal sustainability rights framework outlined above into practical policy at national level, governments and parliaments should adopt binding commitments to policy coherence for sustainability as well as strategies for implementation and monitoring. Based upon the core set of universal principles, such as the precautionary principle, the "do no harm" principle, and the solidarity principle, all public policies should be redirected towards human rights and sustainability and subject to sustainability and human rights impact assessments.

27. A new Charter on the Right to Sustainable Development. In order to bundle the core set of fundamental principles and human rights to a normative framework of sustainability, well-being and societal progress, we propose to adopt a new Charter on the Right to Sustainable Development. This Charter should also refer, inter alia, to the World Charter for Nature (1982) and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007), and update and upgrade the Declaration on the Right to Development from 1986. The new Charter should emphasize the commitment of governments to policy coherence for human rights and sustainability. It should reconfirm the obligation to progressive realization of human rights using the maximum available resources and expand it to the right to sustainable development and the rights of future generations. It should acknowledge the concept of planetary boundaries. And finally, it should confirm the principle of fair burden sharing and equitable per capita rights towards the global commons and to the emission of greenhouse gases, taking fully into account the historical responsibilities of societies.

28. Redirecting fiscal policies towards sustainability. Fiscal policy is a key instrument of governments to turn the rights-based approach of sustainability, well-being and societal progress into practice. The actual priorities of governments are reflected more clearly in public budgets than in government declarations and action programs. Moreover, the composition of state budgets allows inferences to be drawn about the political influence of different interest groups: Is the military dominant? Are business interests pushed through? Or is public spending focused on the needs of the majority in a society and correcting gender imbalances? In recent decades, we witnessed the erosion of public finance in many countries, which resulted in a growing inability of governments to provide the necessary public goods and services in support of people's welfare and care systems, thus failing to respond effectively to the aggravated social and environmental problems. Therefore, there is an urgent need to strengthen and redirect public finance.

29. Taking the four "R's" of fiscal policy seriously. Fiscal policy can basically have four purposes: The raising of revenues in order to provide the necessary public goods and services;; the redistribution of income and wealth from the richer to poorer sections of society ;; the repricing of goods and services in order to internalize ecological and social costs and discourage undesirable behavior (such as currency speculation);; and the justification for citizens to demand democratic representation ("no taxation without representation") and accountability . Unfortunately, governments have rarely taken advantage of these aspects of a pro-active fiscal policy. On the contrary, they have often participated in a global tax race to the bottom (particularly with regard to corporate taxation). They have given preference to indirect taxes, like an undifferentiated value-added tax, which have regressive effects and have increased inequalities, and they hesitated to introduce effective taxes on environmentally harmful resource consumption. We need steps towards country-specific eco-social fiscal reforms, taking into account, inter alia, the following aspects:

- » Emphasizing progressive taxation: A basic requirement for strengthening public revenues is a broad based system of progressive taxation. In line with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities taxation should be based on the ability to pay;; rich individuals, transnational corporations and large landowners should be taxed accordingly. A flat and undifferentiated value-added tax is regressive, burdens the poor, and therefore should not constitute the centerpiece of the tax system. Any form of indirect taxation should be designed in a way that it is sensitive to the poor's welfare by introducing progressivity (e.g. by taxing luxurious consumption) and mitigating the regressive features.
- » Greening the tax system: A key element of any eco-social fiscal reform should be the shift from the taxation of labor to the taxation of resource consumption. Following the polluter pays principle, a system of eco-taxes should particularly increase the "price of pollution", the use of fossil fuels and other non-renewable energies, and the emission of greenhouse gases.
- » Effective taxation of corporations: An essential element of an efficient tax system includes the effective taxation of corporations. Tax exemptions or fiscal incentives for transnational corporations, particularly in export processing zones, are counterproductive and an inefficient instrument to attract foreign direct investment. They should be eliminated, if possible in an internationally coordinated way.
- » Initiatives against tax evasion and illicit financial flows: In many countries illicit financial flows, tax avoidance and corruption continue to prevent the establishment of a sustainable system of public finance. A bundle of national and international measures is needed to strengthen fiscal authorities, close tax loopholes and prevent capital flight. These include:
  - › Supporting governments in creating more efficient and fair tax structures and fiscal authorities.
  - › Effective measures against the manipulation of transfer pricing.
  - › Mandatory country-by-country reporting standards for transnational corporations, with the US American Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act) from July 2010 as an initial step for the extractive industries.
  - › Binding rules for the automatic exchange of tax information between state agencies.
  - › Effective support for stolen assets recovery as described in the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

› Banning financial transactions in tax havens and secrecy jurisdictions.

› Applying the polluter pays principle to the financial sector – introducing a Financial Transaction Tax: Demands raised for many years for the introduction of a financial transaction tax have gained additional relevance through the current global financial crisis. Such a tax can contribute to a fairer distribution of burdens by involving the financial sector, which caused the crisis, in covering the costs of coping with it. The tax should be levied on trading shares, bonds, derivatives and foreign currency on the stock exchange, at trade centers and in over the counter (OTC) transactions. Imposition of the tax ought to be internationally coordinated and performed by the responsible national fiscal authorities, but individual countries or groups of countries should be encouraged to start applying it even before it becomes global. In order to ensure that tax revenue is not exclusively used to cure budget deficits but also spent for environmental, development and rights purposes, a substantial part of the revenues should be earmarked and distributed through a fund under the auspices of the United Nations.

30. Reallocation of government spending. Parallel to the necessary changes on the revenue side of the budget, any effective eco-fiscal reform requires fundamental changes on the expenditure side as well. Too often public money has been spent for harmful or at least questionable purposes. By redefining priorities public spending policy can become a powerful tool to reduce social inequalities and remove discrimination and to support the transition towards sustainable production and consumption patterns. This includes the following steps:

› Abolition of harmful subsidies: While subsidies can be a useful temporary mechanism to compensate vulnerable sectors for unexpected distortions or to promote desirable activities, every year governments spend hundreds of billions of dollars on harmful subsidies particularly in the agricultural, water, energy, forestry and fishery sectors. Public money is used at home and abroad (through multilateral development banks) to lower the price of fossil fuels, to support agricultural exports, or to subsidize transnational investments. These kinds of subsidies not only have detrimental social and environmental effects;; by artificially lowering the prices, they often reduce the profitability of local industries and the production of renewable energy. In essence, the negative effects of subsidies are three-fold. They absorb a substantial portion of state budgets that could otherwise be used for better purposes;; they contribute to environmental damage by creating misleading consumer and production incentives;; and they have negative distribution effects. Therefore, governments should commit to time-bound targets to phase out all subsidies that support unsustainable production and consumption patterns or otherwise violate the do no harm principle as soon as possible.

› Strengthening public spending to stimulate sustainable production and consumption: Not all subsidies are harmful. On the contrary, subsidies can play an important role in supporting emerging local industries and introducing environmentally friendly technologies. Well-targeted subsidies can have positive redistributive and environmental effects. Governments should substantially strengthen public subsidies in areas such as renewable energy, sustainable and affordable public transport systems, eco-efficient housing, social infrastructure and consumption subsidies to poor households.

› Cutting military spending: Military expenditures absorb a significant share of state revenues in most countries. In 2010 they reached a total historic high of USD 1.630 trillion. By reducing military budgets, large sums of money could be freed up for funding environmental and social programs. A precondition for this, however, is strengthened support for conflict prevention, peaceful conflict resolution, and if needed, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. At the same time, the largest armsproducing countries (in particular the five permanent members of the Security Council) have a responsibility to improve the control and regulation of their arms exports and to support a Global Arms Trade Treaty.

› A universal social protection floor for all: Access to social security is a human right (Art. 22 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights). But it is also an economic and political necessity, for a working social security system reduces poverty, strengthens the purchasing power of the people and hence domestic demand, and prevents social tension and societal conflicts. A publicly financed minimal set of basic social security ought to exist in every country. It would be a necessary condition to prevent people from falling into poverty as a result of economic crises. Therefore, governments should implement the concept of a universal social protection floor, as promoted by the ILO. It should be based on the following four pillars:

› Universal access to public healthcare for all.

› Guaranteed state allowances for every child.

› A universal basic pension provided by the state for persons in old age or with disabilities.

› Guaranteed state support for unemployed and underemployed people living in poverty.

› Public provision of essential services: After years of a global trend towards privatization and deregulation, public authorities have to reclaim the responsibility to provide essential services for all citizens, including freshwater supply, sanitation, education, healthcare, shelter, public transport, communication, and access to energy. Governments should substantially increase the spending level in these areas. With sustainable stimulus packages governments should invest in targeted infrastructure programs in order to increase energy and resource efficiency. Following the subsidiarity principle, priority should be given to promote decentralized models of water and renewable energy supply, with strong public oversight, and to reduce the market power of oligopolistic public or private suppliers. In order to pay attention to the rights and interests of indigenous peoples and local communities, public authorities and private companies must respect the principle of free, prior and informed consent in all infrastructure projects.

› Strengthening participatory, gender and human rights budgeting initiatives: Free access to budgetary information as well as effective control are essential to increase the accountability of governments to their citizens in their use of public funds. Governments should therefore ensure the effective participation of civil society in budgetary planning. Whether and to what extent governments are actively promoting gender equity in their budgets should be determined with the help of genderbudgeting approaches. Similarly, governments should assess if budgets are complying with their obligation to promote, protect and fulfill the economic, social and cultural human rights.

› Using public procurement policies to promote sustainability: Public authorities from the local to the global level have an enormous purchasing power. So far they were guided mostly by criteria of cost-effectiveness. However, more and more public procurement operators try to influence the production methods and products of their suppliers by introducing environmental, social and human rights standards. In addition, procurement policies could be used to specifically strengthen the local economy by supporting domestic suppliers.

› Using sovereign wealth funds to finance sustainable investment: Assets under management of sovereign wealth funds increased to USD 4.7 trillion in July 2011. There was an additional USD 6.8 trillion held in other sovereign investment vehicles, such as pension reserve funds, development funds and state-owned corporations' funds. There is an enormous potential to invest these assets in accordance with specific sustainability objectives. Governments should authorize the decision-making bodies of these funds to introduce binding sustainability criteria to guide their investment policies.

31. A new global system of financial burden sharing beyond ODA. Even with a fundamentally strengthened system of public finance with increased tax revenues and reallocated public expenditures, in many countries the maximum available resources will not suffice to fulfill the social, economic, cultural and ecological rights of the people. External funding will therefore still be required. The current system of financial transfers is based on the concept of aid (Official Development Assistance - ODA). It is characterized by paternalistic relationships between rich donors and poor "partners". Despite all attempts to increase "ownership" and "aid effectiveness", these financial flows are often unpredictable, volatile, tied to products and services from donors and subject to conditionalities. This concept of aid is misleading, as its justification is charity instead of rights. Governments have to overcome this concept of aid and establish a new normative framework of burden sharing between rich and poor countries based on

the solidarity principle, e.g. in form of a universal fiscal equalization scheme. Models for this type of compensation or equalization already exist on the national and regional level. In Germany, for example, regional inequalities are to be compensated by a concept of financial adjustment between the federal states. In the European Union cohesion and economic equalization are financially supported by a compensatory structural policy. Such a model would be consistent with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR). The realization of those rights is a responsibility of governments "individually and through international assistance and co-operation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of available resources." The prioritization of resources for ESCR also applies to international assistance.

32. A compensation scheme to pay off climate debt . The second pillar of a new normative system of financial transfers should build on the polluter pays principle and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. This is particularly relevant in order to allocate the costs of climate change. In accordance with these principles, those countries, that are responsible for the damage that the excessive emission of greenhouse gases is causing – and will be causing in the future – have to compensate for the costs. They have accumulated climate debt that they will have to pay off over the coming years and decades. The compensation schemes should be guided by the principles of fair burden sharing and equitable per capita rights, taking fully into account the historical responsibilities of societies.

33. Beyond the 0.7 percent target. Changes in the normative framework of financial transfers will also affect the so-called 0.7 percent target. In 2010 the 0.7 percent target experienced its 40th anniversary of non-fulfillment, since the governments in the UN General Assembly set the target in 1970. The decision was based on the then dominant concept of modernization. It was felt that a "big push" in foreign capital was needed to allow so-called developing countries to "take off" towards enduring economic growth. At that time, experts from the World Bank estimated the capital gap at around ten billion dollars, equivalent to around one percent of the GDP of the so-called industrialized countries. In 1969 the Pearson Commission recommended giving so-called developing countries 0.3 percent of the GDP in form of private capital and 0.7 percent in the form of ODA. This marked the birth of the 0.7 percent target.

Today, this 0.7 percent figure has only symbolic political importance as an "indicator of solidarity". The 0.7 percent target cannot explain what the fulfillment of the sustainability rights framework will actually cost, how much the respective countries could contribute themselves and how much external capital would be needed to fill the gap. All estimates of the external financial needs along with the new and additional resources required for climate mitigation measures and climate change adaptation show, however, that the financial transfers needed go well beyond the 0.7 percent of the GDP mark. The justified criticism of the original context on which the 0.7 percent target was based in no way legitimizes turning away from international obligations. We need to change perspectives, to move away from an aid-based approach to a rights-based approach of external public finance. Further development of the UN General Assembly resolution from 1970 to adjust the normative framework of financial transfers to the realities of the present is long overdue. This could take place in the context of the proposed Charter on the Right to Sustainable Development.

Proposals for new and more predictable forms of financial transfers are not new. The "North-South: A Programme for Survival" report, issued in 1980 by the international Brandt Commission proposed to raise revenues for development by 'automatic' mechanisms, which can work without repeated interventions by governments. "We believe that over time the world must move to a financial system in which a progressively larger share of such revenues is raised by these means. The fact that revenues are raised automatically does not, of course, imply that their transfer should be automatic; on the contrary, they should be channelled through an appropriate international agency or agencies (...)." More than 30 years after this visionary report, it is time to turn these ideas into reality.

34. Strengthening the rule of law to promote sustainability. Setting rules and standards is a central task of responsible governments and a key instrument of active policy-making. Over the past 30 years however, governments have too often weakened themselves by policies of deregulation and financial liberalization. Instead, they trusted in corporate voluntarism and self-regulation of "the markets". Public standard-setting and regulation have often been denounced as command and control policies. But only unfettered financial markets made the current financial meltdown possible, weak antitrust laws allowed transnational banks to become too big to fail, and the inadequate translation of the precautionary principle into mandatory technology assessments led to the catastrophes of Fukushima and elsewhere. In response to the recent financial and food crises governments started to introduce new rules and standards, as in October 2011 the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, which has set modest rules to limit excessive speculation in commodities. But much more remains to be done to restore public rights over corporate privileges and to strengthen the rule of law in the interest of present and future generations.

#### IV. Towards inclusive, accountable governance

35. The need to overcome fragmentation. To date the approach to sustainable development governance has been one of governing the three pillars of sustainable development in their own zone, complemented by coordination across them. This is attempted at all levels – global, regional, national and sub-national – and in cooperation with non-state actors, primarily civil society, indigenous peoples and the private sector.

Sustainable development has been viewed as a linking concept designed to facilitate a dialogue between those whose primary concerns relate to the environment and those who see their role as promoting growth and development. This approach has emphasized coordination and dialogue, but does not have a strong institutional basis for decision-making and policy change across the three pillars. Nor has it addressed human rights, inequalities and social exclusion. In practice, the environmental pillar dominates the dialogue, the economic pillar dominates impact and the social one is largely neglected apart from the limited way it is addressed through the MDGs.

Decision-making and policy development are severely handicapped by this hierarchy among the three pillars as global economic governance does not adhere to the mandates of the human rights regime or the requirements of sustainable development. The hierarchy among the three pillars is also reflected in the measures used for policy prescriptions and budget allocation. These have low-level social goals; the progress metrics count only dollars and externalize social and environmental costs. These metrics favor the private sector and penalize the public purse. We are not measuring sustainable development, but mainly economic growth.

To overcome the fragmentation of governance for sustainable development and ensure policy coherence, it is essential to re-arrange and re-configure the institutional arrangements that cover all aspects of the policy cycle: agenda setting, policy analysis and formulation, decision-making, implementation, and evaluation.

36. Towards a Sustainable Development Council. Adopting sustainable development as an overarching concept requires an apex institution that subsumes all other notions of development and can infuse the essence of rights and sustainability into the agenda of all developmental and environmental bodies. This institutional configuration of sustainable development must guide the work of global institutions in integrated decision-making, policy action, implementation and review. It cannot be left to ECOSOC. Many recommend a Sustainable Development Council directly reporting to the General Assembly on the lines of the Human Rights Council. This Council would have a remit that extends to all three pillars of sustainable development - the environmental, the economic and the social.

The council's jurisdiction would extend to all multilateral bodies, including the international financial institutions. The new council would be charged with overseeing the reporting process supported by an enhanced Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

37. A Universal Periodic Review on Sustainability. The new Sustainable Development Council should be equipped with a Universal Periodic Review mechanism so that all countries report on measures to achieve sustainable development, covering all relevant issues linked to human rights, trade, macroeconomic policy, the environment, financing and political participation. The UPR concept should be enhanced to consider information provided not only by governments, but also by other stakeholders, such as civil society and the private sector. Information on reports and Universal Periodic Review findings would be made widely available through information channels that actively target all relevant stakeholders.

38. Upgrading the Committee on Development Policy. As presently constituted, the Committee for Development Policy (CDP) is a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social

Council of the UN (ECOSOC). It provides inputs and independent advice to the Council on emerging cross-sectoral development issues and on international cooperation for development, focusing on medium- and long-term aspects. The 24 members of the Committee are nominated by the United Nations Secretary-General in their personal capacity, and are appointed by the Council for a period of three years. Membership is geared to reflect a wide range of development experiences as well as geographical and gender balance. The CDP should be upgraded to undertake research and provide independent advice on policies of sustainable development that fully integrate the three pillars and on emerging issues that require inter-governmental attention and action. It should establish ad hoc working groups or task forces to deepen and supplement its work and include members from organizations with a proven commitment and track record in the relevant issues including from civil society and indigenous peoples.

39. International Ombudsperson and Special Rapporteurs. There are some key areas of sustainable development and intergenerational justice where the international governance system lacks the appropriate normative standards and oversight. We support the recommendation to establish the institution of an Ombudsperson for intergenerational justice/future generations. In addition, the function of Special Rapporteurs should be used to examine, monitor, advise and publicly report on problems, such as land rights, technology access and use, and fisheries, and develop recommendations not only on specific cases but also for new or upgraded norms. This could be a special procedure of the newly constituted Council for Sustainable Development.

40. Overcoming the governance gaps at national level. A major challenge for more effective governance at the global level is the lack of coherence at the national level. Effective international arrangements cannot be determined or strengthened without commitments and coherence at the national level, and in all countries. Restructuring ECOSOC or creating a new Council will be a futile exercise if it is not "owned" by effective national counterparts and placed in an influential governance position vis-à-vis other ministries and interests. The new governance mechanism at national level could include, for example:

» A new "Sherpa for Sustainability". Responsibility should be taken by the head of state or government to increase policy coherence for sustainability. He or she should establish a "Sherpa" function for sustainability. This function/position should have cabinet rank to ensure coordination among government ministries and authorities.

» A Parliamentary Committee on Policy Coherence on Sustainability. To secure oversight and public accountability, a Parliamentary Committee on Policy Coherence on Sustainability should complement the "Sherpa" function. These high-level institutions in the executive and legislative branches of the state will provide the necessary national presence and representation at the relevant fora of global governance for sustainable development. Their positions and perspectives should be prepared by a permanent and meaningful consultation process with broad constituency participation that reflects the cross-sectoral dimensions of sustainable development.

» An Ombudsperson for Future Generations. The appointment of Ombudspersons for Future Generations could bring the sustainability agenda straight to the heart of governments and policymaking. The Ombudsperson could engage directly in the policy-making process and assesses the longterm effects of policies from an integrated perspective. Only an independent body without the requirement to be re-elected by current voters can fully focus on the long-term analysis and represent it without any hesitation.

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## Global Research Forum on Sustainable Production and Consumption (GRF-SPC)

Text not available.

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## Global Universities Partnership for Environment and Sustainability (GUPES)

Global Universities Partnership for Environment and Sustainability (GUPES)

### INPUTS FOR RIO+20 CONFERENCE ZERO DRAFT OUTCOME DOCUMENT

Role and contributions of Higher Education in Sustainable Development recognizing the Rio+20 themes of Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (GESDPE) and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD)

Universities around the world are increasingly embracing strategies and initiatives focused on promoting environment and sustainable development focussed learning and research, campus sustainability, interdisciplinarity sustainability programmes and social responsibility. Higher Education has been identified globally as a critical agent in furthering sustainable development in society; particularly towards strengthening a knowledge economy and transformative practices associated with sustainable development and poverty eradication. (e.g. Rio Principles, Talloires and Tbilisi Declarations, Earth Charter, Treaty on Environmental Education for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility, Getting it Together: interdisciplinarity and Sustainability in the Higher Education Institution, UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-14).

The current environmental and economic crises highlight the urgency to develop and equip a cadre of leaders familiar with issues, challenges and solutions in relation to GESDPE and IFSD. These crises require a new kind of critical thinking to engage with uncertainty, and in the crafting of sustainable development models which reduce human ecological footprints, promote social equity and inclusiveness, strengthen economic fundamentals and reduce poverty. In addition, holistic thinking and understanding of current and future sustainability challenges are imperative. Academia can lead efforts that support social, economic and environmental innovations within and beyond campuses locally and globally, thereby generating large multiplier effects. Universities are well positioned for these efforts as they prepare immediate, energetic and alert leaders for following generations.



The Global Universities Partnership for Environment and Sustainability (GUPES) is a framework designed to address this need, bringing together over 100 Universities from across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean, West Asia, Europe, and North America. Collaborative learning and action for sustainability networks, international communities of students, faculty and university leaders to foster environmental creativity and innovation are facilitated through the GUPES platform. In addition to concrete environmental benefits, the global GUPES platform offers intrinsic social and educational value.

The implementation of best practices developed by universities in their surrounding communities serve as teaching and learning tools, since they create new forms of research and teaching for applied science, technology, and engineering. As local and global centres of innovation, these efforts can spread ideas, experiences, technologies and practices to communities around the world who may otherwise not have access to such resources/experiences.

At the core of GUPES is the role Universities can foster for critical thinking e.g. on emerging ethics and values towards the next generation of planetary leadership.

#### Contribution of Universities to GESDPE:

1. Conceptualize, develop and apply the fundamentals of green economy at various levels, while addressing issues of scale, scope and power, through engagement with communities;
2. Develop metrics for measuring and evaluating the extent and progress in green economy initiatives at different levels;
3. Promote iterative and critically reflective processes to address issues of consumption, production and sufficiency, using culture as an aspiration;
4. Undertake Life Cycle Analysis as a key part of the Green Economy, through alternative models and options for eco-literacy, green education, green jobs, etc.;
5. Take a lead role in identifying local solutions for local challenges in the context of GESDPE; within a wider global context of sustainable development and poverty reduction.

#### Contribution of Universities to IFSD:

##### 1. Leadership:

Create intellectual capital and environmental leadership on critical environmental and sustainability issues and foster opportunities for sustainable development, whereby universities provide effective and efficient social learning platforms to shape actions, policy, legal frameworks and governance at local, national, regional and global levels.

##### 2. Institutions:

Generate innovative ideas and solutions on institutional change and mechanisms and processes for advancing sustainable development, taking into account current and future problems and prospects affecting humanity and the planet;

Develop institutional frameworks to effectively influence policy through knowledge generated at universities and systematically interacting with policy stakeholders, thereby facilitating inter/intra-generational connections/collaborations; Graduate a next generation of green leadership imbued with awareness and responsibility of contemporary environmental sustainability issues, innovative tools, expertise and networks.

##### 3. Research:

Conduct interdisciplinary research that can influence policy and practice, including translational research in addressing current and future sustainability challenges;

Conduct research that supports ongoing innovation in education, training and wider social learning systems that strengthen/fast-track re-orientation of societal structures;

Implement applied/action research aimed at alleviating communally identified and prioritized social, economic and environmental challenges at various levels, such as reduction of carbon emissions and reduced energy consumption.

##### 4. Teaching and Curriculum:

Integrate basic principles into education viz., equity, ethics, respect, social and ecological justice, thereby reaffirming agreed commitments, e.g. Earth Charter;

Review and renew curriculum and teaching methods to support learning that articulates with, and critically engages with new forms of knowledge, inter-disciplinarily, and with stakeholders, including business and civil society, including methods which encourage hands-on and minds-on learning;

Develop curriculum innovations and methodologies for successful teaching and learning in a changing knowledge environment;

Utilization of "living lab" applied and constructive teaching and learning models, that include interaction with local communities;

Ensure opportunities for values of empathy and innovation to emerge in university practice as well as critical reflections on the role of universities on sustainability; Transfer of appropriate science and technology and practical skills which encourage critical thinking and innovation.

##### 5. Community engagement:

Jointly research and apply sustainability initiatives with local communities.

##### 6. Practices:

Implement institutional (on-campus) sustainability practices (e.g. reducing carbon footprints) to transform campuses into green/sustainable campuses and adaptation approaches/strategies to impacts/risks of climate change.

#### University Action Recommendations to be included in the Zero Draft:

1. Increase awareness of GESDPE and IFSD at higher education for renewed political commitment;

2. Create institutional culture of sustainability and sustainability leadership at Universities;
3. Collaborate in new areas of knowledge generation, such as promoting systemic, inter-disciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches to research, teaching and learning on environment and sustainability issues;
4. Broaden service learning and outreach locally, nationally and internationally through the Global University Partnership for Environment and Sustainability (GUPES);
5. Create research, solution expos and other centres to support key aspects of GESDPE and IFSD application at Universities;
6. Transform university campuses into sustainable/green campuses, while connecting with local communities;
7. Re-orient university curricula to include concepts of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) supportive of GESDPE and IFSD;
8. Seek out, support and recognize alternative networked sources of environmental leadership at Universities (e.g. student leadership);
9. Student-led/oriented/influenced higher education in the context of Greening of Universities;
10. Establish a sustainable cycle connecting Green Education, Green Jobs and Green Economy.

Universities can provide platforms where people and institutions move away from 'Business as Usual' to 'A Transformational Paradigm Change of Sustainability'.

Universities must be empowered to elaborate the concept, principles and parameters for a 'Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication'.

Universities are capable of adopting holistic and systemic approaches to promote relevant knowledge, teaching and learning in the transition towards the application of GESDPE and IFSD concepts.

There is an urgent need to recognize and prioritize the role of Universities as key hubs that facilitate transformational change towards sustainable and resilient societies.

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## Global University Network for Innovation (GUNi)

### GUNi'S INPUT FOR RIO+20

#### Input on UNCSD Compilation Document

1. Expectations of Outcome: What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio +20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

In the Outcome Document, two key aspects for the construction of sustainable development should appear: the role of knowledge and its use, and the role of education in the construction of a sustainable future for humanity and the planet:

#### - The Role of Knowledge:

We are on the verge of a change in the model of civilization, which cannot be constructed from the old paradigms of a system which has already met its limits. Sustainability involves the development of a new culture that attributes a different kind of value to knowledge and that questions the assumptions on which we are sustaining the comprehension of the world and the human dynamics in it.

The major contribution of higher education to sustainability is the co-creation of pertinent knowledge for the understanding of reality, and of doing it with anticipation so as to play a proactive and committed role in the transformation and positive change of societies.

The role of higher education as agents of social transformation and how its visions and actions could be re-oriented towards a new understanding of knowledge, broadening the scope of the use of knowledge in society to facilitate the emergence of better and positive contributions to global human coexistence.

Renew thought for society: break the conformity of thought by proactively criticizing the world of ideas. Transform the paradigms and beliefs established in social, economic and political systems, how we organize our community and how this is reflected in our education systems.

Analyze the ethical, social and environmental implications of the advance of knowledge: Increase the resources invested in analyzing the impact of science and technology and augment the capacity to absorb their expansion, in all aspects of human life.

#### - The role of Education:

Education is the key for change: sustainable development is a learning process, a way how people is prepared to live and to understand the world they live in. Rethink how we prosper, specially how we do it collectively and then we have to reconsider how we are educating and for what purpose. Now is the moment to widen the scope of education and research in society and to move beyond creating socio-economic wellbeing towards the transformation of society as a whole and the creation of a sustainable global community.

2. Comments on Existing Proposals: What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g. a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

HEIs can contribute to a green economy and to sustainable development goals by providing the lessons learnt by its research, through the training of the professionals of the future, and by introducing technological advances.

#### - Research

Experiences and lessons learned: provide solutions through research and through higher education experiences on sustainable development. Democratize access to knowledge and research: provide open access to expert knowledge, making it as useful as it can be for international organizations, UN system, governments, civil

associations and citizenry. Move to the idea of socially relevant knowledge as human heritage.

Networking and research for local needs and global challenges: Cooperation and co-creation of knowledge and technology. Local needs require local proposals in global frameworks, and global challenges require global solutions that are locally acceptable. However, global solutions can come from local experience and vice versa. Explore how to link scientific research and political decision making related to collective well-being.

- Training and development of professionals that can lead the shift towards sustainability

Go beyond educating professionals to educating citizens: The mission of higher education is to prepare critical professionals, with ethical awareness and civic commitment. Know how to contribute to the common good through professional practice. Educate for locality, democracy, citizenship, intercultural dialogue and relations, peace building, sustainability, global social justice and a deep understanding of life's dynamics. Make links with previous levels of education. Introduce complexity, uncertainty and transdisciplinarity in the training and in research, towards a holistic vision of reality. Link different areas of knowledge in order to understand complex issues and find solutions to the great problems in the local and global context.

- Technology

Incorporate sustainability in the creation of technology: shift paradigms from individual competitiveness, economic profitability and a short-term focus to the collective, with social and human benefits and sustainable in the long term.

3. Views on Implementation: What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.) It is necessary to shorten the time in which knowledge reaches society. The democratization of knowledge and education must bring better decisions and actions based on a suitable use of knowledge.

The access to education and specially to higher education is an indicator of human development and there is a co-relation between education and the eradication of poverty (source: GUNI Reports on Higher Education in the World).

4. Implementation Tools and Timelines: What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

Open up to society: proactive engagement in dialogue with citizens and the rest of social, cultural and economic stakeholders. Create a true knowledge-based society through engagement with society as a whole. Provide a plurality of expert advice in dealing with green economy, poverty and the sustainable development goals. The creation of real partnerships for the co-creation of knowledge and answers to problems and to co-create visions for the future. Partnerships between higher education institutions (at all levels or scales), partnerships with the community stakeholders, and partnerships with governments, NGOs, civil associations, etc. Become cosmopolitan centres of global culture: build bridges between different cultures and sources of knowledge. Knowledge is no longer produced exclusively by and consumed within universities. Instead, their task should be to connect different kinds of knowledge, forging links between knowledge and citizenship.

The Role of Tertiary Education

HEIs can play a significant role in building a sustainable paradigm. They may help in facing local and global challenges, facilitating society to answer major global challenges. Their vision and action could be reinforced with a role review towards the creation and distribution of socially relevant knowledge in education and research and in the relationship with communities. They can support, and even anticipate, ways for action to play a proactive and committed role in rebuilt societies.

Higher education can prepare people to handle complex realities in a simple way and they should integrate emotional abilities with instrumental and knowledge related abilities. They can train people to learn to learn; to fully understand uncertainty and change; to handle a vast and complex universe of data from many sources and of many different natures; and to discriminate between information, knowledge and wisdom. They can train people to understand what we are, what we are like and how to be, both as individuals and as a group, and to manage their own education and development throughout life. It is an education based on the development of the individual. It is about learning to be, to know, to do, to live together and to transform oneself and society. All this implies personal, family and societal well-being; respecting and searching for knowledge and wisdom; engagement in productive work and recreation; social justice and cohesion; inter-cultural and international co-operation and peace; food security; active citizenship; futures thinking; responsible lifestyles; sharing of resources; and adaptability.

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## Gray Panthers

Gray Panthers Statement on Rio+20 2012

Green Economy, Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

June 4-6, 2012, nations will come together in Rio de Janeiro for the Earth Summit to discuss sustainable development and search for agreeable outcomes. In order to achieve a win-win agreement, we must understand the problems and the needs and work together to achieve mutually acceptable goals.

Problems and needs

The following regions have identified the described problems in achieving a green economy and sustainable development:

Asia & Pacific Region: Depletion of fresh water resources; industrial pollution; poor waste management; rising sea level; marine and ocean resources management problem; and inefficient institutions and governance.

Latin America & Caribbean Region: Lack of science / technology knowledge and financial resources; high poverty rates without basic services and adequate medical care; small island states need knowledge of disaster prevention and preparedness through education and media communication. Call for the creation of more efficient parameters for assessing a country's wealth and appeal for a global institutional mechanism to foster sustainable development.

African Countries: Need to meet the growing demand for water, food and health and to create employment to reduce poverty. Major employment opportunities are in natural resource-based sectors such as agriculture, the mineral sector, forestry, fisheries and tourism. However, African countries face threats of environmental degradation, including deforestation, soil erosion, desertification, loss of biodiversity, depletion of fish stocks and effects of climate change; Lack of information, expertise and technology.

Arab Region: The food crisis, water scarcity, large population growth and the absence of waste management are the main problems. Need to improve education and promote vocational training. Call for national country analyses on country-specific strategies for greening economies.

The UNECE Region: focuses on helping countries of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia and of South-Eastern Europe to improve their environmental standards.

Propose "Green Bridge" Partnership Program to enhance cooperation among Asia, Europe, and the Pacific and to encourage transfer of clean technology, joint investments, exchange of experiences, and the preservation of common ecosystems.

Gray Panthers recommendation for sustainable solution:

Gray Panthers believes there is no "one-size-fits-all" approach for greening the economy and poverty eradication. Only through collective action and partnership from governments, private sector, local authorities, and civil society can countries achieve sustainable outcomes with the help of international experts and UN agencies. Countries can improve efficiency and delivery of water systems, desalinization processes and waste management system. They can promote near carbon free activities, renewable energy, sustainable transportation and agriculture.

Gray Panthers offers the following recommendations:

1. Agree on an international green economy roadmap with CO2 emission commitments and financial support commitments.
2. Make nation country-specific strategies be inclusive, partnering with the private sector, civil society, academia and local authorities. Partner with regional economic communities as well as international institution and UN agencies. The strategies must be people-centered and be included in national laws.
3. Set up targets and indicators for a green economy for environmental and resource assessment, environmental qualities of life, job creation and market signal.
4. Create an expert council and establish periodical environmental performance review mechanism to monitor and evaluate at all stages of programming.
5. Share the best practice experiences. Example are Kawaa village solar energy electricity service; India's rainwater harvesting technique; Australia's Astana Water Action (AWA) that centralized networks for urban waste water collection and treatment as well as drinking water supply. Another example is Singapore's water and sanitation utility for rain water catchment, reclaimed water, and desalination systems.
6. Use shared environmental information system (SEIS) to register all the above activities. SEIS serves as a constant reminder of commitment and progress of achievement. SEIS improves transparency, avoid overlapping activities and serves as networking and educational tool for carbon footprint, sustainable consumption and production, and sustainable life style.

We are one world. We are black, white, yellow, brown, indigenous, men and women, young and old, rich and poor. We are citizens of developed countries, developing countries, in public or private sectors, businessmen or consumers, NGOs or expert institutions. We all have human rights. Gray Panthers believes human rights for all are the basis for sustainable development and poverty eradication. We call upon member states to fully utilize the existing accomplishments, best practices, and recommendations to negotiate in good faith to achieve a win-win agreement for all.

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## Green Budget Europe

Environmental Fiscal Reform (EFR)

The key to achieving a green economy

GBE demands for the Rio+20 summit

- Removal of market distortions which work against the environment and climate change mitigation, by means of the internalisation of external costs, must be agreed to constitute a fundamental principle of a green economy by governments in Rio.
- EFR - the abolition of environmentally harmful subsidies and the introduction or increase of environmental taxes - must be identified as one of the most central and fast instruments for the realisation of a green economy. All governments must make a concrete commitment to implement EFR in the immediate future.
- Industrialised countries should lead the way by committing to raise the share of environmental taxes in overall taxation to at least 10% and phase out all environmentally harmful subsidies - both by 2020.

Green economy - a fig leaf for business as usual?

A green economy is one which ensures that the market treats humanity, the environment and capital, at least on an equal basis, in terms of taxation, legislation, accounting, and so on. Green economy has become the new buzzword in sustainable development. However, neither the requirement to fundamentally reform the way our economies work, nor the urgency of making such changes to prevent dangerous climate change and irreversible environmental deterioration are reflected in the current policy discourse. For the concept not to become a meaningless mantra or, worse, to be misused as a fig-leaf for a capitalism painted green and stripped of the social objectives of sustainable development, concrete principles and objectives for a green economy must be agreed upon by governments at the Rio+20 summit. Our ecological objective is clear: to avoid catastrophic environmental change, humanity must stay within defined planetary boundaries for a range of earth-system processes. These planetary boundaries have already been overstepped in relation to CO2 concentrations in the atmosphere, radiative forcing, rate of biodiversity loss, and the amount of nitrogen removed from the atmosphere for human use. Consumption of natural resources is also rapidly reaching unsustainable levels - Europeans today consume an average of 16 tonnes per year, while the UNEP International Resource Panel estimates that global annual consumption of 6 tonnes per capita is sustainable. The realization of a green economy will require a number of policy measures. However, the most fundamental must be to ensure that prices tell the ecological truth and provide steady incentives for environmental improvements, particularly by correcting market distortions that encourage pollution and the depletion of natural resources. EFR is an essential tool for the realisation of this process and should be at the centre of the move to a green economy. Other market based instruments should not be ruled out, but they do not act with the force and speed of EFR.

EFR as a tool to bring about radical change

The IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report in 2007 identified market distortions as one of the most significant barriers to climate change mitigation. Because the market price of certain environmentally damaging goods and services does not reflect their environmental, social and economic costs, false prices in the market encourage polluting or high-emitting behaviours. Costs not internalised in market prices have to be paid by those populations most vulnerable to climate change and environmental deterioration, as well as by future generations.

EFR redistributes the burden of taxation, and reforms mechanisms within the fiscal system, so that environmentally harmful activities become more costly, thus creating appropriate price signals for producers and consumers to reduce pollution and inefficient energy and resource use. EFR can therefore correct market failures, because it includes the costs of environmental and social damage or resource use in the price of a particular pollutant or resource, e.g. by means of a tax, or as a result of the removal of an environmentally harmful tax exemption or subsidy. Correcting these market failures improves economic efficiency and raises additional revenues, which be used e.g. to reduce the tax burden elsewhere, for poverty alleviation, or to reduce budget deficits and thus contribute to solving the current fiscal and economic crisis.

Implementing comprehensive EFR means that a country's spending and annual budgeting, its taxation policy, and the markets within and beyond its borders, are designed and act in such a way that they protect the environment. Thus, EFR harnesses the power of the market – one of the most influential mechanisms policy makers can use to change behaviour, particularly that of diverse and diffuse actors – to reduce environmental damage. Markets and price signals which consistently act in favour of environmental protection and greener economic development will change the way we produce and consume goods and enhance energy and resource efficiency.

There is considerable evidence that the relative price changes resulting from EFR as a stand-alone instrument can achieve significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reductions. Indeed some EU countries, e.g. Sweden and Denmark, have achieved conclusive decoupling of GDP growth and GHG emissions. Econometric modelling has demonstrated that global cooperation on the introduction of a radical environmental tax reform in 2010 could cause GHG emissions to decline by as soon as 2020 with relatively low impacts on GDP growth (Ekins 2009). In the absence of alternative policy proposals predicted to bring about anything close to this level of emissions reduction, we can ill afford to ignore the case in favour of EFR.

Environmental fiscal reform in developing and industrialising economies EFR tends to be overlooked in the context of industrialising and developing economies, in spite of the fact that it has the potential to make even rapid economic development in e.g. the BRICS, compatible with environmental and sustainability goals.

In these countries, where governments collect comparatively low levels of tax revenue, it may be preferable to use environmental taxes to raise additional revenues for e.g. health or welfare, rather than to implement a green tax shift.

Environmental taxes have a particular appeal in the context of developing and industrialising economies, as they are often easy to implement, difficult to evade and have low administrative costs. A tax on transport fuels, for example, can use collection mechanisms already in place for excise duties and target a small number of taxpayers, thus keeping evasion to a minimum. Additionally, most environmental taxes are designed to be progressive. This is the case for transport taxes, for example, particularly in lower income countries where motorisation rates are low. Where regressive impacts are a concern, flanking measures can be implemented – e.g. compensation mechanisms or support in switching to alternative technologies or behaviours – to protect the socially vulnerable from the impact of increased energy or resource prices.

Environmental taxes will drive the economy towards sustainable growth, helping developing and industrialising economies to avoid the mistakes of the industrialised economies, their over-consumption of resources and land, their unlimited increase in GHG emissions, their production of water pollutants and landfilled waste, and their disproportionate impact on the planet. A common argument against the expansion and increasing reliance on the environment as a stable source of revenue is the concern that revenues will fall over time. However, many of these tax bases are extremely large and will be available long into the future, e.g. energy, waste, water, materials, land values, etc. To deal with such concerns and minimise the rebound effect increased use of energy / resources in response to increased efficiency environmental tax rates can be progressively increased in line with gains in e.g. resource or energy efficiency to maximise the dynamism of price incentives to change behaviour over time (see e.g. Weizsäcker 2009). Furthermore, environmental degradation constantly assumes new forms, which call for new taxes.

#### Phase-out of environmentally harmful subsidies

Government budgets in many developing and industrialising countries are lower than in the industrialised world and on average, tax revenues amount to a much smaller proportion of GDP than e.g. in the European Union. Thus it is all the more important that these countries do not spend their limited revenues inefficiently or unnecessarily, or in a way that contradicts other policy goals. Prime examples of wasteful spending are environmentally harmful subsidies (EHS). These often entail additional government spending or lost revenues due to favourable tax treatment of practices which effectively counteract environmental policy or support unsound environmental practices. EHS are a way of paying polluters to pollute the very opposite of the polluter pays principle. Neither industrialising and developing countries, nor those industrialised countries with severe budget deficits, can afford to spend scarce revenues on environmentally damaging practices.

Removing subsidies in energy, water, fisheries and agricultural sectors alone would save 1-2% of global GDP every year, revenues which would be freed up e.g. for investment in low-carbon industries and green technologies (OECD 2011). The phase-out of global fossil fuel consumer subsidies by 2020 would incentivise greater rates of energy efficiency and a shift to renewable energies and so reduce global CO2 emissions by 6.9% by 2020 the combined emissions of France, Germany, UK, Spain and Italy (IEA 2010).

The sheer scale of spending on EHS highlights the potential of reform to turn around the way our economies work - simply by changing the way governments spend money. Subsidy reform also has multiple benefits alongside environmental improvements, including more efficient public spending, fewer market distortions and policy contradictions, and health and welfare benefits. Subsidy reform and its associated benefits can make a significant contribution to the necessary 'leapfrogging' of developing and industrialising economies onto a greener development path.

#### Summary

If the Rio+20 summit is to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, it must also muster political commitment to secure the means of realising sustainable development - and this should include serious political commitment to implement EFR.

We often say that money makes the world go round. If we accept this basic premise, then EFR, which seeks to harness the power of money to incentivise changes in the behaviour of producers and consumers, must surely be amongst the most powerful tools of all. EFR not only offers governments the means to cope with their often large and increasing budget deficits, but also to radically reform and green the global, national and local economies. Radical EFR is one of the most feasible means of preventing dangerous and irreversible climate change, as it deals with obstacles to change - market failures - and uses the power of the market economy itself as the driving force for reform.

## Green Cross International

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

- For the Rio+20 Conference to result in a plan for transformative action to put the global community on the path to sustainable development. We can no longer afford a process that merely creates new treaties and conventions. The time has come to put the spotlight on individual and collective actions of governments to achieve sustainable development goals.
- For country representatives and state leaders to use this platform and announce specific and incremental (new) sustainable development initiatives, challenges, commitments and how they can work as part of a global, inter-governmental framework to promote an effective means of sustainable development.
- For the Rio+20 ambitious and action-oriented outcome document to be politically-binding and to recognize the imminent threat of exceeding our planet's natural limits. It must recommit governments to act on their promises and ensure that these are sufficient to address the scale of the challenges that we are facing to ensure development path that

is truly sustainable – for the sake of their populations and of humanity as a whole. Such political commitments must be aggregated and presented in an appendix of country commitments to the outcomes document for a global registry of sustainability actions. Adequate enforcement mechanisms must be incorporated.

- For the document to provide specific solution-paths commensurate with the declared ambitions of the Summit. For example, the document could envisage the curtailment of military expenditures and propose such proceeds be invested meeting Millennium Development Goals and other initiatives that promote sustainable development, particularly in the global south. Two decades since the end of the Cold War, over 20,000 nuclear weapons still exist, with many on high alert and each much deadlier than those that devastated Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Almost US\$105 billion was projected to be spent on nuclear weapons in 2011, up from US\$91 billion in 2010. Shifting such monies away from weapons to sustainable development would have profound impacts on the lives of over 3 billion people and would promote security and stability around the world. Spending US\$105 billion annually over five years could:

- o Lift 1 billion people out of poverty.
- o Allow 60 million more children to live past their 5th birthdays.
- o Supply 700 million people with clean drinking water.
- o Give 1.3 billion people access to basic sanitation.
- o Provide 280 million children with proper nutrition.

- For the document to reflect the need to re-invent our measures of progress and recognize the need to incorporate “externalities” in decision making models. Following the 2008-09 economic crisis, we need to re-invent our operating models in a way that is transparent, inclusive, environmentally sound and socially fair. Speeding up the phase-out of subsidies for practices that are destructive socially and to the environment must be identified as a priority.

- For the adoption of the Earth Charter as a fundamental document to promote and reinstall principles of shared ethical and spiritual values in making the transition to a sustainable way of life.

- Skepticism over the world’s ability to achieve the Millennium Development Goals is unacceptable. A new vision and energy is needed to report and monitor how to achieve these goals to ensure their noble aspirations are fulfilled.

- Expanding the set of five thematic clusters for reporting, as proposed by Resolution 64/236 to include “security in the context of sustainable development.”

- For Green Cross International to be given the mandate to report biennially on our subject matter area, that being the nexus of environmental degradation, insecurity and poverty eradication, and to monitor how sustainable development practices can achieve positive gains in these areas.

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

- The outcome document for Rio+20 must stress the need for a holistic response to our sustainable development challenges, one that ensures a systemic approach to security, poverty and the environment.

- Greening of the economy is just one part of what must be a multi-layered response. As a starter it will incorporate a dramatic increase in resource productivity, a reduced reliance on fossil fuels and a switch to alternative and renewable sources of energy. We cannot be fooled into thinking such “economic greening” will be the silver bullet for sustainable development. Rather, this is just a step on the road towards sustainability, and the global community must invest equal energy in securing peace, eradicating poverty and protecting our natural resources.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

- All sectors of modern society, governments, corporations and civil society, must contribute to the process of sustainable development.

- We must first close the gap between rhetoric and reality. In celebrating the green successes of corporations and governments we must ensure that their actions truly represent progress for the sustainability agenda.

- A dramatic increase in resource efficiency and waste reduction is a top priority. Waste is the enemy of sustainability. Smart energy and smart water initiatives must be celebrated to enable the access to alternative and renewable energy sources and safe drinking water globally. Systemic solutions must be implemented to reward institutions and corporations that adopt behaviors that are socially and environmentally desirable.

- A mechanism of accountability and enforcement is needed to ensure governments and economic groupings keep to their promises and commitments when it comes to sustainable development.

- The contribution of civil society in advancing sustainability objectives must be recognized, promoted and given a more meaningful, actionable role in implementing sustainable development measures globally.

- In recognition of the short-term limitations of political cycles, sustainability must be given a permanent platform that transcends these time limitations in order to allow the implementation of socially desirable objectives with longer-term horizons, including those of future generations.

- The capabilities of the United Nations, through the Commission on Sustainable Development and other mechanisms, must be enhanced to allow for greater actionable leadership to advance sustainable development objectives. Climate change and environmental degradation require adequate a more effective institutional framework that should be determined at the highest possible level and warrants the involvement of the UN Security Council.

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

- Civil society organizations, as representatives of the global community, must be enabled to cooperate in a more effective and meaningful manner when it comes to global sustainable development initiatives. This can be fostered within the existing United Nations system.

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**Specific Elements**

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

- For the document to provide specific solution-paths commensurate with the declared ambitions of the Summit. For example, the document could envisage the curtailment of military expenditures and propose such proceeds be invested meeting Millennium Development Goals and other initiatives that promote sustainable development, particularly in the global south.

- Expanding the set of five thematic clusters for reporting, as proposed by Resolution 64/236 to include "security in the context of sustainable development."

- For Green Cross International to be given the mandate to report biennially on our subject matter area, that being the nexus of environmental degradation, insecurity and poverty eradication, and to monitor how sustainable development practices can achieve positive gains in these areas.

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

- Greening of the economy is just one part of what must be a multi-layered response. As a starter it will incorporate a dramatic increase in resource productivity, a reduced reliance on fossil fuels and a switch to alternative and renewable sources of energy. We cannot be fooled into thinking such "economic greening" will be the silver bullet for sustainable development. Rather, this is just a step on the road towards sustainability, and the global community must invest equal energy in securing peace, eradicating poverty and protecting our natural resources.

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Green Cross International was created in 1993 in response to a call made during the 1992 Rio Earth Summit to create a Red Cross for the environment that would apply the emergency response model to ecological issues and trans-border environmental crises. Today, Green Cross operates in over 30 countries and works through advocacy and on-the-ground projects to address the nexus of environmental degradation, security and poverty eradication.

Two decades since the idea for a Green Cross was floated, we return to Rio for the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development as a fully-fledged global organization, determined to help maximize the outcome of Rio+20.

#### Conclusion

Green Cross recognizes the United Nations position that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development.

This same premise was also well understood in 1992, but clearly not enough has been done in the 20 years following to respond to such realities.

We cannot afford to allow another two decades pass without taking urgent, concrete action on these fronts. Failure could result in irretrievable consequences. Success, however, can ensure a brighter future for humanity today, tomorrow and in the future, as well as for the planet that sustains us.

## Green Economy Coalition

Green Economy Coalition Submission to UNCSD Zero Draft Text

1 November 2011

### 1. Introduction

The Green Economy Coalition<sup>1</sup> (GEC) brings together trade unions, consumer organisations, NGOs, academic institutes, businesses and UN bodies. We represent different constituencies, we specialise in different areas and we come from different parts of the world. Despite our diversity we have come to understand that the multiple crises we face as a global community are not only interconnected, but share the same systemic root causes. We have come together because we share a common vision and a joint mission. This submission represents the broad consensus across the coalition. The 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development comes at a critical point in history. The time has come to take action and to provide the kind of leadership that for too long has eluded us. We must be able to look back on 2012 as the year when we set in motion a new economic pathway to steer finance back to its true role of serving, not dominating, real economies<sup>2</sup>, in order to restore resilient ecosystems and generate prosperous communities for all.

Our vision is one of a resilient economy that provides a better quality of life for all within the ecological limits of the planet

Our mission is to accelerate a just transition to a green and fair economy

We wish to see the Rio 2012 conference commit to the policies and targets that help build an economy that provides a better quality of life for all within the ecological limits of the planet. The GEC calls on governments to agree to the following targets:

1. By 2015, to have created a clear plan on how to end poverty, with an agreed target for its achievement
2. By 2015, to produce national green economy roadmaps founded on the principles of sustainable development, that include nationally self-identified targets to double the number of 'green and decent jobs' as a result of sustainable investments and decent work policies
3. By 2015, to deliver all ODA commitments on the part of both developed and developing countries
4. By 2015, to have developed relevant metrics to measure societal and environmental 'wealth', beyond GDP and macroeconomics. This should be signed and implemented

by all states by 2020

5. By 2020, to mainstream ecosystem values into central banks, International Financial Institutions, national planning and corporate accounting

6. By 2030, achieve the UN's objective for sustainable energy<sup>3</sup> to provide universal access to modern energy services, doubling energy efficiency and doubling the share of renewable energy in the world's energy supply

2. Green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development

#### Principles

The transition to a green economy will be specific to the economic, political, cultural and environmental context of each country; no 'one size fits all'. To understand these different contexts and visions, the Green Economy Coalition has supported a series of national dialogues in India, Brazil, the Caribbean and Mali. Each process generated distinct conversations, which addressed the particular challenges and opportunities of different national contexts. However, a number of converging themes have emerged across all of the dialogues. Above all there is an acute frustration at the failure of the present economic and financial order to move the world closer to sustainability and shared prosperity.

The national dialogues have emphasised that the transition must be built on the following principles: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Sustainable development remains the most important and relevant development paradigm for dealing with the converging economic, ecological and climate crises. However, bringing attention to the economic components of development through a focus on 'green economy' is a useful lens and should prompt more sustainable economic management, particularly concerning consumption and production. A transition to a green economy must be a vehicle for achieving sustainable development.

#### EQUITY

The current financial and economic system has failed to adequately address the immense inequity, both within and between countries. Inequity is a considerable barrier to achieving progress towards more sustainable lifestyles. A green economy must include a more equitable development model. A green economy must eliminate poverty and make the lives of the poor more secure and their livelihoods less precarious. It must generate new opportunities for small and micro-entrepreneurs, including those working in the informal economy, and recognise unpaid, voluntary work and all forms of wealth that are beyond money. It must commit to trade equity by creating new opportunities for developing countries in domestic and foreign markets, rather than setting up standards of production and verification that developing country exporters cannot meet.

#### RESILIENCE

The means by which governments, businesses and financial institutions have pursued economic growth through unsustainable uses of natural resources and patterns of consumption have left people and the environment vulnerable and exposed. A green economy must build resilience into ecosystems, societies and the economy itself. In order to build resilience into societies and the economy, a green economy must build strong social protection systems including social transfers, income security, health security, child benefits, maternity protection, unemployment benefits, good quality essential public services, adequate nutrition, housing and education. It must make natural resource-dependent sectors productive, durable, respectful of natural limitations and capable of providing employment opportunities. It must generate new jobs and training for all economic actors including those in the informal sector, young people and women. It must support SMMEs, CSOs, voluntary work and communities.

#### ACCOUNTABILITY

We will only reach a more equitable and sustainable economy for all actors, including governments, if businesses are made accountable for their actions and decisions. Business models based on externalising costs to taxpayers and future generations must be phased out. Markets must be better regulated, with good practices rewarded and bad practices penalised. Appropriate incentives for the private sector based on full-cost pricing and lifecycle costing need to be generated and enforced, particularly for SMMEs. Economic textbooks and business school curricula must be modernised, and financial asset managers re-trained and re-certified accordingly.

#### CITIZEN EMPOWERMENT

Economic and financial decision making has been consolidated in the hands of a few powerful stakeholders. Green economies will need to be owned and defined by a range of economic actors that includes workers, consumers, small producers and entrepreneurs, women and young people. This will require an empowered civil society that has the capacity and the knowledge to allow these actors to actively participate, shape and monitor decision making at all levels.

#### 3. Rio 2012 commitments

With these principles in mind, the Green Economy Coalition members urge governments to commit at Rio 2012 to the following areas of change:

i. IMPROVING GOVERNANCE AND MEASUREMENT: green economic governance will redefine 'progress' in light of environmental and societal needs, and make governments, businesses and citizens accountable for their actions

- Commit to develop and implement relevant ways of measuring national 'wealth' beyond money, specifically with new indicators on societal wellbeing and environmental health. Global metrics should build on and develop the work already carried out by NGOs and governments including the Nine Planetary Boundaries, Ecological Footprint, Stiglitz Report, the OECD's Better Life Index and Genuine Progress Indicator, the Canadian Index of Wellbeing, the Millennium Development Goals dashboard and the Calvert-Henderson Quality of Life Indicators, to measure the sustainability of income through access to a range of indicators including health, education, political decision making, security and the fair allocation of resources, all of which should be publically displayed on websites. Beyond the Stiglitz report, GDP itself must subtract externalities and report net incomes per capita. UNCSO should reach agreement on a deadline to endorse common methods and practices, with a view to producing global standards, so that nationally defined indicators can be comparable at the international level and with appropriate tools for monitoring and assessment.

- Commit to the concept of Sustainable Development Goals, linking to the relevant ways of measuring national 'wealth' on societal wellbeing and environmental health (including development and environmental objectives such as poverty reduction, energy access, footprint reduction, planetary boundaries, water management, resource efficiency, food production, agriculture and ranching, marine and fisheries). Any agreed set of SDGs should have universal targets and transparent public indicators for both developing and developed countries, and involve active participation on the part of all stakeholders.

- Commit to global and regional convention(s) as well as national commitments to fully implement Principle.

- All large private and public enterprises should be required to internalise all external costs, and report on their environmental and social impacts and contribution to wellbeing, or explain why they do not. We call on governments, international bodies and major groups including business to:

" Acknowledge the growing practice of sustainability reporting, and that improving corporate management and performance, facilitating stakeholder engagement, driving innovation and competitiveness all represent an essential contribution to the transition towards a Green Economy.



" Note that the increased quantity and quality of data available through sustainability reporting helps markets work more efficiently.

" Commit to develop a global policy framework that requires all listed and large private companies to consider sustainability issues and to integrate material sustainability information within their reporting cycle, and in their Annual Report and Accounts - or explain why if they do not. The global policy framework, which could take the form of a Convention, should adhere to three key principles:

o report or explain - establish a report or explain approaches to sustainability reporting policy;

o transparency - enhance transparency by requiring national measures that would mandate the integration of material sustainability issues within the company reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts;

o accountability - provide effective mechanisms for investors and all stakeholders to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

" Recognize the need for a process that builds on data available through sustainability reporting, leading to the development and adoption of macro-level, multi-disciplinary metrics such as the Sustainable Development Indicators that, beyond GDP, would allow a more comprehensive measurement of wellbeing, environmental health and the progress made towards a green economy.

" UN member states should commit to using their power and influence within international economic bodies such as the World Bank, IMF, and WTO, in order to update their economic and financial models and to enable these bodies to play their full part in the global transition to a green economy.

- Expand support for certifications that use a balanced multi-stakeholder, science-based approach and operate with a transparent system allowing for certification and trade of goods, and that come with robust, independent and reliable verification requirements. Further, commit to develop certifications based on these principles for goods that are currently not covered, as well as for carbon trading. Ensure these mechanisms bring together governments, business, trade unions and civil society in order to foster certification criteria clearly grounded in science. Ensure that implementation, evaluation and monitoring of certification standards are open and transparent, inclusive and democratic in a way that consumers and producers can trust. Develop and enforce mechanisms for supporting achievement of certification by sustainable producers, including smallholders, in the developing world.

- Governments commit to supporting national and regional multi-stakeholder dialogues for a green economy. Our work has clarified that there is no one definition of a green economy. In order that green economies both prosper and meet the needs of local conditions they require national civil society and business engagement, action and the new forms of governance this will stimulate. We urge governments to support national multi-stakeholder dialogues and processes. By June 2012, GEC will have supported dialogues and follow-up processes in several countries and regions, from which it is expected that more specific calls for commitment may arise to meet particular needs. These processes and others like them need to be supported.

ii. DRIVING INVESTMENT AND FINANCIAL FLOWS: a green economy is one that will drive investment and financial flows towards restoring our environment and generating a better quality of life for all

- All public procurement contracts should include specifications for labour and environmental sustainability standards. Well-designed purchasing rules will stimulate a critical mass of demand for more sustainable goods and services, drive innovation across the supply chain and generate green, decent jobs.

- All financial transactions including foreign exchange transactions and foreign exchange derivatives should be subject to a Financial Transaction Tax<sup>7</sup> (FTT). Some funds levied from the tax should be ear-marked for the commitments from UNCSD.

- Pledge to phase out subsidies that undermine sustainable development.

- Support financial market reform to put an end to short term trading, ensure safe and fair financial services for consumers, and ensure that long term sustainability is mainstreamed into all financial services. In particular via support for newly established international oversight groups such as the Financial Stability Board, as well as the underlying framework contained in Basel III by including protection of ecosystem stability.

- Introduce fiscal policy, incentives and state owned investment vehicles, bonds and guarantees to drive increases in private investment flows towards resource efficiency and renewable, reliable and sustainable energy and water supplies in developing countries.

- Phase out the use of publicly funded communications infrastructure in high-frequency trading, naked credit derivatives and excessive leverage to prevent finance bubbles.

iii. INVESTING IN NATURAL CAPITAL: investing in, protecting and building the resilience of our ecosystems and biodiversity, for today and for future generations

- Strengthen and invest in government processes responsible for natural resource management and ecological restoration, and particularly in the natural systems on which poor and indigenous communities depend for their livelihoods, including drylands, wetlands, forests, freshwater water bodies and seas:

" Restore and safeguard ecosystems that provide essential services related to water, including along rivers, around lakes, in mountains and on steep slopes, and in coastal areas such as headwaters, floodplains, flooded forests, wetlands, aquifers' recharge zones, riparian vegetation and mangroves, as set out in Target 14 of the CBD Strategic Plan.

" Halt and reverse forest loss. Paying to preserve forests is a sound investment in order to sustainably provide goods (food, medicine, timber, construction materials) and services (preserving watersheds, stabilising soil and preventing erosion), as well as significantly contributing to greenhouse gas emission reduction.

Investing in the REDD+ mechanism under the UNFCCC, while ensuring the active participation of all affected communities and relevant stakeholders and that all carbon-markets are transparent and verified to prevent fraud and manipulation, offers a unique opportunity towards greening the economy. Any focus on carbon sequestration and storage should not outstrip the wider ecological values of forests, and such payments should not come at the expense of investments in energy efficiency or renewable energy. " Comply with Target 11 of the CBD Strategic Plan and use protected areas as a means of preserving the ecosystem services that are enjoyed by people in broader landscapes and seascapes.

" Prioritize the rehabilitation of degraded, abandoned or underperforming lands rather than farming in new areas.

" By 2015, significantly strengthen and invest in multi-stakeholder processes responsible for allocation and sustainable management of resources, highlighting the role of indigenous and traditional knowledge of sustainable natural resource management; for example by standard-setting for forest management certification, and land-, sea- and water-use planning within and between countries, as well as on the high seas.

" Commit to creating community owned natural resource management, thereby providing decent jobs for all.

" Mainstream ecosystem values into economic planning and all accounting systems. Commit to meeting Target 2 of the Biodiversity Aichi Targets: "by 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems". The Global Partnership for Wealth Accounting and Valuation of Ecosystem Services (WAVES)<sup>9</sup> offers a strong foundation for further strengthening this important area of work.

Develop appropriate economic and reporting tools, markets, incentives and policies, including Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES), to account for and maintain the benefits of ecosystems and of water, energy and food security for livelihoods and economic development. These should target not only corporations, but also local entrepreneurs, in order to generate new green businesses and 'green' existing ones.

- By 2015, there needs to be an international agreement on metrics to define a healthy natural system, involving all relevant stakeholders, and building on and bringing together work on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, Nine Planetary Boundaries, the European Parliament and Commission's Beyond GDP 2007, ecological footprinting and other measures. iv. INVESTING IN PEOPLE: a green economy is one that allocates environmental benefits and costs fairly to achieve a more just and equitable society
  - Support the establishment of and access to financial assets for rural and urban poor, and for SMMEs, by means of user-friendly schemes for financial services (such as micro-credit, meso- financing, credit unions, cell phones).
  - Actively promote equitable ownership and workers' rights across the economy, including in emerging industries, ensuring that social protection and dialogue are integrated into the core of decision-making.
  - Invest in education, training, skills development and capacity building to ensure a just transition for all workers.
  - Invest in building innovation systems in developing countries so that local capabilities for meeting and exceeding the MDGs can be improved over the longer term.
  - Encourage all countries to include a comprehensive program of value-based, holistic, interdisciplinary and practical education for sustainable living in their curricula, teacher training, school activities and consumer education activities.
  - Ensure the implementation of the UN Guidelines for Consumer Protection, in particular section G on sustainable consumption.
  - Increase investment by at least US\$35 billion worldwide in renewable energy capacity in developing countries, with international cooperation on the development, transfer and dissemination of technologies designed to facilitate energy-efficient, resource-efficient, low carbon and low-entropy economic development. Focus on supplying people in rural areas with greater access to reliable, affordable and sustainable energy supplies.
  - Commit to providing technical and financial support for public renewable energy systems and projects including community owned ones. Enhance grid policies to link the urban poor with power supplies from existing sources, while focusing on decentralised and mini-grid systems for the rural poor and villages.
  - Support small sustainable farmers in developing countries through measures that maximise their contribution to food and water security, environmental protection, livestock health and welfare, and climate adaptation. These measures would include access to markets, knowledge and information, along with well-designed technological assistance to increase the productivity of smallholders.
  - Introduce a Social Protection Floor for the most vulnerable members of society. Provide the poorest communities with a "protected" income, with social protection systems that can reduce poor families' pressure on natural resources. Recognise and account for unpaid work<sup>10</sup>.
  - All countries, both developed and developing, must meet ODA commitments by 2015. To date, only 10 out of 33 donors from the OECD's Development Assistance Committee have met or exceeded the 0.7 per cent target for ODA. ODA remains the main source of foreign capital in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and in turn can help to leverage private investment for the sectors, such as manufacturing and infrastructure that will lead a transformation to a green economy.
- v. GREENING HIGH IMPACT SECTORS AND SERVICES: a green economy is one that is driven by green economic services and industries that provides decent work, new employment prospects and affordable sustainable consumption alternatives
- Commit to producing national green roadmaps, founded on the principles of sustainable development, that generate green and decent jobs for all. The roadmaps must include a self- identified target to double the number of 'green and decent jobs' thanks to sustainable investments and decent work policies. They must also delineate a clear path to achieving more sustainable patterns of consumption. National green economy roadmaps must target all high impact sectors and systems (food, housing and cities, transport, energy and infrastructure), and be made in partnership with all relevant stakeholder groups including workers and their representatives, consumers, young people, the poor and women. Roadmaps should transform informal work into decent work and recognise the role of unpaid work.
  - Commit to the UN's objective for sustainable energy to provide universal access to modern energy services, doubling energy efficiency and doubling the share of renewable energy in the world's energy supply by 2030.
  - Introduce appropriate fiscal policy and incentives to drive additional increases in private investment flows towards resource efficiency and renewable, reliable and sustainable energy supplies in all countries.
  - Regulate, encourage and support the transformation of unsustainable agricultural practices, towards those with a greater emphasis on smallholder-based agro-ecological practices and other forms of sustainable, ecological and humane food production. Governments should, in cooperation with farmers' and peasants' organizations, support small farmers access to land, water, local seeds, local markets, credit, agro-ecological technologies and participatory education schemes.
  - Invest in food security and sustainable small-scale food production beyond the l'Aquila commitment period, and outline a clear strategy for spending the money to enable the scaling up of proven sustainable approaches. National plans should deliver bottom-up vulnerability assessments and link them with community-level adaptation projects.
  - Task the Committee on Food Security (CFS) to draw-up a set of sustainability trend indicators (including at minimum soil, water resources, biodiversity, food security and nutrition) for selected crops and farming systems that are most critical to world food security. By 2015, all governments should also have established participatory monitoring and evaluation processes at the local level and compiled by the national level, in order to annually review and report on progress against these sustainability trend indicators to the CFS and/or other global governance bodies as relevant.
  - Increase efficiency in the food system by reducing waste in the production, distribution and consumption of food.
  - Actively promote more sustainable consumption patterns in developed economies, including more balanced diets that are less rich in meat, fish and dairy.
  - Make the sustainable consumer choice the easy choice by phasing out high-impact products and services.

- By 2014, establish an institutional framework that will pay for the transition from depleted to recovered fisheries, ensuring the growth of sustainable fishing industries and providing re-skilling, income security and employment opportunities to workers that might be affected by the transition.
- Improve public transport and seek to reduce dependence on the private car.
- Tax aircraft and shipping fuel.
- Regulate misleading and exploitative advertising, and curb advertising to children.
- Realise water-related commitments under the 2002 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation including the adoption of integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans, paying special attention to public water utilities, water demand management, and the development and use of more efficient water supply technologies and infrastructure.

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## Greenpeace

A just and fair Green Economy

Greenpeace expectations for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at Rio de Janeiro, 4-6 June 2012

Almost twenty years after the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro we face a paradox: We know solutions are available and affordable, that investments in clean technologies are rising, that deforestation can be stopped, and food provided for all if governments have the will. We also know development in both North and South remains deeply unsustainable.

Despite the Rio Conventions and hundreds of other multilateral agreements on sustainable development, resource extraction keeps growing, climate change is spiralling out of control, water is getting scarce, oceans are facing a state of emergency, deforestation is destroying livelihoods, toxic pollution is increasing, and we are gambling with our global food system by releasing genetically modified crops. Governments have talked a lot about sustainable development over the last decades, but at the same time are still encouraging environmental and social destruction with close to US\$ 1 trillion dollars-worth of harmful subsidies a year, covering everything from fossil fuels to fertilizers and fisheries. Corporate polluters and destructive industries are allowed to profit from over-exploitation of resources while people are left to pay the bill with their health, homes and livelihoods. Governments are bailing out greedy banks, but failing to mobilise finance and rescue packages for the planet and the poor.

To be clear: governments have failed since Rio. But they must not take the blame alone: too many corporations have stood in the way of sustainable development. Asia Pulp and Paper has undermined effective forest protection in Indonesia, while Volkswagen has fought against the climate protection rules we need in Europe and the US, to name but two. The finance industry has succeeded in making the taxpayer pay for its bad decisions and is stopping governments from effectively regulating global financial markets.

Governments will face a lot of – justified – cynicism about sustainable development and the broken promises of 1992 as they prepare to return to Rio de Janeiro in 2012. People will be watching if the “Green Economy in the context of sustainable development” is merely a new label masking business-as-usual, or will be turned into a rallying cry for finally delivering the transformational change we need.

A fair and just Green Economy is achievable. But it requires action. Promoting sustainable practices is essential. But, above all, governments must put a decisive end to unsustainable practises. An economy based on nuclear energy, oil and coal, genetic engineering, toxic chemicals or the overexploitation of our forests and seas will never be sustainable or green. Instead, a fair green economy is one that provides sustainable livelihoods for all while fully respecting ecological limits – our planetary boundaries. In a truly Green Economy, the economy will be a mechanism to deliver societal goals, and economic growth as an end goal in and of itself will be abandoned. The transformation is still taking place too slowly, but the good news is, it is already proven. Brazil has shown that it is possible to cut deforestation rates through effective governance and good business practices: Deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon has declined year on year and 2011 it was at its lowest ever level. But this year, the Brazilian government's monitoring system picked up a 37% increase in deforestation compared to 2010 in Mato Grosso state as a result of a move to change the Forest Code, the main law in Brazil that protects the forests. The changes would allow an amnesty for past forest crimes, creating an incentive for illegal activity now and leading to an increase in deforestation before the law has even been changed. Brazil must decide whether it wants to be known as the nation leading the path to sustainable prosperity and zero deforestation, or as a nation that showed that deforestation could be halted, but failed to do so to cater to short term special interests.

The energy sector, a fundamental building block of any green economy, is already changing. In Germany, for example, of all installed power capacity in the last decade, 81% was renewable. The Energy Revolution scenario<sup>1</sup> Greenpeace has developed together with business partners shows that globally we can deliver energy to more people, especially the poor in developing countries, cut emissions by more than 80% by 2050 – and create more jobs doing so, by investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy instead of fossil fuels and nuclear power. By implementing the Energy Revolution, governments can help businesses create 3.2 million more jobs by 2030 in the global power supply sector alone. In South Africa 149,000 direct jobs could be created by 2030, 38,000 more than the current government's plan.

An Agenda for 2012

The outcome document adopted at Rio in 2012 must not be about rewriting the Rio Declaration or Agenda 21. Instead we need honest stock taking on where we are with the existing commitments and who is responsible for our falling short. This must include addressing the excessive increase in corporate power the world has witnessed since Rio 1992. The limits of voluntary, bottom up approaches given the scale of the challenges must be fully acknowledged.

At Rio de Janeiro in 2012 governments must change the dangerous course we're on. Sustainable Development Goals should be launched to form the basis of development within planetary boundaries. The time-horizon for the goals should be no longer than two election periods at most, to ensure immediate implementation and avoid gaps in political commitment.

Concretely, governments should commit to the following steps towards a fair and just Green Economy:

### 1. Fundamentally improve governance, accountability and liability

- Strengthen the governance system that delivers an “environment for development” by upgrading the UN Environment Programme to specialized agency status. Sustainable development needs a global authority on the environment and stronger implementation, compliance and enforcement mechanisms
- Commit to corporate accountability and liability. Today governance gaps created by globalisation provide a permissive environment for wrongful acts by companies. At the Johannesburg Earth Summit in 2002, governments acknowledged the need for global rules for global corporations. At Rio 2012, they must agree the development of a global instrument that ensures full liability for any social or environmental damage global corporations cause. Corporations themselves must take full responsibility for their supply chains

- Agree on creating strong regulation and control of financial markets and introducing restrictions on speculators and speculative products to stop harmful practices that lead to rising resource and commodity prices and an accelerated depletion of natural resources with dramatic consequences for poor people and small economies. Agree on introducing new fiscal instruments, such as a Financial Transaction Tax, that can slow harmful speculation and deliver much needed finance for development and environmental protection
- Agree on a phase-out of environmentally and socially harmful subsidies within this decade, including subsidies to fossil fuels, forest destruction, nuclear power, agrochemicals and other toxics, the meat industry and destructive fishing practises through socially just transition plans
- Agree to bring the absolute consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources and the impacts of their extraction within planetary boundaries in a fair and equitable manner
- Commit to a complete social and environmental review of the global trade system in order to stop the world trade system from undermining environmental and social objectives

## 2. Providing clean and safe energy for all

- Commit to providing access to clean and safe modern energy for all by 2020, with clear and comprehensive implementation measures, adequate funding provisions, and an acknowledgment that decentralised renewable energy is the best way to meet the needs of the poor
- Make a 100% renewable future possible by endorsing a long-term goal of powering the world economy with 100% sustainable renewable energy. Governments must specifically commit to pursuing the most ambitious pathway outlined by the IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy enabling 80% of the world's energy needs to be met by renewable energy by 2050. By 2030, the world needs to get 40% of its energy needs from sustainable renewables and improve energy intensity by 50%
- Agree on a global feed-in tariff programme, to support renewable energy investments in developing countries
- Commit to deliver, individually and jointly, sustainable energy action plans that include mid- and long-term targets for renewable energy and energy efficiency; regulatory frameworks that prioritize energy efficiency and ensure priority grid access and stable growth of investments into renewable energy; creating a level playing field including by phasing out all subsidies to fossil fuels and nuclear energy with timebound and socially just transition plans and the introduction of pollution and CO2 pricing for fossil-based energy
- Ensure the flow of adequate and predictable climate finance beyond 2012 and well above the pledged \$100 billion per year by 2020

## 3. Protecting the world's remaining forests by addressing the drivers of deforestation

- Commit to zero deforestation by 2020. This requires commitment and actions by both governments and businesses around the world. All countries and companies must end policies, subsidies and corruption that drive deforestation and instead fund the transition to a zero deforestation economy. In order to reduce pressure on forests, all countries and companies need to address demand-side causes of deforestation and implement policies and measures to reduce and ultimately stop the production, trade, import and consumption of goods stemming from deforestation and degradation (including unsustainable timber, palm oil, and other commodities). Policies, measures and investments must support participatory multi-scale conservation and land use plans, meet the needs and rights of forest dependent indigenous peoples and local communities, and support forest uses that protect biodiversity, carbon, and ecosystem values and services

## 4. Feeding the earth to feed the world

- Commit to increasing support to small scale food producers and farming communities, who are essential in feeding the world. This should be done through policy and market instruments that enable the development of thriving ecological farming systems, while reducing the market power of big agribusiness over land, seeds, inputs and processing. Ecological farming has the potential to produce 30% more food per hectare than industrial agriculture but realising this potential requires a substantial shift in investment
- Agree to better regulate the use of agrochemicals to prevent harm to people and the environment and to set appropriate fiscal policies to reflect the true environmental and health costs of intensive agriculture. Agree to set ambitious national targets for reducing consumption of chemical fertilisers and pesticides and to promote and incentivise the wider uptake of ecological farming systems
- Provide a mandate to the UN Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to develop a workplan for taking forward the recommendations of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) in the context of improving global food security, including advising governments on specific measures and establishing an ongoing mechanism to track and report on progress towards ecological food and farming systems around the world. Countries should also commit to establishing their own structures and mechanisms for following up the implementation of the IAASTD with full stakeholder participation, especially of small scale food producers

## 5. Filling the Gaps in Oceans Governance and Stopping Overfishing

- Address gaps in oceans governance that are hampering progress on marine protection. A new implementing agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is needed for the conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable management of human activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction. It should be based on the precautionary principle and the ecosystem approach and provide for the establishment and management of marine reserves in areas beyond national jurisdiction
- Commit to cutting overcapacity of the world's fishing fleets and providing priority access to fish resources for low-impact small-scale fisheries. The world fishing fleet is able to catch up to 2.5 times the maximum sustainable yield. Yet the cumulative power of the global fleet is still increasing at a rapid rate. Bringing fishing yields to a sustainable level necessitates decisive measures to eliminate the excess capacity. Reduction efforts should be focussed on large-scale vessels and be flanked by ensuring priority access for small-scale fisheries<sup>2</sup>
- Promote and invest in sound economic and sustainable fishing practices that maximize benefits to local communities. Stop industrial large-scale fleets using unsustainable fishing techniques using access agreements to exploit the Exclusive Economic Zones of coastal states, while leaving them with very little economic and social benefits
- Implement a global network of Marine Reserves, which is essential to conserve and restore the health and productivity of the oceans and to maintain vital ecosystem services and food security for hundreds of millions of people<sup>3</sup>. At the Johannesburg Earth Summit in 2002, governments agreed to establish networks of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2012. Yet today MPAs cover less than 6% of territorial seas and only 0.5% of areas beyond national jurisdiction. At a time when ocean ecosystems all over the world – including coral reefs, seamounts and other sensitive habitats – may be reaching tipping points, establishing networks of large-scale marine reserves becomes an indispensable tool to building resilience in ocean ecosystems. Conserving 20-30% of global oceans through a network of MPAs could create a million jobs and sustain a marine fish catch worth US\$70-80 billion/year. Eventually, the global network of marine reserves needs to cover 40% of the oceans

## 6. Eliminating Hazardous Chemical Use

- Supplement and strengthen the existing commitments<sup>4</sup> by agreeing to a goal of zero discharge of all hazardous substances within one generation, based on the precautionary principle and a preventative approach to chemicals management with the substitution principle at its core and producer responsibility to drive innovation in Green Chemistry and Toxics Use Elimination. This is crucial to rescue and heal our precious waterways and other fresh water sources
- Agree on a related implementation plan to (a) establish a dynamic priority hazardous substance list for immediate action, compiled from all the existing commitments and treaties and the lists of OECD and the EU, (b) establish intermediate targets, (c) establish a publicly available register of data about discharge emissions and losses of hazardous substances
- Commit to providing adequate resources and frameworks for implementation, including: (a) identify priority substance restrictions, (b) introduce requirements of mandatory audits and planning (c) provisions of technical help and appropriate financial incentives (d) research and support for innovation in green chemistry Rio+20 must deliver for the people and the planet. The transition to a green economy must be fair and equitable, lift people out of poverty, respect planetary boundaries and commit to a decent jobs agenda. As global climate-damaging emissions need to peak within a few short years, we cannot afford to make insufficient progress for another two decades. The time for action is now.

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## Grupo de Trabajo Intersectorial de Educación Ambiental (GTIEA)

Carta de Guarullos a los representantes de los Estados Miembros de las Naciones Unidas

Nosotros, ciudadanos del Municipio de Guarulhos del Estado de San Pablo en Brasil, que venimos construyendo de forma participativa un referendun para las directrices que norteen la consolidación de sociedades sustentables envolviendo el poder público, iniciativa privada, tercero sector y comunidad en general , presentamos la presente "Carta de Guarulhos" a los representantes de los Estados Miembros de las Naciones Unidas, que se reunirán en Rio de Janeiro, en la Conferencia por el Desarrollo Sustentable, en Junio de 2012, como contribución para la consolidación del documento final de la ONU para esta Conferencia

#### Preámbulo

Nosotros, ciudadanos guarullenses representantes de los diversos segmentos públicos e privados de la ciudad, reunidos en Foros y Seminarios organizados por el Poder Público de forma participativa con la sociedad , como el Workshop Internacional de Educación Ambiental en agosto de 2011 , el 4º Encuentro Municipal de Educación Ambiental, consultas públicas para la consolidación de la Política Municipal de Educación Ambiental y las Audiencias Públicas para discusión de Políticas Públicas Ambientales, consideramos que:

1. La velocidad, dimensión y complejidad de los cambios que la familia humana viene estableciendo en su relación con el medio ambiente y la biosfera caracterizan una necesaria condición de responsabilidad conjunta nunca antes enfrentada;
2. La gestión socioambiental, teniendo en vista la sustentabilidad, cabe a todos los segmentos de la comunidad de forma participativa e interdependiente, no más a este o aquel segmento, o solamente al compromiso individual de cada ciudadano;
3. Los modelos de desarrollo vigentes están pautados en modelos económicos excluyentes e incompatibles con la sustentabilidad, todavía promoviendo la mercantilización de la vida a pesar del discurso de las economías verdes emergentes;
4. Bajo la vertiente de la visión sistémica y de la interdependencia, entendemos tener, como municipio, la responsabilidad de contribuir para evitar todo y cualquier tipo de desequilibrio socioambiental, buscando la preservación y la conservación del Planeta;
5. La actual condición límite en que el Planeta se encuentra demanda la consolidación de sociedades bien preparadas para concretizar nuevos modelos civilizatorios que primen por la ética y por los valores de justicia y dignidad para con todos los seres vivos de la faz de la Tierra.

Adoptamos la presente Carta comprometiéndonos a divulgarla ampliamente en todas las instancias organizativas del Municipio y a considerar sus principios en nuestra gestión socioambiental, demandamos a los Representantes de los Estados Miembro de las Naciones Unidas que consideren estos principios en la redacción del documento final de la Conferencia.

#### Principios de la Carta de Guarullos

1. Que cada ciudadano, donde esté viviendo y actuando, debe asumir para si el compromiso de ser responsable conjuntamente con la comunidad a la cual pertenece en lo que dice respecto a la calidad das relaciones que establece consigo, con los otros y con el medio ambiente;
2. Que la actitud de cada hombre u mujer esté permeada por los principios que constan en el Tratado de Educación Ambiental para Sociedades Sustentables y Responsabilidad Global, en la Carta de la Tierra, en la Carta de las Responsabilidades Humanas y en la Declaración de la Madre Tierra;
3. Que el Gobierno o Poder Público sea sensible a las necesidades de la comunidad que le dio legitimidad y que en la práctica de una Cultura por la Paz, pueda viabilizar justicia social y ambiental para todos;
4. Que sean las comunidades locales, en un sentido de responsabilidad global y consolidando nuevas formas de hacer políticas publicas, las que decidan, juntamente con el poder público, con relación a las formas sustentables de gestionar el medio ambiente, garantizando condiciones de equilibrio y bien integral estar para todas las formas de vida.

5. Que la educación formal y no formal desarrollada pueda promover la autonomía y la criticidad de las comunidades desarrollando sentimientos de responsabilidad conjunta.
6. Que la Educación para Sociedades Sustentables y Responsabilidad Global este presente en la vida cotidiana, en la gestión educacional, en la gestión política, económica y ambiental, garantizando equilibrio ambiental, equidad económica y justicia social.
7. Que todos los recursos naturales sean entendidos como bienes de uso común, habiendo la responsabilidad conjunta local, regional y planetaria en su gestión.
8. Que las formas de producción y consumo del sistema económico global estén al servicio de la vida y no al contrario para que no se continúe mercantilizando la vida.

## Guiana Shield Facility (GSF)

### Guiana Shield Facility (GSF)

The Guiana Shield Facility (GSF) is a multi-donor funding facility, which aims to support the conservation and sustainable development of the unique ecosystems of the bio-diverse Guiana Shield eco-region.

The operating premise of the GSF is that by providing incentives for the conservation of the unique ecosystems of the Guiana Shield towards ensuring the long-term delivery of its globally important environmental services will contribute to poverty reduction and will help an eco-region beset by threats such as: (i) legal deforestation, (ii) legal mining, water pollution, social and health problems connected to mining, poaching of wildlife, and lack of a coordinated framework for planning, priority setting and management of natural resources.

The ecosystems of the Guiana Shield have in recent times been increasingly threatened by many problems that are common to all the countries in the Guiana Shield. To support national level conservation and sustainable, a common front is needed as well as attractive alternatives to natural resources exploitation. The Paramaribo Declaration of 2002 emphasised the uniqueness of the eco-region and its importance with regard to ecosystem services. In addition, it emphasised that "the burden of conservation must be supported by the international community and should not fall on the countries of the region alone". This implies that there should be a compensation system for Guiana Shield countries for conservation of their ecosystems, which is a key objective of the GSF.

This principle is already recognised by the existing international conventions, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The UNFCCC states that "the parties should protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of mankind on the basis of equity and in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities." The CBD stresses "the importance of and the need to promote, international, regional and global cooperation among states and inter-governmental organisation and the non-governmental sector for the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components." The Convention also stresses that "the extent to which developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments under this Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed country parties of their commitments under this Convention related to financial resources and transfer of technology."

The innovative idea of the Guiana Shield Initiative (GSI) – precursor to the GSF - was to link these transfers to the efforts of those responsible for maintaining the integrity of the ecology of the Guiana Shield as one of the last large (250 million hectares) intact tropical rain forest areas in the world and therefore from a climate, a biodiversity and a freshwater perspective of global significance. This was not a classical form of the rich developed countries giving to the poor developing countries, but a transfer from the world community to those managing a global public good, under existing (and binding) legal arrangements. A substantial benefit of this is not only that it is rooted in international law and thus of a long-term nature, but also that is an arrangement between equal partners.

From 2006-2010, through the GSI, the UNDP in partnership with the European Union and IUCN National Committee of the Netherlands (IUCN NL), piloted an incentive scheme for conservation and sustainable development from 2006-2010. The incentive scheme included ecosystem services contracts, innovative remote sensing technology coupled with ground monitoring and which was based on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the DPSIR framework, and culturally appropriate benefit sharing.

The thrust of the contractual agreements was that the contract holder (ecosystem manager) and the associated local communities, which depend on the natural resources / ecosystem services provided by the ecosystem, were compensated or rewarded for maintaining and managing those resources or services. The GSI applied the basic level approach to the incentive scheme, which included the costs for monitoring of ecosystem services as well as benefit sharing with the stakeholder local communities.

Three services: climate regulation (carbon sequestration), biodiversity and freshwater were studied. Monitoring of these services was carried out on the basis of selected indicators at the eco-regional level and at the level of pilot sites using radar remote sensing tools and ground truthing. At the eco-region scale, the monitoring objective was to provide up-to-date information on land cover and vegetation (changes), with a particular focus on forest cover. At the pilot site scale, monitoring was focused on status and trends of the three ecosystem services. Where equipment and materials for monitoring were lacking at the pilot sites, they were provided by the GSI.

In the basic level approach to PES, allocation of resources for benefit sharing tied to independently verified and reported delivery of ecosystem services is very important for empowerment, participation and building social capital of local communities.

In 2010, the GSI evolved into the GSF, which will over the next four years, seek to build national ownership and partnership with donors and other key partners, and strengthen the GSF as an eco-regional framework for the conservation and sustainable development of the Guiana Shield eco-region.

The global significance of the Guiana Shield eco-region and its ecosystem services was, is, and will be the rationale for transfers between the international community and those responsible for maintaining the ecological and cultural integrity of the Guiana Shield. So far, the ecological significance has been best documented by the Priority Setting Workshop (PSW) held during the first GSI Phase in April 2002 in Paramaribo, Suriname. During that workshop, biodiversity, geology, watersheds, protected areas, forestry, mining, infrastructure, non-timber forest products, socio-economic pressures, etc., were described and mapped by 200 regional and international scientific and policy experts. The 2002 PSW exercise also served as the scientific basis of the Paramaribo Declaration signed and adopted on 9 April 2002, to guide the further development of the GSI.

On the 27-28 October 2011, a high level team of State and non-State actors met in Paramaribo and reviewed the 2002 PSW to learn what has changed in terms of implementation of the agreed actions as well as new pressures and threats. The 2011 Workshop was unanimous in its expression of support for the PSW process and recognition of the GSF as the delivery mechanism of financial support to efforts to conserve and sustainably development the Guiana Shield eco-region at all scales. It is highly anticipated that the GSF will form part of the deliberations at Rio+20.

The Guiana Shield Facility: A UNDP-EU led multi-donor partnership for conservation and sustainable development

The EU has allocated over EUR 3 million in AIDCO grant funds through the UNDP for the conservation and sustainable development of the Guiana Shield eco-region. The Guiana Shield is an eco-region of regional and global significance. It has an area of 2.5 million km (250 million hectares), which accounts for about one- quarter of the world's

remaining tropical rain forests, of which 80-90% is still in pristine condition. All or parts of six countries (in alphabetical order: Brazil, Colombia, French Guiana, Guyana, Suriname, and Venezuela) share the geographic area of the Guiana Shield. According to the Paramaribo Declaration, it ranks as one of the world's last wild places.

In ecological terms, the Guiana Shield eco-region is of global importance. It is made up of several unique ecosystems that:

- Store approximately 10-15% of global freshwater supply
- Store about 50 billion tonnes of carbon
- Support an estimated 20,000 vascular plant species, of which about 35% is endemic
- Provide habitat for rich biodiversity, including 975 species of avifauna, 282 mammalian species, 280 reptilian species, 272 amphibian species and 2,200 fish species.

Despite their wealth of natural resources, the countries of the region have high levels of poverty, external debt and weak institutional capacity, all of which often cause governments and local populations to choose economic activities which are short-term income generators, but which may not be sustainable (e.g. exploitation of oil, gold, diamond, and tropical hardwoods, and undertaking of big infrastructure projects). Through the GSF, a comprehensive regional planning process for the conservation of the Guiana Shield is being assembled to complement individual country efforts to manage common problems and pursue region-wide human development.

The Guiana Shield Initiative (GSI) has pursued since 1993, the goal of promoting the sustainable development of the Guiana Shield eco-region by means of an integrated eco-regional management framework so as to enable the countries and their local communities to finance, develop, manage and benefit from the natural resources by maintaining climate regulatory integrity, conserving biodiversity and protecting watersheds.

The operating premise is that preserving ecosystem functions will benefit stakeholders at the local, national and global levels and indeed help fulfil national obligations under the multilateral environmental agreements and the relevant regional arrangements.

In the long run, by preserving nature and therefore natural livelihood resources, a significant contribution will be made towards poverty alleviation and resource management by the local/indigenous inhabitants. Regulatory ecosystem services are public goods, and are the responsibility of, foremost national governments and inter- and supra-national structures such as the UN and EU. The global climate is a clear example.

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## Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)

Response of the Health and Environment Alliance HEAL to the Rio+20 consultation

As the leading European not-for-profit organisation addressing how the environment affects health in the European Union, HEAL welcomes the organisation of the UN conference on sustainable development and has very high hopes for the Rio+20 process.

Twenty years after the Rio conference, the world is still very much on an unsustainable path, with dire consequences for our health.

Citizens all around the world are looking onto the political decision-makers to show leadership at Rio+20 in order to tackle the urgent environment and health challenges that we face. It is very important that the conference results in concrete and legally binding outcomes to bring real benefits to people's health and the planet. The transition to a green economy must be fair and equitable, lift people out of poverty, respect planetary boundaries, commit to decent jobs agenda and improve and promote people's health.

Health is recognised as a key goal of sustainable development in the first principle of the Rio declaration, which states that "Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature."

However, twenty years later, we believe there is an urgent need to make "health" central to the Rio+20 process and outcomes, potentially by creating a fourth pillar at the center of economic, social and environmental pillars in order to concretely link this agenda more explicitly to what people care most about - their own health and that of their community.

The consequences of environmental degradation on our health are well known and the science continues to grow on the myriad impacts (for example the burden of disease from noise or chemical pollution, also the problem of health impacts of chemicals mixtures and endocrine disruptors). In parallel, well known environmental health hazards continue to harm people across the planet such as asbestos, persistent organic pollutants (POPs), mercury and electronic waste to name just a few. It is therefore important to reverse the toxic legacy for health today and tomorrow and to ensure equity and the protection of those most vulnerable (those living in poverty, children, women).

Four concrete ways to make the foreseen Rio+20 Declaration reflect this health dimension are provided below.

The cost of inaction: health impacts of environmental degradation and the rise of chronic diseases

Chronic diseases - cancer, cardio-vascular diseases, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes - account for over 63% of deaths globally. The number of chronic disease cases has risen in the last years and is expected to increase further. In Europe, chronic diseases are responsible for 86% of deaths. Environmental pollution is one of the key factors in the occurrence of chronic diseases.

In September, UN Heads of State and governments adopted the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable diseases. The resolution highlights that “the global burden of non-communicable diseases constitutes one of the major challenges for development in the 21 century, which undermines social and economic development through the world”.

Since Rio+20 puts a strong focus on greening the economy and linking sustainable development and poverty eradication, the challenge from chronic diseases and ways to tackle them cannot be left out of the agenda. This means first of all to highlight the health impacts of environmental degradation and how they intersect with poverty.

In Europe, half a million people still die prematurely each year because of air pollution, despite many regulatory measures in place to lower pollution levels. Globally, WHO estimates that more than 2 million premature deaths each year can be attributed to the effects of urban outdoor air pollution and indoor air pollution. More than half of this disease burden is borne by the populations of developing countries ([http://www.who.int/topics/environmental\\_health/en/](http://www.who.int/topics/environmental_health/en/)).

There is an urgent need to integrate the activities on tackling and preventing chronic diseases into the Rio+20 process.

Adding co-benefits: Huge health benefits of sustainable development and greening the economy

Making health central to Rio+20 would also serve as a major driver for a renewed and stronger commitment for sustainable development measures, through highlighting the huge health benefits that could be gained from taking ambitious action now. Primary prevention through strong environmental policies and enforcement has shown to be not only cost effective but also provide significant gains in providing a healthier environment for all. Reducing our consumption and moving to a low-carbon economy will also create health gains in many cases.

Regarding climate change, the work of WHO and many others have shown the health co-benefits of stronger climate change mitigation action and the move to a low-carbon economy.

For Europe, HEAL and HCWH Europe recently published figures that showed that the EU would gain up to 30.5 billion EUR by moving to a more ambitious GHG reduction goal of 30% (<http://www.env-health.org/spip.php?rubrique97>). This would be as a result of cleaner air, but additional health benefits would be gained from encouraging more walking and cycling and also less meat consumption.

As the leading medical journal Lancet has shown, huge health benefits would also be reaped at a global level. For example, through a programme to introduce 150 million low-emission cookstoves in India the national burden of disease of respiratory and other diseases would be lowered by about a sixth (<http://download.thelancet.com/flatcontentassets/series/health-and-climate-change.pdf>).

Renewed international commitment to reducing the public's exposure to harmful chemicals

From an environmental health perspective, another central issue is to increase international efforts to reduce people's exposure to harmful chemicals. We very much welcome the proposal to strengthen the international framework for chemicals management and make it legally binding. Such a framework should also clearly establish concrete actions to meet the 2020 deadline for producing and using chemicals in such a way that they do not lead to harmful effects on health and the environment.

Support for specialised UN agency for the environment

HEAL supports discussions to strengthen environmental governance through the creation of a specialized UN agency for the environment on equal footing with other specialized UN agencies. This is necessary to fundamentally improve governance, accountability and liability.

HEAL believes that a key criteria for the success of the UN conference will be to make the health dimension central to the process, and consequently involve all actors - UN member states, different intergovernmental organisations and UN bodies, and stakeholders in the process. Given the increasing toll on people's health of unsustainable development, special efforts should be given to increasing the participation of the health sector in this new RIO+20 agenda, as well as increasing the public health framing around discussions.

We hope to continue to contribute to these discussions in the coming months, bringing together various expertise and perspectives from our broad based environment and health alliance.

Best regards,

Genon K. Jensen

Executive Director, Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)

The Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) is the leading European not-for-profit organisation addressing how the environment affects health in the European Union. We demonstrate how policy changes can help protect health and enhance people's quality of life. HEAL has over 70 member organisations, representing health professionals, patients, citizens, women, youth and environmental experts, help to bring independent expertise and evidence from the health community to different decision-making processes. Members include international and Europe-wide organisations, as well as national and local groups. [www.env-health.org](http://www.env-health.org)

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## Heinrich Boell Foundation and the Ford Foundation

Submission to the 2012 Earth Summit Outcome Document 'Zero Draft' Joint Submission: Heinrich Boell Foundation, Ford Foundation

Recommendation regarding policy coherence among governance institutions: To direct the United Nations system – particularly the UN Environment Program, the UN Development Program, the UNFCCC and UN WOMEN -- to work with other global governance bodies – specifically the Group of 20 – to promote an agenda that integrates the three indispensable elements of sustainable development relating to the natural environment, the economy, and poverty reduction.

The G20 describes itself as the world's “premier forum for our international economic development,” yet its growth frameworks lack an integration of these elements. This has significant implications because the G20 stipulates that its growth frameworks should be implemented and financed by the United Nations and international trade, finance and development institutions.

---The G20's “Seoul Development Consensus” (November 2010) and its growth framework, the “Development Action Plan” (DAP) would promote public-private partnerships in infrastructure and agriculture, but without core concerns for the environmental, poverty or equity dimension of this approach.

---In the context of its “Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth Framework,” the G20 reversed course – from a coordinated global stimulus in 2008-2009 to a synchronized fiscal consolidation in the advanced countries in 2010-2011. The G20 has been unable to find a less drastic, middle ground that would create desperately needed job and



social protection programs in fiscally responsible ways. Nor has it moved ahead on its pledges to remove fossil fuel subsidies.

If its orientation and growth frameworks are not revamped, the G20 could work at cross-purposes with the 2012 Earth Summit by increasing, rather than help close, the wide gap between the aspirations and commitments to sustainable development and the implementation performance of nations and institutions.

However, such re-orientation can only occur if the G20 becomes an open, transparent and accountable body. At present, in contravention of Rio Principles (e.g., Principle 10 on Public Participation; Principle 20 on the role of women in sustainable development), the G20 operates behind closed doors, excluding 173 UN member countries and civil society.

The 2012 G20 Summit in Mexico will occur in the same month as the Earth Summit 2012. The lack of integration between these two global processes is highly problematic for crafting coordinated responses to the urgent development challenges we face at this time.

In order to integrate the three indispensable elements of sustainable development relating to the natural environment, the economy, and poverty reduction in the G20 agenda, we recommend that the UN work with the G20 to achieve the following outcomes:

#### G20 Accountability and Transparency

- G20 as an advisory body on development. Rather than issuing policy mandates and research work for international trade, finance and development institutions, as is its practice currently, the G20 should issue recommendations for consideration by the governance bodies of these institutions.
- Participation and Consultation. The G20 excludes 173 UN member countries. Therefore, it should:
  - a) establish consultative mechanisms to enhance its accountability to the United Nations;
  - b) appoint the UN Secretary-General as a full member (rather than observer) of the G20;
  - c) allow for rotating participation of country representatives from Africa, LDCs and SIDS as participants in G20 fora and summits, and allow for the participation of several more countries from these groups as observers;
  - d) create mechanisms that enable it to relate to civil society in ways that are analogous to the G20's outreach mechanisms for consulting with transnational corporations;
  - e) engage the UN in all aspects, or "pillars," of its agenda.
- Transparency. With regard to Summits, Ministerials, working and expert groups, the G20 should disclose the meeting members, their agendas, papers commissioned, and minutes of meetings in a timely and proactive manner, including on publicly accessible websites.
- Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration. This Principle, signed at the first Earth Summit in 1992, asserts that access to information, public participation and access to justice (referred to as "environmental access rights") are critical for sustainable development. The G20 must recognize the access rights of information and the right to consultation regarding development decisions. This should be reflected in the G20's processes and in both of its growth frameworks.
- Principle 20 of the Rio Declaration. The G20 has not evinced a particular concern for equality and human rights. It should acknowledge that the full and effective participation of women, indigenous peoples and marginalized groups in all aspects of sustainable development is essential for inclusive economic growth and for broad political empowerment.

Role of the G20, particularly in development finance. The United Nations should ensure that:

- To the extent that new sources of finance are generated at the international level, their disposition should be determined by development finance institutions, and their shareholders in line with country-led and designed programs and priorities developed in a fully participatory process involving all relevant stakeholders, particularly citizens groups. Analogously, at the local and national level, the disposition of resources should also be determined by elected bodies with the participation and involvement of all relevant stakeholders, particularly citizens groups, wherever pluralistic and open processes exist. Process implicates product: the closed nature of the G20 has circumvented any consideration of sustainable development in its Development Action Plan.
- The G20 should support a significant expansion of public finance to support sustainable development, including climate finance, as called for in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the UNFCCC Cancun Agreement. The United Nations and its UNFCCC should work with other institutions, including the G20, to identify particularly innovative public sources of finance for mitigation and adaptation purposes and to design transparent, participatory and accountable mechanisms through which to deliver the financing in ways that further environmental, social and gender co-benefits and respect and uphold environmental, social, and gender safeguards.

Retooling the G20 Development Action Plan to Focus on Sustainable Development. The United Nations should work with the G20 and its member states to ensure that:

- Infrastructure.
    - a) infrastructure and industrial priorities dovetail in ways that promote sustainable development;
    - b) trade agreements do not handicap the role of the state in national and regional development;
    - c) means by which risk is allocated between public and private sectors are set forth in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) contracts which are disclosed to the public and which honor public obligations under existing international human and environmental rights conventions. These contracts should support sustainable management of natural resources and serve community interests over the course of generations;
    - d) low-income consumers receive protections against price increases arising from the removal of subsidies for fossil fuels, or end-products such as food that depend upon such fuels.
  - Access to electricity.
- To help meet the Millennium Development Goals and end energy poverty by 2030, the UN and the G20 should work with African partners to facilitate investments in energy technologies that prioritize energy access for the poor by focusing on affordable and reliable electricity (with a particular focus on off-grid solutions) and cooking energy.
- Agriculture.
    - a) small-scale, agro-ecological forms of food production are expanded;

- b) recognizing the role that women in many developing countries play in securing local food production, while regulating and supporting the transformation of industrial and other forms of unsustainable agriculture;
- c) land tenure laws and economic incentives for production should support the roles of women and men equally, and give preference to the role of smallholders;
- d) mandates and subsidies for industrial biofuels production should be withdrawn.

· Expansion of Social Protection Models.

- a) governments maintain a strong role in the provision of such services;
  - b) social protection “floors” not be considered “ceilings”;
  - c) models aim for universal rather than piecemeal coverage of needs;
  - d) models of social protection be designed in a participatory way by the countries and beneficiaries for whom they are intended, taking into account the particular role women play currently in the delivery of unpaid social services;
  - e) models should rely on existing standard-setting institutions for social protection, such as those of the International Labor Organization (ILO), rather than dilute the authority and mandate of such institutions.
- National and local community initiatives.

In retooling the DAP, with the support of UNEP, UNDP, and other UN agencies concerned with sustainable and equitable development, the G20 should emphasize the creation of national and local ownership of sustainable development plans, including national and local climate-change mitigation and adaptation plans.

‘Hard’ and ‘Soft’ Commitments to a Sustainable World. At the 1992 Earth Summit, three global conventions were launched (relating to climate, biodiversity, and forests) to set forth binding commitments by nation-states to sustainable development goals.

Currently, many nations want to reject such ‘hard’ commitments. As an example, in 2010, in negotiating the Copenhagen Accord, nations replaced binding emission reduction requirements with a “pledge and review” process. ‘Soft’ legal norms in the fields of environment and human rights are creating a worrying lack of true accountability. In setting out his hopes for the 2012 Earth Summit, the UN Secretary-General stated,

There is a need to reinforce the institutions and processes involved in delivering on normative commitments made at the global level. Presently, there is an apparent disconnect between the bodies making normative decisions and the bodies responsible for implementation...

The United Nations should participate in all “pledge and review” standard-setting processes of the G20 (e.g., responsible investment in value chains; environmental and social safeguards applying to infrastructure; responsible investment in agriculture) and ensure full civil society participation, particularly the involvement of affected communities, women and vulnerable groups, as well.

Relying on an approach that respects the ‘common but differentiated responsibilities’ of nations, civil society must work with global, regional, and national governance bodies to not only pressing for ‘hard’ commitments, but also create “Measure, Report, and Verify” (MRV) systems. These system would allow citizens to hold states and firms accountable for delivering emissions reductions, providing adequate aid for adaptation to climate change – as well as for protecting community and individual rights to assets, including water, food and land. These ‘MRV’ systems should be backed by strong independent grievance mechanisms and other adjudicatory processes with enforcement teeth that ensure that there are consequences for violations.

While also working to strengthen legal frameworks for securing private and public-sector obligations, the UN and the G20 should: a) prepare an inventory of voluntary normative systems and b) launch a joint work plan (among the UN, the MDBs, civil society and the private sector) to assess the strengths and weaknesses of such systems in terms of conducting social, gender and environmental due diligence; guiding and disciplining the conduct of public and private actors; and ensuring access to justice by affected peoples. The work plan should seek full implementation of Rio Principles 10 and 20. Both the inventory and the work plan should be announced in the Earth Summit 2012 Outcome Document and the 2012 G20 Summit Communiqué.

## HELIO International

[\[In English\]](#)

### Résumé

Les politiques énergétiques actuelles des pays industrialisés sont essentiellement déterminées par la nécessité de réduire les émissions de gaz à effet de serre. Toutefois, les mesures adoptées dans le cadre du Protocole de Kyoto en vue de modérer les effets de la production d'énergie sur le climat n'ont pas réussi à prendre en compte les conséquences pleines et entières d'une variabilité climatique de plus en plus importante : mentionnons notamment les inondations, les sécheresses saisonnières, la multiplication des tempêtes, les glissements de terrain, les vents de vitesses extrêmes, les conditions glaciaires et les vagues de chaleur. Il est donc nécessaire et urgent de mettre en oeuvre des efforts d'adaptation, et ce, non seulement dans des régions géographiquement déjà vulnérables comme le Bangladesh, l'Afrique centrale ou les îles basses comme Tuvalu, mais également, compte tenu de la nature planétaire du changement climatique, partout dans le monde.

En comparaison avec les mesures d'atténuation, il n'existe pas aujourd'hui de paramètres et d'indicateurs communément acceptés permettant de comparer les besoins d'adaptation et l'efficacité des mesures d'adaptation. Compte tenu de l'importance de l'énergie pour l'économie et les efforts de développement de tous les pays, il est vital de parvenir à réduire de façon substantielle les vulnérabilités du secteur énergétique lui-même. Les mesures d'adaptation suggérées doivent également favoriser les objectifs de l'écodéveloppement si l'on souhaite pouvoir les réaliser conjointement avec les Objectifs de développement du millénaire (ODM), c'est pourquoi il convient d'élaborer et de tester des critères et des indicateurs pour les systèmes énergétiques—c'est-à-dire d'utiliser une métrique—en vue d'évaluer l'adéquation des mesures proposées.

### Le changement climatique et les systèmes énergétiques

Le changement climatique est en cours, quels que soient les efforts de réduction des émissions que consentiront les États à l'avenir. Il est le résultat de nombreux facteurs convergents qui interagissent de différentes façons, créant ainsi pour l'humanité un nouveau défi sans précédent en termes de complexité et de gravité. Dans ce contexte, le concept d'approche « anti-risque climatique » doit évoluer d'une démarche de protection des activités humaines des conditions climatiques extrêmes, vers une démarche de réduction de l'exposition aux incidences du changement climatique. Il faudra donc s'adapter à ce changement, notamment aux modifications du régime des pluies et aux épisodes météorologiques extrêmes. Compte tenu de l'importance de l'énergie dans l'économie et dans la poursuite de l'écodéveloppement<sup>1</sup>, il est vital de réduire les

vulnérabilités du secteur énergétique. Les systèmes énergétiques se doivent d'être adaptés pour résister au changement climatique attendu et à ses effets. Cet objectif peut être atteint en augmentant la résilience d'un système énergétique, par exemple en renforçant la robustesse de ses équipements techniques, en diversifiant ses sources d'approvisionnement en énergie, en localisant de façon plus appropriée ses équipements énergétiques, en développant ses relations avec d'autres régions, en planifiant la préparation aux catastrophes, en gérant la demande et en investissant dans l'évolution technologique—énergies renouvelables, amélioration du rendement énergétique, gestion énergétique—en vue de développer plus avant le portefeuille des options disponibles.

Étant donné la faible rotation du capital dans le secteur de l'énergie et la durée de vie importante des équipements, il est fondamental que les fournisseurs d'énergie, les décideurs et les citoyens soient bien informés des incidences possibles du changement climatique sur le secteur de l'énergie afin que les mesures d'atténuation et d'adaptation requises puissent être prises en temps voulu.

Malheureusement, lors des discussions au niveau national sur l'avenir énergétique, le sujet est traditionnellement abordé essentiellement sous l'angle de la sécurité d'approvisionnement énergétique en termes de quantité et des moyens de l'améliorer. Les politiques formulées autour du contexte plus large de la réduction de la vulnérabilité des systèmes énergétiques au moyen de stratégies d'écodéveloppement intégrées, c'est-à-dire traitant simultanément des problèmes environnementaux, sociaux, économiques, techniques et civiques, sont plus sophistiquées et encore peu nombreuses.

#### Évaluer la vulnérabilité et la résilience des systèmes énergétiques

En vue de mieux appréhender le meilleur moyen de susciter et de pérenniser des synergies positives, HELIO a développé une méthodologie simple et transparente ainsi qu'un ensemble d'indicateurs visant à évaluer la vulnérabilité et la résilience des systèmes énergétiques nationaux au changement climatique. En appliquant les indicateurs aux systèmes énergétiques, HELIO cherche à favoriser l'identification de politiques et de mesures (P&M) les mieux à même de faciliter et de soutenir les activités d'adaptation.

Les indicateurs Vulnérabilité – Adaptation – Résilience Énergétique (VAR) mesurent:

1. La vulnérabilité des systèmes énergétiques ;
2. L'efficacité des efforts d'adaptation dans le secteur énergétique.

Ces indicateurs ont été mis au point en cohérence avec le principe selon lequel la métrique sous-jacente, c'est-à-dire la mesure ou la statistique effectivement utilisée, devait en général être disponible pour la majorité, si ce n'est pour l'ensemble, des pays. Si des calculs sont nécessaires pour obtenir un indicateur, il convient qu'ils soient aussi simples que possible.

#### Impacts sur les systèmes énergétiques induits par le climat et vulnérabilités associées

Le changement climatique est susceptible d'avoir des impacts diversifiés. La moyenne des différents paramètres climatiques ainsi que la fréquence des événements météorologiques extrêmes sont par exemple susceptibles d'évoluer. De plus, ces impacts peuvent s'appliquer à d'autres paramètres climatiques comme les précipitations, la vitesse du vent et l'ensoleillement.

Les effets peuvent être directs ou indirects, ces derniers étant fréquemment plus marqués. Un accroissement des températures a, par exemple, peu de chances de détruire une infrastructure énergétique. Par contre, la fonte des glaciers entraînée par la croissance des températures peut avoir des répercussions dramatiques sur les systèmes de production hydroélectrique en termes de dommages aux infrastructures, sous la forme d'inondations et d'envasement, de glissements de terrain, et donc sur les capacités de production.

Les modifications des variables météorologiques auront un impact sur la transmission et l'utilisation de l'énergie, indépendamment de la façon dont elle est produite. Des événements extrêmes pourraient accroître le risque de destruction des lignes de transmission et, en conséquence, réduire la demande en raison de l'élimination physique des entités consommatrices, c'est-à-dire les industries, les entreprises et les ménages.

#### Vulnérabilité au niveau des pays

Lors des discussions au niveau national sur l'avenir énergétique, le sujet est traditionnellement abordé essentiellement sous l'angle de la sécurité d'approvisionnement énergétique et des moyens de l'améliorer. Les politiques formulées autour du contexte plus large de la réduction de la vulnérabilité des systèmes énergétiques au moyen de stratégies d'écodéveloppement intégrées, c'est-à-dire traitant simultanément des problèmes environnementaux, sociaux, économiques, techniques et civiques, sont assez peu nombreuses.

Si l'on souhaite que les politiques et les mesures proposées soient efficaces, il est indispensable de quantifier l'état de vulnérabilité globale du pays, c'est pourquoi le premier ensemble d'indicateurs HELIO mesure la vulnérabilité globale d'un pays.

#### Vulnérabilités des systèmes énergétiques

Le changement climatique aura des impacts directs sur la demande comme sur l'offre énergétiques. La façon dont cette dernière sera touchée est toutefois moins évidente. En vu du rôle central que joue l'énergie il est crucial d'être en mesure d'évaluer les vulnérabilités principales de chacun des systèmes énergétiques. Une fois les vulnérabilités identifiées, il devient possible de concevoir et de mettre en oeuvre des mesures d'adaptation appropriées. Ce processus doit être appliqué aux infrastructures existantes et à leurs évolutions prévues.

Indicateurs de capacités d'adaptation mesurant les interventions ayant permis d'accroître la résilience.

Le niveau de résilience d'un système s'appuie sur ses capacités d'adaptation. Les mesures d'adaptation peuvent être réparties entre mesures techniques, concernant les infrastructures, et réponses sociales en termes de comportements.

- Les adaptations techniques s'efforcent de rendre les infrastructures invulnérables aux évolutions à long terme des variables météorologiques et aux événements extrêmes.
- Les adaptations comportementales visent à adapter le mode d'exploitation des infrastructures, qu'elles soient nouvelles ou anciennes, et l'emplacement des nouvelles infrastructures, en vue de minimiser les dommages potentiels. Dans le contexte des pays en développement, ces capacités ont besoin d'un soutien externe, par exemple en provenance des mécanismes financiers existant dans le cadre du régime des politiques internationales sur le changement climatique. En vue d'éviter de dépenser des fonds, déjà peu nombreux, de façon inefficace, un ensemble de critères ont été développés pour mesurer l'efficacité des efforts d'adaptation.

#### Recommandations et conclusions

Même si la première application des indicateurs VAR est loin d'être parfaite, une première application en d'Afrique subsaharienne<sup>2</sup> a permis de produire un certain nombre d'informations capitales. Le processus d'évaluation a généré un certain nombre de recommandations :

- Évaluation et suivi systématiques des systèmes énergétiques en vue de garantir qu'ils sont suffisamment robustes et évolutifs pour s'adapter aux incidences climatiques attendues.
- Introduction de nouveaux critères d'évaluation des systèmes énergétiques.
- Élaboration d'une stratégie de moyen à long terme en vue d'assurer un système d'offre énergétique plus sûr, décentralisé et à faibles émissions de carbone.
- Utilisation de la gestion de la demande énergétique comme une mesure d'adaptation.
- Développement des capacités locales à évaluer et à répondre aux besoins énergétiques dans une perspective climatique.
- Mise en place de procédures de transfert technologique et de financement transparentes.
- Développement d'une gouvernance énergétique participative en vue d'obtenir des informations de première main concernant les besoins énergétiques réels et afin de mobiliser le soutien nécessaire de la part des bénéficiaires.

Le niveau de résilience d'un système dépend de la robustesse de son emplacement. Il n'est donc pas suffisant de simplement évaluer l'impact d'une installation sur l'environnement ; il convient également de déterminer les répercussions de l'évolution de l'environnement sur l'installation (Paskal 2009). Par ailleurs, un secteur énergétique résilient constitue le fondement d'une meilleure résilience de la collectivité. L'énergie permet la fourniture de services essentiels comme l'alimentation, la santé et l'éducation. Grâce à son utilisation dans le commerce et les entreprises, elle favorise également la création d'emplois et l'amélioration du niveau de vie des populations. C'est pourquoi, pour évaluer correctement la meilleure façon d'accroître la résilience d'un système énergétique, il convient de l'étudier dans le contexte plus large de l'écodéveloppement.

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## Hong Kong Automobile Association (HKAA)

Road Safety Issue to be discussed in the Rio+20 U.N. Conference on Sustainable Development

An analysis of Hong Kong's traffic accident statistics for 2010 reveals 14,943 traffic accidents involved injuries and 19,124 resulted in casualties. On average, 41 traffic accidents with injuries occurred every day during the year and that about two persons were killed every week. Compared to the previous year, the number of accidents and the number of casualties increased by 4.38% and 5.44% respectively.

Clearly, pedestrians consistently suffer the highest number of fatalities while private cars are the largest group involved in accidents. Of the 22,602 vehicles involved in traffic accidents in 2010, private cars accounted for 6,255, compared with 4,053 taxis, 2,726 light goods vehicles, 2,442 public buses, 2,428 motorcycles, 2,027 bicycles and 2,671 other vehicle types.

With the joint effort of various stakeholders, road traffic fatalities are declining. In 2010, with a population of about 7 million, Hong Kong's traffic fatalities dropped to 117, the lowest on record since 1955. Yet we should not be complacent and must continue to collaborate with the community to promote road safety.

It is encouraging that the number of traffic accidents involving drink driving has continued to drop. In 2010, a total of 214 drivers were arrested in traffic accidents involving drink driving. This represents a significant drop of 69% when compared with 701 drivers in 2008, before random breath testing was introduced. These promising figures evidence the effectiveness of strict traffic enforcement as well as high profile publicity and education campaigns in promoting road safety in Hong Kong. The launch of HKAA's Chauffeur-Drive-Home Service since February 2009 has also been a helpful concrete campaign in this area.

Over the years, the Hong Kong Automobile Association (HKAA), has been providing valuable commentary to help both the Road Safety Council and the Government in developing new legislation, improving road quality, devising new road safety measures and handling various other aspects related to the general protection of road users. The Association is represented in the Council, the Road Safety Research Committee, the Road Safety Campaign Committee and the Speed Limit Review Working Group with contribution of road safety expertise from time to time to the authority.

The Association continues today its heritage of almost a century of promoting road safety and more efficient traffic management in Hong Kong. It also promotes safe and legal motor sports as a member of the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA, or the 'International Automobile Federation').

In conclusion, improving road safety can help to achieve environmental objectives, including action on climate change, particularly through providing a safer road system for users of non-motorised transport, such as pedestrians and cyclists, the most vulnerable road users. Providing safe facilities for non-motorised transport, and encouraging affordable and safe public transport, can reduce demand for modal shift to the car. According to the UN Environment Programme, such policies can make 'a large, lasting impact...on fuel use, congestion, air quality and CO2 emissions... It is also one of the most cost-effective actions for saving hundreds of thousands of lives'; The priorities agreed at Rio+20 will set the global agenda. It is vital that action to improve road safety and promote sustainable transport is included in the agenda and outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference. The lives and health of millions of people is at stake.

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## Human Impacts Institute

November 1, 2011

Re: Input for Compilation Document for Rio+20 Zero Draft .

To the Secretariat of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development:

We call for Rio+20 to be unprecedented in terms of participation, cooperation, and leadership. Leadership must include representatives of government, business, and civil society. Participants must be included from across the globe and from all walks of life. The Rio+20 process must encourage communication and cooperation within these groups. Any renewal of political commitment to sustainable development cannot take place but within such a conference. Further, such principles will enhance progress in the institutional framework for sustainable development.

We ask that the conference implement new web-based and social media facilities, which carry the potential to reinvigorate the UN and its work in the eyes of a new and crucial generation of global citizens. The conference must result in a document simplified in its language, and incorporate processes that are transparent and accessible.

We demand that Rio+20 abide by its stated objectives, and thus result in new and ambitious agreements, goals, and pathways toward realizing them. The conference must honestly review and respond to the successes and failures of the current paradigm of global sustainable development work.

We request that conference outcomes also address the full scope of sustainable development, including its ecological, social, and cultural aspects, finance, the law, science and technology, economics, and natural resources. It can only be within such a comprehensive view that our goals can be achieved.

We recognize that the green economy can be a means to achieving sustainability, progress, and environmental, economic, social well-being. Any development of such an economy must, however, keep those ends in mind, and not replace them with growth or development for its own sake.

We suggest the development of global, open-source, accessible registry of sustainable actions. With such a tool, businesses, individuals, communities, and governments around the world can learn from each other and from the past, examine obstacles, and craft solutions to the pressing challenges of developing a sustainable human civilization.

Rio+20 can refresh our outlook and our energy for working toward a sustainable global future, and rise to face the critical challenges of our time. We hope it realizes this potential, as it surely will by meeting these above expectations.

Signed,

MobilizeUS!

The Human Impacts Institute

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## Human Rights Clinic

The Foreclosure Crisis in the United States Poses a Threat to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

### I. Introduction

The foreclosure crisis in the United States is currently posing a serious threat to sustainable development and poverty eradication. Homes are being abandoned more and more by owners in foreclosure and they are left to fall apart. Similarly, tenants who live in foreclosed properties are left living in homes that are dilapidated, unhealthy, and unsafe because landlords are neglecting their duties during the foreclosure process. As a result, human rights violations are occurring in neighborhoods all across the United States. The Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law is currently working to bring attention to these violations of human rights. The UN Conference on Sustainable Development is an important opportunity to bring these issues into the international spotlight. We formally submit this document for input in the compilation document for the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development.

### II. Statement of Interest

The Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law exposes students to the practice of law in the transnational and cross-cultural context of human rights litigation and advocacy at the local, national, and international levels. In the classroom, students critically engage with human rights law and contemporary social problems while honing their lawyering and advocacy skills. To bridge theory and practice, students also gain hands-on experience working directly with practitioners and affected individuals on active human rights cases and projects. The Clinic pursues litigation, legislative advocacy, community organizing, documentation, public policy analysis, media advocacy, and public education. The Clinic seeks to affect change and promote social and economic justice both locally and globally by relying upon the core principles articulated in human rights treaties, consensus documents, and related instruments.

### III. The Foreclosure Crisis in the United States and "Project No One Leaves - Miami"

As part of an effort to address human rights violations in the United States, the University of Miami School of Law's Human Rights Clinic partners with the University of Miami School of Law's Community Lawyering Clinic and Florida Legal Services to address the foreclosure crisis locally. Project No One Leaves - Miami (PNOL) focuses on the plight of tenants of properties in foreclosure. Tenants who rent these properties do not know what rights they have as a tenant. They often receive notices about the foreclosure, are named as parties in the foreclosure, or hear about the landlord's financial troubles from other tenants. As a result, many of them are scared and leave the property because they believe they have no other choice. Others take cash from their new landlords in exchange for their keys, even if it is not beneficial for them, because they think it's their only chance at compensation.

Tenants who chose to stay in homes going through the foreclosure process are often at an even greater disadvantage. The landlord who is in foreclosure, especially those who own multi-family units, often disappears and neglects their lawful duty as a landlord. The landlord no longer pays bills or makes needed repairs or renovations, leaving the tenants in bad conditions that continue to worsen. For example, some landlords of multi-family units have buildings that run on a single-read meter for utilities such as water. The landlord neglects to pay their water bills leaving the tenants without access to water, a basic necessity for living. Limited access to running water is just one example of the egregious human rights violations that tenants of foreclosed properties must endure.

While working in the community on the issue of the foreclosure crisis, we met a group of three male Nicaraguan migrant workers who had been living together as tenants in a duplex in Miami, Florida. The property had been in foreclosure for several months. Despite the fact that these tenants continued to pay rent, the landlord had turned off the water and electricity since the foreclosure process began. The property had fallen into disrepair resulting in dangerous cracks in the ceiling, non-working doors, and pest infestations. This is just one of the many examples that we have come across while doing fieldwork.

On May 20, 2009, the US Congress passed the Protecting Tenants of Foreclosure Act (PTFA) in order to address some of the issues faced by tenants whose landlords are facing foreclosure. The PTFA gives tenants some protections, but many are unaware that these protections exist. In part, the Community Lawyering Clinic and Florida Legal Services aim to address this problem through door-to-door canvassing and community meetings where tenants learn about their rights.

The large number of foreclosures throughout the United States has a profound effect on the human rights of tenants and the sustainability and development of their communities. As of September 2011, one in every 605 housing units in the US received a foreclosure filing. In addition, fifty-one percent of the foreclosure filings in 2008 were in the states of California, Arizona, Nevada and Florida. According to a report by the Alameda County Public Health Department that services Oakland, California, "foreclosures create devastating health impacts--not only for those individuals and families undergoing the process, but also whole communities that are reeling from its ripple effects and aftershocks."

The situation is no better in the state of Florida where one in every 368 housing units received a foreclosure filing in September 2011. In Miami-Dade County, where our clinics have done fieldwork, one in every 286 housing units received a foreclosure filing in September 2011. Of the 191 units visited, between forty-three and seventy were vacant. There were also numerous other houses that were clearly not occupied. The abandoned homes were often in complete and utter disrepair. Some conditions we observed were: broken or boarded-up windows, lawns overgrown and littered with garbage, and dilapidated walls. Many of the buildings were falling apart and smelled of rot.

These conditions were not limited to the vacant houses. We visited some houses that were occupied by tenants whose landlords had stopped maintaining the property and/or paying the utility bills. This results in tenants living in deplorable conditions that include structural issues (i.e. ceiling, floor, or wall disrepair). For example, one family we met lived with roaches, broken air conditioning, a broken stove, and several plumbing problems. The landlord allowed the sewage to drain onto their yard and placed a lock on their water hose, which restricted their ability to wash anything, including their garbage cans.

Again, these conditions are not atypical. These are the sort of human rights violations that are occurring nationwide across the United States. In Oakland, California one tenant and her seven children "experienced water shut-offs, mold and persistent vector issues." The Alameda County Public Health Department found that twenty-nine percent of the tenants in Oakland are experiencing utility shut-offs or threats of utility shut-offs and thirty-one percent are living in unhealthy living conditions (such as mold and pests).

#### IV. "Project No One Leaves - Miami" and Rio + 20

The 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development (1992 Rio Declaration) laid out integral principles to guide states in implementing sustainable development "with the goal of establishing a new and equitable global partnership through the creation of new levels of cooperation among States, key sectors of societies and people." One of these principles in particular, is especially important to this topic of foreclosures. Principle 8 states that:

To achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies.

As mentioned previously, the foreclosure crisis is affecting the quality of life for many people across the United States. In addition, the abandoned houses are an "unsustainable pattern of production and consumption" that must be addressed. The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) is an important opportunity to address this issue in the context of the 1992 Rio Declaration and create new guiding principles for states faced with housing crises of this magnitude.

The goals of UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) and Project No One Leaves-Miami mesh well and complement each other. One of the main focuses of the UNCSD is "a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication." Addressing the foreclosure crisis is critical to poverty eradication, as evidenced by the information provided above. Additionally, utilizing or perhaps updating the abandoned homes for affordable housing with greener materials is a critical step toward sustainable development.

If the crisis is not addressed, many people will face homelessness. Communities are facing "mass displacement and homelessness" in the wake of the foreclosure crisis. Further, abandoned houses are in severe disrepair and are decaying. When these homes are finally purchased, some are knocked down and large amounts of raw resources are used to build new homes. In addition, it also takes a lot of resources to restore a home from these dilapidated conditions back to livable conditions. Landlords and owners should maintain these properties regularly to avoid excess use of limited resources to make the homes habitable. Conversely, leaving these houses abandoned and in ruin is a waste of already-used resources that could be utilized. Governments could slow the development of new homes and incentivize developers to focus on the homes that are currently sitting on the market. In an effort to promote sustainability and poverty eradication, governments could set some of these homes aside for affordable housing. The houses could be updated using greener, more affordable technology to transform these homes into more energy-efficient and affordable low-income housing. Taking these steps will help alleviate poverty and will also be an effective way for governments to introduce green technology and sustainable development into fully developed areas.

#### V. International Human Rights Standards

International human rights standards have been recognized in various forms such as treaties, general principles and even as customary international law. International human rights laws outline the obligations of Governments to promote and protect human rights, which are universal and inalienable, interdependent and indivisible, as well as equal and non-discriminatory.

Economic and social rights in particular are a newer concept within human rights, although no less important, that have been gaining more and more recognition. In particular, the focuses of PNOL and this conference, lead us to look at three main rights within the economic and social sphere. It is hoped that the delegates to this conference raise this issue as it is directly connected to the topics of the Rio+20 conferences well as state obligations under international human rights standards. Below is a brief explanation on the right to adequate housing as the principle right, as well as the connected rights to health and water.

##### Human Right to Adequate Housing:

The right to adequate housing is protected in various international and regional treaties. This human right can be traced back to the Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR). Article 25(1) of the UDHR states that:

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

Among many other international instruments, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) has pronounced the right to adequate housing as an essential human right. More specifically, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which is responsible for implementing and monitoring the ICESCR, defined the concept of adequacy in its General Comment No. 4. This General Comment listed seven specific components of the right to adequate housing as being the legal security of tenure; availability of services, materials, facilities, and infrastructure; affordability; habitability; accessibility; location; and cultural adequacy. More specifically, the legal security of tenure "guarantees legal protection against forced eviction, harassment and other threats." Many of the other components directly address the correlations between the rights to housing, health, and water.

##### Human Right to Health:

The human right to health guarantees the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. The right to health should not be thought of as the right to be healthy necessarily, but it is more properly conceptualized as the right to enjoy facilities, goods, services and conditions necessary for the realization of health. At a minimum, there must be sufficient public services that include safe drinking water and sanitation. The right to health is directly associated with the right to adequate house, as housing availability and conditions will affect the health of an individual and communities.

The UN Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights' General Comment No. 4 on adequate housing, articulates state obligations connected to the right to the highest attainable standard of health, in that homes must contain "adequate space and protecting them from cold, damp, heat, rain, wind or other threats to health, structural hazards, and disease vectors."

##### Human Right to Water:

In 2002, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, adopted the General Comment on the right to water. It explains that "the human right to water is

indispensable for leading a life in human dignity. It is a prerequisite for the realization of other human rights." It also defined the right to water as the right to "sufficient, safe, acceptable and physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic uses."

Furthermore, in a 2010 resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the UN, the right to water and sanitation was explicitly recognized as essential human rights. The right to water is applicable in various forms in connection with the right to adequate housing. For example, all beneficiaries of adequate housing should have sustainable access to safe drinking water, sanitation and washing facilities, and site drainage.

#### VI. Recommendations for Input in the Compilation Document for Rio+20 UN Conference for Sustainable Development

We recommend that the delegates to the Rio+20 Conference address this most pressing issue, which has severe impact on sustainability and poverty eradication. Specifically we recommend that:

1. States recognize their affirmative obligations to tenants and ensure that landlords are complying with the international human rights standards set forth in the Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights.
2. States facing foreclosure crises should afford more protections to tenants of foreclosed properties. Legislation like the Protecting Tenants in Foreclosure Act (PTFA) in the US, address this need for protection, but need to go further to ensure that these tenants are not forced out of their homes and are not living in deplorable, unhealthy, and unsafe conditions.
3. Urge governments to provide incentives to public and private actors to maintain properties, thereby avoiding unnecessary renovations, and when necessary to renovate and regularly maintain these properties with greener and more affordable materials so that they can be utilized for affordable housing for low-income families.

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## Humane Society International

Text not available.

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## IANA - IVLP Alumni Network of the Americas

IANA - IVLP Alumni Network of the Americas – Committee 4: Environment

Our inputs for Rio + 20

This document aims at making a contribution to the Compilation Document for Rio + 20 on the following key issues:

- Managing natural resources at their carrying capacity
- Non-renewable energy and land management
- Waste reduction
- Governance

#### 1. Managing natural resources at their carrying capacity

We propose to create an International Carrying Capacity Index (ICCI) by country as an indicator of true sustainable development of nations and the life quality of its people. Currently GDP is the most important economic indicator to measure the success of a country, as a measure of material well-being of society. Gross refers to the variation not accounted for inventory and depreciation or appreciation of capital; Domestic means that the production is within the boundaries of an economy; and Product refers to added value terms.

As is known, a country can increase its GDP by an intensive use of natural resources, which may decrease well-being of the population due to causes not measured by domestic product (pollution, disease, etc.) And at a long term, can result in a decrease of the GDP due to the unavailability of non-renewable resources. Moreover, GDP ignores the income distribution. Considering the environmental deterioration that we actually live and the collapse risk of the human species by the development system and success that we considered so far is that the initiative was born in the America's IVP community, to propose Rio + 20, the importance of the creation of the International Carrying Capacity Index, as an indicator of an essential balance that each nation needs to maintain quality of life for its people and their long-term business.

Using the example of Costa Rica, in the global happiness index, was appointed in 2010 as the happiest country in the world, according to the fourth State of Central America report, each Costa Rican person have a green "need" of approximately three global hectares, while Costa Rica's biocapacity - defined as the potential for a place to meet the demand for natural resources - it is just two hectares. That is, Costa Rica needs an hectare more for each citizen in order to satisfy their water, energy, housing and transportation needs, among others (La Nación, October 12, 2011).

According to this reality, in Costa Rica, a country that has been a model in environmental issues, there is currently a mismatch between economic growth and the environment, which undoubtedly will deteriorate the country if nothing is done about it. Different scientists also mention that are overusing the planet in 30% of its natural ability to regenerate. In other words, we are not living with the "interest" as if we are "eating the capital." On the other hand, as this wise proverb, directed to family life, says: "Have the children that you can make happy," each country should say: "Have the people and businesses that can sustain without impairing the resources to ensure quality of life and sustainable development in the nation."

To this purpose, the ICCI could be a very important tool, which allows each nation to have a clear diagnosis of their integral development and allow you taking course to protect it from collapse by an unbalanced management.

The ICCI should be built by a multidisciplinary and international team, that can measure its governmental management ability to invest resources and create policies that reflect the capacity of its territory, mainly considering the area to support the consumption of resources, waste disposal, the ideal number of residents, amount and type of industries that can be maintained in balance with the environment that sustains them.

#### 2. Non-renewable energy and land management

Introduction

Between 1959 and 1999 the population of the world doubled from approximately 3 billion to 6 billion. According to current projections this is expected to expand to about 9 billion. As the population of the world continues to grow, so would the average standard of living, thus increasing the demand for food, water and energy. Over population is expected to exacerbate other environmental problems such as climate change, loss of wildlife habitat, deforestation and pollution. Currently the total world proven reserves for oil is 1,342.207 billion barrels (Oil and Gas Journal), while for natural gas its 6,254.364 trillion cubic feet (Oil and Gas Journal). Supplies of oil, gas, coal and uranium are forecasted to peak between the years 2010 and 2020 after which reserves will deplete. Recent calculations confirm that the world's oil and natural gas supplies are running out too fast leading to critical situation in which the world's supply of oil and gas falling below the level required to meet international demand.

At present oil accounts for between 34% and 37% of the world's primary energy. In the Caribbean region 90% of the energy utilized is derived from oil. In addition the components of crude oil are feedstock to the chemicals, plastics and fertilizer industries. Today and for the next 50 years the world's dependence on oil and gas a means to obtain energy for transportation electricity and heating will continue, generating CO<sub>2</sub>, VOCs, NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>x</sub> emissions, thus affecting the health of the human beings mainly through breathing problems and cancer, also increasing the need for adaptation for natural disasters.

What we are not doing

The oil consumption on a yearly basis exceeds 25 billion barrels and this is increasing. Soon with the expected depletion of the commodity the demand for it will negatively affect all aspects of our existence. Energy intensive societies, such as those found in the Western World, are not sustainable without a stable and relatively low-cost supply of energy, as is currently provided by oil and gas. Yet even with this knowledge we seem not to be pressured enough to seek viable alternative sources of energy nor to decrease the dependency on these non-renewable resources.

In addition, the processes of extraction of the hydrocarbons over the years may change the physical and chemical characteristics of the land. In the case of surface extraction of oil (tar sands), the remaining soil tailings produced are infertile and usually in great abundance. After oil extraction and refining, the land may lay waste. Today with the rising of new technologies to recover even more oil or by the fact that technology offers the possibilities to extract oil from a shale in tight formation which brings about more environmental threats to the area because large quantities of water are needed to extract oil.

Where do we want to be

- Reduced dependency on non-renewable energy.
- To treat with the problem of an early Peak Oil we need to work feverishly on the development of effectively harnessing the renewable energy.
- Renewable energy such as solar cannot presently be used to run large scale plants and refineries. It is therefore suggested that a hybrid approach be considered i.e. use both hydrocarbon and renewable energy. With a hybrid approach you include energy security.
- Replenish the forest and flora.
- Utilize wasted land for an alternative use as parking lots where it is available or to reforest or re-grass the area with local species.
- Incentivate local solution provided by the ancient cultures to solve the basic needs of the people on the base of the pyramid or out of the system. In this way a solution can be possible that will provide access to food, housing and electricity.

How do we get there

- Give every nation a deadline date to choose, develop and implement a suitable alternative energy source for their country. Also make the nations create and respect energy planning forecast to the future with legally binding actions.
- All oil and gas companies MUST have a land management plan while in operation as well as for after care.
- Each country should propose an appropriate crop mixes or a solution with a local grassing or planting local tree species, etc. (e.g. maize or sugar cane or legumes to plant on abandon oil fields). Where possible reforestation should be carried out.
- Use renewable energies like mini hydro, wind or solar to provide access to electricity to the people that are located in remote areas that are off grid, thus creating a sustainable solution to improve the living standards of the poor people.

### 3. Waste reduction

We all have responsibility in waste reduction

A list of global environmental issues would overwhelm even the most well-intentioned optimist. However, the mutual basis of all these issues (and their solutions) is human relationships with each other, and with the natural world. How relationships are conducted can be classified as occurring in communities or in markets.

The citizens of a community tend to be governed by public institutions and because communities are rooted in history, culture and geography these institutions tend to seek protection of exclusive interests but are slow to respond to influences from outside the community.

On the other hand, modern communities tend not to be self supporting in terms of desired resources and seek relationships outside the boundaries of the community, in markets. Contrary to communities, markets are directed by corporations that are nimble and able to respond quickly to consumers' interests, indiscriminately of communal interests, and over large geographies.

Finding ways to reconcile market interests with community interests is a key to solving environmental issues.

Product Stewardship

One common result of market/community disharmony is the over-generation and mismanagement of solid waste. For example, where costs for waste management costs are borne by communities, through taxation, there is little incentive for producers and consumers to waste less and innovate more. One proposed conciliatory solution for consideration is to have costs of environmental damages considered in the accounts of those that exploit environmental resources. In the case of solid waste this would result in more product stewardship such as Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) where corporations and consumers bear the responsibility for the end-of-life management of products and/or packaging rather than taxpayers.

Innovative Construction & Demolition

Another proposed action is to take advantage of the increased rate of housing development occurring in cities around the world, by finding innovative ways to lessen waste materials generated at construction sites and foster innovation in the reduction, recycling and reuse of demolition debris.



Compost!

Finally, another proposed action is to broadly promote composting of organic residuals, especially organic residuals coming from urban centres. Compostable organic materials comprise a significant portion of the mass sent to landfills. This: represents lost nutrients and other resources used in the production of food; is a major source of greenhouse gas emissions; and demonstrates a disconnected link in the relationship between people and the natural world. Establishing efficient and effective systems for the separation, collection, and composting of residual organic materials will create local jobs; clean up and extend the life of existing landfills; act as a sink for carbon rather than generate greenhouse gas emissions; and create a material that will improve horticulture and/or agriculture soils by retaining moisture and adding nutrients.

#### 4. Governance

Governance is an issue of key strategic relevance in order to foster sustainable use of natural resources. We identify three main areas requiring urgent measures if the promises of Rio '92 are to be realized:

- Global environmental governance
- Water governance
- Forest governance

##### Global environmental governance

At present, there are many similar on-going processes and overlapping international organizations dealing with different aspects of natural resources management, poverty reduction, sustainable livelihoods, food security, health, energy and sustainable development in general. This is true both within and outside the United Nations System.

The consequences of this situation are increased complexity in the organizational structure, rising operating costs, an expanding international bureaucracy and poor coordination among the different mechanisms, commissions, agencies, bodies, secretariats and other structures related to sustainable development.

An ever increasing number of multilateral meetings poses a heavy burden on developing countries in order to have a say in the international decision making process. This leads to either a poor representation of their interest at the meetings or a heavy burden on their budgets. In practical terms, the result is a weak participation in high-level decisions which are likely to have an impact on these countries.

We suggest that Rio + 20 takes this problems into account in order to promote a revision of the current governance arrangements. An enhanced global governance mechanism would free funds that could then be channeled into more field work and concrete actions to achieve the MDGs and other worthy goals.

##### Water governance

The increasing pressure on water resources plus the implementation of the MDGs and the 'new' human right to water makes this issue most urgent. River basins often involve more than one jurisdiction and, often, more than one country. Although some improvements have been made, there is still a lack of coherent governance arrangements in many river basins. In particular, stakeholder involvement in decision making processes is still weak in most of the world. Besides, there is still a sub-optimal use of freshwater in many countries due to lack of adequate technology or poor water management practices.

It is therefore necessary to advance institutional arrangements that provide for an optimized water resources development. Participation —particularly that of marginalized groups— is an issue in which little progress has been made in spite of some small-scale success stories. Incentives for rational use of freshwater must also be implemented, with a special focus in financial and economical mechanisms.

##### Forest governance

Forest degradation and deforestation are still much alive in developing countries. In spite of the efforts, there is little —or no— progress in the implementation of effective forest governance models. Illegal logging is still a primary cause for deforestation and national governments are lacking effectiveness in controlling it. There are massive incentives for land-use changes, especially with commodities prices rising.

There is a need to review the incentives for sustainable forest management plus sustainable livelihoods for rural communities living in forest landscapes. It is also necessary to improve law enforcement, including appropriate measures in order to fight illegal timber trade. Participatory governance models at landscape level should be implemented when possible.

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## Ibero-American Network of Life Cycle Assesment

Establishing basic Product Category Rules (PCR) in order to ensure achieving the Green Economy in emerging regions: disacoupling PCR from the economic and commercial interests of big companies and consortiums

### INTRODUCTION

During the last decade, corporate social responsibility (CSR) required companies to adopt measures and tools for cleaner production and sustainable development. This become an important driver for sustainability in the production sector, and was also an effective vehicle to introduce these new concepts to several countries. This also helped to raise awareness in society of the relevance of taking care of the environment as well as the value of the biological richness of the planet for future generations. At the same time, new relationships and collaboration between industry and society started to be developed; under a novel approach for economic-social growth and the improvement of the standard of living, through a framework of respect to the environment.

## What is the Problem?

In the present phase of world development, i.e. towards life cycle thinking and a green economy society has already been deeply instilled with the concept of sustainability. As part of public agenda of developing countries, the initiatives of the private sector have an important influence on general society and also on governmental agencies. These initiatives have the potential to fulfil the expectations of society regarding these areas and can also indirectly help governmental agencies to accomplish their own goals in social and environmental areas. Nevertheless, when these initiatives are promoted by large companies, powerful consortiums or transnational companies, their focus could be more related to economic and commercial purposes, becoming instead a good "business and marketing opportunity" for companies. Nevertheless, to consolidate this process, companies need to be somehow recognized locally as conceptual and practitioner referees in subjects related to sustainable consumption and production. Their huge financial resources, allow them to have significant capacity of implementation of projects, which usually include several levels of development and diffusion of their activities and ideas, and therefore has the potential to be denoted as corporations in a kind of "environmental crusade for the benefit of us all", acquiring consequently public connotation and social and political influence. The practice that is becoming common in many countries of the region, may result in serious damage for the economy and sustainable development of the emerging countries, since it could turn out to be a factor that distorts the implementation of methodological standards for the sustainable consumption and production, like the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), by establishing models and patterns of reference that entail in their own intrinsic definition the skew provided by the economic interests of the companies, which are promoting them.

## CONSEQUENCES

Not taking suitable measures means that big-size companies with economic and commercial interests beyond the regional, environmental and social ones could determine the standards for sustainable development, and then: establishing what is fine and what is not, what worth more and what worth less in sustainable consumption and production, and consequently what impacts or impact categories are the more relevant, what emissions to consider and which are their relation to particular sitespecific conditions, what is more significant for certain sectors in terms of environmental, social and economic impacts, and therefore what bears the greatest burden and therefore the allocation scheme to be used for a LCSA, etc.

In this context, consortium and big companies could become judge and part of these processes. Their economic and technical resources provide them with the ability and effectiveness: their headquarters provided them of knowhow, the necessary resources for expert development on LCA and other tools, making them prepared with solid arguments and scientific and technical discussion capacity to convince and promote themselves at different levels of society. But, in the other hand, as counterpart there are the social and governmental organisms, most of them with not enough monetary resources, and lack of the necessary knowledge and experience to discuss or to appropriately lead the development and application of these methodologies.

We also understand that out of this situation there is also latent risk for regional SMEs: being most SMEs suppliers of the big companies and transnational that demand to fulfil their environmental standards, conducting the SMEs to compete in technical disadvantage with foreigner suppliers coming from the developed world. Additionally as has already occurred, those SMEs that are able to accomplish the required standards, can be led to a sort of perverse system, in which the SMEs after improving their standards of environmental performance and thus diminishing their energy and material consumptions and their production costs, they were then demanded by the big companies to lower as well the prices of their products in the same proportion as they lower their production costs.

In the implementation of this type of initiatives, a common practice carried out by companies consists in getting the social organizations and governmental organisms involved from the start, and hence ensuring their acceptance and social validation, and simultaneously conform a politic-social action network that consolidates them and makes very difficult to influence these projects from outside, or publicly to criticize their results.

## PROPOSAL

What could be a feasible solution?

Therefore it seems essential and necessary to adopt oriented measures to direct these processes toward the objectives of economic, environmental and social sustainability of the emergent and developing countries, disacoupling them of the economic and commercial interests of big companies and consortiums.

Therefore, we highlight the necessity of developing mechanisms for auditing and controlling those initiatives, projects and programs oriented to establish models of LCA or implementing as well other life cycle thinking tools.

We think that a direct way for this, based on standardized tools that already exist, is the promotion of the use of the product category rules (PCR), according to the ISO14025. Each country in agreement with a global standard frame will be able to establish for products a basic profile that must be fulfilled. This product profile can be settled together with all the producers of the sector and the import products will have to fulfil at least these basic profiles.

In the following phase countries would have to reach inter-sectoral agreements to make these profiles consistent for the country. These processes would agree between countries with commercial agreements. At the same time international basis regarding environmental and social terms would be established for avoiding that products out of specification could be deviated to other countries without regulations.

It is not either necessary to invent nothing. It just would be enough to organize an EPD/PCR scheme under public control of the countries and not to leave these regulatory processes to be defined exclusively by private initiative.

Finally, we propose that these mechanisms are impelled and coordinated by pertinent governmental organisms, such as the economic and environment ministries, national centers for cleaner production, but which scientific and technical support must be based on the scientific communities and technical experts in these areas. In Latin America and other regions in the world, these communities have been grouped themselves in local and regional networks of life cycle assessment, such as the Ibero- American LCA Network, the African LCA Network, and many very active LCA networks at country level too.

In the cases that local networks do not exist, the PCR and EPD development could be coordinated with the regional network, which are able to identify local and regional experts and give technical support if necessary, and/or to act as guarantors for Estate organisms, NGO and for other natural organizations of the civil society.

Promoción de mecanismos para el desarrollo de bases de datos abiertas: plataforma necesaria para dar impulso al desarrollo sustentable y la economía verde en regiones emergentes

## INTRODUCCIÓN

Atendiendo a la globalización de la economía y especialmente a las implicaciones económicas y ambientales de impactos a nivel planetario, se hace necesario disponer de un fondo documental transversal, de forma que sea posible conocer las variables que permitan determinar los impactos que afectan a toda la humanidad, especialmente en los productos transnacionales. Actualmente el consumidor no puede saber el impacto de un producto importado o de un producto elaborado con materias primas o energía procedente de otros países o continentes.

Este fondo documental comœen se concretaria en una base de datos de formato compatible, en la que todos los fabricantes de productos o servicios deber'a volcar una serie minima de datos. Esta base de datos comœen deber'a poder determinar aspectos globales como la vulneraci—n de derechos humanos basicos, como proteccion de la infancia, derecho a educacion, derechos individuales y determinar variables que afecten a la preservacion de recursos no renovables fundamentales, materias primas, fuentes de energ'a y a la prevencion y proteccion contra impactos globales como agotamiento de capa de ozono, cambio climatico. La metodologia de analisis de sustentabilidad de ciclo de vida (life cycle sustainability assessment LCSA), permite la incorporacion de varios de estos temas en el analisis integral, que impulsa la comunidad de expertos en LCA, haciendo desde hace a-os una labor importante a nivel mundial en la recoleccion y seleccion de datos y desarrollo de modelos de impacto tanto genŽricos como sitio especificos y sector especificos. Pero sus esfuerzos se ven tambiŽn limitados a causa de la disponibilidad de datos y acceso a la informacion y falta de medios formales para superar este problema.

Asimismo, el acceso amplio a informaci—n relevante y confiable, es fundamental para la implementacion de programas y pol'ticas de desarrollo sustentable y programas de mejora ambiental continua de procesos, servicios y productos, en paises emergentes. Los principios de Responsabilidad Social Empresarial en primer tŽrmino, asi como las normas en todos los niveles, deben orientarse a promover el acceso a la informacion ambiental, social y economica, a gobiernos y a ciudadanos, a fin de compensar las asimetr'as existentes entre Žstos y las grandes corporaciones.

#### ANTECEDENTES

Mucha informacion referente a consumo y emisiones genŽricas e impactos ambientales y sociales de sistemas productivos y de desempe-o ambiental de productos, se encuentra dispersa en la academia, sectores pœblicos y privados y aun siendo de acceso pœblico, muchas veces se desconoce su existencia y termina encerrada en cajones y archivos hasta finalmente perderles toda pista.

La Guia Global de Principios para Bases de Datos de Analisis de Ciclo de Vida, conocida tambiŽn como la Guia de Shonan, recientemente lanzada por UNEP-SETAC Life Cycle Initiative, identifica como crucial para el desarrollo de inventarios de ciclo de vida y por tanto para el analisis de ciclo de vida, que los tenedores y generadores de informacion desarrollen f—rmulas para incrementar la cooperacion y asi mejorar el acceso a informacion fiable. Capitulo 6 de la Guia Global de Principios:

- Governments are requested to launch national life cycle assessment (LCA) training and awareness activities in their respective countries.

- Global coordination among life cycle inventory (LCI) dataset developers and LCA database managers has been identified as a priority, together with capacity building and data mining, to move toward a world with interlinked databases and overall accessibility to credible data.

- Huge amounts of relevant raw data, and even developed LCI datasets, currently are not easily accessible for LCA studies. LCA database managers and LCA practitioners for particular studies should do data mining by working with actors who routinely collect data

. All stakeholders, including governments, industry associations, and commercial parties that manage and supply databases, should strongly increase their cooperation and coordination."

La Guia de Shonan tambiŽn discute en forma detallada, el como los gobiernos y otras partes tenedoras de datos basicos que pueden usarse en generar inventarios de ciclo de vida, pueden tomar acciones para que sus grupos de datos pedan ser mas facilmente usados en esa direccion.

Existe evidencia de funcionalidad de las bases de datos abiertas: las nuevas generaciones de cientificos y profesionales ocupan fuerte y crecientementemente sitios de generaci—n y desarrollo de temas en internet y las bases de datos que alli se generan, como es el caso de wikipedia, exhibe la condicion de autorregulacion en el tiempo, generando informacion de alta calidad y grupos de trabajo y discusion entorno a temas relevantes. Conociendo este fenomeno, expertos en el mundo han empezado a desarrollar herramientas abiertas para centralizar y compartir informacion, que permiten la mejora de procesos, al compartir informacion sobre indicadores de desempleo de redes de proveedores y consumidores.

Por tanto hay ya una base metodologica y empirica, que en todo caso es necesario aun estructurar y orientar hacia los objetivos del establecimiento de mecanismos a nivel de gobiernos que permitan el desarrollo de bases de datos abiertas de informacion relevante y fiable, como plataforma para el desarrollo sustentable.

#### PROPUESTA

De manera concomitante, los Gobiernos y la sociedad civil, a travŽs de acuerdos pœblico privados deberan desarrollar y compartir estrategia tecnologicas para re-construir la informacion ambiental a partir de los registros existentes en cualesquiera formatos y sujetos que puedan aportarlos, a fin de generar progresivamente una aproximacion a lineas de base globales para los ecosistemas en todos sus niveles.

Desarrollar protocolo de acuerdos internacionales, que permitan que la informaci—n generada por las empresas para su propio desempeo operacional, pueda quedar disponibles para el uso de la comunidad y del Estado, a travŽs de mecanismos que generen valor para las empresas como retribucion a compartir la informacion, los cuales no han sido del todo desarrollados.

Cabe destacar que la forma de creacion y mantenimiento de grupos de datos (datasets) y bases de datos se puede realizar de formas muy variadas, dado el actual nivel de desarrollo tecnologico, pero es fundamental un compromiso tanto a nivel gubernamental de los paises como tambiŽn a nivel internacional, que lleve a que cada pa's garantice la disponibilidad de estos datos en un formato compatible. Por tanto que sea posible verificar, por ejemplo, que en los casos de productos para los cuales la cadena de suministro sea transnacional o en temas de comercializacion, se pueda garantizar que los impactos sociales, econ—micos y ambientales de Žstos, estŽn enmarcados al menos en un minimo internacionalmente acordado.

Consideramos que Rio + 20 es la instancia en la cual se puede asumir un compromiso de este tipo en un plazo razonable, de manera que se pueda seguir un procedimiento similar a las agendas 21, en las que cada pais en forma voluntaria se va suscribiendo al compromiso y mientras tanto se desarrolla un protocolo que permita ir agregando bases de datos.

Los principios de Responsabilidad Social Empresarial en primer tŽrmino, asi como las normas en todos los niveles, deben orientarse a promover el acceso a la informacion relativa al desarrollo sustentable a gobiernos y a ciudadanos, a fin de compensar las asimetrías existentes entre Žstos y las grandes corporaciones.

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Profundizacion de la gestion administrativa en materia de evaluacion de impacto ambiental

La mayor'a de los paises cuenta con legislacion que exige la evaluacion de impacto ambiental previa a la ejecucion de proyectos que involucren ocupacion o transformacion del entorno, generacion de desechos y sustancias toxicas y alteracion o impactos significativos al medio ambiente natural y/o tecnoestructura. Sin embargo, la gestion

ambiental gubernamental asociada a dichas normas resulta deficiente en varios aspectos que es necesario fortalecer desde el punto de vista institucional:

- a) Adecuada estandarizaci—n de los procesos de revisi—n de los Estudios Ambientales, y que involucren los otros aspectos de la sustentabilidad (desarrollo social y economico, respeto a los derechos humanos basicos).
- b) Ampliacion de la integracion de informacion disponible para la revision: tanto las normas como las tecnolog'as deberian converger para permitir integrar progresivamente dichas informaci—n no digitalizadas, dispersas, o en lenguajes incompatibles, de tal manera de permitir superar la vision atomizada.
- c) Potenciacon del acceso a las tecnologias TIC
- d) Revision critica de la Evaluaciones Ambientales y de informacion disponible: las comunidades ACV/LCA agrupadas en redes nacionales y regionales conformadas por expertos en las diversas areas que comprende el LCSA, constituyen una base para que los paises emergentes establezcan procedimientos (gu'a de calidad) de recoleccion, eleccion y revision critica de datos. Se debe proover las alianzas entre los gobiernos locales con las redes nacionales y regionales, las cuales tambiŽn pueden ser la base para el desarrollo de estđndares b'sicos de grupos de datos.

## Ibon International

Contribution of Ibon International to the Zero Draft of the Outcome Document for Rio+20  
1 November 2011

Today the world finds itself far off track in realizing the vision of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development. Global economic expansion continues to severely strain the environment. Humanity's ecological footprint now exceeds the planet's biocapacity by over 50%, and three of nine planetary boundaries that define the safe operating space for human life on Earth have been breached.

The costs and benefits generated by that economic expansion are shared very unequally. In 1990, the ratio of per capita income in the richest 20 countries to that in the poorest 20 was \$42 to one dollar; in 2005, it was \$59 to one dollar. One out of three persons today or about 1.75 billion people live in acute deprivation in terms of health, education and material standard of living. There are 80 million more people living in income poverty in 2005 compared to 1981 if the handful of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) economies are excluded. And close to a billion people do not even have the very basic condition for human existence, that is adequate food.

The gravity of the multiple crises confronting the world today—not the least of which is the climate crisis—is forcing people to re-examine fundamentals. People's values and lifestyles, their conceptions of the good life, social relations as well as the relationship of man with nature—all these are being reconsidered and reimagined. To put it bluntly, no real development is possible unless it transcends the present economic and social system that engenders these crises.

### Significance of Rio+20

Rio+20 in 2012 thus comes at an opportune time, when the world's states and peoples are obliged to rethink alternatives to the current development model with its ever-increasing failures. It presents opportunities to push urgently and comprehensively the agenda for sustainable development.

The 2012 UNCSD must deliver and not backtrack on the promises and commitments made in Rio twenty years ago. Rio+20 must reaffirm and operationalize the principles expressed in the 1992 Rio Declaration, including the polluter pays principle; the precautionary principle; the principle of common but differentiated responsibility and capability; and Principle 10 on people's participation and access to information and justice. Rio+20 should come out with an honest appraisal of weaknesses in the implementation of Agenda 21, aim for ambitious, timebound and concrete goals, and establish mechanisms for a just transition to genuine sustainable development.

The best way to re-affirm the Rio principles is to promote a rights-based approach to sustainable development in response to the grave economic, social and environmental crises confronting the world today. A rights-based approach to sustainable development is founded on the notion that improving the well-being of present and future generations is a matter of empowerment, equity and justice. It lays down a clear mandate for public officials to take action and provides conditions for rights claimants to hold duty bearers accountable, including governments, intergovernmental organizations, donors, international financial institutions, transnational corporations, international NGOs and so on.

The duty of states and the international community to respect, protect and fulfill legally-binding human rights obligations enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, human rights treaties and covenants including the Right to Development, should be the basis of discussions in Rio+20 alongside commitments previously made in Rio in 1992 and the UNCSD process since then. Only on the basis of these can outcomes in Rio+20 be expected to rectify and strengthen the social, economic and ecological dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic and integrative manner.

### On the Green Economy

Many civil society groups are concerned that the Green Economy theme chosen for the Rio+20 does not fully or holistically address the social, economic and ecological challenges of sustainable development today. Many civil society organizations are dismayed that the leading advocates of the green economy confuse economic growth with the full range of development. Moreover, many CSOs fear that the green economy agenda will consist primarily of market-based, private-sector led initiatives or technological fixes that may, inadvertently or otherwise, reinforce corporate control over natural resources and environmental services, not to mention traditional sectors such as agriculture and new technologies, at the expense of the people who are most dependent on these resources.

There is also the fear that market-based mitigation schemes such as carbon trading and carbon offsets allow cop-outs for large polluters and therefore continue to lock-in the same unsustainable patterns of production and consumption.

Instead, we call on governments to support alternative knowledge and practices on sustainable development that are in the hands of the people – biodiverse ecological agriculture, community-based renewable energy systems, community-driven stewardship of ecosystems – and the values of *buenviviri* or living well as opposed to unbridled consumerism. These make the building blocks of genuine people-centered sustainable development that enhances people's well-being, equity and justice for all. But they need to be supported and promoted by an enabling environment.

Crucial to such an environment is the democratization of ownership, control, and decision-making over productive resources and assets in society. We should move towards

more democratic modes such as cooperative, community-based, commons or public forms of ownership to ensure that economic activity provides sustainable livelihoods for all and meets the developmental goals of the community and society. This means implementing thoroughgoing agrarian, aquatic and forestry reforms for the benefit of smallholders, women and indigenous peoples in particular, and to strengthen community-based stewardship of natural resources and ecosystems.

There is a need to promote sufficiency-based economies, i.e., catering primarily towards meeting local needs and demands, developing local capacities, based on available resources, appropriate technologies and resource sharing.

Countries should have the right to determine their patterns of food production and consumption, and farmers should be able to prioritize food production for domestic consumption. Local and national food systems should provide food that is healthy, of good quality, and culturally appropriate. Food production and consumption should be localized as much as possible while food reserves should be established at the local, national and even regional level to raise the resilience of food systems.

There must be an end to perverse subsidies and support for the fossil fuel industry, for agrofuel plantations, for large scale mining, big dams, industrial farming and fishing, and other activities that destroy lives and livelihoods of present and future generations. Instead, there must be a rapid transition away from fossil fuels as energy sources and towards a mix of new, renewable energy sources, some particularly amenable to decentralized and local use such as wind, solar, and micro-hydro power.

Manufacturing should promote closed-loop production where products are produced with minimum use of energy and materials, longer lifespans and with maximum reuse and recycling of parts and components. There must be greater support for mass public transportation but walking and biking should also be promoted as modes of transport for short distances.

On the basis of public, cooperative and community-based forms of ownership, participatory and inclusive modes of decision-making and planning can ensure that economic activity contributes to meeting the goals of the community such as employment, health, education, and so on. The principle of subsidiarity—devolving decision-making to as local a level as appropriate—should be promoted. This should reignite local political reengagement.

Policies should respect cultural diversity, and modern science should be combined with traditional knowledge in bottom-up approaches of research and development to develop technologies that are appropriate and democratic.

International trade, investment, finance and development cooperation should be reoriented around rules that value, respect, protect and fulfill people's rights; economic, social, gender ecological and climate justice; self-determination and self-sufficiency.

A sustainability transition will involve adjustment costs. The highest costs will fall on global corporations, polluting industries and elites who will need to adjust to an economic redistribution. But the poor will also be affected, such as workers in fossil fuel industries when the shift to renewables take place. Workers will need to be reskilled for green jobs. Also, Southern countries that depend on energy and manufactured exports to the North will feel the pain when a transition to lower consumption begins in the North. A coordinated transition within and between countries is necessary to cushion the impacts to the poor. Assistance from the North in the form of financing, technology cooperation, and capacity building are of utmost importance to support developing countries make the transition.

On IFSD

To deliver on the promises of the first Earth Summit, there is also a need for an effective, democratic institutional framework that can and will ensure economic progress, social equity and environmental protection in an integrated and holistic manner.

Building a strong apex body for sustainable development that works on a global level and can integrate or coordinate the work of disparate multilateral bodies working on one of the three pillars of sustainable development may be desirable. Some of the options on offer are promoting the Commission on Sustainable Development into a Council on Sustainable Development, or establishing a UN Organization on Sustainable Development. Any option should uphold and operationalize the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and acknowledge that poor countries constitute the majority. Second, it must be participatory and democratic.

A rights-based approach to the IFSD means that duty-bearers should have explicit mandates expressed in clear, preferably legally binding, human rights standards. There must also be judicial or quasi-judicial mechanisms that are effective at delivering entitlements, responding to complaints, and ensuring accountability. These mechanisms of redress must also be readily accessible, especially to vulnerable and marginalized groups.

A rights-based approach to sustainable development underscores the democratic right of people to determine the goals and means of achieving sustainable development. Along this line, the development and adoption of a global or regional convention on Principle 10 of Rio based on the Aarhus Conventionii should be supported. This will help ensure access to information and meaningful participation of people in sustainable development, and access to effective judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy.

Rio+20 should work for the immediate establishment of a broad inclusive multi-stakeholder consultative body or network tasked with supporting the promotion and implementation of Agenda 21 and Rio+20 resolutions. Such body should be participatory, democratic, and have an integral multi-stakeholder character that accords civil society with equal rights and equal voice as governments.

The UN Human Rights Council should also establish Special Procedures for the Right to Sustainable Development, including the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Sustainable Development. Such an expert or experts will be tasked with reviewing international, national and regional case law and practice with a view to clarifying the linkages between social, economic and environmental issues from a rights perspective; elaborating on applicable human rights standards and indicators.

The OHCHR should also collaborate closely with UNEP, the proposed Council on Sustainable Development or World Environment Organization, if and when they are established, in order to develop guidelines and propose actions to be taken by governments, intergovernmental bodies and other actors consistent with human rights obligations.

Ultimately, the effectiveness of a global body on sustainable development rests on the effective functioning of similar institutions at the local and national levels and its relevance to people's lives.

Commitments from the North in the form of adequate financing (according to common but differentiated responsibility), appropriate technology cooperation, and needs-based capacity building are of utmost importance to support developing countries make a just transition to sustainable development pathways.

## On SDGs

The proposed Sustainable Development Goals should not be confined to merely addressing the symptoms of poverty, exclusion and ecological degradation like the millennium development goals. Instead, SDGs must address the roots of these problems including the question of rectifying unequal power relations within and between countries, and the dominant development model based on neoliberal doctrine.

The SDGs should also affirm the Rio principles, including the CBDRRRC. They should not be donor-driven targets or technocratic exercises in formulating indicators and monitoring progress. They should be based on Agenda 21, but also be consistent with human rights obligations, including the Right to Development.

Today, even more so than twenty years ago, peoples of the world are aware that the challenge of genuine sustainable development requires no less than the profound transformation of societies and of international relations. We must all rise up to the challenge.#

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## ICEF-International Court of the Environment Foundation

Rio+20 Conference CALL FOR ACTION BY THE PARTICIPATING STATES OF THE RIO+20 CONFERENCE (4-6 JUNE 2012)

To Adopt the Project for the International Court of the Environment presented firstly by ICEF at the UNCED Conference in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 and Re-proposed at UNCED Conference in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012

Considering the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly on 10 December 1948;

Considering that this Declaration aims at guaranteeing the universal and effective recognition and application of the rights provided for in it;

Considering that the environment is one of the fundamental human rights and that life is the very basis of fundamental freedoms;

Considering that environmental protection is, at the same time, a fundamental duty of all mankind, particularly with regard to future generations, including the utilisation of resources compatible with the needs of life in general on the planet;

Considering that the principles of the Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, signed in Rome on 4 November 1950 and the Protocol to the Convention signed in Paris on 20 March 1952 must be extended to the entire world because they constitute a common universal heritage and the basis for democratic, just and peaceful governments in a new international order;

Considering that Art. 13 of the United Nations Declaration on Social Progress and Development (1969), declares that "the protection and improvement of the human environment" is one of the aims in attaining social development and progress;

Considering that, under Art. 22 of the Declaration of United Nations Conference on the Human Environment (1972) held in Stockholm, States are under a duty to "co-operate" in further developing international environmental law and, under Art. 21, have "the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not produce damage to the environment of other States or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction";

Considering that Art. 30 of the 1974 Resolution of the General Assembly, known as the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States declares that all States are responsible for the protection, preservation and improvement of the environment for present and future generations;

Considering that Art. 19 of the Report on State Responsibility, approved by the International Law Commission in 1976, considers the concept of the international crime of a State as an offence against the entire International Community to be applicable to serious acts of pollution and degradation of the planet (serious violations of the fundamentally important international obligation to protect and pre-serve the human environment - "environmental crimes");

Considering that the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea recognises the sea bed as "a common heritage of mankind" and set up a special International Sea-Bed Authority;

Considering that Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration states that States shall make "effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings, including redress and remedy" available; information widely available;

Considering the various environmental disasters that have occurred without adequate reparation for the environmental damage done: the Torrey Canyon in 1967; the Amoco Cadiz in 1978; the collision of the Atlantic Express with the Aegean Captain outside Tobago in 1979; Exxon Valdez in 1989; Seveso in 1976; Bhopal in 1984; Chernobyl in 1986; Sandoz in 1988; Haven in 1991, Sea Empress off the Welsh coast in 1996, Erika off Brittany in 1999 and the burning oil wells in the Gulf in 1991, the Gulf of Mexico oil spill in 2010;

Considering that an answer must be found for objectively supranational problems (the oceans, space, the Antarctica, the Amazon, the ozone layer, the greenhouse effect, transfrontier pollution, genetic manipulation, toxic products, etc.) on the same level in terms of regulations, sanctions and organs for prevention, management and control and that the entire International Community must assume responsibility for saving life on the earth by creating new more effective regulations and permanently structured administrative and judicial bodies;

Considering the positive role that religions can serve in encouraging stewardship of life on Earth, as for instance in the Encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI Caritas in Veritate 2009 which concerns the need for a "world political authority" capable of assisting States to protect the environment as an integral part of sustainable development, and capable of providing international solidarity for attaining the ethical objectives of preventing and remedying environmental damage.

Considering that the European Parliament in its Motion for a Resolution in view of developing a common EU position ahead of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) (B7-0000/2011 of 12.9.2011) reiterates its proposal for an international environmental court, so that global environmental legislation becomes more

binding and enforceable, or at least an international authority, such as an ombudsman with mediation powers;

Considering that, for this purpose, the role of existing state and international institutions must be strengthened and new organs be created for the environment on a global level:

- an International Environmental Agency within the United Nations
- an International Court of the Environment within the United Nations

Based on the principles that:

- 1) Everyone has a fundamental right to the environment and an absolute duty to preserve life on earth for the benefit of present and future generations
- 2) Everyone has the right of access to environmental information and the duty to provide any environmental information in his/her possession
- 3) Everyone has the right to participate in procedures that may involve the environment, subject to the fact that the public authorities are deemed to have final responsibility with regard to the environmental decision-making processes
- 4) Everyone, whether an individual or an association, has the right to take legal action to prevent activities that are harmful to the environment and to seek compensation for any environmental damage
- 5) Everyone is under a duty to utilise natural resources with equity and care, by ensuring the maximum saving of energy, the minimum consumption of resources and by actively and efficiently co-operating in reducing the amount and kinds of waste produced and in its recycling and re-utilisation.
- 6) The States shall recognise and guarantee the human right to the environment, and foster conditions that make this right effective
- 7) The States are legally responsible to the entire International Community for acts that cause substantial damage to the environment in their own territory, in that of other States or in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and shall adopt all measures to prevent such damage
- 8) The States, in particular, shall:
  - a) adopt all policies in accordance with the global principle of complete compatibility with the equilibrium of the earth's ecosystem
  - b) adopt all policies in accordance with an equitable principle for the utilisation of the earth's common resources by all peoples
  - c) adopt all policies in accordance with a principle respecting the right to the environment of future generations
  - d) prohibit all activities that may cause irreversible damage to the basic natural processes of the biosphere and, as a precautionary measure, suspend those activities whose effects cannot be determined until all such uncertainty has been removed
  - e) take action to restore degraded ecosystems
  - f) prevent the transfer of environmental harm and risks to other parts of the world
  - g) prevent military action that procures irreversible environmental damage
  - h) adopt environmental standards that have been recommended at an international level and, in their absence, other standards aimed at preventing or significantly reducing the various kinds of pollution and at guaranteeing the equitable utilisation of resources
  - i) adopt procedures for environmental impact assessment with regard to legislation, planning and programming and for public and private works of great impact on the environment
  - j) urgently implement control and monitoring systems that are global, continuous, transparent, well publicized and comprehensible to everyone
  - k) prohibit forms of propaganda for the manufacturing and production and for the utilisation of resources considered to be incompatible with the requirements of education and the right to correct and complete environmental information
  - l) conserve terrestrial, coastal and marine habitats together with the species of flora and fauna subject to special protection
  - m) conserve the quality of agricultural land and related products against the excessive use of pesticides
  - n) adopt the principle of ecological compatibility for rivers and lakes whereby they are given the capacity to resist and regenerate by requiring that productive and agricultural activities be authorised
  - o) make the scientific and technical information necessary for protecting the environment available
  - p) co-operate in research and monitoring and assist in cases of environmental disasters
  - q) subject economical initiatives with other States and especially with the South of the planet to environmental impact assessment
  - r) encourage the conservation of large ecosystems through the creation of international parks and reserves, acknowledging that all of nature is a legal and economic resource and a common heritage and that national sovereignty is a obligation at the service of human values

ICEF calls on World Leaders to establish an:

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY

An International Environmental Agency shall be established as a permanent organ.

Composition

The Agency shall consist of 15 members, appointed by the United Nations General Assembly from among persons of high moral character and qualifications, from a list of 100 candidates submitted to the Secretary General of the United Nations

## Functions

The functions of the Agency shall be:

- a) to control and monitor the state of the environment on the planet;
- b) to promote and carry out research, also with the assistance of independent experts, research centres and universities, on the actual state of the environment on the planet and on the evolution of large terrestrial, marine and atmospheric ecosystems;
- c) to plan global initiatives for environmental protection and restoration;
- d) to manage the World Environmental Fund;
- e) to establish acceptable standards regarding polluting activities, which the single States may only make stricter;
- f) to promote any other useful initiative for environmental protection, including a vast world-wide educational campaign on the environment;
- g) to publish an Official Report once every three years on the ecological evolution of the planet.

## Term of Office.

The members shall be in office for a period of 7 years and are not eligible for re-appointment. They shall elect a Director with the role of representing and co-ordinating the activities of the Agency. The Director may only be re-elected once;

and an:

## INTERNATIONAL COURT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

An International Court of the Environment shall be established as a permanent organ.

## Organization of the Court

The Court shall be composed of 15 independent judges, elected by the United Nations General Assembly from a list submitted by the Secretary General.

The judges shall be in office for a period of 7 years and shall be eligible for re-election.

The President of the Court shall be directly elected by the United Nations Secretary General and shall be eligible for re-election.

The judges shall enjoy the prerogative of absolute independence with regard to their States of origin and shall receive a salary which will be paid out of the budget of the United Nations.

## Functions

The functions of the Court shall be:

- a) to protect the environment as a fundamental human right in the name of the International Community;
- b) to decide any international environmental disputes involving the responsibility of States to the International Community which has not been settled through conciliation or arbitration within a period of 18 months;
- c) to decide any disputes concerning environmental damage, caused by private or public parties, including the State, where it is presumed that, due to its size, characteristics and kind, this damage affects interests that are fundamental for safeguarding and protecting the human environment on earth;
- d) to adopt urgent and precautionary measures when any environmental disaster concerning the International Community is involved;
- e) to provide, at the request of the organs of the United Nations and other members of the International Community, advisory opinions on important questions regarding the environment on a global level;
- f) to arbitrate, upon request, without prejudice to its judicial role;
- g) to carry out, upon request, investigations and inspections with the assistance of independent technical and scientific bodies when there is environmental risk or damage and, ex officio, when considered necessary and urgent.

## Preliminary Rulings

A national court may request the Court to give a preliminary ruling on the international or national nature of the question brought before it.

## Procedure

The procedure of the Court shall provide that:

- a) a Court hearing shall be public;
- b) all parties shall have the right to a defence;
- c) a judgment shall state the reasons on which it is based and shall be final;
- d) civil remedies shall include an interlocutory or perpetual injunction, or an order directing the party against whom judgment is made to pay the costs of restoring the damaged environment, where this is possible, and, failing that, to compensation for damages, with an order to pay the relative sum into the World Environmental Fund;
- e) the enforcement of judgments shall be entrusted to the United Nations Security Council.

The Court shall sit with 5 judges.

The Presiding Judge and the Judge-rapporteur shall be nominated by the President of the Court.



#### Procedural Rules

The Court shall draw up its own rules and determine its own procedure.

#### Locus Standi

The following parties may appear before the Court:

- a) individuals;
- b) non-governmental organizations and environmental associations;
- c) States;
- d) supranational organizations, such as the European Union;
- e) international organizations under the United Nations and the individual organs of the United Nations.

Legal action by an individual or non-governmental organization or environmental association shall be subject to two conditions:

- a) that a claim has been made before the national courts and has been held to be inadmissible because there is no judicial remedy under national law or has been dismissed on the merits;
- b) that the claim, having been filtered in terms of its admissibility, not as a matter of whether there is a cause of action, which is admitted as a general principle, but with regard to the international importance of the question raised (the same principle of inadmissibility shall be applied by the International Court of the Environment in camera and cannot be appealed against).

Individuals or associations may bring an action for the violation of the human right to the environment on the grounds that they have been prevented from gaining access to information, from participating in environmental decision-making processes or from taking legal action or for serious environmental risk, harm or damage of international importance caused by any party whatsoever in violation of international law.

#### Sanctions

Whenever the Court finds in favour of an individual or association, it shall adopt any measures considered necessary for remedying the violated right, by ordering, in accordance with the circumstances, whatever the party, or even the State, guilty of the alleged violation is or is not required to do.

If the claim by an individual or association is related to environmental damage, the judgment which orders the offender to pay the costs of restoring the damaged environment shall redress the claims of the claimant and of the International Community.

If the claim for compensation for general environmental damage by an individual or association is upheld, an order shall be made in favour of the World Environmental Fund, while any claim for residual individual damage may only be made before the national courts and the claimant shall only have the right to costs before the International Court.

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## Iceland Nature Conservation Association

Iceland Nature Conservation Association

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The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development at Rio de Janeiro, 4-6 June 2012

- Comments by Iceland Nature Conservation Association

Almost twenty years after the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro mankind still faces enormous threats to the ocean environment, excessive even illegal unreported and unregulated fisheries, ocean acidification as a consequence of global warming, pollution of the marine environment and decline in biological diversity.

Despite the Rio Conventions and numerous other multilateral agreements on sustainable development, climate change is a growing menace to development, to resources, to food security <sup>1</sup> to the oceans. At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, 4-6 June, governments must agree to measure to halt further destruction of the environment. In particular the focus must be set on the ocean environment.

Since UNCED in Rio 20 years ago, governments have failed. Furthermore, too many corporations have actively fought against sustainable development. Governments must put an end to energy production with coal and nuclear power. Oil consumption must peak very soon (2015) and toxic chemicals can never be made green. .

#### A Green Agenda for 2012

At Rio in 2012, world leaders need not rewrite the Rio Declaration or Agenda 21. Rather, they must live up to those agreements already made; make a real assessment of progress and honestly account for where the global community has failed. Such an assessment must address the excessive increase in corporate power the world has witnessed since Rio 1992. Sustainable Development Goals should be launched on the basis of development within planetary limits. The time-horizon for the goals should be no longer than two election periods at the most, to ensure immediate implementation and avoid gaps in the political commitment.

#### Improved governance

Governments must improve governance, accountability and liability of international environmental institutions and agreements. The UN Environmental Programme should be upgraded to a UN specialized agency status. In order to achieve sustainable development, the world needs a global authority on the environment as well as stronger implementation and enforcement mechanisms.

The world needs corporate accountability and liability. Globalization has created a gap in governance, providing an environment allowing companies to act as they please. In 2002, at the Johannesburg Earth Summit, governments acknowledged the need for global rules for global corporations. At Rio +20, they should agree to develop a legally binding instrument that ensures full liability for any social or environmental damage global corporations cause. Corporations themselves must take full responsibility for their supply chains;

Should agree on a phase-out of environmentally and socially harmful subsidies within this decade, including subsidies to fossil fuels, forest destruction, nuclear power, agrochemicals and other toxics, the meat industry and destructive fishing practises through socially just transition plans;

Should agree to bring the absolute consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources and the impacts of their extraction within planetary limits in a fair and equitable manner.

Clean and safe energy for all

At Rio +20, governments should commit themselves to a 100% renewable future by endorsing a long-term goal of powering the world economy with 100% sustainable renewable energy. More specifically, governments should pursue the most ambitious pathway outlined by the IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy enabling 80 % of the world's energy needs to be met by renewable energy by 2050. By 2030, the world needs to get 40% of its energy needs from sustainable renewables sources and improve energy efficiency by 50%.

Bridging the Gaps in Oceans Governance and Stopping Overfishing

Gaps in oceans governance are hampering progress on marine protection. This gap must be bridged by a new agreement under the UNNCLoS) for the conservation of marine biodiversity and sustainable management of human activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Such an agreement should be based on the precautionary principle and the ecosystem approach and provide for the establishment and management of marine reserves in areas outside national jurisdiction

Governments should agree to take immediate actions to cut the overcapacity of the world's fishing fleets. At present, the world fishing fleet is able to catch up to 2.5 times the maximum sustainable yield. Yet the cumulative power of the global fleet is still increasing at a rapid rate. Bringing fishing yields to a sustainable level calls for decisive measures to eliminate the excess capacity. Reduction efforts should focus on large-scale vessels and be flanked by ensuring priority access to the resources for small-scale fisheries.

Industrial large-scale fleets using unsustainable fishing techniques using access agreements to exploit the Exclusive Economic Zones of third coastal states should be outlawed because it leaves these coastal states little or no economic and social benefits, but environmental destruction instead.

Implement a global network of Marine Reserves, which is essential to conserve and restore the health and productivity of the oceans and to maintain vital ecosystem services and food security for hundreds of millions of people. At the Johannesburg Earth Summit in 2002, governments agreed to establish networks of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by 2012. Yet today MPAs cover less than 6 % of territorial seas and only 0.5 % of areas beyond national jurisdiction. At a time when ocean ecosystems all over the world including coral reefs, seamounts and other sensitive habitats may be reaching tipping points, establishing networks of large-scale marine reserves becomes an indispensable tool to building resilience in ocean ecosystems. Conserving 20-30 % of global oceans through a network of MPAs could create a million jobs and sustain a marine fish catch worth US\$70-80 billion/year. Eventually, the global network of marine reserves needs to cover 40% of the oceans

Eliminate Hazardous Chemical Use

Governments should supplement and strengthen the existing commitments by agreeing to a goal of zero discharge of all hazardous substances within one generation, based on the precautionary principle and a preventative approach to chemicals management with the substitution principle at its core and producer responsibility to drive innovation in Green Chemistry and Toxics Use Elimination. This is crucial to rescue and heal our precious waterways and other fresh water sources;

Should agree on a related implementation plan to (a) establish a dynamic priority hazardous substance list for immediate action for the establishment and management of marine reserves in areas the EU, (b) establish intermediate targets, (c) establish a publicly available register of data about discharge emissions and losses of hazardous substances

Commit to providing adequate resources and frameworks for implementation, including: (a) identify priority substance restrictions, (b) introduce requirements of mandatory audits and planning (c) provisions of technical help and appropriate financial incentives (d) research and support for innovation in green chemistry.

Rio+20 must deliver tangible results for the people and our planet. The transition to a green economy must be fair and equitable, lift people out of poverty, respect planetary limits and secure decent jobs to people. As global climate-damaging emissions need to peak within a few short years, we cannot afford to make insufficient progress for yet another two decades. The time for action is now!

## Icelandic Cyclists' Federation

Contribution by the Icelandic Cyclists' Federation to the zero draft of the Outcome document to the UN conference for Sustainable Development in Rio 2012

The Icelandic Cyclists' Federation (LHM) understands itself as an environmental NGO in Iceland, as well as an organisation working for public health and rights issues. It is an umbrella organization of three bicycling clubs with altogether 2000 members. LHM is a member of the European Cyclists' Federation, ECF. LHM stands up for improved transportation equality in Iceland, aiming to improve the conditions for people who choose to bike. LHM sees advocacy for bicycling as an integral part of the bigger picture. Another important aspect of LHM's work is to promote improved access to other major environmentally acceptable modes of transport: walking and public transport.

On the event of the UNCSD 2012, LHM wants to make the following comments, roughly replying to the questions posed in conjunction with the preparation of the zero draft of the outcome document.

a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

The Outcome document shall make reference to sustainable transportation with emphasis on non- motorized transportation as an essential part of the green economy, including clear and measurable targets.

Non-motorized transportation is the principal mode of transport of the poor and cycling is an important element in poverty alleviation and improved access to services.

LHM wants the conference to encourage mayors and ministers of transportation all over the world to adapt policies like the charter of Brussels and the Charter of Seville promoted by the European Cyclists' Federation (2011).

The charter of Brussels calls upon policy-makers to promote cycling and to set clear, measurable targets for cycling in terms of both modal share (the percentage of trips made by bicycle out of the total number of trips) and road safety.

The Charter of Seville underlines the benefits of cycling as a daily mode of transport, citing improved health, reduced traffic congestion, significantly cheaper infrastructure, and lowered transport emissions among many other advantages.

The benefits in terms of improved health on the municipal level are readily measured using the online resource HEAT (health economic assessment tool) for cycling, developed by the World Health Organization (2008). Similarly, the benefits of human-powered transportation in terms of mitigating greenhouse gas emissions have been assessed by an Icelandic study: increased walking and cycling comes as a net benefit of 38000 ISK (200 € as per 2011) per ton, even when the triple health benefits of increased physical activity and reduced air pollution and noise, are not counted (Davidsdóttir et al, 2009).

b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

LHM is pleased to see the recommendations from UNEP both generally and specifically in what they say on cycling:

In the report of the UNEP initiative Share the Road it is called for systematic investments in walking and cycling road infrastructure in the developing world, especially in Africa. The initiative recognises that roads so far have not been built for people on foot or on bicycles, and claims designation of road space for pedestrians and cyclists in proportion to the demand for non-motorized transport. The lack of facilities for non-motorized transport has been identified as one of the top reasons why pedestrians and cyclists make up a disproportionate amount of the 1.2 million who die in road crashes each year (2011a). While the content of this report marks a change of tide in the support for cycling and walking in The South, and makes many important observation and recommendations, it is worrisome that stakeholder organisations, like the European Cyclists' Federation, apparently have not been consulted, while the ties to the car organisation FIA are very evident.

Another important report issued by UNEP is Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication. In Part 2, Transport and Cities of this Green Economy Report, UNEP proposes a three tiered approach to sustainable transportation, namely trip avoidance, a shift to environmentally more efficient modes and only third to improve vehicles and fuel efficiency. On the modal shift they say:

Shifting to more environmentally efficient modes such as public and non-motorised transport (for passenger transport) and to rail and water transport (for freight) is recommended. Investment in public transport and infrastructure that promotes walking and cycling generates jobs, improves wellbeing and can add considerable value to regional and national economies (UNEP, 2011b).

Since already half of the global population lives in urban areas, sustainable development needs also to focus on cities. An emphasis on public transport, cycling, and 'walkability', for example, not only contributes to road safety and community cohesion but also works in favour of the urban low income class who rely on these transport modes much more than other segments of society. (UNEP, 2011c). LHM strongly agrees with these statements.

For this reason we comment on the question of the institutional framework for sustainable development that we would like to see the organisational strength and influence of UNEP substantially enhanced.

c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

The methods needed for implementation are the classical ones: More attention, more communication, the creation of specific programs and co-ordinator positions and cooperation with grass roots movements and academic experts. In the case of cycling promotion two special challenges arise:

(A) The multi-sectoral nature of the benefits promotion of bicycling sometimes means that in one instance bicycling promotion is viewed as a public health effort. In the next instance it is viewed as a solution to problems of congestion or local air pollution. Thirdly, bicycling appears in the toolbox for mitigating climate change. Next, bicycling is touted to improve resilience or as a generally positive symbol. Cycling and improved access is one of the most economically advantageous ways to meet those challenges, but if more of the benefits or co-benefits were considered, cycling would be seen as a much more desirable solution in each sector or problem area. In fact, we believe in the potential of the win-win situations particularly inherent in replacing car trips by bike trips. The inspiring example of the viability of the sustainable development endeavour achieved by increased bicycling modal share in cities, can induce change in other sectors, for instance more sustainable production and consumption, energy conservation, reforestation.

(B) There are barriers to bicycling promotion that on the surface seem to stem from work for public health, and the protection of life and limb. But in the greater scheme of things traditional road safety work is very often car-centric, and lead to severe restrictions on pedestrians and cyclists, while maintaining or increasing comfort and access for cars. This apparent dilemma or even paradox between improving access for healthy, green modes and improving road safety is being recognized as a falsity by a growing number of experts and NGOs (Wittink, 2001 and European Federation of Road Traffic Victims, 2011). Sadly, UN agencies like the World Health Organisation, UNICEF and the Decade for Road Safety seem to a large extent stuck in the trap of road safety thinking from the 1960's, by promoting restrictive safety measures directed towards cyclists and pedestrians, in the tradition of "blame the victim, protect the rapist". Examples of different and sounder approaches are traffic calming, the establishment of stricter liability in the event of crashes between cars and pedestrian/cyclists, street reclaiming for pedestrians and cycling, road diets/traffic evaporation etc.

Concerning which institutions we propose should be involved, it is a well established practice for national governments in Europe, and for major cities worldwide, to develop and implement policies and strategies to promote cycling. Improved access in a broad sense for green and healthy modes (i.e. walking and cycling) and even restrictions on the speed and ubiquity of private cars is a central tenet of these programs. Other countries and cities would do well to emulate them.

Engineering and Planning education needs reforming, although reforms are well underway at many universities. Those professionals already in top positions need adult education to take in the new insights that the soft, green modes provide realistic (arguably more realistic) and very economical solutions to the challenges faced in cities today and in the future.

The World Bank appears to be active already in cycling promotion. As an example a World Bank representative participated the international cycling conference Velo-City 2007, conveying experiences from World Bank dealings with Chinese authorities in the area of cycling promotion. The IFIs should look into the evidence base and best practices, and step it up.

Road safety work needs to take into account the bigger picture, and adopt insights from the Road Danger Reduction approach. Traditionally, the emphasis has chiefly been on the number of casualties and the cost of measures. Instead, the broader public health, environmental and resource issues of road traffic need to be integrated, taking into account the systemic effects of motorisation that leads to sprawl, alienation, intimidation. Very often vulnerable groups such as the poor are even more affected. There is a need for competence building in this field and the close co-operation of environmental and health agencies on the one hand and development and road infrastructure programmes on the other to reverse or adjust the traditional car-centric approaches.

d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

LHM proposes that the Rio+20 conference encourages national and local governments to incorporate public transport, walking, and especially biking into their agendas for a green economy and make sure that by 2020 at least 10 % of the expenditures for transportation infrastructure are spent on a mix of bicycle facilities: bicycle paths, bicycle lanes, medium to high quality bicycle parking etc. The cooperation mechanism often used is network building. In the field of bicycling, the European Cyclists' Federation (ECF) is one of the better hubs for such networking. ECF has increased its global scope during recent years.

People at UNEP, World Bank, national agencies, national and local governments, NGOs etc should attend, present papers and network at the yearly Velo-city bicycling conferences. The conference series is managed by the European Cyclists' Federation. The ECF has also established the networks Scientists for Cycling and Cities for Cyclists, amongst other initiatives.

The goal for the modal share of bicycle trips should be at least 15% by 2020. Where the proportion of bicycle trips (modal share) is already that high by now, as it is the case in many Asian and European cities and towns, further-reaching targets should be set. Copenhagen is at about 35% and wants to head for 50%. Again, the ECF, together with Interface for Cycling Expertise and others are competent partners or hubs.

Finally, advertisements for cars should ideally carry a health warning comparable to how tobacco packaging or advertisements are labelled in many countries. Some countries ban advertisements for tobacco and alcohol. In the future severe restrictions on advertising for private cars will probably be considered. Instead, social marketing and positive campaigns for healthy transport is needed.

Harmful grey (counter-green) subsidies need to be reversed (Bruvoll, Skjelvik, and Vennemo, 2011). Further, re-education of politicians, bureaucrats, planners and engineers should be considered. It can be expected that those measures will pay for themselves.

Written by Ursula Zuehlke and Morten Lange for the Icelandic Cyclists' Federation ( [www.lhm.is](http://www.lhm.is) ), October 2011.

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## ICENECDEV

Text not available.

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## ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability

Contribution to the Zero Draft of the Rio+20 outcome document

31 October 2011

We all know we currently live beyond the carrying capacity of the planet. In 2050, about 9 billion people will live on this planet – how can we ensure at least basic, decent livelihoods for all with more equity and social justice while climatic changes will have taken effect, scarcity will have led to significant price increases in water, food mineral oil, natural gas, and many materials? ICLEI's vision is not to merely look at the status quo and make incremental improvements to it, but rather to consider the systemic changes we need to make now in order to ensure sustained human life on earth. That is the crucial context of ICLEI's input towards, at and beyond Rio+20.

In ICLEI's view, the world does not need another declaration. If Rio+20 is to be a worthwhile multilateral conference justifying the enormous financial and human resources invested in it, Heads of States and Governments have to be personally involved in jointly deciding upon and presenting concrete actions.

### 1. Context: cities and urbanization

#### 1.1 The challenge and potential of urbanization

The increasing speed and scale of Urbanization have turned this trend into an emerging global issue. While in 1950 less than one-third of the world's population lived in cities, by 2050 over two-thirds of the world population will be living in urban areas. In the next 40 years we have to build the same urban capacity which we have built in the past 4000 years. Building quality urban fabrics that provide livelihoods and opportunities for people of all economic backgrounds, so rapidly and at such enormous scale, is the defining challenge humanity faces. The standards along which these urban structures will be designed will decide whether their future inhabitants will be locked into the current life-styles of resource-intensity and dependency on fossil fuels, or if they will become the models for future urban fabrics based on carbon neutrality, minimal use of natural resources, closed economic cycles and social inclusion.

ICLEI calls for a UN Decade of Sustainable Urbanization to raise awareness, create synergies and to share solutions and good practices.

ICLEI helps its 1200 members in 73 countries to work towards eight goals: to implement integrated sustainability policies, to increase resource-efficiency, to become bio-diverse cities, to move towards climate neutrality, to create a resilient community, to green the infrastructure, to transition to a green urban economy and to establish a healthy and happy community. If the cities of the world reached these aims, most global environmental targets would be reached.

ICLEI submission for Rio+20 Compilation Document for Zero Draft – 31 October 2011 2

#### 1.2 Resource productive cities –a vision for green urban economies

Yet in the long term, we have to go even further. Considering the widening gap between the resource demands of growing populations and economies, on the one hand, and declining natural resource base and carrying capacity, on the other hand, there would appear to be only one real solution. Our cities need to themselves be designed and managed to produce more and more of their own resource inputs.

We need to redesign existing urban areas and systems, we need to build new ones that generate substantial amounts of their own resources within the urban region, in particular their energy, food, and even water. Put in economic terms, cities need to be even more productive engines of economic growth by 'growing' a substantial part of their own resource base.

This investment in the resource productivity of cities and urban systems, which until now have been extractive, resource consuming systems, is the central opportunity and challenge of the green urban economy.

#### 1.3 Cities: hubs of green growth

Economic growth in both developed and developing countries has been and will be concentrated in their cities. It is estimated that between 2005 and 2025 some 200 trillion dollars will be spent globally on fixed urban assets. Most of this expenditure will occur in developing countries, but often involving the engineering, infrastructure, architectural,

technology, and construction companies of developed nations. McKinsey & Co estimates that 46 trillion dollars will be spent on fixed urban assets in China alone during the 2005 to 2025 period.

ICLEI sees in the channeling of this expenditure towards more sustainable urban designs, systems and materials a tremendous 'green growth' opportunity. Incentives should direct growth towards resource-productive, resilient, low-carbon and low-risk urban infrastructure. Local Governments need the powers as well as supportive national and global regulatory frameworks to channel this expenditure towards creating sustainable urban systems – to set the standards for all human settlements.

ICLEI's white paper "Financing the Resilient City" of June 2011 argues that finance for resilience and adaptation need to be demand-driven, rather than having conventional top-down global financing mechanisms determining in a top-down fashion which local actions are eligible for funding. This demand-driven model of urban adaptation financing may be a pilot case of demand-driven finance in other areas.

The concentration of economic growth in cities and the relevance of the performance of urban systems to global sustainability may be regarded as common ground between developing and developed countries.

## 2. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

### 2.1 Beyond the '3 pillars': economy must serve the people and the planet

The common conceptualization of sustainable development as having three pillars – social, economic and environmental – is misleading. While there is an interconnection between the three spheres, ICLEI doubts that they can be seen as equal and the concept of "harmony" between them is solid. Why should humans and their societies, and why should the environment be brought in harmony with the economy?

ICLEI sees the economy as a servicing system, not as an end in itself. The economy is dependent upon productive and functioning natural resources and ecosystem services, which it processes into products and services for people. It is thus the mechanism between nature and humans. It must ideally use as little natural resources as possible to enable as many people as possible to live well. With an increasing global population and finite natural resources, this is essential in order to secure decent livelihoods for all human beings now and in future. The way the economy works – whether wasteful or efficient, whether polluting or clean, whether exploitative or just – determines the extent of sustainability of our civilization.

### 2.2 The need for Sustainable Development Goals

ICLEI supports that one central outcome of Rio+20 should be Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the framework and goal set for action until 2050:

- SDGs must ensure that in 2050 all 9 billion people will be able to live within the planetary boundaries with decent living conditions. Continuing with a business-as-usual approach will lead to a dearth of natural resources and the possibility of conflict over scarce remaining natural resources. This threat must be addressed decisively and immediately.
- SDGs should be based on scientific evidence and expertise, particularly regarding current assessments and projections for 2050 under business-as-usual and other models, as well as analyzing which actions now would lead to which revision of trends.
- SDGs should be quantifiable, measurable, reportable and verifiable.
- SDGs must address urbanization and its impacts on sustainable development of all societies on this planet. Urbanization trends are interlinked with most of current key challenges such as poverty and resource scarcity exacerbated by climate change, biodiversity loss and globalization.
- SDGs must include clear targets for global sustainable development standards to be met jointly by all actors. It should also set up a centralized registry of commitments that keeps track of which country or institution has agreed to do what, and the extent to which that commitment has been fulfilled.
- Local Governments and Local Government Organizations (LGOs) such as ICLEI will be crucial for successful implementation of SDGs and should be included in relevant global decisions on the definition of SDGs. Discussions on SDGs and governance should be ICLEI submission for Rio+20 Compilation Document for Zero Draft – 31 October 2011 4 interlinked, since good sustainable development governance at global, national and local level will be crucial for the successful implementation of the SDGs.
- SDGs should be clearly linked to and seen in conjunction with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

### 2.3 Towards a green and sustainable economy: beyond GDP

When considering the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, it is not a question of environmental protection or economic growth, but rather a structurally and qualitatively different type of economic growth which values the finite natural resources the economy relies upon. This is the idea behind green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. After the financial and economic crises the world has undergone in the past years, we must once more realize that the current global economic model is unsustainable.

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is the most widely used metric of the economic performance of a country. However, it is now widely recognized that GDP is an inadequate measure of social progress: measuring efforts and not results, focusing only on quantity of expenditure and not quality, masking inequalities, and disregarding the value of natural capital.

Developing a more comprehensive indicator would allow for more nuanced performance measurement. The Human Development Index (HDI) and other alternatives have existed for a long time. More recently Bhutan's Gross National Happiness Index and the OECD's Better Life Index among others have also gained some recognition. ICLEI welcomes and supports the recent efforts made to seek more nuanced measurement of performance and considers it possible to move to a better indicator of national well-being than GDP.

ICLEI expects the Rio+20 Conference to take a decision to generally introduce a new performance measurement framework for countries and their economies.

ICLEI demands that such improved indicator(s) should allow for being translated into locally used indicators as part of a coherent global monitoring and evaluation framework for globally and nationally agreed targets.

As part of the transition to a green economy, ICLEI requests that existing ideas such as the internalization of costs and the 'polluter pays' principle must finally be fully implemented. In addition, ICLEI proposes the introduction of a new principle, the 'beneficiary pays' principle, for the sake of inter-generational justice: those actors of the current generation who use and benefit from the use of resources or natural capital have to bear the full costs. In the energy sector, for example, energy prices from diverse sources would be extremely different under the 'beneficiary pays' principle. Since the current use of fossil fuel both depletes finite resources and pollutes the planet for future generations, a fairer price for the long-term effects of that which benefits us today should be levied.

## 2.4 Green urban economies for a global green economy

The largest 100 urban areas alone are estimated to have contributed about 30% to the global GDP in 2005. Due to the geographical concentration of people, infrastructure, knowledge, economic activity and resources, cities are able to achieve 'more with less' - or, in other words, to turn density and urban systems into eco-efficiency. Local governments are already working in multiple areas which form part of the green urban economy, such as sustainable procurement, green buildings and infrastructure, improving waste management, access to sanitation et cetera.

ICLEI sees greening the "urban" economies as an essential part of the global transition to a green economy.

LGOs such as ICLEI can draw upon the vast implementation capacity of cities around the world, thus tapping into a large potential for green economy transitions. A green urban economy realizes opportunities to enhance human well-being and local natural resources, while reducing future costs, ecological scarcities and environmental risks. Developing green urban economies will have direct positive local effects such as an enhanced well-being of the local population, keeping more resources in a local economic cycle, a prevention of future scarcities in natural resources and energy, and reduced future costs for maintaining urban infrastructure and social services, and reduced consequential costs to future generations for dealing with impacts of today's economy. ICLEI as the largest global network of local governments working towards sustainability commits to a focus in its work with its local government members around the world to green their urban economies, piloting best practices that may be followed by others.

## 2.5 A Green Economy Roadmap is one option

A Green Economy Roadmap has been proposed by the European Commission. It seeks to map out the "what, how and who" of a transition to a green economy, proposing specific actions that could be implemented at the international, national and regional levels. More precisely, it envisions (1) investing in key resources and natural capital ("what"), (2) combining market and regulatory instruments ("how") and (3) improving governance and encouraging private sector involvement ("who").

Such a Roadmap is one of the options that may support a global transition to a green economy. It should explicitly include and support greening urban economies. It would have to be supported by countries of different economic development and take account of their different circumstances. ICLEI fully agrees with the need to invest in key resources and natural capital as a basis for future economic activity and human well-being. ICLEI realizes that economic and financial mechanisms must be used to address these challenges.

ICLEI demands the full inclusion of relevant actors such as local and regional government, business and civil society in such a roadmap.

## 3. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

Over the past decades the world has realized that social, environmental and economic issues transcend political borders. Since the UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm in 1972, a huge number of global bodies have been created dealing with issues that form part of sustainable development. Despite these efforts, the world recently experienced major financial crises and is witnessing a continuing loss of biodiversity, escalating climate change, widespread resource depletion, and other challenges, which the current institutional framework seems unable to adequately address.

Numerous trends and indicators show that the planet and its human beings are facing severe threats to their livelihoods and survival in the present or near future.

At the beginning of the 21st century, we must realize that our current global institutional set-up has failed to set the world and global society on a sustainable path. The time has come for significant revision of the global institutional framework for sustainable development.

### 3.1 Involving all relevant actors in decision-shaping and implementation

ICLEI submission for Rio+20 Compilation Document for Zero Draft – 31 October 2011 6 Based on Agenda 21, relevant UN bodies such as the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the UN Convention on

Biological Diversity (UN CBD), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) recognize the so-called "Nine Major Groups": Business and Industry, Children and Youth, Farmers, Indigenous Peoples, Local Authorities, NGOs, Scientific and Technological Community, Women as well as Workers and Trade Unions. Since Agenda 21 was adopted in 1992, the involvement of Major Groups has enriched the debates at the UN and brought relevant voices to the table. Yet the current structure has clear limitations. The current nine groups are very different in their identity, roles and powers, yet they are equal in the UN system.

ICLEI believes that Rio+20 provides an exceptional opportunity to enhance the current Major Group structure. Criteria such as the stakeholders' mandate and capacity to contribute to the implementation of multilateral agreements, to organize commitments to action by their constituencies, to establish performance monitoring systems and to provide regular global reports, i.e. their ability to submit themselves to a accountability framework, need to be taken into consideration.

Possible new Stakeholder Groups could be "Governmental Stakeholders", "Business and Trade Unions", and "Civil Society" including indigenous people, women, science, farmers, youth and NGOs.

ICLEI as a Local Government Organization and as such part of the proposed Governmental Stakeholder Group focuses on that group.

ICLEI proposes that local and regional governments as recognized "governmental stakeholders" in the UNFCCC process should be given responsibility and be involved in decision-shaping that concerns in particular sustainable development and greening our economies. Local governments and

LGOs play a crucial role in the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). ICLEI is currently developing precise suggestions for models of enhanced governmental stakeholders' participation in policy-shaping and implementation, to be publicly proposed ahead of Rio+20.

At a time when there appears to be general consensus that the ability of the United Nations as an international organization of the sovereign states of the world to bring about binding frameworks to safeguard global environmental assets such as climate stability within the necessary timeframe, an institutional framework should be created that involves "relevant actors" besides nation states and integrates them into a system of commitments, actions, performance monitoring and reporting.

ICLEI believes that if the UN wants to fully live up to the spirit of its Charter, not only to "maintain international peace and security" (Article 1.1), but also to "achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural, or humanitarian character" (Article 1.3), it needs to move – in its functionality – beyond the definition of "United Nations" and to becoming the "United Actors".

### 3.2 A need for integration and coherence – Sustainable Development Council?

As outlined above, we need to move beyond thinking in terms of three pillars of sustainable development. This has clear implications for the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD). The economic, social and environmental spheres cannot be separated into pillars which stand on their own. There is a clear need for a coherent, integrated IFSD which recognizes the economy's absolute dependency on ecosystem services, and society's primary role in using, crafting and shaping the global economy to create meaningful and low-impact quality of life for all.

ICLEI believes that the creation of a UN Council on Sustainable Development is a worthwhile option to be considered. Such a Council could serve to increase coherence and coordination among the different global organizations working on sustainable development and it could be the forum for dialogue among countries, governmental stakeholders, business and civil society regarding sustainable development. ICLEI will remain engaged in the process of designing such Council.

### 3.3 The need for a UN or World Environment Organization

ICLEI supports the need for a single organization which works on all environmental issues in a comprehensive and coherent manner, which could be a UN Environment Organization (UNEO) or a World Environment Organization (WEO).

Integration and coherence in the environmental sphere will be one step towards integration and coherence in sustainable development governance. ICLEI believes that UNEO/WEO as the one organization dealing with all aspects of environment and taking care of the finite natural resource base at the global level will be better placed to relate to and discuss important issues with those organizations regulating the global economy and aiming to ensure social well-being. This organization should have universal membership to ensure the highest possible legitimacy and authority. Such an organization would also be helpful for Local Governments and global LGOs in order to link global and local environmental policy and implementation. ICLEI supports the idea to upgrade UNEP into a UNEO or WEO.

### 3.4 New Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Development

The United Nations, UN Member States and all other relevant actors need to be clear about where key global developments (such as global warming, water availability, soil degradation, desertification, food production, etc.) must stand in the years 2020, 2030, 2040 and 2050 in order for human civilization on the planet to be on a sustainable path. This is the function of the Sustainable Development Goals (section 2.2 above), which need to be quantitative, measurable, reportable and verifiable. The definition of these goals must be based on scientific evidence and expertise as postulated in section 2.2.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has been in operation since 1988 and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) was recently created. Each Panel forms the interface between science and policy for their area of focus. Sound political decisions on sustainable development issues require a solid scientific base, making these two Panels highly important and useful. Yet ICLEI believes that one has to be careful to avoid fragmentation in the institutional framework.

To this end, ICLEI proposes to create an Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Development (IPSD). This Panel would inform the most important global political decisions for the long-term future.

This Panel would be the overarching body for IPCC, IPBES and any other relevant science/policy bodies. Details of the IPSD would have to be worked out after Rio+20.

### 3.5 Sustainable development governance and the local level

While the above-mentioned changes in the institutional framework for sustainable development have been proposed in order to improve the horizontal integration, vertical integration within a multi-level governance system needs to be improved as well.

Local governments are considered the closest and most responsive level of government to the needs of their citizens, electorate and local interest groups. How sustainable development governance works at the local level varies widely. An analysis of the progress and variety of sustainable development governance and action at the local level is currently being carried out for the Local Sustainability 2012 global study. The study will critically evaluate 20 years of Local Agenda 21 and other sustainable development initiatives. The results of the study will be published in early 2012 and will be fed into the Rio+20 process.

Regardless of how the administrative structure for sustainable development is set up, local governments are crucially important to steer sustainable urban development. They provide urban services (water, waste, sanitation, public transport, fire and police, administration, education et cetera), regulate building codes and land-use, respond to public pressures, and leverage, align and allocate large amounts of investments. Their influence is immense: to direct sustainable urban development by utilizing renewable energy, adapting to climate change and building resilience, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and local pollution, reducing consumption and using resources more efficiently, amongst others.

The past two decades have seen a strong decentralization of public tasks from the national level to the local level, mostly without equipping local governments with sufficient power and resources needed to implement these tasks. ICLEI demands that in order for local governments to take on the responsibilities and tasks outlined above, adequate financial resources have to be provided and supportive fiscal and legal national framework conditions have to be established.

Endowed with appropriate capacity, local governments will be the strongest allies of national governments and the United Nations in creating conditions for a sustainable human civilization on Earth.

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## Iguassu Iterei Centro de Referência do Movimento da Cidadania pelas Águas Florestas e Montanhas (ITEREI)

### Rio+20 Proposal

1. PES incentives for preservation for all natural mountain areas
2. Alert with dependence and addiction with compensation mechanisms
3. Support Sustainability based upon ecotourism, research, art, crafts, no pollutant industries, agroecology and traditional mountain knowledge
4. Increase dialogue between government sectors, and government levels
5. Support a Stronger Civil Society
6. Increase inter-institutional dialogue
7. Further institutionalization of participation instruments
8. Raise awareness of mountain issues on political agendas
9. Consolidate or create specific mountain initiatives where appropriate
10. Improve sustainable mobility and sustainable technology for infrastructure

11. Improve knowledge and information systems
12. Improve data on natural mountain disaster
13. Increase availability of academic and traditional knowledge for specific SMD purposes and decision makin
14. Coordinate research priorities for implementing SMD
15. Consolidate or create specific national or regional mountain initiatives
16. Research and monitoring of climate change adaptation mechanisms, especially with regard to water availability

## Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAM)

Citizen-driven Accountability for Sustainable Development:

Giving Affected People a Greater Voice—20 Years After

A Contribution by the Independent Accountability Mechanisms to UNCSD 2012

In the twenty years since the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, a new set of Independent Accountability Mechanisms (IAMs) has been established as part of the governance structures of International Financial Institutions (IFIs), in response to increased public demand for greater accountability and transparency. The IAMs were founded with similar mandates—to provide recourse for citizens adversely affected by projects funded by the IFIs when relevant social and environmental safeguards are perceived to have failed – and have formed an IAM network that regularly interacts to exchange knowledge and experience. This contribution was prepared on behalf of the IAM network by a sub-group of members tasked with helping prepare for UNCSD 2012, and which included the World Bank Inspection Panel; Compliance Advisor/Ombudsman (CAO) for the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA); the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism; and the European Investment Bank -- Complaints Mechanism.

Core Messages for the Outcome Document

Twenty years of experience of independent accountability mechanisms at International Financial Institutions have shown that “citizen-driven accountability” works, and is critical for an effective institutional framework for sustainable development. These accountability mechanisms have pioneered a new means to give greater voice to citizens affected by IFI-financed projects, in support of better outcomes for people, for the environment, for development and for the institutions involved. The work of these accountability mechanisms provides an important example of ways to strengthen the effective implementation of sustainable development going forward.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The first major step in the development of the independent accountability mechanisms occurred in 1993, in the wake of the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro and in response to widespread concerns voiced by civil society about the social and environmental impacts of projects financed by the World Bank. As a result, the World Bank’s Board of Executive Directors established an independent mechanism, the Inspection Panel, with a mandate to receive and investigate complaints from people about social and environmental harm linked to Bank-financed operations. This pioneering approach of “citizen-driven accountability” provides a direct channel for citizens affected by projects to voice their concerns at the highest levels of decision making. Since then, all the major IFIs around the world have established their own independent accountability mechanisms (IAM), each based on a simple premise: giving affected citizens a greater voice in international development decisions that affect their lives.

Twenty years on, these mechanisms constitute an effective architecture to promote accountability, participation, and sustainability in the work of International Financial Institutions (IFIs). Through their work to address concerns of affected communities in diverse regions, sectors and environments, the IAMs have developed a solid body of findings related to IFI-financed projects. This collective experience provides a unique contribution to the discussion about the challenges of sustainable development and poverty reduction at UNCSD 2012, as well as lessons on how to strengthen accountability for sustainable development going forward, which the IAM network proposes to share with the international community.

### Brief History

In June 1992, the international community gathered at the United Nations conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro to chart a new cooperative approach addressing interrelated issues of socio-economic development and environmental protection. Among other things, the Rio Summit contained strong calls for expanded participation of civil society and the public, in particular for strengthening the role of major groups such as indigenous peoples, nongovernmental organisations (NGOs), workers, farmers, trade unions, women, and youth in development. These and other actions reflected an evolution in the international community towards a more inclusive approach, whereby affected citizens were given the opportunity to participate as actors and decision makers in their own development.

One of the flashpoints leading up to the Summit involved the activities of international financial institutions (IFIs), in particular, the World Bank. In those years, there was growing international concern about negative social and environmental impacts of World Bank-financed projects. A core concern was that the Bank was not respecting its own policies, designed precisely to avoid such impacts and thereby promote sustainable development and outcomes. There was also widespread concern about lack of transparency in the decision-making processes. Some projects were seen as “development disasters”, and affected communities felt voiceless in response.

It was within this context, and the new paradigm set by the Summit, that civil society, donors and some governments began to call for greater accountability, participation, and transparency in the operations of IFIs, initially, at the World Bank. As a result of remarkable efforts by civil society, governments and members of the Bank’s Board of Executive Directors, the Board established the independent Inspection Panel in 1993. It was given the authority by the Board to respond directly to the complaints of affected people and investigate whether operations supported by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and the International Development Association (IDA) (two institutions of the World Bank Group) were in compliance with World Bank policies and procedures, and related issues of harm.

This new bottom-up, citizen-driven accountability at the World Bank was a pioneering step not only among IFIs, but in international law generally. The Panel was the first such mechanism established by an IFI providing a direct channel for citizens affected by projects to voice their concerns at the highest levels of decision making. This innovation was followed in 1999 with the Board of Executive Directors’ creation of the Office of the Compliance Advisor/Ombudsman (CAO), an independent mechanism providing dispute resolution and compliance oversight to citizens affected by the Bank’s private sector operations financed by two other institutions of the World Bank Group, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA).

In the intervening years, the IFIs, as well as some bilateral agencies, have followed this lead by establishing their own accountability mechanisms to address citizens’



concerns about social and environmental project impacts—including the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Over the years, these independent mechanisms have already gone through a round of reforms, as well as consultation procedures with civil society, and have become a central part of the governance structures and the institutional frameworks of the IFIs. In this sense, these IAMs are “children” of Rio, and reflect some 20 years of operational experience in giving life to its core principles of participation and sustainability. Their objective is to promote greater accountability and sustainability in IFI operations and thus better outcomes for people and the environment.

#### The Architecture for Citizen-driven Accountability

While the structure and functions of the accountability mechanisms vary from one institution to another, they operate on the basis of several core principles which together form a common platform. These shared principles include independence, impartiality, transparency, and integrity, in addition to ensuring maximum accessibility and responsiveness to people affected by IFI-financed operations.

Typically, the mechanisms are modelled around two complementary functions in responding to complaints from affected people: a “consultation” or “early problem solving” function; and a “compliance review” function. In addition, each of the mechanisms has a budget and capacity to carry out independent fact-finding to investigate whether the IFI management has complied or not with applicable operational policies and procedures, including policies designed to avoid or minimize harm to people or the environment. In this way, these mechanisms constitute important international fact-finding bodies charged with looking into key issues of compliance, harm and sustainability in the operations of IFIs. On the basis of their fact-finding, the mechanisms develop independent reports to the highest levels of decision making at their institutions, which include their findings in response to the claims from affected communities, and the institutions have a responsibility to take action to address findings of non-compliance and harm.

As the mechanisms have evolved over time, new elements have been included, such as post-investigation monitoring and evaluation of outcomes. The IAMs are currently putting together a comparative analysis of each of the individual mechanisms, which will provide a horizontal view of the IAMs and how they function. It is hoped that this comparative view will be of value in identifying opportunities, challenges and best practices for strengthening systems of accountability at international organizations as part of the forward looking agenda noted below.

#### Outcomes and Trends in the Work of the IAMs Over 20 Years

The IAMs have made substantial contributions to the evolution of the IFI's social and environmental performance by pursuing issues of compliance and responsible application of standards. Their work has also created opportunities for the design of development projects to be improved by giving affected communities a voice, and ensuring their concerns are heard and acted upon by IFI management, local and national decision makers, and public and private sector operators. Twenty years of experience among the IAMs has produced a solid body of independent findings spanning multiple regions, development activities, cultures, and environments around the world. This provides a unique glimpse into the practical challenges of sustainable development and poverty reduction from a grassroots perspective.

As a contribution to Rio+20, the IAMs are gathering data from their work to highlight the types of systemic risks, issues, and trends evidenced in complaints from affected communities over the past 20 years. As global development increases so it comes with increased risk, and the work of the IAMs reflects the greater pressures that exist on demand for food, water, land, and energy. These data will highlight the types of social and environmental risks that drive complaints to the IAMs, including competition over natural resources, public and private assets, and the socio-economic concerns which underlie many complaints, as people raise questions about access to project benefits, job creation, and impacts to livelihoods. In addition, through the IAMs, affected communities have sent a clear message about consultation and information disclosure, project processing and supervision, which points to the importance of good local participation for development projects to be successful.

#### The Forward Looking Agenda

As the international community looks to the next twenty years, it is likely that governments, donors, and IFIs will still struggle to find the right balance between economic growth, social development, and environmental protection—now being captured under various headings such as “green economy” or “green growth”. Following the Rio Summit, new and innovative financial instruments have been created to fund sustainable development involving not only public but also the private sector. The international aid architecture is also evolving towards a model with greater emphasis on country ownership, balanced with results orientation and mutual accountability. The issue of ensuring accountability becomes even more relevant in this context.

The cumulative experience of the accountability mechanisms is a valuable addition to this debate and could contribute to how development actors achieve that balance and help refine the role they play in underpinning sustainable development outcomes.

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## Indian Himalaya Mountain Partnership

As Mountain Partnership member from Indian Himalayan region please find below our comments / suggestion for Rio+ conference:

Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the demand for natural goods and ecosystem services from mountains have grown considerably. Moreover, the ability of mountain ecosystems to provide such essential goods and services for all of humanity is increasingly under threat due to climate change, in-discriminate development, poor governance and lack of appropriate financing in this region.

As Mountain Partnership members we recognize that despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development of mountain regions, national and international development agendas still treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments. As a result, poverty rates are higher than in non-mountain areas, therefore, the people are most vulnerable to climatic changes, poor development practices and lesser livelihood opportunities.

In the context of a Green Economy, the region is looking for cautiously chosen opportunities for investments by interested players and they could in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, agro-forestry, water management technologies and other similar ecosystem goods and services. In this context innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to trigger best governance models and decision support systems aiming at both the integration of the social, environmental and economic capital at all scales in the mountain regions, as well as the actual mainstreaming of mountains into overall national development and conservation processes.

Also enhancing the global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit poor mountain communities and indirectly humanity as a whole. Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, livelihood opportunities, environment governance models, appropriate green technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

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## Indigenous Peoples

### INDIGENOUS PEOPLES MAJOR GROUP SUBMISSION FOR THE ZERO DRAFT OF THE OUTCOME DOCUMENT OF THE UNCSD/RIO + 20

Co-organizing Partners for the Indigenous Peoples Major Group: Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education), Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN) and Indigenous Information Network (IIN)

1. Representatives of Indigenous Peoples' communities, organizations and networks from Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, Africa and North America, gathered together in a Global Preparatory Meeting of Indigenous Peoples on Rio+20 and Kari-Oca 2 last August 22-24, 2011 in Manaus, Amazonia, Brazil. The key objective of this process was to discuss and agree on how Indigenous Peoples will engage and contribute effectively in the preparatory processes and the conference proper of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development/Rio+20. The participants united on the "Manaus Declaration: Indigenous Peoples In Route To The Rio + 20 Conference" and most of the conclusions and recommendations from this are integrated in this submission.

2. At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, we, the global Indigenous Peoples' caucus, agreed on the "Karioca Declaration of Indigenous Peoples". The official outcomes of Rio 92 include the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 which recognized the vital role of Indigenous Peoples in sustainable development and identified Indigenous Peoples as one of the 9 Major Groups. During the World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) in Johannesburg, South Africa, we gathered again and came up with the Kimberley Declaration and the Indigenous Peoples' Plan of Implementation for Sustainable Development. We used this Plan as the framework in our work around sustainable development up to the present. In Johannesburg, more than 100 Heads of States recognized the "vital role of Indigenous peoples in sustainable development." It was the first time that a High Level UN Summit used the phrase "indigenous peoples" in its Outcome Document. This helped us get the phrase "indigenous peoples" to be used by the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) which was adopted by the UNGA in 2007.

3. Twenty years after Rio 92, the Global Indigenous Peoples' Caucus would like to present these 5 key messages which hopefully will be included in the Zero Draft and the Final Outcome Document of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development.

#### 1st Key Message:

The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples should be a key international standard and framework for the realization of sustainable development.

4. Almost twenty years have passed since Rio 1992 where the States and Peoples of the world made a firm commitment to the implementation of a new vision for Sustainable Development. However, twenty years later, Indigenous Peoples see that little has changed regarding the fundamental relationship between human societies and the natural world. The ecosystems, biodiversity, as well as Indigenous Peoples who depend on them, are ever more threatened and endangered. Our basic individual and collective human rights, are violated on a daily basis. In the absence of a true implementation of sustainable development and respect for human rights, the world now confronts a multiple crises. These include, the ecological, economic, social, political and cultural crises. These are manifested in climatic change; biodiversity erosion; desertification; deglaciation; food, water and energy shortage; a worsening global economic recession; social instability and unresolved conflicts and a crisis of values.

5. The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) has been adopted by the UN General Assembly after Rio and Johannesburg. Thus, our first key message is for the Outcome Document of Rio Plus 20 to acknowledge that the UNDRIP should be a key international standard and framework for the global, regional and national implementation of sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Declaration provides a framework for the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in all stages of the Rio + 20 process. It contains 6 Articles on free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) including the need to obtain this before any development project is brought to indigenous peoples' territories. FPIC is the standard to be applied in the development process affecting indigenous peoples.

6. The Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits (2010) which was adopted at the 10 COP of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cancun Agreements (2010) of the 16 Conference of Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change have noted the adoption of the UNDRIP. Other UN Treaty Bodies like the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) referred to the UNDRIP in some of their General Comments. Judgements and decisions of some Supreme Courts (e.g. Belize, Brazil, etc.) and other intergovernmental Bodies (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights) on cases filed by Indigenous Peoples, invoked the UNDRIP to make favourable judgements for the plaintiffs.

7. It is clear that the UNDRIP has evolved to be the minimum international standard which should ensure the dignity and survival of indigenous peoples. The effective implementation of the UNDRIP by UN member-states, by the UN bodies, agencies, programmes and funds, by other multilateral bodies and non-state actors including, us, indigenous peoples; civil society; and business is crucial to make sustainable development a reality. The human-rights based approach to sustainable development should be affirmed and integrated in the outcome document of Rio + 20. nd

#### 2 Key Message:

The cultural pillar should be included as the 4th pillar of sustainable development

8. Indigenous Peoples continue to challenge the development model based on resource extraction, exploitation and market-based models, which fails to recognize that we human beings are an integral part of the natural world, and also fails to respect human rights, including the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples. We challenge this development model which continues to destroy Mother Earth, putting at risk the survival of the entire human family. We believe that our worldviews and respect for natural law, our spiritualities and cultures and our values of reciprocity, harmony with nature, solidarity, collectivity, and caring and sharing are crucial in bringing about a more just, equitable and sustainable world.

9. Our 2 key message is that Rio + 20 must usher in, with a sense of urgency a 4th pillar of sustainable development, which is the Cultural Pillar - the ethical and moral values needed to nurture and care for the Earth. This cultural pillar encompasses the broad cultural and spiritual traditions of humanity, reborn in 21st century values which are addressing contemporary problems. Culture which includes, spirituality, is the missing 4th pillar of sustainable development. Rio+20 must engender a deep love and moral responsibility towards Mother Earth and her intrinsic life-giving values, transcending instrumental conceptions of ecosystem services for human well-being, towards a reverence for the sacredness of life.

10. Sustainable development is social and cultural as well as economic and environmental. We, Indigenous Peoples, will maintain the right to define and freely pursue our own vision of development based on our needs, priorities, traditional understandings and responsibilities, including the cultural and spiritual relationships with the natural world, our ancestral territories and the ecosystems that have sustained us since time immemorial. We also affirm our sacred responsibility to defend the lives and survival of future generations of our Peoples.

#### 3 Key Message:

Protection and respect for the rights to Indigenous Peoples' to their lands, territories and resources is a precondition for sustainable development.

11. The past twenty years have seen the further entrenchment of deep inequalities and structural imbalances in the macro-economy, including the plunder of indigenous peoples' lands, territories and resources to serve global trade and markets and corporate profit. A prerequisite for promoting diverse local economies, is the security of lands, territories and resources of Indigenous Peoples, which are their basic sources of our wealth, well-being, cultures and identities. Based on government maps and community participatory mapping, there is a stark overlap of key biodiversity hotspots and forests within Indigenous Peoples' territories, which strongly proves that the remaining conserved biodiversity hotspots and forests are the ones traditionally and sustainably managed for hundreds of years by Indigenous Peoples all over the world. Our 3 key message, is that without the protection and respect for the rights of Indigenous Peoples to their lands, territories and resources, sustainable development cannot be realized.

12. Resource extractive industries - oil, gas and mining, as well as, logging and export- oriented forestry and chemical-based industrial agriculture - not only lead to the unjust appropriation of Indigenous Peoples' lands, territories and resources but also the transfer wealth away from Indigenous Peoples, while degrading ecosystems and creating poverty. The violation of our rights to our ancestral lands, territories and resources is one of the main causes of our impoverishment and the non-realization of sustainable development. Beyond income, Indigenous Peoples need secured tenure over our lands, territories and resources, and the enjoyment of all their human rights. Policies and plans on sustainable development must address the underlying causes of poverty and not merely its alleviation.

13. As reiterated in the Manaus Declaration, mining is an activity that produces large amounts of environmental contamination, including greenhouse gasses, and is vastly destructive to natural ecosystems, health and the water and food sources upon which Indigenous Peoples and other communities depend. Therefore, Indigenous Peoples call for a moratorium on mining in fragile and culturally important ecosystems such as forests, deserts, water sources, sacred sites, in fragile Arctic and high mountain ecosystems and in or near the traditional lands or territories of Indigenous Peoples, who have not given their free prior and informed consent.

14. There should be no expansion of extractive industries on Indigenous Peoples lands and territories. There should be no landgrabbing with forced displacement of Indigenous Peoples as a result of industrial agriculture and large-scale production of biofuels and other mitigation measures to combat climate change, such as mega hydro-electric dams. Unsustainable development entrenches global and national inequalities, and leads to further impoverishment of the poor. Mining development creates enclaves of unsustainable production and consumption and this is the glaring example of how gross inequalities and impoverishment among indigenous peoples, who host such wealth in their territories, are created.

15. The legal protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples to land, territories, resources and traditional knowledge should be a prerequisite for development and planning for any and all types of adaptation and mitigation to climate change, environmental conservation (including the creation of "protected areas"), the sustainable use of biodiversity and measures to combat desertification. In all instances there must be free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples, and therefore, we encourage States to take steps in this direction.

4 Key Message: Recognition of the distinct and crucial contribution of traditional knowledge and diverse local economies to poverty eradication and sustainable development and as the cornerstones of green economies

16. It is without any doubt that Indigenous Peoples have something to offer in the 21 century solutions for survival, and have an important and even central role to play in addressing the problems of poverty eradication, biodiversity loss and climate change within a context of sustainable development. The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of Indigenous Peoples has ensured the preservation and protection of several ecosystems. Empirical data will show that the most of the last remaining ecosystems in the world today which are not fully degraded are found in indigenous peoples' territories. These ecosystems include forests and woodlands; wetlands; drylands; marine and coastal; mountain and polar; inland waters; and islands, are found in indigenous peoples territories. Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge and values of reciprocity, harmony with nature, etc; their customary sustainable use and management of resources, and their resistance against the wanton exploitation and plunder of their territories are the key factors which ensured this.

"Biodiversity is a clinical, technical term for this intricate inter-weaving of life that sustains us. We, indigenous peoples, say that we are related to this life; thus your "resources" are our relations. It is all in how you look at it."

"Indigenous Peoples have something to offer in this equation for survival. We have the perspective of time. Living in one place for thousands of years has given us an understanding of the complexities of life forces. Our languages are libraries of knowledge that may contain keys to survival, and I use that word advisedly. One of our Elders said a long time ago that there will come a time when we will cease to live and begin to exist. For the sake of life and our grandchildren, we cannot let that happen in our generation. We have common goals and responsibilities, and I say that you, the leaders of this great hope of the world's people, the United Nations, should be working with us and not against us, for peace. We submit to you that as long as you make war against Etenoha (Mother Earth), there can never be peace."

Chief Oren Lyons, Faithkeeper, Onondaga and Seneca Nations, Iroquois Confederacy 17. Diverse local economies and livelihoods such as those found in indigenous peoples' territories, which primarily serve local needs and which are underpinned by traditional knowledge are cornerstones of a green economy. Such local economies are examples of green economies which are integrated within social-ecological production landscapes and systems, promote local livelihoods, ecosystem resilience and community solidarity. For the most part of human history and development, local economies have provided these multiple values, beyond the generation of profit. Indigenous Peoples' diverse local economies, and self-determined development are critical components of resilient economies and ecosystems. Our 4 key message is that Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge and values are distinct and special contributions to 21st century global transformation and this knowledge together with their diverse local economies are the cornerstones of green economies.

The Dayak People of West Kalimantan in Indonesia practice a community-based integrated natural resource management called the dahas. This local wisdom of protecting and conserving nature and resources has sustained them long before the state of Indonesia. This concept shows how they settle within the area and conduct agricultural activities that are integrated with other economic activities taking account their spiritual relationship with the forest and resources.

The diverse ways by which the Loitan Maasai describe the forest show a relationship that is linked to livelihoods and important community traditions and practices. They have developed traditional forest management practices that ensure the sustainability of this important resource. These are reflected in community-adhered to guidelines that prevent livestock grazing during the rainy season, the identification by elders of segregated watering points for various purposes (e.g. for domestic harvesting and for livestock), and the selective utilization of types of trees and other plants. Furthermore, the presence of sacred sites inside the forest has served to regulate the utilization of this resource and its other products.

In Nicaragua, the way Miskitu people of Kuakual II community possess a great deal of knowledge about the resources in the forest, and such knowledge is reflected on how they categorize the forest. In Miskitu language, there are three words related to the concept of forest based on its characteristics and use: Unta, Unta Alal, and Dus Aial. These concepts serve to guide the community's management of the forest and the resources found within. The Amerindians in Guyana have mixed livelihoods involving subsistence and cash-earning activities at present. Customary systems of rotational farming coupled with hunting, fishing and gathering support food security and form the core of traditional ways of life among the Arawak, Carib, Wapichan, Makushi, Patamona, Akawaio, Arekuna, Warau and Wai Wai peoples. As well as providing the staple crop, bitter cassava, ground provisions, fruits and other foods, traditional multi-cropping supplies families with cultivated spices, fibres, dyes, medicines and ritual crops like tobacco. In addition to providing vital crops, traditional farming grounds are an important cultural space for transmission of ancestral knowledge and skills. Subsistence farming, hunting, fishing and gathering activities in the hinterland are often underpinned by extensive tenure and customary land use systems along with traditions of sharing, reciprocity and self-help work parties that support indigenous food and livelihood security

18. Sustainable development requires government policies and regulations which recognize and reinforce traditional knowledge and which protect local economies and the prior rights of indigenous peoples and local communities from predatory investments. Public policy must prioritise support for building resilient local economies and ecosystems and the self-development efforts of Indigenous Peoples. Indigenous Peoples population is estimated at 370 million. They constitute around 5 percent of the total world population but it is estimated that they make up 15 percent of the world's poor. The renewed political commitment to sustainable development, must be targetted at the poor. Good governance to meet the needs of the poor, implies inclusive development, and respect for human rights, as the means and outcome of the development process.

#### 5 Key Message:

The Green Economy should support the indigenous peoples' holistic framework to sustainable self-determined development which integrates approaches which are human-rights based, ecosystem or territorial-based knowledge-based , intercultural and gender-sensitive.

19. The proposal of a "green economy" which is a theme for discussion at Rio +20, has not been clearly defined, and Indigenous Peoples are concerned that it will be used by States and corporations to continue the same destructive and exploitative economic growth development model that caused the current global economic, environmental and climate crisis. Indigenous Peoples call on Rio +20 to support their holistic framework and strategy for sustainable development which integrates principles and approaches which are human-rights based, ecosystem or territorial-based, knowledge-based, intercultural and gender-sensitive. This is our 5 key message. This holistic framework should be integrate the indicators of well-being and sustainability which are defined by Indigenous Peoples should promote sufficiency economy principles and approaches.

20. We further recommend that current "Green Economy" proposals be drafted, to emphasize, among others, the following elements: conservation and reduction in resource consumption levels, especially in highly industrialized counties; the importance of decentralized development projects that respect self-determination and traditional knowledge and support and restore local economies and food systems. The green economy should support decentralized locally-controlled renewable energy programmes and projects and a rapid phase-out of all fossil fuels production and use and; respect for and incorporation of Indigenous Peoples' vision of development based on harmony between human societies and nature. Finally, we recommend that all "Green Economy" programs and projects must first and foremost include Indigenous Peoples' full participation in all stages from design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Their free, prior and informed consent should be obtained as well.

24. Indigenous peoples call on the UN to ensure the full, formal and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in all processes and activities of the Rio+20 Conference, and its preparatory and follow-up mechanisms. We recommend that there be further and continuing debate, with the full participation and engagement of Indigenous Peoples, regarding the development of new or the strengthening of existing institutional frameworks on sustainable development. Any further developments of institutional frameworks should include and recognize the important contributions of Indigenous Peoples based on their traditional knowledge and practices, as well as the key role of the UN Permanent Forum, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We recommend the creation of formal mechanisms that ensure the participation of Indigenous Peoples in general. In addition, there should be adequate resources provided to ensure the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in any the new or enhanced institutional framework.

28. Further, we recommend that the traditional knowledge being used by Indigenous women regarding methods of adaption and mitigation must be respected, promoted and strengthened; and that their roles as leaders and actors in all levels of discussion and decision making regarding sustainable development and well-being for Indigenous Peoples be respected. We further recommend the recognition of the vital contributions and the vision of the future presented by Indigenous youth, as those who will experience the long-term results of the decisions being made at the Rio + 20 World Conference. We stress the importance of including Indigenous and other youth in all stages of the planning and implementation, as well as in designing the final outcomes, of Rio + 20.

29. Finally, the proposal to upgrade the UN Commission on Sustainable Development to a new Council, similar to the Human Rights Council, may elevate discussions on sustainability within the UN system. However, it could also have the potential to reduce the space for Indigenous Peoples and other stakeholders to participate and be part of any negotiation process. The experience with the recent creation of the Human Rights Council, from the former Commission on Human Rights, confirms the potential for reduced opportunities for participation. This is an issue that requires further discussion and analysis particularly in relation to the development of guiding principles, taking into consideration the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, current Indigenous-related UN mechanisms, as well as the role of self-governing bodies and autonomies within Indigenous territories.

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## Indraprastha Public Affairs Centre

Text not available.

## Information Habitat: Where information Lives

Information & Communications Technologies:

Critical Foundation for a Sustainable Common Future

In the twenty-one years since the initial PrepCom for the UN Conference on Environment and Development, no industry has come close to the exponential growth, rapid technological innovation, widespread adoption and affordability than the information & communications technology (ICT) sector; nor has any industry in human history so rapidly transformed the path of development and the global financial, economic and social landscapes.

However, the significance of ICT in relation to sustainable development has gained scant attention, yet its growth and evolution continues to have profound impacts on a wide range of processes critical to the transition to a sustainable common future - including opportunities for access to information and citizen participation in decision-making, technology transfer, access to education and health care, real-time monitoring of industrial processes and of the environment, early warning systems for natural disasters and disaster relief.

The second key concept in the rarely-cited second sentence of the Brundtland Report's definition of sustainable development - i.e. "the idea of limitations imposed by the state of technology and social organization on the environment's ability to meet present and future needs" - provides a valuable framework for understanding ICT's significance for sustainable development. That ICT has enabled unprecedented new, networked forms of social organization is undeniable, and the very idea of limitations has been transcended in a digital environment in which the constraints of the material world - imposed by the laws of conservation of mass and conservation of energy - no longer apply, for information has zero mass, zero physical size and takes virtually zero time to travel. Free access to knowledge is key to sustainable use of the environment. The combination of the characteristics of information and rapidly increasing computing power, storage capacity, bandwidth, affordability and portability has provided

unprecedented access to knowledge - the key to a sustainable common future.

The recognition in the Brundtland Report of the interlocking nature of the crises relating to sustainable development represented a major breakthrough in understanding; in this regard, advances in ICT have made possible analyses, models and presentations based on massive sets of data from the nature and specifics of relationships between the different sectors in ways that were not previously possible.

#### Green Economy

\*A Networked Information Economy: The key features of an the information economy - virtually zero marginal cost of production, unprecedented opportunities for collaborative peer production free from constraints of time and distance, the emergence of new forms of intellectual property including Open Source software and Creative Commons licenses - have given rise to a new culture of cooperation, a transformation of markets in a platform that is essentially carbon-free, and a rapidly growing and freely accessible global digital commons.

\*Access to Markets: There are countless ways in which ICT has transformed access to markets, from the use of cell-phones and text messaging for agricultural producers in rural areas to current market prices and conditions to online payment systems and the availability of free templates and hosting services that enable individual or community-based enterprises to establish an online "storefront" to sell products and services - including, but not limited to, digital products - in the global marketplace of the World Wide Web.

\*Education and ICT: Access to all levels of education is a central prerequisite for a sustainable common future and ICT is transforming access to education - whether elementary education, education in methods of sustainable agriculture, or graduate level courses from major universities.

\*Technology Transfer: ICT has played a vital role as a medium for the transfer of technology, especially in the free access to the transfer of the information technology itself - in conjunction with Free/Libre Open Source Software (FLOSS) - thus enabling free use of an extensive set of tools for building in a digital economy.

\*Open Source Construction Templates: Among recent development has been the dissemination of freely available templates with detailed designs for the construction of goods and products, especially with locally available resources.

\*Wireless Communications: The exploding use of wireless / wi-fi communications unparalleled and timely access to information, markets, tele- medicine, and much more in areas and conditions where communications were previously minimal or non-existent, this breakthrough in modality of communications offers numerous savings in energy and CO emissions.

\*Information Infrastructure: The development of affordable, broadband information infrastructure - especially wireless infrastructure - deserves much greater recognition as a foundation for sustainable development. Wireless infrastructure - for example, combining satellite access and mesh networking in conjunction with improvised "last-mile" information delivery. In many respects, the establishment of universally accessible information infrastructure can allow developing countries to leapfrog the wired technology of developed countries.

\*Full Cost Accounting: The failure of markets to external costs ICT - applied, inter alia, to monitoring of energy use and waste generation in production and to accounting for external cost throughout a business's value chain is a sine qua non of full cost accounting. The adoption and implementation of full cost accounting policies and procedures needs to be actively supported, through voluntary and/or mandatory guidelines.

\*External Costs of ICT: While there are many positive ways in which the ICT sector can and does support a sustainable development path, the manufacture of computers and mobile phones is not without a substantial ecological and social footprint, including toxic wastes and toxic working conditions to which much greater attention must be provided. There is also a vital need for greatly strengthened provisions and requirements for recycling used electronic equipment to reduce the impact on landfills and to recover valuable minerals for re-use.

#### Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

\*Access to Information and Participation: During the UNCED preparations, the use of email and "electronic conferences" became established as the default modality for access to information and the participation of NGOs in UN proceedings; since then, ICT has become

\*Common Framework for Multilateral Agreements: The adoption of a common framework for the administration of multilateral agreements can provide greatly increased coherence between the different agreements. The characteristics of a common framework - ideally based on an Open Source software platform - needs to include a common data warehouse, and a common online template for managing and organizing the work and meetings of multilateral agreements.

\*Environmental Monitoring: From high-resolution satellite images through real-time monitoring of air and water quality and weather conditions, systematic monitoring of environmental conditions is essential to intelligent responses to environmental conditions.

\*Open Government & Open Data: Openness and transparency in government play a key role in enabling broad-based an informed participation in decision- making in sustainable development. The growth of ICT has been a principle driving force in a growing movement for open government, including the recently launched Open Government Partnership. A key element of open government is the provision of open access to governmental data, in conjunction with encouragement for provisions that enable the independent development of "Apps" that can provide access to government information in more useful and usable forms than are available on government web sites.

\*Online Meeting Spaces: One area of ICT that has gained greater appreciation concerning sustainable development is the use of videoconferencing and the use of collaborative documents for meetings - by governments, businesses and social organizations - providing substantial savings in travel, time and energy & resource use. The use of online meetings needs to be actively promoted, in conjunction with the development and strengthening of broadband information infrastructure.

\*Natural Disaster Early Warning Systems and Disaster Response: In the context of predictions of increasing frequency and intensity of natural disasters, ICT-based early warning systems can play a vital role, and mobile phones and GPS- enabled smart phones have a crucial role in disaster recovery.

#### Conclusion

This paper barely begins to do justice to the scope of actual and potential relevance of ICT with respect to sustainable development, a green economy and an institutional framework for sustainable development. It is essential that greater attention be given to this issue, for example through the establishment of an Ad Hoc Working Group on ICT and Sustainable Development

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Submitted by Information Habitat: Where information Lives, NGO in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC, pioneered and supported the use of information &

communication technology by the UN NGO community, beginning with preparations for the 1992 Earth Summit.

For comments and feedback, contact Robert Pollard, Founder & Information Ecologist at [ecologist@information-habitat.net](mailto:ecologist@information-habitat.net)

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## Initiative pour le Développement Durable (I.D.D)

RECOMMANDATIONS POUR LA CONFERENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

DU 04 AU 06 JUIN 2011 RIO+20

RIO DE JANEIRO/BRESIL

Par

INITIATIVE POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT DURABLE ONG/ASBL

et

Quelques ONG congolaises (Kinshasa) réunies sous le vocable Mouvement Centre Rio+20

Octobre 2011

### I. INTRODUCTION

Les sommets de la Terre sont des rencontres décennales entre dirigeants mondiaux organisées depuis 1972, avec pour but de définir les moyens de stimuler le développement durable au niveau mondial. Partie de Stockholm (Suède) en 1972, le prochain se déroulera à Rio de Janeiro (Brésil) au mois de juin 2012. Preuve du développement d'une culture mondiale de respect de l'environnement, les sommets de la Terre présentent un enjeu symbolique important. Ils visent à démontrer la capacité collective à gérer les problèmes planétaires et affirment la nécessité d'une croissance écologique.

Considérer le développement durable dans son ensemble revient à considérer ses 3 trois aspects qui sont d'ordre social, environnemental et économique. Il serait alors difficile de dissocier lesdits aspects, l'un ne pouvant subsister sans l'autre. Il n'est guère de doute que le sous-développement touche une grande partie des pays africains et qu'il est nécessaire d'intensifier la lutte contre les divers maux qui rongent l'Afrique : la famine, le chômage, la corruption, les violations des droits de l'homme et de la femme, ...

En outre, l'Afrique en général et la République Démocratique du Congo en particulier doit s'atteler à remédier à cette crise en assurant aux générations futures la création d'un environnement sain et durable.

Dans une autre optique, si le sommet de la Terre de 1972 a engendré le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement (PNUE), celui de 1992 la Convention Cadre des Nations Unies sur les Changements Climatiques (CCNUCC), que vaudra-t-il retenir de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le Développement Durable (CNUDD), mieux connu sous l'appellation de RIO+20 ?

Quelques Organisations non Gouvernementales de la société civile congolaise (Kinshasa) ont proposé ce document à l'attention des participants à la Conférence de Rio+20. Le Présent document renferme les différents points de vue émis au cours des concertations ; il tente de cerner les 2 thèmes principaux de la Conférence de Rio+20, à savoir :

- L'économie verte dans le cadre du développement durable et de l'élimination de la pauvreté ;
- Le cadre institutionnel du développement durable.

### II. RECOMMANDATIONS

Les principales recommandations émises dans ce document sont réparties dans les axes prioritaires suivants :

1. Eliminer la pauvreté en Afrique sous-entend le renforcement des stratégies de lutte contre les divers différents maux qui gangrènent le social du peuple africain, à savoir : l'analphabétisme, la malnutrition et la famine, les maladies, le chômage, la désertification, ... Ce qui revient à dire que l'Afrique demeure confrontée aux problèmes récurrents liés à l'éducation, à la sécurité alimentaire et à la malnutrition, à la santé, à l'emploi, à la salubrité, à l'eau et à l'assainissement, ...

Schéma I : Incidences de l'élimination de la pauvreté. (UNDESA: Please reference Full Submission)

Il convient de tenir compte d'une étude sur la mise en place d'une économie verte, moins polluante, donc développer la croissance des énergies renouvelables et diminuer la consommation excessive d'énergies non renouvelables.

2. Mise en place de plans nationaux de développement durable et ensuite, à l'échelon international, mise en place d'un cadre de concertation regroupant les acteurs qui interviennent directement dans le secteur du développement durable, c'est-à-dire sous-entendre une gouvernance mondiale ou gouvernance globale.

Schéma II : Gouvernance mondiale.(UNDESA: Please reference Full Submission)

Cela est à dire que les différents acteurs doivent privilégier à tout prix l'intérêt communautaire. Il serait impérieux de favoriser une méthodologie incidente dans chaque secteur afin de mieux établir une évaluation concrète : donc évaluer à chaque étape, établir s'il y a eu avancées ou stagnation touchant au progrès dans chaque secteur du développement humain et s'il échoue, renforcer les capacités d'organisation soit des hommes soit des institutions.

Soulignons que le développement durable pris dans ces 3 composantes : social, environnement et économique, pourra s'articuler autour de ces objectifs :

1. Développer de façon durable et responsable, la vie de la communauté par la mise en place d'une consommation et d'une production durables, répartir de manière équitable les ressources en s'appuyant sur les priorités des communautés impliquées.
2. Gérer de façon durable l'espace de vie, l'environnement. Veiller à la diminution des émissions de carbone, gérer de façon durable les forêts et l'eau, éviter le déboisement et la consommation excessive.
3. Produire les biens et services ainsi que les produits de consommation courante nécessaires à la survie de manière durable.

## Résumé des recommandations.

Au sortir de la Conférence de Rio+20, les délégués auront à examiner les différentes recommandations dont les suivantes :

<sup>[4]</sup> Les autorités gouvernementales s'engagent à multiplier les relations et à restaurer un climat de confiance avec la communauté locale.

<sup>[4]</sup> Elles s'engagent en outre, à concilier les priorités nationales et les initiatives locales et tentent de trouver une nouvelle articulation entre

les politiques menées à différentes échelles. <sup>[4]</sup> Les acteurs impliqués dans le cadre de du développement durable : Etat, collectivité locale, société civile, Organisations non Gouvernementales internationales, organisation du système des Nations Unies tentent de développer au maximum des approches transversales, prenant en compte l'ensemble des interactions entre les différentes politiques, c'est-à-dire établir un pont direct entre les bailleurs de fonds et les acteurs privés : société civile, population locale.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les gouvernements doivent rendre effective la décentralisation par un transfert réel des compétences et du pouvoir de gestion à la base : des dispositifs de participation des habitants aux politiques (démocratie locale participative) doivent être mis en place le plus souvent sous forme des commissions de locales, comité de village, on devra penser au budget participatif, par exemple.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les autorités gouvernementales ainsi que les Organisations Internationales s'engagent à améliorer la sécurité alimentaire des ménages auprès des communautés vulnérables ou locales en lançant des politiques d'agriculture durable, en allouant des crédits aux petits éleveurs et en développant l'approche d'une économie de moins en moins polluante. Elles s'engagent à diminuer la production des émissions de carbone dans l'atmosphère.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les autorités s'engagent à faciliter l'accès à l'eau potable et aux soins de santé de qualité des populations les plus pauvres.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les gouvernements établissent de plans nationaux de distribution de l'eau potable aux populations les plus vulnérables : enfants en bas âge, réfugiés, ménages les plus pauvres, ... Ils établissent en outre, de plans de gestion durable de l'eau, donc ils veilleront à une consommation responsable de l'eau dans de grands centres urbains.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les autorités gouvernementales ainsi que les Organisations Internationales s'engagent à fournir une réponse urgente aux, rapide et appropriée devant des situations dangereuses touchant la population, telles la désertification, la malnutrition et la famine.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les gouvernements s'engagent à renforcer la prévention et les réponses face aux violations des droits de l'Homme et face aux menaces contre l'intégrité physique ainsi que les moyens d'y faire face. Ils s'engagent à lutter activement contre les violences faites à la mère et à l'enfant.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les autorités gouvernementales ainsi que les Organisations Internationales s'engagent à garantir les droits des peuples autochtones à exploiter librement leurs terres. Les droits des peuples des forêts et des populations riveraines sont garantis face au risque d'accaparement des terres par les industries d'exploitation minière ou forestière. Elles priorisent la transparence ainsi que la bonne gouvernance dans ce contexte de gestion durable des ressources minières ou forestières.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les gouvernements s'engagent à faire du droit au développement durable et du droit à vivre dans un environnement sain et protégé, un Droit de l'Homme.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les gouvernements s'engagent à gérer de manière transparente les fonds reçus de différents bailleurs de fonds au profit des projets de développement durable en faveur des collectivités locales.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les gouvernements s'engagent à faciliter la mise en œuvre de la stratégie de réduction de la pauvreté par le renforcement de ses capacités à coordonner l'assistance fournie par les bailleurs de fonds et s'engagent à fournir les services essentiels, tant au niveau central que régional.

<sup>[4]</sup> Les acteurs impliqués dans le cadre de du développement durable : Etat, collectivité locale, société civile, Organisations non Gouvernementales internationales, organisation du système des Nations Unies s'attèlent à atteindre concrètement les Objectifs du Millénaire pour le Développement d'ici 2015. Parmi ces objectifs, le 1er renseigne : De Réduire l'extrême pauvreté et la faim avec comme cible 1.A : Réduire de moitié, entre 1990 et 2015, la proportion de la population dont le revenu est inférieur à un dollar par jour ainsi que Réduire de moitié, entre 1990 et 2015, la proportion de la population qui souffre de la faim.

Nous envisageons que les délégués créent une structure spécialisée des Nations Unies dénommées « Programme des Nations Unies pour le Développement Durable », PNUDD, en sigle, dont les instruments de création seront soumis à la signature et à la ratification.

Tels sont les points de vue émises au cours de nos rencontres à Kinshasa en République Démocratique du Congo.

## Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement (IRD)

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

#### THE DRYLANDS TOWARDS RIO+20: A GLOBAL CHALLENGE

More than 2,300 scientists and policymakers from 80 countries and all continents, including public officials, natural and social scientists, representatives of the private sector and international agencies, and members of non-governmental and other civilsociety organizations, met in Fortaleza – Brazil (ICID+18, 2010), Mendoza – Argentina (ICID+19, 2011) and in Niamey – Niger (ICID+19 Africa, 2011), during the International Conference on Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions (ICID). They exchanged information and lessons of the past two decades about sustainable development in Drylands around the globe and offered policy recommendations for consideration at the Rio+20 Summit in 2012.

Since the first ICID was held in 1992, human-induced global warming and environmental changes and their consequences for human and ecosystems well-being are now widely accepted as fundamental development issues.

The purpose the set of ICID Conferences was to assess the situation of Drylands regions (arid, semi-arid and dry subhumid lands) in order to foster sustainable development and the fight against poverty, land degradation and desertification in the Drylands. From this analysis, participants have reached conclusions and adopted

action oriented recommendations addressed in particular to the Rio + 20 Summit in 2012. The participants in the ICID conferences suggest that the agenda of the Rio + 20 could devote a special chapter to the discussion of the challenges and potentialities of the Drylands, given their importance in terms of population, poverty, development gap, and environmental assets.

#### EXPECTATIONS

The Drylands worldwide contain the largest concentrations of poverty and suffer the greatest pressures on their natural resources such as water, soils, and biodiversity. Their populations are extremely vulnerable to the adverse consequences of environmental changes related to climate variability and change, and are among the least able to cope effectively with them. Desertification alone, as a symbol of environmental threats in the Drylands, adversely affects the livelihoods of one billion (1,000,000,000) people.

Although significant advances continue to be made in scientific knowledge and public understanding concerning the interactions among climate, environmental sustainability and socio-economic development and despite progress and the best of government intentions, the challenges continue to increase and constrain efforts to effectively reduce poverty, mitigate and adapt to climate change and achieve sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Past errors, poorly conceived policies, and exploitative practices have resulted in environmental and social conditions that are not easily reversed without substantial and sustained development efforts that require increased national and international financial support. Declining productivity in the Drylands of their natural resources, the prevalence of poverty and significant inequities as well as institutional weaknesses are expected to be worsened by climate variability and change.

The world's Drylands possess many important assets, including rich social, cultural and biological diversity. They are responsible for more than 20% of food production around the globe.

The sustainable development of Drylands, through improved governance, enhanced livelihoods and greater voice, empowerment, and political representation of their populations (especially the poor), should be the foremost objective of local to international action.

Climate-sensitive development interventions from local to global must be substantially increased paying special attention to the needs of women, children and the elderly, throughout the Drylands.

"Win-Win" opportunities to cope with global warming must be identified and pursued, especially climate adaptation tactics and strategies that reduce local vulnerability, increase resilience and build assets of the poor. Efforts are needed to develop greater institutional capacity for managing climate variability today in the context of projected climate changes (e.g., greater emphasis on improved climate and environmental monitoring networks, drought preparedness planning based on a risk-based management approach, development of appropriate decision-support tools, and improved information delivery systems to aid decision making). Efforts must promote access to land and to markets, as well as effective civil-society grassroots participation in decision-making, implementation, and evaluation of development activities.

The sustainable development of the drylands and the combat to land degradation and desertification should be fostered, through the incorporation of the environmental, social and economic dimensions in development planning and implementation.

The United Nations should urgently consider the current plight of the Drylands, including the risks to global security associated with the growing impoverishment and food insecurity, increasing vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change, and rising conflicts and violence in Drylands regions.

Previous financial pledges by industrialized countries to support sustainable development efforts must be met. Existing institutional arrangements and financial instruments must not only be strengthened but must become more efficient.

Disbursement of concessionary resources from recently established Climate Investment and Adaptation Funds, for example, should be accelerated, and local and national institutional absorptive capacities strengthened to effectively utilize these resources.

Regular exchange including scientists, decision and policymakers dealing with the drylands should be encouraged.

Short, medium and long term strategies are necessary to better monitor implementation of actions against land degradation and desertification. In this regard, a zero net land degradation target should be set.

Beyond Rio + 20, the MDGs that will be defined for the period following 2015 should pay special attention to the Drylands and consider them as a target with a high-level of priority.

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**



## COMMENTS

Mechanisms should be strengthened through integrated action to arrest and avoid land degradation, to mitigate the effects of droughts, fires and floods, to conserve soil and water resources and biodiversity, and to resiliently adapt to climate change and its consequences. In addition, mechanisms to financially compensate local communities for the environmental protection services they provide must be identified and implemented. Multilateral and bilateral development agencies can play an important role.

Investment opportunities should exploit the comparative advantages of drylands areas such as solar power generation, as well as other alternative and renewable energy sources (including hydropower, wind, and biomass). They should also support techniques for rainwater capture, improved sanitation, wastewater reuse in irrigation and low carbon, resource saving and environmentally-friendly activities. Such investment would enhance energy and food security by the improved efficient management of demand for water through adequate pricing and other means. The integration of water basins should also be considered.

There is also the need to recover degraded areas, strengthen the management and sustainability of existing and newly protected areas and to prevent environmental deterioration of those that are as yet well preserved. Drylands regions should catalogue and prioritize the various sustainable uses and conservation of biodiversity.

Synergies among global, national, regional and local interventions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, conserve biodiversity, and curb desertification should be maximized. Interactions among and with the three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, UNCBD, UNFCCC) should be integrated with broader domestic and international efforts to foster quality of basic education, combat poverty and promote sustainability.

Enhancing climate-sensitive sustainable development activities will require additional financial resources. Part of these costs should be absorbed by national economies, but, because of the global public goods nature of these issues, a larger share of the needed incremental financing should come from industrialized countries.

Contextualized quality education at all levels should be a priority, cooperatively supported by all agencies involved. In addition to a high-return investment in human capital, this should be viewed as the need to raise the awareness of local populations about the linkages among climate change, poverty and sustainability. This will ensure an effective voice, empowerment and representation in public decision-making regarding the future of Drylands regions. Specific Drylands education policies should be developed. The priority focus should be on the youth of both genders beginning with early childhood development. They have the most at stake and will become the next wave of policy and decision makers.

The path to sustainable development requires a greening of the economy of the drylands, as is the case in other regions. The green economy approach should fully incorporate needs for sustainable land management and not be used as trade barriers against exports coming from developing countries.

Renewable energy (solar, wind, biomass) should be enhanced in the Drylands.

Developing countries are encouraged to take advantage of financial opportunities offered by existing or emerging mechanisms such as the ones derived from the Rio Conventions process (carbon market, GEF enabling funds, etc.). Likewise, activities on agroforestry and water resources, including underground aquifers, should be fostered in the context of cooperation for development policies.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

## IMPLEMENTATION

The concerns of Drylands peoples are often poorly represented in international, national and local policy processes. Good governance of the Drylands will also bring knowledge, cultural values, needs and aspirations of local inhabitants into multi-level policy and decision-making.

An integrated multidisciplinary climate research, observation, modeling and applications program should be implemented to inform resource managers, policy makers, planners, educators and local populations about adaptation to the consequences of a changing climate.

While information technology and knowledge based on the complex causes and effects of climate variability, extremes and change have advanced significantly during the past two decades, significantly greater inputs from the social sciences are needed, especially to focus on the social and political causes of vulnerability and resilience as well as the societal impacts of climate variability and climate change.

The gap caused by a mismatch between scientific and technological investigation related to the Drylands along with knowledge about production systems on the one hand, and the prevailing system of decision-making and environmental and local governance, on the other, should be eliminated. New Science and Technology (S&T) knowledge must be developed in existing and new Drylands institutions. Sustainable development efforts must respect the cultures of indigenous, traditional and other local

populations that have inhabited these regions for centuries.

Drylands knowledge networks should be enhanced with two basic objectives: (i) scientific and applied research: exchange of information, discussion of methodologies, communication of scientific discoveries and joint development of research activities; and (ii) participatory planning and action: create a forum for exchanging experiences among specialists, government authorities and civil society.

Governance of sustainable development in the drylands should be strengthened at different levels, by enforcing the implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) and supporting national and local policies, inter alia through: i) taking into account traditional knowledge, cultural values, needs and aspirations of local inhabitants; ii) reinforcement of regional cooperation between States directly or by means of dedicated organizations such as APGMV and river basin organizations; iii) use of different policy means, including the empowering of local populations and facilitating their access to land. These measures must be consistent with cultural values and customary laws as appropriate.

International cooperation should be encouraged since better coordination of development programs improves their efficiency. South-south cooperation and tripartite (South, North, South) cooperation should be especially fostered. South–South cooperation, notably when it implies developing and emerging countries, like Brazil, is powerful because some emerging countries have already experimented with success policies to fight poverty, land degradation and desertification. Tripartite cooperation, which involves developing, emerging and developed countries, should also be encouraged. International donors and lenders – States, Financial Institutions, foundations, corporate philanthropists – should pay special attention to the needs expressed by organizations directly involved in the combat against desertification, bearing in mind the principles of the Paris Declaration.

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

**TOOLS**

Convene a “Drylands Summit on Sustainable Development” to refine policy options for Drylands worldwide. Inputs from ICID+19, Niamey 2011, and those of the proposed Drylands Summit would enhance discussion of the importance of Drylands issues in the Rio+20 Conference agenda. Summits for other eco-regions should also be identified and convened.

A new strategic geo-political Drylands Initiative, if not alliance, can be developed to coordinate efforts to address common climate, development and sustainability related problems, prospects and opportunities.

Generate support for development and implementation of community-level knowledgebased strategies to educate children, adults, policy and decision makers, including parliamentarians, and the media, about the obvious as well as hidden implications of climate and environmental changes in the Drylands.

Efforts to improve scientific cooperation devoted to the drylands should be promoted at all levels.

This could be reached by the development of Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) initiatives located in Drylands countries, by enhancing regional and continental centers of excellence on topics concerning drought and desertification.

This could also be reached in Drylands regions through the activities of existing and new networks and observatories devoted to integrated approaches on climate change, land degradation and desertification, migration, health, sustainable development experiences, e.g.

Exchange and share of information and data related to the drylands should be facilitated among scientists and should be used by policy makers.

We should encourage interdisciplinary research programs (inputs from social sciences are particularly needed). Indeed they are well tailored to take into account all the impacts – social, economic and environmental – of measures and policies fighting desertification and promoting sustainable development in drylands.

Research activities should provide local expertise about drylands management.

Research activities should contribute to training and capacity building in the drylands regions.

Moreover, scientific knowledge and dissemination towards the private sector and civil society – mainly throughout the educational system – should be improved. Information, models and policies related to drought and desertification should be enhanced.

Research activities should lead to usual outputs - such as scientific publications - but also to specific outputs that could be used directly by policy makers and other stakeholders.

Efforts should be done in order to assess the state of the art about research devoted to the drylands, including with the use of impact indicators.

The links between research and innovation should be strengthened as well as publicprivate partnership. The development of biotechnologies and ecological intensification using the diversity of local biological resources should be promoted.

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## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference:** To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication:** views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development:** Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

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## ANNEXE 1

### Déclaration de Niamey

Les terres arides dans l'agenda de Rio +20 : un enjeu mondial et un focus pour l'Afrique  
Conférence Afrique - Brésil - France sur la lutte contre la désertification en Afrique (ICID + 19, Afrique)

Niamey, République du Niger, 24-25 Octobre 2011

en perspective

du 6ème Forum Mondial de l'Eau (Marseille, Mars 2012)

et de la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le Développement Durable (Rio+20, Juin 2012)

### RESUME EXECUTIF

L'Afrique, le Brésil et la France s'associent pour lutter contre la pauvreté, la dégradation des terres, la sécheresse et la désertification en Afrique

· Une dynamique portée par la coopération tripartite Afrique-Brésil-France

L'Agence panafricaine de la grande muraille verte (APGMV), l'Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) et le Centre de gestion et d'études stratégiques du Brésil (CGEE) ont organisé, les 24 et 25 octobre 2011, à Niamey et en collaboration avec le gouvernement de la République du Niger, la conférence internationale « Pour un développement durable des zones arides en Afrique » (ICID +19 en Afrique). La centaine de participants (scientifiques, décideurs, institutionnels) a adopté la Déclaration de Niamey en vue notamment de la transmettre au comité préparatoire de la conférence des Nations Unies sur le développement durable, Rio+20, de juin 2012.

· La désertification : un enjeu mondial et vital pour l'Afrique

Phénomène mondial aux causes et conséquences multiples, la désertification affecte particulièrement le continent africain, très vulnérable du fait de l'insécurité alimentaire et de la pression anthropique sur les ressources naturelles. La conférence tripartite organisée à Niamey visait à évaluer la situation des régions arides avec un focus particulier sur l'Afrique, dans la perspective de favoriser la lutte contre la pauvreté, la dégradation des terres, la sécheresse et la désertification.

· 22 recommandations pour le développement durable des Terres Arides

La Déclaration de Niamey invite les dirigeants mondiaux qui participeront à la Conférence de Rio + 20 à porter une attention particulière et à prendre des décisions innovantes afin de promouvoir le développement durable des zones sèches , notamment en Afrique. Pour cela, la déclaration comprend 22 recommandations, visant à :

- Renforcer la gouvernance et le développement durable dans les zones sèches , en mettant en oeuvre des accords environnementaux multilatéraux et en soutenant des politiques régionale, nationales et locales établies selon une logique conforme aux préceptes du développement durable.

- Encourager la coopération internationale, afin d'améliorer l'efficacité des programmes de développement. La coopération Sud-Sud et la coopération tripartite (Sud-Nord-Sud) doivent être particulièrement prises en compte et privilégiées.

- Améliorer la coopération scientifique, le renforcement des capacités et le transfert de technologie, par un soutien aux initiatives et aux programmes de recherche intégrés et interdisciplinaires, la mise en réseaux, l'échange et le partage de données, la formation, l'expertise locale, l'innovation, les partenariats public-privé et la diffusion des connaissances.

### Introduction

Une centaine de participants, chercheurs et décideurs en provenance de pays africains, du Brésil, d'Argentine, de France, et des organisations internationales, se sont réunis à Niamey, au Niger, les 24 et 25 Octobre 2011, dans le cadre d'une conférence intitulée: « Lutte contre la désertification en Afrique » ou « ICID + 19 en Afrique ». Cette initiative tripartite a été prise par les pays africains sous la tutelle de l'Union africaine, l'Agence Panafricaine de la Grande Muraille Verte (APGMV), en étroite collaboration avec l'Institut de Recherche pour le Développement - IRD (France) et le Centro e Estudos de Gestão Estratégicos - CGEE (Brésil). Cette conférence visait à évaluer la situation des régions arides (arides, semi-arides et subhumides sèches), avec un focus particulier sur l'Afrique, dans la perspective de favoriser le développement durable, la lutte contre la dégradation des terres, la sécheresse et la désertification. Les participants ont abouti à des conclusions et adopté des recommandations destinées aux décideurs politiques, en vue notamment de les inscrire dans l'agenda du Sommet de Rio + 20 qui se déroulera en Juin 2012.

## Un défi mondial

Plus de 2 milliards de personnes vivent dans les zones arides du monde et la majorité d'entre elles se situe en dessous du seuil de pauvreté. La désertification et la dégradation des terres résultent des pratiques d'une agriculture non durable, d'un élevage extensif et de la mauvaise gestion des ressources naturelles dont l'eau, les sols et la biodiversité. La forte variabilité du climat et les changements climatiques aggravent cette dégradation.

## Un focus sur l'Afrique

L'Afrique est le continent le plus vulnérable à la désertification, la dégradation des sols et les effets de la sécheresse (DLDD). Selon la Banque mondiale, 40% de la population sahélienne vit sous le seuil de pauvreté. La situation actuelle est déjà très grave en raison de l'insécurité alimentaire, la malnutrition et la pression anthropique sur les ressources naturelles. De plus, la vulnérabilité de l'Afrique à la désertification est exacerbée par la croissance démographique et les effets du changement climatique.

## Le Contexte Institutionnel

La présente déclaration prend en compte les trois conventions de Rio (CCNUCC, CDB et UNCCD). Les participants à la Conférence de Niamey ratifient la Déclaration de Fortaleza, « Un appel pour une action sur les terres arides » adoptée au cours de l'ICID + 18 à Fortaleza, au Brésil, en août 2010, ainsi que la Déclaration de Mendoza, adoptée lors de l'ICID + 19 à Mendoza, en Argentine, en Septembre 2011. Les recommandations contenues dans la troisième partie de la présente déclaration complètent ces déclarations, avec un focus particulier sur Afrique.

## Déroulement de la Conférence

Bien que reconnaissant les améliorations réalisées par des initiatives de développement menées durant la dernière décennie par les gouvernements nationaux, les organisations régionales ou locales, les participants constatent que le développement durable du continent africain est toujours menacé par divers facteurs tels que l'utilisation extensive des terres, le manque de gouvernance environnementale et la faible diffusion des connaissances scientifiques. Les quatre thématiques suivantes ont été discutées lors de la conférence de Niamey au cours de tables rondes : la sécurité alimentaire ; les politiques sociales et le changement climatique ; la gestion des eaux et des sols ; les plantes et les communautés microbiennes des sols et la dimension régionale de la gestion des terres arides. Les Recommandations

## Vers un Développement Durable

1. Le développement durable des zones arides et la lutte contre la dégradation des terres et la désertification devraient être encouragés grâce à l'introduction des dimensions environnementale, sociétale et économique dans la planification du développement et sa mise en oeuvre.
2. Les mesures prioritaires et les politiques à mettre en oeuvre doivent intégrer, entre autres, la disponibilité et la gestion de l'eau, la conservation des sols et l'utilisation durable des terres.
3. La transition vers le développement durable nécessite un passage à une économie plus verte des zones arides, comme c'est le cas dans d'autres régions. L'approche de l'économie verte devrait intégrer pleinement les besoins pour la gestion durable des terres mais ne pas être utilisée comme barrière commerciale à l'encontre des exportations des pays en développement.
4. Les énergies renouvelables (solaire, éolien, biomasse) doivent être renforcées dans les zones arides. Les pays en développement sont encouragés à profiter des opportunités financières offertes par les mécanismes existants ou émergents tels que ceux découlant des conventions de Rio (marché du carbone, Fond Mondial de l'Environnement). De même, les activités en agroforesterie et en gestion des eaux, y compris les eaux souterraines, doivent être mieux prises en compte et figurer dans les politiques de développement.

## Vers une Meilleure Gouvernance

La gouvernance et le développement durable dans les zones arides doivent être renforcés à différents niveaux, en mettant en oeuvre les accords environnementaux multilatéraux et en soutenant des politiques nationales et locales, notamment:

5. en tenant compte des savoirs traditionnels, des pratiques culturelles, des besoins et des aspirations des populations locales,
  6. en renforçant la coopération régionale entre les États, directement ou par l'intermédiaire d'organismes dédiés tels que l'Agence Panafricaine de la Grande Muraille Verte et les agences de bassins fluviaux,
  7. en utilisant des moyens politiques différents, y compris la participation des populations locales et en facilitant leur accès au foncier. Ces mesures doivent être compatibles avec les pratiques culturelles et les lois coutumières. La Coopération Internationale
- La coopération internationale doit être encouragée car une meilleure coordination des programmes de développement améliore leur efficacité. La coopération Sud-Sud et la coopération tripartite (Sud, Nord, Sud) doivent être particulièrement prises en compte et encouragées.
8. La coopération Sud-Sud, notamment lorsqu'elle implique des pays africains et des pays émergents, comme le Brésil, est un puissant levier de développement car certains pays émergents ont déjà expérimenté avec succès des politiques de lutte contre la dégradation des sols et la désertification.
  9. La coopération tripartite, qui associe les pays en développement, émergents et développés doit également être stimulée. Les donateurs et les prêteurs internationaux - les Etats, les institutions financières, les fondations, les entreprises philanthropiques - sont invités à accorder une attention particulière aux besoins exprimés par les organisations régionales directement impliquées dans la lutte contre la désertification, tout en gardant à l'esprit les principes de la Déclaration de Paris.

## La Coopération Scientifique, le Renforcement des Capacités et le Transfert de Technologie

Les efforts pour améliorer la coopération scientifique consacrée aux zones arides devraient être encouragés à tous les niveaux.

10. Par le soutien à des initiatives en Science, Technologie et Innovation dans les pays situés en régions arides et par le renforcement des centres d'excellence régionaux et continentaux sur des sujets concernant la sécheresse et la désertification.
11. Les réseaux nouveaux et existants et les observatoires consacrés à des approches intégrées en matière de changement climatique, de dégradation des sols et de désertification, de migrations, de santé et d'expériences de développement durable doivent être renforcés.
12. L'échange et le partage des informations et des données relatives aux terres arides doivent être facilités entre les scientifiques et rendus utilisables par les décideurs.
13. Les programmes de recherche interdisciplinaire sont préconisés (l'apport des sciences sociales est particulièrement requis). En effet, ceux-ci sont particulièrement

adaptés pour prendre en compte tous les impacts - sociaux, économiques et environnementaux - des mesures et des politiques de lutte contre la désertification et la promotion du développement durable dans les zones arides.

14. Les activités de recherche devraient fournir et améliorer l'expertise locale sur la gestion des terres arides.

15. Les activités de recherche devraient contribuer à la formation et au renforcement des capacités dans les régions arides.

16. Par ailleurs, la connaissance scientifique et sa diffusion vers la société civile - principalement à travers le système éducatif - doivent être améliorées. L'information sur les politiques relatives à la sécheresse et à la désertification en Afrique devrait être renforcée.

17. Les activités de recherche doivent conduire aux productions classiques du savoir - telles que les publications scientifiques - mais aussi à des résultats spécifiques qui pourraient être utilisés directement par les décideurs et les autres acteurs.

18. Des efforts doivent être entrepris afin d'établir l'état de l'art dans les différents domaines scientifiques consacrés aux zones arides, y compris avec le recours à des indicateurs d'impact, pour savoir si les résultats scientifiques ont été appliqués, et dans ce cas, si ces applications ont été couronnées de succès.

19. Les liens entre la recherche et l'innovation doivent être intensifiés de même que le recours aux partenariats public-privé. Des stratégies d'intensification écologique fondées sur la valorisation de la diversité des ressources biologiques locales et sur le développement des biotechnologies sont préconisées.

Prospective, Stratégie et Objectifs

20. Des échanges réguliers entre scientifiques, décideurs et responsables politiques traitant des zones arides doivent être intensifiés.

21. Des stratégies à court, moyen et long terme sont nécessaires pour mieux surveiller la mise en oeuvre des actions contre la dégradation des terres et la désertification. À cet égard, un objectif de « zéro dégradation » des terres devrait être adopté.

22. Au-delà de Rio + 20, les OMD qui seront définis pour la période postérieure à 2015 devraient accorder une attention particulière au développement durable des zones arides et en faire une cible prioritaire.

Les participants au séminaire de Niamey (ICID + 19 en Afrique) invitent les dirigeants mondiaux participant à la Conférence de Rio + 20 à porter une attention particulière et à prendre des décisions innovantes afin d'intensifier les efforts visant au développement durable, à la lutte contre la dégradation des terres et la désertification et à l'atténuation des effets de la sécheresse dans les zones arides. Ils invitent les décideurs politiques des pays et des institutions concernés à utiliser la présente Déclaration et à la diffuser à toutes les parties prenantes.

ANNEXE 2

(UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Signatures)

ANNEXE 3

DECLARATION OF FORTALEZA

Second International Conference on Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions (ICID 2010)

Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil

16 - 20 August, 2010

A DRYLANDS CALL FOR ACTION

The Drylands worldwide contain the largest concentrations of poverty and suffer the greatest pressures on their natural resources such as water, soils, and biodiversity. Their populations are extremely vulnerable to the adverse consequences of environmental changes related to climate variability and change, and are among the least able to cope effectively with them. Desertification alone, as a symbol of environmental threats in the Drylands, adversely affects the lively hoods of one billion (1,000,000,000!) people.

A gathering of 2,350 participants from 80 countries, including public officials, natural and social scientists, representatives of the private sector and international agencies, and members of non-governmental and other civil- society organizations, met in Fortaleza, state of Ceará, Brazil, from August 16th to 20th, 2010, in the Second International Conference on Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions (ICID 2010). They exchanged information and lessons of the past two decades about sustainable development in Drylands around the globe and offered policy recommendations for consideration at the Rio+20 summit in 2012.

Since the first ICID was held in 1992, human-induced global warming and environmental changes and their consequences for human and ecosystems well-being are now widely accepted as fundamental development issues. Although significant advances continue to be made in scientific knowledge and public understanding concerning the interactions among climate, environmental sustainability and socio-economic development and despite progress and the best of government intentions, the challenges continue to increase and constrain efforts to effectively reduce poverty, mitigate and adapt to climate change and achieve sustainable development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Political resolve, sustained commitment to action and to provide additional resources are urgently needed to realize these objectives. These challenges are critical but surmountable in 1 the underrepresented arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid regions, collectively called "Drylands".

Past errors, poorly conceived policies, and exploitative practices have resulted in environmental and social conditions that are not easily reversed without substantial and sustained development efforts that require increased national and international financial support. Declining productivity in the Drylands of their natural resources, the prevalence of poverty and significant inequities as well as institutional weaknesses are expected to be worsened by climate variability and change.

Drylands regions contribute much less to global climate change (ie, as sources of greenhouse gas emissions) than other biomes, but are likely to be much more adversely affected by it.

Extreme weather and climate events around the globe — most recently floods in Pakistan and forest and peat fires in Russia and Indonesia, dust storms in China, erratic monsoon behavior in India, droughts and food shortages in sub-Saharan Africa, severe prolonged droughts and water shortages in northern Mexico and Northeast Brazil among other disastrous events elsewhere — underscore the urgency for governments to prepare for an uncertain climate future.

The economic and social impacts of such high-impact climate, water and weather events include sharply reduced agricultural output and productivity, damages to infrastructure, disruption or loss of basic services, massive dislocation of population, and increasing frequency of conflict, violence, and misery in the poorest parts of the

developing world. Industrialized countries are not immune from adverse climate-related changes and are also increasingly susceptible to the similar high impact phenomena. Yet, the world's Drylands possess many important assets, including rich social, cultural and biological diversity. They are responsible for more than 20% of food production around the globe.

Drylands present many opportunities for sustainable development, especially renewable solar, wind and biomass energy. Many of the actions required to address climate challenges are of benefit now as well for long-term economic growth, sustainable development and poverty alleviation in future decades. They require a high priority consideration from governments, national and regional, from the international community and from the private sector.

Deliberations during the Second International Conference on Climate, Sustainability and Development in Semi-arid Regions (ICID 2010) resulted in a call for the following action:

#### Climate Change and Sustainable Development: Challenges and Opportunities for the Drylands

1. The sustainable development of Drylands, through improved governance, enhanced livelihoods and greater voice, empowerment, and political representation of their populations (especially the poor), should be the foremost objective of local to international action.
2. Climate-sensitive development interventions from local to global must be substantially increased paying special attention to the needs of women, children and the elderly, throughout the Drylands.
3. "Win-Win" opportunities to cope with global warming must be identified and pursued, especially climate adaptation tactics and strategies that reduce local vulnerability, increase resilience and build assets of the poor. Efforts are needed to develop greater institutional capacity for managing climate variability today in the context of projected climate changes (e.g., greater emphasis on improved climate and environmental monitoring networks, drought preparedness planning based on a risk-based management approach, development of appropriate decision-support tools, and improved information delivery systems to aid decision making). Efforts must promote access to land and to markets, as well as effective civil-society grassroots participation in decision-making, implementation, and evaluation of development activities.
4. Mechanisms should be strengthened through integrated action to arrest and avoid land degradation, to mitigate the effects of droughts, fires and floods, to conserve soil and water resources and biodiversity, and to resiliently adapt to climate change and its consequences. In addition, mechanisms to financially compensate local communities for the environmental protection services they provide must be identified and implemented. Multilateral and bilateral development agencies can play an important role.
5. Investment opportunities should exploit the comparative advantages of dryland areas such as solar power generation, as well as other alternative and renewable energy sources (including hydropower, wind, and biomass). They should also support techniques for rainwater capture, improved sanitation, wastewater reuse in irrigation and low carbon, resource saving and environmentally-friendly activities. Such investment would enhance energy and food security by the improved efficient management of demand for water through adequate pricing and other means. The integration of water basins should also be considered.

#### Political Representation from local to international

6. The concerns of Drylands peoples are often poorly represented in international, national and local policy processes. Good governance of the Drylands will also bring knowledge, cultural values, needs and aspirations of local inhabitants into multi-level policy and decision-making.
7. To promote the recognition and well-being of Drylands, second and third-order implications of the climate-poverty-sustainability interface should be widely acknowledged, and Drylands countries should become equal partners in the global environment and development agenda.
8. The United Nations should urgently consider the current plight of the Drylands, including the risks to global security associated with the growing impoverishment and food insecurity, increasing vulnerability to natural disasters and climate change, and rising conflicts and violence in Dryland regions.
9. Convene a "Drylands Summit on Sustainable Development" to refine policy options for Drylands worldwide. Inputs from ICID 2010 and those of the proposed Drylands Summit would enhance discussion of the importance of Drylands issues in the Rio+20 Conference agenda. Summits for other eco- regions should also be identified and convened.
10. A new strategic geo-political Drylands Initiative, if not alliance, can be developed to coordinate efforts to address common climate, development and sustainability related problems, prospects and opportunities.
11. Generate support for development and implementation of community-level knowledge-based strategies to educate children, adults, policy and decision makers, including parliamentarians, and the media, about the obvious as well as hidden implications of climate and environmental changes in the Drylands.

#### Biodiversity Protection

12. There is also the need to recover degraded areas, strengthen the management and sustainability of existing and newly protected areas and to prevent environmental deterioration of those that are as yet well preserved. Dryland regions should catalogue and prioritize the various sustainable uses and conservation of biodiversity.

#### Synergies Among Global Environment and Development Initiatives

13. Synergies among global, national, regional and local interventions to mitigate and adapt to climate change, conserve biodiversity, and curb desertification should be maximized. Interactions among and with the three Rio Conventions (UNCCD, UNCBD, UNFCCC) should be integrated with broader domestic and international efforts to foster quality of basic education, combat poverty and promote sustainability.

#### Financing Climate-Sensitive Sustainable Development

14. Enhancing climate-sensitive sustainable development activities will require additional financial resources. Part of these costs should be absorbed by national economies, but, because of the global public goods nature of these issues, a larger share of the needed incremental financing should come from industrialized countries.
15. Previous financial pledges by industrialized countries to support sustainable development efforts must be met. Existing institutional arrangements and financial instruments must not only be strengthened but must become more efficient. Disbursement of concessionary resources from recently established Climate Investment and Adaptation Funds, for example, should be accelerated, and local and national institutional absorptive capacities strengthened to effectively utilize these resources.
16. Holding emitters of greenhouse gases accountable by applying the "Polluter Pays" principle, and other such measures, should generate additional sources of financial resources to support new investments in adaptation measures. Financial innovations to advance sustainable development under climate change conditions should also include: (i) funds to finance adaptation and associated sustainable development activities in Dryland subregions, such as the proposed Fund for the Caatinga ecosystem in Brazil; (ii) payment for ecological and other 5 environmental services, including establishment of a fund for reduction of emissions from land degradation and desertification, along the lines of existing ones for reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation in tropical forest areas (REDD); and (iii) climate-related damage

compensation and insurance instruments.

#### Education and Food Security for Sustainable Development

17. Contextualized quality education at all levels should be a priority, cooperatively supported by all agencies involved. In addition to a high-return investment in human capital, this should be viewed as the need to raise the awareness of local populations about the linkages among climate change, poverty and sustainability. This will ensure an effective voice, empowerment and representation in public decision-making regarding the future of Dryland regions. Specific Drylands education policies should be developed. The priority focus should be on the youth of both genders beginning with early childhood development. They have the most at stake and will become the next wave of policy and decision makers.

18. Food Security for Sustainable Development must be a key area of concern among civil society, NGOs, international agencies, government institutions and other forms of organization, as food security remains a fundamental need for reducing vulnerability and promoting resilient adaptation.

#### Knowledge and Information Exchange

19. An integrated multidisciplinary climate research, observation, modeling and applications program should be implemented to inform resource managers, policy makers, planners, educators and local populations about adaptation to the consequences of a changing climate.

20. While information technology and knowledge based on the complex causes and effects of climate variability, extremes and change have advanced significantly during the past two decades, significantly greater inputs from the social sciences are needed, especially to focus on the social and political causes of vulnerability and resilience as well as the societal impacts of climate variability and climate change.

21. The gap caused by a mismatch between scientific and technological investigation related to the Drylands along with 6 knowledge about production systems on the one hand, and the prevailing system of decision-making and environmental and local governance, on the other, should be eliminated. New Science and Technology (S&T) knowledge must be developed in existing and new Drylands institutions. Sustainable development efforts must respect the cultures of indigenous, traditional and other local populations that have inhabited these regions for centuries.

22. Drylands knowledge networks should be enhanced with two basic objectives: (i) scientific and applied research: exchange of information, discussion of methodologies, communication of scientific discoveries and joint development of research activities; and (ii) participatory planning and action: create a forum for exchanging experiences among specialists, government authorities and civil society.

#### International Cooperation

23. Strengthen measures to facilitate international cooperation and appropriate technology transfer, including the fostering of south-south and tripartite cooperation and the establishment of local laboratories and observatories.

24. Efforts to improve coordination and reduce the existing compartmentalization of development programs should be promoted at all levels, especially in areas such as education, land, water and forest resource management, the combating of desertification, adapting to climate change, protecting biodiversity, improving food security, and poverty reduction.

#### A Sense of Urgency

25. The urgency to respond to current and emerging climate, development and sustainability challenges and opportunities in drylands must not be understated. The international community has shown its intention to place drylands development on the international agenda by the launching at ICID 2010 of the 'United Nations Decade of Deserts and the Fight Against Desertification 2010-2020'. In light of ICID 2010's findings and in view of global climate change scenarios that intensify the drylands development imperative, the dawn of this new UN Decade is a welcome recognition that decisive action for human and ecosystems well-being in the world's drylands is needed now!

Supporting documents from the preparatory meetings and panels of ICID 2010, including special contributions on Africa and Latin America, are available at URL: [www.icid18.org](http://www.icid18.org).

#### ANNEXE 4

#### Mendoza DECLARATION

Third International Conference on Climate, Sustainability, and Development in Dryland Regions

Mendoza, Argentina

September 25-28, 2011

#### THE DRYLANDS TOWARDS RIO+20: A LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN PERSPECTIVE

Three hundred participants from various continents met in Mendoza between September 25 and 28, 2011 to analyze the principal advances and gaps in the management of drylands (arid, semi-arid, and subhumid lands) in the Latin America and the Caribbean Region since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, from the perspective of poverty eradication and sustainable development. The objective of the Mendoza meeting was to generate recommendations for the Sustainable Development Conference to be convened in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012, also known as "Rio+20."

In the discussions in Mendoza, the conclusions and recommendations contained in the Fortaleza Declaration, A Drylands Call for Action, approved by the 2,500 participants of the Second International Conference on Climate, Sustainability, and Development in Dryland Regions (ICID+18), that took place in Fortaleza, Ceará, Brazil between August 16 and 20, 2010. As in the first ICID, also held in Fortaleza in 1992, the present Conference called attention to the problematic situation confronted by the dryland regions of the planet in the context of environmental degradation and climate change. Among the conclusions and calls to action of ICID+18 are the following:

- The drylands contain a large proportion of the world's poor people and suffer an enormous pressure on their natural resources, including water, air, soils, and biodiversity;
- The people that inhabit these lands are the most vulnerable to the negative effects of climate variation and change, and possess the fewest means to confront them;
- There is a need for better governance of the drylands which ensures adequate representation of their inhabitants in the appropriate political forums and greater food security;
- Emphasis should be given to interventions that are sustainable and climate-sensitive to the characteristics of the drylands;

- It is necessary to create the favorable conditions for sustainable development in the drylands through integrated actions to confront land degradation, mitigate the effects of droughts, combat desertification, conserve biodiversity, and guarantee their adaptation to climate change.
- Important potential synergies exist among the Rio Conventions (on Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Desertification) to reduce vulnerabilities and increase the population's capacity to adapt to climate variability; and,
- It is necessary to take advantage of the investment opportunities generated by the comparative advantages of the drylands, including the production of renewable energy.

In summary, the inhabitants of drylands are highly vulnerable to land degradation and desertification, natural disasters, climate change, water scarcity and food insecurity. However, their economic and socio-cultural potential to confront the challenges of climate change and desertification should also be clearly recognized.

#### Advances and Gaps

In this context, ICID+19 considered the most significant advances and gaps (or unfulfilled elements) with respect to the measures proposed for the management and sustainability of the drylands since the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992. They are as follows:

1. The Conference recognized the multiple advances toward sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean since Rio 92. However, it is also necessary to consider the strong social, economic and environmental disequilibria that have occurred during the past two decades. These disequilibria prevail and constitute obstacles to the sustainable progress of the drylands in the developing countries. Therefore, it is urgent to take political decisions and actions that are oriented to overcome these obstacles.
2. Beyond the advances, structural changes have occurred in several contexts since Rio 92, such as continued population growth, the new patterns and requirements of international trade, international financial crises, and other changes in the world economy. Particularly in response to the global financial crises, changes are being produced – or proposed – in the international financial architecture, resulting in greater vulnerability and uncertainty that significantly affect the sustainability of development.
3. During the period under review, there has been a reduction in poverty and improvement in the indices of inequality in some countries and regions in Latin America and the Caribbean. However, persisting high levels of poverty and inequality continue to be worrisome. And these same indices at the local level in dryland areas are even more worrisome.
4. Despite the improvements that have occurred during the past two decades, governance in the drylands (and elsewhere) is still threatened by various factors.
5. Institutional strengthening has advanced substantially, but the following needs persist, among others, in dryland regions: (a) to achieve a greater commitment on the part of all of society and all of the components and levels of the State to the objectives of sustainable development and poverty eradication; (b) to promote the integrated sustainable development of natural resources; (c) to elaborate and implement environmental territorial organization and sustainable urban development policies; (d) to promote food sovereignty as a vehicle for the reduction of the vulnerability of socio-economic and biophysical systems; (e) to strengthen policies to protect environmental assets and services (natural habitats, soils, water resources, biodiversity, etc.); and (f) to incorporate the environmental dimension in national income and wealth accounting and public policies.
6. Greater awareness exists about the importance and dimension of environmental externalities, but the need to fully internalize environmental costs derived from productive activities remains.
7. The Conference took note of the significance advance of scientific and technical knowledge with regard to the drylands. However, it observed that there is an important weakness in the dissemination of scientific knowledge -- as well as traditional, indigenous and local knowledge -- to government authorities, and that weaknesses also exist with regard to the access to, transfer and adoption of primary production technologies. In addition, it is also necessary to: (a) improve drought prediction systems; (b) undertake inventories of wetlands and other strategic environmental resources; (c) recover and conserve biodiversity in dryland regions; (d) improve knowledge about environmental goods and services in order to develop adequate compensation mechanisms; and (e) strengthen the relation between environment-related knowledge generation and decision making by governments, producers, and civil society entities alike.
8. Increasing social empowerment in relation to environmental themes as the result of education and greater public awareness can be observed, but it is still necessary to: (a) promote sustainable land management as a vehicle for climate change adaptation; and (b) promote and disseminate traditional knowledge and wisdom.
9. Social protection networks have improved significantly in some countries – for example, in order to mitigate the negative economic, social, and environmental effects of droughts – but there is still a need to ensure the continuity and strengthen these safety nets and programs.
10. Special programs have been established, such as the carbon and climate investment funds, but: (a) the use of economic instruments for conservation and sustainable management of drylands remains insufficient; (b) it is still necessary to put national and international systems at the service of the development of drylands; and (c) there is a need to create more innovative financing sources and facilitate access to them on the part of traditionally marginalized groups.
11. Response mechanisms to the problem of desertification have improved, but full development and appropriate use of climate, agro-meteorological and hydrological services to help confront droughts and land degradation are still lacking.
12. Other important gaps that were observed are the following:

- Despite the fact that nearly twenty years have passed since the Earth Summit in Rio and the signature of the Conventions on Biodiversity and Climate Change and 17 years since the signature of the Convention on Desertification, the effective implementation of these Conventions cannot be seen in terms of the improvement of the situation of ecosystems in dryland areas. These ecosystems continue to be subject to various degradation processes leading to increased desertification.
- Despite some advances in the design of water resource management systems, the dryland regions are not prepared to confront the effects of climate variability and change. As a result, a significant gap still needs to be resolved through integrated water resource management programs, both at the level of water basins and aquifers and in other territorial realms, and especially in the case of transboundary or shared hydrological systems.
- Even though important advances have been registered in both formal and informal education in dryland areas, weaknesses persist in certain aspects relative to school infrastructure, teacher training, and access, quality, and contextualization in relation to local socio-cultural and environmental factors.

#### Conclusions and Recommendations for Rio+20

Taking into account the conclusions and calls to action of ICID+18, the principal themes of the World Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 (Rio+20), and the advances and gaps with respect to climate, sustainability, and development in dryland regions since 1992 summarized above, the deliberations in Mendoza reached the following conclusions and recommendations. General Recommendations



1. The final document of the Rio+20 Summit should contain a specific chapter about the socio-economic and environmental situation and challenges of the drylands and the policies, programs, investments, and institutional arrangements that countries with dryland areas should adopt for sustainable development and poverty eradication within them.
2. The principle of common, but differentiated, responsibilities among developed and developing countries should be made operational through concrete proposals for implementation and financial mechanisms that put forward the strengthening of the capacities of and opportunities for future generations.
3. In order to be effective, Environmental Governance requires a baseline, targets, indicators, and financing; permanent global, national, regional, and local dialogues concerning drylands and their management are necessary, with priority participation of vulnerable groups of local communities. The empowerment of these local communities with respect to financial aspects, environmental services, and productive and value chains can strengthen said governance.
4. We confirm the need for a systemic and integrated focus for the comprehension and treatment of land degradation and desertification processes.

#### Reaffirmation of the Contributions of the Fortaleza Declaration

5. ICID+19 reaffirms the recommendations that are summarized in the Fortaleza Declaration, highlighting sustainable development, education, governance and financing as the most relevant themes.
6. We recognize the intrinsic value of the earth as the basis for the sustenance of humanity and all other species and we do not assign it merely a commercial value. This is the notion of "mother earth," or as it is expressed in the Andean indigenous language Quechua, "pachamama." In this sense, the relevance of land tenure systems and food security is likewise should also be kept in mind.
7. The Fortaleza Declaration emphasized the importance of the interchange of information and lessons learned during the two decades of the Earth Summit (Rio 92) process. During ICID+19, we have reconfirmed the pertinence of the guiding principles of sustainable development. We have also identified the need to approach these principles in geo-socio-economic-cultural-environmental terms so as to reflect the concerns, challenges, and opportunities of the people of the drylands.
8. ICID+19 represents substantive progress regarding the necessity for a systemic focus in the analysis, debates, and recommendations leading to Rio+20 with respect to the implementation in dryland regions of the three Rio Conventions: Biodiversity, Climate Change, and the Struggle against Desertification and Mitigation of the Effects of Droughts.
9. We recommend that: sustainable development objectives be adopted both globally and at the individual country level for dryland areas expanding the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs); educational policies and programs be strengthened in an interdisciplinary framework to address the situation at hand; targets be set to slow down the degradation and desertification and that they be proposed for inclusion in national, regional, and local agendas; biodiversity conservation be maximized; integrated water resource management systems be implemented and reinforced, including new initiatives at the global, national, regional, and local levels; and, the creation, communication, and transfer of knowledge and technology for the sustainable development of drylands be advanced.

#### Green Economy and Eradication of Poverty in Drylands

10. ICID+19 recognizes that making national, regional, and local economies more socially and environmentally friendly is an opportunity to secure the welfare of the present and future generations.
11. We propose that, through a participatory process, the debate within the region in relation to better development of and consensus around the concept of a green economy be deepened. Among the aspects that should be considered we highlight that green economies are: (a) low in carbon intensity; (b) refer to the internalization of environmental costs and the sustainable management of natural resources; and (c) incorporate all (i.e., social, economic, and environmental) dimensions of sustainability.
12. Thus, we recommend that the definition of the concept of a green economy focuses on social and environmental sustainability with emphasis on the eradication of poverty within the context of national, regional, and local priorities and taking into account the risk that, in the short run, environmental regulations could be converted into non-tariff trade barriers of hidden subsidies.
13. With regard to water than the management of water resources and wetlands in dryland regions, the following measures should be taken: (a) promote the integrated sustainable management of water resources; (b) increase the use of available knowledge and research concerning water resources; (c) guarantee security and equity in the access to water; and (d) encourage policies for conservation of wetlands, including the undertaking of inventories.
14. It is necessary to increase the attention given to droughts and other extreme weather events associated with climate change in dryland areas and improve measures to adapt to and live with them.
15. Territorial organization and development should be prioritized, as should the conservation of ecosystems and valuation of and compensation for environmental goods and services in the drylands.
16. It is necessary to promote in dryland regions: (a) sustainable land management as one of the vehicles for adaptation to climate change; (b) the strengthening and diversification of production of local economies; and (c) food sovereignty as a vehicle for reducing the vulnerability of socio-economic and biophysical systems.
17. The importance of financing mechanisms and associated instruments for the development of drylands areas should be highlighted.
18. Environmental assets and deficits need to be included in national income and wealth accounts, and the relation between the generation of knowledge and decision making by governments, producers, and civil society needs to be strengthened.
19. It is necessary to promote investment projects that consider social recovery and environmental restoration, especially those oriented to micro, small, and mediumsized enterprises, in the drylands.
20. Appropriate financial and technological responses should be sought and incorporated in public policies and governance for dryland regions affected by desertification and poverty.

#### Governance Institutions for Development of the Drylands

21. Environmental Governance in a broader sense than technical and institutional concerns should be understood as a new relation between the State and Society, which considers the participation of the stakeholders involved and constitutes a space of alliances and cooperation that can be influenced by conflicts that arise from the impact of social asymmetries and their effects on the environment.

22. It is necessary to strengthen the existing United Nations organisms related to the drylands, considering other existing institutions and coordination mechanisms.
23. Global, national, regional, provincial, and local integration, negotiation, coordination, interchange and horizontal cooperation mechanisms need to be strengthened, including, for example, existing institutional frameworks such as UNASUR, MERCOSUR and CARICOM.
24. Actions to promote improved governance in dryland areas should consider the strengthening not only of national and provincial institutions, but also of municipal and local ones, and support the establishment of interchange mechanisms among countries, regions, provinces, and municipalities, in the same continent or across continents, as for example the cooperation agreement between the Brazilian state of Ceará and the Argentina province of Mendoza.
25. The pertinent authorities should be influenced such that public policies, laws, norms, and other legal and institutional mechanisms regarding environmental themes in dryland regions are complied with and implemented out of conviction and not as a result of social pressures, with knowledge of these mechanisms from the outset and their validation together with their adequate dissemination being primordial for this purpose.
26. As one of the pillars of governance, it is necessary to strengthen participation and control over the pertinent financial mechanisms in order to guarantee sustainable development.
27. For the design of policy options for the drylands, the following should occur: (a) define, develop, and utilize the scientific and technical actions that meet the national demands and positions regarding the Rio Conventions and reinforce the synergies among them; and (b) promote the implementation of the priorities contained in national action plans.
28. As inappropriate technologies are among the causes of environmental degradation, it is necessary to promote: (a) sustainable land management; (b) the application of good practices, which are locally appropriate; and (c) adapt production technologies to local conditions and for organic agriculture.
29. It is necessary to guarantee the participation of the local population, technical specialists, researchers and other professionals from various disciplines, those responsible for the management of natural resources, and representatives of local governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with the objective of contributing to decision making and the generation and implementation of legislation for the fight against desertification.
30. In relation to the participation, organization, and empowerment of vulnerable groups and populations, it is government's responsibility to promote the existence and strengthening of mechanisms of participation, social inclusion, prior informed consultation, and community empowerment based on the principles of equality, equity, transparency, access to information, and a gender focus. A case in point is the Integrated Management of Water Resources, taking the water basin as the functional, planning and management unit through Basin Councils or Committees.
31. All levels of society should be informed, educated, and trained, with emphasis on children and youth, on the basis of scientific and technical knowledge in order to influence decision making regarding natural resource management and global environmental processes such as climate change, land degradation and desertification, droughts, water stress, and other disasters in dryland regions.
32. Scientific and technical information should be disseminated in such a way that it can be understood and utilized by decision makers at the national, regional, and local levels and by the community in general. Taking up the urgent call to action of the Fortaleza Declaration, we reaffirm the rights of all citizens of the drylands to water, the land, the sun, the air, and healthy ecosystems in order to achieve a dignified individual, family, and community life.

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## Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales (IDDRI)

Advancing the Oceans agenda at Rio+20: where we must go

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### 1. Introduction

The 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro gave birth most noticeably to the three "Rio Conventions" (on desertification, climate change and biodiversity) as well as to Agenda 21. Twenty years later, the "Rio+20" conference has much lower ambitions: in a best-case scenario, it will end up with a strong political declaration, visionary enough to blow a new wind of change and specific enough to open concrete avenues for progress. Officially , "the objective of the Conference is to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, and address new and emerging challenges. The Conference will focus on two themes: (a) a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development" .

This paper aims at contributing to three of these four objectives with regard to oceans by (i) demanding renewed political commitment for sustainable ocean management; (ii) proposing options to fill the remaining gaps in ocean governance; and (iii) addressing some new and emerging challenges. We do not elaborate on the assessment of progress to date, which is clear from UNEP's Global Environmental Outlook: in a nutshell the state of the oceans has continuously and seriously worsened since 1992, despite some local or sectoral successes which remain very scattered. Degradation trends are even often still accelerating.

The choice here is therefore to try and contribute directly to the conference objectives, without however developing our views in the framework of the two separate conference themes. The reason is two-fold:

- Oceans have had their share of empty concepts, buzzwords and so-called tools that are actually "Lichtenberg knives" . We strongly oppose the supposed need to reframe the problem under a new umbrella, like the "blue-green economy". The ocean community is now strong enough, its science robust enough, its concepts and principles established enough, not to let new fashions impose more chewing-gum concepts which bring neither tools, communication, political momentum nor helpful reframing.
- The institutional framework is of course important, but we believe that environmental governance in general, and ocean governance in particular, is bound to remain complex

. Efforts at rationalizing the institutional and organizational framework may achieve minor improvements – and let's take these! – but the system will remain essentially multi-layer, heterogeneous, contradictory and seemingly irrational. That is because it was never conceived as a “system”. Its complexity is the context in which we shall work and make progress, not a temporary disfunctioning which should be remediated.

We argue that significant progress has been made on science – not a limiting factor at this stage, on the diagnosis of threats and governance gaps, and on legal and policy proposals. It is time to be specific, and the Rio+20 outcome, although a mere political declaration, can help a lot provided it addresses at least five key issues which can perfectly be dealt with outside the green economy “conceptual” framework. Without any pretention to be exhaustive, we call for progress on (1) setting the stage for the establishment and management of MPAs in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction; (2) paving the way for an international regulation of offshore oil exploitation; (3) giving the regional approach a new lease on life; (4) giving a new impetus to a drastic reduction of land-based pollution; and (5) strengthening the tools to fight Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing.

## 2. Setting the stage for the establishment and management of MPAs in ABNJ

Areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) cover around half of the planet's surface and 64% of the surface of oceans and seas. They are also the least known and least protected areas on Earth. In recent years, the exponential use of ABNJ and their resources and a growing human pressure have subjected them to a multiplicity of threats: overexploitation of fish stocks, alteration of deep water habitats due to destructive fishing practices, oil pollution, introduction of alien invasive species, acidification of the oceans as well as emerging threats linked to bio-prospecting and deep-sea mining...

In this context, marine protected areas (MPAs) are seen as an efficient tool to protect this fragile biodiversity, but a certain number of legal issues are raised when it comes to the question of their establishment and management in ABNJ .

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is the overarching framework for the governance of the oceans. Its Part VII deals with the legal regime of the high seas and defines its freedoms (freedom of navigation, fishing, marine scientific research...) but seems rather incomplete on the protection of marine biodiversity in this zone. In particular, nothing is said about the establishment of MPAs.

For that reason, regional seas conventions have recently taken the lead on this issue, and created the first MPAs in high seas . But this regional approach has intrinsic limits. First, MPAs designated by a regional sea convention only bind contracting parties to that convention, and not third States, which can nevertheless be active in the region. Moreover, regional seas conventions do not have the mandate to regulate some activities which occur in the ABNJ, such as fishing, deep-sea mining or navigation. Other organisations are competent for these issues, and there is therefore a need of cooperation and collaboration between all these authorities which yields high transaction costs. Last, most parts of the high seas are actually not regulated by a regional convention.

At the same time, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) has adopted scientific criteria for identifying ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in need of protection in open ocean waters and deep-sea habitats (EBSAs). The identification of EBSAs is ongoing, and will probably serve as a scientific basis for the designation of MPAs should the legal framework permit. In 2010, contracting parties to the CBD also agreed in Nagoya to establish a network of MPAs covering 10% of the oceans, including ABNJ, by 2020.

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These three spheres of action (regional, UNCLOS and CBD) are interrelated and need to be strengthened in order to establish an efficient governance system for MPAs in ABNJ. At the regional level, agreements involving inter alia regional seas conventions and regional fisheries management organisations need to be concluded, and complementary models must also be established for parts of the world where no such agreements may exist. Given the growing importance of the CBD due to its prominent position in the identification of EBSAs, its role must also be enhanced. Additional protection could be granted to EBSAs through, for example, a resolution of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). However, there is growing evidence and consensus that all these efforts will fall short of delivering adequate protection if a global legal framework does not provide for the establishment and management of MPAs in ABNJ. A clear political mandate must therefore be given at Rio + 20 to the UNGA to open the negotiations on an implementing agreement to UNCLOS on the conservation of marine biodiversity in ABNJ, including through the creation of MPAs. This needs to include other issues such as the status of marine genetic resources in ABNJ or the need of environmental impact assessments, as a package deal.

## 3. Paving the way for an international regulation of offshore oil exploitation

A recent series of accidents on offshore oil platforms (Montara platform, August 2009; Deepwater Horizon, April 2010; Penglai 19-3 platform, June 2011...) have raised public awareness on the extent to which offshore oil exploitation is moving into increasingly deep waters. Whereas just after the Second World War industries were only drilling in around 10 metres of water, it is now increasingly common for rigs to drill at a depth of over 2 km. Almost a third of the oil consumed in the world now comes from underwater areas. However, human domination of the world's oceans does not look set to abate. The sea has so far revealed only a tiny fraction of its energy potential and new ultra-deepwater drilling technologies are currently being developed. Consequently, it is assured that despite its environmental, economic and social impact, these recent accidents are unlikely to halt the rush towards offshore drilling, especially given that the technical cost of deepwater oil drilling has been significantly reduced in recent years and that offshore oil fields are continually discovered. Thus, despite several official declarations advocating for the adoption of a moratorium on deepwater drilling, the economic weight of this sector and the fact that it is currently vital to the equilibrium of the oil market, nobody is seriously considering halting its development. What does this mean in practice? Such strong standpoints against deepwater drilling remain useful and should still be supported and strengthened globally. However, it should be done in parallel with attempts to rethink the regulation of the activity itself. Because of the multiplication of accidents, their dramatic consequences both for marine environment and coastal populations and the “four Ds, which, from now on, are destined to characterize the offshore oil industry in its search for black gold: Deep, Distant, Dangerous and Difficult 10”, it is no more possible to plead for a legal status quo. Agenda 21 argued in 1992 that “the nature and extent of environmental impacts from offshore oil exploration and production activities generally account[ed] for a very small proportion of marine pollution”. The Rio +20 process must invite the international community to question the suitability of the current framework for the regulation of offshore oil drilling.

Indeed, although UNCLOS imposes a general obligation to protect the marine environment, no international convention specifically sets international standards determining the conditions under which States should issue drilling permits. Moreover, in terms of liability and compensation, oil platforms, floating or otherwise are not covered by international agreements such as the Convention on civil liability for oil pollution damage (1992) or the Convention on the establishment of an international fund for compensation for oil pollution damage (1992). Last, the current governance of offshore oil drilling is in fact largely characterised by self-regulation by operators. It is therefore clear that there are two main gaps in global international law: the first is located upstream – the absence of an international framework on the conditions under which oil exploration/exploitation is authorised and monitored – while the second is downstream – the absence of a global instrument relating to responsibilities and the distribution of damage liability.

At the regional level, there is only one real legal instrument aimed at specifically monitoring offshore drilling: the Madrid Protocol for the protection of the Mediterranean sea against pollution resulting from exploration and exploitation of the continental shelf and the seabed and its subsoil, adopted in 1994 within the framework of the Mediterranean

Action Plan and entered into force in March 2011. In the North-East Atlantic, the OSPAR Commission has adopted a number of regulations on the matter, but in a more fragmented manner. While hoping that these regulations will be applied by all States and that a common regime will be implemented in these two regions where offshore drilling is rapidly developing, international regulation should not be developed only at the regional level. Indeed, in many regions impacted by the oil industry, such as West Africa, there are major governance problems which impede States to ensure an effective control on offshore platforms and to deal with pollution accidents. Such circumstances can only plead for a comprehensive approach that aims to (i) establish a common set of obligations for States (and operators) to cover the entire process of approval, monitoring, intervention, sanctions and liability regime; (ii) and counterbalance the power of oil companies and their professional organizations with an international legal framework that creates obligations, including reporting, and allows the creation of an international convention secretariat. The current initiatives led by Russia within the G20 framework and Indonesia at IMO push in the right direction. Nevertheless, the Rio +20 process constitutes the opportunity to address this issue in a global and non-fragmented framework: the whole international community must now recognize that Agenda 21 is outdated on this particular topic and therefore pave the way for an international regulation of off shore oil exploitation.

#### 4. Giving the regional approach a new lease on life

The 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment led to the creation of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) "to serve as a focal point for environmental action and coordination within the United Nations system". In its first session, UNEP made the oceans a priority action area and the UNEP Regional Seas Programme was then initiated in 1974 "as an action-oriented programme having concern not only for the consequences but also for the causes of environmental degradation and encompassing a comprehensive approach to combating environmental problems through the management of marine and coastal areas". Since it was launched, the Regional Seas Programme has proven attractive, as evidenced by the more than 140 States participating in regional seas framework. Because "not every international environmental problem needs to be dealt with on a global level", such regional arrangements have often given States the opportunity to go "closer, further and faster" than at the global level. However, regional frameworks must now overcome some challenges to retain their value and gain effectiveness within the international oceans governance architecture.

First, new frontiers must be conquered. For a long time indeed, regional seas frameworks have remained within the confines of territorial waters and exclusive economic zones. Recently, regional cooperation has extended to the high seas (Mediterranean Sea, North East Atlantic) and coastal zones (Mediterranean Sea, Western Indian Ocean), in a still limited way however. Under the impetus of UNEP Regional Seas Programme, regional seas frameworks must therefore study the political and legal feasibility as well as the scientific and geographic relevance of such extension of the regional cooperation. Indeed, the regional approach can compensate some of the current shortcomings of the global level with regard to conservation of biodiversity in ABNJ. It can also help homogenizing – to a high common denominator – the way coastal areas are managed at the national level.

Besides, since Rio, many initiatives have been conducted within regional frameworks to update and develop legal instruments of cooperation. Nevertheless, one cannot deny that too many conventions and protocols have been and remain dormant or weakly implemented. It is therefore time to reactivate these instruments, by providing regional frameworks the means of their ambition. More efforts, in terms of funding in particular, must therefore be dedicated to strengthening regional systems, so that they be able to keep the cooperation alive and provide States with technical assistance and support for the implementation of the regional instruments. In this regard, the creation of Regional Activity Centres, such as the ones existing in the Mediterranean and Caribbean Seas, must be promoted. It should be underlined that financial constraints to do so may actually often be more easily removed than usually assumed. For instance, reallocating into trust funds an even small proportion of development cooperation funding that is today dedicated to marine biodiversity conservation through projects, would basically allow to sustain at least one RAC in each regional sea.

Special attention should also be given to the cooperation between the regional seas conventions and other sectoral organisations interested in marine conservation. The North-East Atlantic looks like the most advanced region in this respect. Indeed, the OSPAR commission is currently working on a draft collective arrangement between competent authorities on the management of the six MPAs in ABNJ established in 2010. This process, also referred to as the "Madeira process", aims to coordinate the adoption of sectoral management measures and to strengthen cooperation on this issue with organisations such as the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, the IMO, the International Seabed Authority (ISA) or the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). Such cooperation between regional and international organisations is also crucial in parts of the world where no regional seas convention and/or no RFMO (regional fisheries management organisation) exist. In the Sargasso Sea for instance, there is no regional sea convention and the only competent RFMO, ICCAT, is only competent for tuna. Regional cooperation can nevertheless be enhanced by a combination of protective measures adopted by sectoral organisations, such as the designation of a particularly sensitive sea area by IMO, of fisheries closures by ICCAT, of areas closed to seabed mining by ISA. In the future, an agreed management plan could be signed by these organisations, and could also enlist the support of coastal States to this initiative. The Sargasso Sea Alliance is currently promoting this approach. These two models show the need of a better cooperation at the regional level but also highlight that there are already instruments existing for this cooperation to be enhanced. At the regional level, States have the power to act without necessarily going through an important institutional reform.

Rio +20 is therefore the appropriate moment, not only to recall the strategic importance of the regional approach in addressing marine issues, but to help regional organisations enter the 21st century: the Rio+20 outcomes must urge the international community, including donors and NGOs, to strengthen the regional frameworks so that they be able to make a real difference in tackling marine challenges. As far as high seas conservation is concerned, a mandate given to the UNGA to start a negotiation process towards an UNCLOS implementing agreement should necessarily assert the importance of the regional level, and encourage negotiating parties to strengthen the coordination and cooperation between regional organisations.

#### 5. Giving a new impetus to a drastic reduction of land-based pollution

Land-based activities have been recognised as a major source of marine environmental pollution for decades. During the 1992 Earth Summit, States considered that these activities contributed to "70 per cent of marine pollution". Even if the Johannesburg Plan of implementation called States to "make every effort to achieve substantial progress (...) to protect the marine environment from land-based activities", the situation has further deteriorated. It is now estimated that up to 80 per cent of marine pollution comes from land-based sources, which also poses huge threats to human health. Despite the various legal instruments and policies adopted at global, regional and national levels, the situation is therefore getting worse as illustrated by the two related "emerging issues" identified by the 2011 Report of the UN Secretary-General on oceans and law of the sea.

The first issue relates to the discovering of high levels of accumulation of plastics and other marine debris in seas convergence zones, known as "gyres". In the North Pacific for example, studies show a "literal blanket of trash" while recent expeditions highlighted the presence of 250 billion particles of micro-plastic in the Mediterranean. The ocean is therefore sick from land-based activities, as also illustrates the second issue identified by the UN Secretary General's report, namely nutrient over-enrichment of marine waters, which causes oxygen depletion, eutrophication and lead to the development of "dead zones". In this regard, dead zones in coastal areas have doubled in extent every decade since the 1960's. A recent study conducted by UNEP has identified 415 eutrophic and hypoxic coastal systems, including 169 identified hypoxic areas, 233 areas of concern and 13 systems in recovery. These two phenomena can obviously be seen as "emerging issues" but they are, above all, the symptoms of a continuously deteriorating situation.

However, policy and legal responses to address land-based pollutions have been widely adopted in recent years, through the elaboration of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, the adoption of the European Union Water Framework Directive and the EU Marine Strategy

Framework Directive, and specific protocols within regional seas frameworks, as well as the related development of national policies and laws. But one cannot fail to notice that these political and legal instruments have not curbed the general trend.

Rio+20 process and outcomes must therefore not miss this issue but recall the extent of the problem. In particular, considerable progress could be made in the future on at least three dimensions. First, there is unquestionably a need to ensure the effective implementation of legal instruments, especially at the regional level, which presupposes the strengthening of the regional systems themselves (see section 4). Second, investments should be reinforced to develop sewage treatment plants, which are dramatically lacking in many coastal zones, and the associated water management systems; donors should thus reinforce this area of action. Last, economic instruments should be used to promote environmentally friendly behaviours and activities: taxes, non-compliance fees and, more than anything and following the Nagoya Strategic Plan, elimination of harmful subsidies which are supporting models of agriculture, industry, mining or tourism that have been polluting our oceans for too many decades. No major step forward can be expected from Rio+20 in that regard. However simply placing the fight against land-based pollution back among the highest priorities for action and funding would be useful for future reference.

#### 6. Strengthening the tools to fight Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing

Chapter 17 of the Agenda 21 promoted the sustainable use and conservation of marine living resources and described a wide range of tools available to States in order to achieve this aim. In 2002, at the WSSD, States agreed to "maintain or restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield with the aim of achieving these goals for depleted stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015". Today, in 2011, it seems clear that these objectives, formulated with wisdom in very vague terms ("and where possible not later than 2015"), will not be met – whatever this should mean. The 2010 report of the FAO on the state of the world's fisheries and aquaculture indeed estimates that about 32 percent of world fish stocks are overexploited, depleted or recovering and that 53 percent of the remaining stocks are fully exploited. The report moreover states that "the increasing trend in the percentage of overexploited, depleted and recovering stocks and the decreasing trend in underexploited and moderately exploited stocks give cause for concern". At the same time, market demand for fish has never been so high and is not likely to decrease in the upcoming years.

Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is a widespread phenomenon which largely contributes to the depletion of fish stocks. A report to be adopted soon by the European Parliament estimates that its share is equivalent to at least 15% of worldwide catches, between 11 and 26 million tonnes a year. In 2001, the international community decided to tackle the issue with the adoption of an International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing (the FAO IPOA IUU), an instrument which provides States with a range of tools and principles which could help to fight IUU fishing. The following year, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) called upon States to "urgently develop and implement national and where appropriate, regional plans of action to put into effect [...] the International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by 2004". But, since then, only very little progress has been made. The biggest flaw of the FAO IPOA IUU is that it is a voluntary instrument and to date only a small number of States have adopted their own national plan of action. This proves that it might not be the appropriate tool.

On the whole, efforts are far from sufficient and, as of today, it is clear that the fight against IUU fishing is a triple failure:

- It is the failure of international organisations (RFMOs but also the UN, with UNCLOS and the other agreements linked to it as well as the FAO) to impose an effective control over States on this matter. RFMOs have established IUU lists of fishing vessels, which are all out of date, empty or never contain the names of vessels flagged in one of their Contracting Parties. A reform of the RFMOs is urgently needed in order to strengthen their capacity to ensure compliance with the measures they are adopting and to impose sanctions on States which are not respecting them.

- It is the failure of States to exercise an effective control over their own vessels and/or nationals because of a lack of means, but also and primarily because of a lack of political will. The lack of political will is here not only a vague reluctance but in some cases a clear and active political choice, with the existence of "States of non-compliance". The international community should adopt means such as a flag State compliance instrument with stringent sanctions associated in case of non-respect to make sure that these States can no longer escape their international obligations. In addition, and according to the requirements of the JPOI and Nagoya plan of action, States should also eliminate subsidies which contribute to IUU fishing.

- It is the failure of the markets to regulate fish exchanges so as not to accept in the production chain products stemming from illegal catches. IUU fishing is a very profitable business and it is relatively easy for operators to take advantage of the system. Trade market related measures have been advocated for a long time, and the EU is pushing for the introduction of a global catch certification scheme. In order to be efficient and to avoid fraud, this scheme should not be paper based, but fully electronic, based for example on the TRACES system used by the EU for health and sanitary certification requirements.

More broadly, a particular emphasis must be put on the fight against flags of convenience and in particular against countries which are granting their flags and international fishing licenses (the owner of the vessel is not allowed to fish in the EEZ of the flag State but only in the high seas) to beneficial owners who are hiding their identity under the status of an International Business Company or Corporation, as is currently the case in Belize for example. Parallel registration of fishing vessels should also be carefully monitored. To this end, the establishment of a mandatory record of fishing vessels under the auspices of the FAO would be an efficient instrument. Additional efforts have also to be put on the definition of the link between a flag State and its vessels. Article 92 of UNCLOS simply states that "there must exist a genuine link between the State and the ship". An agreed international definition of this link must be adopted, which should underline the necessity of States to effectively exercise their jurisdiction on their vessels.

Rio+20 should be the occasion for States to renew their commitment to fight IUU fishing but also to take into account the shortcomings of this fight in the last 20 years. A call is needed for the adoption of stringent international instruments (a global record of fishing vessels, a flag state compliance instrument) and for the ratification of the FAO Port State Agreement. Discussions must be launched on the review of the RFMOs and on the adoption of an international, electronic-based, catch certification scheme.

#### 7. Conclusion

We reviewed five key areas where we think steps forward could and should be taken at Rio+20. Readers may be stricken by two observations:

1. These all sound like old stories: none of these issues – except to a certain extent offshore energy – is new, and most of the policy responses are well-known.
2. The range of progress that may be achieved in Rio in June 2012 seems ridiculously bureaucratic: launching processes, reasserting the importance of ..., etc.

We believe both are realistic and legitimate concerns.

First (1), most issues have indeed been around for at least 20 years, often many more, and the international community – or part of it – has been trying to take action for almost as long. Rio+20 is also Stockholm+40, and a lot was already going on long before 1972, both in terms of problems and action. Pretending things have been moving in the right direction, although too slowly, would not only be misleading: it would be a strategic dead-end. The only way forward is to recognize the overall failure with regard to ocean governance, to study the few successes at hand, and to develop strategies that seriously take both into account. This means also acknowledging the conflictual dimension of ocean governance and the widespread reluctance – if not active resistance – to make it more sustainable as soon as it comes at a cost.

The green economy concept, however blue we may manage to make it, does not contain any silver-bullet to overcome such oppositions. We are left with good old advocacy, communication, education, demonstration, to hopefully build the necessary constituency – hence the political will – that will reverse the balance of powers.

Besides intensification of well-known threats, what may be considered new – in the sense that we are only starting to understand it – is the additional pressure climate change and ocean acidification place on marine ecosystems. Impact science is in its infancy, and effects of e.g. acidification are difficult to isolate from that of other stressors. There are however three points we can make:

- Climate change and ocean acidification may well turn out to be the greatest threats to marine ecosystems along the 21st century, but this will largely depend on the way we manage other stressors.

- As global issues (i.e. issues which need to be addressed globally), they will however impact marine ecosystems and dependent societies very unevenly and at different time scales. This will challenge the willingness to and attempts at addressing these threats globally.

- Most importantly, oceans are faced for the first time with global threats rising after most levers and policy options to tackle them have already been identified and tested: reducing CO2 emissions, building ecosystem resilience through networks of MPAs, the reduction of land-based pollutions or reducing the pressure from fishing, etc. Although some minor progress has been made along these lines, efforts have remained vastly insufficient and unsuccessful.

This means that there is not much choice but to eventually succeed where we failed to a large extent so far. Hence the old stories and familiar policy responses reviewed in this paper.

Second (2), having too high expectations about Rio+20 would not help. The above indeed shows the nature of what may be achieved there: at best the international community may decide to renew and strengthen the political momentum inherited from Rio 1992, and to launch new processes which in turn may lead to important decisions. But crucial decisions – in the sense of decisions directly driving changes in pressures on oceans – will not be taken in Rio. It is all the more important to demand that Rio+20 be a political and bureaucratic success. This will condition to a significant extent the next decade of the international sustainable development agenda.

Powerful International Science – Policy Interfaces for Sustainable Development:

organise their proliferation, accept and clarify their political role

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This contribution for UNCSD 2012 concerning the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development builds upon IDDRI's experience in supporting negotiations about the establishment of international science-policy interfaces like IPBES, and on recent publications and workshops intending to take stock of the variety of science-policy interfaces having emerged for the international governance of the environment or other sustainable development objectives like food security.

#### 1. Organising the proliferation

International Science-Policy Interfaces (ISPIs) are proliferating in the various regimes of international governance of sustainable development (scientific advisory bodies of various environmental conventions, IPCC, IPBES, World Water Assessment Programme, High level panel of experts for Food security and nutrition, Assessment of Assessments [AoA] for the marine environment, foreseen panels on soils at FAO or for the UNCCD ...).

Their multiplication is for the moment often based on the replication of successful mechanisms or experiences, that are used as references: the IPCC has obviously been one of them, but also the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment as far as the IPBES is concerned; other main references are the role played by science in addressing long range transboundary air pollution (LRTAP / Acid rains), tropospheric ozone depletion (Montreal protocol), or environmental issues in the Mediterranean (Barcelona Convention).

Integrated modeling exercises and integrated assessment methods (scenario and simulation, for instance) have been co-evolving with these different exercises, playing a central role in the mechanisms that are acknowledged as successful. Influential personalities and key research institutions have also played a central role in transferring experiences from one field to another. There is therefore some genealogy underpinning the multiplication of ISPIs. But recent experiences and publications put the stress on the specific political context and specific structure of academic and epistemic communities in each field, showing that the role of science has to be analysed specifically in each case.

#### Recommendations

1a. It is useful to seek for synergies and coordination, in order to avoid duplication among ISPIs.

1b. The role of science in each field has to be identified specifically, and an existing ISPI should not be directly substituted to the expected function in another field, neither can the model of an existing ISPI be directly replicated in another field.

1c. Having identified a specific function for scientific expertise in an international policy process should not necessarily lead to the institutionalisation and the design of a new ISPI. Empowering existing academic arenas and coordinating partial, scattered existing mechanisms should also be considered valid options.

1d. Drawing lessons from experiences of ISPIs in other fields is useful and should be organised, without leading to direct replication.

#### 2. Accepting and clarifying the power of ISPIs comes first, before ensuring their efficiency

Current discussions about ISPIs are overwhelmed by questions concerning the improvement of their efficiency, and the corresponding optimal institutional design. As stated before, questions of institutional design should only come after the identification of the function that is expected from scientific expertise in the specific area under consideration.

The reference models of successful ISPIs that are generally used to define efficiency improvements have to be put into perspective, as they often refer to situations where the key role played by science was to influence the policy agenda by making the case for a specific environmental problem, for which technological solutions were apparently already at hand, which was the case for LRTAP or the Montreal protocol.

It is in the same perspective that the IPCC, and in particular its Working Group I on climate science, have been seen as a reference, because of their very efficient process for clarifying the characteristics of climate change, giving evidence of its anthropogenic cause, and making a clear statement of the minimum expected level of climate change during the next century. In such a perspective, it is generally considered as the ideal model that scientists should reach consensus and clarify residual uncertainties in order to have an impact on decision makers. Efficiency is then a question of:

- ensuring good quality standards for the production of "sound science";
- improving communication channels and mechanisms to reach policy makers.

But this perspective is only relevant:

- for experimental sciences and biophysical phenomena;
- and if the objective is to put an environmental issue on the agenda.

For many other scientific fields and policy contexts, controversies are inevitable (whenever it comes to social changes, development pathways, and to social sciences or economics), and they can not and should not be reduced to consensus. And for many decisions, the role of science is not anymore in agenda setting, but rather on comparing policy options.

Working group III of IPCC provides an interesting example of producing scientific expertise on possible socio-economic trajectories to 2100 in order to inform a negotiation process where burden sharing has been at the heart of the discussions. Solutions found to deal with divergences among researchers in WG III are nevertheless much less analysed and discussed than WG I processes, although they might represent very useful experiences.

Food security is also an interesting domain, for which the critical function of science might well be much more in the evaluation of the performance of public policies and regulations than in putting food security on the international agenda. The role of science for the evaluation of policies will be all the more critical when the focus comes down from international regulations (what options do we have to regulate the volatility of international prices ?) to assessing the performance of national domestic policies, that are essential drivers of food security. Such an evaluation however raises sovereignty issues and will therefore necessarily question the legitimacy of the ISPI to work on this core question.

#### Recommendations

2a. The political function of science should be acknowledged, particularly as it should not be reduced to producing biophysical scientific evidences for the only purpose of agenda setting.

2b. The role of science, and the function of ISPIs if the institutionalisation is seen as necessary, has to be considered as strategic, in so far as knowledge production ensured in these arenas has a key role to play in advocating for changes in current policies, by, inter alia:

- assessing the current state of a problem;
- evaluating the performance of existing or possible policy options;
- evaluating the costs (not only economic costs, but also social, environmental, political costs) of the different options, and the distribution of these costs among the different negotiating parties or non negotiating stakeholders;
- closing controversies when possible;
- re-opening the range of possible options;
- re-framing the formulation of a problem to include dimensions that are not enough taken into account...

This first list of possible functions of scientific expertise in international negotiation processes should illustrate that there are a diversity of possible strategic roles of science. They have to be identified carefully, in order to clarify how to ensure the legitimacy of science, or the corresponding ISPI if considered necessary, for such a strategic role.

2c. The role of science is therefore of a political nature, but it will never be to impose any decision calculated as optimal, which would substitute expertise to the negotiation process. Science should not be expected to take over the responsibility of political decision-makers and negotiators. Improving the legitimacy of ISPIs is important, and can necessitate pluralism, or even the participation of a variety of stakeholders because they hold a key component of relevant knowledge, as is the case in IPBES. However such a "democratisation" process in the field of knowledge production should never result in its substitution to political decision making.

2d. Common criteria used to assess the efficiency of ISPIs (credibility, legitimacy, relevance) are very useful tools to improve the capacity of science or of the corresponding ISPI, but only once the strategic role of science has been clarified.

Depending on the context and the expected function, credibility should not directly be reduced only to quality processes to ensure "sound science". It can be linked to the organisation of a pluralistic academic debate among different worldviews (for instance, in economics, about the impacts of trade liberalisation on socio-economic development), showing both convergences and divergences in the existing scientific production, that the decision maker has to bear in mind when making a political choice. It would not be science's role to substitute for the political choice by a false consensus. Independence from any mandatory body, be it national or international, can be a very important criterion to ensure some of the strategic functions science could play (the capacity to re-open the range of possible options, for instance, necessitates that the mandate of an ISPI is not too narrowly defined by its mandatory body), and it would increase its credibility and also its legitimacy. But in some intergovernmental negotiation processes, legitimacy might need to be ensured through some kind of intergovernmental designation of experts, and relevance might necessitate some definition of the mandate by an intergovernmental process.

In every specific context, it is thus necessary first to analyse and specify the strategic function that is expected from science, or from an ISPI if considered necessary, in order to clarify its political role, and to address specifically how to ensure or improve credibility, legitimacy and relevance, with respect to the specific expected strategic function.

It is not just efficient but really powerful science-policy interfaces that are needed for the international governance of sustainable development: ensuring they can have power, in a legitimate and efficient way, is more than a question of institutional design. UNCSD Rio+20 should be the opportunity that the international community endorses the necessity to empower each ISPI with a strategic and political role, although this role differs depending on the issue at stake. A process should be launched to enable to specify this strategic role in each case and at the same time draw relevant lessons from other experiences without replicating one-size-fits-all models.

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## Institut Veolia Environnement

Reconciling poverty eradication and quality of the environment:

what are the innovative solutions?

- The Poverty-Climate Nexus: A Review of the Debate since The Stern Review
- Biodiversity and poverty: old debates, recent evidence and emerging controversies

- Poverty Eradication and Quality of the Environment in Urban and Peri-urban Areas
- What is the role of the private sector in combating poverty and caring for the environment?

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#### Introduction for Rio+20

"Reconciling Poverty eradication and quality of the environment: what are the innovative solutions?"

- The Poverty-Climate Nexus: A Review of the Debate since The Stern Review
- Biodiversity and poverty: old debates, recent evidence and emerging controversies
- Poverty Eradication and Quality of the Environment in Urban and Peri-urban Areas
- What is the role of the private sector in combating poverty and caring for the environment?

In June 2011, the Institut Veolia Environnement and the Agence Française de Développement organized an international Conference in Paris to address the interactions between poverty and the environment. The programme was structured around four main themes:

- poverty eradication and climate change ;
- poverty eradication and biodiversity ;
- poverty eradication and quality of the environment in urban areas ;
- poverty eradication and quality of the environment: what is the role of the private sector?

The objective of exploring the subject in such a comprehensive manner was to identify and share the current state of knowledge and practices, in anticipation that this may eventually be of interest for the preparation of the UN Conference Rio+20.

For each of the principal themes, a background article was solicited from leading scholars in their field of expertise. These background articles present a global perspective on the themes, addressing the questions:

- what is the current situation?
- what are the unresolved questions?
- what we should focus on to imagine a better future?

A number of priority objectives stand out. They are:

- to make the poor less vulnerable to climate-related risks;
- to improve the livelihoods of the poor through the preservation of biodiversity, the sustainable development of natural assets and an improved access to energy;
- to contribute to improving the quality of life of the poorest, particularly in cities;
- to promote innovations in business models, in modes of funding, and in forms of cooperation between key parties.

We believe that these objectives are in line with the expectations and themes (particularly that of addressing "new and emerging challenges") of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

#### The global context

Poverty and environmental damage increasingly go hand in hand throughout the world. Each of these problems can cause the other. Since global population could reach 10 billion by 2050 - including some 2 billion in Africa - demand and requirements could also rise, forcing societies to adapt and devise new development and growth models. For



example, they will have to resort increasingly to a rational use of resources and develop a carbon- neutral economy. Considering the complexity and interdependency of both these major issues - combating poverty and preserving the quality of the environment - analysing their interactions opens up the prospect of new innovative solutions and creates real opportunities.

Poverty assumes different forms, depending on whether you live in France, Mali or India. If the ultimate objective for women and men is to be respected as fully-fledged human beings, with dignity, moving out of poverty also means having access to food, education, housing, medical care, and essential goods: water, energy, electricity. For people to benefit from these essential services, crucial economic transformations are needed to create more wealth and eventually improve their living conditions. The various forms of development that the people of the earth engage in have led to an infinite number of forms of poverty, to which are added other parameters, such as environmental factors, that may potentially worsen the situation. It is useful to explore relevant and adapted solutions that take into account the environmental dimension.

Today, preserving the environment is a major component of sustainable development. Humans, because they interact with the natural environment, must evolve in order to face up to new constraints at international level. These include limited and vulnerable natural resources, loss of biodiversity, finite land that is sought for competing uses, need for new energy sources, demographic pressures - particularly in urban areas - and climate change. So, for people and the planet to survive, wouldn't it be necessary to reflect on such an integrated approach and on the economic resources that would allow an efficient transition towards meeting the dual objective of reconciling poverty eradication and quality of the environment?

Most of the world's population will grow up in cities in developing countries. The challenges facing these people will be immense (housing, food, health, education, etc.). Mobilising all actors, governments, international organisations, NGOs, businesses, charitable foundations and scientific communities, is necessary to develop and implement new policies, as well as effective and sustainable poverty reduction instruments in a context of environmental deterioration.

Although the challenge is global, answers need to be found at the level of local communities. Cooperation between all of the actors, lasting innovative economic activities, preserving existing funding sources, developing local projects and ensuring feedback, all need to be at the heart of reflections and decisions for the future.

Such a situation calls for reflection on the solutions to be formulated to meet these challenges. Existing economic models are now being questioned. There are calls for greater valuation and integration of social and environmental returns, as well as long term benefits. To this should be added changes in the aid systems applied up to now, whether in terms of their amount, their allocation, or their evaluation. It seems essential, therefore, to rethink both the mechanisms and the measure of the efficacy of economic instruments.

Furthermore, new forms of cooperation and partnerships between actors are emerging, motivated by better risk-sharing and improved awareness, and a greater sense of responsibility. In view of the present economic crisis, financial resources will have to be redirected towards development projects that include economic, social and environmental dimensions. This improved allocation of available funds must go hand in hand with new funding sources from other actors who can provide leverage by proposing additional resources.

After the New York Summit on progress in the Millennium Development Goals that was deemed insufficient (September 2010), the Cancun Climate Summit (December 2010) approached with cautious optimism following the results of Copenhagen (December 2009), the "Poverty-Environment" Conference has provided an additional opportunity for dialogue on development and environmental issues one year ahead of the Rio+20 Earth Summit.

#### The Poverty-Climate-Vulnerability Nexus

##### A Review of the Debate since The Stern Review

Prepared by Laurence Tubiana (IDDRI), Noura Bakkour (IDDRI), with contributions from Lord Nicholas Stern

Two of the greatest challenges facing our interdependent world - overcoming poverty in the developing world and combating climate change - are inextricably linked. The channels linking climate change to development are numerous: droughts, floods, storm surges and changes in rainfall patterns all affect the natural environment as well as the livelihoods of poor people, their nutrition, their security, their future opportunities and probably those of their children. The social impacts of climate change are numerous and difficult to assess as interactions are complex and poorly understood. Nevertheless, evidence is presented in a growing number of studies demonstrating that climate change is an exacerbating factor of poverty that confines people in so-called poverty traps. The Stern Review has conducted a comprehensive assessment of the links between poverty and climate change. The results have been confirmed by additional studies providing new information and insight. This paper aims reviews the conclusions of some recent literature, against the major findings of the Stern Review and the IPCC Fourth Assessment Report, clarifying the underlying assumptions and questioning some of the conventional wisdom. There is wide scientific consensus relating to the scope of climate change impacts. Rise in temperature level is one major aspect but the impacts of climate change often translate into water problems, such as floods, extreme precipitation, sea level rise or conversely lack of water and ensuing droughts. These impacts have varying effects on countries, regions and people. These differentiated impacts are at the heart of the poverty and climate change nexus. The current debate addresses two underlying questions: Does climate change deepen existing poverty and if so, how? And how does poverty increase vulnerability and affect capacity to cope with extreme weather events and slow onset changes in climate?

#### 1. POVERTY AND VULNERABILITY

Poverty encompasses various dimensions: the poverty of a nation - measured by GDP, per capita GDP or a broader definition of their level of development such as the Human Development Index; household poverty as measured by income (monetary measure); or poverty as a lack of capabilities and assets (individuals).

Defining and measuring poverty are essential to any discussion on development and poverty alleviation. Definitions of poverty have traditionally focused only on material - specifically monetary - measures of well- being but have expanded to include the social and psychological burdens of daily survival on lower level society. This broader concept is described by Amartya Sen as a lack of the capabilities that enable a person to live a life he or she values, encompassing such areas as health, education, empowerment, and human rights in addition to income.

A better understanding of these complexities has led to the use of participatory assessments that allow the poor to speak for themselves and identify their own priorities. Such studies make it clear that, in addition to being without financial resources, being poor often means suffering sickness, chronic pain, or exhaustion. It means enduring difficult social relations, sometimes facing exclusion from the community or family. Poverty also translates into insecurity and powerlessness, a lack of access to information and institutions, and often a lack of self-confidence and voice. These varying aspects of poverty tend to be self-reinforcing, making it all the more difficult to move out of poverty and construct a stable life. It is hard to plan ahead or to seize new opportunities when you are exhausted, stressed, or hungry. In addition, the poor often live in dangerous and degraded environments, since that is all they can afford nor do they have the capacity or right to migrate to a more suitable living environment. In this context, it is important that the poverty impacts of climate change be analyzed taking into account these various dimensions.

Vulnerability adds another dimension to the climate-poverty nexus. Vulnerability to climate change is determined by both physical and social assets. It refers to the quality of the physical asset base as well as the likely responses of the sectors and resources on which societies and individuals depend, the availability of resources and, crucially, the entitlement and choice of individuals or groups to call on these resources (access to assets).

Vulnerability to climate change is not strictly synonymous with poverty. While climate change impacts fall more heavily on the poor, it is important to remember that the levels of warming that we risk would be profoundly damaging for all countries, rich and poor. Nearly all human societies and activities are sensitive to climate in one way or another. Where people live and how they generate livelihoods and wealth are influenced by the ambient climate. All nations will need to adapt to increased climate risk.

The conventional wisdom is that poverty in the narrow sense (monetary) is the main factor of vulnerability, since low-income households have less capacity to adapt. This however is rather simplistic, since it measures ability to adapt (and thus reduce vulnerability) solely on the basis of economic and technological means. Yet there are many other factors in responding (or not) to natural disruptions. A more comprehensive view of vulnerability includes several factors other than income: the layout of the land, the sensitivity of ecosystems, social cohesion, diversity of activities (economic and subsistence), political and institutional organization, and living conditions. Only the last factor (living conditions) is tied directly to development level, which proves that low income is not the only measure of vulnerability, and at times only has minor influence.

### 1.1 Poverty of Nations and the Geographic Factor

As the Stern Review and IPCC reports established, the adverse impacts of climate change will be most striking in the developing nations because of their geographic and climatic conditions, their high dependence on natural resources, and their limited capacity to adapt to a changing climate.

Geographic location is a key factor in the vulnerability of poor people and poor nations. Many of these countries lie in the regions most at risk from climate change. Most of the 48 nations included in the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group will be those most severely impacted by climate change. These countries are already warmer on average and most of them suffer from higher rainfall variability, and are highly dependent on agriculture, the sector most sensitive to climate. Crop yields are expected to decline in most tropical and sub-tropical regions as rainfall and temperature patterns change with a changing climate. There is also some evidence that disease vectors such as malaria-bearing mosquitoes will spread more widely and that health risks related to heat and air pollution will increase. Projected changes in the incidence, frequency, intensity, and duration of climate extremes as well as more gradual changes in the average climate will threaten the livelihoods, further increasing inequity between developing and developed countries.

The effects of climate change on economies and societies will vary greatly around the world. The circumstances of each country - its initial climate, socio-economic conditions, and growth prospects - will shape the scale of the social, economic and environmental effects of climate change. IPCC defines vulnerability to climate change as exposure to changes in climate sensitivity - the degree to which a system is affected by or responsive to climate. Geographical exposure plays an important role in determining a country's growth and development prospects. Many developing countries are located in tropical areas. As a result, they already suffer from climate extremes (such as those that accompany the monsoon as well as El Niño and La Niña cycles), intra and inter annual variability in rainfall, and very high temperatures. Geographical conditions have been identified as important contributors to lower levels of growth in developing countries (e.g. dependence on monsoon for India or Bangladesh). William Nordhaus and Jeffrey Sachs have confirmed the negative effect of "tropical geography on output per capita compared to temperate regions", including on agricultural performance. Climate change is expected to make these conditions even more challenging. Even slight variations in the climate can have very large costs in developing countries as many places are close to the upper temperature tolerance of activities such as crop production.

### 1.2 The Poverty Lock-In: Dependence on Climate Sensitive Activities

For developing economies, heavy reliance on climate-sensitive sectors such as agriculture and ecosystem services, along with rapid population growth and high concentrations of people in slum and squatter settlements highly exacerbate the impacts of climate change leading to poverty lock-in.

#### - Climate Change Threatens Food Security

Agriculture and related activities are crucial to many developing countries, in particular for low income or semi-subsistence economies. The rural sector contributes 21% of GDP in India, for example, rising to 39% in a country like Malawi, whilst 61% and 64% of people in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa are employed in the rural sector. This concentration of economic activities in the rural sector - and in some cases based on just a few commodities - is associated with low income levels and this creates critical sensitivity to climate. In a number of African countries like Morocco or Burkina Faso, GDP is highly correlated with precipitation. Of course there are mediations between the evolution of agricultural output and poverty. Models explore how changes in agricultural productivity as a result of climate change will affect poverty in poor countries, concluding that there are various pathways by which climate change might affect agricultural income and food prices. Rising world prices for staple commodities may result in a substantial reduction in real income - and an ensuing increase in poverty - for households spending a large share of their income on staple grains. However, the well-being of households depends not only on changes in the cost of living, but also on changes in earnings.

While climate change has a fairly consistent impact on the real cost of living at the poverty line, the impact on household earnings is quite varied. In regions where the bulk of the poor are self-employed in agriculture, higher global agricultural prices can boost factor returns in the sector, thereby reducing overall poverty. On the other hand, when poverty is dominated by wage earners and urban poverty, the opposite applies. Countries combining subsistence agriculture and urban poverty will see an increase in aggregate poverty.

#### - Climate Change Increases Water Constraints

Developing countries are highly dependent on water, the most climate-sensitive economic resource, for their growth and development. Water is a key input for agriculture, industry, energy and transport and it is essential for domestic purposes. Irrigation and effective water management will be very important in helping to reduce and manage the effects of climate change on agriculture. But many developing countries invest little in irrigation systems, dams, and ground water. Ethiopia for example has less than 1% of the per capita artificial water storage capacity of North America, despite having to manage far greater hydrological variability. Many developing countries do not have enough water storage to manage annual water demand based on the current average seasonal rainfall cycle. This will become an even greater bind with future, less predictable cycles. In addition, inappropriate water pricing and subsidised electricity rates that encourage the excessive use of groundwater pumping (for agricultural use, for example) also increase vulnerability to changing climatic conditions. For example, 104 of Mexico's 653 aquifers (that provide half the water consumed in the country) drain faster than they can replenish themselves, with 60% of the withdrawals being for irrigation. Similarly, water tables are falling in some drought-affected districts of Pakistan by up to three meters per year, with water now available only at depths of 200-300 meters. The consequences of inadequate investment in water-related infrastructure and poor management are important given that most climate change impacts are mediated through water.

Access to water - in particular to clean water - is central in the millennium goals to fight poverty. Climate change will have a major impact on availability of water and will foster conflicts for this increasingly scarce resource.

- Climate Change Impacts Energy Poverty Debate about climate change and vulnerability has been slow to highlight the energy-poverty-climate nexus. Traditionally, energy poverty has been considered and addressed as a sub-problem of general poverty, mainly due to low income. But solving the energy poverty problem via household income, through subsidies for energy costs or fuel payments for example, can be problematic since households may not feel that covering energy service needs is the priority in assigning extra income.

Another level through which energy poverty has been traditionally addressed is energy prices. Many countries have attempted to address energy poverty and spur development through subsidized energy prices or pricing policies. However, subsidized energy prices need to be very carefully used in addressing energy poverty since they

can be counterproductive in the long-run, potentially locking households in energy poverty.

Conversely, energy prices, if properly managed, are a powerful tool for demand-side climate policies. They are expected to increase in real terms as we progress towards a carbon-constrained economy and may be an important driver of energy poverty rates in the future, leading to trade-offs between climate change mitigation and energy poverty alleviation. If the chief tool for tackling climate change is carbon pricing, energy poverty levels will rise. Conversely, if energy poverty is tackled through energy subsidies, energy consumption levels will rise as a result of inefficient capital stocks, increasing emissions. In order to avoid conflict between the welfare of future versus present generations which would arise, it is crucial to address energy poverty through its other levers.

Another pillar of energy poverty is the efficiency of energy-using capital stock. For this lever to make a marked difference in energy poverty levels, the efficiency levels of state-of-the-art and prevailing equipment or stock in use need to be substantial. This is the case for many buildings and heating equipment in countries where heating dominates the energy landscape.

Finally, access to modern energy carriers like natural gas or electricity is also an important determinant of energy poverty. Without such access, households are forced to spend a disproportionately large portion of their resources on meeting basic energy service needs, which may constitute a significant part of household resource expenditure.

## 2. DIFFERENTIATED IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change will impact poverty through extreme weather events and through slow onset changes. It will also have serious impacts on health and migration patterns.

### 2.1 Extreme Weather Events and the Poverty/ Vulnerability Nexus

Variability of climate impacts countries and people. Climate change and variability cut revenue and increase national expenditure, adversely affecting a balanced budget. Dealing with climate change and extreme variability places a strain on government budgets, as illustrated by the case of Zimbabwe following the drought of 1991-92. The severity of the effect on government revenue will in part depend on the structure of the economy. For example, the drought in southern Africa in 1991-92 resulted in a drop in income of over 8% in Malawi where agriculture accounted for 45% of GDP at that time, but in South Africa, income was down by only 2% since agriculture at that time accounted for just 5% of GDP. Morocco's GDP is highly correlated with precipitation levels. Climate change will also necessitate an increase in spending at the national level to deal with the aftermath of extreme weather events and the consequences of a gradual reduction in food and water supplies. In some cases, the government may not be able to allot the level of expenditure required. This was the case following Hurricane Mitch in 1998, when the government of Honduras (with a GNP of \$850 per capita) faced reconstruction costs equivalent to \$1250 per capita.

Extreme climate events are a source of mounting concern throughout the world. In recent decades, the number of people affected by climate disasters such as drought, flooding and storms has been rising. As climate science develops it will provide clearer insights into the relationship between global warming and weather system outcomes. However, current evidence points very clearly in one direction: climate change will increase the risk of exposure to climate disaster.

Reported climate disasters are on an upward trend. Between 2000 and 2004, an average of 326 climate disasters was reported each year. Some 262 million people were affected annually over this same time frame, more than double the level in the first half of the 1980s. For the period 2000-2004, on an average annual basis, one in 19 people living in the developing world was affected by a climate disaster. The comparable figure for OECD countries was one in 1,500 affected, a risk differential of 79:10.

Flooding affected the lives of some 68 million people in East Asia and 40 million in South Asia. In sub-Saharan Africa 10 million were affected by drought and 2 million by flooding. When disasters strike, they hurt whole communities—but women and children pay the highest cost. Disaster risks are skewed. Extreme events cost lives and create huge losses but they also undermine future development. They destroy assets that cannot be replaced easily and if repeated entail economic and social capacity to develop. But not all of the human development costs of climate shocks occur after the event. For people with precarious livelihoods in areas of climate variability, uninsured risk is a powerful impediment to increased productivity. With less capacity to manage risk, the poor face barriers to engage in higher-return but higher-risk investment. In effect, they are excluded from opportunities to produce their way out of poverty.

As households move closer to extreme poverty they become risk averse for a very good reason: adverse outcomes can affect life opportunities at many levels. Operating without formal insurance in areas of high risk exposure - such as floodplains, drought-prone regions or fragile hillsides - poor households quite understandably choose to forego potentially higher return on investment in the interests of household security. Farmers may be forced to make production decisions that are less sensitive to rainfall variation, but also less profitable.

As stated in The Stern Review, the survival strategies adopted by poor people to cope with a changing climate may damage their long-term prospects. If there is a risk of more frequent extreme weather events, then households may also have shorter periods in which to recover, thus increasing the possibility of being pushed into a poverty-trap.

Poor households may also be forced to sell their only assets (such as cattle during the 1991-92 drought in Zimbabwe). This can then compromise their long-term prospects as they are unable to educate their children, or to increase the level of income over time. Alternatively, to try and avoid permanent destitution, households may decide to reduce consumption levels, a strategy that can have long-term effects on health and human capital. Reductions in consumption levels during a drought in Mali, for example, led to permanent and irreversible loss of growth in children.

Vulnerability is different from risk. People living in the Ganges Delta and lower Manhattan share the same flood risks associated with rising sea levels. They do not share the same vulnerabilities. The Ganges Delta is marked by high levels of poverty and low levels of protective infrastructure. When tropical cyclones and floods strike Manila, they expose the entire city to risk. However, vulnerability is concentrated in the over-crowded, makeshift homes in slums along the banks of the Pasig River, not in Manila's wealthier areas. In many developing countries the capacity of poor people to withstand extreme weather events such as a drought is constrained both by low income levels and by limited access to credit, loans or insurance (in terms of access and affordability). These constraints are likely to become worse as wet and dry seasons become increasingly difficult to predict with climate change.

Even in developed countries, vulnerability to extreme events has been far greater among poor households. In 2003, Europe was hit by its most intense heat wave in more than 50 years—an event that caused thousands of deaths among the elderly and other vulnerable segments of the population. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina, one event in the worst Atlantic hurricane season on record, provided a devastating reminder that even the world's richest nations are not immune to climate disaster. "Hurricane Katrina selected its victims overwhelmingly from the most disadvantaged areas of the city. Poorer districts dominated by black communities bore the brunt.

Flood damage interacted with deep racial inequalities". An estimated 75 percent of the population living in flooded neighbourhoods was black. Two of the poorest and most vulnerable districts of the city, were both totally devastated by Katrina. As stated in the HDR, two lessons can be drawn from Katrina. The first is that high levels of poverty, marginalization and inequality create a predisposition for risk that converts to mass vulnerability. The second is that public policy matters since policies that provide people with entitlements to health and housing can facilitate early recovery, while weak entitlements can have the opposite effect.

Vulnerability is exacerbated by weak social safety nets. At the national level, many low-income countries have limited financial reserves to cushion the economy against natural disasters, coupled with underdeveloped financial markets and weak links to world financial markets that limit their ability to diversify risk or obtain or reallocate financial resources. Less than 1% of overall losses from natural disasters, for example, were insured in low-income countries for the period 1985 to 1999.

## 2.2 Climate, Poverty and Health

Poverty and vulnerability increase when malnutrition make people more sensitive to the impact of climate change on health. Climate shocks such as drought and floods can cause grave setbacks in nutritional status as food availability declines, prices rise and employment opportunities shrink. Deteriorating nutrition provides the most telling evidence that coping strategies are failing. The drought that swept across large areas of eastern Africa in 2005 illustrates this point. In Kenya, it put the lives of an estimated 3.3 million people in 26 districts were at risk of starvation. In Kajiado, the most affected district, the cumulative effect of two poor rainy seasons in 2003 and the total failure of rains in 2004 almost completely wiped out production. The decline in production of rain-fed crops such as maize and beans harmed both people's diet and their purchasing power. Health centres in the district reported an increase in malnutrition, with 30 percent of children seeking medical assistance found to be underweight compared to 6 percent in normal years.

Climate change affects human health both directly and indirectly. Direct effects are a consequence of extreme weather events such as heat waves, cold spells, drought, fires, flooding and storms. Such events have direct health impacts through injury, post disaster mental stress, and excess mortality and morbidity. Indirect health effects occur via ecosystem changes (such as desertification or air pollution) and include changes in seasonal and spatial patterns of infectious diseases. In particular, food-borne diseases that increase in summer and diseases transmitted by ticks, mosquitoes and other vectors are projected to increase in a warmer climate, but this also applies to allergies and respiratory diseases. Longer-term consequences of climate change may include adverse effects on food production and micronutrients in food, the availability of safe water and secure dwellings. In combination with other recent emerging processes of global environmental change (such as urbanization, biodiversity loss, land degradation, depletion of freshwater supplies), the direct and indirect effects of climate change are expected to have negative impacts on human health and well-being worldwide in the future.

### - Health Impact of Extreme Temperature and Air Pollution

Every summer, high temperatures and heat waves are associated with increased mortality, especially among the most susceptible individuals living in urban areas. Large multi-city studies from Europe and the United States have documented a geographic heterogeneity in both the temperature threshold and the effect of high temperatures. Thresholds at higher temperatures were found in the warmest cities, suggesting that these populations are probably better acclimatized to high temperatures. The extent of heat-related effects depends on the size of the susceptible population, the intensity and duration of heat stress conditions and the adaptation measures in place at both individual and population levels. The public health significance of heat-related effects on human health is expected to increase as a consequence of the projected trend in climate-change-related exposure and some areas in the world, such as the Mediterranean, will be particularly at risk. This demonstrates the need to develop better coping strategies by exploring the factors that shape the social impacts of heat waves and by drawing up a research program to address the considerable gaps in knowledge in this area.

The main factors of vulnerability are being elderly, living alone, having a pre-existing disease, being immobile or suffering from mental illness, and being economically disadvantaged. The synergistic effects of such factors will prove fatal for some.

### - Climate-Sensitive Infectious Diseases

Infectious diseases are still one of the greatest challenges for public health, in terms of lives lost as well as diminished health and quality of life. Climate, as one of the main modulators of the environment, influences various aspects of epidemiological dynamics as well as the interaction between bacteria, viruses, vectors and humans. This is why there is reason for concern about the emergence or re-emergence of certain infectious diseases as a consequence of a changing environment.

Climate can influence infectious diseases by three principal gateways: human behaviour, disease pathogen and the disease vector. At different temporal scales (seasonal, inter-annual, longer-term climate trends) factors like temperature, rainfall, parasitic life cycle and vector activity, population movement, water availability after storms and floods can drive outbreaks of various climate sensitive infectious diseases. According to the type of transmission, infectious diseases can be divided into water- and food-borne diseases, vector-borne diseases and those transmitted from human to human.

The impacts of climate change will exacerbate poverty, in particular through its effects on health, income and future growth prospects. Equally, poverty makes developing countries more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. This chapter raises some of the specific risks faced by developing countries. But it is the sum of the parts that creates perhaps the greatest concern. Poor households and governments may, for example, have to face falling food and water supplies that will directly increase poverty directly, while also having to face greater health risks, for example, malaria or fallout from extreme weather events. These impacts may be compounded if governments have limited, or reduced, financial resources.

## 2.3 Poverty and Environmental Migration

Understanding how climate change can influence migration requires an understanding of the relationship between environmental change and migration, of how climate change exposes people to risks, and of existing estimates of the number and distribution of likely climate migrants. Migration caused by environmental degradation or change remains difficult to define, mainly due to the fact that it is linked to the difficulty of isolating environmental factors from other drivers of migration. Another major hindrance when discussing displacement linked to environmental disruption lies in the confusion of forced versus voluntary migration.

Both gradual environmental change and extreme environmental events influence population movements, but in different ways. While the latter may force affected populations to leave their homes, often suddenly and in large numbers, the prospect of returning in such cases is said to be 'feasible' in the long run. Migration caused by a gradual deterioration of the environment however, is more often irreversible.

Most research agrees that environmental change is an important proximate factor in decisions to migrate. Thus, while recognizing the complexity and spatial and temporal contingency of the relationship between climate change and migration, and recognizing that social drivers are more important than environmental changes per se, climate change is nevertheless a factor that influences migration. Given the magnitude of environmental changes expected because of climate change, there are grounds to think that climate change may contribute to increased numbers of new migrants. And it is not just resource-dependent low-income rural people at risk. Many people whose incomes depend on primary resource industries may also be affected. Also at risk are the urban poor, who might experience increased health problems and rising prices of basic goods such as food and water. Migration can represent a real adaptation strategy but not all people will have access to that option. The poorest of the poor may not be able to bear the cost of migration.

It will be a challenge in the future to decide what status (notably legal) is to be granted to people thus affected. International legal norms provide little if any protection for environmental migrants, and all too often there is no recognition at all that this migration phenomenon exists.

Since the responsibility for climate change rests primarily with the western industrial nations, they are accountable for helping those forced into environmental migration. But the countries from which environmental migrants originate also have major responsibility for their citizens and they too must do their best to protect their lives. This effort includes taking preventive measures to adapt to the consequences of climate change and lessening their impact thereof over both the short and long term.

## 3. HOW CAN WE ADAPT?

Adapting to the consequences of climate change requires anticipation, investment (in information, equipment and infrastructure) and organisation. It will in many cases involve radical changes in patterns of economic activity and ways of living. There are many actions which will be justified under a broad range of possible outcomes. These may be called 'win-win' strategies.

The design and quality of infrastructure and buildings should be a crucial part of any adaptation strategy. If appropriate care is taken at the design stage, infrastructure can be made much more resilient to climate change. Irrigation systems clearly have to be designed appropriately if rainfall patterns and the behaviour of water systems are to change. Roads, bridges, tunnels, transmission of electricity and railways should be designed to cope with an increase in storms, floods and droughts. Communities in the Indian Himalayas are faced with erratic rainfall in the spring and summer, which means a short growing season of just two to five months. Farmers have developed a number of water harvesting practices to ensure food security and additional income, including small ponds (with spring water collected in small reservoirs that is then used at appropriate intervals to irrigate higher ground); roof-water harvesting (roof water collected in dugout structures near homes); harvesting of rainwater (excess water stored directly in farm ponds and depressions, or stream flow diverted to safer points where it is stored then used for irrigation from dugout structures).

For agriculture, a particularly important challenge is to develop climate resilient crop varieties and techniques. Along with significant investment, progress will depend on international agricultural research systems and stations making this a top priority.

Cultivation techniques which use water more economically (such as in rice cultivation) are also likely to release fewer greenhouse gases like methane. Low-till agriculture may preserve the water content of soils, helping with adaptation while simultaneously releasing less carbon thanks to less disturbance of the soil. In agriculture as in other activities that generate emissions, adaptation can be combined with mitigation.

Adapting buildings so that they cope more easily with higher temperatures is another response that bridges adaptation and mitigation. After all, many traditional buildings in low latitudes are designed to cope with high temperatures without energy-intensive cooling systems.

A substantial part of any strategy must also be to facilitate recovery from damage after the fact. The insurance sector is already re-evaluating the probabilities of extreme weather events and natural disasters. As the likelihood of severe damage goes up, it will be important to develop ways to share risk and reduce exposure of those most vulnerable, who are often the poorest. Programs developed in the UK between government and insurance companies allow small businesses and households at risk to gain access to flood insurance.

Extensive programs of crop insurance can be developed to help cover farmers. These can be difficult to administer but could, in principle, be handled at a district level. Administration can be simplified and the problem of false claims reduced if payments are triggered by measurable events occurring in that district. In India, Lombard General Insurance in association with Weather Risk Management Services has launched an insurance product to cover risk incurred by wheat farmers. The idea is to link climate to an index of weather data rather than actual crop losses, which significantly reduces moral hazard as well as the time it takes to settle claims.

A final important feature of adaptation is disaster management, both before and after the event. The way in which the logistics of early warning and relief efforts are handled can have a major impact on the scale of the disaster. (The tsunami of December 2004, for example, would have caused much less loss of life if information had been transmitted earlier). Disaster response is sorely needed. Comparing the Chinese reaction to the earthquake in Sichuan in May 2008 with that of the Myanmar government to Cyclone Nargis that same month (146,000 deaths), we can see the difference that organisational logistics and social organisation can make. Bangladesh six months earlier suffered a similar cyclone but with only 3400 victims. The need for extra transport, equipment, food and medical services was denied for a long period, with the consequence of substantial and unnecessary loss of life.

Preparation for many of these kinds of disasters is best handled at an international level where equipment and vehicles can be shared and made available quickly and relevant experience successfully exploited. For an individual country, particularly a small, poor country, it can be very costly to store the necessary hardware. Ethiopia, for example, faced a series of huge forest fires in early 2000, the severity of which could have been eased by helicopters, but the government simply did not have many.

Extra funding for disaster preparedness and management can give high returns. In China, expenditure of \$3 billion for flood control was estimated to have returns of \$12 billion. In India, disaster programmes in Andhra Pradesh have shown benefit/cost ratios of 13 or more. And in Vietnam, planting mangroves to protect coastal populations from typhoons and storms has yielded benefit-cost ratios of 50 or more.

The cost of disasters and extreme events related to climate change will of course still be very high, but it makes good sense to prepare and protect as best we can. This should be a top priority for national policy and international assistance.

The financing involved is not high in comparison to Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). The sum of \$86 billion compares with around \$100 billion for ODA, although recent ODA figures are swollen by the falling value of the dollar and debt relief to Iraq, which is accounted for, rather misleadingly, as aid. Annual foreign direct investment to low and middle-income countries is close to \$3000 billion, although more than 90% of this goes to the latter and not the former. Currently, the member countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) allot some 0.3% of their GDP to ODA. If this figure were increased to 0.7%, as many of these countries have promised to do by 2015, there would be an extra \$150-200 billion a year.

If the costs of managing climate change in the developing world are indeed in the ballpark of HDR estimates of \$86 billion per annum (a conservative figure), they would eat up most of the increase that has been pledged by 2015. On the basis of current trends, many rich countries are likely to fall short of the target of 0.7% by 2015, while others have not even made such a promise.

Current total allocations to adaptation funds in 2007 were \$279 million. This is miniscule in relation to needs. The scale of the tasks involved in adapting to climate change and the intricate links between adaptation and development are such that a serious international contribution to taking on the problems of development in a more hostile climate must include a substantial increase in development aid.

#### - Towards Low-Carbon Growth

The two great challenges of the 21st century are the battle against poverty and the management of climate change. On both we must act strongly now and plan to continue to do so in the decades ahead. Our response to climate change and poverty reduction will define our generation. If we fail on one, we will fail on the other. But whilst recognising that we must respond, and respond strongly, to both challenges, we should also recognise the opportunities, since a well-constructed response to one can provide great direct advantages and opportunities for the other. So what do we need to do to combat the threat of climate change whilst boosting efforts to reduce poverty and tackling the global economic downturn? Developing countries should ultimately want to go low-carbon. Not only is it the future, but it brings huge benefits beyond climate change. Renewable energy sources can free countries from dependency on imported fossil fuels. Cleaner transport and cooling mean less pollution and better health. Halting deforestation protects water supplies, controls flooding and provides bio-diversity. The transition to a low-carbon future can bring major economic gains in the short term. Energy efficiency can help boost incomes. Low-carbon technologies can open up new sources of growth and jobs. They can help even the poorest countries leap-frog old approaches, avoiding some of the cost of large grids in the way cell phones helped cut the need for telephone wires. And smarter grids can both enhance energy efficiency and enable new technologies whilst cutting transmission costs. New sources of low-carbon energy - hydro, solar - could help create a comparative advantage for some of the

poorest countries.

But the fact remains that no matter how successful we are with mitigation, we will in the next few decades be faced with a degree of climate change due to GHG levels already in the atmosphere along with emissions in the coming years. That means all countries will have to adapt. The challenge is particularly urgent for developing countries as they are the first and hardest hit.

Many of the poorest people in the world will be those most exposed and vulnerable to the impacts of climate change that will occur over the next few decades. These are also the people who are least able to afford the cost of adaptation, which is even more unfair since they have contributed much less than those in the rich world to the current levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. This fundamental inequity should be a strong incentive for the rich countries to provide more funds to developing countries, in addition to current development commitments to fund the extra costs created by climate change.

Biodiversity and poverty: old debates, recent evidence and emerging controversies

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Achieving the goal of liberating half of the world's poor from their poverty by 2015 will either mark the true beginning of sustainability or the end of biodiversity at the hands of the best-intentioned policies. Sanderson & Redford, 2003.

## 1. OLD DEBATES, EMERGING CONSENSUS

### 1.1. Why does biodiversity matter for poor people?

Because three quarters of the more than one billion people living on less than one dollar a day live in rural areas, the poor often depend on a wide range of natural resources and ecosystem services for their well-being, and are therefore potentially affected by their degradation. For example, over one billion people worldwide draw their living from forest-based assets. For poor people, biodiversity loss is often equivalent to the loss of biological insurance (MA, 2005). Richer groups of people are usually less affected because of their ability to purchase substitutes or to offset local losses of ecosystem services by shifting production and harvest to other regions. According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), in low-income countries, environment-based wealth accounts for around 25% of the total wealth (compared to less than 4% in OECD countries).

More precisely, biodiversity matters to poor people directly in four principal ways (Timmer & Juma, 2005):

- Food security and health: Many poor people have limited access to land ownership and water and so are especially dependent on wild plants and animals for their food security. In many forest countries, bushmeat is an important source of protein. In Ghana for example, 75% of the population eat bushmeat regularly and wild animals constitute the main source of animal protein for rural households. However, in many countries, the availability of bushmeat and wildlife is declining and this is having negative impacts on nutrition (DFID, 2002). Declining ecosystems can also have negative impacts on health, particularly on that of poor women, as they increase the burden of searching for and carrying heavy loads of water, wood or fodder.

- Income generation and livelihoods: For the majority of poor people living in rural areas, dependence on agriculture is high. The agricultural labour force, most of it in the developing world, includes over 20% of the world's population and accounts for almost half of its total labour force (MA, 2005). This means that their livelihoods rely on several ecosystem services that are crucial to agriculture, and on the diversity of food crops available. In many climatically vulnerable regions, poor households prefer traditional varieties or so called land races of rice and other crops due to their greater resilience to climate fluctuations. For example, in Jeypore, India, cyclonic conditions, long spells of drought and very high temperatures within a crop season can result in yield stress: land races of rice have proved genetically resilient and withstand the harsh weather while so called "high yielding varieties" in nearby areas suffer irretrievably (Steele, Oviedo & McCauley, 2006).

- Reduced vulnerability to shocks: Poor people are often highly vulnerable to shocks and stresses associated with climatic events. These shocks can be amplified by ecosystem degradation, while better ecosystem management can reduce the impact of such events. There is growing evidence of the role of coastal vegetation (like mangroves) and natural protection (like coral reefs) in mitigating coastal storms and cyclones. Where these ecosystems are declining, poor coastal populations often become more vulnerable. In Bangladesh, the disappearing swamp forests of the haor, which have served as a natural barrier in the past against the monsoon waves, has led to much more severe erosion. As a result, poor households have been compelled to increase spending to protect their tiny homesteads every year (Steele, Oviedo & McCauley, 2006).

- Cultural and spiritual values: For many poor people, biodiversity is inextricably linked with identity, culture and spirituality. It is therefore an integral part of their very existence. In India for example, there are over 50,000 sacred groves that play an important role in the religious and socio-cultural lives of local people (Gohkale et al., 2001). Located within wilderness areas, protection is provided to patches of forests dedicated to deities and ancestral spirits. A number of religious celebrations take place in these groves, which are an integral part of the spiritual beliefs of the communities.

### 1.2. A complex relationship: the biodiversity-poverty nexus

In many ways linking conservation with poverty reduction is more of an art than a science Fisher et al., 2005.

#### 1.2.1. An unresolved debate at the general level

Biodiversity matters to the poor, but the linkages between biodiversity and poverty are much more complex and dynamic (Billé, 2006a). The intense debate on this nexus demonstrates that there are no simple causal relationships between biodiversity and poverty, although they do coincide in many ways according to an increasing body of evidence (see Hernandez-Morcillo et al., 2010). Widespread concepts such as "pro-poor conservation", often utilized in an incantatory manner, tend to overlook such complexity (Billé & Chabason, 2007). Nevertheless, conservationists and development practitioners and policy makers often have different opinions on how—and whether—to link biodiversity conservation with poverty reduction. The growing volume of literature on the subject highlights how complex and context-specific poverty-conservation linkages are, and how subjective is their interpretation (Roe & Elliott, 2005).

In this context, attempts to find common ground often result in platitudes that fail to confront real problems faced by development projects, plans and policies (Brockington et al., 2006). This is why endeavours to address real issues—rather than pretending they do not exist— as well as efforts to be more specific about definitions, contexts and activities when undertaking assessments, are so badly needed. As a matter of illustration: (i) natural resources broadly speaking (e.g. timber) are sometimes mistaken for biodiversity (Bainford et al., 2008 show that biomass may provide greater benefits to poor people than diversity of species), (ii) poverty indicators will never comprehensively encapsulate the thinking on poverty complexity, and (iii) conservation of biodiversity differs substantially from the sole presence of biodiversity because the former depends closely on how conservation is performed (e.g. does ecotourism lead to equitable distribution of the revenues? Does conservation mean promotion of agroforestry or exclusion of people from protected areas?).

For instance, the International Institute for Environment and Development's (IIED) Poverty and Conservation Learning Group typically aims at addressing the real issues

beyond platitudes. Among others, it has provided useful insights on a number of key hypotheses (see Box 1), all of which would deserve a whole section of this paper. However, here we shall only briefly discuss two questions that we think are particularly critical (Billé & Pirard, 2007):

- Is biodiversity conservation a route to poverty alleviation? And/or
- Is poverty alleviation a route to better biodiversity management?

Some have argued that biodiversity conservation is incompatible with lifting poor people out of poverty; others that the most effective intervention for biodiversity conservation is poverty reduction. Such questions are quite sensitive and may have very concrete consequences for the way development policies and projects are designed. We shall mainly introduce the debate here and underline simplifications that should be avoided—not necessarily answer these questions, which remain partly open.

Box 1. What do we know about conservation-poverty linkages? Accepted and contested relationships

Hypothesis 1: There is a geographical overlap between biodiversity and poverty

Conclusion: At the global level there is a geographical overlap between biodiversity and poor people but it becomes less pronounced the more 'the South' is disaggregated. At the national and sub-national levels the two occasionally coincide, but governance factors are generally more significant than geography in determining where biodiversity prevails, where poor people live and how the two interact.

Hypothesis 2: Poor people depend on biodiversity

Conclusion: All of humanity is dependent on biodiversity for the goods and services it provides, but the poor appear to be particularly dependent (although this is hard to quantify). In a large part this dependency is related to the role that biodiversity plays in poor people's farming systems and the degree of resilience and adaptability to environmental change that poor people have developed.

Hypothesis 3: Poor people are responsible for biodiversity loss

Conclusion: Poverty may contribute to biodiversity loss, but it is only one of a number of factors. Whether poor people conserve or over exploit biodiversity is dependent on specific circumstances and contexts—and particularly on the influence of external governance factors—and not a question to which a generalized answer can be given.

Hypothesis 4: Conservation activities hurt poor people

Conclusion: The impacts of conservation activities are not evenly spread. Some forms of conservation activity may have negative consequences for poor people. Others may benefit poor people or even be initiated by poor people. Governance factors appear to be critical once again.

Hypothesis 5: Poor people can undermine conservation

Conclusion: Unless different priorities for biodiversity and incentives for conservation are recognised, local people are often bound to be perceived as 'undermining' conservation, and indeed may proceed to do so. Local people need to be engaged to conserve aspects of biodiversity that are critically important to their livelihoods, if broader-based, long-term public support for protection of globally threatened biodiversity is also to be achieved.

Hypothesis 6: Biodiversity is irrelevant to poverty reduction

Conclusion: A lack of quantitative data—particularly at national levels—makes it difficult to challenge the assumption that biodiversity is irrelevant for poverty reduction. In general, poverty reduction policies tend to rely on agriculture—both at the household level through supporting smallholder farmers for their subsistence and income-earning potentials, and at the national level through agriculture's potential to drive economic growth. Making a better case for biodiversity in poverty reduction therefore means clearer articulation of the links between biodiversity and agriculture and between biodiversity and ecosystem services (those that support agriculture and those that generate other benefits).

Hypothesis 7: Poverty reduction activities can cause biodiversity loss

Conclusion: Historical patterns of rural development—based on primary commodity production—have not performed well for biodiversity—nor in many cases have they performed well for poor people either. Innovative approaches to poverty reduction that are founded on local knowledge, institutions and processes are critical—both to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and tackling biodiversity loss.

Source: Roe & Elliott, 2005.

#### 1.2.2. Is biodiversity conservation a route to poverty alleviation?

Conserving biodiversity is not always favourable to the poor. Many examples have been documented worldwide where conservation activities have negatively affected poor people living nearby (Brockington, 2003; McLean & Straede, 2003). This seems to be especially true of the establishment and management of protected areas, and of related donor-funded projects. Nevertheless, the risk of further marginalizing and impoverishing poor people is clearly not specific to conservation (beside the fact that conservation takes various forms with various impacts as mentioned above). It is part of the vicious circles deeply embedded in most societies that tend to make poor people poorer and rich people richer. The development of any economic activity—including conservation but also forest exploitation, handicraft, trade, tourism, infrastructure, etc.—has a tendency to reinforce these circles ("poverty traps") unless appropriate attention is paid to the issue. To take this one step further, in a given country, with funding from a given donor, conservation activities are usually just as democratic, participatory and pro-poor as the rest of a government and donor's policy (Billé, 2006b). When the political context does not take into account the needs and desires of marginalized groups of stakeholders, especially the poorest, when their access to natural resources, their right to participate in the decisions that directly affect their lives, are denied, projects and policies whose primary objective is biodiversity conservation cannot be expected to be transparent and equitable. Good governance at the national and local levels is obviously necessary for biodiversity conservation to bring expected benefits.

However, that biodiversity conservation can contribute to poverty alleviation is supported by a broad consensus—many even argue that the potential of biodiversity conservation to contribute to poverty reduction is still largely unrecognised by developing country governments and international development agencies (DFID, 2002; Koziell & McNeill, 2002). Much depends on the how: how conservation projects are designed and carried out, how poor and marginalized people are consulted, involved in and associated with the conservation objectives and activities, how poverty alleviation is mainstreamed in biodiversity projects and policies, etc. Much also depends on the alternative without conservation: does conservation take place instead of local development by local people (e.g. agriculture), or does it take place instead of biodiversity degradation as a consequence of activities undertaken by (and for the benefit of) companies unsustainably extracting natural resources (e.g. forest conversion for export-oriented oil palm production)? That said, there are many examples where biodiversity conservation has benefited poor people in developing countries. More precisely, this happens in two main ways (Steele, 2004), at the local and national levels:

- A route out of poverty for poor people: biodiversity can, particularly in areas with few other economic opportunities, provide a way for poor households to generate a surplus

and eventually invest in other economic activities and escape poverty.

- A route out of poverty for poor countries: at a macro-level, biodiversity and ecosystem services can, under certain conditions, generate growth at an economy-wide level that may in turn, under certain conditions, benefit poor people. Biodiversity-related natural resources often provide a key export, foreign exchange earner and source of government revenues, as illustrated by the importance of seafood exports from Africa and Asia.

Both ways, however, demand that biodiversity not be exploited beyond sustainable levels, and that the growth generated be reinvested to shift away from biodiversity-dependence. Moreover, the highly speculative character of the convergence between conservation and poverty alleviation is reinforced by the various, contrasted meanings of "poverty" (Billé & Pirard, 2007). For example, depending if material wealth or flexibility is favoured, the conversion of a primary forest into a mono species industrial plantation may be seen as a driver of enrichment (with increased cash incomes in the short term) or on the contrary of impoverishment (reduced choices in the long run, vulnerability to commodity markets fluctuations...). This was summarized by Wunder (2001) when opposing the roles of "poverty trap" and "safety nets" played by biodiversity-rich areas, of which tropical forests are an emblematic example.

The biodiversity-poverty relationship clearly has to be addressed in dynamic terms. We need to be cautious about statements on the dependence of the poor on biodiversity - this dependence being demonstrated in many studies reviewed by Roe (2010). To say that poor people depend on biodiversity does not say much about their fate in case of biodiversity loss, which may be better (alternative sources of income) or worse (disappearance of livelihoods). In other words biodiversity conservation may be an obstacle to economic improvement of people's lives, or on the contrary it may be extremely important because of positive impacts on vulnerability and an absence of alternatives. All in all, Roe (2010) mentions that "at least six conservation mechanisms have been a route out of poverty for some people in some places: community timber enterprises, nature-based tourism, fish spillover, protected area jobs, agroforestry and agrobiodiversity conservation".

### 1.2.3. Is poverty alleviation a route to better biodiversity management?

This hypothesis is supported by the well-known Environmental Kuznets Curve, which suggests that environmental quality declines as income rises until income reaches a certain level, at which point environmental quality improves. However, this curve is strongly disputed, be it by pessimists or optimists (Dasgupta et al., 2006), and even for its advocates the extent to which it applies to biodiversity is questionable: once a species is lost, it is gone forever.

A majority of analysts actually seem to believe that poverty alleviation will not in itself achieve conservation goals. For example, experience from Africa and Asia shows that as wealth increases, so too does the demand for wildlife (Robinson & Bennett, 2002) and even more impactful is the availability of capital for more destructive and large-scale activities. More pertinent questions may therefore be: can reducing poverty actually contribute to halting biodiversity loss? If yes, how?

Swanson, among others, highlights the apparent incompatibility between biodiversity and development: "states with high material wealth have low biodiversity wealth and vice versa" (in Koziell & Saunders, 2001). In the same perspective, the MA scenarios suggest that "future development paths that show relatively good progress toward meeting the poverty, hunger reduction, and health targets also show relatively high rates of habitat loss and associated loss of species over 50 years. This does not imply that biodiversity loss is, in and of itself, good for poverty reduction. Instead, it indicates that many economic development activities aimed at income generation are likely to have negative impacts on biodiversity unless the values of biodiversity and related ecosystem services are factored in".

Consequently, while poverty can be a root cause of biodiversity loss, this is just as true of wealth and economic development: "deforestation, for example, is partly caused by local demand for agricultural land or construction materials, but is even more fundamentally driven by the industrialized world's demand for timber and the growing international trade in forest products" (UN Millennium Project, 2005), as well as by demand for biofuels. Do poor people degrade their environment because they are poor? Do increasing incomes affect the way in which poor people exploit natural resources? IIED's Poverty and Conservation Learning Group came to the conclusion that "issues of governance, security of land tenure and access to resources are likely to have a significantly greater impact on the way in which people over-exploit now or conserve for the future. (...) Poverty is only one factor driving biodiversity loss. Reducing poverty will not necessarily, therefore, lead to biodiversity conservation unless the other drivers are also addressed" (Roe and Elliott, 2005). Poverty alleviation may thus yield better biodiversity conservation only if tied to explicit conservation objectives, strategies, policies and actions, in an appropriate governance context (World Resources Institute, 2005).

### 1.2.4. An intricate problem with no "silver bullet"

The aim of this short discussion is mainly to acknowledge that the linkages between poverty and conservation are dynamic and context specific, reflecting geographical, social and political issues among the groups involved (Kepe, Saruchera & Whande, 2004) more than their actual poverty level. For instance Indonesian hunters- gatherers and slash-and-burn farmers never deeply degraded surrounding biodiversity, contrary to what migrants did through wood harvesting and land clearance for agriculture. In material terms, though, they are equally poor.

In any case, linkages between poverty and conservation are so complex that they rarely authorize simple cause-and-effect analyses. Synergies and positive externalities between sustainably managing biodiversity and alleviating poverty do exist. They are sometimes obvious, but more often win-win solutions to poverty and conservation dilemmas are elusive, and trade-offs tend to be the more realistic outcome (Petersen & Huntley, 2005): trade-offs between biodiversity and economic development on the one hand, between those who benefit and those who bear the costs on the other hand. Unfortunately, there is no "silver bullet" (Robinson & Bennett, 2002) for the twin goals of conserving biodiversity and preventing the people whose lives now depend on biodiversity from being driven further against the wall.

## 2. NEW INSIGHTS FROM THE TEEB STUDY

### 2.1. Conservation as an economic stimulant with equitable returns

Traditional economic measurement indicators like GDP, National Income and Household Consumption fail to reflect the true value of the flows of ecosystem services and biodiversity for society. TEEB for National and International Policy Makers - Chapter 3, states that for developing countries, where the rural poor are dependent on natural resources for employment and subsistence, the exclusion of ecosystem services flows from national accounting systems results in an unsustainable future for generations to come. Additionally, this leads to a tyranny of the average where there is an implicit assumption that a measure of average progress like GDP can reflect progress in the distribution of wellbeing within society at large (TEEB D1 for National and International Policy Makers - Chapter 3 2009). For low-income groups in rural areas, which mainly rely on free services supplied by ecosystems that have little or no market value, the inadequate recognition of environmental resources in national accounts (focusing on productive functions of ecosystems: timber, energy, etc) causes an extraction of valuable commodities from ecosystems at the expense of the free services that the poor depend on (TEEB Climate Issues Update 2009), although admittedly also at their benefit when land development takes place in an appropriate manner (cf section1). Consequently, the degradation of the natural capital substantially reduces the welfare of a significant part of the population that is poor.

A decline in future ecosystem services and biodiversity coupled with the poor getting poorer has serious implications for the continued economic growth and progress of countries. This is because the importance of natural resources to economies is likely to be under-appreciated resulting in sub-optimal use of these assets, economically, environmentally and socially (TEEB Climate Issues Update 2009). Thus, in an assessment by TEEB's Climate Issues Update, if the assets are underperforming and getting eroded, natural capital gets run down and future benefit streams of the country get increasingly smaller. The long-term sustainability and economic performance of a country are then in question.



Haiti for example (left with only 3.8 percent of its forest cover in 2004, see box 2), is facing strong ramifications from severe environmental degradation and deforestation resulting from an inadequate recognition of the significance of natural resources for the country. Due to a loss of natural capital, disposable incomes and critical assets of the poor have disappeared, translating into political turmoil, health concerns and an emergence of environmental refugees that have effects on the stability of Haiti and its relations with neighbouring states (Peduzzi, 2005).

#### Box 2: Environmental degradation and vulnerability: Haiti and the Dominican Republic

The relationship between environmental degradation and impacts on vulnerable populations is evidenced by the differing impact of Hurricane Jeanne in Haiti and the Dominican Republic (DR). Haiti was originally fully forested but from 1950-1990 the amount of arable land almost halved due to soil erosion. Deforestation reduced evaporation back into the atmosphere and total rainfall in many locations has declined by as much as 40 percent, reducing stream flow and irrigation capacity. By 2004 only 3.8 percent of Haiti was under forest cover compared to 28.4 percent of DR.

In Haiti, floods and Hurricane Jeanne killed approximately 5,400 people due to destruction of mangroves and the loss of soil-stabilising vegetation, causing landslides that led to most casualties. In DR, which is much greener and still has 69,600 hectares of mangroves, Jeanne claimed less than 20 lives (Peduzzi 2005).

This stark difference reflects the impacts that deforestation and resource degradation have on the resilience of poor people in the face of environmental hazards. It also highlights the higher risks experienced by vulnerable populations that do not have enough disposable income, insurance or assets to recover from disasters. With an average monthly income of US\$30.5, Haitians are deeply affected by the worsening state of the environment. Source: Peduzzi 2005

A new adapted measure of GDP such as GDP of the Poor is required to reflect the dependence of the poor on natural resources and integrate environmental, economic and social aspects to reflect the vulnerability of poor people if valuable ecosystem services are lost. The resulting 'real income' based on the true cost of biodiversity loss would demonstrate the actual well-being of the poor and have cascading impacts on the longevity of economic prosperity in a country, as it would ensure equitable benefits reaching the poor from evident growth.

#### 2.2. A Tale of Two Tragedies: the measurement gap around the rural poor

Traditional measures of national income like GDP, which measures the flow of goods and services, can be misleading as indicators of societal progress in mixed economies because they do not adequately represent natural resource flows. This misrepresents the state of weaker sections of society, especially in rural areas.

To move beyond paradigms focused on income, human development indices (HDI) have been developed to provide a broader-based measure of development. However, HDI also fails to take account of the contribution of natural resources to livelihoods. The World Bank has published total wealth estimates (Dixon, Hamilton and Kunte, 1997), which seek to account for the contribution of natural capital, but this is a stock concept. There is also a need for a flow variable, which adequately captures the value of natural resource flows, even though these are mainly in the nature of public goods.

Developing "green accounts", with adjustments to GDP to account for natural capital depletion, is a step in this direction but does not show the social dimension. Similarly, the Genuine Savings Indicator (Pearce and Atkinson, 1993) does not indicate the real cost of natural resource degradation at the micro level, even though this is where real and often acute costs are felt by the poorest and most vulnerable sections of society. Particularly for developing countries, where many poor people are dependent on natural resources for employment and subsistence, the result is often a tale of two tragedies. The first is that the exclusion of ecosystem service flows from the accounts of society, including GDP, results in a lack of policy attention and public investment in ecosystem and biodiversity conservation.

The second tragedy, which is intra-generational rather than inter-generational, is because of the "tyranny of the average", or an implicit assumption that an increase in any measure of average progress (such as "GDP Growth", for example) can reflect progress in the distribution of well-being within society at large. This is as much a matter of inappropriate psychological conditioning as it is bad economics, because "GDP growth" as a headline indicator has become so ubiquitous that it is used in everyday conversations as a proxy for all forms of national economic performance which it was never intended to be, not least as a measure of progress.

#### 2.3. Measuring what we manage: GDP of the poor

A "beneficiary focus" helps better recognize the human significance of observed losses of ecosystems and biodiversity. The costs to the welfare of poor and vulnerable sections of society of the depletion or degradation of natural capital (water availability, water quality, forest biomass, soil fertility, topsoil, inclement micro-climates, etc.) are real and can be acute at the micro-level, but are not recorded systematically or brought to the attention of policy makers. Hence the need to move beyond broad measures of income such as GDP, and to focus sharply on the well-being of the poor. For transitional economies where rural and forest-dweller poverty is a significant social problem, we advocate using a measure of GDP, which is sectoral and focused on their livelihoods: TEEB calls this "GDP of the poor".

Like sustainable development frameworks, TEEB argues that what we need is a three dimensional metric, which can integrate the economic, environmental and social aspects together, and which can show the dependence of poor people on natural resources, and the links between ecosystems and poverty, thereby indicating the vulnerability of these sections of the population if valuable natural resources are lost. TEEB proposes a new indicator named "GDP of the poor", as the key beneficiaries of forest biodiversity and ecosystem services are in fact the rural poor and forest-dwellers. The proportion of GDP that can be attributed to the rural and forest-dependent poor directly is termed "GDP of the poor". We measure this for mixed economies (i.e. where rural and urban economies differ, and where the former are more agricultural and the latter more industrial and service-sector) where at the same time there are wide income disparities (such as India, Indonesia and Brazil).

We find that the lower-income, rural and forest-dependent sectors are much more vulnerable to any loss in biodiversity than the country's economy as a whole. Thus the "GDP of the Poor" indicator adjusted for the contribution of ecosystem services can be used along with other income indicators for targeting holistic improvements in livelihood incomes for the poor, accounting not just for their recorded incomes (included in National Accounts / GDP) but also their benefits from ecosystem services.

Sound development would imply growing a holistic measure of income, i.e., an environmentally adjusted "GDP of the Poor". Thus, this indicator could reflect the impact of loss in biodiversity to the "real income" and well-being of the poor. In a society in which the "GDP of the poor" has a high percentage of ecosystem services included, that indicates that a loss in biodiversity would harm the poor more, thereby invoking the vicious circle of poverty and environmental degradation.

Compared to "average" Environmentally Adjusted GDP calculations (i.e. unrecorded ecosystem service values as a percent of national GDP) there are stark differences visible when we estimate ecosystem service values flowing to the poor as a percent of the "GDP of the Poor". We give in Figure 1 the results of these calculations done for three nations (Indonesia, India, Brazil), which have mixed agrarian and industrial economies.

Figure 1. (UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Figure)

It is apparent that the extent of dependence of the rural poor on ecosystem services is very high, and measuring this at a national level must become a matter of priority in order to support an improved development paradigm, in which access of the poor to ecological resources and ecological regulation from natural areas is ensured as part of a holistic development strategy. It is often said that in developing countries, "biodiversity policy is development policy" and TEEB's work on this does appear to evidence the

wisdom of this observation.

For India, the main natural resource-dependent sectors - agriculture, forestry and fisheries - contribute around 16.5 percent to GDP. When the value of ecosystem services provided by forests and the value of products not recorded in GDP statistics are added, this increases the adjusted contribution of agriculture, forestry and fishing to GDP from 16.5 percent to 19.6 percent. For the rural poor, the average per capita value from these combined sectors was US\$138.8. When non-market goods are included as well as the value of ecosystem services, per capita effective income goes up to US\$260. This is a much larger increase than for the average across the economy as a whole. A similar pattern, with even more significant increases, is also observed in the Brazilian and Indonesian case studies.

#### 2.4. Practical steps towards measuring the GDP of the Poor

Tackling poverty and biodiversity loss calls for efficient and sustainable utilization of natural resources. Development paradigms should take into account the nexus between growth, poverty and environment. We should emphasize that degradation of ecosystems and loss of biodiversity has different impacts at the macro and micro level. At the micro level, it leads to the erosion of the resource base and environmental services. Viewed from an "equity" perspective, the poverty of their beneficiaries makes these ecosystem service losses even more acute as a proportion of their incomes and livelihoods.

The first step for economies where rural and forest-dweller poverty is a significant social problem is to use a sectoral GDP measure focused on and adapted to their livelihoods. At a micro-level, including ecosystems and biodiversity as a source of economic value increases the estimate of their effective income and well-being provided that all services are systematically captured. Initially, adding the income from ecosystem services to the formal income registered in the economy will appear to reduce the relative inequality between the rural poor and other groups, as urban populations (rich and poor) are less dependent on free flows from nature. However, once natural capital losses are factored in, the picture of inequality changes as these affect the rural poor much more: it becomes clear that where natural capital is being lost, the rural poor are even less well off. Moving towards this kind of measurement would be useful for policy making.

### 3. TWO INCONVENIENT TRUTHS? (RE)EMERGING ISSUES ON DEVELOPMENT AND BIODIVERSITY

#### 3.1. The "environmentalist paradox"

The MEA (2005) closed on the diagnosis that the degradation of ecosystem services over the last decades had led to significant improvements in human well-being. This finding can be qualified as a paradox if one considers the environmentalist's expectation that degrading biodiversity has adverse consequences in terms of well-being, as abundantly evidenced in specific cases (cf. previous sections). This is indeed a prominent argument in favour of biodiversity conservation for the sake of ecosystem services' continued provision over time. Stimulating hypotheses have been proposed by Raudsepp-Hearne et al. (2010) to explain this apparent paradox: (i) inadequate capture of human well-being by existing indicators; (ii) contrasted importance of the various categories of ecosystem services, with food production outweighing the others; (iii) decoupling between human well-being and ecosystem services due to technological substitution; and (iv) the existence of a time lag between degradations of ecosystems and their impacts on human well-being. Despite their efforts to test these four hypotheses, the authors do not draw clear conclusions as to which one(s) is/are determinant.

We find it useful here to make a link between these hypotheses - a substantial food for thought - and the issue of poverty alleviation. Raudsepp-Hearne et al. point to the possibility that increased in food production overall is a key factor explaining the environmentalist paradox. But one may wonder if this increase in food production has benefited evenly to all categories of the population. It is no mystery that rural populations have often been dominated for a long time by urban ones, both in developed and developing countries, and from a political, social and cultural point of view. Undernourishment is likely to have diminished more in urban areas than in rural areas, and it is important in this respect to remember that among the 840 million undernourished people (Griffon, 2006), about three-thirds live in rural areas and make a living of agriculture. For reasons of socio-political domination by urban elites and the correlation between national prices for agricultural products and international markets, poor rural populations both sell their products at rather low prices and get a small share of the added value. In this context, one could argue that increased food production as a factor explaining the environmentalist paradox does not necessarily support the interest of the poor, at least in rural areas. Regarding the hypothesis that human well-being is poorly captured in the MEA, and according to the previous section highlighting the specific effects of the degradation of ecosystem services on poor people, it can also be argued that this is all the more true for those living nearby preserved ecosystems. Beside productive functions as defined by the MEA (and to which food production belongs), cultural functions play an important role in terms of human well-being. Who would assert that living next to an oil palm plantation is equivalent, *ceteris paribus*, to living near a natural forest where biodiversity plays a key role in terms of games, culture and other social practices (Sheil et al., 2005)? Examples from around the world, including again from sacred groves in India, are many and extremely telling.

Arguably, the possibility that there is a time lag between the degradation of ecosystem services and their consequences on human well-being deserves scrutiny. Would it be a hasty answer to an extremely complex question? In a more dynamic approach, it could for instance be argued that if the degradation of ecosystem services generates development, it allows for the substitution of natural capital by man-made capital. Then the poor who suffer from the erosion of biodiversity are those who remain poor as ecosystem services degrade, whereas those who manage to embark in the development process are not considered "poor" anymore: in that sense the actual benefits that the poor retrieve from biodiversity loss tend to remain invisible. Such a view would tend to support the idea that conservation is not directly linked to poverty alleviation, although it may at least avoid more extreme poverty owing to the "safety net" argument.

#### 3.2. Poverty or inequalities? Re-opening the Millennium consensus

While fighting poverty is undoubtedly a noble cause, setting it as a global sustainable development priority is a choice that may need to be debated, at least when it comes to biodiversity conservation. Indeed, there are conceptual and practical reasons why a hasty consensus on the actual global objective may conflict with the biodiversity agenda. Even if accepting as a postulate that the poor should be provided with the right to choose their future and with the opportunity to escape poverty, some important issues should not be overlooked:

- First, despite numerous and valuable attempts at complexifying the concept of poverty so as to account for its many dimensions, in practice poverty is still widely measured in terms of the money a person lives on. Just like GDP remains the main gauge of development, key institutions around the world, at all levels, still assess poverty against this extremely simplistic if not misleading indicator.

- Therefore, the conceptual frameworks on which policies are grounded, developed and implemented largely fail to account for the complexity and variety of situations. For example, to what extent is someone living with 10 USD a day in the suburb of a huge, polluted, crowded megacity, working 12 hours a day in a stressful industrial environment and commuting for 4 hours every day better off than someone who lives on less than a dollar a day in a remote tropical forest? The answer is not straightforward.

- Challenges are actually such that there is still a worrying - as far as biodiversity is concerned - lack of evidence that poverty alleviation may be decoupled from growth in the consumption of material goods. Hence there is little doubt that current development trends in the South are leading to a somewhat desperate endeavour to catch up with the level of material consumption of the group immediately higher on the social scale.

On the other hand, evidence is mounting on the adverse effects of inequalities in various dimensions of human well-being. For instance, in "the Spirit Level: why more equal societies almost always do better", Wilkinson and Pickett (2009) argue that there are "pernicious effects that inequality has on societies: eroding trust, increasing anxiety and illness, (and) encouraging excessive consumption". They demonstrate that the situation is significantly worse in more unequal rich countries as far as 11 health and social

issues are concerned. Interestingly, some recent publications also demonstrate the negative impact of inequalities (more than poverty) on biodiversity (e.g. Holland et al., 2009; see summary in box 3). Inequalities are likely to be a fundamental missing piece of the biodiversity-poverty puzzle, finally putting coherence in fragmented observations that, for instance, poverty is a cause of biodiversity erosion while clearly wealth is an even greater one. If the poor are to develop and if the natural resources that ecosystems provide are limited, a drastic reduction in the gap between the rich and poor may be a first and foremost requirement.

On the whole, the belief that poverty - not inequality - is the core problem with regard to biodiversity and sustainable development in general, and that the answer lies in increasing the GDP, may turn out to be an example of the blindness that comes with dogma. The poverty/inequality debate is obviously a very political one because it is hardly presented as a win-win scenario in contrast with "poverty alleviation": some believe that reducing inequalities is not a legitimate objective; others do want to reduce inequalities, and believe GDP growth is the best way to achieve it; others believe there is no direct relationship between GDP and inequalities - which does not necessarily mean that GDP growth should be avoided, but that it is not sufficient. Worth noting, little robust literature articulates poverty, inequalities, GDP and biodiversity.

The Millennium consensus at the end of the 1990s set the international agenda on poverty for clear political reasons, although they remained implicit and the choice was usually presented as "neutral". It has seldom been challenged by governments, NGOs or scientists, despite some isolated attempts to at least couple the poverty alleviation agenda with the inequalities issue. It should therefore today become a priority to gather more evidence on the role inequalities play with regard to sustainable development, among others biodiversity erosion. The 2015 Millennium Development Goals horizon, as it is quickly approaching, may be the perfect opportunity to bring new arguments to a debate that definitely needs to be revived, as politically incorrect as it may be.

#### Box3. A Cross-National Analysis of How Economic Inequality Predicts Biodiversity Loss - Summary

We used socioeconomic models that included economic inequality to predict biodiversity loss, measured as the proportion of threatened plant and vertebrate species, across 50 countries. Our main goal was to evaluate whether economic inequality, measured as the Gini index of income distribution, improved the explanatory power of our statistical models. We compared four models that included the following: only population density, economic footprint (i.e., the size of the economy relative to the country area), economic footprint and income inequality (Gini index), and an index of environmental governance. We also tested the environmental Kuznets curve hypothesis, but it was not supported by the data. Statistical comparisons of the models revealed that the model including both economic footprint and inequality was the best predictor of threatened species. It significantly outperformed population density alone and the environmental governance model according to the Akaike information criterion. Inequality was a significant predictor of biodiversity loss and significantly improved the fit of our models. These results confirm that socioeconomic inequality is an important factor to consider when predicting rates of anthropogenic biodiversity loss.

Source: Holland et al., 2009

#### Poverty Eradication and Quality of the Environment in Urban and Peri-urban Areas

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How urban centres and the peri-urban areas that surround them are managed and governed in Africa, Asia and Latin America has very large implications for whether poverty is reduced and whether the Millennium Development Goals are met. Also for whether nations in these regions develop economies and urban and rural settlements that can adapt to climate change. And finally, since almost all the world's population growth and much new investment is taking place in these urban centres, whether these are compatible with low-carbon development.

There are good precedents that show the potential for combining environmental improvements with poverty reduction, especially through supporting upgrading of informal settlements. There are also precedents to show how urban expansion can be managed in ways that protect ecological services and support low carbon development. But these remain the exceptions. For these to become the norm requires national governments, aid agencies and development banks to establish far more effective ways of working with and supporting local governments and civil society organizations in urban areas, including the organizations and federations formed by the urban poor. This paper ends with some suggestions for how this can be achieved.

The global significance of urban issues

Around one in six of the world's population lives in urban settlements in life and health threatening environments. Where their very basic needs for water, for sanitation, for drainage, for health care and emergency services are not met. Even in nations that are democratic, a large part of this population may be unable to get on the voter's register because they live in informal settlements that have no official address. For this or for other reasons, tens of millions cannot get their children into government schools. For these people, urbanization is associated with ill-health, premature death and often hunger. Also with infant and child mortality rates 10-20 times higher than what they should be. These are not problems that only affect a small proportion of the population; for many cities, 30-60% of their population lives in informal settlements lacking provision for infrastructure and services.

Cities with growing populations and economies need to expand spatially. But in low-income and most middle-income nations, rarely is this process and the land-use changes it brings managed adequately. The areas that surround a city's built up area are often termed peri-urban areas. They usually have a mixture of rural and urban characteristics and are where agriculture and urban development interact with natural resource systems. Farmers and agricultural labourers co-exist with growing urban uses - for instance informal settlements, urban enterprises and often private housing developments, although these often compete for land and for access to water. In better-located peri-urban areas, large amounts of land may be vacant, as they have been purchased by real estate agents or developers in anticipation of their rise in value as the city expands. These peri-urban areas generally fall outside the jurisdiction of the city; they often have local governments that are relatively weak and may still be governed as if they are rural areas. Peri-urban areas that are close to successful cities often urbanize rapidly with little or no control on, for instance, polluting industries or protection of water sheds or ecosystems that help protect against floods - and often with disadvantages to the long-time residents and farmers. It is also within particular peri-urban areas that informal settlements often develop rapidly; these often concentrate on land sites that are at high risk from landslides, flooding or other natural hazards because these hazards make the land unattractive for conventional, formal developments.

Yet urbanization is generally driven by a growing economy and it can and should be associated with good health, a high quality of life and real citizen and community engagement in local governance. Well governed cities have among the world's highest life expectancies and the lowest infant and child mortality rates. Of course, successful cities have economies of scale, agglomeration and proximity for enterprises and investors; this is why they are successful and why they attract investors and migrants. But the concentration of enterprises and people also bring many potential economies of scale and proximity for what makes cities healthy - water piped into each person's home and good quality toilets, drainage and regular collections of household waste. There are also economies of scale or proximity for almost all services - kindergartens and schools, health care services, police to provide the rule of law and emergency services (fire, ambulances). Indeed, it was within cities that universal provision for these was first achieved.

It is also within cities that many of innovations in poverty reduction, in participation, in 'good governance' have been pioneered. Over the last 20 years, it is within cities that organizations and federations formed by 'slum' or shack dwellers have demonstrated innovation in addressing their members' needs and offering governments their skills and

capacities.

The need to address urban poverty

In almost all nations, success in poverty reduction requires strong urban components. In the mid 1970s, a case could be made that poverty reduction should focus on rural areas - although even then, the scale and depth of urban poverty should have been recognized. Latin America was already predominantly urban by this time and though much of Asia and Africa were predominantly rural, Asia already had close to 600 million urban dwellers while Africa had more than 100 million. But nearly 40 years later, the ignoring of urban poverty is no longer credible. Between 1970 and 2010, the urban population in low- and middle-income nations grew by 1.9 billion while its rural population grew 1.1 billion. The urban population within these nations is anticipated to grow by 2 billion between 2010 and 2040 while the rural population is projected to decline. Urban and peri-urban areas now concentrate a large proportion of world's population that is hungry, that faces very large (and easily prevented) health burdens, that lacks basic services - see Table 1. Table 1: Estimates for the scale of different aspects of urban poverty in low- and middle-income nations

Type of poverty	Numbers of urban dwellers affected	Notes
Inadequate income in relation to the cost of basic needs	800-1,200 million	No accurate figures are available on this and the total varies, depending on the criteria used to set the poverty line (the 'income-level' required for 'basic needs')
Inadequate or no provision for safe, sufficient water and sanitation	More than 680 million for water and 850 million or more for sanitation	These estimates are for 2000 and are drawn from a detailed global UN review of individual city/urban studies; 45 they have probably increased considerably since then
Hunger	500 million+?	In many Asian and sub-Saharan African nations, 25- 40% of urban children are underweight and/or under height. In many nations, more than half the urban population suffers from food-energy deficiency including India, Pakistan and Bangladesh
Living in housing that is overcrowded, insecure and/or of poor quality	c. 1 billion	Based on a 2003 global UN review of the number and proportion of people living in 'slums' <sup>47</sup> with an allowance for the increase in Africa since then
Homelessness (i.e. living on the street or sleeping in open or public places)	c. 100 million	UN estimate. There are also large numbers of people living on temporary sites (for instance construction workers and often their families living on construction sites) that are close to homeless.

As if this very large and growing scale of urban poverty was not enough justification for getting action from governments and international agencies, there are also the new issues brought by climate change. Africa, Asia and Latin America have most of the cities most at risk from the direct impacts of climate change - especially risks from more frequent and/or more intense extreme weather (storms, floods, heat waves), sea-level rise and constraints on fresh water supplies. For most urban centres in these regions, these come on top of their already evident vulnerability to disasters. It is low-income nations that concentrate most deaths from cyclones, even if many middle and high-income nations have more of their populations exposed to these.

Then there is the role of urban centres in mitigation - the very urgent global need to reduce total greenhouse gas emissions. It could be argued that this is an agenda for high-income nations (and within this for their urban centres). This is supported by the much higher levels greenhouse gas emissions coming from many cities in high-income nations - for instance per capita emissions of 10-30 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per year when most cities in low and middle-income nations have under 2 tonnes (and many have much lower emissions levels than this).

The case for focusing on mitigation in high-income nations is further strengthened if emissions accounting allocates the greenhouse gas emissions embedded in goods to those that buy and use these goods rather than the nations or cities where the goods were made.

But if greenhouse gas emissions are to be reduced while also not constraining development in low and middle- income nations, development itself - and especially urban development - needs to be low carbon. Most of the world's urban population and most of its large cities are in low and middle-income nations. And as noted above, almost all the growth in the world's population in the next few decades will be in urban centres in low- and middle-income nations. How these urban centres expand to house 2 billion new urbanites has very large implications for poverty reduction, for whether or not these urban centres (and their national economies) are resilient to climate change - and for whether global emissions reduce enough to avoid dangerous climate change. Will the vast expansion of the urban population in the more successful economies in Africa, Asia and Latin America be low density, private car dependent sprawl which implies greenhouse gas emissions per resident of 10-30 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e? Or well-governed, high-density, low-waste, low-carbon residential developments that can combine a high quality of life with greenhouse gas emissions per resident of 1-2 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e? What are the greenhouse gas emission implications of the needed vast expansion in electricity generation and infrastructure provision for these two billion new urbanites (as well as meeting the needs of the billion or so urbanites that also lack such provision now). Whether or not the expanding middle-class in successful economies in Africa, Asia and Latin America (including those that move out of poverty) follow a high- consumption lifestyle will in part depend on whether middle and upper-income groups in high-income nations move quickly to much lower carbon lifestyles. We can demonstrate that a very high quality of life is possible in London, Paris, Toronto, Copenhagen, Amsterdam..... with consumption patterns and individual carbon budgets that contribute to avoiding dangerous climate change. But it does not mean that middle and upper income groups in these and other cities will accept this. If they do not, why should middle and upper income groups in cities in low and middle income nations do so?

Why is so little attention paid to urban poverty and urban climate change policy?

Why have most aid agencies given so little attention to urban poverty for decades? Why do some still insist that almost all poverty is in rural areas? And still claim that good rural development slows urban development when we know that it usually does not. Successful agriculture that includes shifts to higher value crops and that brings rising incomes and opportunities for farmers usually stimulates and supports urban development as local urban centres expand to provide producer and consumer goods and services to the farmers and also provide farming families with off-farm and non-farm employment. More recently, why have most discussions of climate change adaptation ignored urban centres, even as these generate most of the nation's GDP and attract most new investment as well as concentrating a large proportion of the population most at risk from climate-change impacts? And even within discussions of mitigation and the needed 'green economy', why is so little attention paid to urban areas? If a greener economy really is to be built, much of it will need to be rooted in urban centres and supported by urban governments. Aid agencies were not set up to work with local governments and face difficulties doing so, in part because they are under constant pressure from the governments that allocate funds to them to keep down staff costs, in part because national governments do not want them to do so. But how are they to support the meeting of the MDGs, the reduction in poverty and the needed incorporation of climate change adaptation and mitigation into development without a more direct engagement with local governments?

None of the key goals for urban areas - for poverty reduction, for climate change adaptation and for mitigation - is possible without more competent, better resourced city and municipal governments in Africa, Asia and Latin America. And central to this is their capacity to engage with their inhabitants - especially those that currently live in informal settlements. There are examples of good practice that show what is possible. The city of Porto Alegre in Brazil has a high quality of life, a successful economy and relatively

low greenhouse gas emissions per person. The city of Manizales in Colombia has been innovating for more than 20 years in combining good environmental management rooted in community engagement with disaster risk reduction. The nation-wide support in Thailand for community-organized and managed 'slum' up-grading (through the Community Organizations Development Institute) that has transformed the quality of homes and neighbourhoods for hundreds of thousands of people. There are hundreds of initiatives now underway by national federations of slum and shack dwellers as they build or improve their own homes and work with local governments to provide or improve infrastructure and services (this is described in more detail later). It is no coincidence that all the above were underpinned by local governments seeing the value of listening to, working with and supporting grassroots organizations. Perhaps this is a defining feature of what is needed to make poverty reduction work - and to be able to incorporate within this climate change adaptation and low carbon development.

How we define a problem influences how we address it

How we define informal settlements, poverty and environmental degradation has very large implications for the policies developed to address them

We can look at an informal settlement - at Kibera in Nairobi, Dharavi in Mumbai or Korail in Dhaka - and see it as 'a slum,' a huge concentration of dangerous, poor quality housing in unplanned sites that contravenes all official codes and regulations for health and safety. So these need to be replaced. Even to term these settlements as a 'slum' is to imply that they need to be replaced. Even to call them informal settlements may imply that they are not seen to be part of the city economy. Or we can look at these same informal settlements and see their contribution to the city economy and how they house among the lowest-income groups without costing the government anything. (And for those of us living in these cities, how the informal settlements may house our maids, drivers, cooks, gardeners and security guards). Here we do not see 'a slum' but a settlement that needs better provision for water, sanitation, drainage, health care and schools. So we look to ways in which these can be provided (and the examples of good practice given later provide us some guidance as to how this can be done).

Then also consider how others may see these informal settlements. The young migrant who finds accommodation here that is both cheap and within walking distance of their newly found and perhaps precarious employment. (Even if he or she has to share a tiny room with several others or even rent a bed for a set number of hours a day). The entrepreneur that sees the central location, the multiplicity of other producers and the 'demand' there as a great place to start a new business. The funding agency looking for opportunities to finance low carbon development that sees the huge informal 'waste' economy that supports so many livelihoods (tens of thousands of livelihoods in many large cities) and keeps down the city's greenhouse gas emissions - probably much more so than official urban waste projects.

Then there is the issue of how poverty is defined. How we define poverty has a very large influence on how many people are 'poor' and on how we address it. For instance, if poverty is defined as an income that is less than US\$1 per person per day (the definition used in the Millennium Development Goals), then urban poverty disappears for most nations. According to World Bank figures, using this definition, there is virtually no urban poverty in China, the Middle East, North Africa or Central Asia. And urban poverty is a minor issue in Latin America. But this does not accord with the very large numbers of urban dwellers in these regions that are hungry and live in poverty. Set a poverty line too low and almost no-one is poor.

Most definitions of poverty are based only on income level or food consumption. They do not consider the quality of housing or the quality of provision for water and sanitation. Or whether households can get health care services and afford to send their children to school. So the poverty lines based on these definitions make very little allowance for the cost of non-food needs. One of the defining characteristics of a city is that access to almost all needs have a monetary cost - for instance access to housing (or land for housing), infrastructure, services and employment. Large sections of the urban poor have to rent accommodation and even if this is a small room in an informal settlement, it still may take 20-30 percent of their income. As noted earlier, many of those living in informal settlements do not have access to piped water, sewers and health care so they have to pay water vendors, pay-to-use toilets and private health care services. This also takes large chunks of their income. If they live in peri-urban settlements, they may face high expenses going to and from work or services. Keeping children at school is often expensive, even if access to the school is free (for instance through transport costs and the costs of books, uniforms and school meals). The failure of most national poverty lines and the dollar a day poverty line to make sufficient allowance for the cost of non-food needs in urban areas (especially larger and more successful cities) means that they enormously under-estimate the scale and depth of urban poverty. With a dollar a day poverty line, most of the world's poverty seems to be in rural areas. With poverty-lines in each nation adjusted by location so they include an adequate allowance for the cost of non-food needs, the scale and depth of urban poverty greatly increases.

Finally, how the term environmental degradation is understood influences how policies are set to address it. We know that most urban dwellers with low incomes live in poor quality housing lacking provision for water, sanitation, solid waste collection, drainage and health care. So they face very large environmental health burdens. They live in homes and neighbourhoods that can be considered "degraded" environments. These often look degraded, as many of the houses are made of waste or temporary materials and there many waste piles as garbage is not collected. There may be areas where many people defecate in the open because there are no toilets or public toilets are too expensive (or too dirty). So here, urban poverty might be associated with environmental degradation or even said to cause environmental degradation.

But the term "environmental degradation" is usually used to mean the over-use or degradation of scarce natural resources (including fresh water, soils and forests), the generation of ecologically damaging wastes (including greenhouse gas emissions) and damage to ecological services. Used in this sense, there is no association between poverty and environmental degradation because poverty is associated with very low levels of natural resource use and very low levels of waste generation (and greenhouse gas emissions). It is wealth and high consumption levels that are the drivers of environmental degradation, not poverty. This can be seen in differentials between high-income and low-income urban dwellers in consumption and waste generation. For instance, in many cities, there is a 50-fold difference in the volume of fresh water used. Also a 30-fold difference in the land area per person occupied by homes. Also, very large differentials in the land- and energy-intensity of their diets, the fossil fuels consumed in the home and for transport, electricity consumption (and the environmental implications of its generation) and the purchase and use of consumer and capital goods. This can also be seen in the very large differentials between high-income and low-income groups in the greenhouse gas emissions driven by their consumption levels.

Part of this confusion as to whether it is wealth or poverty that causes environmental degradation comes from the distance between where high-income groups live and the environmental impacts of their high-consumption lifestyles. As William Rees pointed out as he developed the concept of ecological footprints, wealthy people (and cities) draw on the resources and eco-system services of 'distant elsewhere's'. So wealthy cities can preserve forests, parks and other open spaces within and around them and protect areas of special scientific interest because this land is not needed to grow food or raw materials for the city's enterprises and inhabitants. Most wealthy cities have little heavy industry. The energy-intensive, land-intensive, water-intensive, pollution-intensive goods their inhabitants purchase are made elsewhere and imported so the environmental costs arising from their fabrication are borne in the places where they were made, not where they are consumed. Part of this transfer is also to the future as it is the world's wealthiest consumers that are the main driver of growing levels of greenhouse gas emissions so their current consumption is driving increasing risk levels in the future.

Can poverty reduction and environmental improvement be combined in urban and peri-urban areas?

The quality of a city environment has very large implications for good health and for poverty reduction. Also for equity. Of course, there are differentials in health in urban centres in high-income nations that are also influenced by the quality of the urban environment. But one key characteristic of urban centres in high-income nations is the universal provision of (for instance) water piped into the home available 24 hours a day, toilets in the home for the exclusive use of each household, regular collection of household waste and house structures (and drainage systems) that are not at risk from extreme weather. There is also almost universal provision for health care and emergency services (for rapid treatment of injuries or serious illnesses, for responses to accidental fires). However bad the living conditions experienced by the lowest-income groups in urban or peri-urban areas in high-income nations, no urban dweller has to walk several hundred yards to queue at a standpipe for water that is not of drinking quality - or to have no access to toilets. Or to have to cook on open fires using waste materials - and not to have electricity. Or if there are examples of these in high-income

nations, they affect a very small proportion of the urban population.

Yet in many urban centres in low- and middle-income nations, a third to two thirds of the entire population faces these kinds of deficiencies in provision for water, sanitation, health care and fuels. It is common for a third to two thirds of the population in these urban centres to live in poor quality, overcrowded housing - either in tenements or cheap boarding houses or in informal settlements. A high proportion have no access to electricity and cook with biomass fuels including waste materials in open fires or stoves that expose them to high levels of indoor air pollution with serious health consequences.

There is also the issue of how urban expansion is managed and governed. The fact that so much urban expansion is uncontrolled and does not conform to any official guidelines or strategic plan was noted already. Most large cities are made up of many different local government units and rapid population growth and urban expansion is often concentrated in the jurisdiction of some of the peripheral local governments that are also among the weakest - as they lack the capacity to manage urban growth and lack the funding to extend infrastructure to residential developments.

Yet for the potential environmental advantages of cities to be realized requires the management of land-use and land-use changes. Such management needs to reconcile different objectives - for poverty reduction, for supporting economic success, for disaster risk reduction, for climate change adaptation and, where possible, climate change mitigation. This is never easily managed, not least because different sectors within city and municipal governments bring different priorities and seek different uses for land within their jurisdictions. We can agree that land-use management needs to ensure sufficient land is available for new housing while ensuring that this is served by trunk infrastructure and encouraging residential developments that avoid private car dependence. But we can also agree that land-use management must ensure sufficient land is available for public use (for schools, health care, recreation/sport/children's play) while also protecting key ecological services (for instance water sheds and mangroves). And building into city expansion the needed resilience to climate-change impacts (and to other natural disasters). There is also the powerful real-estate lobby seeking land for their priorities and often very large numbers of low-income groups seeking land where they can afford to develop housing.

#### Combining environmental improvements with poverty reduction

Governments and international agencies need to act on the potential environmental health advantages of concentrating people, businesses and their wastes because of the economies of scale and proximity for the infrastructure, services and regulations that guarantee good environmental health. One of the most effective ways to reduce urban poverty is to transform the quality of housing and living environments in informal settlements. If we review the experiences of cities in this, there are two different tracks. The first is the more conventional state-directed route for 'slum' and squatter upgrading where it is government agencies that have the primary role - and this has become common in many Latin American nations. The second is upgrading in which the inhabitants of the settlements to be upgraded and their own community organizations have a much more central role, although working in partnerships with local governments. Both these can also build resilience to climate change.

One of the most interesting experiences with upgrading at scale comes from Thailand. Supported by the national government's Community Organizations Development Institute (CODI), this channels government funds in the form of infrastructure subsidies and housing loans direct to community organizations formed by low-income inhabitants in informal settlements who plan and carry out improvements to their housing or develop new housing and work with local governments or utilities to provide or improve infrastructure and services. From 2003 to 2010, within the Baan Mankong (secure housing) programme, CODI approved 745 projects in 1319 communities (some projects cover more than one community) in over 249 urban centres covering 80,201 households and it plans a considerable expansion in the programme within the next few years. Overall, CODI (and the organization out of which it developed, the Urban Community Development Office) has provided loans and grants to community organizations that reached 2.4 million households between 1992 and 2007.

This initiative has particular significance in three aspects: the scale; the extent of community-involvement; and the extent to which it seeks to institutionalize community-driven solutions within local governments so these address needs in all informal settlements in each urban centre. It is also significant in that it draws almost entirely from domestic resources - a combination of national government, local government and household/community-contributions.

Support is also provided to networks of community organizations formed by the urban poor within particular cities, to allow them to work with municipal authorities and other local actors and with national agencies on urban centre-wide upgrading programmes. This initiative also demonstrates how to regularize insecure or illegal land tenure. Those living in illegal settlements can get legal land tenure by a variety of means - for instance by the inhabitants purchasing the land from the landowner (supported by a government loan), negotiating a community lease, agreeing to move to another location provided by the government agency on whose land they are squatting, or agreeing to move to part of the site they are occupying in return for tenure of that site (land sharing). CODI also provides loans to community organizations to on-lend to their members to help build or improve their homes. It also supports city governments in taking the initiative in collaboration with urban poor organizations - for instance providing a site on which those living in various 'mini' squatter settlements in their jurisdiction could relocate, with the land provided on a 30 year lease.

There are also many experiences with upgrading and with the development of new housing that is affordable to low-income groups that are examples of local government-community organization partnerships. In 33 nations, women-led grassroots savings groups have come together to form larger 'slum/shack/homeless people's federations and these are engaged in initiatives to upgrade 'slums' and squatter settlements, secure land tenure, develop new housing that low-income households can afford and to improve provision for infrastructure and services (including water, sanitation and policing). In all instances, they seek partnerships with local governments since inevitably, what they can achieve working independent of government is limited.

Most of the federations have succeeded in negotiating land for housing and this has allowed them to demonstrate their capacity to build - although the land allocations they negotiate are never on a scale to address needs of all their members. Many have undertaken city-wide surveys of informal settlements that then allow dialogue with local governments over planning for city-wide upgrading and, where needed, resettlement. Most have initiatives underway for upgrading or for developing new housing supported by local government - including in India, South Africa, Thailand, Namibia, Malawi, Kenya, the Philippines and Zimbabwe. Over 150,000 families within these federations secured tenure between 1993 and 2008 and upgrading in the form of housing and infrastructure improvements have taken place in most such settlements. The largest and longest established federations - the National Slum Dwellers' Federation and Mahila Milan (a federation of women's savings groups) in India - have developed partnerships with many municipal governments that have allowed much improved provision for toilets and washing facilities and for housing. These toilets have also been visited by members of other national federations and these have brokered deals with local authorities to design, construct and maintain toilet blocks in Cambodia, South Africa, Kenya and Uganda.

What gives these federations of grassroots organizations their capacity to act are the savings groups that are their foundation. Most savers and most savings-managers are women. So most of the federations are made up of hundreds (or in some nations thousands) of savings groups. For each such group, savings scheme members or potential savers are visited every day by the savings group manager. Savers can put small sums (including any spare change they have) into their savings account and most members do so every three or four days. This daily visit means that they have the opportunity to save whenever they can. These savings form a pool of money. Many savings groups also provide emergency and income-generation loans to their members. These can be accessed quickly and easily, from the daily visits. As savings group members work together to gather and manage their funds, they increase their financial management skills and build trust between each other. Over time, as they meet often, they talk about their problems and their needs. Together they begin to think about how they can address larger issues of housing and basic services.

These savings schemes form the federations and the federations are strengthened as their member savings groups visit other savings groups or residents thinking of forming savings groups in their own city and then others in other settlements and cities. The savings group managers also visit savings groups in other nations or grassroots groups

that are interested in the Federations' experiences. These exchanges catalyse an attitude of "can do" - on each visit they see what others have accomplished and they have a chance to talk about their own experiences. As more savings groups form in the informal settlements of any city, so the federation of these savings groups provides the possibility of a city-level partner for local government. These federations have demonstrated a capacity to undertake city-wide surveys of informal settlements that include detailed profiles of each settlement and maps. They have also shown their capacity to do detailed household enumerations of every household in informal settlements that can then form the information base needed for upgrading and infrastructure and service provision. These are both valuable for any local government wishing to improve conditions in informal settlements. These have been done in a wide range of nations and cities.

One example of a partnership between grassroots organizations and a city government that is working at city scale to build resilience to extreme weather is from the city of Iloilo in the Philippines. The partnership established between local and national government, grassroots organizations and the Homeless People's Federation of the Philippines started before the devastation caused by Typhoon Frank in 2008 but was strengthened after it. The city government recognized that the urban poor and their support organizations are partners in the city's development. It provided many opportunities for them to participate in local decision-making through representation in technical working groups and multi-sectoral bodies and allowing more room for effecting change in local policies. The scale and scope of housing delivery, upgrading, post-disaster assistance and other basic services were much increased because of the resource-sharing from the partnership. Local government extended facilities/equipment and personnel (site engineer, surveyors, mappers) to provide technical assistance to the Federation on housing and disaster rehabilitation measures and these also lowered the cost of projects. A portion of the relocation site was allocated to the construction of temporary housing units and communal facilities for Typhoon-Frank affected families.

Being a member of the Resettlement and Monitoring Task Force, the Federation assisted in social preparations and other resettlement-related activities conducted by local government. This include an Information Dissemination Campaign among communities living in danger zones (along riverbanks, shorelines and those directly affected by the city's infrastructure projects) who will be transferred to government relocation sites. The city government, through the Iloilo City Urban Poor Affairs Office, assisted in the federation's social mobilization which include mapping of high-risk/disaster-affected communities, identification and prioritization of communities to be given post-disaster assistance (temporary houses and material loan assistance for housing repair).

The city of Manizales in Colombia provides an example of a city government committed to community-government partnerships in disaster risk reduction. This included the involvement of the population in each district in risk mapping and responses and discussions that brought together all key local stakeholders. The risk mapping of each district identified risk zones and settlements particularly at risk from landslides and the city government worked with their inhabitants to relocate them to safer sites and convert the land at risk into neighbourhood parks with measures to stabilize the slopes. 112 women were trained as "Guardians of the slopes" to create and maintain slope stabilization in their neighbourhood and to report on any problems. Environmental observatories have been created in each of the 11 comunas into which the city is divided to support public engagement and the implementation of the city's environmental plan. These monitor progress on environmental conditions and progress on these is summarized and displayed publicly in a simple set of indicators - the environmental traffic lights (semaforos ambientales). The city also introduced a system of collective voluntary insurance to allow low-income groups to have insurance for their buildings and the city government has an agreement with an insurance company and allows any city resident to purchase insurance coverage through municipal taxes.

We have fewer precedents on how city and municipal governments can manage urban expansion in ways that address development and environmental needs - including needed measures to maintain, restore and enhance productive and protective ecological services. Protecting and managing urban wildscapes and green spaces (as interconnected systems - sometimes termed green infrastructure) is often among the most effective ways of reducing flood risks and reducing high temperatures and lessening heat island effects - while also providing for sport, recreation and children's play that are themselves also important for health. It can also contribute to low-carbon development.

The city of Durban has developed a climate change adaptation strategy that recognizes the importance of working at a regional scale and incorporating landscape management into climate change adaptation. The benefits of inter-jurisdictional collaboration is shown by the ten municipalities within the Ayuquila river basin in Mexico who formed a collaborative association to reduce river pollution and, more generally, to work together to improve living conditions and promote more sustainable management of natural resources within and across their administrative boundaries. In Sao Paulo, there have been initiatives that seek to protect and restore watersheds and protect key reservoirs while working with those who live in informal settlements. The city of Ilo in Peru managed rapid population growth by making land for housing available for low-income groups and supporting the inhabitants of each neighbourhood to work with them in improving conditions and expanding public areas. In Mombasa (Kenya), a park has been developed by the rehabilitation of a disused quarry with local groups contracted to undertake the rehabilitation and now this 220 hectare park attracts 150,000 visitors a year.

International funding mechanisms to support bottom-up action

Bilateral agencies and development banks were not set up to support civil society groups. Or to support local governments. Yet as this paper has emphasized, effective action depends on more effective and accountable local governments that are capable of and willing to work with their low-income citizens.

There are two financial mechanisms that show how this can be done. The first is the Urban Poor Fund International. In 2001, a fund was set up on which the federations of slum or shack dwellers could draw. It was managed by ILED and Slum/Shack Dwellers International, a small umbrella organization formed by the federations and their support NGOs. This provided small grants to the federations' savings groups to enable them to work out how to secure tenure, improve their basic services, and address their shelter needs. Since 2001, this has channelled around US\$ 6.93 million (£4.5 million) to over 100 grassroots initiatives and activities in 17 nations.

Up to 2007, most funding went to support projects of up to 100 households - for instance for

- Tenure security (through land purchase and negotiation) in Cambodia, Colombia, India, Kenya, Malawi, Nepal, Philippines, South Africa and Zimbabwe

- 'Slum/squatter upgrading with tenure security in Cambodia, India and Brazil

- Bridge financing for shelter initiatives in India, Philippines and South Africa (where government support is promised but slow to be made available)

- Improved provision for water and sanitation in Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Uganda and Zimbabwe

- Enumerations and maps of informal settlements in Brazil, Ghana, Namibia, Sri Lanka, South Africa and Zambia that provide the information needed for upgrading and negotiating land tenure

- Exchange visits by established federations to urban poor groups in Angola, East Timor, Mongolia, Tanzania and Zambia (in Tanzania and Zambia, these helped set up national federations)

- Community-managed shelter reconstruction after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami in India and Sri Lanka

- Federation partnerships with local governments in shelter initiatives in India, Malawi, South Africa and Zimbabwe

Since 2008, the Fund has grown substantially, with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. By 2008, some of the federations were ready to implement larger initiatives in areas where they had worked for many years. Since 2008, the Fund has supported many larger-scale initiatives in land development, housing and basic services in over 22 towns and cities.

The second example is the Asian Coalition for Community Action (ACCA) which provides small grants to catalyze and support city-wide upgrading and partnerships between community organizations. Set up and managed by the Asian Coalition for Housing Rights, in its first year of operation, it provided support in 64 cities. It sets very low budget ceilings for the funding it provides (and leaves it to the implementing communities to work out how best to use it and raise other funding). It explains the principle of 'insufficiency' because there is not enough development funding to fund 'sufficiently' all that needs to be done in informal settlements. As the report on its first year of operation explained:

"The \$3,000 for small upgrading projects and the \$40,000 for big housing projects which the ACCA Program offers community groups is pretty small money but it is available money, it comes with very few strings attached, and it's big enough to make it possible for communities to think big and to start doing something actual: the drainage line, the paved walkway, the first 50 new houses. It will not be sufficient to resolve all the needs or to reach everyone. But the idea isn't for communities to be too content with that small walkway they've just built, even though it may be a very big improvement. Even after the new walkway, the people in that community will still be living in conditions that are filled with all kinds of "insufficiencies" - insufficient basic services, insufficient houses, insufficient land tenure security and insufficient money..... the ACCA money is small but it goes to as many cities and groups as possible, where it generates more possibilities, builds more partnerships, unlocks more local resources and creates a much larger field of learning and a much larger pool of new strategies and unexpected outcomes."

Both these initiatives have worked out funding mechanisms that respond to the needs and priorities of urban poor groups while also being accountable to the institutions that fund them.

## Conclusions

It is difficult for politicians, civil servants or aid agency staff to see those living in informal settlements or squatting on open spaces as potential partners. Their homes and often their livelihoods contravene laws and regulations. Their settlements present a visual image that may be viewed as obstacles to attracting new investments. Their living environments are clearly very poor. The organizations formed by their inhabitants may be seen as troublesome lobbies - or even if viewed more positively, at least as sources of demands that local government cannot meet. City and municipal governments are often faced with an enormous gap between what is needed in terms of basic infrastructure and the cost of fulfilling it using conventional means that work within official codes and standards. Meanwhile, in any successful city, many of the informal settlements may occupy land that is valuable and may be considered as needed for new infrastructure or commercial developments. Local politicians may be more prepared to work with those in informal settlements for their votes but this is usually from the perspective of the politician considering that when elected they have the mandate to make decisions and determine what is done. In such circumstances, they may view community-based organizations formed by the residents of informal settlements as potential sources of opposition.

Now, there are the additional pressures brought by climate change and this makes even more urgent a capacity to manage land-use and changes in land use. Land-use management has always had to bring together support for a prosperous economy and ensuring sufficient land for housing (so low-income groups do not have to develop new informal settlements). It has to protect the ecological services on which cities and many peri-urban livelihoods depend - and now integrate into this resilience to climate change impacts.

The successful precedents described in this paper depended on politicians and civil servants:

- 1: Viewing those who live in informal settlements as legitimate citizens with a right to make demands on them
- 2: Seeing them and their settlements as key parts of the city's society and economy
- 3: Involving them in discussions about priorities
- 4: Seeing the resources and capacities that they can bring to what needs to be done
- 5: Seeing their own community organizations and the local NGOs that work with them as useful for this
- 6: Working out how to work with these organizations as partners.

None of these is easily achieved. The last of these changes is also particularly difficult, because many progressive local governments that have gone through all but the final change see the community organizations and local NGOs as groups they contract to undertake particular tasks, not as partners. To state the obvious, partnerships need partners who want to work together. In some instances, clearly it was changes in the attitudes of those within local government that were an important catalyst to this. In others, the key catalyst was grassroots organizations and their networks or federations demonstrating to local governments their capacities and their willingness to work in partnerships and then senior civil servants or politicians responding positively.

For aid agencies and development banks, there is a need to consider how their institutional structure at headquarters and within country offices can support what is outlined above. This includes developing the financial mechanisms through which they can support city and municipal governments. It also includes the financial mechanisms that can support the urban poor groups and their federations to take action and to offer local governments partnerships, as illustrated by the Urban Poor Fund International and the Asian Coalition for Community Action. This is not easily done. But without mechanisms to support these two critical actors - city or municipal governments and representative organizations of the urban poor - it is difficult to see urban poverty being reduced, resilience to climate change built - and needed global reductions in greenhouse gas emissions achieved.

What is the role of the private sector in combating poverty and caring for the environment?

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The issue of the relationship between combating poverty and caring for the environment has been a matter of public debate for a very long time. As long ago as 1972, we saw the establishment of ENDA, the international non-profit organization dedicated to environmental development in the third world, with the precise aim of simultaneously addressing the issues of development and environmental protection in southern countries. Nevertheless, the convergent involvement of the private sector in these two issues is a more recent development, and one that has its roots primarily in the concept of corporate social and environmental responsibility that has established itself so strongly over the past fifteen years or so as a recurrent theme in this sector. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is still the subject of lively debate: although considered by some as nothing more than another type of communication or even manipulation, others see CSR as holding out the hope of becoming an effective social lever for change.

Lively as this debate undoubtedly is, it rarely addresses the legitimacy of a concept that links together two areas that are, by definition, independent as far as the private



sector is concerned: environmental protection and combating poverty.

It is a revealing fact that the acronym CSR is used as a single catchall term to describe social and environmental responsibility: Corporate Social Responsibility. This ambiguity of language is an accurate reflection of the inaccuracies of the concept that intermittently encompasses environmental issues. This limited concept is also misleading, because it ignores the potential contradiction between social and environmental disciplines.

In reality, social and environmental responsibility is seen by the most critical observers as a highly partisan area of discussion: by linking environment and society in this systematic fashion, the concept not only avoids addressing the question of possible trade-offs between the two, but also presupposes a simultaneous and positive contribution to both by the private sector.

Nevertheless, a closer inspection of these issues confirms that the linkage between them has been the focus of very little shared research in the management sciences (Kandachar, 2008). Networks of professionals working on social and environmental questions also remain isolated and compartmentalized. It is this paradoxical situation that explains the highly antagonistic positions adopted in this debate.

On one side there is a clear and conscious optimism, combined with the belief that the private sector offers THE solution to solving social and environmental problems as parts of the same process. From this point of view, the constant and obligatory quest of the private sector to identify new sources of growth and dovetail with consumer requirements is capable of seamlessly connecting economic growth, environmental protection and the fight against poverty in the same virtuous process. This is very much the sense that emerges from the literature published over the last decade or so, which treats environmental and social problems not as a negative external reality requiring correction, but rather as a source of opportunity for the private sector. At the heart of this virtuous circle lie innovation and technical progress.

Conversely, others see the private sector as the INCARNATION of the PROBLEM on the basis of very similar reasons: its constant and obligatory quest for new sources of growth inevitably results in a race to exploit resources and people. At the same time, and in some developed countries at least, we are seeing a profound mistrust of technical progress in the resonance achieved by the precautionary principle in public debate. It then becomes necessary to consider a kind of 'prosperity without growth' in order to be able to break the vicious circle between social demand for rampant consumerism, exploitation of resources and social damage.

These two opposing visions of essentially the same situation seem both exaggerated and dangerous. In our view, it is vital that a more precise and nuanced approach is taken to analyzing the contribution made by the private sector to reconciling the fight against poverty with the need to protect resources.

From this viewpoint, such analysis is guided by four factors:

- Zones of interdependence: the point here is not to analyze the possible contribution of the private sector to better management of resources or the fight against poverty independently, but rather to understand the intersections and challenges common to the triangle formed by the private sector, the need to combat poverty and the need to protect resources.
- Business models: having identified these zones, the goal shifts to identifying the possible contribution to be made by the core business of the private sector to solving the problems of poverty without compromising the environment. This means that we are not interested here in the indirect business contributions of the private sector represented by wealth creation, salaries and the contribution to public funds, or in the direct but non-business contributions of philanthropy and what Stuart Hart refers to as 'greening' strategies, by which he means limited adaptations made to existing practices for the purpose of anticipating changes in environmental regulations (Hart, 1997). Our intention is to take a broader view in order to devise economic models that move beyond discussion to the practical integration of social and environmental challenges as part of the same process.
- Governance: these new models will undoubtedly call for revised governance methods that must be clearly identified. In our view, the issues surrounding governance are central to combating poverty and protecting the environment. They will be a non-negotiable element of any initiative adopted by the private sector to combine the two objectives into a single positive process. In this context, it is vital to build governance models that involve public authorities and organizations rooted in civil society. Such governance is not only a precondition for the legitimacy of private sector involvement, but also a source of efficiency for whatever action it may take.
- Funding: Appropriate funding is crucial, because it provides well-considered support for initiatives that, in most cases, offer a lower return on investment than that offered by the market. We see the emergence of the Impact Investing sector, whose goal is to respond to this need to identify patient capital methods as a first element of response.

1. Despite their interpenetration, the private sector has traditionally addressed social and environmental issues quite separately

1.1. Two largely-independent fields of analysis

It is striking to observe the analogue approach that the private sector has taken to addressing social and environmental issues.

In the first instance, the relationship between growth, the environment and inequality is often modeled using the same self-regulating mechanism represented by the Kuznets curve. Developed in the 1950s by economist Simon Kuznets, this curve was originally intended to model the link between growth and economic inequality, but is now being used as an illustration of the relationship between growth, poverty and the environment. Kuznets begins with the assumption that economic growth initially benefits a restricted elite, and therefore begins to make inroads against inequality. Once growth is established, it begins to benefit an increasing number of people, thereby reducing economic inequality. The relationship with the environment is characterized in the same way (Grossman, Krueger, 1994): growth would begin as a source of damage to the environment, but as environmental concerns increased as a result of improved wellbeing, the result would be the introduction of environmental protection policies.

Nevertheless, over and above this self-regulating mechanism, an increasing number of companies - mostly multinationals - have in recent years focused on implementing strategies intended to protect the environment and contribute to development. Historically, these mechanisms have been motivated by defensive attitudes, since the primary responsibility of the private sector in terms of environmental and social issues is to avoid doing any harm. The many widely-publicized environmental and social disasters occurring simultaneously in many different countries have scandalized public opinion. The most polluting or socially-impactful sectors - especially heavy industry - have therefore been obliged gradually to introduce programs designed to reduce their impact or, alternatively, compensatory mechanisms.

In the 1990s, adopting terms like 'license to operate' or 'access to resources', companies developed strategies for reducing poverty or damage to the environment whenever they felt themselves to be morally or contractually dependent on particular parts of the world, and obliged to maintain high-quality relationships with local communities. Those industries involved in natural resources extraction have therefore introduced a number of so-called 'community' programs (Renouard, 2007), usually as a result of pressure from civil society or public authorities.

It wasn't until the 2000s that the management sciences began to flag up commercial opportunities related to environmental and social issues - the parallel attitude remains striking. Books like *Green is Gold* (Esty and Winston, 2009) and *The Fortune at the Base of the Pyramid* (Prahalad, 2004) are based on the same twin premise. They begin by legitimizing the role of the private sector by stressing the appropriateness of market-based approaches for solving social and environmental issues, at the same time as criticizing the involvement of national and international public authorities and excessively restrictive regulation. They go on to turn environmental and social challenges into sources of profit and innovation for the company. This therefore reflects a gradual trend away from responsibility and the management of negative externality to social and

environmental innovation. Even so, the two fields remain largely independent.

#### 1.1.1. The environmental challenges involved in market-based approaches to combating poverty

Over the last decade or so, we have seen the development of alternative market-based approaches intended implicitly or explicitly to combat poverty. Even today, the two main forms adopted by these market-based approaches to combating poverty take only marginal account of the environmental issue.

On the one hand, the Base of the Pyramid (Prahalad and Hart, 2002) strategies respond to one natural trend of globalization: the quest for new unexploited markets. Using these strategies, multinationals seek to incorporate a proportion of the 4 billion people who live on less than \$5 or \$6 a day into their business models in order to identify new opportunities for growth. One aspect of the Base of the Pyramid (BoP) approach proposed by Prahalad and Hart (2002) is the way in which it reconciles the traditional argument of economic rationality with the fight against poverty. The BoP approach urges companies to address the 'fortune' at the base of the pyramid in their own interest (maximizing value for shareholders). The BoP logic is one of seeking out new economic opportunities, with Prahalad and Hart reviving the ideas of Adam Smith and applying them to the slums of poor countries. Consumer goods companies in particular have conducted pioneering programs to adapt their economic models to rural areas. In this way, Hindustan Lever, the Indian subsidiary of Unilever, has made many of its products more accessible by using an individual product packaging system and a tailored distribution system to reach Indian villages. The mobile phone industry has also achieved very strong growth amongst poor populations by introducing prepayment systems and alternative distribution methods.

In parallel with the BoP theories, the Nobel Peace Prize Winner Muhammad Yunus has popularized the concept of social business (2007, 2009) that has formed the basis for many partnerships with companies for the purpose of implementing new development models. The aim of social business is to contribute to solving a social problem: it operates on the 'no loss, no dividend' principle. In other words, social business aims to provide underprivileged populations with access to a basic service - such as credit, water or energy - through the creation of companies that are 'traditional' in the sense that they must be financially sound in the long term, but at the same time 'social' in the sense that any profits are reinvested in the company itself. A number of multinationals, including Danone and Veolia, have committed to this approach by creating joint ventures with Grameen Bank or its subsidiaries. Danone and Grameen have formed Danone Grameen Food Limited, with the stated aim of improving infant nutrition in rural Bangladesh. Similarly, Veolia has got together with Grameen Healthcare to create a water treatment and distribution company to serve Bangladeshi villages. This form of company offers a more legitimate way of combating poverty and creating partnerships with non-profit organizations, since the absence of the profit motive creates a de facto 'demilitarized zone' (Yunus, 2010) open to all partnerships.

The emergence of these strategies has been the subject of intense debate and criticism regarding their real contribution to combating poverty and their ability to reach the poorest in society, rather than the emerging middle class (Karnani, 2007, 2009). Over and above these criticisms, it is important to note that the environmental issue remains a virtual blind spot for both BoP and social business. In his 12 principles for successful innovation, Prahalad refers to the necessity to avoid exploiting environmental resources (principle 4), but proposes no other practical method of reducing any negative impacts imposed by the models offered. Furthermore, the examples offered may reasonably be questioned from the environmental point of view. The unprecedented growth in individual packaging, particularly in consumer goods, provides a perfect illustration of the tension that exists between accessibility and environmental protection. Although these products may be tailored to the purchasing power of the poor, they remain largely harmful to the environment, and it was not long before the individual sachets of HLL products spread right across the Indian subcontinent.

In the same way, Yunus makes environmental protection one of the seven points of social business (2010), but the issue is hardly addressed in any depth. So the requirement for economic viability relegated the attempts made by Danone to develop a green packaging product (PLA) into second place, and the company had no choice but to market its yoghurts in traditional plastics (Ardoin et al 2011).

So in reality, the social and environmental goals would be difficult to reconcile, leaving us with a choice between inter-generational fairness and intra-generational fairness. Worse still, setting more than one extra- economic target for the private sector would ultimately prove totally paralyzing. The result would be to fall into the multiple target trap (Garrett and Karnani, 2009).

#### 1.1.2. The social challenges of 'green business'

Conversely, the economic models developed with the aim of contributing to improved environmental protection take little account of social issues. Their main thrust is to decouple economic growth from the pressure on resources, but without introducing mechanisms capable of including the poorest populations. This 'decoupling' may be achieved in many different ways, but we will focus on two particular levers for action: economic models and the behavioral lever (Hahn, 2008).

##### a. The business models

###### Eco-efficiency

The term 'eco-efficiency' was coined at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 (WBCSD, 1992). Its underlying concept is not to produce less, but to produce better, whilst reducing the impact of production on the environment. Its basis lies in the shared observation that growth cannot be sustained indefinitely given the pressure it places on natural resources. In seeking to reconcile the two contradictory imperatives of growth and caring for the environment, eco-efficiency aims to progressively reduce ecological impact and the intensity of natural resource extraction to achieve a level compatible with the recognized capacity of the planet to sustain itself. This theme has been taken up by a very large number of economic actors - it is no longer just companies that have introduced initiatives in this direction - because it explicitly reconciles private interests (savings in terms of raw materials and energy) with public interests (environmental impact). Indispensable as it may be, this model will however fall far short of being sufficient in itself. The sheer extent of the needs that go hand-in- hand with poor populations points to the fact that the ecological impact of eco-efficient models seems hardly tenable (Hahn, 2008).

###### The economy of functionality

The economy of functionality is the complete or partial replacement of a product sale by the sale of a service with the aim of decoupling the equation that says profit equals the use of natural resources. In other words, by proposing models in which profit is derived from usage or maintenance services, it is possible to conceive of economic models that substantially limit the exploitation of natural resources. This direction is followed by many companies, including Schneider Electric, Michelin and Hilti. For example, Michelin has rethought its economic model and now offers major road haulage operators a total tyre management service. The billing for this service is no longer based on tyres sold, but on the total mileage covered by the entire vehicle fleet. This radically changes the business goal of the tyre manufacturer, because to maximize its profit, Michelin must now focus on ensuring that its road haulage customers consume as little rubber as possible; a virtuous objective from the environmental point of view (Renault, Dalsace and Ulaga 2009).

###### Green technologies

New technologies are ultimately sources of economic opportunity, and the aim here is to design new products or processes that consume much lower levels of natural resources. The generation of energy from renewable sources using solar or wind technology, making best use of the energy we have by means of smart grids, introducing electrically-powered vehicles and constructing energy-positive buildings are just some examples that illustrate how new technologies can help to reconcile growth with

environmental protection. Nevertheless, these practices and thought processes - and their implementation - have usually been restricted to the developed countries of the world, where their impact would be the greatest. From this viewpoint, green technologies are usually highly sophisticated technologies, and therefore expensive technologies. In other words, given the relative proportional importance of developed countries, the private sector has tended to focus chiefly on OECD countries.

#### b. The behavioral lever and patterns of consumption

The second lever is behavioral. It involves analyzing the behavioral changes needed to achieve 'prosperity without growth' (Jackson, 2009). In other words, the private sector must contribute to raising consumer awareness of better ways to use products and services in order to reduce their environmental footprint. Naturally, this lever is not particularly appropriate for the already-restricted patterns of consumption seen amongst poor populations; here again, it cannot be denied that the considerations surrounding the role of the private sector in environmental issues are applied principally to the developed countries of the world.

In overall terms, and despite all the talk that links environmental issues with poverty via the umbrella concept of social and environmental responsibility, the proactive mechanisms that the private sector is currently trying to implement remain very largely independent of each other in reality.

#### 1.2. Nevertheless, both these questions are very profoundly interdependent

A closer interconnection between the issues of poverty and environment are nevertheless vital in today's world, both for poor populations and for companies.

##### 1.2.1. Convergence: a necessity for the populations concerned

The BoP and social business theories have raised the profile of a phenomenon that is well-known, but little researched in its entirety: the penalties of poverty or 'double squeeze'. The fact is that poor populations pay more in absolute and relative terms for their goods and services than wealthier populations (Prahalad, 2004). Prahalad also demonstrates the price differentials that exist for many goods and services (including water, credit, medications and rice) between the residential district of Bombay Warden Road and the Dharavi slums. There is also a third 'penalty' to be considered: the environmental damage that acts retrospectively and very significantly to depress the incomes of poor populations. The very great majority (75%) of the world's poorest people - those who live below the \$1 per day income threshold - live in rural areas. They depend very heavily on services provided by ecosystems in order to live, but 60% of such services are now degraded or damaged (Millennium Eco-system Assessment, 2005). These populations have potential recourse to four different types of environmental revenue: cultivated land, forests, fisheries and mineral resources. In fact, 2.6 billion people rely for their living on agriculture, whilst a further 1.6 billion depend on forests in one way or another. The ecosystems built around agriculture, forestry and fisheries represent between 6% and 17% of GDP in Indonesia, India and Brazil, and contribute between 47% and 89% of the income generated by the poor in these countries (Eloi, 2011).

##### 1.2.2. Convergence: a necessity for companies?

At the same time, and more surprisingly, acceptance of the interdependence between the two issues seems to be becoming a genuine route to innovation for companies.

Both the BoP and 'green' strategies require genuine step-change innovations across all company business sectors, in terms not only of products, but also of production processes (Lehman Ortega, Faivre-Tavignot, Moingeon, 2010). It is imperative for companies to renew their economic models as part of facing up to increasing competition from companies in emerging countries (Govindarayan, Immelt and Trimble, 2009). Consequently, tackling the issues of 'green' innovation and 'social' innovation head-on and making them a priority direction for research has, for some years, been a necessity for proponents of the BoP approach. One of the most recent articles published by CK Prahalad focuses on this 'holy grail of innovation' (Prahalad, 2010); an innovation capable simultaneously of addressing the twin needs to conserve resources and combat poverty.

Prahalad defines this new form of innovation as 'Gandhian innovation' (Prahalad, 2010), because it is based on Gandhi's twin principles of accessibility and sustainability summarized in two maxims of India's great leader: "I would prize every invention of science made for the benefit of all," and "Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed." This type of innovation, referred to by some as frugal innovation (The Economist, 2010) to reflect the radical process it presupposes, would enable the creation of tomorrow's economic models, thereby creating considerable comparative benefits. Similarly, it is interesting to note the creation of 'The Great Leap': a research program led by Stuart Hart to examine convergence between 'green technologies' and 'BoP'. This 'convergence' would be all the more well-advised were it not for the fact that the real market for green technologies is not to be found in developed countries, but in emerging countries. It is therefore important to make a distinction between two types of green company. On the one hand, there are the 'green giants' of developed countries, like wind energy and solar energy projects that require public investment and centralized coordination, and on the other hand, there are the 'green sprouts' involved in small-scale decentralized systems (Hart, 2010).

These small-scale green technologies seem to be difficult to implement in developed countries, since those companies already established in these markets put obstacles in the way of their development in order to defend their own positions and profits. In this regard, the maturity of developed markets would be the main obstacle to the establishment of new technologies. In other words, the introduction of green technologies into emerging countries would require a 'creative creation' mindset (Hart and Christensen, 2002), which is the opposite of the situation in developed countries, where new technologies are introduced largely at the expense of existing technologies. BoP markets therefore provide the most relevant laboratories in which to experiment with green technologies.

The example of the Indian company D-Light provides an effective illustration of this possible convergence. D-Light Design is a for-profit company whose mission is to: "Enable households without reliable electricity to attain the same quality of life as those with electricity". Traditionally, Indian communities - and especially those in rural areas - make very extensive use of kerosene. This solution is nevertheless costly, dangerous (it causes nearly one-third of all cases of lung cancer in India) and polluting (100 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> are emitted every year as a result of the use made of kerosene) (Kennedy and Novogratz, 2010). It is against this background that D-Light Design offers a solution that is both accessible and more environmentally-friendly: an LED lamp of which more than 50,000 were sold in 2009, generating revenue equivalent to around €1 million. The company believes that it has helped to save 30,000 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions since it was formed (Kennedy and Novogratz, 2010).

#### 2. The convergence strategies are co-creation solutions that require patient capital and are based on specific conditions of governance

##### 2.1. New innovation processes built on co-creation

2.1.1. Co-creation with the populations concerned The reasoning put forward as the basis for success in achieving the twin objectives of protecting the environment and achieving universal access is that of frugal innovation, as proposed by CK Prahalad. In practice, this means offering essential goods and services created using a minimum of resources. This innovation process must also involve the populations concerned in work based on co-creation, which is in turn subject to a series of imperatives.

The first of these is that of acceptability and local adoption. Regardless of whether they address environmental protection or the fight against poverty, a very large number of development programs have failed in practice simply because they have not been adopted by the populations concerned. 'Beneficiary education' has emerged as one of the responses to this problem. The presupposition of this educational initiative is that although the solutions implemented by experts, whether from the world of development or the corporate world, are relevant, they are not immediately understandable by beneficiary populations. This education initiative nevertheless risks reinforcing a debatable form of multiple definition of solutions and contributing to disrupting local ways of life. A number of companies are seeking to move away from this risk of multiple definitions towards approaches based on co-creation and participation with the communities concerned (Chambers, 1997). For example, SC Johnson has introduced such a co-creation process in the slums of Nairobi (Thieme and DeKosmovsky, 2010). This involves proposing a local enterprise model based on micro- entrepreneurship, which enables slum

households to be offered a sanitation service. The company has addressed the environmental issues by introducing a new product packaging system that produces very little waste.

From this point of view, companies must come to terms with a type of innovation that intrinsically erodes skills and 'learn to unlearn' (Hart and London, 2004): the process of education that was destined for local populations not so long ago must then be applied to companies in general, and multinationals in particular (Murphy, 2008)

Participation is also an economic imperative. Many research projects based on company pilot initiatives have demonstrated that there is no BoP market as such, and have analyzed the difference between 'needs' and 'demand' (Simanis, 2010, Perrot, 2010). In other words, there are currently no pre-existing economic opportunities that can be intelligently grasped in this way. On the contrary, companies must work concomitantly to create supply and demand (Simanis, 2009, London and Hart, 2010).

Creating a market enables demand to emerge gradually as an expression of the needs of local populations and their ways of life. Participation and co-creation avoid the painstaking work of constructing demand on the basis of a supposed need; a practice that is also questionable in terms of imposing external changes on existing ways of life. On the contrary, co-creation is based on understanding the aspirations of the populations concerned. The BoP protocol (Hart and Simanis, 2008) sets out to offer a practical methodology for co-creation.

The co-creation obligation also raises questions of reproducibility. If each initiative requires a long period of co-creation, is it possible to reproduce successful projects on a larger scale? This question is particularly pertinent for multinationals, whose favored operating method is based on economies of scale.

#### 2.1.2. New innovation processes

Involvement in these new markets therefore requires a real cultural step-change in approaches to innovation, which has yet to be studied in the broader sense. One central question here is that regarding the ability of traditional companies, especially multinationals, to deliver market-focused breakthrough innovations rather than technology-focused breakthrough innovations. Emerging companies would be best placed to implement this type of strategy.

This question relates directly to the classic problem of innovation: are large organizational structures actually capable of delivering breakthrough strategies? Former IBM President Lou Gerstner answered the question ironically in *Who Says Elephants Can't Dance?*, his classic book on the subject. The first way of 'getting elephants to dance' refers to the concept of open innovation (Chesbrough, 2003), which involves opening up the process of innovation by collaborating with other organizations (technology suppliers, smaller companies, NGOs, etc.) and accepting the need to participate in creating a more open intellectual property market in which innovations may be bought or sold. For example, Procter & Gamble has made a major commitment to open innovation by seeking to create an innovation ecosystem involving start-ups, P&G research laboratories and consumer networks, with the goal that 50% of the new products it launches into the market will be co-created in this way (Huston and Sakkab, 2006)

A second innovation lever lies in the incubation of existing structures in combination with the creation of dedicated investment funds. Many initiatives that have proved effective in terms of combating poverty have been originated by social entrepreneurs or very small businesses with the flexibility required to put in place pilot projects and move forward with the development of innovative solutions using an iterative process of error and adjustment. In this context, the role of mid-size and large companies may be not one of replacing those small structures, but rather of supporting them and, where appropriate, incorporating those whose initiatives have proved effective over time. For example, Schneider Electric has created the Schneider Electric Energy Access fund, one aspect of which is investment in structures focused on developing innovative solutions to energy access issues.

#### 2.2. Tailored funding solutions: the growth of impact investing

The increasingly-popular concept of Impact Investing refers to investment strategies that target not only profitability, but also - and simultaneously - social and environmental profitability and impact. This concept has emerged to describe the initiatives already undertaken by some investors, which although very different in nature (environment-focused or social-focused on opportunities in underprivileged areas of developed countries or poor countries), all seek to generate extra-financial value from their investment (Monitor Institute, 2009).

The interesting thing about this idea is its proposition of a single concept to describe inherently-disorganized emergent movements, where the act of conceptualization enables consistency and encourages convergence. These funds take a more intensive approach than socially responsible investment (SRI) funds, which are based essentially on a best-in-class approach that excludes those sectors seen as problematic. The emphasis here is no longer on 'doing no harm', but on aiming to maximize the social and/or environmental impact of financial investment.

The Impact Investing sector is a broad term that also includes the investment strategies of Foundations and 'traditional' investors wishing to take account of social or environmental impact factors. These funds are currently responding to demand by developing special expertise in particular sectors and/or regions of the world. Founded in 1994, E+Co concentrates on the business models of companies seeking to develop universal access to clean energy in emerging countries, whilst the Acumen Fund created in 2001 by Jacqueline Novogratz works on key sustainable development issues, such as access to water, energy, housing and healthcare. The Monitor Institute now makes a distinction between two major types of strategy - 'Financial First' and 'Impact First' - as a way of distinguishing between goal and constraint (2009). Typically, traditional financial institutions follow the first type of strategy as the basis for adopting the concept of social value creation, whilst those traditional development actors that seek to use financial markets as a tool for development tend to adopt the second type of strategy.

#### 2.3. Cooperative strategies involving public and non-profit actors

Lastly, it is important to stress that companies will not be able to act alone in connecting the fight against poverty with the need to protect the environment. The fact is that the private sector can no longer ignore existing provisions or take the place of locally-involved actors in addressing these issues: it is through partnership that the private sector will be best placed to contribute its added value.

In these cooperative strategies, the work done alongside non-profit organizations and public authorities would seem to be decisive. This often means overcoming the cultural barriers between organizations whose mindsets and operating methods are fundamentally different. But it is essential for companies to be able to benefit from the experience and expertise of professionals in social engineering and public policy.

Furthermore, poverty is not limited simply to a lack of financial resources, and access to essential goods and services at a better price will not in itself deliver a definitive response to poverty.

As Sen has demonstrated, poverty should not be confused with low income, but refers primarily to a 'loss of capacity'. Sen also reminds us that: "the aim of development is to expand the real freedoms that people enjoy" (Sen, 1999). Human development must therefore be understood as a process whose goal is to expand the choices of people and increase their capacity to be and to do. Far from eradicating financial poverty, the point of combating poverty is to put people at the centre of development. In other words, it means contributing in ways that enable development program beneficiaries to achieve their full potential, enjoy more choices and benefit from the freedom to live the lives they wish.

In the same way, relationships to the environment are very closely linked with local cultures. The need is therefore not only to create and distribute new goods, but also to

create new social and cultural links. It is from this viewpoint that the role of the private sector should be analyzed: is the company acting in good faith and does it have the ability to address the many different dimensions of poverty? It seems more reasonable to take the view that at the same time as offering well thought-out solutions to combat financial poverty, companies can also become involved in wider partnerships in order to contribute to bringing about social change.

Although many companies are committed to working alongside NGOs, there is still a lot of work to be done on partnerships involving local public authorities (Cholez et al, 2010).

Furthermore, the success of all strategies intended to combat poverty at the same time as protecting the environment relies on establishing a trust-based relationship with the people targeted by these initiatives. Building trust takes time, and that trust is often the privilege of non-profit organizations, which, regardless of form, have been operating at local level for many years.

There exists today an awareness of the ability of the private sector to reconcile the need to combat poverty with the need to protect the environment. This awareness can be seen in an increasing amount of research and the emergence of new forms of innovation, and is now finding its way into the practices of companies committed to bringing forward innovative economic models.

But this awareness is still too limited, and the very small number of 'exemplary' achievements bears witness to the practical difficulties involved in establishing both a real economic interest in taking action and effective methods of implementing a long-term financial framework.

The challenge now is therefore to move beyond 'anecdotes' to create a more coherent and far-reaching approach to these issues. Intellectual commitment is the first condition required for success in such a project.

#### ORGANIZERS

##### INSTITUT VEOLIA ENVIRONNEMENT

> Created in September 2001, the Veolia Environment Institute's main goal is to contribute to a fuller understanding of the transformations occurring in the field of the environment.

> Its actions aim at detecting implications of those environmental changes on public policy, private initiatives and society in general. The Institute relies on its Foresight Committee to guide its reflections thanks to the diversity of expertise of its 7 eminent members: Helene Ahrweiler, Harvey Fineberg, Pierre Marc Johnson, Philippe Kourilsky, Rajendra K. Pachauri, Mampela Ramphele and Amartya Sen.

> The Veolia Environment Institute promotes foresight reflection on subjects related to the environment in partnership with universities or research organizations in order to shed light on the important issues for the upcoming decades. These investigative efforts aim to contribute to public debate on an international scale.

> Its work relies on three kinds of activities: a research program, led in partnership with academic experts; a publication program based on two new publications: S.A.P.I.EN.S, a multidisciplinary scientific journal, and FACTS Reports dedicated to field actions. As a third initiative, it develops an international conference program.

> The Institute has a program for a series of Future Environmental Trends Conferences internationally. Jointly organized with academic partners, these events seek to create a forum for discussion and to raise awareness on the major themes defined by the Institute among university circles, institutional organisations and civil society.

[www.institut.veolia.org/en](http://www.institut.veolia.org/en)

##### AGENCE FRANCAISE DE DEVELOPPEMENT

> AFD, the Agence Française de Développement, is a public development finance institution that has worked to fight poverty and support economic growth in developing countries and the French Overseas Provinces for 70 years. AFD executes the French government's development aid policies.

> Through offices in more than fifty countries and nine French Overseas Provinces, AFD provides financing and support for projects that improve people's living conditions, promote economic growth and protect the planet: schooling, maternal healthcare, help for farmers and small business owners, clean water supply, tropical forest preservation, and fighting climate change, among other concerns.

> In 2010, AFD approved more than €6.8 billion for financing aid activities in developing countries and the French Overseas Provinces. The funds will help 13 million children go to school, improve drinking water access for 33 million people and provide €428 million in microloans benefiting more than 700,000 people. Energy efficiency projects financed by AFD in 2010 will save nearly 5 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

[www.afd.fr](http://www.afd.fr)

#### CONTRIBUTORS

##### CHAIR SOCIAL BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE AND POVERTY, HEC

The aim of the chair, launched in 2008 by HEC, with the support of Danone and Schneider Electric, is threefold:

- To educate the next generation of managers, in order for them to become more aware of societal challenges and aspire to be part of the solution.
- To develop quality research on strategic innovation in societal fields: academic research, applied research, and action research, writing case studies on themes involving social business and the ways in which business can contribute to alleviating poverty.
- To carry out action research on specific initiatives for a more inclusive economy in developed countries focusing on experimentation lead by the Action Tank Enterprise and Poverty.

[www.hec.edu](http://www.hec.edu)

##### INITIATIVE POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT ET LA GOUVERNANCE MONDIALE (IDGM )

> In order to meet the challenges facing humankind, global governance now calls for a better understanding of the facts and a greater mobilisation of ideas. This dual objective was behind the creation of the Initiative for Development and Global Governance (IDGM in French).

> The aim of the IDGM is to provide France with an independent think tank at the interface between public and private decisionmakers and the academic world. Its main objectives are to observe and evaluate public policy and international cooperation mechanisms, and to organise and lead public debates and political discussions, all with the

aim of generating new ideas.

> Its creation has been supported by France and has received specific funding support from the AFD. The IDGM depends on two internationally known Institutions, whose missions are complementary, the Ferdi (Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international) and the IDDRI (Institut du développement durable et des relations internationales).

[www.iddri.org](http://www.iddri.org) / [www.ferdi.fr](http://www.ferdi.fr)

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## Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

### INSTITUTE FOR AGRICULTURE AND TRADE POLICY

Submission to the UNCSD Bureau as input to the Zero Draft Outcome Document for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

Submitted by the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, USA and Endorsed by over forty Indian national and regional farmers organizations and other civil society organizations

#### Executive summary

1. Agriculture both contributes to and has the potential to help resolve the multiple crises the world faces today. As a sector that supports the livelihoods of the majority of the poor in the world, agriculture has the potential to address not only sustainable development but also lift many millions of people out of poverty. Affirming the inputs provided by hundreds of our ally organizations towards the outcome document, we support the call to locate agro-ecological practices and small farmers at the center of food production in the green economy. This would help us pay equal attention to all three pillars of sustainable development—economic, environmental, and social—in the context of agriculture.

2. Rio+20 must place realization of the right to water and the right to food at the center of national plans to build a green economy and any future global development framework. Towards this, the outcome document must make explicit references to these rights as it elaborates on the green economy.

3- Rio +20 must address the means to reduce food price volatility, including support for measures to prevent excessive speculation on commodity markets in agriculture and energy derivatives contracts. Rio+ should reduce ambitious targets for biofuels in global frameworks and national plans around the green economy.

4. Rio+20 must redirect investments towards the greener and more pro-poor options across key economic sectors and the outcome document must support a green economy that works for the poor.

5. Rio+20 must ensure that Precautionary Principle be applied to national and international green economy plans. Twenty years after the Rio Earth Summit, the planet is in a deeper environmental, energy and financial crisis. The period has also seen increasing political and social crisis in many regions. Several leaders have recognized that "business as usual is not an option".

We could not agree more, and we have options.

#### General Content

Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20: We expect a commitment to poverty eradication, investment in healthy, fair and sustainable food and agricultural systems; commitment to the realization of right to water and realization of right to food; re-affirmation of the principle 15 of agenda 21; commitment to support for measures to curb excessive speculation on commodity markets and reconsideration of ambitious targets for biofuels in the context of sustainable development.

#### Specific Elements of this submission:

Endorsing the objective of the conference, our submission focuses on the following sectoral priorities: food security, sustainable agriculture, water, biodiversity and climate change. In addition, we address the challenges and potential of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

With its focus on the green economy, Rio+20 attempts to address one of the negative consequences of the development path we have followed: environmental degradation. As a market based mechanism that helps address issues related to environmental crisis, it is believed that the green economy will help the world achieve sustainability.

This assumption ignores the role of global capital and finance in the continuation of social injustice and creation of the political crisis. A green economy divorced from social, political and financial concerns will not help address the multiple crises the world faces today.

In this brief submission we will look at these issues with a focus on the right to water and the right to food, as well as environmentally sustainable, economically viable, socio-economically just food and agricultural systems, with special attention to rights of women, indigenous groups and rural communities.

Recalling Resolution 64/236 that describes the focus of the Conference: The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development" we suggest the following:

1. Inclusion of agriculture in all its dimensions as a core issue at the UNCSD in Rio and subsequently in global policy and practice.

Agriculture sits squarely at the center of the challenges we face in the beginning of this century. Over the last 50 years many nation-states have made amazing progress towards achieving food security. Unprecedented levels of agricultural production ensure that globally we produce enough food to feed humanity. Yet, millions of households and close to a billion individuals remain food insecure. A still larger number, more than double, do not have access to water for meeting basic needs such as sanitation, an essential service by modern standards of development. Also, most of the increase in agricultural productivity has been at the cost of water pollution and depletion, land degradation, global warming and biodiversity loss.

It does not have to be this way. The right kind of agricultural and trade policies that support healthier food systems (and accompanying water governance) can not only help us meet challenges in realizing right to water and right to food, but can also ensure biodiversity protection, climate adaptation and emission mitigation.

We request that "Socially just, ecologically sustainable and economically viable agriculture [i.e. agriculture that ensures sustainable development] in the context of poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development" should be a major focus of this conference. This request accords with submissions made by over a hundred civil society organizations from around the world.

2. Inclusion of international human rights at the center of future global development frameworks and at the center of national plans around the green economy\_ We will focus on right to water and right to food in this submission, but also will refer to a few other rights.

#### A. Right to water

The global water crisis has become a powerful symbol of inequality in our world. Diarrhea caused by lack of clean drinking water and sanitation has killed more children than malaria, measles and HIV/ AIDS combined. 4 More people die as a result of polluted water than are killed by all forms of violence including wars. 5 Over 80 percent of people with unimproved drinking water and 70 percent of people without improved sanitation live in rural areas." Most of them live in developing countries and emerging economies.

Emphasizing the centrality of access to drinking water and sanitation UNSG's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) calls for the incorporation of water and sanitation in the three pillars of sustainable development: "i). Social: [...] A healthy living environment, one that supports human dignity and is free of disease-transmitting agents and conditions, is impossible if open defecation is widely practiced. Access to safe, clean toilets brings dignity, equity and safety, particularly for women and girls. Toilets and safe water in schools increase attendance, particularly for adolescent girls. Without sanitation and clean water, sustainable development's social objectives remain unmet. 2). Economic: A growing body of empirical evidence shows that poor sanitation and a lack of clean water curbs economic growth. The economic objectives of sustainable development will be greatly advanced by the expansion of basic sanitation services.).

Environmental: Clearly, a healthy environment depends on sanitation. [...]."7 We endorse this call to incorporate right to water in the outcome document.

Recognizing the importance of sanitation to sustainable development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development agreed in 2002 to include sanitation in the list of targets to achieve Millennium Development Goal 7 on environmental sustainability. Later on, in November 2002 the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted General Comment 15 on the right to water, which elaborated on the international obligations in relation to the right to water and sanitation!" In 2010 the "right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation" was recognized by the UN General Assembly as "a human right essential to the full enjoyment of life and all other human rights—.

The creation of any future global development framework must build on this growing international recognition of the right to water and sanitation.

#### B. Right to food

According to the World Food Summit Plan of Action (1996), which took place four years after the Earth Summit in Rio, "Food Security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life". This was followed in 1999 by the General Comment 12 on Right to Food, which elaborated on the international obligations in relation to the right to water. In November 2004, 187 Member States of the General Council of the FAO, adopted the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security."

Realization of the right to food remains a mirage, however. According to the U.N Food and Agriculture Organization, 925 million people in the world suffered from hunger (which is the world's leading health risk) in 2010." At the same time, as a result of unhealthy foods and diets 1.5 billion people were overweight and obese (making it the fifth leading risk for global deaths) in 2008.12 These contradictions are not only a powerful symbol of global inequality, but also indicative of the broken nature of our food and agricultural systems.

While the idea of the green economy seeks to address the question of resource efficiency in agriculture, it has not yet grappled with the challenges and contradictions of our current food and agricultural systems. In this context, the green economy can become more meaningful by emphasizing food sovereignty, which calls for an overall framework for "food and agricultural policies that put the right to sufficient, healthy and culturally appropriate food for all individuals, peoples and communities [...] at the center of food, agriculture, livestock and fisheries policies."" This concept, which has been endorsed by farm organizations around the world, values food providers, localizes food systems, and values the knowledge and skills of small-scale food providers. It works in harmony with nature through using smaller-scale, ecological forms of food provision. Social justice and ecological sensitivity are essential components in this framework.

The creation of any future global framework on agriculture and food systems must build on the international recognition of right to food and food sovereignty.

#### C. Inclusion of Rights of Women and Rights of Indigenous Peoples

The Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food saw a clear connection between access to water and the right to food. In his preliminary report to the UN General Assembly, in 2001, he pointed out that, "As a component of the right to food, access to safe, clean drinking water and basic irrigation water must be protected under the obligations to respect, protect and fulfill the right to food and through international cooperation." He elaborated: "everyone must have access to drinking water on equal terms and that irrigation water should also be accessible for poor peasants who depend on their land to feed themselves:

This focus on water for poor peasants is particularly relevant for farm women's food security. Women play major roles in food production, processing and preparation, and yet a majority of the food insecure are women. The future of agricultural and food systems has to be built on the firm foundation of women's empowerment for it to be sustainable and equitable. Also, as women form a large majority of world's hungry, ensuring the food security of all women requires recognizing women's rights as central to the green economy. The outcome document and national plans that deal with green economy must take cognizance of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), often described as an international bill of rights for women.

Similarly, the outcome document must place the implementation of UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples at the center of the green economy.' Across the world, indigenous communities and pastoralists are victims of discrimination, oppression and even expulsion from their home lands and alienation from their livelihoods. Rio+20 should recognize that sustainable development is possible only if the right to food and right to water obligations to these communities are met through the realization of Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

3. Address the means to reduce food price volatility, including support for measures to prevent excessive speculation on commodity markets and reduce ambitious targets for biofuels use

Almost 70 percent of the global poor reside in rural areas. In developed countries too, family farmers and rural inhabitants are forced to leave their communities in search of employment. In that context, investments in agriculture and food systems will provide livelihood options for people, allowing them the opportunity to stay in their communities, and meet their food security needs.

Proposals for valuing ecosystem services and incentivizing biodiversity protection offer projects for financial flows to rural areas. However, these opportunities also open up the potential for new forms of commodification of nature. In the past, commodification of nature (be it in the form of food, timber, metals or minerals) has usually resulted in the marginalization of rural communities. Most of the flow of wealth is away from the communities, leaving impoverished communities and devastated natural resources behind. Similar patterns of extractive exploitation have been the norm in international trade too, where countries dependent on exports of primary commodities reap few of the benefits of that production.

This extractive form of wealth accumulation has left the large majority of the world's people poorer. Deregulation of the financial sector has increased commodity speculation

and derivative trading, which has left those involved in primary production at the mercy of the vagaries of markets driven more by financial speculators than market fundamentals of supply and demand. A report issued in June 2011 by a UNCTAD on the growing influence of financial speculators on commodity markets, including agriculture prices, said: "The 'financialization' of commodity markets has changed trading behaviour and significantly affects the prices of such basic goods as staple foods."

Volatility has also been increased by new pressures on food stocks, among them rising demand for biofuels. The recent report on food price volatility by the High Level Panel of Experts explores this issue in detail. That panel, which presented its recommendations at the 17Lb Session of the Committee on Food Security, concluded that both subsidies and the ambitious targets for biofuel use set by the U.S. and European Union should be reconsidered.

While the environmental benefits of biofuels are questionable, biofuels development can contribute to improvements in rural livelihoods and farm prices, particularly in the U.S. and Europe, where corporate-driven agriculture policies have historically driven overproduction of commodities, resulting in prices for these crops often dropping below the cost of production. At the same time, profit demands by foreign biofuels investors have contributed to land grabs in developing countries. Subsidies to biofuel production should be immediately eliminated, with funding redirected to agro-ecological production systems that is environmentally and socially sound. Mandates and targets must be reduced based upon realistic and sustainable production levels that prioritize local and domestic food security needs.

Volatility could also be ameliorated by new initiatives to advance food reserves. The G20 agriculture and development ministers have endorsed a new initiative to test food reserves in West Africa. This experiment should be expanded, building on recent experiences with food reserves in other countries and regions.

#### 4. Redirect investments towards a green economy that works for the poor: Lessons from carbon markets

Every crisis is can be an opportunity for addressing the root causes: be it food crisis, financial crisis or climate crisis. Yet most often the responses tend to be transactional in nature; rarely transformational, and rarely help us move towards solving the crisis itself. The financial flows involved simply benefit global capital. The crisis in the environment (biodiversity, water quality, water availability) has given rise to plans around the green economy. Unless it is a green economy that works for the poor, some of these initiatives around offsets (such as biodiversity derivatives) could further marginalize them.

Any definition of the green economy should refrain from projects for environmental offsets, both because of questions around the environmental integrity of such credits and because of the well reported market integrity failures of carbon derivatives markets. For example, carbon offsets, often promoted as the preferred solution for climate change mitigation, attempts to compensate for the scientific uncertainties about carbon sequestration with aggressive accounting methodologies especially if one is to go by the example of the new pilot project to develop an offset market for soil carbon sequestration in Kenya. According to a recent study by IATP,

"The World Bank, through its BioCarbon Fund, is showcasing the Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project as an "early action" to demonstrate a "triple win" for mitigation, adaptation and food security for small-scale producers, while delivering carbon finance through the sale of credits in the carbon market. It claims that, The Kenya Agricultural Carbon Project is not only the first project that sells soil carbon credits in Africa, it is also paving the way for a new approach to carbon accounting methodologies." While the project will support improvements in agricultural practices that could -benefit local farmers, the carbon market approach is a very shaky foundation for climate finance. Nearly half of the monetary benefits from the proposed offset credits would be absorbed by project developers as "transaction costs," with miniscule returns to the farmers who would be implementing the project [emphasis added]."

An alternative approach should ensure that the funds for incentivizing ecosystem protection are generated through better regulation, and that financial flows would actually reach the communities in question, rather than being captured by carbon accountants. Investments in infrastructure development (including in transport, education and health, and those in developing viable livelihood options that are qualitatively at par with urban centers, as desired by these communities) are central to sustainable and equitable development, so that rural areas no longer continue to function as a colonies for meeting the resource needs of urban centers or wealth accumulation of middlemen and intermediaries.

The prosperity of the urban areas continues to be often at the cost of rural areas. The poverty of the urban centers is borne by the poor of the rural areas. The emphasis on the green economy, which has emerged in the context of environmental crisis, has the potential to either become yet another route for capital accumulation of the few, or, done right, it has the potential to charter a new path towards equitable development which puts rural areas and urban poor at the center of future development efforts.

Rio must commit public finances not only towards incentivizing environmental protection but also towards enhancing rural services delivery. We call on Rio+20 to ensure that the outcome document support a green economy that works for the poor.

In addition to the above,

we endorse the calls made by other civil society organizations, in asking Rio+20 to recognize the reformed UN Committee on World Food Security (CPS), as the primary mechanism with mandate for identifying current deficiencies and shortcomings that impede the implementation of existing plans and proposals on sustainable agriculture and food. We recommend that Rio+20 select for implementation policy options approved by more than 50 governments and outlined in the reports of International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), within the mandate to develop a work plan for implementing the decisions of UNCSD 2012.

We also endorse the call by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to redirect investments toward the greener and more pro-poor options across key economic sectors. The submission elaborates on a green economy which works for the world's poor as one that would:

1. maintain growth while reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the economy as a whole, and promote job creation and other economic opportunities in key economic sectors that predominantly employ the poor
2. generate more public revenues to enable investment in environment-friendly quality services, to which the poor would have equitable access;
3. retain biodiversity and ecosystem services, while also maintaining the livelihoods of the poor and creating opportunities for local sustainable enterprises to thrive;
4. promote equitable access to energy and its efficient use;
5. build resilience to economic, social, environmental and other risks;
6. empower the poor and marginalized, including women and indigenous peoples, to play an active role in the investment decisions that have an effect on their well-being;
7. pursue pro-poor environmental fiscal and financial tools, including financing mechanisms that benefit local communities.

We wish to conclude by drawing attention to some principles that we must revisit and inform Rio+20.

Some of the assumptions we made regarding our ability to manage environmental risks related to economic growth have proven to be wrong. But some of the key principles that were adopted during the Earth Summit, such as the Precautionary Principle, must be reaffirmed in Rio+20 as central to future global development framework." Central to the precautionary principle is the element of anticipation; other important elements include - plausible threats of harm, lack of scientific certainty, as well as precautionary



actions which take a long-term approach and which might anticipate changes on the basis of current scientific knowledge. An example of this is the civil society call to include, technology assessment based on the precautionary principle with full civil society participation to assess the social and environmental impacts, on the agenda for Rio+20.

Most importantly Rio+20 must recognize that we have an obligation to prevent harm to the commons that we hold in trust for future generations and that governments, in consultation with communities have a key role to play in protecting the commons, and in doing this they should be guided by ethics rather than by profits.

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## Institute for Essential Services Reform (IESR)

INSTITUTE FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES REFORM position for UNCSD (Rio+200) on Combating Energy Poverty as a Mean to Improve Green Economy in Order to Alleviate Poverty

Access to energy is instrumental in achieving poverty alleviation and sustainable growth. Lack of access to modern clean energy is serious hindrance to well being, as well as social and economic development, and must be overcome in order to achieve Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Access to modern form of energy is essential to the provision of clean water, sanitation and health care, and can contribute to the development through the provision of lightning, heating, cooking, telecommunication and transport services. Furthermore, without meeting the required energy, both in terms of quality and quantity, it is impossible for one to achieve their sustainability; which leads to unsustainable development.

Billions of people globally are living in energy poverty condition. Currently over 1.4 billion people are without access to electricity, and 2.7 billion people are heavily reliant on traditional biomass. Mostly of those are living in sub-Saharan Africa and developing Asia, and about 85% are living in the rural area. According to IEA (2030), these figures will not change significantly in 2030, and leave about 15% of population still without access to the electricity, and even more with lack of clean cooking fuels. Failure to act significantly, will hamper many communities and countries, not only to growth in sustainable pathways, but also will grow the inequalities between developed and developing countries, as well as among communities within the countries.

Henceforth, the occasion of Rio+20 will be an opportunity for:

- Renewing and increasing the political commitments to combat energy poverty by supporting universal access to clean energy. Commitment for energy provision, not only from the demand side, but also from the supply side.
- To promote actions and accountability in areas such as the green economy and post-MDG framework which are inseparable from the issue of energy.
- To ensure that fairness and equity, to be the center of any sustainable development means.

To increase the political commitments on energy provision

At Rio+20, there should be an increasing of political commitments of governments, with supports from international agencies and civil society, which will result in implementation of energy provision, both in the demand side and also in the supply side. There are several elements that should be strengthened, in terms of future commitments in the energy provisions.

- Assessing the 20 years of progress since Rio 1992, on the access to modern energy for 20 years, then to raise the ambition to increase the universal access to modern energy services taking the account of equity principle.
- Needs to make bold commitment on fossil fuel subsidies reform. As all nations have been highly depending on fossil fuel, and fossil fuel subsidies, in many forms have consumed up public funding and have made renewable energy less competitive.

Without alternative energy form widely available, and lower cost for fossil fuel, have created more dependency on the fossil fuels. All countries should commit themselves to phase out fossil fuel subsidies gradually, and shifted it to all means that will enforce the access to energy for all through better policy tools and mechanism that help the poor for accessing modern clean energy services.

- To increase the access to modern energy, all country members should commit to transfer of technology, and formulate the energy-financing scheme that carries the principle of equity.

On Green Economy

At Rio+20, all country members should come up with an agreed understanding of green economy since there should not be a one-size-fits-all definition on green economy. The understanding of green economy should accommodate the level of development, equity and also common but differentiated responsibilities principles. There are

several elements that should be incorporated in the understanding of green economy. Green economy should be an economy that will increase the number of jobs, restoring the quality of environment, efficient use of natural resources capital, improving the quality of life of human being.

The green economy that is formulated in Rio+20 should consist of:

Commit to full adoption of clean energy

Clean energy is the key element to develop one's economy. A clear definition of clean energy should also be agreed at Rio+20 Summit which should not consist the burning of coal, nuclear power plant, or any other facilities where environment and social impacts are disturbed as the result.

Renewable energy facilities should be widely used throughout the member countries. At the same time, energy efficient economy should also be developed accordingly. Developed countries should provide assistances in both knowledge and funding to developing countries in making transition to low carbon energy pathways. Ensuring the Access to Energy

The access to energy should also be highlighted in the context of fair green economy. Access to energy should address the need to energy provision that is affordable, ensuring its availability, transparency in technology acceptability, and also to improve the accessibility. In this regards, access to information should also be improved in order to ensure that all the above criteria are met.

Capacity building and access to information should be embedded into the issue of ensuring the access to energy. Both are highly important in order to enhance the access to energy. Without capacity building and also proper access to information, the improvement of access to energy will not be sustained.

Phasing Out the Fossil Fuel Subsidies

Fossil fuel subsidies should be phased out. According to IEA (2011), global fossil fuel subsidies reached more than \$ 409 billion annually in 2010, increased from \$ 312 billion in 2009. Without meaningful reform, this subsidy is estimated to reach \$ 660 billion in 2020 or 00,7 percent of global gross domestic product.

Not only the subsidies have increased its favorable option compare to renewable energy, but also fossil fuel subsidies will lead to more dependency to fossil fuel and accelerate climate change. There should be an agreement to shift the fossil fuel subsidies to further development and deployment of renewable energy to combat global warming, and at the same time ensuring the equitable access to energy services for all.

Energy Financing and Technology Transfer

In order to increase the access to energy, financing for energy should also be established. IEA estimated that to provide universal access to modern energy services in 2030 requires \$ 776 billion additional financing or about \$ 36 billion investment annually. Strengthening political commitment for supporting universal energy services in Rio+20 should include commitment to generate additional investment from public sources.

Furthermore, Rio+20 should come up with the framework on scheme for alternative financing mechanism for supporting universal access to energy which shall be accessed by all countries. This funding must be governed by the principle of transparency, accountability, and practicability, with proper monitoring and evaluation mechanism in place.

Given that the biggest challenge for energy provision is in the rural areas, off-grid and decentralized energy system based on renewable energy technologies will be suitable for this purpose. However, cost for renewable energy systems applied for rural electrification are considered expensive, therefore limits the ability of most developing countries to deploy renewable energy extensively to meet their rural energy provision target.

Therefore, in addition to the availability of finance, developing countries through various channel must assist developing countries with the state-of-art renewable energy technology with higher efficiency, and cost effective, through a global technology transfer mechanism program. This program must come with the objective to enable developing countries to develop and manufacture renewable energy technology such as: low cost photovoltaic (PV) technology, low cost solar thermal, high efficient micro and mini-hydro, advance improved cook-stove technology, wind power, and biomass technologies.

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## Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

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- Version 1.0

Inputs to the compilation document of the  
outcome document of Rio+20

November, 2011

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Inputs to the compilation document of the outcome document of Rio+20

IGES Policy Report

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Printed in Japan  
Printed on recycled paper  
The IGES Proposal for Rio+20  
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### References: List of Relevant IGES Publication

### Disclaimer

This proposal has been developed in response to the call by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) for stakeholders'™ input to a compilation document to serve as the basis for preparation of the zero draft of the outcome document of the United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development (UNCSD: Rio+20). The views and opinions contained within are based upon IGES research and include inputs from various international conferences, such as the 3rd International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (ISAP2011).  
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#### Abbreviations

ADB Asian Development Bank

AECEN Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network

AEO Asian Environmental Organization

ATCs Asian Topic Centres

CAREC Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia

COP Conference of the Parties

CRED Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters

EEA European Environment Agency

EIONET European Environment Information and Observation Network

EPI environmental policy integration

EPR extended producer responsibility

G20 Group of Twenty

GA General Assembly

GC Governing Council (UNEP)

GHG greenhouse gas

GMEF Global Ministerial Environment Forum (UNEP)

HFA Hyogo Framework for Action

IEG International Environmental Governance

IFIs International Finance Institutions

IFSD institutional framework for sustainable development

IGES Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

IMF International Monetary Fund

IPBES Intergovernmental Science and Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

ISAP International Forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific

JIU Joint Inspection Unit

MDGs millennium development goals

MEAs multilateral environmental agreements

MRV measuring, reporting and verifying

NAMAs nationally appropriate mitigation actions

NEASPEC North-East Asian Sub-regional Programme for Environmental Cooperation

NGO non-governmental organisation

NRCs National Reference Centres

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

PES payment for ecosystem services

REDD reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation

SACEP South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme

SCP sustainable consumption and production

SD sustainable development

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

SPREP Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme

TEEB The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity

UKG Union of Kansai Governments

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UN United Nations

UNCRD United Nations Centre for Regional Development

UNCSD United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development

UN CSD UN Commission on Sustainable Development

UNDESA United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

UN ECOSOC UN Economic and Social Council

UNEO United Nations Environment Organisation

UNEP United Nations Environment Programme

UNFCCC United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNISDR United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction  
WCDR World Conference on Disaster Reduction  
WEO World Environment Organisation  
WTO World Trade Organization  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Vision Statement

IGES maintains that sustainable development can only be achieved by addressing the three interdependent dimensions of economy, society, and environment in an integrated manner. A Green Economy, supported by a strengthened Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development is based on safe, secure, and low-carbon energy, with integrated climate change and development priorities taking into account resilience to natural and manmade hazards.

Simultaneously, over the next few decades, international society will need to focus on achieving global goals that address these dimensions:

- (1) Eradicate poverty and meet the basic human needs of all people including safe food, safe drinking water, adequate sanitation, health care, and universal primary education;
- (2) Reorient the world's economic system towards a low-carbon approach, sustainable resource use, and sustainable use of ecosystem services; and
- (3) Secure environmental integrity, particularly through dealing with climate change and biodiversity.

In the Asia-Pacific region, these challenges have become more significant due to population growth, industrialisation, urbanisation, and economic growth based on unsustainable consumption and production patterns. The IGES vision foresees the emergence of interlinked global governance institutions and resilient social and economic systems based on the principles of sustainable development.

IGES believes that one of the key concepts underpinning integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development is resilience, and it should be revisited by all countries. The international community has been reminded by the recent disaster in Japan of the severe consequences of unchecked vulnerabilities, but also of the value of resilience to minimize the impact of disasters and hasten recovery. Greater emphasis in policy and research should be given to resilience, vulnerability and risk management in sustainable development.

To achieve such a resilient and sustainable society in the long-term, discussions should begin in the Rio+20 process to develop Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) aimed at reducing absolute and relative poverty, changing consumption patterns, securing sustainable energy systems (including renewable energy targets), and increasing resilience.

### Resilient and Sustainable Society

A resilient society has the adaptive capacity and robustness to handle shocks while maintaining functionality, and over time, grow stronger. Sudden extreme events can damage past achievements and delay progress on sustainable development. The world's poor are disproportionately exposed to risk, but vulnerability is not necessarily mitigated simply through economic development or increased income. Globalization, climate change, and unsustainable development paths will contribute to increasingly frequent extreme

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events with global implications such as natural disasters and economic crises. The key components for a sustainable and resilient society recommended by IGES include:

- (1) Multi-stakeholder/multi-level governance with better participation and a pro-poor and vulnerable approach for agile, flexible and effective social/political support through better coordination and utilization of local social ties and knowledge;
- (2) Financial schemes for immediate and medium-term recovery which supports households and small-medium business; and
- (3) Decentralized and diversified infrastructure for energy, water, transportation etc. with

balanced management of supply/demand sides.

The extent to which these components are adopted and integrated in each country are determined by the local context and through the development of enabling conditions.

#### Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

IGES recognises that a key challenge in pursuit of sustainable development is the social, economic and environmental vulnerability caused by one-sided pursuit of economic growth and efficiency. An emerging paradigm shift to overcome these key challenges is the concept of a green economy supported by investment, job creation, international policy coordination, and the precautionary approach. Towards this goal, IGES proposes the following.

##### (1) For a low-carbon economy with a resilient, secure energy system

ĩ,Ÿ Investing in renewable energy, storage and a smart grid is vital to reducing vulnerability by enhancing a decentralised electricity supply, which would secure a backup system during a disaster, and by enhancing demand-side management. Governments should promote this trend by introducing incentives such as feed-in-tariffs and phase out of fossil fuel subsidies.

##### (2) For sustainable consumption and production

ĩ,Ÿ Policy for requiring producers to internalise the costs of recycling and other actions for reducing resource consumption, e.g. extended producer responsibility (EPR) and green tax, as well as for making environmental impacts visible to consumers, e.g. green labelling, must be introduced and supported by increased efforts on education, training and skills enhancement. The effectiveness of these interventions depends on environmental awareness of consumers as well as ability of producers to improve product design and production processes.

ĩ,Ÿ A phased approach to introduce these policies taking into account the developmental stages of implementing countries along with international policy cooperation will be most effective.

ĩ,Ÿ An international fund for sustainable resource management should be established.

##### (3) For sustainable use of ecosystem services

ĩ,Ÿ Wide application of payment for ecosystem services (PES) will contribute to appropriate pricing and sustainable use of ecosystem services in the context of poverty eradication. To promote this, accounting systems should incorporate the

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economic benefits of ecosystem services from project level to national accounts.

ĩ,Ÿ Current practice of pricing ecosystem services based on our willingness-to-pay does not necessarily promise sustainable use of ecosystems. To overcome this limitation, the price of ecosystem services can be determined such that policies or actions to ensure sustainable use of ecosystem services would improve social welfare.

#### Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

As the challenges to sustainable development have outgrown existing institutional capacities, it is now time to update the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD).

IGES's vision on the key principles and directions for IFSD is that it should include: multilevel governance and participation; integration and mainstreaming among the three dimensions of sustainable development; the subsidiarity principle; and strengthening environmental governance, because environment is the foundation for all other human and economic activity. IGES believes that fundamental reform of IFSD and international environmental governance (IEG) should be undertaken with a graduated and phased approach. Each sequence will provide necessary momentum for subsequent steps.

For the short-to-medium term, IGES encourages governments to support the creation of a Sustainable Development Council to better coordinate and oversee budgeting of all UN programmes and agencies. IGES also recommends appointing a High Commissioner for SD.

Similarly, at the national level, SD concerns should receive greater attention and be harmonized and mainstreamed into sectoral work programmes through enhanced national coordination.

For IEG, UNEP reform should start with universal membership of its Governing Council to enhance legitimacy of IEG and eliminate the time-consuming elections of representatives to the GC. Subsequently, UNEP should be upgraded to a specialized agency, with a decision making mandate and legal independence. In the longer term, IGES suggests the strengthening of regional environmental governance through, for example, formation of a regional environmental hub to be developed in the long run into an Asian Environmental Organization, similar to regional cooperation frameworks in other regions.

#### Conclusion

IGES foresees the emergence of interlinked global governance institutions and resilient social and economic systems based on the principles of sustainable development. The Green Economy is an important interim milestone in this vision, in particular for poverty eradication and as a step towards sustainable consumption and production. To support this transition, a reinforced Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) is a necessary condition, in which multi-level and multi-stakeholder governance, as well as equity and social inclusiveness, are crucial.

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#### 1. Introduction

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) 1 proposes the following key messages and recommendations on the two themes of Rio+20, namely Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication and the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) and on the response to the triple disaster in Japan. Each section incorporates answers to the questions raised by UNDESA's Guidance Note, including the expectations for the outcomes of Rio+20 and views on existing concrete and new proposals, by considering forward-looking perspectives on the way forward post-Rio+20.

##### 1.1. Vision Statement

IGES maintains that sustainable development can only be achieved by addressing the three interdependent dimensions of economy, society, and environment in an integrated manner. Simultaneously, over the next few decades, international society will be focusing on global goals that address these dimensions: (1) eradicate poverty and meet the basic human needs of all people including safe food and drinking water, adequate sanitation, health care, and universal primary education; (2) reorient the world's economic system towards a low-carbon approach, sustainable resource use, and sustainable use of ecosystem services; and (3) secure environmental integrity, particularly through dealing with climate change and biodiversity. In the Asia-Pacific region, these challenges have become more significant due to population growth, industrialisation, urbanisation, and economic growth based on unsustainable consumption and production patterns.

Over the years, gaps in interests and priorities within and among countries have hindered international cooperation for sustainable development. However, the international community has been reminded by the recent Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent tsunami and the nuclear accident of the severe consequences associated with modern development patterns. Japan may have not paid sufficient attention to vulnerability, rather, it may have too strongly pursued economic development to the detriment of social and environmental risks, thereby undermining the resilience of society to manmade and natural hazards—all with tremendous economic, social and environmental costs. One of the key concepts underpinning integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development is "resilience," which should be revisited by all countries.

The IGES vision foresees the emergence of interlinked global governance institutions and resilient social and economic systems based on the principles of sustainable development. The Green Economy is an important interim milestone in this vision towards sustainable development. To support this transition, a reinforced IFSD is a necessary condition, in which multi-level and multi-stakeholder governance, as well as equity and social inclusiveness, are crucial. A Green Economy supported by a strengthened IFSD is based on safe, secure, and low-carbon energy, with integrated climate change and development priorities taking into account natural and manmade hazards.

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IGES is an international research institute conducting practical and innovative research for realising sustainable development with a special focus on the Asia-Pacific region.

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To achieve such a resilient and sustainable society in the long-term, discussions should begin in the Rio+20 process to develop sustainable development goals (SDGs). Similar to the millennium development goals (MDGs), potential SDGs may include reducing absolute and relative poverty, changing consumption patterns, and restructuring energy systems including renewable energy targets. Indicators for the carrying capacity and boundaries of natural systems could provide an early warning system for human activities that potentially exceed thresholds of the planet's life support systems. Strengthening IFSD on issues such as climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity and forests, oceans and water resources, and food security among other global issues, could be a solid foundation for goal setting in order to achieve sustainable development beyond Rio+20. This may require streamlining and harmonisation of multilateral environment agreements, with more quantitative targets to enable progress to be more accurately measured than is currently possible.

The following sections of this proposal introduce IGES views on (i) Resilient and Sustainable Society, (ii) Green Economy, and (iii) IFSD to contribute to effective policy formulation for sustainable development beyond Rio+20.

Figure 1-1 IGES vision for achieving sustainable development

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## 2. Resilient and Sustainable Society

### 2.0. Background

To attain sustainable development, it is essential to understand the impacts of human activities on the environment and the environment's limited ability to recover from these impacts and support continued growth. However, in reality, society, the economy, and the environment are exposed to the devastating impacts of unforeseen events such as natural, social, and economic disasters. Natural hazards such as earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and hurricanes occur every year. Climate-related natural hazards such as extreme floods and droughts are predicted to increase in frequency and intensity, in part due to the effects of climate change exacerbated by increasing levels of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from human activities. Social, cultural, and economic events also trigger disruptive clashes such as conflicts and economic crises. To make matters worse, these sudden, extreme events can quickly erase past achievements and delay progress towards sustainable development.

Loosely defined, resilience is the capacity of a system to be it an individual, a forest, a city, or an economy to deal with change and continue to develop. It is both about withstanding shocks and disturbances (like climate change or financial crisis) and using such events to catalyze renewal, novelty, and innovation. (Folke, 2009)

A resilient society has the adaptive capacity and robustness to handle shocks while maintaining functionality, and over time, grow stronger. Japan has developed resilient social systems and invested heavily in disaster management, but the impacts of the triple disaster on March 11, 2011 showed a continuing vulnerability to such disasters. Globalisation, climate change, and unsustainable development paths will, inter alia, contribute to the increasing occurrence of extreme events with global implications, such as natural disasters and economic crises. Thus, greater emphasis in policy and research should be allocated to the relationship between resilience and vulnerability in sustainable development.



Figure 2-1 Sustainable development and resilience

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## 2.1. Key Challenges

Japan is one of the few countries in the world with sophisticated disaster management policies and practices and has played an important role in establishing an international cooperation framework for disaster risk reduction by hosting two world conferences on natural disasters (Yokohama, May 1994 and Kobe, January 2005). In Kobe at the World Conference on Disaster Reduction in 2005, Japan contributed to the development of the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) with priorities for action expected to result in “the substantial reduction of disaster losses, in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries” (UNISDR, 2007).<sup>2</sup>

However, despite Japan’s excellent early warning system on extreme weather, the disasters in the northeast of Japan on March 11, 2011 revealed the vulnerability of Japan’s highly centralised socio-economic and political systems. The earthquake and tsunami affected a broad area and resulted in widespread damage, including a major accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant which has triggered a persisting crisis.

As the disasters unfolded, it became immediately apparent that emergency and relief operations would be needed on a massive scale; but there were frustrating delays, amongst other factors, due partly to the time consuming process of decision making within the central government, and to damage to the key functions of local governments.

Japan has also suffered massive damage to key economic activities as a result of the disasters. Factories in the area producing essential components for automobiles and electric appliances were demolished. This resulted in stoppages in the automotive and consumer-electronics industry in the eastern part of Japan and shortages around the world for weeks after, which highlighted the short-term vulnerability of global supply chains and “just-in-time” manufacturing systems. The power shortages caused subsequent to the nuclear accident led small and medium enterprises and households to dramatically reduce energy consumption. The radioactive materials leaked from the nuclear power plant resulted in heavy damage to the local agriculture and fishing industries, not to mention the impact on domestic tourism and exports.

These damages represented significant obstacles to recovery and reconstruction of society and the local economy. Moreover, due to the damage and subsequent reconstruction, earlier progress to protect the environment and develop a sustainable society and economy are also at risk. For instance, radioactive contamination of farmland, water resources, and fishing areas impose a heavy burden on the government and residents in terms of livelihood and safety. The disposal of waste material including those contaminated by nuclear radiation and the rebuilding of homes and infrastructure will also have substantial environmental implications. To make up for the power deficit due to the stoppage of nuclear plant operations throughout the country, conventional coal power plants have resumed operations, which is making it more difficult for Japan to reduce GHG emissions in accordance with international agreements.

2

The HFA, based in part on Japan’s experience in the Hanshin-Awaji Earthquake in 1995, was the first document of its type on disaster risk reduction developed and agreed upon internationally.

3

Major damages include the loss of about 20,000 lives, thousands of residences, key production bases and sources of livelihood, and damage to supply chain linkages.

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As reported in the International Disaster Database EM-DAT, maintained by the Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), global damages caused by natural disasters are on an upward trend. Asia is particularly vulnerable. From 2000-2009, almost

85% of global deaths from natural disasters occurred in the region (UNISDR, 2010). The trends are set to continue mainly due to unplanned urbanisation, environmental degradation and climate change.

In order to pursue sustainable development in a world repeatedly hit by such crises and disasters, including those related to climate change, IGES proposes that national governments and international society draw lessons from the challenges that Japanese society is facing following these disasters. The following issues are not only important with regard to disaster responses, but also for associated issues which require comprehensive action, such as climate change adaptation.

## 2.2. Key Approaches/Principles

Achieving a sustainable and disaster resilient society requires multi-level and multi-stakeholder adaptive governance, protection of vulnerable people, financial schemes to insure against and mitigate natural disasters, and decentralised and diversified infrastructure for energy, water, and transportation suitable to the local conditions.

Figure 2-2 Key directions and principles

### 2.2.1. Governance for a resilient and sustainable society

#### Multi-stakeholder collaboration

In order to build a resilient society, a multi-level governance scheme needs to be developed in which each stakeholder must conduct complementary actions which can be delivered most efficiently (WCDDR, 2005; Leighton et al., 2011). A flexible system of collaboration among various national and local governments and communities works more effectively than simple systems, such as an independent, centralised system or decentralised systems with no internal collaboration.

Multi-stakeholder collaborative approaches should be incorporated into economic and social development planning, environmental policies, and disaster management plans. Neither top-down nor bottom-up approaches alone are sufficient in dealing with major natural

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disasters; rather, there is a need for a balanced and convergent approach. Policy frameworks have come under scrutiny in light of the increasing number and intensity of climate-related disasters, and often conflicting actions by different ministries responsible for climate change and disaster risk reduction indicate the importance of horizontal cooperation. Resilient societies should build upon cooperation among local municipalities, as well as between municipalities, NGOs and private companies. A challenging task is to aid the progress of sustainable relief aid from these stakeholders, which requires that national governments create an enabling environment to facilitate sustained voluntary relief from different groups of stakeholders. It is also critical to establish aid and volunteer coordination mechanisms for the early stages of a disaster. Long-term partnerships, twinning, and pairing between local governments, schools, a wide range of experts, and business sectors have proven to be useful in responding to disasters. Important lessons can be learned through international cooperation and capacity development where countries share their experiences and best practices.

#### Public participation

Characteristics of each local community and government, such as geography and industrial and population structure, vary by region and by the type of disaster. Thus, there is a need to respect such differences in planning and implementing disaster management, mitigation measures, disaster relief aid, and reconstruction policies. On this account, it is vital to encourage public participation in disaster management policies as well as overall socio-economic development (Tobin, 1999; Godschalk et al., 2003; Shaw & Goda, 2004; Palen et al., 2007), particularly for two reasons. First, the local community may often have greater in-depth knowledge of the local environment and society than other stakeholders. Their collective historical knowledge is vital for disaster prevention and during the recovery stage. Second, reliable and consistent information sharing and crisis management is vital to

strengthen people's awareness, preparedness, and cooperation among governments at all levels as well as local communities. Public participation is a key element to make relief aid and rehabilitation sustainable, in a similar fashion, it is necessary to point out that it is to support the self-reliance of the disaster victims, not to obtrude assistance" (Tama, 2011). The Japanese experiences in disaster relief and recovery well illustrate this point.

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For emergency rescue activities, the first few days following a disaster are absolutely critical. Thus, a strong community can better manage rescue efforts immediately following a disaster using their collective knowledge of the area and local society, as well as their well-developed lines of communication with different stakeholders. However, if the affected area is too broad, communities experience difficulty in providing support to each other. In this regard, inter-community and inter-municipality relief aid as elaborated by Box 2-1 below is considered to be an effective solution for larger areas. When organising relief in the aftermath of the Sichuan earthquake, the Chinese central government paired disaster affected communities with communities in unaffected areas (UNCRD, 2009).

Box 2-1 Case study: Inter-community/inter-municipality relief in Japan

The value of inter-community support during the relief and recovery stage has been observed in the aftermath of the earthquake/tsunami as well as disasters in other countries. As national and sub-national governments must cover all areas directly impacted by the disaster and because of their internal rigidities, they have often found it difficult to supply timely relief on a priority basis. Community-to-community relief has been observed as more flexible than the vertical relief channel of national government to local community.

Tono City, located in Iwate Prefecture, where the impacts of the earthquake and tsunami were particularly severe, escaped relatively unscathed and acted as a base for the relief supply activities of NGOs. An advantage of this inter-community aid was Tono City's proximity to the devastated areas, which facilitated information collection and logistics. This is a somewhat unusual example as in a widely damaged area it is often difficult to find less-affected communities that can extend assistance. Communities further removed from the disaster affected areas can also provide important support, however. Sugunami Ward in Tokyo and the Union of Kansai Governments (UKG) are good examples. Sugunami Ward and other cities have a long shared history with Minami Souma Cho, one of the areas affected by radiation from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, as sister cities. Sugunami Ward used its inter-municipality network to provide relief assistance to Minami Souma Cho, while UKG sent water and sewerage technical teams to the area.

In Kurihara City, which suffered from the Iwate-Miyagi Nairiku Earthquake three years ago, the city focused on tightening neighbourhood relations through jichikai (local neighbourhood community associations), in which every household takes on a particular role in the community. After the disasters, the Kurihara City officials could easily assess the level of damage within a few days, thanks to the jichikai. Since then, Kurihara City has become a centre of inter-municipality relief aid, especially for neighbouring towns and cities along the coastal area. Kurihara learned from its past experiences and strengthened information technologies in conjunction with Keio University. The technologies significantly helped open up communication with the most affected areas and facilitated estimates of the demand for different levels of assistance in the area. Kurihara's autonomous relief is based upon the city's disaster resilient mitigation and lessons from past events. (Scheyvens et al., 2011)

In Japan, inter-community relief gained popularity after the Hanshin earthquake in 1995. After the triple disaster in March 2011, relief was provided by various communities and municipalities, from both inside and outside the disaster affected areas. Matching affected and unaffected cities to ensure that the relief provided is timely and based on actual needs can be challenging immediately after a major disaster. In particular in disaster-prone areas having pre-established sister city relationships would facilitate this process by making use of existing networks and relationships for relief and rebuilding. Further thought is now required on how governments can encourage and finance inter-community/inter-municipality

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relationships as part of the process to build more effective channels to provide relief in the aftermath of disasters.

## Pro-poor and vulnerable approach

A pro-poor approach has been recognised as vital to the achievement of sustainable development (UNDP, 1997; United Nations, 2000; World Bank, 2001) and to reducing vulnerability to natural disasters (OECD, 2009; World Bank, 2011). In a disaster, both rich and poor alike are affected, however as history has shown, it is the poor who are disproportionately affected and the least resilient. This is not simply because of a lack of finances or other resources but due to the way socio-political systems influence how hazards affect different social groups. Reducing vulnerability to hazards requires an approach that is based on an integrated assessment of social, economic, environmental and geographical vulnerability factors as these are the factors which affect vulnerability and determine if hazards will become disasters. This type of integrated vulnerability assessment is valid for both developed and developing countries. After a disaster occurs and after the emergency relief phase has ended and the community shifts to rebuilding, governments, NGOs, and the private sector need to closely cooperate and coordinate so as to ensure that all receive the necessary level of support and are not further adversely affected as a result of personal conditions such as nationality, family structure, or language ability.

## 2.2.2 Financial schemes for risk mitigation and smooth recovery

As time passes, the focus of disaster reconstruction moves from life saving activities and distribution of aid supply to revitalisation of livelihoods and local economic activities. When discussing “resilience” in the case of extreme disasters, financial support for reconstruction is crucial especially in the intermediate to long run (Cummins and Weiss, 2009). Considering the impacts of natural disasters on economic activities, the country’s fiscal balance may be under considerable strain. Consequently, development of financial schemes to alleviate risks and stimulate post disaster economic recovery is an important point that must be addressed.

Damage to public facilities and infrastructure causes considerable financial strain; nonetheless, the impact of the disaster also requires quick and appropriate financial support to be provided to local businesses and livelihoods. Coordination among different ministries and other stakeholders to deliver financial support for those affected is certainly needed. Consequently, a significant challenge is to mobilise sufficient finances to satisfy the monetary demands needed to revamp the economy and livelihoods of those in the affected areas (Carpenter, 2010).

The establishment of a disaster reconstruction fund is one example of a public finance scheme for disaster recovery. Exemplary cases include the reconstruction fund for the earthquake in Taiwan in 1999, as well as the Hanshin-Awaji reconstruction fund in Japan in 1995.

After experiencing the Great Hanshin Earthquake in 1995, Japanese government established an Act Concerning Support for Reconstructing Livelihood of Disaster (Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, 2011), which generated a fund to assist financial rehabilitation of business and people’s livelihoods. For this fund, Japan’s national government promises 50% of financial support on the budget of the fund. Nonetheless, since the fund is organized nationwide, it is still necessary to meet people’s monetary needs in a timely manner.

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Consequently, after the Great East Japan Earthquake, new funds were created by local governments, NGOs, private companies, and local stakeholders to provide financial support for designated people and business on time. For economic recovery, it is crucial to have start-up cost for business equipment, raw materials, facilities, and labour. It is important to provide such financial support quickly, since the community needs to be self-reliant, otherwise the community will lose the opportunity for self-sustaining recovery.

Another scheme is Alternative Risk Transfer for disaster risks utilising the financial market, such as insurance linked securities (catastrophe bonds) and weather index derivatives. These approaches are often discussed as potential responses to climate change adaptation. The Caribbean Catastrophic Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF) for natural disasters is a successful example. The Facility plays a significant role to provide timely financial support to businesses and communities since the CCRIF offers an efficient solution to the short-term liquidity gap faced by CARICOM governments in the aftermath of a major hurricane or earthquake (World Bank, 2007). It is important for policy makers to use these schemes to reflect social needs and support individuals and small businesses. The availability of financial support in the intermediate/long run is necessary for planning disaster resilience and building a pro-vulnerable society.

For the local businesses in affected areas, quick and fair distribution of relief funds is crucial;

nonetheless, it is frequently observed that people in need do not receive financial support in a timely manner. Consequently, micro-finance schemes are often developed for local businesses and industries. The growing number of “micro funds” meets the monetary demands of local businesses and significantly supports the rebuilding of the local economy and livelihoods in the months and years after devastating events.

### 2.3. Decentralised and diversified infrastructure

Decentralised and diversified infrastructure is characteristic of an economy that is able to mitigate the impact of disasters and quickly spring back to normalcy after a major crisis. In Japan, large scale and regionally centralised electric supply systems, and the tightly integrated structure of manufacturing supply chains, which were considered most effective economically, ended up being particularly vulnerable to disruptions caused by the disaster. Since being highly dependent upon a single energy system discriminates against alternative energy supply, it means that “society excludes the backup system” (Niitsuma, 2011).

For an economy to be resilient, there must be integration of continuity planning into business practices, building in a certain amount of redundancy, making sure that various scenarios for disaster losses have been considered, and fully understanding the residual risks and underwriting them with relevant insurance policies.

#### Safe, secure, and green energy systems

An island country having no significant indigenous fossil fuel resources, Japan finds it difficult to meet its enormous domestic energy demand without a stable, reliable and affordable fuel supply from overseas sources. This may be one of the major reasons for the country’s continued reliance on and promotion of nuclear energy programmes. However, the accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant revealed that the risks related to any nuclear accident are enormous in terms of geographical expanse, tenure of impacts and array of damage. Thus, faced with huge energy demands, uncertainty surrounding the safety of nuclear

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energy and climate change implications of increasing use of fossil fuels, Japan is now at a crossroads trying to figure out how to balance energy demand and supply and which direction to take to secure future energy supply for the country. Japan now needs to come up with much enhanced demand-side management in the short to medium-term and a new long-term supply strategy that will be sustainable and acceptable from an economic, environmental and social perspective.

IGES’s research on post-disaster impacts to Japan’s energy policy aims at exploring potential policy options for filling gaps created by the nuclear power plant accident with a mix of renewable sources, advanced clean energy technologies and intensive energy demand-side measures. Scenario assessment suggests that Japan may abandon nuclear energy from its supply mix in the middle of this century with a moderate cost burden on the economy as a whole. Using existing conventional fossil fuel facilities to full capacity can reduce the financial burden of setting up new green field power plants in the immediate future (Asuka, 2011). In the longer term, renewable sources can minimise dependence on energy imports with extremely high costs and enhance energy security. Indigenous resources like solar, wind, geothermal and tidal power will need to be explored further and should be supported by strengthened renewable energy promotion policies, e.g. a new feed-in-tariff law to promote renewable energy in Japan, introduced in August 2011.

However, sudden fuel switching could leave the domestic economy vulnerable, especially because of potential power shortages. It is therefore imperative that the reframing of Japan’s energy policy be carefully monitored and precisely managed, taking into consideration the socio-political and economic landscape. It is also critical to re-examine the overall balance of energy demand and supply in order to strengthen the policy processes towards energy transition (Katayama, 2011). Policy discussion in the past tended to excessively emphasise supply side measures. We need to place a greater emphasis on demand side management, including at the household and small- and medium-size enterprise level. The level of electric power conserved in the eastern part of Japan this past summer was more substantial than the government anticipated.

To address the post-Fukushima electricity supply constraints in Japan, policy makers and civil society should promote a comprehensive energy policy package which would encompass: (1) analysing the energy demand structure and enhancing demand-side management; (2) diversifying energy supply sources; and (3) reforming the electric power system and distribution grid to enable expanded use of renewable sources. These reforms should be

supported by policy and regulatory measures along with greater participation of civil society. Strengthening regulations and policy tools towards reframing energy policy is hence an urgent priority.

In conclusion, the promotion of renewable energy through feed-in-tariffs and appropriate policies, as well as policies to promote energy saving, are considered to be an important part of achieving a safe, secure and green energy system.

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### 3. Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

#### 3.1 Key Challenges

IGES recognises that a key challenge in pursuit of sustainable development is the excessive social, economic and environmental vulnerability caused by one-sided pursuit of economic efficiency (see Figure 3-1).

Economic efficiency   Environmental   Social   Economic  
 Profit maximisation   vulnerability   vulnerability   vulnerability  
 Competitiveness  
 Poverty & Price volatility of  
 Mass consumption & income gaps   natural resources  
 production  
 Ecosystem   Worsened labour  
 degradation   conditions  
 & natural disasters

Figure 3-1 Vulnerability caused by excessive pursuit of economic efficiency

While rapid economic growth in Asia and the Pacific has improved the material standard of living for hundreds of millions of people, many have been left behind in poverty, and expanding income gaps are undermining social and political stability. In the name of competitiveness and labour productivity improvement, employment conditions have deteriorated in many countries, and the consequent loss of stable livelihoods, including increasing unemployment, has aggravated social vulnerability. Rapidly increasing consumption of food, energy and natural resources such as crude oil and iron ore triggers price volatility of these commodities, which is further amplified by financial speculation. Over-consumption of such resources mainly driven by the lifestyles and consumption patterns of the richer segment of the world has accelerated climate change and ecological degradation, which worsens vulnerability to natural disasters.

An emerging paradigm shift to overcome these key challenges is the concept of a green economy, although at this stage an internationally agreed definition does not yet exist.

#### 3.2 Key Approaches/Principles

The principles or directions of a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication can be discussed under three major economic-environmental domains, i.e. low-carbon economy, sustainable consumption and production, and sustainable use of ecosystem services (see Table 3-1). The political momentum for a green economy is predicated on investment on green technologies and infrastructure, and "green" job creation with due attention to current environmental challenges. Such transitions are already underway (UNEP, 2011b), but further acceleration is required to achieve the implied paradigm shift. International policy coordination is another aspect to avoid green protectionism and to make a global green economy attractive and beneficial for developing

countries.

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Table 3-1 Key approaches/principles

Sustainable consumption Sustainable use of

Goal Low-carbon economy

and production ecosystem services

Key issue -Further investment in - Change in consumption - Sustainable agriculture

renewable energy patterns and green production

supply chain

Key tool/ - Carbon tax and - Resource consumption - Wide application of PES

measure emissions trading reduction policies, e.g. and green accounting

green procurement scheme

policies, and natural

resource tax

Additional - Mitigation of natural - Provision of more - Contribution to food and

merit disaster risks opportunities for water security

- Creation of green jobs resources use in - Creation of green jobs

- Improvement in energy developing countries and

access of future generations

### 3.2.1 Low-carbon economy

In the face of climate change and the accompanied risks of intensifying natural disasters, IGES believes that a precautionary (no-regrets) approach is needed, starting with building a low-carbon economy with a resilient, secure energy supply system. Investing in renewable energy coupled with enhanced demand-side energy efficiency measures has the potential to supplement and eventually replace nuclear and thermal fossil fuel power in the country's energy mix and can contribute to establishing a decentralised electricity supply which would secure a backup system during a disaster (Bhattacharya, 2011). Renewable energy can also help mitigate natural disaster risks associated with climate change, create thousands of new green jobs (OECD, 2011; UNEP, 2011b), and improve access to green technology through investment in research and development and subsequent unit price decline, which will benefit the poor in developing countries through improved energy access.

Governments should promote this trend by introducing incentives, e.g. shifting the tax base from labour and income to taxing environmental damage such as pollution and unsustainable resource consumption (OECD, 2011; UNEP, 2011b), and gradually phasing out environmentally harmful subsidies (Bhattacharya and Kojima, 2010a). However, most countries fear that such reforms may put their export industries at a disadvantage, making it difficult for individual countries to take the lead. The acceptance of tax and subsidy reforms will be significantly enhanced if a large number of countries agree on a joint schedule. While a global agreement may not be feasible in the short run, major economies having more financial and human resources, such as the G20, have agreed on phasing-out harmful fossil fuel subsidies. Therefore, if they agreed on a more comprehensive integrated approach to ecological tax reform, this would be a significant step towards a global green economy.

Moreover, the mechanisms to promote international cooperation, such as regional energy market integration (Bhattacharya and Kojima, 2010b), and technology transfer between countries, not only North-South but also within the South, need to be further developed. Such international cooperation, however, should not encourage exports of highly polluting brown sectors from one country to another. Also, a number of countries are concerned about green protectionism (UN-DESA, 2011).

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Technology transfer for low carbon economy only works if there is capacity to effectively use the adopted technology, so emphasis should be given to promoting information sharing and knowledge building rather than concentrating on funding arrangements only. To this end, promoting existing national information centers, or establishing new ones, could help develop comprehensive technology needs assessments for each recipient country and a comprehensive technology availability assessment for each provider country. Strengthening existing regional technology centers, such as UNEP and APEC environmental knowledge hubs, to include not only collecting and sharing information but also knowledge building and advisability, could be done at the regional level and international level (IGES, forthcoming in 2012).<sup>4</sup>



IGES believes that, in the short-run, border carbon adjustments should not be implemented unilaterally, but should be done under the umbrella of an international agreement that ensures trust and shared understanding of the purpose of the measures and limits the scale and scope to clearly address leakage concerns (Zhou et al., 2011). In the medium-term, promoting nationally appropriate mitigation actions (NAMAs) in Non-Annex I countries of the UNFCCC is a more effective and important approach than border carbon adjustments. A layered approach which categorizes NAMAs and defines what to measure, report and verify for each category is quite a useful and practical framework for the emerging measuring, reporting and verifying (MRV) system (Fukuda and Tamura, 2010).

### 3.2.2 Sustainable consumption and production

Under the internationally growing demand for limited natural resources, the decoupling of economic growth and resource use and environmental impacts through the promotion of green technologies is one instrument to combat resource depletion. Promotion of 3R (reduce, reuse, recycle) policies and “top-runner” approaches play an important role in this regard. Policy interventions for requiring producers to internalise the costs of recycling, e.g. introduction of extended producer responsibility (EPR), green tax and subsidies, as well as for making environmental impacts clearly visible to consumers, i.e. green labelling are needed. These policies should be introduced in parallel with increased efforts on education, training and skills enhancement as effectiveness of these interventions depends on environmental awareness of consumers as well as ability of producers to improve product design and production processes.

However, there is a limit to pursuing decoupling via increasing resource efficiency at the unit level of each product, service, and technology. Indeed, decoupling is not a panacea for the world as a whole: individual countries can achieve a certain degree of decoupling by outsourcing polluting and resource consuming activities to other countries, but at the global level there is no opportunity for outsourcing. On the contrary there is growing literature showing that very little (if any) decoupling has been achieved to date and indicating that rebound is likely to render global efforts on decoupling ineffective (UNEP, 2011a; Jenkins et al., 2011). Therefore, to tackle overconsumption against the carrying capacity of the Earth,

4 IGES publishes its White Paper every two years, comprehensively compiling its strategic research results. IGES Fourth White Paper, which will be published in 2012, focuses on environmental governance and institutions in Asia Pacific and its contribution to international environmental governance, tentatively entitled as “Greening Governance in Asia Pacific: Institutional for Greener Economy.” For more information on IGES White Paper, please see [http://www.iges.or.jp/en/news/topic/wp3\\_about.html](http://www.iges.or.jp/en/news/topic/wp3_about.html).

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innovative policies for reducing resource consumption, e.g. introduction of resource tax or resource consumption cap, may need to be introduced. In this regard, further efforts to improve sustainability of resource consumption with a full examination of the appropriate stage of policy intervention along the life cycle of the products (life cycle assessment) must be made (Kojima, 2011).

Considering the significant disparities in the level of development of industrial infrastructure, major stakeholders, awareness, and market structure needed for greener and sustainable consumption and production activities, the priority tasks of policy intervention to create a green economy naturally differ between the developed, emerging, and least developing countries as well as among different regions in any one country. In this sense, a phased approach to introduce these policies considering the developmental stages of implementing countries along with international policy cooperation will be effective in setting priorities in production and consumption. The priorities of policy intervention for SCP should in general be assigned to policies that satisfy basic needs, such as sanitation and health and other public services for less-developed economies, and then to the integration of externalities into consumption and production patterns for emerging economies and into systems innovation for greener designs and systems for goods, services, and infrastructure for more developed economies. The consumption patterns of the richer segment of the world, which includes both ordinary consumers in the North and the rapidly expanding consumer class in the South, need to be drastically reconsidered. Changes in the way these groups live and consume goods and services are prerequisites for freeing up natural resources necessary to meet the needs of the poor and future generations. Such changes are not possible without a significant shift in mindsets to the point that increased consumption becomes socially unfashionable, in the way that littering is no longer acceptable in most developed countries.

Thus, current policies should be revised to promote less resource-intensive development, resource circulation, resource substitution, total reduction of environmental impact from consumption, and wider investment for green industries through development of packaged policy at all stages of the life cycle of products and services. To develop a persuasive argument for policy makers, analytical tools must be developed to identify effective policy interventions so as to facilitate a shift in consumption and production patterns and achieve positive social, economic, and environmental impacts from such a shift. To avoid negative impacts and secure the effectiveness of policy intervention in consumption and production patterns, internationally integrated policy approaches are necessary. To financially back-up such policy integration for SCP, IGES is examining the possibility of establishing an international fund for sustainable resource management or resource efficiency by utilising a portion of tax-income from economic policy instruments at different stages of the life cycle of products and services.

### 3.2.3 Sustainable use of ecosystem services

Especially for the poor who are more directly dependent on ecosystem services, ecosystem degradation due to human activities casts a dark shadow over stable livelihoods in terms of food and water security, natural disaster risks and loss of traditional culture (TEEB, 2011). Appropriate pricing and sustainable use of ecosystem services in the context of poverty eradication will be essential for a green economy. An economic system that does not internalise or recognise nature's contribution to the air we breathe, the water we drink, or the soil that provides our food, cannot be regarded as "green". In this context, biodiversity

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conservation is an essential tool as loss of biological diversity undermines the value and resilience of ecosystems (Elmqvist et al., 2003).

Policymakers should internalise negative ecological externalities into the current economic system, and thereby promote sustainable agriculture and greening of the production supply chain. The keys to achieving this will be enhancement of economic incentives, e.g. payment for ecosystem services (PES), and visualisation of the benefits and costs relevant to ecosystem services, e.g. an accounting scheme incorporating valuation of ecosystem services. The PES approach encourages shifts from conventional practices that extract maximum production from the land to more sustainable agriculture and forestry through payments to landholders in exchange for providing more regulating services (Pagiola and Platais, 2007). PES also helps to create jobs in local areas because sustainable agricultural practices are more labour intensive than those depending on excessive use of chemical fertilisers and machinery. One limitation of this approach is that pricing ecosystem services which are currently unmarketable based on our willingness-to-pay does not necessarily promise sustainable use of ecosystem services. For example, pollution charges are one way of pricing the ecosystem sink services provided by receiving waters or the atmosphere. While there is a price incentive to reduce the level of pollution, lack of enforcement, poor collection of fees, or inadequate fines may result in failure to reduce the level of pollution. An alternative "ecological economic valuation" approach is suggested (Kojima, 2011) in which the price of ecosystem economic is determined such that policies or actions to ensure sustainable use of ecosystem services would improve social welfare.

The relatively new mechanism of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) is another approach to reward forest managers for maintaining a carbon sink, as one way of mitigating the greenhouse gases causing climate change. Combining REDD+ with community-based forest management may be an effective way of recognizing the valuable ecosystem services provided by the stewardship of forest-dependent communities and contribute to their economic well-being. Designing such a system to verify the carbon sequestration benefits and to avoid capture by elites, however, still requires further work and trial in a range of countries.

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Accounting that incorporates the economic benefits of ecosystem services, as well as the costs of environmental degradation will enable decision-making on a country's natural

capital, based on a longer-term perspective (World Bank, 2010). As a first step towards the application of such an accounting scheme, governments need to evaluate the full costs of loss of ecosystem services due to the construction of public infrastructure, such as hydropower dams, and make final decisions based upon a comparison of the potential gains and losses. Simultaneously, green procurement needs to be re-evaluated from these perspectives to visualise not only its positive environmental effects, but the economic benefits derived from less ecological degradation as well. Following these governmental initiatives, enterprises should be required to assess the ecological impacts of their projects and production processes, through enhanced environmental impact assessment procedures, review their supply chain management in this regard, and be required to report on the sustainability impacts of the company through regular annual reporting procedures, using models such as those developed by the Global Reporting Initiative.

#### Box 3-1. Community forest management and REDD+

By stabilizing the Earth's climate through carbon sequestration and storage, forests provide an ecosystem service that is critical for human survival. Recognizing that deforestation and forest degradation are contributing to global warming, Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are in the process of agreeing on a global mechanism known as REDD+ that foresees the provision of incentives to developing countries to manage forests for climate change mitigation. REDD+ encompasses activities to reduce/avoid emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD), and to enhance and conserve carbon stocks (symbolized by the "plus" sign).

In their search for more sustainable models of forest management and to rehabilitate forests degraded by logging, governments in the Asia-Pacific region have enacted legislation and established support programmes to provide forest rights to local communities (Scheyvens et al. 2007). Today, community forest management (CFM) is widely accepted as essential for promoting sustainable forest management and human wellbeing. CFM has developed particularly in areas of degraded (logged over) forests (Sam and Shepherd 2011), and has played a significant role in the rehabilitation of landscapes, forests and environmental services. In South and Southeast Asia, millions of hectares of degraded forests are being managed by communities (Pfoffenberger 2006), making them key REDD+ stakeholders (Chhatre and Agrawal 2009). Even though some countries in Asia-Pacific are more advanced than others in the implementation of CFM, and in spite of "legal, technical and human" limitations that different CFM models face (Scheyvens et al. 2007; Scheyvens 2011), several aspects make CFM conducive to the implementation of REDD+. CFM promotes the management of forests through local consensus-based organizations with democratically elected leaders/committees, and it supports the drafting of norms and regulations (by communities) to control forest access and use. CFM thus can provide strong local institutional foundations for forest rehabilitation and management, as well as for the realization of the social and environmental safeguards for REDD+ that international negotiators have agreed upon. The safeguards include respect of knowledge and rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, and full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in REDD+ (UNFCCC 2010). Additionally, CFM could also facilitate the participation of communities in forest measurement and monitoring, reporting and verification, which are all essential elements of REDD+ (Skutsch 2010). Elaborating the existing CFM models to enable local people to play these roles would contribute to address concerns over effective engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities in REDD+.

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### 3.3. Roadmap

IGES recommends developing a green economy roadmap to move in the directions mentioned above. As indicated in Table 3-2, we propose several policies and actions in the short, middle and long term for each major economic-environmental domain.

Table 3-2 Roadmap green economy in the context of sustainable development

Low-carbon economy Sustainable consumption and ecosystem services production

Short-term: -Establishment of plan for energy supply policies and top- economic incentives  
-Promotion of 3R -Good practices on Greening - Establishment of a runner approach contributing to current scheme to promote - Development of sustainable use of economic renewable energy analytical tools to ecosystem services activities investment identify effective will be compiled and policy interventions provided through the

on-line database

Mid-term: -Agreement on gradual -Establishment of -Globally accepted  
Introducing removal of energy international fund for measures for  
key subsidies at the East sustainable resource economic valuation of  
regional/ Asia Summit management ecosystem services  
global -Establishment of will be framed under  
policies to regional cooperation the initiation of the  
change the mechanism to promote IPBES  
course of technology transfer, in -As indicated by the  
regional/ particular of green global partnership for  
global technologies, at the green accounting  
economy East Asia Summit initiated by the World  
-Agreement on Bank, a definitive  
implementation rules methodology on green  
for the MRV accounting will be  
framework at UNFCCC- developed  
COP  
- Promotion of NAMAs  
in Non-Annex I  
countries

Long-term: - Establishment of -Development of -As pursued in the Aichi  
Reforming regional arrangement innovative reduction Biodiversity Target,  
global for energy market policies along with economic aspects of  
economy integration recycling and reuse biodiversity and  
-Establishment of the policies ecosystem services  
WTO rule on will be integrated in all  
Environmental Goods decision making  
and Services through processes  
regional mechanisms - Global assessment of  
such as those of the key ecosystem  
East Asia Summit services similar to  
IPCC's assessment

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#### 4. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

(IFSD)

##### 4.1. Key Challenges

Scientists have identified nine planetary boundaries which should not be crossed if human civilisation is to continue to thrive (Stockholm Resilience Institute, 2009). Three boundaries (climate change, biological diversity, and nitrogen input to the biosphere) have been crossed already, with potentially devastating consequences for environmental, economic and societal stability if this trend is not reversed (assuming it is possible to reverse these trends once a threshold has been breached). It is clear that current environmental and sustainability governance arrangements are inadequate to halt the continuing environmental degradation. To change the direction of economic systems and stave off ecosystem collapse, fundamental institutional changes and coherent goals that are reinforced at global, regional, national, and local levels by consistent incentives, regulations, policies, and action will be required.

It is widely agreed that the current institutional structure, much of which was developed in the middle of the 20th century, prior to the recognition of SD, is no longer adequate to address current challenges. Some progress has been made, as there are now over 500 multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and nearly every country has environmental laws and a national level environment agency responsible for implementation. Governments and organisations at all levels—including the UN, regional, national, and local levels, as well as businesses and individual persons—are now making efforts to work on sustainable development. However, these efforts do not adequately match the magnitude of the challenges or the pace of change. Current IFSD—at all levels and in many countries—suffers from several serious challenges such as inadequate leadership and coordination, fragmentation, insufficient funding and human resource capacity, as well as inadequate compliance and enforcement. At the global level, the sheer number of treaties, organisations, and meetings complicate effective attendance at meetings and conferences, and may also divert human resources from urgently needed implementation.

##### 4.2. Key Approaches/Principles

IGES considers the following three principles/approaches to be critical in strengthening IFSD:

1) multi-level and multi-stakeholder governance; 2) subsidiarity; and 3) compliance and enforcement.

###### 4.2.1. Multi-level and multi-stakeholder governance

The challenges to sustainability will have to be addressed by intergovernmental institutions and governments, and not only at one level. Multi-level governance is necessary for coherent and effective action. Vertical and horizontal cooperation between and within levels is needed to minimise policy tradeoffs and maximise synergies between traditionally

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separate sectors and policy domains, and sustainability goals need to be mainstreamed into all major societal decisions and sectoral plans. Key functions of multi-stakeholder participation are to improve coordination among stakeholders, create consensus on information input into decisions, cohesive implementation, legitimacy, and accountability of governing stakeholders and decisions made. While multi-stakeholder participation is already practiced in the intergovernmental arena, it should be strengthened further to include genuine, effective participation rather than token consultation, not only for the sake of awareness, but also to improve accountability of decision makers, which can lead to better enforcement and compliance of environmental laws and regulations (Antonio, 2011). Progress on other governance levels is required to empower stakeholders by promoting greater institutionalisation of participation. At the practical level, securing transparency of decision making processes, involving stakeholders in the early stages of planning, and effective facilitation functions are vital to synchronise top-down and bottom-up governance aimed at achieving common goals as seen in Box 4-1 below.

Box 4-1 Supporting multi-level governance through information exchange and networks  
Information exchange via networking among cities is a simple and effective option to strengthen relationships between local and national governments and improve capacity and enhance local actions for environmental management. The nature of the exchange varies by the type of network, which can be categorised into three types according to size: (1) networks with many members mainly for information sharing among them; (2) networks with limited number of members, designed for more intensive information exchange; and (3) bilateral, or city-to-city, relationships for learning directly from each other. A fourth type is based on having an award programme for recognizing outstanding achievements or innovation.

Over its lifetime a network may evolve to take on any of these forms, and may at times simultaneously perform the function of more than one type of network through the action of individual members. A typical network function is establishing an information sharing platform for members. For example, the Kitakyushu Initiative for a Clean Environment (KI) has organised meetings every 2-3 years by convening member cities to exchange knowledge and experience on effective environmental practices. Thematic seminars were also held in parallel almost once a year on specific environmental subjects such as solid waste management, water supply and sanitation, and use of information and communication technologies. Although the KI ended in 2010 the secretariat, IGES, has continued on a similar path with the High Level Seminar on Environmentally Sustainable Cities. This was developed under the framework of the East Asia Summit Environment Ministers Meeting, where central government officers and local government officers, as well as other organisations and research institutions are invited to exchange views and activities toward development of environmentally sustainable cities. In this way, the networking function has expanded not only horizontally but also vertically, providing opportunities to connect various types of organisations through multiple levels of government. Multi-level networking can be enhanced through information sharing platforms – such as offering awards and giving opportunities to outstanding cities to present their activities and achievements in front of other member cities and other stakeholders, thereby sharing best practices and giving recognition and further encouragement for them to perform better. In addition such platforms are also an opportunity to attract external support from central governments and other supporting organisations.

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#### 4.2.2. Subsidiarity

The outcomes of Rio+20 on strengthening IFSD must address how institutions can best secure vertical integration of policies from international agreements, through national policy

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to local implementation. Decisions relating to the implementation of environmental and SD governance should therefore be carried out in accordance with the subsidiarity principle, which prescribes that issues ought to be dealt with by the smallest, lowest or least centralised competent unit (Elder, 2011). Doing so may help integrate aspects of top-down and bottom-up environmental governance. For subsidiarity to really work coherently with the goals set at the intergovernmental level, it is also important to establish clear procedures for advancement from policy formulation to action and from planning to implementation, and to also ensure that the necessary resources are made available at each stage. Under the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, those who can afford it (not just developed countries) should assist vulnerable groups and developing countries to build the necessary human resource capabilities to implement sustainable development activities at the local level.

#### 4.2.3. Compliance and enforcement

Laws and regulations suited to country specific conditions are among the most important instruments for transforming environmental and development policies into action. Generally MEAs can only be implemented if there are matching national laws and regulations. Without effective compliance and enforcement of these laws and regulations, however, the intended improvements in human wellbeing and sustainable development inevitably will fail. Accordingly, it is critical to enhance cooperation between countries to share best practices on environmental compliance and enforcement, to provide technical assistance to developing countries in need of capacity strengthening, and to continuously upgrade regional, national, sub-national and local compliance and enforcement actions.<sup>5</sup>

#### 4.3. Roadmap and Main Proposals

IGES believes that fundamental reform of IFSD together with international environmental governance (IEG) should be undertaken through a phased approach at all levels. Each

sequence will provide necessary momentum for subsequent steps, as can be seen in the following figure:

5 One of the examples of compliance and enforcement in Asia is Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network (AECEN). Since 2005, national and sub-national environmental agencies throughout Asia, with support from the United States Agency for International Development, have cooperated through AECEN, sharing information on innovative policies and best practices in compliance and enforcement. Member agencies include Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, People's Republic of China, Lao PDR, Malaysia, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam. AECEN's predominant cooperation mode is through South-South cooperation, where a mentor country is "twinning" with a beneficiary country, and environment agency staff from the mentor agency conduct on-the-job capacity strengthening and training. For more details, see <http://www.aecen.org>.

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Figure 4-1 Reform phases for IFSD

For the short-to-medium term, we encourage governments to support the creation of an SD Council to better coordinate and oversee budgeting of all UN programmes and agencies. To function more effectively, IGES recommends that the SD Council cooperate closely with international finance institutions (IFIs) and Bretton Woods Institutions, along with the G8/G20, as currently financial and environmental agendas are not well coordinated and sometimes offset each other. For IFSD, IGES's long-term vision is for a revision of the UN Charter to (1) enhance the global focus on sustainability issues; and (2) to equip a globalised world in the 21st century with rules and regulations for the future, not of the past.

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Table 4-1 Short/medium and long-term IFSD reforms

For IEG, we recommend that UNEP should have universal membership of its Governing Council. This is important to enhance legitimacy of international environmental governance and will also eliminate the necessity of Governing Council elections (although may impose minor additional costs). Subsequently, IGES recommends that UNEP be upgraded to a specialised agency, with a decision making mandate and legal identity. Both these IEG reform steps can strengthen environmental governance and support downstream implementation.

Given a clear need to strengthen currently dispersed regional as well as sub-regional environmental governance in Asia, IGES suggests the formation of a regional environmental focal point, which in the long run could be developed into an Asian Environmental Organisation, similar to increased regional cooperation that is happening in other regions such as Africa, the Americas, and the EU, and is commensurate with the increased regional cooperation on economic, trade, and security fronts in Asia. Asian countries should work towards creating a multilateral environmental information exchange network. Issues related to energy, resource-use, biodiversity, climate change, and disaster management are transboundary and can be addressed cost-effectively by regional cooperation, capacity building, and exchange of information and expertise.

At the national level, IGES recommends that high level focal points and coordination committees be appointed above the sector ministries to ensure that SD concerns receive sufficient attention and are vertically integrated and mainstreamed. Specific actions are mostly taken at the local level, thus initiatives such as those promoting low carbon cities are



of great importance. The national level environmental governance should be improved in such a way that will further promote local level actions in close collaboration with municipalities.

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The following sections provide more detailed information on each reform step, as well as elaborate on essential issues related to functions, funding, and other crucial issues.

#### 4.3.1. Umbrella organisation for SD

Options for creating an umbrella organization for SD include: (1) a reformed ECOSOC with a change in name and mandate to focus on promoting SD; (2) a new Sustainable Development Council, separate from ECOSOC; and (3) a reformed and strengthened CSD, by according it a stronger mandate.

Option 1, changing ECOSOC's mandate to SD and changing its name, would require revision of the UN Charter, but if SD is a high priority, countries can agree to limit the discussion and amendment of the UN Charter to this one issue. Changing the name and mandate of ECOSOC to that of SD Council would institutionalise participation of non-environment ministries of each country, a crucial requirement for the mainstreaming of sustainable development governance. ECOSOC already works on SD to some extent. However, a name change is important to signal that SD is its main focus. With the current name, there may still be some resistance to SD efforts by ECOSOC, and some may think that non-sustainable economic activities can still be promoted as ECOSOC's main responsibility, while SD is a side effort.

Option 2 would maintain ECOSOC in its present form, but establish a new SD council. This could either be new, or as in option 3, be based on a restructuring of the CSD. The CSD could continue to function as a forum for intergovernmental discussions on SD. However, its focus would have to be sharpened; it would undertake assessments of the progress towards SD and work to attract key decision makers from ministries other than environmental ministries. Regardless of the specific institutional form of the umbrella organisation for SD, in the long term, it will be necessary to align the efforts to combat climate change with the work on sustainable development, including their respective institutional frameworks. Agencies and programmes representing the three dimensions of SD need to work harder to cooperate, convening regularly to ensure coherence and synergy.

#### 4.3.2. High profile individual to promote SD

It is highly desirable to have a high level person to lead and promote SD, regardless of which form the umbrella organisation eventually may take. This person could have the title of High Commissioner for Sustainable Development. Previous efforts to promote coordination of SD have centred on the establishment of committees. Several coordinating committees have been formed and disbanded over the years, but their effectiveness has been limited. Also, UNEP has not been very successful in coordinating UN activities on environment for a variety of reasons, although steady progress on integrating environmental concerns into other agencies has been made by the efforts of these agencies. Overall, it is difficult to expect UN agencies to coordinate themselves, and a main result of past coordination efforts has resulted in turf battles. A high profile person in charge of SD could be beneficial in terms of coordination and mainstreaming of SD concerns within the UN, and as a public face of SD in

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the media and to the public. Sadako Ogata, who was the UN Commissioner for Refugees, has had considerable success in promoting refugee issues and could be a good model to follow.

#### 4.3.3. Greater participation and coordination with Bretton Woods Institutions and regional development banks

Bretton Woods institutions and regional development banks should more actively participate in a system-wide committee to better align their work with SD objectives. A system-wide committee may have a better chance of success with a high level individual as its chair. It could be worth considering participation of the proposed High Commissioner for SD at Board of Directors Meetings of IFIs such as the World Bank, International Monetary

Fund, Asian Development Bank and other development banks.

Bretton Woods institutions and G20 central bankers should attend Rio+20 and clarify how they will promote SD and coordinate with other actors. Moreover, development banks should be called upon to expand the SD aspect of their development assistance at the Rio+20 conference. Some are already extensively engaged in SD work, and have emphasised their SD contributions. However, SD is typically not part of their official mandate. Calling on these organisations to officially change their mandate could be considered. In addition, new donor countries should be called upon to “green” their development assistance and orient it towards SD objectives.

#### 4.3.4. SD financing mechanisms

Securing additional financing and making effective use of existing financing are crucial for enhancing the effectiveness of SD institutions. One way to persuade countries to provide more funding is to help them understand that SD issues can have security implications and should be the focus of more interest from defence ministries. For example, environmental degradation may have grave consequences for food and water supply, which in turn could lead to security concerns and conflicts over resources. Environmental refugees may potentially also pose security related problems. Countries should allocate a small amount from their defence budgets for environmental and sustainable development funding. Increased small contributions from defence budgets to UN organisations such as UNEP and MEA secretariats could be a cost effective way to mitigate problems before they degenerate into expensive and difficult security problems. Other innovative funding options could include taxes on international financial transactions (Tobin Tax), mining of virgin materials, international air-passenger mileage and freight transport, etc. Currently the EU is strongly supporting the introduction of a Tobin Tax and other countries should seriously consider supporting this initiative. These financing options have the advantage that they do not derive directly from countries’ budgets. Nevertheless, governments of UN member countries would still oversee the spending.

#### 4.3.5. Convention on Access to Information and Participation

To institutionalise participation and access to environmental information and decision making, IGES recommends supporting a regional or global convention on Rio Principle 10

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(Murharjanti and Paramita, 2011). Such a convention would strengthen multi-level governance by improving stakeholder dialogue, policy adoption, and ownership at local levels. For Europe, a convention on Rio Principle 10 already exists in the form of the Aarhus Convention, but up-scaling it to the global level is necessary. Moreover, the provision of a global convention on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration would help to institutionalise it at all levels of governance.

#### 4.3.6. Two-phased reform for IEG: universal membership for UNEP, and then a specialised agency (WEO/UNEO)

IGES believes that incremental reforms to the IEG system are important and should be undertaken, such as those already underway in, for instance, greening of UN initiatives as well as clustering of MEA secretariats (JIU, 2010). However, ultimately these measures will be insufficient, so IGES supports more ambitious and fundamental reform options. Specifically a two-phased approach to enhance UNEP is recommended. In the first phase, the UNEP Governing Council could adopt universal membership. In the current system, the UNEP Governing Council only has 58 members, and decisions must be sent to the Second Committee of the General Assembly for approval. There is universal participation in the UNEP GC, in which non-members may participate in discussions, but non-members may not vote. Non-members already send delegates to the Global Ministerial Environment Forum, which meets in conjunction with the GC. Universal membership would lend greater legitimacy for UNEP GC to be the “global voice for the environment” which is difficult with only 58 members. Universal membership would also eliminate the need for governing council elections, which consume much time and energy.

Universal membership might also help improve coordination and synergies among MEAs, which, due to comprehensive membership and centralised decision making of the GC forum, could be deliberated in clusters, as already practiced in biodiversity related conventions and the chemicals cluster. It would make it possible have MEA COPs to coincide with the UNEP GC, thereby creating significant financial as well as time efficiencies. Currently, without universal membership it is difficult for UNEP GC to make recommendations to MEAs that have members which are not represented in UNEP’s GC. Moreover, IGES suggests that any

new MEA secretariats should be placed at either UNEP in Nairobi, or in Geneva. Recent IGES research (Olsen, 2011) shows that, compared to the current status, the financial implications of establishing universal membership are not very large.

In the longer-term, IGES recommends upgrading UNEP to a Specialised Agency i.e. World Environment Organisation (WEO) or United Nations Environment Organisation (UNEO). Legally, this might be accomplished through a GA resolution (UN Charter Article 57) rather than a treaty, which could be difficult to ratify in some countries. This would mean that decisions no longer have to be referred to the General Assembly where they might be affected by unrelated issues. Thus, a WEO would provide a legal mandate and autonomy to enhance the strength of environment ministers. Capacity building should be an important function of a WEO/UNEO, particularly in areas related to policy formulation, reporting, negotiation, and implementation of MEAs, and there is evidence that developing countries

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are interested in more capacity building from UNEP. UNDP, the World Bank, and regional development banks, among others, already undertake some capacity building, although this tends to be more focused on projects. However, overall efforts are still inadequate. Increased effort should take place in cooperation and coordination with other agenciesâ€™™ work according to the â€œDelivering as Oneâ€™™ UN initiative, including adequate representation of UNEP in UN Country Teams. Of course, additional funding would be needed. But the mandate would need to be agreed on before contentious issues regarding funding could be deliberated, perhaps agreeing on innovative funding options, such as those summarised in previous sections. The flowchart below depicts how reforms could be undertaken in phases, each creating momentum for the next step:

Figure 4-2 Thrust of IEG reform (Olsen, 2011)

The UN should lead by example and practice what it preaches. Recommendations such as those suggested in the UN Joint Inspection Unit (JIU 2008), which include clear division of labour among UN organisations, limitations on the creation of new MEA secretariats, and improving transparency of use and management of programme support costs are useful to be considered.

#### 4.3.7. Regional initiatives (Asia-Pacific)

It is important also to consider how IFSD will translate to regional and sub-regional levels. In

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particular for Asia-Pacific, this will be an important consideration: as the region increasingly becomes the worldâ€™™s economic and production centre, adverse impacts are taking a toll and many countries are facing serious environmental issues that include pollution and depletion of natural resources. IGES suggests that improvement in coordination and information sharing among countries in the region is a good first step that can enhance transparency and access to environmental information, as well as exchange of good practices in the region; these are the foundations for better environmental and SD governance. One possibility to improve coordination would be to create a relatively small regional organisation or focal point, which in the long run could be developed into an Asia Environmental Organisation. .

Figure 4-3 Proposed structure for enhancing information exchange and harmonization in Asia-Pacific  
Source: Adapted from EEA/EIONET model (EEA, 2011).

The flowchart above depicts how such a focal point could act as an information hubâ€™™ both collecting and disseminating information on the state of the environment. The institution would use identified Asian Topic Centres (ATCs) of expertise in a given area. The National Focal Points then could be appointed from ministries or agencies as key partners of the focal point and should preferably include a mixed range of ministries. In addition to encompassing

the link from regional to national level, they would also coordinate with National Reference Centres (NRCs), who would be appointed by the NFPs to collect information as required by the central institution.

The Asia-Pacific region already has a wide-range of existing institutions at the sub-regional level, including the North-East Asian Sub-regional Programme for Environmental Cooperation (NEASPEC), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), South Asia Co-operative Environment Programme (SACEP), and the Regional Environmental Center for Central Asia (CAREC). The focus and potential of each of these institutions would have to be subject to additional research to identify the extent to which extent they could

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become involved as “Asian Topic Centres” and information collection hubs. It would also have to be determined which organisation would become the central hub collecting and disseminating the information. Similar approaches may also be needed in other regions.

#### 4.3.8. National initiatives (environmental policy integration)

On national levels, IGES believes that greater efforts should be made to improve synergies between environmental and developmental policies and practices. One way to do this is to enhance environmental policy integration (EPI), which is defined as a “deliberate attempt to prioritize the protection of the environment before any trade-offs are made between environmental, economic and/or social objectives” (Lenschow, 2009:8). Sustainable development, therefore, should be designated as an overarching principle of policy decisions in any sector or level. This is important because significant impact can only be achieved if environmental concerns are integrated into those ministries that are the main contributors to environmental damage (Mueller in Lenschow, 2002:58). Full integration is complex and presupposes political continuity and support. IGES suggests that improving vertical integration will benefit the persistent implementation gap at the local level. For that to happen it will be necessary to strengthen the national decision making processes and involve local governments to ensure that both funding and capacity is made available.

#### 4.3.9. Local initiatives

Local governments in many areas have already made strong efforts to effectively address SD issues in an integrated way, including efforts related to Local Agenda 21. Good examples of local action in the Asia-Pacific include the development of low carbon cities, smart cities, and other partnerships between local governments. City level networks help to share best practices and assist with capacity building. These initiatives should be further developed and strengthened. At the same time, multi-stakeholder involvement and cooperation with the private sector, educational institutions and other stakeholders should be promoted. Finally, IGES believes that solid reporting mechanisms should be established and maintained to ensure vertical coherence and consistency between planning and implementation.

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Note: This report and all relevant IGES publications are available on the IGES website.  
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 ISAP 2011 Chair's Summary

Chair: Prof. Hironori Hamanaka, Chair of the Board of Directors, IGES

Day 1 26 July

#### Morning Session on the Hayama Proposal and Implications of Japan's disasters

People recognized the importance of thinking about the future energy mix of Japan with new and flexible perspectives after the Fukushima triple disaster. Energy policy and climate policy are different sides of the same coin and we should seek low carbon, high safety, and high energy security "keeping in mind there may be costs to bear for these positive goals. Research institutes such as IGES should play an important role to provide qualitative and quantitative analysis and concrete proposals to contribute to the ongoing discussion on Japan's future courses of action. In this regard, it was urgently called for continued dialogue among stakeholders such as the ones we had at ISAP 2011, learning from the German experience. The future direction of the international regime for climate change mitigation is

very unclear. Parties including Japan should make compromises to make the discussion move ahead for our common future. The Hayama Proposal as proposed by the IGES climate change group may stir further discussion inside and outside of Japan.

#### Afternoon Session on Resilient Societies

A decentralized system for risk reduction, relief, and recovery with differentiated roles under a comprehensive plan was proposed and discussed during this session in which:

- National governments have a facilitating and enabling role

- Local government has the responsibility for decision making and implementation, and for promoting horizontal cooperation and participation of different stakeholders.

It is essential to revitalize decentralized, localized, and self-reliant socio-economic systems which value and support inclusive and meaningful participatory processes as a way to facilitate effective risk reduction, relief work, and reconstruction on the pathway to a transition towards a resilient and sustainable society. In this regard, the importance of community-based approach was emphasized.

Day 2 27 July

#### Morning Session on Governance for Sustainable Development

Despite the many challenges we need transformational change in addressing the weaknesses in current governance arrangements.

- Greater attention must be paid to horizontal and vertical integration – genuine and informed multi-stakeholder participation and multi-level integration: the involvement of women and civil society groups, business and local governments at all levels need to influence the outcome of Rio+20.

- Access to information and meaningful public participation in policy decision making process to enhance accountability and implementation, possibly through a global or regional convention.

- International and regional organizations need to play a proactive role in engaging with national and sub-national stakeholders, while sub-national stakeholders can take a more proactive role to engage with the national government to promote change.

If we agree that the status quo is not sufficient to address current and future sustainable development problems, then we cannot fear the challenges and consequences of making fundamental changes in the UN charter.

#### Afternoon Session on Green Economy

The East Japan disasters, including the Fukushima nuclear accident, reveal that the existing social and economic system does not fully account for environmental and social costs. The concept of green economy is important in this context. The session discussed how the implication and definition of a green economy may vary depending on the developmental stage, but sharing the common goal of sustainable development. One of the key discussion points was how green economy can improve the daily lives of poor people, not only in developing countries but also in developed countries. The importance of technology transfer and application, particularly exploring opportunities between south-south was emphasized, indicating a need for improving education to develop the capabilities necessary for technology transfer and to provide the skills that will sustain green job growth.

#### Conclusion

In closing Prof. Hamanaka and Mr. Rae Kwon Chung, Director, Environment and Sustainable Development Division of UNESCAP shared their final thoughts for ISAP2011. Prof. Hamanaka recapped the main messages from each plenary session, which he said he hoped would be used towards developing a sustainable and resilient society and promoting green economy in the context of achieving sustainable development and alleviating poverty, bearing in mind the diversity of the Asia-Pacific region. Mr. Chung closed ISAP2011 by offering a reminder of two points – the first challenge is to reach out to convince the

other two pillars, the other ministries, the other NGOs, as speaking to the converted is no way to achieve cross-cutting goals. The second challenge is to have more clarity within the environmental policy community as internal disagreements weaken the messages and do little to clarify the misperceptions and understanding about sustainable development. IGES and other institutes need to clarify and educate the national delegates going to Seoul and Rio de Janeiro. That is the challenge of our times, to overcome the knowledge gaps by working together and overcoming our collective challenges to human survival on planet Earth.

Impact Assessment of No-Nuclear and More Renewable Energy Policies

in Japan (Preliminary findings)

Anindya Bhattacharya, Senior Energy Economist, Economy and Environment Group, IGES

July 29, 2011

#### Objectives

To estimate the impact of reduction and substitution of nuclear energy and increasing use of renewable energy in the electricity supply mix in Japan using bottom-up technology driven energy systems model (TIMES-Japan).

The impacts are to be estimated under three main parametric contexts prevailing in the market to evaluate the nuclear energy's acceptance or rejection compared to other technologies:

- i) Technical feasibility,
- ii) Cost of supply and
- iii) Environmental impacts.

#### Primary research questions

What will be the total system cost?

What will be the electricity supply cost in the country?

What will be the energy and electricity supply portfolio of the country?

What will be the impact on GHG emissions reduction target?

#### Scenarios

1. Reference Energy Scenario (REF): This is the business as usual scenario with pre-disaster conditions of energy supply and demand.

2. Fossil Fuel Scenario-Long Run (SFF-LR): In this scenario a long term nuclear power supply reduction policy has been adopted. Nuclear power supply gradually goes off from the supply mix by 2050 with a three-step reduction target. In addition to that CCS (carbon capture and sequestration) technological intervention is also restricted until 2040 based on its current level of R&D status in Japan.

- 2020: Nuclear power supply reduces to 13% from 30% at 2009

- 2030: Nuclear power supply reduces to 5% from 30% at 2009

- 2050: Nuclear power reduces to 0% from 30% at 2009

3. Fossil Fuel Scenario-Short Run (SFF-SR): In this scenario an immediate cut off of all nuclear power supply is considered by 2015.

1

4. Renewable Energy Scenario (REN): In this scenario a moderate renewable energy supply policy is introduced with 15% wind and 25% solar energy supply by 2050 in Japan. Due to various environmental and regulatory obstacles geothermal development is not very prospective in Japan as of now. Therefore, we deliberately restricted the penetration of geothermal in the supply mix only to 10% by 2050.

#### Basic assumptions

Following are the basic energy service demand drivers in the model to determine the final energy demand.

#### REF Demand Driver

2.5

2

GDP

2005 value=1



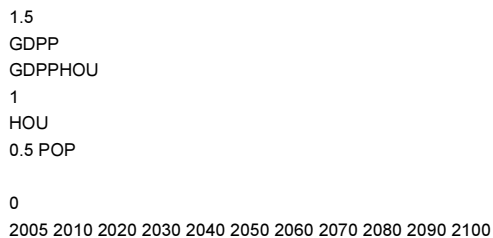
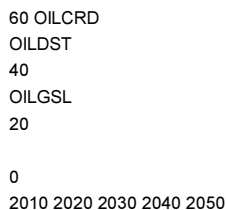
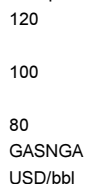


Fig.1: Ref case energy service demand drivers

Note: GDP: GDP per capita, GDP/HOU: GDP per household, HOU: Number of households, POP: Population

Primary energy prices are also very important for the bottom-up models. The basic assumptions are shown in the figure below:

Fuel price assumption in the model



2  
Fig.2: Primary fuel prices

In addition to above mentioned assumptions the model also assumed there is no changes in the final energy service demand in the market due to policy changes. Therefore, the scenarios simulate the steady state conditions of the demand function. As a matter of fact, only supply curve shifts over the constant demand curve to achieve the partial equilibrium conditions for the optimal solutions under different conditions mentioned under three policy scenarios. Work is in progress to also estimate the energy service demand changes due to various policy measures.

The costs of technologies are also very important for this study as they determine the final technological intervention in the system. The following table shows the reference case cost comparison between different nuclear technologies and renewable mainly solar and wind.

Table 1: Reference case technology investment cost comparison (selected technologies only)

Technologies ( USD@2000 /KW)	2003	2004	2005	2008	2010	2018	2023
Advanced Nuclear	2380.00	4200.00					
Nuclear Fusion	4200.00						
Nuclear LWR	2100.00	3705.88					
Solar PV Centralized	9399.18	8354.78	6300.00	4760.00	3133.06		
Solar PV Decentralized	10997.00	9775.08	7371.00	5569.20	3360.14		
Wind centralized on-shore	2800.00	1775.40	1775.40				

Wind centralized off-shore 4177.60 3236.80

Wind decentralized-onshore 1671.60 1662.66

Source: Data has been drawn from the TIMES Integrated Assessment Model (Version 4.3.3) base data which are primarily collected from IEA and other external sources.

#### Preliminary Results

1. Impact on overall electricity supply portfolio: This result indicates that LNG and Natural Gas will be dominating the supply fuel market in Japan especially for electricity production. Coal will still remain as one of the major sources of power in the country under all the scenarios analyzed here unless it is deliberately replaced by other technologies. Geothermal is a potential alternative for nuclear base load supply in Japan. However, it requires plenty of regulatory and environmental policy changes to become viable. High cost due to high labor cost and high land cost in the country may hinder the introduction of the Biomass energy in Japan.

3

REF Case Elec Supply Portfolio REN -Elec. Supply Portfolio

100% 100%

90% 90%

Wind Wind

80% 80%

Solar-PV Solar-PV

70% 70%

Nuclear Nuclear

60% 60%

50% 50%

Hydro Hydro

40% 40%

Geo&Tidal Geo&Tidal

30% 30%

Gas&Oil Gas&Oil

20% 20%

Coal Coal

10% 10%

0% 0%

Biomass Biomass

2005 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050 2005 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050

FFS-SR Elec. Supply Portfolio

FFS -LR Elec. Supply Portfolio

100%

100%

90%

90%

Wind

Wind

80%

80%

Solar-PV

Solar-PV 70%

70%

Nuclear

Nuclear 60%

60%

50%

50% Hydro

Hydro

40%

40% Geo&Tidal

Geo&Tidal

30%

30%

Gas&Oil

Gas&Oil

20%

20%

Coal

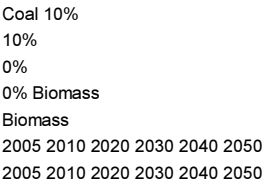


Fig. 3: Electricity supply portfolio for Japan under different scenarios

2. Impact on total energy supply system cost: This is the net present value of the total cost required to achieve the target set under the scenarios in the system. The discount factor is around 10% which is factored over the total life time of each individual technology in the system. This shows that if Japan goes for immediate replacement of nuclear power supply with other sources the country has to take the maximum burden of energy supply which will be 2.5% higher than the current cost or 225 Billion USD additional cost. Renewable energy scenario is expected to have much lesser financial impact on Japan which is around 105 Billion USD of additional cost compared to the reference condition.

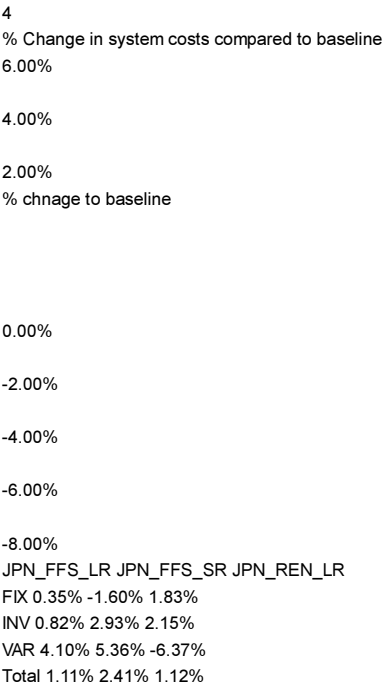
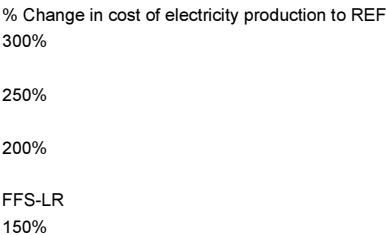


Fig.4: Changes in system cost under different scenarios

3. Electricity production cost and retail price in the market: In this analysis we estimated only the electricity production cost and not the other costs like transmission and distribution, commercial costs etc. However, it is assumed that the majority of the supply cost of power in Japan is the production cost. Given the condition that there is no change in other cost component then % change of the production cost of electricity can be attributed to the % change of the supply costs and retail price of electricity that the consumers are paying. Based on this assumptions we have estimated the following changes in the electricity prices in the market under different scenarios:



FFS-SR  
100% REN

50%

0%

2020 2030 2040 2050

Fig.5: Changes in electricity supply/production cost under different scenarios

5

This result indicates that under the fossil fuel based scenario with immediate nuclear energy cut off plan may increase the electricity generation cost and thereafter the supply cost by 250% compared to the current level by 2020. However, it has been estimated that under all the potential alternative scenarios, price escalation is must. But renewable energy option with no nuclear supply beyond 2050 predicts the lowest price escalation until 2050.

The following figure (Fig.6) shows how the market price of different fuels changes compared to the REF scenario in Japan. Oil Crude is also predicted here which shows that 2020 is the most expensive year for Japan under all scenarios except renewable energy. All other fuels show some increasing trend in the mid to long term horizon for Japan as the fossil fuel demands still remain high for the country. Among all fuels, natural gas is expected to have very high price escalation in Japan (around 400%-500%) due to high demand by the power companies.

% Change in gasoline price comapred to REF  
% Change in oil-crude import price compared to REF

350%  
350%  
300%  
300%  
250%  
250%  
FFS-LR  
FFS-LR 200%  
200%  
FFS-SR  
FFS-SR  
150%  
150%  
REN  
REN  
100%  
100%  
Poly. (FFS-LR)  
Poly. (FFS-SR)  
50%  
50%  $R\hat{A}^2 = 0.8708$   $R\hat{A}^2 = 0.8262$   
0%  
0%  
2010 2020 2030 2040 2050  
2010 2020 2030 2040 2050

% Change in diesel price comapred to REF  
% Change in Natural Gas Price comapred to Ref

400%  
600%  
350%  
500%  
300%  
400%  
250% FFS-LR  
FFS-LR  
200%  
300% FFS-SR  
FFS-SR  
150% REN  
REN  
200%  
100% Linear (FFS-LR)

Poly. (FFS-SR)  
 100%  
 50%  
 $R^2 = 0.8398$   $R^2 = 0.7252$   
 0%  
 0%  
 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050  
 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050

Fig.6: Changes in different fuel prices in the market compared to REF scenario

4. GHG emission: To achieve better CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction, Japan needs to have aggressive renewable energy penetration policy in place. Model predicts that under both the fossil fuel scenarios, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions will increase rapidly over the reference scenario. Moreover, faster penetration of renewable energies than REN is necessary to satisfactorily reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions until 2040. After 2040 when the percentage of renewable energy supply goes above the fossil fuels, then only the emissions reduction impacts are observed. Therefore, renewable energy supply is one of the key controlling factors of GHG emissions in Japan.

6  
 Total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions comparison  
 1400.0  
 1350.0  
 1300.0  
 1250.0 REF  
 Million ton  
 1200.0 FFS-LR  
 1150.0 FFS-SR  
 1100.0 REN  
 1050.0  
 1000.0  
 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050

Fig.7: CO<sub>2</sub> emissions under different scenarios

#### Preliminary conclusions 1

Japan may go forward with no-nuclear option but the financial burden of system development will be generated. It appears that use of existing facilities to full capacity can reduce the additional investment burden in the short run. Renewable energy scenario is expected to have much lesser financial impact.

Japan needs to develop its base load alternatives like geothermal and tidal to substitute nuclear. Solar and Wind appears intermittent compared to nuclear power supply. More aggressive renewable energy policy is required.

Retail power price is expected to increase under both the scenarios. Fossil fuel scenarios will increase the crude and gas import burden and subsequent cost of supply.

Primary energy prices are expected to shoot-up in the short run due to sudden surge in demand and lack of supply. However, the prices are expected to fall gradually.

Japan needs to commercialize its geothermal potential to reduce the environmental impact of non-nuclear supply portfolio. Geothermal and tidal seems to be viable as alternative to massive replacement of base load nuclear power.

In the short-run LNG (liquefied natural gas) import increases with increase in NG (natural gas) based power generation. Coal is expected to be dominating the supply under no nuclear scenario at least until 2050.

Japan needs to develop the CSP (concentrated solar power) technology for grid connected solar supply enhancement. So far roof-top standalone PV is predominant.

1

This result and conclusions are preliminary in nature and should be used as indicative figures. Any part of the document should not be quoted without author's permission.

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ISAP2011

Lunch Session, 26 July 2011

Local Energy Solutions

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LocalÃ EnergyÃ Solutions:Ã BackgroundÃ andÃ Objective

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Communityã£¼¼basedÃ approach:Ã CollaborationÃ amongÃ localÃ stakeholdersÃ

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LocalÂ EnergyÂ Solutions

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â€" IndianÂ EnergyÂ andÂ EnvironmentalÂ PerspectivesÂ

Discussion Paper: Building Resilient Societies

Prepared for the plenary session on building resilient societies at the International

Forum for a Sustainable Asia-Pacific (ISAP) 2011 held in Yokohama, Japan

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(IGES)  
July 26, 2011

The purpose of this draft of the discussion paper is to frame the discussions that will take place in the Resilient Societies Plenary Session in the International forum for Sustainable Asia and the Pacific (ISAP) in July 26, 2011. The discussions will later be reflected in this paper and IGES will publish it as one of the outputs of ISAP 2011.

This discussion paper begins by looking at the only international agreement on disaster risk reduction, the Hyogo Framework for Action, and considers the review of progress made on this agreement in light of the current situation facing Japan – the so-called East Japan Great Earthquake/Tsunami (EJGET). In the discussion the question is raised as to what is a resilient society – in particular in the context of modern development and technological advances. Cases are given drawing on recent fieldwork carried out in the areas most severely affected by the triple disaster in Japan (tsunami, earthquake, nuclear) which provides a backdrop for the deeper discussion on building resilience to extreme events and making resilience a part of the recovery and rebuilding process.

#### 1. The need to invest more in building disaster resilient societies

Globally, the frequency and magnitude of catastrophic disasters is projected to increase. The series of disasters in eastern Japan that the nation is now grappling with highlight the need and urgency for greater attention towards building disaster resilience through national and sub-national policy and planning.

Just a few weeks after the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami the World Conference on Disaster Reduction was held in Hyogo, Japan. The main output from that meeting was the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building Resilience of Nations and

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Communities to Disasters, a comprehensive and systematic guidance document to strategically reduce disaster losses which was endorsed by 168 member states in 2005. The Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) builds on a previous document, the Yokohama Strategy, and was the first document of its type to be developed and agreed upon internationally on disaster risk reduction. With the expected outcome of – the substantial reduction of disaster losses, in lives and in the social, economic and environmental assets of communities and countries – the HFA outlines five priorities for action:

1. Ensure that disaster risk reduction is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation.
2. Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning.
3. Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels.
4. Reduce the underlying risk factors.
5. Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at all levels.

The 2009-2011 HFA progress review shows increasing attention to risk identification, preparedness, and monitoring; in addition the HFA and associated processes have contributed to creating a common language and understanding of the key components of disaster risk management.<sup>ii</sup> However, across income levels and regions achievements have been much slower or even regressing in addressing the underlying risk drivers, developing governance structures and institutions, and in using education and knowledge to build a culture of resilience. The result is an impaired ability to prepare for and respond to disasters, often as a result of disaster risk management being spread across multiple ministries or located in institutions with little resources or power to influence change to address extensive and intensive disasters.

Extensive risk develops through mainly localized but frequently occurring disasters spread across a country or region and are often related to climate variability such as flooding in Bangladesh.<sup>iii</sup> In the case that a particular area is subject to infrequent but highly destructive disasters with relatively greatly loss of human life, the intensive risk of the area is said to be high (Ibid.). The Haiti earthquake in 2010 which resulted in almost 500,000 casualties and 1.2 million displaced persons,<sup>iv</sup> and the



triple disaster in Japan which resulted in almost 25,000 dead or missing and over 100,000 displaced persons<sup>v</sup> are recent examples of intensive disasters.

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Natural disasters can be classified as biological, geophysical, hydrological, meteorological and climatological. There is potential for the human toll and economic costs of all of these to increase. Due to climate change, some areas are likely to become more vulnerable to biological disasters, such as insect infestation. The series of disasters in eastern Japan and the recent series of earthquakes in Christchurch, New Zealand remind us that developed countries are not immune to geophysical events such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, though deaths are likely to be greatest in countries experiencing rapid, unplanned urbanization, such as Haiti, <sup>vi</sup> where 222,570 deaths were reported from the January 12th 2010 earthquake.<sup>vii</sup> Hydrological disasters such as flooding are projected to increase in some areas because of climate change, but experiences in China, the Philippines and other countries of the region show that environmental degradation, e.g. reduced forest cover in upper catchments, also contributes to the frequency and scale of these disasters. The summer heat wave in Russia in 2010 responsible for wildfires that destroyed a third of the wheat crop and that caused up to 56,000 deaths<sup>viii</sup> was an example of an abnormal weather event, many of which have been reported from around the globe in recent years. These provide signals of the increasing frequency and severity of meteorological disasters (storms) and climatological disasters (extreme temperature, drought and wildfire) that are projected due to climate change.

Due to better preparedness and recovery planning made possible in part by economic growth, over the past 40 years mortality risk from natural hazards has been decreasing; however economic growth has not resulted in lowered economic loss from natural hazards.<sup>ix</sup> From the 1970s to 2008 while the number of fatalities from disasters significantly decreased, world economic losses due to natural disasters has been steadily <sup>and often times sharply-</sup> rising.<sup>x</sup> However these losses only account for the direct physical impacts of disasters <sup>the long term effects on the local economy in a case such as the recent disasters in Japan could result in significant impacts on Japan's economic outlook in addition to their energy future</sup> <sup>and that of other countries which have included nuclear energy as a major part of their energy mix. In terms of extensive disasters the impacts have been greater in lower income countries and those with governance issues, but as the recent incidents in Japan shows new vulnerabilities can arise as a result of the complexities and interdependencies created in technologically advanced, modern, higher-income countries if resilience is not reassessed in terms of the new development context. Without suitable governance and institutional arrangements risk can actually be</sup>

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constructed rather than mitigated through development, regardless of the size of the economy or system of government.

The interconnectedness of development, technology, and disaster risk raises questions as to the resilience and vulnerability of societies <sup>not just developing societies, as has been the primary focus of discussions on these two factors, but also the resilience and vulnerability of modern developed societies in the face of intensive risk, partly as a result of technology and infrastructure development, and increasing extensive disasters due in part to climate change, the so called emerging risks</sup>.

Globally, the number of natural disasters and their costs are increasing  
The EJET is set against a  
backdrop of upwards trends in the  
number of global disasters  
reported and the costs of their  
impacts. As reported on the  
International Disaster Database  
EM-DAT, which is maintained by  
the Centre for Research on the  
Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED),  
2010 was the deadliest year in at  
least two decades for natural

disasters. CRED reports that in 2010 some 385 natural disasters killed more than 297,000 people worldwide, affected more than 217 million others and caused damages Time trend of to the tune of US\$124 billion.xi Asia reported natural is particularly vulnerable. From disasters, 1975-2010. 2000-2009, almost 85% of global deaths from natural disasters Source: UNISDR. Undated. occurred in the region. xii These 2010 Disasters in Numbers. upward trends are set to continue due to unplanned urbanization, environmental degradation and climate change.

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What is a disaster resilient society?

Until the EJGET, Japan was presented as an example of a resilient nation, well advanced in mitigating and bouncing back from natural disasters. The magnitude of the EJGET, however, was not planned for. With a large population, much of whom resides on the coastal plains and fringes, a modern economy in which production chains are spread across the country (and globally), and with a centralised domestic energy system, Japan found itself vulnerable to this catastrophic event. Already, central and local governments are discussing a range of practical solutions, but these specific solutions need to be underpinned by a shared vision of what a disaster resilient society looks like, and a set of principles for building disaster resilience into the recovery process.

As Brenton Prosser and Colin Peters point out, it can be difficult gaining agreement amongst policy makers on what resilience actually means.xiii Nevertheless, there appears to be enough common ground to build policy.xiv

Put simply, a disaster resilient community can be defined as “the safest possible community that we have the knowledge to design and build in a natural hazard context”xv “minimizing its vulnerability by maximizing the application of disaster risk reduction measures”xvi The expressions “safest” and “minimizing its vulnerability” are important. We cannot completely insulate our communities from natural disasters. We cannot conquer the more powerful forces of nature, and indeed this has been a painful lesson from the EJGET.

In terms of the disaster management cycle, which consists of disaster prevention (mitigation and Disaster prevention preparedness), response, and recovery and reconstruction, a disaster resilient society is one that “mitigates and prepares for the possibility of natural disasters, is able to deliver quick and Recovery and effective emergency assistance to Response reconstruction victims, and is capable of a smooth transition to implementation of recovery and reconstruction.”xvii

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There are several concepts that are useful for understanding disaster resilience. First is the notion that resilience consists of a number of elements: Robustness “inherent strength, resistance; Redundancy “system properties that allow for alternative options, choices, substitutions; Resourcefulness “capacity to mobilise resources; and Rapidity “speed with which disruption can be overcome and services, income, etc. restored.xviii

Second is the notion of “resilience domains”<sup>xi</sup>. These are: Technical “physical systems” location based and distributed critical facilities; Organization “attributes, dynamics of organizations and institutions; Social “attributes, dynamics of communities and populations; and Economic “attributes, dynamics of organizations and institutions. xix In Japan, perhaps too much emphasis and confidence has been placed on the technical domain, i.e. engineering feats designed to protect communities and infrastructure from natural hazards, and too little on organizational, social and economic domains.

The concepts of levels and scope of preparedness are also important. The literature on disaster resilient communities focuses on the local level, and discusses the broader context for community resilience in terms of “enabling conditions”<sup>xii</sup>. However, in a highly integrated economy, such as Japan, the EJGET teaches us that resilience requires the state to provide more than just enabling conditions for local, community-level resilience. Disaster resilience at the national level requires a whole-of-government approach that builds disaster resilience into the national economy. The EJGET has taught us that in Japan even energy policy must be considered in the design of national disaster mitigation strategies.

Facing once in hundreds of years natural disaster, the society which can minimize the damage and return normal as soon as possible, is sustainable. Above all, building resilient society means nothing more or less than establishing sustainable society.

6

Principles for building disaster resilient society

In his reflection on the series of disasters in eastern Japan, Professor Ryokichi Hirono proposes a set of principles relevant to building disaster resilience in Japan using the concept of the 4H™s (Horizon, Head, Hands, Hearts).xii

He discusses horizon as the need for “national and local visions of long-term development of all regions of the country”<sup>xiii</sup>, with a particular emphasis on areas previously affected by catastrophic disasters. Here, a scenario approach to natural and man-made disaster prevention and impact minimization that lays out cost-effective alternatives would be useful.

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Heads, he explains, refers to:

Immediate and early drafting by local governments on the basis of the closest consultation among the people in the [disaster affected areas], with assistance and support of central government, of immediate, short-, medium- and long-term measures to be taken by individuals, communities and all the other stakeholders, to prevent and minimize the adverse impact of all disasters, all of which requires the following: i) strong political leadership at the top, ii) transparency of public information and accountability of local and central governments to all stakeholders, iii) closest possible cooperation and collaboration among all stakeholders; iv) clear definition of the responsibilities of all stakeholders, particularly the roles of local and national governments, v) cross-sectoral coordination and integration among sectors and government ministries and departments, e.g. agriculture, fishery, forestry, manufacturing, power, transportation, communication, finance, services, housing, health, education, welfare, security and armed forces, etc.xii

Hands, Professor Hirono explains, is about mobilising all traditional and recent knowledge and experiences, as well as generating new knowledge, through public participation and expert analysis to prevent and mitigate both natural and man-made disasters.

Hearts is about:

Involving all stakeholders in the decision-making processes related to disaster

prevention and impact minimization through: i) basic education at school and in communities, ii) practical skill training and exercises at all levels, c) inculcating of the sense of ownership and participation among all citizens in local communities.xii Although Professor Hirono's discussion is specific to Japan, many of the principles are generic and have broad application.

Japan faces its most severe crisis and largest reconstruction effort since WWII

Just before 3pm on 11 March 2011, at a magnitude of 9.0 Mw one of the largest earthquakes since modern recording began occurred off the eastern coast of Japan. With its epicenter approximately 72 km east of the Oshika Peninsula, the earthquake generated a massive tsunami that breached and washed over wave barriers and destroyed entire towns on Japan's eastern coast. Analysis later showed that the tsunami was over 20 – 30 meters in some areas.

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Magnifying the scale of the disaster, the tsunami also washed over wave defenses protecting the Fukushima I and II Nuclear Power Plants, destroying reactor cooling systems at the No. 1 Plant and triggering a meltdown in three of its reactors. Hydrogen explosions destroyed the storage chambers of two reactors. On 12 March 2011, the Government ordered residents within 20km of the Fukushima power plants to evacuate. A scheduled evacuation order was released for some villagers located in the 20 – 30 km zone. Other areas in the 20 – 30 km zone were designated as "emergency evacuation preparation areas".

The impacts of the EJGET have been enormous and a massive humanitarian relief effort involving government, civil society and international support is now underway. 15,550 deaths, 5,688 injured, and 5,344 people missing have been confirmed.xx Almost half a million houses and buildings were totally or partially destroyed, xxi and more than 130,000 people have been placed in temporary shelters. The survivors have experienced shortages of food, water, shelter, medicine and fuel. Prime Minister Kan described the aftermath of the EJGET as the most difficult crisis that Japan has faced since the Second World War. With the Government setting aside US\$48.5 billion in emergency spending as a first step, Japan's largest reconstruction effort since the War is now underway.

As a mountainous island nation located on the "Pacific Rim of Fire" in one of the most tectonically active parts of the world, and with a climate that features both typhoons and heavy snowfalls, Japan is used to natural hazards, whether earthquakes, tsunamis, floods, or landslides. Japan has built up a certain degree of resilience to these and, in fact, people from around the world have travelled to Japan to study the lessons it has learned and its technological advances on disaster preparedness. New Zealand, for example, is interested in learning from Japan on how to reconstruct the city of Christchurch, which was badly damaged by a series of earthquakes beginning in September 2010.

While Japan continues to struggle with the resulting humanitarian and nuclear crisis, discussion has already begun on how to build a more disaster resilient society. In a press Conference on 01 April 2011, Prime Minister Kan presented an ambitious vision for reconstruction:

We must then begin preparations toward reconstruction. In fact, we will go beyond mere reconstruction, creating an even better Tohoku and even better Japan. We

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are moving forward with the creation of a reconstruction plan that has this big dream at its core. I have received many opinions over the telephone from the mayors of each city, town and village in the disaster-stricken area. These opinions will be incorporated into the plan for instance, in some areas we will level parts of mountains in order to create plateaus for people to live on. Those residing in the area will then commute to the shoreline if they work in ports or the fisheries industry. We will create eco-towns, places which use biomass and plant-based fuel to provide natural heating. We will outfit cities with infrastructure to support the elderly. We aim to create new kinds of towns that will become models for the rest of the world.

The Cabinet Office established the multi-stakeholder reconstruction planning

council (officially named “The Reconstruction Design Council in response to the Great East Japan Earthquake”). The Council held 12 meetings over three months and adopted an action plan that underscores the need to promote reconstruction driven by the local communities. Disaster preparedness and wider use of renewable energy were also highlighted as guiding principles. Each prefecture and city has also formed reconstruction committees.

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Case study: Rikuzentakata, Iwaki Prefecture

Rikuzentakata, a city located on the coast in Iwaki Prefecture, is one of the tsunami affected areas. The city’s death toll was 1,087 with 704 people recorded missing as of May 2011, out of a total population of 24,246. Economic damages included 3,159 houses completely destroyed; 1,368 fishing boats destroyed (the loss valued at 6.4 billion yen); seaweed and shellfish farming facilities destroyed and fish products damaged; damage to the harbor to the tune of 3.5 billion yen; livestock farms destroyed in two places (3 million yen); horticulture destroyed in 99 places (77.4 million yen); and 336 ha of rice paddy inundated (7.1 billion yen). The number of persons evacuated reached 10,143 and as of May 2011 49 evacuation shelters were operating. The temporary housing is being developed, with 2,200 units expected to be available.

In Rikuzentakata, about 10 fishery ports were operating before disaster. One contentious issue is whether to restore all the ports or consolidate them into a few that will be reconstructed. Funds are limited but the local fishermen are generally against privatizing the ports. The fishermen prefer to maintain schemes based on fishing rights that are in the form of collective fishstock/marine resource management. The current reconstruction financing is bound to support the restoration of the previously existing infrastructure, and is not designed to support the rationalization or consolidation of infrastructure systems. Private partnerships have also been considered, for instance, to support oyster farming restoration in Miyagi. However, this is closer to philanthropic donations rather than investment, and the volume of financing is still far below actual needs.

## 2. Building resilience to contend with extreme events (infrequent, catastrophic disasters)

Building resilience for infrequent, catastrophic disasters needs special attention.

Economic imperatives may lead to a playing down of the risks and likely consequences of extreme, irregular events, though Professor Ryokichi Hirono argues that that Japan should have been prepared for the EJGET and provides a list of previous large-scale events that pointed to the possibility of this type and scale of geophysical event.xxi

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Restoration of inundated and salinity affected paddy lands

Restoration of inundated and salinity affected paddy lands is another important task in the reconstruction process in the aftermath of the EJGET. Farmers face financial and physical constraints to restore damaged paddy land and farms. Options that have been suggested include removing saline soil and replacing it with deeper lying unaffected soil or soil from other areas. Phytoremediation “the treatment of environmental problems by growing plants” such as rice, sunflower and rape/colza has been suggested. However, once paddy land is converted to farmland, it would take years to convert the farmland back to paddy land. The pros and cons of these proposals need further assessment.

Extreme events are sometimes labelled “black swans”. They are events that are outside of normal expectations as past experience does not suggest their likelihood of occurrence. Human memory may not span sufficient generations to ensure that lesson from the history of extreme events is incorporated into today’s planning and decision-making, or there simply may be no past human experience of a similar event. Even when there is living memory, the profit motive or competing demands on public funds may lead to avoidance of the costs for preparing for infrequent disasters.

A lesson from the EJGET is that human engineering feats that aim to obstruct the forces of nature cannot protect against the most powerful natural phenomena. Wave barriers have, in the past, successfully protected parts of Japan from tsunamis and will continue to do so for more frequent events of average magnitude. But this type of engineering solution can lull people into a false sense of security, with

potentially very high human and economic costs, as we have witnessed with the EJGET. The discussion in Japan has turned to the organizational, social and economic domains of disaster resilience.

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Case study: Inter-community relief

The value of inter-community support during the relief and recovery stage has been observed in the aftermath of the EJGET as well as disasters in other countries. As national and prefectural (state) governments must cover all areas directly impacted by the EJGET and because of their internal rigidities, they have found it difficult to supply timely relief on a priority basis. Community-to-community relief has been observed as more flexible than the vertical relief channel of national government to local community.

When a community not directly impacted by the disaster is coupled with a disaster affected community to provide relief, the relief work can be better focused and thus more effective. When organizing relief in the aftermath of the Sichuan earthquake, the Chinese central government paired disaster affected communities with communities in unaffected areas. The unaffected communities competed between themselves to assist their counterpart communities, and this unconventional approach of inter-community relief aid worked successfully.

In Japan, inter-community relief gained popularity after the Hanshin earthquake in 1995. After the EJGET, relief was provided by various communities and municipalities; from both inside the disaster affected area (Tono City, Kurihara City, etc.), and outside the area (League of Kansai Municipalities, Sugunami Ward, etc.).

Tono City, located in Iwate Prefecture, where the impacts of the earthquake and tsunami were particularly severe, was relatively unscathed and became a relief supply center for non-governmental organizations (NGOs). An advantage of this inter-community aid was that Tono City is close to the devastated areas, which facilitated information collection and logistics. This is somewhat of an unusual example as in a widely damaged area it is difficult to find less affected communities that can extend a helping hand. Communities further removed from the disaster affected areas can also provide important support, however. Sugunami Ward in Tokyo and the Unions of Kansai Governments (UKG) are good examples. Sugunami Ward and other cities have long relationships with Minami Souma Cho, one of the areas affected by radiation from the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, as sister cities. Sugunami ward used its inter-municipality network to provide relief assistance to Minami Souma Cho while UKG sent water and sewerage technical teams to the area.

A challenge in organizing inter-community relief aid is coordination. Matching affected and unaffected cities to ensure that the relief provided is based on needs can take time, though sister city affiliation certainly facilitate this process. In Japan, further thought is now required on how government can encourage inter-community relationships as part of a process of building more effective channels to provide relief in the aftermath of disasters.

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3. Building resilience into recovery and reconstruction

In the aftermath of a catastrophic disaster, decisions will be taken that have long-term consequences. At an early stage there is a need to identify effective processes for ensuring that resilience building is integrated into the recovery and reconstruction process, so that the impacts of future natural hazards are better mitigated and societies more able to cope with these. Disaster management planning should provide a framework for making informed decisions in a time of chaos and uncertainty, as well as direct decision-makers towards the longer term goal of disaster resilience.

Diagram below presents holistic approach for recovery from catastrophic disasters. It lays out a general governance structure for building resilient society by taking a multi-level, multi-stakeholder scheme. There are many stakeholders involved; nonetheless, it is necessary for each of them to conduct actions which can be delivered most efficiently. For instance, national government should provide atmosphere where local stakeholders can play active roles such as providing funds, decentralizing authorities, creating special economic zone, etc.

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At the local level, local government needs to know community specific demand of assistance, and implement policies. At the same time, options and tools – regulatory (e.g. land use zoning) and non-regulatory (e.g. the acquisition and setting aside of hazard-prone lands) – should be set out and their costs and benefits closely studied. Relief aid conducted by NPOs and private companies is important as well as that of other municipalities. Coordination of these stakeholders’ activities is crucial, since national and prefectural governments cannot flexibly correspond various needs in local areas. Challenging task is to maintain consistent relief aids from these stakeholders; therefore, national government should set environment to facilitate enduring voluntary relief from different kinds of stakeholders.

#### Renewable energy promotion in Kuzumaki Town

Kuzumaki Town is a leading locality in promoting renewable energy. Based in the mountainous area in Iwate Prefecture, Kuzumaki produces far more energy through its wind turbines, wood chips and bark, and cow dung than it consumes and sells the surplus to the local power company. The success of Kuzumaki can be attributed to its entrepreneurial mayor and ingenious staff of the town office trained in the leading dairy farm, Koivai. Kuzumaki was successful in obtaining subsidies from the government. On the other hand, it also faces some constraints in expanding renewable energy. The local power company has a quota to buy renewable energy and it prevents the town from investing in renewables. The distance between the site and settlement area makes it difficult to promote cogeneration and household waste for biogas application.

#### 4. Moving from linear to holistic thinking and contemplating deeper structural reforms

Prosser and Peters explain that disaster resilience is characterized by its –complexity, interactivity and interconnectedness– that traditional linear policy thinking, which is reductionist and works from policy to solution within –tightly defined conceptual modes–, is unable to handle.<sup>xiii</sup> They call for non-linear and holistic policy approaches, which require disaster resilience to be the collective responsibility of all members of society. The challenges are to facilitate both bottom up and high level engagement, and implement the principle of subsidiarity to promote local level flexibility within a strong national framework for disaster resilience.<sup>xiv</sup> This understanding leads to the definition of a disaster resilient community as one that –works together to understand and manage the risks that it confronts, but is also aware of the responsibility of all levels of government.–<sup>xv</sup>

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Resilience includes the ability to –bounce back–, but this should not be viewed as merely returning to the way things were. Catastrophic natural disasters can highlight structural weaknesses in societies that make them vulnerable to large-scale natural hazard events. Deep structural reforms may be required, and the aftermath of a major disaster may allow for discussion of reforms that otherwise could not take place in –normal– circumstances.

#### Dealing with waste

Millions of tons of waste were generated by the EJGET that is now obstructing the reconstruction process but might also provide opportunities. Basic separation of waste has been undertaken, but this is not sufficient for final disposal. Biofuel production from wooden waste has been suggested as one way to make constructive use of the waste; however, this requires time for storing the waste and could interfere with reconstruction processes. Creating wave/tide breaking woodlands on waste mounds or using them for memorial parks have also been suggested, though the technical feasibility of these proposals needs to be further examined.

The EJGET has shown that the belief that the preventive measures taken against earthquakes and tsunamis at nuclear power plants were adequate was mistaken. This has led to a deep review of the nuclear power policy in Japan. At the G8 Summit in France, Prime Minister Kan explained his government’s determination to, as soon as possible, reduce Japan’s dependence on nuclear power by increasing the use of renewable energy such as solar, wind and geothermal power to 20% of the total electricity requirement of Japan by 2020. Will this be possible or –enough–? What other deep reforms are necessary for building disaster resilience in Japan that should now be on the discussion table? How can these reforms be embraced by a future vision for a low carbon, resource efficient, and resilient Japan? These and

similar questions about deep reforms and a future national vision now need to be placed on the discussion table. Determining who should participate in this discussion and how it should be facilitated are equally important as deciding the subject matter.

In light of these questions, and to facilitate discussion on solutions, the following framework for rehabilitation in the Fukushima area of Japan near the damaged nuclear power plant was created:

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Approach to disaster areas in Fukushima should be different with others, since effects of radioactive materials need to be considered carefully. The diagram above lays out holistic approach divided into various levels. Considering characteristics of the hazardous materials, compensation scheme is major part of relief actions, including providing alternate lands for locals.

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#### 5. Conclusion and the way forward

The preceding sections have outlined major global issues facing policy makers and other stakeholders facing disaster management challenges using the triple disasters in Japan as a current case of risk, relief, and recovery. Globally the most outstanding success factor has been a marked reduction in mortality-risk from disaster. Saving lives is, for obvious reasons, of primary importance, but quality of life is also a fundamental development and disaster management issue. Economic growth and technological advances have added immeasurably to quality of life and changed the social, political, and environmental landscape more rapidly in the past century than any other period of time in history. However these advances have also opened up new risks due in part to the human contributions to climate change generated by our rapid growth, to remarkable technological advances such as nuclear energy, and infrastructure developed without sufficient planning for disaster risk. The latter two situations are arguably made all the more troubling by poor governance and institutional failures due in no small part to short-term thinking. The results of such actions are more extensive and intensive risks suffered mainly by the most vulnerable populations, and increasingly within more developed areas.

The sudden, shocking, and in some ways unexpected nature of the recent disasters, in particular the triple disasters in Japan, are cause for deeper discussion on vulnerability, risk, and the policy decisions that need to be made for building a resilient and sustainable society.

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POLICY BRIEF June 2011 vol.12

Green Economy for Sustainable Development:

Japan should lead the policy shift towards global poverty alleviation

Policy Proposals

The present socioeconomic activities of developed countries are in excess of environmental carrying capacity. Accordingly, the adoption of environmental taxes and payment for ecosystem

Satoshi Kojima

services (PES) schemes that reflect the consumption of ecosystems services and environmental

Director

services on economic activities is required to establish a genuine green economy model that is

IGES Economy and

compatible with environmental carrying capacity of the Earth. The creation of such a model calls Environment Group for shifting away from values that excessively seek convenience and reconsidering lifestyles dependent on mass production and mass consumption. de-kojima@iges.or.jp

In order to spread the advanced energy and environmental technologies of Japan to emerging and developing nations eager to switch to green economy models, it is essential to carry out precise matching of needs, giving consideration both to Japan's green innovation and to the green economy models of emerging and developing countries. A detailed plan for international standardisation of technologies, regulations, norms and standards in the environmental field (in cooperation with other Asian countries) is also urgently required. Kei Kabaya

Associate Researcher

In order to prevent policy on green economy from leading to green protectionism, efforts are nec-

IGES Economy and

essary to create mechanisms by which green economy policies promote sustainable production Environment Group within exporting countries. This can be accomplished through the bilateral combination of green kabaya@iges.or.jp certification and technology transfer to promote sustainable methods of production that fulfil the conditions of green certification.

A framework to carry out effective green economy-related discussions that overcome the differing standpoints of countries must not be based on any uniform definition of green economy. Rather, we must promote flexible approaches that allow countries to utilise not only their own green economy policies but also those of others to achieve their priority goals, including poverty eradication, while sharing a common objective: to shift to green economy on a global scale. Takashi Yano

Policy Researcher

IGES Economy and

(For further details on these proposals, please refer to p.6) Environment Group

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Environmental Nation in the 21st Century, and policy  
 "Green economy" draws considerable attention  
 and initiatives have been put into place toward form-  
 internationally. "Green economy in the context of sus-  
 ing a green economy.

tainable development and poverty eradication" will  
 feature as a key theme for the United Nations Confer-

The financial crisis of 2008 further raised the status  
 ence on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), to be  
 of green economy to the level of a major global issue.

held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, marking 20 years since

As a means to overcome the financial crisis, many ma-  
 the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. The United Nations

for industrial nations, including the US, the EU, Japan

Environment Programme (UNEP) has carried out the

and the Republic of Korea, have laid out green new

Green Economy Initiative since 2008, and released

deal policies focused on employment creation and

the Green Economy Report in February 2011 (UNEP

economic stimulus based on large-scale investment in

2011). The Organisation for Economic Co-operation

renewable energy and other green industries. While

and Development (OECD) launched the Green

the concept of a green economy has been highlighted

Growth Strategy in 2008, and green growth is set forth

as the theme for the 50th anniversary of its founding in as a method to stimulate economies based on growth

of green industries, there is also debate on interpret-

2011.

ing green economy as a shift from existing economic

models focusing on GDP growth to more sustainable

The concept of green economy is not new. It has

socioeconomic systems. Moreover, there are nega-

been advocated since the late 1980s to imply a bal-

tive arguments against the green economy concept of

ance between environment and economy. Further-

developed countries that are blessed with advanced

more, the report released by the World Commission

technological capacity and a wealth of funds and hu-

on Environment and Development (WCED 1987) in

man resources. Doubts have been raised on whether 1987, that put the concept of sustainable development the concept can provide a prescription for sustainable in the spotlight, also sparked debate on green economies.<sup>1</sup> However, it was in the latter half of the 2000s development on a global scale that includes emerging and developing nations.<sup>2</sup> that the green economy concept began to attract its current level of attention. At the Fifth Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and In this manner, while the green economy concept the Pacific (MCED 2005), held in 2005 in the Republic holds great potential and has captured the interest of of Korea, the Seoul Initiative on Green Growth was many countries and international organisations, the adopted as a regional co-operation framework aimed lack of agreement on definition increases the risk of at achieving a balance between environmental pres- convoluting the debate. This policy brief will explore ervation and economic growth through methods such the debate regarding the green economy concept as improvement of eco-efficiency. The Republic of within the UNCSD process, and will cover initiatives Korea has since pursued green growth and a green in various countries from the perspective of advance- economy with great fervour. President Lee Myung- ment of global sustainable development. It will also bak, inaugurated in 2008, set forth “low carbon and analyse Japan’s initiatives related to green economy green growth” as the national vision. Likewise, Japan and make a proposal on the vital role of Japan in link- set forth the formation of a “low carbon society,” a “green economy polices from developed countries “sound material-cycle society,” and a “society in har- to global sustainable development. mony with nature” as the pillars of its Strategy for an

<sup>1</sup> For instance, the work published as an introductory guide to environmental economics in 1989 by Pearce et al. (1989), that aroused a great deal of interest, defined a green economy as an economy in alignment with sustainable development.

<sup>2</sup> In this document, OECD member countries are referred to as developed nations, BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) as emerging nations, and all other countries as developing nations.

## 2 POLICY BRIEF vol.12

### 1 Trends in Debate on Green Economy within the UNCSD Process

emerging and developing countries and the potential

The two Preparatory Committee Meetings and one for environmental policies to hinder equity of trade Intersessional Meeting held by the UNCSD have

(green protectionism); the second category involves played a key role in leading discussion on green domestic issues, such as the decoupling of economic economies. At the First Preparatory Committee meeting held in May of 2010, definition and interpretation of schemes including environmental taxes.

the concept of a green economy was the main subject of discussion, and arguments both for and against

At the Second Preparatory Committee meeting held the concept were revealed. Issues of concrete green in March of 2011, attention focused more on concrete economic policy and the outcomes expected from issues, in particular international issues, rather than UNCSD were also given the floor as framework for the definition of a green economy. The debate covered ture debate took shape.

support for technology transfer, financial assistance and capacity building for emerging and developing At the subsequent First Intersessional Meeting held nations, as well as avoidance of green protection- in January 2011, a positive common recognition of the ism in international trade. In this manner, the debate green economy as a means to realising sustainable on green economies within the UNCSD process has

development began to ferment. Debate on the content changed course with each meeting, shifting from de- of a green economy also began to take shape, and bate on definition to more concrete issues, and from became divided into roughly two categories. The first discussion on domestic issues to international ones. of these is international issues, such as support for

## 2 The Respective Positions of Countries on Green Economy Initiatives and International Debate

countries and developed nations. Many countries Regarding initiatives towards a green economy, it is are engaged in initiatives in waste management and found that Japan purports formation of the three pil- recycling in attempts to form sound material-cycle lars (a â€œlow carbon society,â€ a â€œsound material-cycle societies. Environmental labelling and green purchas- societyâ€, and a â€œsociety in harmony with natureâ€). It is ing initiatives have been carried out mainly in OECD also clear from debate within the UNCSD process that member nations, with Europe implementing the most international interest lies in the areas of â€œinternational aggressive measures in this area. However even in co-operationâ€ and â€œgreen protectionismâ€. Based on Europe, where importance is attached to resource these issues, this brief presents the following over- efficiency, it is rare to find cases that utilise these view of the respective positions of countries related to measures to achieve a fundamental shift towards policy and international debate on green economies. systems based on environmental carrying capacity. In response to calls to create societies in harmony A glance at various countries shows that interest in with nature, many countries carry out biodiversity low carbon societies is on the rise. The stable sup- conservation efforts or economic value assessment of ply of energy, indispensable for economic activity, ecosystem services. Aiming to measure the costs of is an issue faced by most countries. The creation of environmental burdens such as pollution and to reflect low carbon societies requires a shift in energy source economic value assessment of ecosystem services in from fossil fuels to clean energy, which is less depen- policy formation, the UN and World Bank have taken dent on carbon. Plans and initiatives on the develop- on a leading role in advancing the development of ment and adoption of renewable energy in particular green national accounting. are gaining force in many countries. Improvements in energy efficiency are one way of switching to low carbon and are regarded as important in many Asian

## 3 POLICY BRIEF vol.12

neither an international treaty related to the formation An examination on the progress of initiatives in vari- of sound material-cycle societies, such as the Frame- ous countries shows that of the three areas, relative work Convention on Climate Change for low carbon headway has been made in the formation of low car- societies, nor international funding mechanisms re- bon societies. This state is due to the vigour of private lated to the formation of sound material-cycle societ- industry activities. Namely, the low carbon market

ies. Another factor is the difference of geographical has already been established and is closely related to scopes. While global issues such as the reduction of energy issues toward which private investments have greenhouse gas emissions are relatively easily justified, actively been made. Measures aimed at the formation of sound material-cycle societies are both those that societies in harmony with nature is an issue greatly in-promise cyclic use of resources and those that control influenced by local conditions, and is difficult to address and manage the toxic substances and waste formed through international co-operation.

in course of resource use. While pricing mechanisms function effectively for the former, adjustments based Regarding green protectionism, there are fears that on market mechanisms do not adequately function in green certification and border adjustment measures the case of the latter. Initiatives related to the form- could be used to protect domestic industries. Green tion of a society in harmony with nature are insuffi- certification is a method of awarding certification to cient. Namely, the costs of restoring ecosystems and products that meet environmental standards as a the value of ecosystem services are neither necessar- means to differentiate them from those that do not. If ily reflected in the pricing of goods and services nor based on the high environmental standards that follow integrated into market mechanisms. National account- developed nations' technological capacity, green cer- ing has drawn attention as an attempt to internalise tification has the potential to hinder the exports of de- these costs and values. However, mere comprehen- sion of the state of environmental and ecosystem cap- sures could potentially lead to excessive protection of ital use is insufficient. The pressing issue remains as domestic industries. Border adjustment measures aim to whether these costs and values can be reflected in to prevent decline in the international competitiveness actual market prices through payment for ecosystem of countries that have adopted climate change miti- services (PES) or other schemes.

gation measures, such as carbon tax and emissions trading schemes, in relation to countries that have not In order to shift from the current brown economy to adopted similar measures. They are a system for re- green economy, funds and technology are essential funding climate change mitigation costs on exports to regardless of the stage of economic development.

countries that have not adopted measures or of taxing Developing countries in particular, without sufficient imports from these countries. The respective positions funds and technology, have strongly asserted that of major countries on border adjustment measures developed countries should provide support. On the are shown in Figure 1. With the exception of certain other hand, while developed countries understand countries, Annex I countries to the Kyoto Protocol the necessity of international co-operation in creating either support or favour these measures, while non- green economies, and have promoted funding and Annex I countries are opposed. In general, the figure technological support, most efforts are related to the shows the juxtaposition of developed versus emerging formation of low carbon societies: very few interna- and developing nations, with emerging and develop- tional efforts have been seen in the formation of sound ing nations particularly fearful of green protectionism. material-cycle societies and societies in harmony Therefore, creation of a system that allows for the with nature. One cause of this discrepancy is the fact

realisation of the primary goals of border adjustment that initiatives are not appropriately integrated into measures while avoiding the traps of green protection-market mechanisms, much in the same manner as ism is necessary. debate over domestic initiatives. Furthermore, there is

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India  
Indonesia  
Republic of Korea  
China  
Canada  
Ecuador Germany  
Brazil United States of America France  
South Africa New Zealand Japan United Kingdom Australia

negative neutral positive

Figure 1 Stance of major countries regarding border adjustment measures

Note: The above figure is based on analysis of country trends by the authors and is not necessarily based on official declarations of countries.

### 3 The Green Economy Aspirations of Japan and Related Issues

the World Bank. While the former focuses on production efficiency, the fact that the initiative will not bring economy and the initiatives underway in that direction about reduction in production or consumption volume warrant examination. Furthermore, the stance Japan itself is an issue. Regarding the latter, there is doubt has revealed on the major points of debate within that the political will exists domestically to adopt measures in earnest, from the perspective of a shift from transfer, financial assistance and capacity building and conventional national accounting. avoidance of green protectionism), is also examined herein.

Regarding support for technology transfer, financial assistance and capacity building and avoidance of green protectionism, two issues under debate in Japan named the Environment and Energy Superpower Strategy based on green innovation one of the the UNCSD preparatory process, Japan has shown seven strategies of the New Growth Strategy set forth a favourable stance towards the former, but has not by cabinet decision in 2010. Policies and initiatives revealed its position on the latter. In the background with relevance to the economy are being put in place of Japan's support for international co-operation in toward formation of a "low carbon society", a "sound building green economies lies its experience in car-material-cycle society" and a "society in harmony with nature", as set forth in the 2007 Strategy for an Environmental Nation in the 21st Century. The low carbon

As a matter of fact, the New Growth Strategy clearly field in particular has heralded attention from industry, states the intent to unfold environment-related social government and academic sectors, and relevant ac- infrastructure provision packages in Asia. However, tivities are particularly robust, including development the prominence of China and the Republic of Korea in of low carbon technologies and deliberation on taxes recent years is striking, and competition in the Asian for global warming mitigation, as well as drafting of a region has intensified in Japan's strong areas of envi- roadmap for reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. ronmental technologies and advanced infrastructure On the other hand, economic policies on sound mate- provision. Hence, support paired with national interest rial-cycles and harmony with nature are at present less certainly requires a shift from conventional methods advanced. Some efforts are evident, such as the initia- as well. Meanwhile, avoidance of green protectionism tive to reflect the resource productivity indicators ad- must be considered, including measures to address opted domestically in the OECD Green Growth Strat- various situations. Japan must consider whether or egy, as well as the declaration of intent to support the not to levy tax on imported products equal to that of partnership on green national accounting promoted by

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domestic ones if carbon taxes are domestically ad- international community.  
opted. Further, this stance must be revealed to the

4 The Vital Role Japan Should Play in the Realisation of Green Economies: a Proposal  
is compatible with environmental carrying capacity of  
The twin ultimate objectives of green economies  
the Earth is an extremely difficult issue. It will some-  
on the path to realising sustainable development are  
times require industrial restructuring which may make  
poverty eradication and a shift towards socioeconomic  
considerable and painful reductions in scale in some  
systems compatible with environmental capacity of  
industrial sectors. The majority of debate on green  
the Earth. Meanwhile, promotion of a green economy  
economy makes allowances for affected industries  
is a pressing issue for Japan. It is an approach to  
and tends to be limited to discussion on improvement  
creation of a sustainable society through employment  
of productivity and efficiency that does not require ex-  
generation and economic growth while tackling envi-  
tensive adjustments to the scale of activity. However, it  
ronmental commitments such as the achievement of  
has become widely recognised that the socioeconomic  
emissions reduction targets agreed upon in the Kyoto  
activities of developed countries at present are in ex-  
Protocol. We propose the following win-win approach,  
cess of environmental carrying capacity of the Earth. If  
in which Japan's green economy policy can be utilised  
all people in the world realised a standard of living on  
to solve global issues, while contributions to the world  
par with developed countries, the Earth would suffer  
through international co-operation can in turn lead to  
too heavy a burden to withstand. Developed countries  
promotion of Japan's green economic policy.

are strongly called upon to make earnest efforts to

- Creation of a green economy model compatible realise genuine green economies that are compatible with environmental carrying capacity of the Earth with environmental carrying capacity of the Earth. It
- Promotion of international co-operation and green is essential to shift away from values that excessively innovation via dispersion of Japan's energy and seek convenience and to rethink lifestyles dependent environmental technologies on mass production and mass consumption.
- Formation of trade policy that promotes sustainable production while guarding against green

In two regards, Japan enjoys advantageous conditions for the creation of a green economy model. First,

- Contribution to international debate on green

Japan has a record of past achievements in promoting economies

ing policy aimed at creation of a sound material-cycle society. Moreover, the recent earthquake and nuclear

(1) Creation of a green economy model

accident have resulted in an opportunity to review the compatible with environmental carrying appropriate socioeconomic systems. If we consider capacity of the Earth

the present crisis as a critical turning point for shifting

Along with advancing various policies on the 3Rs,

to a green economy compatible with environmental

Japan has pioneered policy for realising a sound material-cycle society that takes into account controls on only spur Japan's sustainable development, but would resource use, such as the application of resource productivity also facilitate other developed nations to develop their ductivity indicators as policy objectives. Furthermore, own green economy models. It would further lead to revision of energy policy greatly dependent on nuclear securing the resources required for provision of the power is unavoidable following the critical accident at fundamental infrastructure essential to the eradication the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant, and the of poverty in developing countries. Such a shift would need to control the volume of resource use according to environmental carrying capacity of the Earth, including energy consumption, has become widely recognised. The shift to a socioeconomic system that

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In order to materialise this win-win solution, a detailed matching process that takes into consideration anthropogenic structures  
Necessary number of earths

the perspectives of both Japan's green innovation and nuclear power

the green economy in emerging and developing countries  
CO2 from use of



fossil fuels  
tries is essential. It is further imperative to immediately  
fishing grounds

draft a detailed plan for international standardisation  
forests

of technologies, regulations, norms and standards  
pastures

in the environmental field in co-operation with other  
cultivated land  
Global Japan USA China India  
Asian countries. Utilising the knowledge Japan has  
accumulated related to policy on the 3Rs, investiga-  
Figure 2 Ecological footprint (2003)  
tion and information provision in areas where potential  
Prepared by the authors based on WWF research (2006).  
need for technological and financial support is high  
Note: This figure shows the amount of environmental resources that would be required  
if all people in the world were to lead lifestyles at the various consumption levels  
(such as creation of sound international systems for  
(y-axis units: number of earths). For example, if all people of the world lived at the  
same consumption level as the people of Japan, approximately 2.44 earths would be  
cyclic use of resources) could be effective. Addition-  
required. The breakdown in color shows that the contribution of CO<sub>2</sub> from use of fossil  
fuels (the area of forests required for absorption) is large. Moreover, nuclear power  
ally, if the economic benefits of the sustainable use of  
energy is shown in fossil fuel conversion.

ecosystem services can be reflected in market mecha-  
nisms through adoption of green national accounting,  
technological innovations in the use of ecosystem ser-  
vices (green agriculture technologies and technology  
From the perspective of facilitating the shift to a  
to utilise lumber from thinning), which have developed  
green economy, we must consider mechanisms for  
comparatively slowly until now, can be expected. This  
reflecting our consumption of ecosystem services and  
would further enable international co-operation related  
environmental services on economic activity, such as  
to the creation of societies in harmony with nature.  
environmental taxes and PES schemes. Furthermore,  
the adoption of green national accounting and envi-  
(3) Formation of trade policy that promotes sus-  
ronmental accounting in private industry must be de-  
tainable production while guarding against  
liberated in order to reflect the value of the ecosystem  
green protectionism  
and environmental capital that provide these services  
In order to avoid green protectionism, mechanisms  
onto accounting systems.  
to prevent obstacles to equitable trade must be delib-  
erated based on assessment of the influence of green  
(2) Promotion of international co-operation and  
economic policy on trade and the environment. Efforts  
green innovation via dispersion of Japan's en-  
are also necessary to venture even further to create  
ergy and environmental technologies  
mechanisms that allow for policy to promote sustain-  
Dispersion of Japan's advanced energy and envi-  
vable production on the part of exporting countries. For  
ronmental technologies to the emerging and develop-  
instance, if green certification and technology transfer  
ing countries that are eager to shift to green econo-  
are paired bilaterally, sustainable production methods  
nies is another important international contribution.  
to meet with green certification are facilitated. Re-  
For instance, export of social infrastructure projects in  
search on sustainable production and border adjust-  
water-related technologies and green transportation,

ment measures is relatively embryonic. If proposals both in partnership with private industries and utilising such mechanisms are made through new policy ing overseas development assistance (ODA), has the research in addition to existing research, further im- potential to link the promotion of a green economy portant international contributions can be made. in Japan to the eradication of poverty and facilitation of sustainable development in developing countries. (4) Contribution to international debate on green Japanese companies could also benefit by securing a economies market for green products. Differences in the standpoints of countries within

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the international debate on green economies have per capita become evident. While some countries have doubts ecological footprint

about the concept of green economy or believe the developed nations concept should be loosely defined according to the per capita environmental circumstances of respective countries, some argue capacity

that if the definition of a green economy is made emerging nations

overly flexible, the validity of the concept itself will be developing nations

damaged. A major point of dispute is the fear that the time concept of green economy according to developed nations is premised on green technologies and will Figure 3 Hypothetical path for the shift to lifestyles within limits of environmental capacity thus be a constraining factor on development in least developed countries in particular.

is important to pursue a win-win approach which links

In order to address this negative potential and to these green economy policies to poverty eradica- advance constructive debate that overcomes the dif- ficult and the promotion of sustainable development in ferent standpoints of countries, it is desirable to allow countries apprehensive that the green economy con- countries to utilise not only their own green economy cept will put constraints on development.

policies but also those of others to achieve their prior- ity goals, including poverty eradication, while sharing Application of such a flexible approach allows for a common objective: to shift to green economy on a countries with differing standpoints to debate on an global scale. For instance, realisation of green econo- equal footing, and paves the way for debate on ways mies in developed countries could imply a shift to to facilitate co-operation among countries with dif- socioeconomic structures that are compatible with en- fering circumstances. As international debate on the vironmental capacity and environmental constraints. green economy concept is furthered in the future (both For emerging and developing countries, realisation within the UNCSD process and otherwise), creation of green economies could imply becoming greener

of a framework for effective debate that overcomes (such as improvements in efficiency and advances in differences in country standpoints will surely be an im-productivity in countries eager to improve energy ef- portant intellectual contribution. ficiency and resource efficiency). At the same time, it

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#### Acknowledgement

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This paper utilises a part of the research results of the “Dispersion Support for the 2010 Asia-Pacific Forum for Environment and Development and Basic Research Work on International Trends”, which was conducted based on a subcontract from the Ministry of the Environment to IGES. The authors would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Ministry of the Environment. However, the opinions and proposals contained in this paper are those of the authors, not of the Ministry of the Environment.

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Policy Brief #10 April 2010

Renewable Energy: A Strategic Policy for

Author:

Sustainable Development

Anindya Bhattacharya

There is ample evidence of underproduction of renewable energy across the world, in spite of there being the necessary resources to produce RE, including technology and finance. It seems politicians and law-makers have yet to be persuaded about the importance of renewable energy to solve the problem of energy security and sustainable development and to act on it seriously. As a matter of fact, renewable energy sectoral investment is highly correlated to the

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international oil price movement. This further proves the continued myopic views

IGES Economy and

of the law-makers about the spectrum of benefits that renewable energy brings.

Environment Group

bhattacharya@iges.or.jp Hence, a lack of steady policy support for renewable energy is not only jeopardising the matured development of this promising market but also stopping the world from taking advantage of using it for multipurpose benefits including its use as a risk hedging instrument in the increasingly uncertain conventional energy market. Renewable energy policy has fallen into the trap of a boom-bust cycle of world economy and the corresponding international energy price fluctuation. Such policy is therefore unable to deliver its full benefit to society, including creation of green collar jobs and even reducing the electricity tariff for consumers. To overcome this bottleneck, the author has suggested a two-tier solution. First, mainstreaming risk-explicit cost benefit analysis of renewable energy policy at a country-specific level and second, improving regional cooperation to harness the maximum benefits of available resources scattered across countries with geographical proximity. It is indeed a strategic choice for the policy-makers to decouple renewable energy development activities from the boom-bust cycle of economy for seamless progress towards sustainable development.

Many Governments and law makers have not yet been persuaded on the direction of mainstreaming renewable energy generation in the overall energy policy development processes in the world. Renewable energy-based green power policy is still considered to be an expensive path for development, and so even after several boom-bust cycles of the world economy, policy makers remain hesitant to take a target based approach to increase green energy supply in the total energy mix. There are several other cases in and around Asia where in spite of having excellent potential and a good enabling environment, renewable energy is still heavily underproduced. It seems that politicians Environmental Strategies. All rights reserved. and lawmakers are yet to be persuaded about the use of renewable energy to address the Although every effort is made to ensure issues of energy security especially in the case of energy price fluctuation. It has been objectivity and balance, the publication of research results or their translation does not estimated that out of 2700 Twh total theoretical potential of renewable energy in Asia, imply IGES endorsement or acquiescence only around 6% has been harnessed (Romero et al 2008). In fact, technical and financial with their conclusions or the endorsement of IGES financiers. IGES maintains a position of constraints can limit the commercially available renewable energy by around a half of the neutrality at all times on issues concerning public policy. Hence conclusions that are total theoretical potential. While it is true that many governments are now proactively reached in IGES publications should be promoting renewable energy in the face of imminent price hikes for fossil fuels due to understood to be those of the authors and not attributed to staff-members, officers, increasing demand, there are several countries which have not yet taken actions to add directors, trustees, funders, or to IGES itself.

more renewable energy into the supply mix and which are still focusing on a future energy supply based on fossil fuel. As a matter of fact, the new concept of Green New Deal, a green economy policy initiative which also includes renewable energy, might also Environmental Strategies be very short lived indeed as it primarily depends on the individual country's plan of future development and growth.

-1-

In the past, whenever the price of fossil fuel fell for various reasons including economic recession, there was a sharp reduction in renewable energy investment and Research and Development (R&D) budget along with a drop in decisions to adopt new policies to promote renewable energy. Figure 1 below consists of two juxtaposed graphs showing the trend in the last couple of decades of total research and development budget allocation for renewables especially solar and wind in IEA member countries, and Whenever there is an increase compares this trend to international oil price fluctuations. It indicates that whenever in oil price, more green energy there is an increase in oil price, more green energy budgets tend to be introduced into budgets tend to be introduced the market. This is not only the case for the developed world but also in developing into the market. countries too. Anticipating more uncertainties in the world economy in the near future,

oil and other fossil fuel prices are expected to remain volatile in nature. Hence, renewable energy will continue to be subject to the boom-bust cycle of fossil fuel prices in the international market.

Crude Oil Prices

2006 Dollars

\$70

PDVSA Strike

OPEC 10% Quota Increase

Iraq War

Asian Financial Crisis

Iran / Iraq Asian Growth

\$60 War

Series of OPEC Cuts

4.2 Million Barrels

Iranian

2006 \$/BARREL

\$50 Revolution

Gulf

\$40

U.S. Price War

Controls

\$30

\$20

Yom Kippur War

9/11

Oil Embargo

\$10

70 72 74 76 78 80 82 84 86 88 90 92 94 96 98 00 02 04 06

71 73 75 77 79 81 83 85 87 89 91 93 95 97 99 01 03 05 07

WTRG Economics 1998-2007

1947 - Aug. 2007 C

www.wtrg.com

U.S. 1st Purchase Price (Wellhead) World Price\* (479)293-4081

Avg U.S. \$29.08 Avg World \$32.23 Median World \$26.90

USD (2006) millions

2,500

Small Hydro

(10 MW)

Large Hydro

2,000

(>10 MW)

Geothermal

Bioenergy 1,500

Ocean

Wind

1,000

Concentrating

solar thermal

Solar

500

photovoltaics

Solar heating

and cooling 0

2007 2009 2010 2016

Source: IEA, 2008

Figure 1: Renewable energy R&D budget compared to the crude oil price

The major problems arising out of such fluctuation in renewable energy policies are a decrease in investment interest from the private sector companies in this sector as well as an increasing amount of sunk cost<sup>1</sup> which is finally becoming

irrecoverable and is a bad investment for the whole economy. Overall, the inconsistent and fluctuating government policies in the renewable energy sector creates boom/bust cycle in the market jeopardising any long-term investment planning by companies. The renewable energy sector is still in the developing stage boom/bust cycle in the market and so needs continuous policy support from the Government to become matured. It is difficult for private sector investors to afford longer market uncertainties while investment planning by the main onus is on the government to create enabling environment for renewable companies.

1

Sunk cost refers to the investment which never gives a return to the investors.

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energy investment. As a matter of fact, abandoning one 5 MW wind farm (on-shore) project during its construction period will generate around USD5 million in sunk assets which will never give any return. Similarly, a 10 MW solar PV project if abandoned can generate USD25 million in sunk assets plus around 70 year-round jobs (Kobos et al.)

Lack of understanding of comprehensive benefits of renewable energy use is perhaps the main reason of failure to persuade the law makers for having a stable renewable energy policy in the country. There could be three main reasons for lack of understanding. The first one is, having negative perception about the relatively longer time span needed to accrue the benefits of high-cost renewable energy about the relatively longer time compared to conventional energy. Although the gestation periods for renewable span needed to accrue the energies are much shorter than conventional large scale power plants but their pay back periods are still very long mainly due to high installation costs and lower off-energy take level.

In Japan, pay back time is around 10 years for solar energy even with the increased level of Feed-in-Tariff scheme. It may take more than 5 to 10 years to observe the net benefits of the green energy supply in the economy.

The second one is, underestimating the co-benefits of renewable energy co-benefits of renewable such as power sector investment risk coverage. Benefits are accruable even in a energy such as power sector shorter time. Renewable energy investment in an investment portfolio for the investment risk coverage. The electricity sector can be considered a substitute to risk insurance premium which is paid mainly to mitigate the adverse impacts of a sudden rise in oil prices or a sudden increase in carbon price. The mechanism of using renewable energy as risk coverage insurance is based on the modern financial market portfolio theory whereby an increasing number of less risky assets in an investment portfolio whose investment returns are not correlated among each other can actually hedge the risk of single asset investment. The investment return should be seen from the portfolio's total return perspective rather than any individual investment return. Energy portfolio diversification with more renewable energy options whose fuel supply risk is nil or very low could actually give a wider space for risk mitigation of fossil fuel price fluctuation.

The third one is, ignoring the benefit of larger use of renewable energy to create downward pressure on retail energy prices. More renewable energy means use of renewable energy to

reduced demand of fossil fuels for power generation and therefore, reduced price of fossil fuels in the market. Less expensive fuel can further help to compensate retail energy prices.

consumers' additional spending on higher electricity tariff due to increased level of expensive renewable energy supply. It has been estimated that in the United States, a 1% drop in natural gas demand can reduce the long-term wellhead gas price by 0.75-2.5% (Wiser, 2004) and there would be a subsequent reduction of retail gas prices on the market. In certain cases like wind and solar PV technologies, use of renewable energy may not increase the retail tariff for the consumers (like remote area water pumping, refrigeration, street lighting etc. WEC, 1994) but can still help to reduce the fossil energy demand and prices subsequently. Moreover, as explained by Neij (1997), learning-by-doing can also reduce the costs of renewable energy supply which further increases the net benefits of renewable energy for retail fossil energy price reduction. There are three different studies (EIA, UCS and Tellus) shown together in Figure 2 below which demonstrate the impacts of increasing

renewable energy generation ( by increasing RPS quota from 10% to 20%) on average wellhead gas price on the US market. It has been estimated that increasing RE generation from 50 to 800 Billion kWh can reduce the average wellhead gas price by 60 cents/MMBtu. This indicates that even though renewable energy is apparently expensive, it has a certain damping effect on the fossil fuel price by controlling the demand in the market<sup>2</sup>

Figure 2: Renewable energy generation Vs Wellhead Natural Gas Price

2

Set of these studies predict that increase in renewable energy generation can cause a reduction in US natural gas consumption within the range of 1 to 11% and this can further suppress the natural gas prices within the range of zero to 18% ( Bolinger et al. 2008) ( The broken line indicates the trend of decreasing well head gas price compared to increasing level of renewable energy generation)

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Figure 2: Renewable energy generation Vs Wellhead Natural Gas Price

It is a policy decision of the law-makers to create an enabling environment first where investors can invest more in renewable energy in spite of it not being cost competitive. In the end, by virtue of the economy of scale and learning by doing, the renewable energy sector itself can break the inertia of growth which will bring benefits to the consumers by helping to reduce the electricity tariff. Thus an increase in the supply of renewable energy can bring an additional benefit to the whole economy in the long term.

**Risk explicit cost benefit** In this respect, risk explicit cost benefit analysis of the renewable energy is analysis of the renewable very much needed. Policy makers should think of an effective alternative to reduce energy is very much needed. the risk of international fossil fuel price fluctuation and its negative economic and financial consequences on the national economy. Risk covering financial instruments like forward contracts and options which sometimes account for a half of the total supply cost, often play a decisive role in investment planning in the highly price-sensitive energy market. In natural gas importing countries like the United States, power companies are paying 0.4 to 1.7 cents/kWh (Bolinger et al, 2008) additionally to the gas supplier as price premium just to have a long-term price contract to avoid very high prices in the spot market. From 1996 to 1999 oil importers in the United States already paid around USD 5 per barrel as premium for a 12 month contract compared to the world average price of crude oil, which is around 17 to 20 billion USD per annum (EIA, 2009). Very recently, US crude oil futures for delivery in 2014 are traded at USD 80/barrel while the market price was just USD 50 /barrel. This further indicates that even during the lower crude oil price oil importers are still ready to pay hefty premiums (USD 30/barrel in this case) just to avoid supply uncertainty. Risk explicit cost benefit analysis of the power sector investments can influence the investors in favor of renewable energies even though they are apparently more expensive than the conventional sources. It is therefore, important for the law makers to create an enabling environment in the market where the investment risks not covered by the government are explicit. It has been estimated that a 1% increase in renewable energy supply in the Japanese electricity supply portfolio can reduce the portfolio risk by 1% which can significantly reduce the expenditure on risk-covering premiums (Bhattacharya and Kojima, 2010).

**Regional cooperation can help** Regional cooperation can help to have cost competitive renewable energy to have cost competitive supply domestically. Policy-makers can also think of increasing multi-country renewable energy supply regional cooperation to enhance the utilisation of renewable energy in the domestic market. There is unlikely to be uniform distribution of the renewable energy potential among the countries. To avoid both underutilisation and higher marginal production costs, regional cooperation among the countries to harness all possible potential of renewable energy can overall bring a win-win solution to the problem of high cost. Quite often it happens that the RE potential lies within the country which has less capacity to harness, in contrast to having less potential than a more capable country. To avoid such disparities, having cross border renewable energy infrastructure development can be a win-win solution. It has been estimated that

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Jinghong hydro power project in the Yunnan province of China can export more than 3 million kW of electricity to Thailand over a cross border transmission system by 2017. This would be around 30% less expensive compared to the cost of same amount of electricity production in Thailand (Bhattacharya et al. 2009). Similarly, a

power transmission line connecting China, Republic of Korea (ROK) and Russian Far East (RFE) can help to bring hydro electric power from RFE to ROK during summer and RFE to China during winter to meet the peak demands. RFE power flows to China can displace coal-fired power generation within China. As a matter of fact the net benefits of such interconnection could be around USD 750 million per year as avoided costs in the recipient countries like China and ROK (Hippel, 01). Moreover, this kind of project can also bring a win-win solution to the macroeconomic effects on both the countries in terms of increased GDP. Both China and Thailand can expect their respective GDP to increase by USD76 and USD47 million respectively thanks to this Jinghong hydro power project alone. In addition, both the countries would be able to reduce CO2 emissions by 1 million tonnes each. Table 1 shows the impacts of Jinghong cross border hydro power project investment on China and Thailand.

Table 1: Impacts of energy sector investment on economy and environment in Asia

Impact of cross

Cross border Impact of energy

border hydro project

hydro project sector investment on

investment on GDP

investment CO2

Countries growth

Change from BAU Change from BAU

Million USD

(mil.t-CO2 )

(Million USD)

China 76 ± 1.0

3090

Thailand 45 ± 0.9

Source: Bhattacharya and Kojima, 2009

Creating green collar jobs. Creating green collar jobs. Policy-makers can use renewable energy to create a new employment category called "green collar jobs" and can then even improve the national employment rate amidst global economic downturn. Table 2 shows the job creation potential of each renewable energy technology on a global average basis which is indeed comparable to conventional power generation cases. In fact, the US economy under the Obama administration is now emphasising the green growth mechanism in spite of the ongoing economic recession to create more "green-collar" jobs to address both the environmental and the economic development issues together. It is expected that this new economic stimulus package worth around USD one trillion, can create more than 3.5 million jobs in the United States. Table 2 below shows how different renewable energy technologies can create employment at different stages of development. It appears that there are more jobs created during the commissioning period than after commissioning. Nevertheless, the renewable energy sector can further nourish the development of a skilled global labour force that is required for its long term operation and maintenance activities. In Asia, given the potential of renewable energy generation and given its employment generation capacity, around 1 million jobs can be created<sup>3</sup>. Apart from such organized sector job creation, renewable energy can immensely contribute towards the rural livelihood generation through unskilled and semi-skilled job creations. Renewable energy can even engage women in the income generating activities in the rural areas which can further create multiplier effects on the national economy as well ( Mehta et al.). Finally, while the policy-makers puzzle over the issue of effective utilisation of the billions of dollars of special stimulus money to revitalise the economies across the world, investment in renewable energy can bring relief to the economy.

3

3

Number of jobs has been estimated using both the REN21 projection of number job creation per MW of renewable energy and estimated Asian renewable energy potential (Romero et al. 2008). As a conservative estimate it is assumed that only 50% of the total theoretical potential would be harnessed.

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Table 2: Employment generation potential of renewable energy technologies

Estimates of Employment Coefficients ( No. of Job/MW)

Manufacturing &

Technology O&M Total



Installation

Thermal

2 5 7

(Conventional)

Small hydro 11.3 0.22 11.52

Wind 2.6 0.3 2.9

Biomass 3.7 2.3 6

Solar PV 7.1 0.1 7.2

Waste to energy 3.7 2.3 6

Source: REN21 RE Global Status Report 2007, p37

## Conclusion

By virtue of its less risky characteristics coupled with other benefits including dampening impacts on fossil fuel prices, electricity tariff and enlarging “Renewable energy can bring a impact on macroeconomic outputs, employment status etc., renewable energy can win” win solution to this world bring a win” win solution to this world which is reeling under severe economic, which is reeling under severe social and environmental crisis. Moreover, based on the previous discussion, economic, social and renewable energy can be treated as context neutral strategic solution for sustainable environmental crisis. development and can be freed from any conditionality of the surrounding economic situation. Unfortunately, global renewable energy policies appear to be very unpredictable and closely follow the trends in fossil fuel prices, which is further linked to the economic boom-bust cycle. Instead of their context neutrality nature, the reality surrounding renewable energy development is still very much subject to context. However, we can no longer afford to continue with such swinging policies of renewable energy which can permanently jeopardize sustainable economic growth. The world cannot afford to see another oil shock in the near future either, and so needs to invest more on renewable energy. If so, that will determine the point of no return on the path to sustainable development. Policy and law makers should realise that given the level of uncertainties in the modern economy, it is almost impossible to predict the energy market with any reasonable certainty. As a matter of fact any delay could prove very costly. It is much safer to develop an alternative like renewable energy to protect the world from future energy uncertainties and to ensure a sustainable growth path. Continued promotion of renewable energy is therefore indispensable for modern society.

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Strengthening international  
environmental governance  
by two-phased reform of UNEP:  
Analysis of benefits  
and drawbacks

Governance and Capacity Group, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)  
IGES Policy Report 2011-04

STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL  
GOVERNANCE BY TWO-PHASED REFORM OF UNEP:  
ANALYSIS OF BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS

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Strengthening International Environmental Governance by Two-phased Reform  
of UNEP: Analysis of Benefits and Drawbacks  
IGES Policy Report

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	
ASEAN Association of Southeast Asian Nations	
CBD Convention on Biodiversity	
CM Council of Ministers	
COP Conference of the Parties	
COW Committee of the Whole	
CPR Committee of Permanent Representatives	
ECOSOC Economic and Social Council	
EMG Environment Management Group	
EU European Union	
GA General Assembly	
GEF Global Environmental Facility	
GHG Greenhouse gases	
GEGC Global Environmental Governing Council	
GC/GMEF Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum	
IEG International Environmental Governance	
ILO International Labour Organization	
LDC Least developed country	

MEA Multilateral Environmental Agreement

MoU Memorandum of Understanding

SWMTEP System-wide Medium Term Environment Programme

TEMM Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting

UM Universal Membership

UNEO UN Environment Organization

UNEP UN Environment Programme

WEO World Environment Organization

WHO World Health Organization

WMO World Meteorological Organisation

WTO World Trade Organisation

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author of this report gratefully acknowledges the financial support provided by the Ministry of Environment of Japan for the research conducted under this study.

Throughout the research process and reviewing of the final report the author received essential support, comments and input from the following: Maria Ivanova (Global Environmental Governance Project), as well as Mori Hideyuki, Imura Hidefumi, Mark Elder, Ogihara Akira, Robert Didham, and Lewis Akenji (Institute for Global Environmental Strategies).

## Disclaimer

Although this work provides recommendations for international environmental governance, the views and opinions contained within are those of the author alone, and in no way does it imply the endorsement or acquiescence of the Ministry of Environment or any other government agency in Japan.

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## ABSTRACT

This paper aims to contribute to the debate on strengthening international environmental governance (IEG) architecture towards more effectively promoting environmental

sustainability. To this end, the paper will analyse two broad reform options: 1) introducing universal membership of UNEP's Governing Council, and 2) elevating the status of UNEP to a specialized agency. The paper will analyze the broad reform options by focusing on their legal, financial and structural implications as well as on potential benefits and drawbacks of each option. In addition to these broad reform options, the paper acknowledges the importance of incremental reform of environmental governance that is taking place to enhance efficiency of environment work within the United Nations (UN) and on national levels. While these incremental improvements are valuable, the paper argues broader reform of IEG and UNEP in particular will be necessary to improve environmental governance, as stronger legal clout is ultimately necessary to arrive at more effective environmental governance architecture. Proposing broader reform, the paper argues that the two summarized IEG reform options should be implemented in a phased approach, and that benefits of broader reform would accrue not only to international environmental policy making, but also strengthen the role of environmental vis-à-vis economic policy making on national and local levels. Thus, the paper recommends that countries and citizens support the broad IEG reform options for the benefit of both international and national environmental governance.

1

## 1. INTRODUCTION: DEFINING THE SCOPE OF THE PAPER

Many countries are making progress addressing their environmental problems, but it is unlikely that a purely nation-state approach will suffice in addressing the international and global dimensions of environmental issues. At the same time, however, the current international governance architecture that has emerged over the last four decades is disjointed and inefficient and therefore unable to function effectively. As a result, environmental legislation remains notoriously weak. Stronger international environmental governance (IEG) architecture is necessary to safeguard the international and national environment and ensure that human well-being does not suffer from environmental degradation.

IEG refers to the international mechanisms, institutions and stakeholders that manage environmental challenges. The concept is related to how environmental issues reach the political agenda, how policies are formulated, and how programmes are implemented (IGES 2006). To match the limited scope of this paper, IEG will be defined as governance in context of the United Nations and particularly its relation to reform of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). It should be pointed out that IEG is undertaken by a multitude of actors, and even though its role looks to be primarily international, bolstering it on the intergovernmental level would possibly benefit both national and local environmental decision-making.

### 1.1 IEG REFORM AND MULTILEVEL RELEVANCE

While much of the IEG debate has taken place in the intergovernmental arena, vertical linkages must be made to the realities on domestic implementation level. For example it should be emphasized that stronger legal and financial capacity of the IEG architecture will have multilevel benefits. Neglecting the impact on national level will make little sense, as decision makers, who represent their nation states, will not recognise the relevance and interest in supporting IEG. IEG reform should therefore be analysed for the potential contributions to national level policy making.

Apart from the need for vertical integration to enable to downstream flow of benefits from the international to the national and local levels, environmental policymaking can be bolstered by horizontal integration. This can happen by uniting ministries, as for example the ministry of ecology, sustainable development, transport, and housing in France. Germany introduced green cabinets, which improved the agenda setting capacity of its environmental ministry (Lenschow 2009:102). Sweden and the Netherlands have experimented with green reviews of national budgets (ibid.:75). Above and beyond national levels it has also been possible to strengthen environmental legislation. For example the Treaty establishing the European Union (EU) states that environmental protection, 'requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Community policies' (EU1997).

These tools and processes exemplify how national level environmental policy making has been strengthened to allow environmental concerns to gain more influence compared to traditional economic policy making. While these examples are inspirational and encourage reproduction in other contexts, the strengthening will continue ad-hoc and in a haphazard fashion as long as the main agenda setter on the international level remains weak. The paper will therefore emphasize

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that strengthening UNEP by altering its legal, structural and financial composition would realize

considerable scope for improving effectiveness of multilevel environmental governance.

## 1.2 WHY BROADER REFORM IS NEEDED AND WHY IT WOULD MATTER

IEG needs to be strengthened not only because of the emerging environmental problems faced by multiple countries, but also to allow environmental decision-making to better match economic decision-making. Before examining the details of that argument in the context of UNEP, it will be necessary to provide a brief overview of some of UNEP's inbuilt shortcomings. UNEP was founded in 1973 with a broad mandate establishing it as the designated authority of the United Nations system in environmental issues at the global and regional level (UNEP 2011). However, it was never given autonomous decision-making power, and with the global increase of environmental issues, the lack of legal independence and funding has proven detrimental for its ability to successfully address environmental challenges. Earlier research (WRI 2002; Ivanova 2010; Biermann and Bauer 2007) establishes a number of reasons to the mixed successes of UNEP, which "among other factors - emphasize limited authority and funding as main reasons for UNEP's weakness.

The lack of centralized authority on IEG has resulted in the current fragmented environmental governance architecture. As could be observed over the last four decades, the gradually emerging environmental challenges have resulted in an impressive web of multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) and programmes both within and outside of the UN's purview. It has been established (Kanie 2007, Najam et al. 2006) that there currently are well over 500 such MEAs. Many of them overlap, and governments, especially those with limited financial and human capacity, are severely challenged with their administration (ECOLOGIC 2004). Thus, the decentralized decision-making regarding these agreements can be said to be one detrimental characteristic of the currently fragmented IEG regime. In response to that fragmentation, the section on universal membership (see below) will argue that universal membership of UNEP GC/GMEF has the potential to address the issue.

Universal membership could centralize decision-making, which would resemble a significant efficiency and effectiveness improvement of IEG. However, the paper will argue that establishing universal membership is not an end in itself, but a strategic step towards strengthening IEG. The paper argues that a universally representative forum of environment ministers begs the subsequent provision of autonomous decision-making authority. Equipping environment ministers at the GC/GMEF with such authority would enable stronger international environmental policy making. This benefit can be assumed not only because of the purely environmental mandate and specialization of the GC/GMEF, but also in comparison to the current situation it would be an advantage for IEG. Currently, environmental proposals are always at risk of being sidelined in the United Nations General Assembly (GA), where decisions from the GC/GMEF have to be approved.

Finally, it must be emphasized that IEG reform must be approached with a view to make a change to some of the above-mentioned weaknesses. It would make little sense for example to increase the authority of UNEP without matching funding to enable the institution to address the environmental issues. The sections below will address the issues of decision-making as well as funding.

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## 1.3 CHRONOLOGY OF THE IEG DEBATE

The debate on environmental governance goes as far back as the Stockholm Conference on Human Environment in 1972, which resulted in the creation of UNEP. Twenty years later, the Rio Summit gave birth to the Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD), with a broader mandate on sustainable development, tasked to oversee progress of Agenda 21. Later on, the UN established a Task Force on Environment and Human Settlements, which found gaps in the IEG system. To improve coordination, the Environment Management Group (EMG) and the Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GMEF) were created, the latter as a bi-annual forum to take place with the UNEP Governing Council. In the first years after the millennium, European and French initiatives attempted in vain to create sufficient momentum for the establishment of a World Environment Organization (WEO). Subsequently, the UN itself established a High Level Panel on System-wide Coherence, which articulated "Delivering as One" as a priority undertaking to improve coherence and coordination within the UN system (UN 2006). Two internal assessment reports of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) followed in 2008, and 2010, respectively, making concrete recommendations towards UNEP reform (Inomata 2008). The debate also went to the General Assembly, which resulted in a draft paper on options for strengthening IEG, however this never led to a Resolution, and in 2009, the GA tabled the issue due to lack of consensus. Although there was consensus on the overall need for stronger IEG, the way forward was still out of reach for agreement in the GA. In 2009, the GC/GMEF revived the process by establishing a consultative group of ministers of high-level representatives, who were tasked with identifying options for strengthening IEG. Late in 2010, the group presented the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome on the options for reform (UNEP/GC.26/L.4/Add.1 2011). The

recommendations were subsequently debated in UNEP's 26th Governing Council in February 2011, which brought overall agreement on the options, but lacked consensus on which of them should be taken to strengthen IEG. It is now hoped that the occasion of Rio20 could serve as a platform for countries to make headway on the issue.

Research on the issue has brought a large number of analysis of the situation and proposals for a way forward. They can be classified as ranging from 1) those that support broader reform (Biermann 2007 and 2011; Biermann and Bauer 2004 and 2005); 2) those that debate whether reform would benefit the delivery of governance on the ground (Ivanova 2011; Tarasofsky 2002 and 2003) those that believe that incremental changes are the best, ranging from extending membership of the UNEP GC/GMEF to universality (Tarasofsky 2002), or the most realistic (Najam, Moltke, and Adil Najam, Tarasofsky 2002), given the lack of commitment to broader reform from governments at large. The research of this paper leans on the existing body of work on IEG in the way that it does not dispute the utility of incremental reforms, however it takes vantage point in assuming the feasibility of the most ambitious of the existing research proposals, if they could be carried out in the right sequence, as illustrated in subsequent sections.

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#### 1.4 THE REFORM OPTIONS

The introductory section above established that there are shortcomings to the current IEG architecture and that reform is needed. However, several details have to be clarified to determine the actual steps that the international community needs to take to realise a stronger IEG architecture. Addressing demand for such information, the paper will argue for the feasibility of two options: a) introducing universal membership (UM) of UNEP's Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum (GC/GMEF); and b) establishing a specialized agency on environment. The paper will highlight both benefits and drawbacks of these options, as providing more information on the implications can garner more support for strengthening IEG. In addition to providing information on the feasibility of these options, the paper will argue that a phased approach of introducing the legal and structural changes would be the most successful. The sequence in which the reform options could be introduced is depicted in the figure below, essentially arguing that incremental reforms, as ongoing, are fundamental to broader reform, where universal membership of UNEP GC/GMEF represents the initial step, and the creation of a specialized agency, the second step. Of course this kind of contextual sequence is artificial and begs the question as to how precisely such institutional upgrading would benefit environmental governance at multiple levels. To answer this, the subsequent chapters will examine each reform option, and propose a structure on implementation levels as well. 1

Figure 1: Thrust of IEG Reform

Source: Authors interpretation

See Figure 4 – Cooperation on implementation levels on page 23.

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Apart from the broad reform options, there are other areas that need strengthening, both within the UN and outside of the UN's regime, and particularly on national and local levels. Incremental reform options to IEG in a UN context are often supported by UN member states. The incremental changes can be immediately implemented within UNEP's current mandate and within the UN system. For example, the recent report of the UN Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) has made a series of recommendations that fall into the "incremental category" (JIU 2008 and 2010). These are mainly focused on improving effectiveness within the UN system.

Many improvements can be introduced that can benefit effectiveness of environmental governance and efficiency of overall UN response, including the "One-UN Initiative", which aims to bring more coherence into UN response at all levels. The incremental reform options are certainly important, because their implementation may determine the level of subsequent support to broader reform. In addition, they can be implemented under the current institutional settings. However, if environmental governance is supposed to be strengthened in earnest, incremental options will not suffice. Broader reform is necessary to equip UNEP with the authority and budget to better carry out the tasks related to environmental governance.



The need for better institutional infrastructure to respond to current and emerging challenges can be seen in another significant anthropogenic effect, namely climate change, whose abatement is arguably one of the most important global concerns. There is significant global agreement that greenhouse gases (GHGs) have to be drastically reduced by the middle of this century, but the details and sources of mitigation are still cause for much disagreement among countries. Nevertheless, it can safely be assumed that the current business-as-usual will not effectuate the needed reduction in GHGs, and that a socio-economic transformation, aided by effective and strong institutional architecture will be necessary.

## 1.5 THE ARGUMENTS

The last decades have given birth to a wide variety of actors and institutions in the environmental governance field. This has happened as a result of growing demand for research, capacity building on implementation, multi-level governance, monitoring, reporting and information sharing, and participation to name but a few. The various areas as well as their cross-cutting nature makes it clear that many actors, not one, will be necessary to answer to the demands for stronger environmental governance. Acknowledging this multi-stakeholder aspect of the discussion on improving environmental governance, the paper will approach the IEG discussion in the context of the United Nations, its reform and what IEG reform could mean for UNEP (GA 2010). The paper will focus on the financial, legal, and structural implications of the options and will assess their feasibility and potential benefits and drawbacks.

The paper will argue that the creation of universal membership of the Governing Council (option a) may be necessary to create the appropriate forum for examining other more broad reform options, including the option of elevating UNEP to a specialized agency for the environment (option b). It is important to remember that the discussion on a specialized agency has been addressed in the Governing Council before. At the same time, a proposal for universal membership has also been submitted to the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for approval at the UN GA in the past. But neither proposal succeeded in achieving ratification.

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For one, this hints that ECOSOC and the GA may not be appropriate forums for decision-making on environmental governance, and secondly, that another forum could be better suited for this debate. ECOSOC's mandate may be too broad and the GA too preoccupied with other issues. Additionally, proposals to strengthen environmental governance may have been met with scepticism because decision makers there have viewed the proposed measures for strengthening environmental governance as potentially compromising political and economic issues that are primarily dealt with in these larger decision-making forums.

The lack of attention can be appreciated, as ECOSOC serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system (UN 2011). It is with this experience in mind that the creation of universal membership of the Governing Council must be viewed not as an end in itself, but as an important step towards creating a legally autonomous decision-making forum. A dedicated forum for decision-making on environment may better be able to make subsequent decisions on environmental governance, needed to more effectively address the mounting challenges to environmental sustainability.

In view of the above, the paper will argue that both options (a and b) for reform are feasible and effective means for strengthening IEG and must be considered seriously by decision makers if the stalemate of international environmental governance is to be solved. The options are presented in logical succession, arguing that achieving agreement on universal membership would be an initial step to strengthen IEG. Providing universal membership (see figure above) to the GC/GMEF would turn it into a global environmental governance forum with global representation and universal decision-making capacity. Arguably, such a forum could be better suited than ECOSOC or GA for debate and decisions on subsequent reform options for IEG, in particular also on option b) the establishment of a specialized agency on environment (Section 3).

## 2. REFORM PHASE 1: UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP OF UNEP GC/GMEF

The option of universal membership dates back to 1998, when a UN task force recommended it in a report on environment and human settlements (UN 1998). Member States were unable to agree on the issue, because its advantages were not clear (UNEP 2004). Universal membership, however, clearly relates to a part of UNEP's mandate, and introducing it would enable UNEP to better keep under review the world environmental situation in order to ensure that emerging environmental problems of wide international significance receive appropriate and adequate

consideration by Governments<sup>10</sup> (GA 1972).

The added emphasis shows one of the shortcomings on non-universal membership; because how can a non-universal council like the current Governing Council with its 58 members adequately address global environmental issues? This shortcoming is known, and has been one of the main arguments in earlier proposals for universal membership (UNEP 2004). Related to this lack of representation, the limitation of 58 members of the GC can also be said to perpetuate the north-south divide and inhibit the establishment of global governance including effective environmental cooperation.

Establishing universal membership is an important step signaling commitment of the international community to equal participation and responsibility, which are important aspects

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of empowerment and sustainable development governance. Universal membership is certainly no guarantee that the north-south divide may be bridged as negotiation blocks may form that perpetuate the schism. But creating a global decision-making forum will send an important political signal that values such as common responsibility and inclusiveness are taken seriously.

## 2.1 THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP AND UNIVERSAL PARTICIPATION

When universal membership was proposed in the past, a compromise was achieved by establishing the UNEP's Global Ministerial Environment Forum. This provided for the next-best solution: universal participation. Subsequently that forum would take place in parallel with the UNEP GC. However, participation does not equal membership. In reality, once decisions have to be made, the GMEF becomes the "exclusive" GC with only 58 voting members. Counterarguments to the proposal for universal membership have emphasized the benefits that universal participation already lends to the GC/GMEF. Certainly these have to be acknowledged, and much awareness and capacity has been built by this arrangement that has provided a forum for the world's environmental policy makers to meet and greet. However, universal membership should be viewed as a step towards establishing global representation of environmental decision makers in the true sense of "decision-makers".

If universal decision-making were achieved it would subsequently be possible to argue for the provision of legal autonomy to the GC. Doing so would ensure that environmental issues could find sufficient response amongst the world's environment ministers, who are mandated to give importance to environment related issues. This could remove some burden from the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which in any event may give environment issues attention in the way they relate to economic and political issues. Addressing environmental issues in an economic and political forum is also important but just not sufficient. Instead, it may be necessary to grant universal membership to UNEP GC and create a more dedicated decision-making body necessary to address many challenges facing environmental sustainability.

The need to create a stronger environmental decision-making body can be recognised in the historical context. Since UNEP's inception in 1972, crosscutting environmental problems have increased globally. Coherence in addressing issues related to air, biodiversity, climate, desertification, or water has become relevant for all countries' development. Extending the membership to all states would match the global scope of overarching environmental challenges, including the need to properly address Principle 7 of the 1992 Rio Declaration on common but differentiated responsibilities. Moreover, it would empower the GC/GMEF to better determine the course of environmental governance as it was originally envisioned in Resolution 2997 from 1972.

Skeptics argue that universal membership would make decision-making cumbersome when many voices have to agree on many points. This is a valid concern, which could be partly addressed by establishing either an executive board or an elected bureau of GC representatives. This bureau would be mandated to deal with day-to-day management issues and leave

It was established in 2000.

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overarching issues related to the governance of the environment to the GA of the UNEP Governing Council.

One major drawback to introduction of universal membership is that it could mean that some

countries lose comparable advantage in the GC decision-making process, as their vote will mean less with increased numbers of voting members. This has to be acknowledged as a significant hurdle hindering its introduction. In addition to the issue on influence, some countries oppose universal membership, because they fear it would create precedence for other UN organisations and bodies. Universal membership may be viewed as cumbersome for decision-making. To accommodate this, it could be possible to alter the decision-making structure of the GC. The following sections will summarize legal, financial and structural aspects of universal membership of UNEP's Governing Council as well as provide information to the benefits and drawbacks of such decisions.

## 2.2 LEGAL ASPECT OF UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP

The legal implications of universal membership are related to the convening role of the GC/GMEF and, as previously mentioned, it should be noted that the GC/GMEF has a dual function, distinguishing between the GMEF with universal participation, and the GC with its decision-making mandate limited to the 58 members. It can therefore be observed that the plenary of the GC, called the Committee of the Whole (COW) shifts between acting as GC and GMEF, depending on whether decisions have to be made or not. Changing this practice by extending decision-making responsibility to all countries would require a UNGA resolution, but it would not be considered impossible, as UNEP could remain a subsidiary body of the UNGA. <sup>3</sup>

## 2.3 UNIVERSAL DECISION-MAKING

Currently the GC uses the UN unanimity rule of decision-making. While this may be the most democratic method of voting, it also has certain drawbacks, including the increasing difficulty and inefficiency in reaching consensus amongst a greater number of voting members. To address this it could be possible to consider introducing new decision-making techniques. This could avoid opaque negotiation situations, <sup>4</sup> as well as lowest-common-denominator decisions or stalled negotiations due to inability to reach consensus.

There are examples from existing institutions that utilize multi-level co-decision-making systems. The co-decision procedure has become central to the European Community's decision-making. It is based on the principle of parity and means that neither the European Parliament nor the Council of Ministers (CM) may adopt legislation without the other's agreement (EU 2008). If agreement cannot be reached at initial attempt, disagreeing parties have the option of proposing changes to the proposal. These then have to go through a second reading by

If UNEP's status is elevated to that of Specialized Agency, then its reporting line may change. Legally, <sup>3</sup>

specialized agencies are not required to report to the UNGA but can specify the nature of their relationship to ECOSOC and the GA additionally.

<sup>4</sup> The World Trade Organization (WTO), which bases decision-making on consensus-based voting, has

been criticized for being non-transparent in its decision-making process. It is said that negotiations often are kept informal with major developed countries being the most influential representatives in these negotiations <http://www.towside.org.sg/title/bg13-cn/htm>.

<sup>9</sup>

the European Parliament in order to either pass or be vetoed. This modality could be used in two instances being a) cases where block politics happen and working compromises need to be identified; and b) in cases where the GC/GMEF and the UNGA disagrees.

Other European Union (EU) voting practices can enhance efficiency of decision-making. At the moment, EU proposals are decided by qualified majority voting. <sup>5</sup> In a qualified majority voting scenario, a majority of over 71 percent of voting members' weight has to agree before a decision can pass. In practical terms it means that each member is assigned a weight (a number of votes); and in order for the CM to pass a bill, the aggregate weight of those voting for it must equal or exceed a set quota of 71 percent. <sup>6</sup>

Due to increasing number of EU member countries, the Lisbon Treaty (2009) decided to amend the voting structure to double majority voting in 2014. This means that the qualified majority condition specifies requirements not only in terms of a certain percentage of voting members but also with regards to the proportion of population represented. The new system is meant to ensure fairness in decision-making, as larger countries can benefit in terms of their share of population, while the one-country-one-vote part of the double weighed system in turn benefits smaller countries.

Primarily, the new voting system will be introduced to ensure that the larger countries will not be able to force decisions without sufficient support by smaller countries. <sup>7</sup> As a secondary

benefit majority voting speeds up the decision-making process, when compared to consensus based decision-making and thus can be considered useful also for efficiency improvements. A potential drawback to this kind of decision-making could include its apparent complexity. Implementing such a system may require awareness-raising of its functions and advantages. In the case of UNEP, Nairobi could design voting software that calculates the qualified thresholds automatically so that only the essential delivery of position remains as key task for negotiators.

A similar method is practiced by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), which uses double weighed majority. In a GEF voting scenario, support for a proposal requires at least 60 percent majority from all member countries and 60 percent majority from total contributions. This ensures that important decisions are not made only by those members that contribute the most to GEF's budget, but provides voice also to those that do not necessarily have the most financial capacity for a certain decision (Werksman 2003).

The evolving voting systems of the EU (supplemented by the example from GEF) indicate that increasing memberships of any group or forum will result in more complex decision-making procedures. However, the example shows that decision-making systems can be adjusted to accommodate both needs for efficiency as well as for democratic influence even in face of increasing (or universal) membership. Overall this indicates that institutions can evolve to respond better to the demands of the environment and that of their growing membership. Moreover, and perhaps most importantly, it also shows how decision-making systems can be

Also called weighted decision rule.

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The concept of weight is calculated by countries' population size.

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7 In detail the double majority voting system means that at least 55% of EU states must vote in favour of a

proposal and at least 65% of the EU population must be represented in that group. To block a proposal, at least four countries must form a so-called "blocking minority" [http://www.eu-opsyningen.dk/euo\\_en/spsv/all/43/](http://www.eu-opsyningen.dk/euo_en/spsv/all/43/)

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designed to anticipate the heterogeneity of members and bring the highest degree of transparency and fairness into the decision-making modalities.

## 2.4 APPLICATION IN PRACTICE

Double weighted majority could be applied to situations for decisions involving larger funding for programmes. One factor could include funding as a variable additional to number of supportive countries. When legislative changes were proposed, a special triple weighted majority could be envisioned, in which not only funding but also number of countries as well as population determine the outcome of a vote. At the same time changing the voting structure would not be a precedent, because as shown above, if GEF is considered as a part of environmental institutions, then decision-making systems of the current environmental institutions are already diverse. This being said, it may be useful to propose additional research into the benefits and drawbacks of these options, to better provide information on the most suitable option for decision-making at a Global Environmental Governing Council (GEGC). This could be a conditionality to be managed by initiating countries that make the proposal for universal membership in Rio.

## 2.5 FINANCIAL ASPECT OF UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP

Similar to the overall core funding of UNEP, funding of the GC/GMEF is administered by the UNGA. This is a normal *modus operandi* for programmes and funds that are subsidiary to the UNGA. Financing of the annual GC/GMEF derive from the UN Environment Fund.

It is important in this respect to note that the GC/GMEF itself absorbs only around one percent of UNEP's total annual budget. Thus, compared to the funding that is in fact needed to halt the destruction of the environment, the financial consequences of introducing universal membership of the governing council are negligible at best (ECOLOGIC 2004)). Since the event itself spends only miniscule proportions of UNEP budget, it makes little sense to use financial implications to argue against universal membership.

Earlier research on the issue of funding support for GC/GMEF revealed that the budgeting of the GC already anticipates and calculates the participation by non-members as well as members (reflecting the current universal participation of the GMEF). Countries are aware of that, and even developing countries that are not current members of the GC are invited to participate at the GC/GMEF with the understanding that the UN will cover the logistical cost of their participation. As this kind of support for participation is already common practice, universal

membership would not place any additional financial burden on member states, neither directly as financial expenses for their participation, or indirectly on member states' contributions to UN budget.

## 2.6 ESTABLISHING PERMANENT COUNTRY REPRESENTATION

A drawback related to the financial implications of universal membership, however, could concern states that do not yet have permanent representation in Nairobi (Ecuadorian Ministry

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of Foreign Affairs 2011). 8 Especially Latin American countries do not have embassies in Kenya, 9 and universal membership would incur additional expenses to establish a permanent presence in Nairobi. However, it can be expected that the bulk of the cost would be a one-time expense to establish a consulate or embassy on location. Until that is achieved, currently practiced interim solutions are possible: Latin America appoints representative focal points to ensure that information from UNEP's Committee of Permanent Representative (CPR) meetings is forwarded to all countries concerned (Danish Ministry of Environment 2011). 10 However in the long run, countries would have to establish permanent missions on location, and additional cost would be expected from that.

## 2.7 UNANSWERED QUESTIONS OF FUNDING OF THE GOVERNANCE REGIME

In a larger perspective, universal membership of the GC could form a suitable platform for discussions on expanding UNEP's funding options. Perhaps the granting of universal membership could come with a conditionality that requires the universal forum to earnestly deal with the larger issue of lacking funding for IEG. Fair decisions on this issue could then be made in a forum with global membership consisting of developed and developing countries at equal level and with equal influence in the decision-making process (see section above on change of voting structure).

The modalities of introducing innovative financing mechanisms such as Tobin Tax, levies on international air-travel, or assessed contributions as a miniscule proportion from countries' defense budget should also be openly discussed. These are well-known options for financing the environmental governance regime. More focus on such discussions would be timely; as would more focus on a related issue being the overall lack of consistency of funding, which is hampering with effectiveness of planning and execution of UNEP's operations. 11

There remain additional questions pertaining to financing of a functional environmental regime and financing of the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) on national level. Universal membership is clearly not a silver bullet for environmental governance, but it should be considered as an important intervention to strengthen it. It is clear, however, that much higher budgets for environment will be necessary in the coming years to address implementation gaps, as well as lacking capacity and access to technology - all pertinent issues repeatedly addressed by developing countries in intergovernmental negotiations. These substantial hurdles to implementation could be addressed by a GC/GMEF with universal membership.

## 2.8 STRUCTURAL ASPECT OF UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP AND ITS RELATION TO MEAS

As was briefly mentioned in the introductory paragraphs, the sense in establishing a global forum to address international environmental issues could be considered a normative truism.

Personal communication

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See <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/kenya#> for a list of embassies in Nairobi. Currently the

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only Latin American countries represented are Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia Costa Rica, Honduras and Venezuela.

10 Personal communication

11 Personal communication

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And as such, most people would tend to agree with need for a better IEG architecture. However, it should be clearly illustrated how universal membership could better address shortcomings in

the current environmental governance structure as well as how it would contribute to improving the environment. This is necessary to make a convincing argument for universal membership.

One oft mentioned criticism of environmental governance focuses on the problem of overall fragmentation, overlap and inefficiency. In response to this critique, mainstreaming efforts have been undertaken in the chemicals cluster and the biodiversity related conventions. These efforts show that MEAs can either be clustered according to issue-based, functional/organizational criteria, or they can have a particular regional scope by co-locating and merging secretariats (Najam 2006; Fauchald 2010).

In this regard, introducing universal membership could potentially contribute to enhancing coherence and efficiency of the several hundred existing environmental agreements by creating an umbrella forum for centralized decision-making on MEAs. The close relationship between UNEP and many MEAs is written in the text of the conventions. For example, the following excerpts from the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) show structural and financial links between UNEP and the MEA:

Decision I/4: “Designates the United Nations Environment Programme to carry out the functions of the Secretariat of the Convention while ensuring its autonomy to discharge” (CBD 1994).

Decision I/6: “Designates the United Nations Environment Programme as the Trustee of the Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity” (CBD 2010).

The Rotterdam Convention contains similar decisions, cementing its relationship with UNEP (and the FAO):

Decision RC-1/9: “Invites the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to appoint an Executive Secretary in consultation with the Conference of the Parties through the Bureau” (Basel 2010).

“The Executive Director of UNEP and the Director-General of FAO delegate their authority to the Executive Secretary from UNEP and FAO, to act on their behalf, to represent the Secretariat and to carry out its functions” (WHO 2007).

## 2.9 CLUSTERING MEAS UNDER A GC UMBRELLA

The examples above illustrate the institutionalized relationships between UNEP and the MEA Secretariats. They show that, in addition to being responsible for the initial establishment of

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many MEAs, UNEP functions as a secretariat for many of them. As can be seen in the legal text from these conventions, there may be possibilities for further developing the relationship between UNEP and the MEAs, in particular if UNEP GC/GMEF is equipped with universal membership and decision-making capacity. That way, the forum could become a venue for co-reporting, sharing of best practices and enhance coherence among MEAs. Establishing such a forum might incur some up-front cost for establishing it, but it is expected that it could yield cost-benefits in the long term (Urho 2010).

The possibilities for introducing such co-reporting and decision-making on MEAs at GC/GMEF would have to be researched in detail, since drawbacks could include that it might compromise the legal autonomy of MEAs as well as overlap with the functions of the Conference of Parties (COP). Such potential for conflict between UNEP and MEAs may also be one of the major reasons to why universal membership has not been accepted despite repeated suggestions and arguments in its favour. 12 To avoid the potential for conflict between UNEP and MEAs it would be necessary to formulate agreements that clearly designate the roles of the respective forums. Doing so might make the option of MEA COP co-location with UNEP GC a politically viable and acceptable option for UNEP and for the established MEA secretariats. This could make the current IEG system less fragmented and more efficient, both in terms of time, and finances.

Apparent discrepancies between the universality of the GC/GMEF and MEAs with only limited membership could be addressed by way of discerning between “multilateral” and “plurilateral” agreements (Biermann 2011). Accordingly, members of GC that would yet have to ratify an

agreement could participate with observer status, as is already practiced in other forums. Such multi-tier membership could also have the potential of enhancing ratification ratios of MEAs among laggard states.

Finally, positioning some MEAs under a UM GC/GMEF would present a good opportunity for effectiveness gains, as doing so could result in better reasoning for national level policy and implementation committees that could better articulate policies and measures to respond to the needs of thematically related MEAs on the ground. In the long-term, the clustering of MEAs in a single forum could enhance compliance and enforcement of the agreements. Modalities used in the trade regime hint at possible measures, as the WTO is utilizing a system of “cross-agreement sanctioning” (Wendell 2011). This option allows the suspension of concessions under other agreements, if some reason or another, penalties under the non-compliant agreement is impossible.

## 2.10 IN SUM

UNEP GC 26 was not able to make a decision on universal membership. While some countries stated their support, others clearly did not; and diverging views on this issue remain. The arguments presented above will hopefully contribute to a better understanding of the potential advantages of universal membership and the options for introducing new voting systems to

See Fauchald, Ole 2010. International Environmental Governance: A Legal Analysis of Selected Options.  
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Fridtjof Nansens Institut. <http://www.fni.no/doc&pdf/FNI-R1610.pdf> for a detailed analysis of the benefits of clustering MEAs under UNEP. Additionally, see <http://www.iisd.ca/vol16/enb1619e.html> for details on countries’ in favour of universal membership.

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outweigh and avoid some of the potential drawbacks of increased membership. As stated, it will be important to clearly demonstrate to decision makers that universal membership will not change the amount of funding needed to convey the annual GC/GMEF. The following table summarizes some of the main points made in the previous section:

### Expected benefits Potential challenges

• Global representation and increased voice of • Some countries may perceive increasing ministries of environment and better recognition of number of “voices” in GC/GMEF as loss of global environmental issues; comparable advantage in decision-making  
• Increased efficiency in decision-making; process;  
• Enhancement of coherence and efficiency of MEAs;  
• Could create precedence for other UN  
• Clustering of MEAs under a forum with universal organizations and bodies’ membership membership could yield long term cost-benefits; structure;  
• Better addressing MEAs would enhance UN  
• Financial consequences of introducing universal credibility with member states and increase likelihood membership of the UNEP GC should be fully of continued support for subsequent broader reform investigated and reported;  
of IEG;  
• Not all countries have permanent representatives in Nairobi;  
Required input Expected output

• Change decision-making modality from consensus to • Global forum could make strong decisions on qualified majority; environment and improve effectiveness of IEG;  
• Establish executive board or elected bureau for day- • Faster decision-making process; to-day management;  
• Possibility to cluster decision-making on MEAs;  
• If GC/GMEF becomes decision-making umbrella over  
• Lessen operating cost of COP/MOPs when related MEAs, “cross-agreement sanctioning” to mainstreamed with GC/GMEF;  
incentivize compliance with agreements could be  
• Possible to enhance compliance by use of introduced;

â€¢ Multiple MEAs under one roof should be handled by â€“cross-agreement sanctioningâ€” between related MEAs;  
 way of discerning between â€“multilateralâ€” and  
 â€“plurilateralâ€” agreements;  
 â€¢ Certainty among member states that universal

Table 2: Universal Membership  
 membership will not change cost of annual  
 GC/GMEF;

Source: Authorâ€™s compilation

Trade-offs will have to be taken into consideration if environmental governance is to be meaningfully reformed. The tradeoffs refer to the potential efficiency gains from locating a number of MEAs under UNEP GC. Existing MEA secretariats might not agree to that. However it is worth to remember that the final decision to change the location of the MEAs or not can be executed gradually, and ultimately depends not on the willingness of the MEA Secretariat but the intentions of member states.

Finally, the introduction of universal membership could be combined with a conditionality, i.e. that the empowerment of the forum shall be linked with commitment and responsibility to deal with other central issues to the IEG process such as predictability of funding, proposing the establishment of legal autonomy and decision-making power, implementation assistance from UNEP in support of MEAs on country level, and other concrete steps needed to strengthen

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environmental governance and bridge the implementation gap. However, these issues require consensus on important but contentious further steps that a universal forum equipped with decision-making power could address. Subsequent tasks of determining detailed strategies for supporting MEAs on country level, additional capacity building for governments, and other crucial issues needed to strengthen environmental governance could be approached effectively by elevating the status of UNEP from its current programme to a specialized agency on environment.

### 3. REFORM PHASE 2: ESTABLISHING A SPECIALIZED AGENCY ON ENVIRONMENT

The discussion on strengthening international environmental governance has progressed over the last decades but a conclusion is as lacking as ever. The recent Nairobi-Helsinki consultation process established points on forms, functions and responses that, if implemented, will bolster IEG. The discussions concluded with agreement to focus on five different forms, some of which entail incremental improvements to existing bodies as well others with broader reform objectives (UNEP 2010). This section will limit its focus to the option for establishing a specialized agency on environment.

#### 3.1 LEGAL ASPECT, BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS OF A SPECIALIZED AGENCY:

In the UN context, specialized agencies are created to address issues that UN and member States deem important enough to justify the creation of an autonomous agency. Such agencies have their own legal identity, a plenary decision-making body (General Assembly), a representative executive body and a secretariat. They can be established by a resolution from UNGA (UN Charter, Article 57), to which they are linked through ECOSOC. In addition, the UNGA (UN Charter, Article 63) can determine the details of the agencyâ€™s relationship with the UN, and to what extent it would have to follow recommendations of ECOSOC.

Establishing a specialized agency for environment would demand great political commitment from the international community, because it entails creating a legally autonomous agency with its own decision-making power. This is a conscientious issue, because doing so could remove environmental decision-making power from the GA and ECOSOC. Critical voices argue that this drawback is sufficient to consider elevating UNEPâ€™s status to a specialized agency for environment as an unrealistic option.

#### 3.2 DECENTRALISED DECISION-MAKING

The decentralization of autonomous decision-making may certainly deter some parties from supporting this option. However, it might be helpful to consider this issue in a different context and argue that if decision-making on environment related issues were to be deliberately



removed from ECOSOC and GA, it would be possible for the latter bodies to better focus on overarching economic and political governance issues. Indeed, these issues have an environmental dimension, but concentrating environmental decision-making in an autonomous agency could potentially make environmental decision-making more effective, and this is needed for the current governance structure.

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EU practices indicate that decentralization of power can be useful. In its establishing treaty (Amsterdam Treaty), the institution acknowledged the importance of "proportionality, and subsidiarity" and made them central and determining principles of its decision-making structure (EU 2011). Accordingly, subsidiarity is used to decentralize decision-making on behalf of the EU "in areas which do not fall within its exclusive competence" (EU 2006). For environmental governance on the UN level it could mean that the UNGA delegated technical decisions on environment to the specialized agency. Contrarily, similar rules would apply to the GA of the specialized agency, which would have to (and legally could, by means of UN Charter Article 63) consult decisions of great economic and social importance with the UNGA before making decisions.

### 3.3 STRENGTHEN THE ENVIRONMENT VOICE ON INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS

While the call for establishing a specialized agency on environment is pertinent, it has not yet been accepted and international environmental governance remains crippled. A similar situation can be observed on country levels, where ministries of environment often find themselves positioned rather badly in the national decision-making hierarchy. There is a need for elevating the status of environmental agencies and ministries on national as well as on international levels, because UNEP in a sense is representing all national environmental authorities. Compared to the situation in 40 years ago, environmental authorities in the world have become full-fledged ministries in many countries. This gives a good reason for strengthening UNEP accordingly. Establishing a specialized agency for environment would create an autonomous decision-making structure on the international level that could help policy makers translate international decisions into national level environmental policies. More national level clout of environmental ministries could benefit not only increased capacity of environmental officials, but also enhance agenda setting and negotiation power in the national policy formulation and assessment processes.

The potential drawback of creating a separate decision-making structure has often been used as one of the main arguments for UNEP retaining its status as a programme. Countries have argued that a programme by its very definition is nimble, flexible and therefore able to better mainstream environment throughout decision-making (Ivanova 2007). It is an important point; in fact the increase of cross-cutting environmental issues has only lent more amplitude to the need for integrating environmental concerns throughout policy making processes at all levels. However, the question is whether weak and badly funded programmes are really the right vessels to enhance the voice of the environment in a choir of strong singers.

As was mentioned, an environment programme has not been able to sufficiently determine the international political agenda. A stronger body with legal impetus to oversee the integration of environmental concerns throughout decision-making is becoming increasingly relevant to halt environmental degradation. In relation to the sustainable development discourse, it has also become clear that the environmental dimension of sustainable development has been neglected in favour of economic growth. Realizing the need to reaffirm the importance of the environment as fundamental foundation economies and well-functioning societies, it is therefore argued that ministries of environment and natural resources need a much stronger and autonomous body to place the environmental agenda better at all levels of the governance discourse.

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### 3.4 COMBINING TOP-DOWN AGENDA SETTING WITH BOTTOM-UP INTEGRATION

A specialized agency would not displace environmental focal points in other ministries, nor would its purpose be to unite and mainstream all environmental divisions and programmes under one. This kind of bottom-up integration on the implementation level is already underway. Environmentalists perceive as a significant progress that many public and private sector institutions have established either environmental terms of reference as part of their mission, or have positions dealing with environmental mainstreaming. At the same time, however, bottom-up integration is not sufficient, and a specialized agency would be needed to steer top-down integration of environmental concerns into planning, policy-making and evaluation. Options that are specific to the legal clout and personality of a specialized agency would include better agenda setting in the policy making process, stronger legal and regulatory purview, and the ability to raise serious concerns with regards to other environmentally harmful policy proposals.

### 3.5 FINANCIAL ASPECT, BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS OF A SPECIALIZED AGENCY

In addition to considerable political will for its establishment, a specialized agency will need more and predictable funding to position environment higher on the agenda and carry out the functions of its mandate. Normally agencies determine the details of their funding arrangements with their constituents. Many specialized agencies, as for instance the International Labour Organization (ILO), the World Meteorological Organization's (WMO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) derive parts of their funding from assessed contributions.

Assessed contributions are normally based on countries' capacity to pay and measured by factors such as national income and size of population. There are minimum and maximum ceilings to the contributions, ensuring that no state pays more per capita than the per capita contribution of the highest contributor (WHO 2000). Other parts of the budget can derive from extra budgetary donations, trust funds and partnership agreements that can be earmarked for special cooperation programmes.

### 3.6 MEMBERSHIP DEFINED BY LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTION

Some agencies, including the WHO, also allow for differentiated memberships that provide space for countries, territories, or other actors with lesser contributions to partake as observers, or with a limited voting capacity (WHO 2009). A concrete example of heterogeneous membership systems can be seen in the World Tourism Organization that was elevated to become a UN Specialized Agency in 2003. It has differentiated membership status that apart from effective members also accommodates associate members, affiliate members and observers (UNWTO 2011). The membership status however, does not depend on level of financial contributions, as these are decided on an assessed scale, but membership status is tailor made to sovereign states, territories, associations, or private entities. While this example shows the option of differentiated membership status, it would have to be determined whether similar differentiation would be possible as a factor of funding contributions, since such could potentially increase the political willingness towards establishing a specialized agency. However, such proposal should also be cautiously approached, since it might result in an agency without "effective" and paying members.

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The ILO introduced a flexibility mechanism in 2006 to give countries some leeway in the event that they were unable to cover their assessed contributions. Since resilience to financial and economic fluctuations would be considered a necessary element of any funding structure for the future, it could be useful to design the financing structure of a specialized agency with such an inbuilt flexibility mechanism. In addition, a specialized agency could derive parts of its funding from "other" sources and "miscellaneous income", and allow fund raising from the private sector and philanthropists to play a role that matches the expected responsibility from various stakeholders in a more effective and multi-level environmental governance system. A related issue was also briefly mentioned in the section on universal membership, where the intention would be to establish the GC/GMEF as suitable forum determining the details of such "innovative funding" systems.

Comparing the financial implications of a specialized agency with those of universal membership of the GC/GMEF, it becomes clear that the former would entail much greater changes to funding structure and amount to have a fair chance to succeed. Merely establishing a specialized agency without making inroads on funding issues would be a recipe for disaster and probably even weaken environmental governance if that is possible. A honest effort therefore requires that details are determined with regards to how the agency should respond to requirements set forth in its mandate, including concrete budget lines for implementation activities. The funding related issues may also constitute one the most major drawbacks of the specialized agency option, and also explains why, despite prolonged attention in international negotiations, it has been impossible to introduce such upgrading of UNEP.

### 3.7 STRUCTURAL ASPECT, BENEFITS AND DRAWBACKS OF A SPECIALIZED AGENCY:

As seen in Resolution 2997, a main component of UNEP's mandate is to coordinate as well as review the direction of the environmental work within the UN system (UNEMG 2011). Formerly, this part of the mandate fell under the System-wide Medium Term Environment Programme (SWMTEP). It was introduced in 1999, but then abandoned and replaced with the current Environment Management Group (EMG).

### 3.8 ENVIRONMENTAL MAINSTREAMING IN THE UN: DONE DEAL?

Today there are as many as 44 environmental divisions and offices in the UN. Most of those have appeared not because of UNEP's success in mainstreaming environment in the UN, but because agencies and UN bodies themselves have gradually mainstreamed environment in the system. It may therefore be that a new UNEP as specialized agency should not even be primarily

concerned with the UN response to environment, but should focus more on serious problems related to persistent implementation gap of environmental agreements on national and local levels, regional and national capacity building etc. Therefore, elevating UNEP to a specialized agency on environment is not so much about effectively mainstreaming environment throughout the UN system but more about the need for a stronger institution to position environment issues better on the global political agenda and create a body with the mandate to respond to demands on regional and national levels. Strengthening of UNEP only at the international level would not be sufficient. Asia, which has become the world's production center, should have much stronger regional environmental institutions to better deal with increasing environmental issues. A stronger regional representation could in turn strengthen

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the environmental work of regional and sub-regional bodies, including Tripartite Environment Ministers Meeting (TEMM) in North-east Asia, or the environmental programmes of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Interviews with current and former UN staff identified one of the main reasons for UNEP's failure to coordinate environment within the UN system as being rooted in the fact that the programme, with its relative legal weakness, has been unable to sufficiently leverage and influence many of the larger programmes and agencies within the UN (UN 2011).<sup>13</sup> And as mentioned, the mainstreaming task is already happening to a large extent, throughout UN bodies and their initiatives. However, the 44 existing environment divisions and UN initiatives indicate that fragmentation and overlap is still a problem that needs to be addressed both inside the UN system and on country level. In this regard, expanding the "One-UN Initiative" would be beneficial as would clustering MEAs. This might also enhance the UN's level of credibility and also support from member States both to the UN at large and to broader reform options as those discussed in this paper. While larger efforts are needed to address fragmentation and overlap, initial steps would include signing of Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between UNEP and the respective agency or institution aimed at effectively harmonizing the environmental work among the institutions.<sup>14</sup>

Finally, if UNEP were to become an agency it would also be better positioned to suggest and debate legal instruments in its plenary forum (GC/GMEF) as well as adopting them in its own General Assembly. Even though a specialized agency would not be as closely related to the UN as a programme is, provisions could be made so that the Agency remained a central member of the UN's Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).<sup>15</sup> Doing so would be important to ensure that, also in the future, it would remain central to coherence and cohesion of environmental work within the UN and its related specialized agencies.<sup>16</sup>

### 3.9 IN SUM

The discussion on programme vs. specialized agency has been tabled at many intergovernmental discussions, and while on several occasions many UN member States have supported the upgrading of UNEP to a specialized agency - there has never been sufficient impetus for the establishment of a specialized agency on environment.<sup>17</sup> However, Rio 2012 can create sufficient momentum and support from governments to agree on a Roadmap that can determine the direction as well as milestones to strengthen IEG, and perhaps consider the possibilities for establishing a specialized agency on environment. The following table sums up some of the points made in the text above:

Personal communication; Nairobi and Bangkok (2011).

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Member states could initiate this development by submitting a request for a UN GA resolution.

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15 Additionally, a previous paragraph also summarized Article 63 of the UN Charter, which provides

options for legal affiliation between the UN and a specialized agency.

16 <http://www.unsceb.org/ceb/home>

17 Biermann (2007) states that, over time 50 countries have supported the creation of a Specialized

Agency.

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Expected benefits Potential challenges

Placing Removes some of the environmental decision-environmental decision-making with

GC/GMEF could allow ECOSOC/GA to better focus making power from the GA and ECOSOC;

â€¢ Ingrained belief that an environment programme by on overarching economic and political governance issues; its very definition is nimble, and flexible and therefore

â€¢ Would be well positioned to debate legal instruments better able to mainstream environment throughout in its plenary forum (GC/GMEF) as well as adopting decision-making than an agency;

â€¢ Widespread (but erroneous) belief that a specialized them in its own General Assembly;

â€¢ Increased efficiency of environmental decision- agency would no longer be affiliated to the UN (UN making; Charter, Article 63);

â€¢ Increased clout of environmental ministries could â€¢ Demands great political commitment from the enhance agenda setting and negotiation power in international community;

â€¢ The requirement for more and predictable funding to national policy formulation and lead to more effective environmental policy making; position environment higher on the agenda may deter

â€¢ Better agenda setting in national policy making countries from supporting this reform option;

â€¢ Merely establishing a specialized agency without also process, stronger legal and regulatory purview, and the ability to veto the agenda of other making inroads on funding issues would be a recipe environmentally harmful policy proposals; for disaster. It therefore would require that details be determined with regards to how the agency should respond to requirements set forth in its mandate, including concrete budget lines for implementation activities.

Required input Expected output

â€¢ Political commitment from international community; â€¢ Autonomous decision-making structure on the

â€¢ Needs a legally autonomous agency with own international level that could help policy makers decision-making power; translate international decisions into national

â€¢ Resolution from UNGA (UN Charter, Article 57); level environmental policies and

â€¢ For political feasibility GC/GMEF should implementation; consult decisions of great economic and social

â€¢ Environmental concerns would be better and importance with the UNGA before making decisions more strongly represented in international as (UN Charter, Article 63); well as national policy formulation agenda;

â€¢ Could include other constituencies than just

â€¢ Environmental dimension of sustainable governments (example from ILOâ€™s structure (industry, development receives more attention compared labour unions, governments) and representatives from civil society); to economic and social dimensions, that

â€¢ More effectiveness of IEG would have to prioritize traditionally have had higher priority; top-down integration of environmental concerns into planning, policy making and evaluation also on national levels;

â€¢ Would need more and predictable funding to position

Table 3: Specialized Agency  
environment higher on the agenda;

Source: Authorâ€™s interpretation

#### 4. CONCLUSION:

By highlighting a number of weaknesses of current IEG, the above sections have argued for a broad reform to UNEP in order to strengthen IEG and to enable a better response to current and anticipated environmental challenges. The paper has argued that reform and strengthening of

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IEG is important because 1) environmental challenges have grown in impact and magnitude along with globalization but the architecture has not yet evolved to respond to these emerging challenges; and 2) governance has become multi stakeholder and more participation is needed from all stakeholders in order to ensure coordinated and synergetic governance.

To address the issue of environmental governance reform, the paper has established that incremental reform options, while important, will not suffice to significantly strengthen IEG.

Instead it has proposed a phased reform consisting of two broader reform options and summarized key points related to each. The analysis has focused on legal, financial, and structural implications of the reform options, and emphasized possible benefits and drawbacks as summarized in the tables above. The two options have been presented in succession to argue for their relatedness and make a case for how countries could create momentum towards broader reform and strengthening of environmental governance by mobilizing support for introducing universal membership of the UNEP GC/GMEF.

As for the first reform option of universal membership, the paper has argued that it would be possible to accommodate the increased complexity of universally voting members by adopting a qualified majority voting system to improve efficiency of decision-making. The feasibility of the decision-making was exemplified by the EU, which has gradually adopted qualified majority voting to accommodate increasing members. Apart from empowering global environment ministers by creating such universal membership, the paper has also shown how it could become a decision-making umbrella for MEAs, thereby clustering debate and decision-making of those of the treaties that already have a close relation to UNEP written in their legal texts. This would benefit both coherence and efficiency of IEG.

Apart from being the first phase of a broader reform of UNEP, it is of course true that universal membership can be viewed as a reform option in itself and without connection to other reform options. It is conceivable that it could be introduced primarily for the benefits of global representation and better decision-making on IEG issues, arguably these benefits are significant and sufficient to justify it. If the UNGA were to provide the GC/GMEF with universal membership and decision-making power, it is very likely that it would significantly empower the ministers at the GC/GMEF to make strong environmental decisions, because conversely to the GA, the GC would be a forum especially mandated for environmental issues. This would give a different priority to environmental decision-making when compared to the GA, where other issues have had higher priority.

Subsequent to universal membership of the GC/GMEF, the second broad reform phase of establishing a specialized agency, was also emphasized. In this regard the paper argued that an environmental policy makers' forum with universal membership could propel the creation of a globally representative decision-making forum for international environmental policy. If this could be achieved it would be an obvious next step to negotiate a UN GA Resolution towards establishing a specialized agency with legal independence, but affiliated to the UN. Such a mandate could have a tremendously positive effect on the clout of environmental agenda setting and policy making, internationally and nationally.

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#### 4.1 FROM PLEDGE TO ACTION: COOPERATION AMONG STAKEHOLDERS

Since international environmental agreements often fall short on national levels and in the stages of implementation, it will not be sufficient to keep IEG purely on the intergovernmental arena. To address this issue, the paper has argued that benefits for national level environmental policy have to be identified. To do so, more support must be provided to environmental ministries and agencies on national and local levels. Strengthening environmental ministries on national and local levels is a two-way process. For the UN-bodies, it will be necessary that they continue to cooperate and implement cohesively expanding on the "One-UN" initiative and articulate ways of cooperation as well as demarcation between and among the agencies. Environmental governance in this way will fall beyond UNEP as an agency and some tasks will have to be undertaken in cooperation or by representation of other UN agencies, NGOs and national stakeholders, according to which solution is the most effective and efficient. The cooperation could be visualized by means of the following figure:

Figure 4: Cooperation on implementation levels

Source: Author's interpretation

Exchange of knowledge and good practices between countries and sectors is also depicted in the figure, this kind of initiative can take place bilaterally decided and organized by countries

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themselves and with the help of agencies. Reporting of progress for least developed countries (LDCs) and reporting on MEA commitments overall could then be done to the plenary forum of the specialized Agency (UNEO/WEO). For national policy makers, the strengthening of the environmental mandate in comparison with other ministries will have to be implemented in

national decision-making processes. As was emphasized in the paper, a direct benefit could be harnessed if policy makers were to take advantage of the efficient decision-making in the GC/GMEF and agree on issues to strengthen implementation of environmental agreements on national level. Moreover, a specialized agency could initiate the establishment of domestic "interlinkages" committees tasked with identifying thematic links between environment and other important sectors of the economy such as water, energy, transport, etc. In this regard the paper has argued that additional integration of environmental concerns could be achieved politically through enhanced environmental agenda setting, influence on national budgeting or other interventions that may vary according to national circumstances. The paper has argued that doing so would result in better enforcement of MEA commitments, especially if MEA co-decision could become part of the GC/GMEF as decisions could be made more efficiently.

While the two-phased reform proposal establishing universal membership of the GC/GMEF and establishing a specialized agency resemble significant reform options, essentially the improvement of IEG has to be carried forward by decision makers themselves. This implies that the conscientious issues concerning amounts and predictability of the IEG regime's funding need to be addressed along with capacity building for developing countries, better integration of environment issues into decision-making, monitoring and assessing the environment, access to information and environmentally sound technology and other emerging issues.

#### 4.2 REASONS FOR RESISTANCE AND REASONS FOR SUPPORT

If universal membership and specialized agency options resemble the way forward, the question still lingers then why governments have not chosen to sufficiently back them up and initiate their implementation long ago. Partly this can be explained by an overall lack of trust in the UN and the multilateral system of negotiation and decision-making as a whole. Countries and their citizens have increasing trouble seeing the relevance of the complex international governance structures. The UN itself should continue to emphasize its internal reform to show that incremental efficiency improvements are being undertaken. Among other measures it will therefore be important to undertake thorough analysis of how the identified options in the Nairobi-Helsinki Outcome will actually improve the functions and tasks identifies as important for IEG. Additionally, it is important that the UN leads by example and shows not only how environmental governance can be effectively mainstreamed in their organization, but also why it should remain a relevant and credible institution for the global community.

National level governments also play a decisive role in determining support or resistance to strengthening environmental governance. On these levels it could be advised to place effort on national awareness campaigns and information dissemination. The public must clearly understand the role of the UN, the links between international environmental governance structures and their lives and how the international environment affects the well-being of local communities.

It is important to make this point; because many states remain convinced that strong international governance would compromise their national sovereignty. In fact, global

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governance will not compromise the sovereignty of states. On the contrary, because global environmental impacts can be felt increasingly on the local scale, globalization has extended the reach of nation states' interest. It should therefore be in the interest of sovereign nation states to upgrade and mandate institutions whose purpose is to address global environmental issues to improve the quality of the global and local environments.

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## Institute of Global Education

THE INSTITUTE OF GLOBAL EDUCATION IS A USA 501 © (3) NONPROFIT WITH SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE ECOSOC STATUS AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND OPERATES IN INDIA, CANADA AND THE USA. THIS EFFORT IS TO PROVIDE INPUT AND PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS TO RIO PLUS 20 ON SUSTAINABLE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED ISSUES

The Institute for Global Education has developed a strong connection to Northeast India which has over 200 tribes and a culture significantly different from the rest of India. Our worldwide experience with indigenous cultures and twenty years experience in India has led us to propose, with local institutional support, an innovative program to transform how local indigenous communities relate to their physical environment and the emerging worldwide culture.

The Northeast is a remote part of India, dependent on slash and burn agricultural base, which has had major immigration, with resulting intercommunal competition and violence. The Area has abundant water and significant unused land. Local leadership needs to be educated to sustainable economic practices and the views of their youth aware of the wider world. A successful program could help enable indigenous leaders and youth who could reach out to India's huge indigenous population, which is largely at the bottom of the social and economic ladder. A comprehensive economic and social development plan has been officially adopted for the NE by the local and national government but needs to be implemented

### PROPOSED STRATEGY

1.Target limited resources to educate and reorient tribal leaders/elders in a two year demonstration program

- 2.Focus efforts in 30-40 villages in 2 states with 4 million people –Meghalaya and Manipur
- 3.Create a key role for youth in educating elders in new economic and social realities especially their views using permaculture, village photography, puppetry and access to a worldwide pen pal network
4. Create competition among villages for new outside educational and economic development resources including scholarships
5. Educate tribal elders in permaculture and new economic development opportunities
6. Offer conflict resolution training and possible vipassana meditation for elders and youth
7. Identify and promote future female and male leaders with scholarships
8. Improve quality of schools using gardening and other new curriculum
9. Work to implement the officially adopted NE Plan and seek additional demo grants from the Indian Government and elsewhere.
10. Encourage agricultural donations from outside India via the internet
- 11.Increase economic opportunities for women
- 12.Strengthen leadership role of key local universities and institutions especially Martin Luther Christian University
- 13.Utilize the educational experiences of the Institute for Global Education in Mucherla, Andhra Pradesh
- 14.Train teachers in permaculture
- 15.Use children's puppetry and photography to improve family harmony and potentially discourage spousal abuse/ alcoholism and revision local villages.
16. Bring in a large number of Peace Corps type workers from many countries to help implement permaculture, gardening, puppetry and other strategies.
- 17.Document the process in a video/film that can be shown to other tribals in the NE and elsewhere
- 18.Create speakers bureau to utilize village leaders and students to share their experiences in other villages
19. Develop conflict resolution models for villages
- 20.Develop traveling exhibits and shows to many villages
- 21.Network with tribals into Bangladesh and Myanmar if possible
- 22.Promote project successes in United Nations
- 23.Identify additional potential resources from the UN, US and elsewhere 24.Establish a network of traditional herbalists and identify possible economic opportunities for them
- 25.Utilize successful education resource groups from elsewhere in India including the Indian Educational and Peace /Consortium, an Andhra Pradesh permaculture group and the Institute for Global Education
26. Have the Institute for Global Education be the lead organization responsible for the program

#### CONCLUSIONS

- 1.The proposed program is very sweeping and encompasses many elements.
2. Each part of the program has been tested and found useful in comparable venues.
3. The budget, while small, is realistic for the proposed program.
4. The overall program goal is to create new, more open attitudes in tribal leadership
5. The program strategy starts with education and then reaches into the minds and imaginations of the village/tribal leaders. The children will play a key role in educating elders.
6. The villages and state governments have expressed strong interest in the program. Their participation will increase the probabilities for local acceptance of new ideas
7. A limited amount of money will generate a tremendous amount of in kind and volunteer contributions.
8. The Proposal, while ambitious, could lead to add on efforts such as teaching English, computer satellite access and other valuable programs as funding becomes available.
9. A sense of competition among villages increases the potential local openness to new ideas.
10. Our proposed staff leadership has very strong connections with and credibility with local tribes.
11. We need to review the program after year one to see lessons learned and required modifications in approach.
12. The program approach, if successful, could be widely replicated elsewhere in India and neighboring countries.

THIS IGE PROPOSAL HAS BEEN SUBMITTED TO THE UN DEMOCRACY FUND AND OTHERS. IT FITS WELL WITH THE GOALS FOR RIO PLUS 20 PROPOSALS AND IS A HANDS ON LOCAL DESIGNED EFFORT. IT WOULD STRENGTHEN THE GOALS AND DIRECTIONS FOR RIO PLUS 20. A CONSORTIUM OF ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AS THE PROJECT IS LOCAL LEADERSHIP BASED.

THE SCIENCE OF EDUCATING, COUNSELING, AND HEALING WITH NATURE (ECHN) IS THE MONUMENTAL SENSORY TOOL THAT EMPOWERS CIVIL SOCIETY TO REMEDY THE POINT SOURCE OF OUR CRITICAL PERSONAL, SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AS A CONTRIBUTION TO RIO PLUS 20

We live excessively indoor lives. Our significant separation from the natural world interferes with our body, mind and spirit being part of the way nature works to sustain our planet's self correcting health, balance and purity, around and in us.

Because the indoor process that teaches us how to think and feel is excessively nature disconnected, its disconnection from nature's restorative powers creates mind pollution in our psyche. This warp causes us to create and suffer personal, social and environmental problems. They are not found in unadulterated nature or nature connected people (s).

In Industrial Society, our contaminated mentality and the disorders it produces, have a point source of origin. For a peaceful world in balance and wellness, we must each identify and help correct that point source. Project NatureConnect gives any interested person the tools to accomplish this crucial feat. The point source of our troubles is our denial. We deny that our natural senses and sensitivities are excessively strained due to our disconnectedness from nature. We seldom recognize that we traumatize our natural senses because our society's prejudice to conquer nature makes these sensibilities endure unbalanced, destructive, nature disconnected fulfillments.

The profound loss to our senses of nature's purifying and healing powers causes us to continually want and when we want there is never enough. The torment of our wanting is a form of mind pollution. It produces a wounded sensory imbalance, a warp in our psyche that results in destructive stress, greed, disorders and dysfunctions, locally and globally.

The remedy for our mind pollution is the science of Educating, Counseling and Healing with Nature (ECHN). It holistics methods and materials are tools that let sensory contact with nature's self correcting powers, backyard or back country, help us improve well being at every level.

There is hope. The ECHN organic antidote and preventative for our disorders provides us with a unique, social technology, Natural Attraction Ecology. It is a practical application of Ecopsychology that enables us to remedy our polluted thoughts and feelings. ECHN works because it lets nature's ways help our thinking compost the destructive addictions of civil society and recycle them into constructive relationships.

ECHN starts with a subsidized, online course whose nature connecting methods and materials can immediately be applied to any person's life and livelihood. In addition, one can teach them, or use them to enhance their career or hobby. The course can lead to a Master's or Ph.D. degree in Applied Ecopsychology.

ECHN provides us with the special tool that we need to effectively address our problems. It helps us, locally or globally, walk hand in hand while empowered by the real life beauty and cooperation of nature's amazing grace.

The calm, joy and restorative powers of a quiet walk in a natural area are well known. ECHN helps us strengthen these powers and use them to reduce our prejudice against nature (PAN) and our other great disorders.

Nature's special perfection is the ability of its natural attraction essence to peacefully maintain pristine optimums of life, diversity and cooperation in balance and beauty. Its cyclic intelligence seldom produces garbage or pollution, or our excessiveness, abusiveness, isolation, wars and disorders.

We are nature, it is us. Every five to seven years the purifying flow of nature, through, within and around us, replaces every molecule in us. Part of our DNA is plant DNA. This confirms that we are, and that we inherently think, feel, resonate and communicate with the way nature works.

Sadly, for excessive profit, our prejudice against nature socializes our thinking to conquer or exploit nature in and around us. We bias our thinking to demean or fear nature. This wounds our psyche and senses; it reduces our natural restorative abilities. Their self correcting ways can't help us remedy the troubles that our misguided thinking creates.

To counteract this folly, engaging in sensory nature connecting activities, backyard or backcountry, revitalizes nature's flow through us so its streaming better heals and renews our injured rational, emotional and spiritual self. This releases Dopamine. We feel rewarded and happy.

From five decades of research and experience, a scientific tool, Natural Attraction Ecology (NAE), enables our excessively nature disconnected thinking to benefit from conscious sensory contact with nature's recycling and transformative powers.

The hands on process of NAE is rooted in these empirical truths:

1. Since the beginning of time, the flow of natural attraction has been everywhere. From sub atomic particles to the Universe, space is filled with natural attraction energy. Natural attraction holds things together. It grows, heals and is aware of itself. We call it Love or Whole Spirit (holly), Tao, Reiki, Chi, Quantum, or Ki.
2. Like all of nature, humanity is the flow of natural attraction manifesting itself as us.
3. Natural attraction consciously registers in our psyche as at least 53 intelligent and rewarding natural senses. For example, our sense of thirst communicates our need/attraction for water. Thirst wisely turns on when we need Earth's water cycle to flow through us, and turns off when we don't need water. In addition, our sense of excretion intelligently tells us to feed our waste water to nature; this perfect food nurtures nature. Similar to the above, our other 51 natural attraction senses operate in the same balanced way. They include our senses of place, touch, community, taste, music, sight, literacy, happiness, reason, respiration, consciousness and belonging. Each produces a special joy when our thinking fulfills it in nature's mutually supportive ways.
4. Throughout the eons, Nature and Earth have been a non literary way of knowing and being. Although their minerals and creatures communicate and, in cooperation, coordinate their attractions with each other, they don't accomplish this through the literacy of our written or spoken words, labels, stories or mathematics.
5. On average, industrial society's linguistic story has us spend more than 95 percent of our time indoors, and 99 percent of our thinking and feeling while separated from authentic nature and its pre literate, attraction prone intelligence. For this reason, our scientific and creative stories about life are often nature disconnected illusions about how natural attraction works. To our cost, we addictively train ourselves to think with these deceptions. Many problems result.
6. Our stories and science of nature are seldom fully true because they are stable abstracts; they are shortcuts and vicarious ways of knowing. In contrast, real nature, including us, is not a stable laboratory. Mother Earth is a living being. Nature is alive, an ever changing, ever growing act, the flow of natural attraction relationships in the present moment.
7. Nature is the fountainhead of authority on how its natural attraction essence works. If natural areas were literate they might describe themselves as a cathedrals of natural attraction in support of life on Earth.
8. Most substitutes for authentic nature are imperfect; they produce adverse side effects.
9. Natural sensory perceptions are the most tangible, true and unifying things that our thoughts and feelings register. To our loss, society pays us to think while suppressing the empirical, nature connected, sensation facts that our natural senses introduce to our mentality in support of our, and our Living Planet's survival.

10. We cannot solve our personal and global problems if our thinking disengages us from the unifying natural attraction wisdom present in the "now" of connection moments with each other and the web of life. To reverse our disorders, we need to think and feel with the full powers of our natural sensory intelligences.

Backyard or backcountry, NAE sensibly enables us to intermingle and fulfill our 53 natural senses with the renewing ways of natural attractions. By strengthening them, we enjoy rewarding natural attraction experiences. This is a crucial element for improving our personal, social and environmental relationships. It fits perfectly into the Rio Plus 20 directions and goals as an important contribution.

DOCUMENTS FOR INFORMATION: Online Course <http://www.ecopsych.com/orient.html>

Overview Article <http://www.ecopsych.com/hallucinatearticle.html>

Fundamentals <http://www.ecopsych.com/mjcohen22.html> .

Outcomes <http://www.ecopsych.com/survey.html>

Articles <http://www.ecopsych.com/2004artnews.htm> | Books <http://www.ecopsych.com/books.html>

Film <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1357054/>

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## Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile

Instituto de Ingenieros Chile

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Santiago, 1 de Noviembre de 2011.

Estimados Señores:

En respuesta a lo solicitado en la invitación pública realizada a los Estados Miembros y a otras partes interesadas a que presenten sus contribuciones por escrito a más tardar el 1 de noviembre de 2011 para ser incluidas en un documento de compilación que servirá de base para la preparación de un borrador preliminar, adjunto encontrará documento preparado por el Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile en el que se presentan "20 Propuestas para la Comunidad Científica y Tecnológica de Río + 20" (Agenda 21, Capítulo 31).

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Dentro de los fines del Instituto se encuentran: fomentar el conocimiento y progreso de la ciencia y el arte de la ingeniería; tratar los problemas que interesen o afecten a la ingeniería; contribuir al prestigio y desarrollo de la ingeniería nacional; fomentar la vinculación profesional y social entre los ingenieros, procurando la agrupación de las distintas ramas o especialidades de la Ingeniería; establecer vínculos con las organizaciones que tengan afinidad con la Ingeniería; mantener relaciones con sociedades extranjeras de ingenieros y con instituciones que agrupen a otros profesionales del país; colaborar en la solución de problemas de interés nacional, haciendo valer la opinión de los ingenieros en materias técnicas y económicas.

Los temas a ser tratados en esta conferencia no han sido ajenos a la labor del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile. En los últimos tres años, se han constituido tres comisiones de trabajo: Energía (2008), Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (2009) y Aguas (2011) que han efectuado aportes importantes a la discusión y solución de los problemas ambientales del país. A estas comisiones que ya terminaron su trabajo entregando, en sus respectivos informes, propuestas generales y específicas, se suman dos comisiones de trabajo: Cambio Climático y Administración de Desastres, cuyas propuestas aun se encuentran en proceso de preparación.

Si bien las propuestas desarrolladas o, en proceso de preparación, tienen su origen y son aplicables a la realidad chilena estas han sido revisadas por un grupo de trabajo del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile con el objeto de evaluar su vigencia y su grado de aplicabilidad para otras realidades, particularmente en el contexto latinoamericano.

Junto con agradecer la oportunidad de poder realizar un aporte efectivo al Desarrollo Sostenible y esperando que estas propuestas sean de utilidad para los fines de la conferencia, los saludan atentamente,

Elias Arze Cyr

Presidente Instituto

Juan Carlos Carros

Presidente Grupo de Trabajo Río+20

INSTITUTO DE INGENIEROS DE CHILE

GRUPO DE TRABAJO RÍO + 20

Conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre

Desarrollo Sostenible

20 Propuestas para la Comunidad Científica y

Tecnológica de Río + 20

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Santiago de Chile, 1 de Noviembre 2011

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## RESUMEN EJECUTIVO

Entre el 4 y 6 de junio de 2012, se realizará en Río de Janeiro, Brasil, la Conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sustentable. Para esta actividad, que se efectúa 20 años después de la cumbre de Río de Janeiro en 1992, Naciones Unidas ha invitado a los Estados, a la sociedad civil y a los ciudadanos a “sentar las bases de un mundo de prosperidad, paz y sustentabilidad”.

Los temas a ser tratados en esta conferencia no han sido ajenos a la labor del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile. En los últimos tres años, se han constituido tres comisiones de trabajo: Energía (2008), Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (2009) y Aguas (2011) que han efectuado aportes importantes a la discusión y solución de los problemas ambientales del país. A estas comisiones que ya terminaron su trabajo entregando, en sus respectivos informes, propuestas generales y específicas, se suman dos comisiones de trabajo: Cambio Climático y Administración de Desastres, cuyas propuestas aun se encuentran en proceso de preparación.

Si bien las propuestas desarrolladas o, en proceso de preparación, tienen su origen y son aplicables a la realidad chilena estas han sido revisadas por un grupo de trabajo

del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile con el objeto de evaluar su vigencia y su grado de aplicabilidad para otras realidades, particularmente en el contexto latinoamericano. Las propuestas desarrolladas han sido agrupadas en las siguientes cinco categorías: - Desarrollar e implementar Estrategias Nacionales que permitan enfrentar escenarios futuros.

- Crear conocimiento y disponer de información de calidad para desarrollar estrategias y tomar decisiones.
- Establecer compromisos de DS por parte de los diferentes actores de la sociedad junto con formar una opinión pública informada.
- Integrar y coordinar las acciones en el ámbito del DS que realizan las diferentes instituciones gubernamentales.
- Desarrollar la capacidad de anticiparse a probables eventos futuros y de tener respuestas rápidas a los requerimientos más urgentes de la población.

En el resumen ejecutivo se presenta una síntesis de estas propuestas, las que serán desarrolladas en mayor detalle en el documento.

Desarrollar e implementar Estrategias Nacionales que permitan enfrentar escenarios futuros

En el trabajo realizado por las diferentes comisiones de trabajo del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile destaca la necesidad de desarrollar e implementar estrategias nacionales que permitan enfrentar escenarios futuros. Algunas de las propuestas en este ámbito son:

Establecer estrategias nacionales para enfrentar el cambio climático, desarrollando medidas de mitigación y de adaptación con el objeto de estar preparados para enfrentar los posibles cambios climáticos.

Estas estrategias deben orientarse a desarrollar medidas de mitigación que permitan evitar que el cambio climático se desarrolle con impactos significativos sobre el medioambiente y a desarrollar medidas de adaptación que permitan preparar al país para enfrentar los cambios climáticos que están ocurriendo o que podrían ocurrir a futuro.

Desarrollar una Planificación Energética Integrada en la que se conjugué no solo el costo de la energía sino que también, el beneficio social, el abatimiento de las emisiones de gases efecto invernadero (GEI) y otras externalidades.

La planificación energética debe buscar minimizar el costo de uso de la energía, maximizando el beneficio social, considerando el beneficio privado, el abatimiento de las emisiones de GEI y otras externalidades. Esta planificación debe abarcar no solo los diferentes tipos de energéticos utilizados para generar energía eléctrica sino que también aquellos utilizados para el transporte.

Diseñar políticas nacionales de Desarrollo Sustentable (DS) y realizar una adecuada planificación territorial.

Es fundamental que los países de la región diseñen una política nacional de desarrollo sustentable que comience con una definición estratégica de sus objetivos, los valores asociados y se definan metas cuantificables, medibles y reportables. Los problemas ambientales y sociales asociados a las urbes son de gran complejidad y alcance, por lo que mucho se juega en cómo se planificará la infraestructura y los servicios en las próximas décadas.

Desarrollar e implementar un Plan Estratégico Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos de Desastres.

Es fundamental desarrollar en cada país un plan estratégico que permita establecer mecanismos coordinados para la gestión de desastres que modo de disponer acciones oportunas de prevención, mitigación, preparación, respuesta y recuperación ante desastres.

Establecer políticas que fomenten el uso eficiente de la energía, el desarrollo de las ERNC, su ingreso al sistema eléctrico y el aprovechamiento del potencial de energía disponible.

En los países en vías de desarrollo, a diferencia de los países desarrollados, cuyas economías, en términos relativos, cuentan con una estructura productiva más intensiva en la prestación de servicios y menor en la actividad productiva, el consumo de energía eléctrica crece a un ritmo similar al crecimiento económico. Por ello es importante aplicar políticas que fomenten el uso eficiente de la energía, promuevan el desarrollo de ENRC y su incorporación al sistema eléctrico.

Estudiar nuevas opciones de generación de energía eléctrica para el largo plazo. En el largo plazo, al menos en Chile, se visualiza una disminución en los recursos hidroeléctricos significativos aprovechables económicamente. Por ello se debe explorar el uso de nuevas fuentes de generación de Energía tales como la Energía Nuclear.

Establecer zonificaciones y crear Planes Maestros de Cauces Naturales.

Es fundamental delimitar los terrenos de dominio público, establecer zonificaciones en zonas inundables, coordinar las acciones orientadas al control de las crecidas, establecer los criterios y normativas que aseguren el equilibrio mecánico fluvial, y responder a las dinámicas urbanas presentes en su curso y la conservación de los bienes ambientales asociados a los cauces naturales junto con avanzar en la creación de Planes Maestros de Cauces Naturales, como instrumentos básicos de gestión en aquellos cursos naturales que presenten una elevada presión como consecuencia de la actividad humana.

Crear conocimiento y disponer de información de calidad para desarrollar estrategias y tomar decisiones

El desarrollo de las estrategias planteadas en el punto anterior requiere disponer de los conocimientos y de las competencias necesarias además de información de calidad para poder tomar decisiones. Algunas de las propuestas en este ámbito son:

Desarrollar programas de investigación y monitoreo de los aspectos más relevantes en la prevención de los efectos de las catástrofes naturales y crear redes de conocimiento.

Es muy importante el desarrollo de programas de investigación conjuntos entre el Estado, las universidades, la industria y las instituciones científicas a la vez que monitorear aspectos relevantes en la prevención de los efectos de las catástrofes naturales. Es preciso además, para fortalecer la gestión del conocimiento, crear redes de instituciones que compartan sus experiencias en el campo de la Gestión de Riesgos de Desastres (GRD) junto con incentivar la cooperación internacional y regional.

Obtener información de calidad para manejo de datos y generación de conocimiento sobre recursos hídricos a la vez que establecer y hacer cumplir normas sobre calidad del agua.

Es fundamental, para el desarrollo de políticas y planes de acción, disponer de información de recursos hídricos de calidad y que posea una extensión de años. Por ello se debe desarrollar un plan de mejoramiento de las redes de medición, con énfasis en la vigilancia de la calidad ambiental de los cursos de agua, en el control de las extracciones de agua por los usuarios, en la medición de niveles en acuíferos críticos, en el mejoramiento la red sedimentométrica, y en la ampliación de la red fluviométrica y pluviométrica en zonas específicas junto con crear un Sistema Nacional de Información integrado, incluyendo las mediciones y archivos manejados en la actualidad por instituciones diversas además de desarrollar un amplio Plan de Mejoramiento de la Red de Medición de la Calidad del Agua orientado a satisfacer los requerimientos



normativos. Analizar las externalidades del uso excesivo de aguas sobre el resto de los usuarios.

Entre los temas que debieran ser analizados, cabe mencionar las externalidades sobre el resto de los beneficiarios asociadas al uso sucesivo del agua por los distintos usuarios así como los cambios de los balances oferta demanda de agua en las cuencas, como resultado de decisiones relativas a proyectos y programas, de origen público o privado, o a decisiones regulatorias sectoriales.

Disponer de información de calidad para tomar decisiones.

Para la correcta toma de decisiones, es absolutamente relevante disponer de información de calidad. En relación a esto se propone utilizar las herramientas que provee la ingeniería para realizar un aporte sustantivo en la generación de información de base y en la comprensión de los modelos económicos, sociales y ambientales que servirán para interpretar los fenómenos asociados al desarrollo sustentable.

Establecer compromisos de DS por parte de los diferentes actores de la sociedad junto con formar una opinion publica informada.

Cada vez es más relevante la participación de la ciudadanía en el desarrollo de las estrategias nacionales. Por ello, es fundamental establecer compromisos de DS por parte de los diferentes actores de la sociedad a la vez que contar con una opinión pública informada que pueda participar en la elaboración de los diferentes planes nacionales sobre la base de posiciones fundamentadas. Algunas de las propuestas en este ámbito son:

Integrar el DS a la Responsabilidad Social Empresarial (RSE) e incentivar el desarrollo en los actores sociales de un comportamiento ético y social responsable.

Considerando el papel que juegan las empresas en la generación de riquezas, empleo y en la vinculación entre desarrollo económico y protección y conservación ambiental se propone integrar el DS como un paso adicional a la Responsabilidad Social Empresarial. El comportamiento ético y socialmente responsable de todos los actores sociales es fundamental para el logro de un DS. Por ello se propone incentivar el desarrollo de una evolución ética de los actores sociales que permita alcanzar un desarrollo que mejore la calidad de vida sobre la base del crecimiento económico, la equidad social y la sustentabilidad ambiental.

Desarrollar planes comunicacionales para disponer de una sociedad informada.

Las preocupaciones en relación a las trabas para la tramitación de los grandes proyectos de generación eléctrica se han acentuado. Actualmente la opinión pública en Chile se ha visto arrastrada a campañas de oposición a la realización de los grandes proyectos energéticos requeridos por el país. Se propone por lo tanto establecer una política de comunicación permanente de los proyectos que están en estudio de modo de que estos tengan una mejor aceptación social y se eviten futuras crisis de abastecimiento y de altos precios de la energía que tienen un impacto importante en el desarrollo de los países y en las posibilidades de superación de la pobreza.

Educar a la población en la prevención de los riesgos asociados a los desastres naturales y en el cumplimiento de normas éticas de construcción.

Es fundamental desarrollar la capacidad de prevención de riesgos en la población, generando conciencia, educando y capacitándola para que este preparada para enfrentar los desastres y una vez que estos han ocurrido, que estén en condiciones de administrar los planes de respuesta a desastres. Además de lo anterior, es necesario considerar las exigencias e implicancias éticas relacionadas con la prevención y reducción de los desastres para prevenir corrupción y propiciar un balance adecuado entre el desarrollo tecnológico y la calidad de vida.

Integrar y coordinar las acciones en el ambito del DS que realizan las diferentes instituciones gubernamentales.

En general, en los países existen diferentes instituciones que tienen relación con los aspectos involucrados en el desarrollo sustentable observándose en ocasiones problemas de superposición y/o competencia en relación con algunas funciones y actividades lo que se traduce en un mal aprovechamiento de los recursos públicos asignados al sector. Algunas de las propuestas en este ámbito son:

Integrar, coordinar y modernizar las instituciones relacionadas con la gestión de recursos hídricos.

Esta propuesta considera implementar una solución institucional, que integre en una sola entidad los temas relativos a la gestión de la calidad del agua y los aspectos ambientales asociados al recurso hídrico o, en su defecto, crear coordinaciones institucionales eficaces junto con desarrollar una solución institucional, que permita resolver los problemas de inadecuada delimitación y coordinación de funciones, como son las relativas a la gestión de la calidad del agua, gestión de los cauces naturales, autorización de obras en los mismos y regulación de los aspectos ambientales relativos a los recursos hídricos.

Adaptar el concepto de Gestión Integrada de Recursos Hídricos al marco general del país.

Es necesario abordar el tema de la gestión integrada de recursos hídricos. Esto involucra considerar aspectos históricos, institucionales, legales y geográficos, entre otros. Este esfuerzo adaptativo es clave para que las propuestas y acciones tengan una proyección que permita ponerlas en práctica y se prolonguen en el tiempo.

Desarrollar la capacidad de anticiparse a probables eventos futuros y de tener respuestas rápidas a los requerimientos mas urgentes de la poblacion

En general, en los países latinoamericanos, se observa una posición más reactiva que proactiva frente a probables eventos futuros. Es fundamental, que los países no solo se anticipen a los problemas que se espera que se produzcan sino que además, desarrollen una adecuada capacidad de respuesta una vez que estos ocurran. Algunas de las propuestas en este ámbito son:

Adelantarse a las exigencias internacionales en medición de huella de carbono y desarrollar acciones tempranas que sean reconocidas internacionalmente.

Los países latinoamericanos que han basado su desarrollo económico en la exportación de recursos naturales deben adelantarse a las exigencias de medición de la huella de carbono de los productos y servicios que comercializan y que preocupan a los mercados mas desarrollados. Lo anterior debe complementarse con acciones tempranas tratando de que estas sean reconocidas internacionalmente. Algunos ejemplos de esto pueden ser:

desarrollar un programa país de eficiencia energética o establecer programas gubernamentales de Fomento a las Energías Renovables No Convencionales (ERNCC).

Incorporar en los procesos de planificación urbana la gestión de riesgos de desastres a la vez que revisar, actualizar permanentemente y fiscalizar el cumplimiento de las normas de diseño y construcción junto con desarrollar normas para zonificación urbana.

Es importante disminuir el nivel de exposición al riesgo de las personas. Por ello es necesario contar con información de calidad tal como mapas en los que se identifiquen los riesgos potenciales y que estos se incorporen en los procesos de planificación y desarrollo urbano. Es necesario que el Estado genere los mecanismos para que se revisen y actualicen permanentemente las normas de diseño y construcción, y se fiscalice además su cumplimiento. Es fundamental incorporar en estas normas las medidas de mitigación del riesgo como una componente importante en el desarrollo de las grandes obras de infraestructura y desarrollo.

Desarrollar una capacidad de respuesta eficiente y oportuna una vez ocurrida una catástrofe junto con asegurar la continuidad de los servicios básicos y un marco

regulatorio extraordinario que permita una rápida reconstrucción.

Es de extrema importancia que las instituciones públicas tengan, una vez ocurrido un desastre, una capacidad de respuesta eficiente, que se pueda asegurar el restablecimiento de los servicios básicos tales como energía eléctrica, agua potable y comunicaciones, en especial en los lugares críticos que deben atender la emergencia tales como: hospitales, colegios, albergues e instituciones públicas y que se disponga de un marco regulatorio extraordinario que permita dar una respuesta rápida luego de ocurrida la catástrofe y un proceso de reconstrucción expedito.

Reducir incertidumbres respecto a plazos, criterios y condiciones para aprobación de permisos ambientales.

Es fundamental, para asegurar un suministro de energía eléctrica seguro, de calidad y económico que los proyectos de generación de energía obtengan oportunamente los permisos ambientales de modo que se puedan desarrollar en plazos considerados normales, de acuerdo a la experiencia de la industria. Por ello se deben reducir al máximo las incertidumbres en cuanto a plazos, resultados y exigencias que se producen en el Sistema de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (SEIA), establecido en la ley sobre Bases Generales del Medio Ambiente además de revisar las normas, plazos, criterios y condiciones bajo las cuales se califican los proyectos de generación, transmisión y distribución de energía con el objeto de disminuir los tiempos que demora la tramitación de los permisos ambientales, en particular para los proyectos que tienen un gran efecto en la economía nacional.

1. INTRODUCCIÓN Entre el 4 y 6 de junio de 2012, se realizará en Río de Janeiro, Brasil, la Conferencia de Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sustentable. Para esta actividad, que se efectúa 20 años después de la cumbre de Río de Janeiro en 1992, Naciones Unidas ha invitado a los Estados, a la sociedad civil y a los ciudadanos a "sentar las bases de un mundo de prosperidad, paz y sustentabilidad".

La cumbre tratará dos temas que constituirán su eje central: La economía verde en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la erradicación de la pobreza; y el marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible.

Los temas a ser tratados en esta conferencia no han sido ajenos a la labor del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile. En los últimos tres años, se han constituido tres comisiones de trabajo: Energía (2008), Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable (2009) y Aguas (2011) que han efectuado aportes importantes a la discusión y solución de los problemas ambientales del país. A estas comisiones que ya terminaron su trabajo entregando, en sus respectivos informes, propuestas generales y específicas, se suman dos comisiones de trabajo: Cambio Climático y Administración de Desastres, cuyas propuestas aun se encuentran en proceso de preparación.

Si bien las propuestas desarrolladas o, en proceso de preparación, tienen su origen y son aplicables a la realidad chilena estas han sido revisadas por un grupo de trabajo del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile (Grupo de Trabajo Río + 20) con el objeto de evaluar su vigencia y su grado de aplicabilidad para otras realidades, particularmente en el contexto latinoamericano.

2. CAMBIO CLIMÁTICO Y VULNERABILIDAD DE LOS PAISES EN DESARROLLO El cambio climático afecta a la humanidad en su conjunto pero, los países latinoamericanos, al ser menos desarrollados y basar su economía en la exportación de recursos naturales, se ven más afectados que otros países. En el presente capítulo se plantean algunas de las propuestas, en desarrollo por la Comisión de Cambio Climático del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile, que se estima que pueden ser aplicables en el contexto latinoamericano.

Los países Latinoamericanos y el Cambio Climático

En general, debido a que las pérdidas económicas y humanas en posibles escenarios climatológicos futuros podrían ser considerables, los países latinoamericanos son, desde un punto de vista social, ambiental y económico, mas vulnerables al cambio climático que los países desarrollados. Además, al estar estos países en vías de desarrollo y depender para su progreso de la inserción en el contexto internacional están sometidos a una presión cada vez mayor para cumplir con los estándares de gestión ambiental, particularmente en lo relacionado con la huella de carbono de los productos y servicios que estos comercializan.

Propuestas en el Ámbito de Cambio Climático

Es fundamental, para poder cumplir con las metas y objetivos propuestos para los países de la región en materia de reducción de emisiones, contar con el apoyo de la comunidad internacional. En el ámbito del Cambio Climático se plantean las siguientes propuestas: Establecer estrategias nacionales para enfrentar el cambio climático, desarrollando medidas de mitigación y de adaptación con el objeto de estar preparados para enfrentar los posibles cambios climáticos

Los países de Latinoamérica deben establecer estrategias nacionales que les permitan enfrentar los desafíos del cambio climático. En este trabajo deben participar todos los actores del país: Estado, sector privado y sociedad civil. Las estrategias deben orientarse a desarrollar medidas de mitigación que permitan evitar que el cambio climático se desarrolle con impactos significativos sobre el medioambiente y a desarrollar medidas de adaptación que permitan preparar al país a enfrentar los cambios climáticos que están ocurriendo o que podrían ocurrir a futuro.

Desarrollar una Planificación Energética Integrada en la que se conjugue no solo el costo de la energía sino que también, el beneficio social, el abatimiento de las emisiones de gases efecto invernadero (GEI) y otras externalidades.

La planificación energética debe buscar minimizar el costo de uso de la energía, maximizando el beneficio social, considerando el beneficio privado, el abatimiento de las emisiones de GEI y otras externalidades. Esta planificación debe abarcar no solo los diferentes tipos de energéticos utilizados para generar energía eléctrica sino que también aquellos utilizados para el transporte. En este aspecto es importante establecer incentivos por ejemplo para el cambio en la distribución modal de los sistemas de transporte procurando el uso de medios de transporte menos intensivos en emisiones GEI. Adelantarse a las exigencias internacionales en medición de huella de carbono y desarrollar acciones tempranas que sean reconocidas internacionalmente.

Los países latinoamericanos que han basado su desarrollo económico en la exportación de recursos naturales deben adelantarse a las exigencias de medición de la huella de carbono de los productos y servicios que comercializan y que preocupan a los mercados mas desarrollados. Lo anterior debe complementarse con acciones tempranas tratando de que estas sean reconocidas internacionalmente. Algunos ejemplos de esto pueden ser:

desarrollar un programa país de eficiencia energética o establecer programas gubernamentales de Fomento a las Energías Renovables No Convencionales (ERNC).

### 3. PILARES PARA EL DESARROLLO SUSTENTABLE

El desarrollo sustentable (DS) considera tres pilares: económico, social y ambiental. En muchos países, el progreso se ha basado en el ámbito económico seguido del social en desmedro del pilar ambiental. En el presente capítulo se plantean algunas de las propuestas presentadas en los años 2009 por la Comisión de Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile que si bien fueron desarrolladas en un contexto nacional, pueden ser aplicables también en el contexto latinoamericano.

Propuestas en el Ámbito del desarrollo sustentable

Es importante integrar adecuadamente los tres pilares del desarrollo sustentable indicados anteriormente de modo de aspirar a tener un DS. Este se obtiene a través del concepto de "calidad de vida" ya que el sujeto del DS es el ser humano. Para ello es necesario que la calidad de vida mejore sostenidamente, que esta sea socialmente equitativa y que esté fundada en medidas apropiadas de conservación, protección y uso racional del medio ambiente. Las propuestas en el ámbito del DS son:

Diseñar políticas nacionales de Desarrollo Sustentable (DS) y realizar una adecuada planificación territorial.

Es fundamental que los países de la región diseñen una política nacional de desarrollo sustentable que comience con una definición estratégica de los objetivos de DS, los valores asociados y metas cuantificables, medibles y reportables.

Por otra parte, los problemas ambientales y sociales asociados a las urbes son de gran complejidad y alcance, por lo que mucho se juega en cómo se desarrollarán la infraestructura y los servicios en las próximas décadas. Estos temas serán a futuro cada vez más relevantes.

Por ello se propone:

- Generar una política de desarrollo sustentable basada en objetivos claros: metas de largo, mediano y corto plazo: programas adecuados a la obtención de dichas metas e indicadores apropiados que sean robustos, fáciles de medir, públicos y que muestren tendencias, junto a los indicadores tradicionales de producto, niveles de pobreza y empleo entre otros.

- Promover, en un marco de estabilidad de políticas públicas, el uso de indicadores ambientales como emisiones de GEI, superficie bajo protección u otros.

- Realizar una adecuada planificación del territorio nacional con buena información, modelos apropiados y participación en el proceso de los involucrados junto con la aplicación gradual de los cambios.

Disponer de información de calidad para tomar decisiones

Para la correcta toma de decisiones, aún en contextos con ciertos grados de incertidumbre, es absolutamente relevante disponer de información de calidad. En relación a esto se propone utilizar las herramientas que provee la ingeniería para realizar un aporte sustantivo en la generación de información de base y en la comprensión de los modelos económicos, sociales y ambientales que servirán para interpretar los fenómenos asociados al DS.

Integrar el DS a la Responsabilidad Social Empresarial (RSE) e incentivar el desarrollo en los actores sociales de un comportamiento ético y social responsable. Considerando el papel que juegan las empresas en la generación de riquezas, empleo y en la vinculación entre desarrollo económico y protección y conservación ambiental se propone integrar el DS como un paso adicional a la Responsabilidad Social Empresarial. El comportamiento ético y socialmente responsable de todos los actores sociales es fundamental para el logro de un DS. Por ello se propone incentivar el desarrollo de una evolución ética de los actores sociales que permita alcanzar un desarrollo que mejore la calidad de vida sobre la base del crecimiento económico, la equidad social y la sustentabilidad ambiental.

#### 4. IMPACTO DE LOS DESASTRES NATURALES EN LOS PAISES EN DESARROLLO

Los desastres naturales tienen un impacto directo sobre la vida de las personas y ponen en peligro el desarrollo de los países. Aproximadamente el 75 % de la población mundial vive en zonas que han sido afectadas, al menos una vez entre 1980 y 2000, por un desastre natural. El 94% de las víctimas fatales en desastres se deben a: terremotos, ciclones tropicales, inundaciones y sequías. En el presente capítulo se presentan los aspectos más relevantes del trabajo que actualmente está realizando la Comisión de Administración de Desastres del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile y que ha sido orientado a elaborar un Plan Estratégico Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos de Desastres (GRD).

Bases para una política de Gestión de Riesgos de Desastres

En general, a pesar del impacto que tienen los desastres naturales sobre la vida de las personas y la economía de los países, en muchos de ellos se observa una falta de planes de prevención y mitigación de riesgos y de planificación de acciones de respuesta y de recuperación ante desastres.

En el caso de Chile, el terremoto del 27 de Febrero de 2010 demostró que si bien nuestro país estaba preparado en ámbitos tales como normativas de construcción y su correcta aplicación, presentando un buen desempeño en el comportamiento de su infraestructura, se detectaron falencias en áreas relacionadas con el suministro de energía y agua potable, sistemas de comunicación y la organización para la respuesta oportuna.

Considerando la experiencia pasada, es conveniente abordar esta temática en su conjunto de una manera sistémica y con la profundidad y la prevención que cada país requiere. Es preciso formular políticas nacionales para la gestión del riesgo de desastres a través de un proceso multisectorial e interinstitucional a la vez que establecer medidas efectivas de mitigación frente a los desastres naturales más relevantes, preparando a las autoridades y a la población civil para que reaccionen adecuadamente una vez que estos ocurran. Por ello se entregan los lineamientos generales para la elaboración de un Plan Estratégico Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos de Desastres.

Vision

Ser un país seguro y resiliente ante los desastres, proactivo para enfrentar de manera sistémica los desastres, permeado en todos sus niveles por una cultura de prevención, mitigación, preparación, respuesta y recuperación, reconociendo para ello la gestión de desastres como un elemento clave para el desarrollo nacional.

Propuestas en el ámbito de desastres naturales

Las propuestas que se indican a continuación están basadas en la experiencia de Chile en la Gestión de Desastres pero se estima que podrían ser de aplicables a otros países de la región. Las propuestas son:

Desarrollar e implementar un Plan Estratégico Nacional de Gestión de Riesgos de Desastres.

Es fundamental establecer en cada país un plan estratégico que permita establecer mecanismos coordinados para la gestión de desastres que modo de disponer acciones oportunas de prevención, mitigación, preparación, respuesta y recuperación ante desastres.

Este Plan debe considerar mecanismos eficientes para identificar, evaluar y monitorear riesgos de desastres junto con sistemas integrados y seguros para el manejo de la información asociada a una catástrofe de modo de establecer de manera temprana la situación en la que se encuentra la población para poder tomar decisiones oportunas en base a información confiable.

Incorporar en los procesos de planificación urbana la gestión de riesgos de desastres a la vez que revisar, actualizar permanentemente y fiscalizar el cumplimiento de las normas de diseño y construcción junto con desarrollar normas para zonificación urbana. Es importante disminuir el nivel de exposición al riesgo de las personas. Por ello es necesario contar con información de calidad tal como mapas en los que se identifiquen los riesgos potenciales y que estos se incorporen en los procesos de planificación y desarrollo urbano.

Es necesario que el Estado genere los mecanismos para que se revisen y actualicen permanentemente las normas de diseño y construcción, y se fiscalice además su cumplimiento. Es fundamental incorporar en estas normas las medidas de mitigación del riesgo como una componente importante en el desarrollo de las grandes obras de infraestructura y desarrollo.

Desarrollar una capacidad de respuesta eficiente y oportuna una vez ocurrida una catástrofe junto con asegurar la continuidad de los servicios básicos y un marco regulatorio extraordinario que permita una rápida reconstrucción.

Es de extrema importancia que las instituciones públicas tengan, una vez ocurrido un desastre, una capacidad de respuesta eficiente, que se pueda asegurar el restablecimiento de los servicios básicos tales como energía eléctrica, agua potable y comunicaciones, en especial en los lugares críticos que deben atender la emergencia tales como: hospitales, colegios, albergues e instituciones públicas y que se disponga de un marco regulatorio extraordinario que permita dar una respuesta rápida luego de ocurrida la catástrofe y un proceso de reconstrucción expedito.

Educar a la población en la prevención de los riesgos asociados a los desastres naturales y en el cumplimiento de normas éticas de construcción

Es fundamental desarrollar la capacidad de prevención de riesgos en la población, generando conciencia, educando y capacitándola para que este preparada para enfrentar los desastres y una vez que estos han ocurrido, que estén en condiciones de administrar los planes de respuesta a desastres.

Además de lo anterior, es necesario considerar las exigencias e implicancias éticas relacionadas con la prevención y reducción de los desastres para prevenir corrupción y propiciar un balance adecuado entre el desarrollo tecnológico y la calidad de vida.

Desarrollar programas de investigación y monitoreo de los aspectos más relevantes en la prevención de los efectos de las catástrofes naturales y crear redes de conocimiento. Es muy importante el desarrollo de programas de investigación conjuntos entre el Estado, las universidades, la industria y las instituciones científicas a la vez que monitorear aspectos relevantes en la prevención de los efectos de las catástrofes naturales. Es preciso además fortalecer la gestión del conocimiento creando redes de instituciones que compartan sus experiencias y conocimientos en el campo de la GRD junto con incentivar la cooperación internacional y regional.

## 5. SUMINISTRO DE ENERGIA Y DESARROLLO ECONÓMICO

El desarrollo económico de los países requiere de un suministro de energía eléctrica seguro, de calidad, económico y ambientalmente sustentable. En el presente capítulo se plantean alguna de las propuestas presentadas en los años 2006/2007 por la Comisión de Energía del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile en el informe "La Crisis Energética y el Mercado Eléctrico" que se encuentran vigentes y que pueden ser aplicables en el contexto latinoamericano. Sin perjuicio de que el Instituto ha considerado oportuno revisar y ampliar sus recomendaciones en el campo energético, por lo que ha decidido constituir una nueva comisión que debiera emitir sus recomendaciones a fines del 2012, se incluyen en este informe las conclusiones emitidas por el Instituto en Julio de 2008"

Aspectos Claves para el desarrollo del sector

A continuación se resumen los aspectos clave que el Instituto, según el informe "La Crisis Energética y el Mercado Eléctrico" de la Comisión de Energía recomienda para el desarrollo del sector eléctrico:

- Disponer de una institucionalidad y una política energética adecuadas
- Poseer regulaciones bien estructuradas
- Contar con una tramitación ágil para la aprobación de proyectos energéticos
- Contar con una opinión pública bien informada y un país con educación en temas

de energía

Acciones a mediano y largo plazo

- Impulsar y apoyar la materialización de proyectos económica y ambientalmente viables, como una forma de lograr el ajuste del mercado eléctrico,
- Apoyar la materialización de grandes, medianos y pequeños proyectos hidroeléctricos y de los proyectos de centrales a carbón. Muy relevante es la agilización en el otorgamiento de concesiones y los trámites de aprobación ambientales
- Las energías renovables no convencionales son un aporte, pero no bastan para satisfacer las crecientes necesidades de energía del país
- Debe evaluarse seriamente la viabilidad del uso de la energía nuclear

Recomendaciones

- El pronóstico de las necesidades energéticas y en el conocimiento de las tecnologías disponibles
- La liberalización del mercado
- La promoción del uso eficiente de la energía
- Remover barreras burocráticas que retrasan la introducción de nuevas tecnologías y la concreción de proyectos grandes
- Mejorar los procedimientos para acelerar la aprobación ambiental de proyectos energéticos
- Desarrollar las capacidades y la legislación requeridas para el desarrollo de fuentes de energía, incluyendo la nuclear

Propuestas en el ámbito de energía

Las propuestas en este ámbito son:

Reducir incertidumbres respecto a plazos, criterios y condiciones para aprobación de permisos ambientales

Es fundamental, para asegurar un suministro de energía eléctrica seguro, de calidad y económico que los proyectos de generación de energía obtengan oportunamente los permisos ambientales de modo que se puedan desarrollar en plazos considerados normales, de acuerdo a la experiencia de la industria. Para ello se propone:

- Reducir al máximo las incertidumbres en cuanto a plazos, resultados y exigencias que se producen en el Sistema de Evaluación de Impacto Ambiental (SEIA), establecido en la ley sobre Bases Generales del Medio Ambiente. Si bien es importante y beneficioso para el país el hecho que los proyectos sean sometidos a un exhaustivo proceso de aprobación ambiental, la experiencia, al menos de Chile de los últimos años requiere:

- Revisar las normas, plazos, criterios y condiciones bajo las cuales se califican los proyectos de generación, transmisión y distribución de energía con el objeto de disminuir los tiempos que demora la tramitación de los permisos ambientales, en particular para los proyectos que tienen un gran efecto en la economía nacional. Se ha observado que estos proyectos, particularmente las centrales hidroeléctricas, han enfrentando serias oposiciones de parte de algunos grupos ecologistas y de otros sectores de la población, aún antes de completar sus estudios de impacto ambiental.

Por ello se propone:

- Instar a las autoridades encargadas de aplicar la legislación rigurosidad en el cumplimiento de las resoluciones ambientales de manera que aquellos proyectos que satisfagan adecuadamente los requisitos de la normativa ambiental, sean aprobados sin mayor dilación ni uso de otro tipo de argumentos.

Establecer políticas que fomenten el uso eficiente de la energía, el desarrollo de las ERNC, su ingreso al sistema eléctrico y el aprovechamiento del potencial de energía disponible

En los países en vías de desarrollo, a diferencia de los países desarrollados, cuyas economías, en términos relativos, cuentan con una estructura productiva más intensiva en la prestación de servicios y menor en la actividad productiva, el consumo de energía eléctrica crece a un ritmo similar al crecimiento económico. Por ello se propone:

- Aplicar políticas que fomenten el uso eficiente de la energía, incentiven el uso del potencial hidroeléctrico como principal fuente de energía renovable de modo de evitar recurrir a fuentes basadas en carbón y petróleo, con la consecuente elevación de la emisión de CO2.

Si bien no se cuenta con los antecedentes que permitan asegurar que la micro generación y el uso de fuentes de Energías Renovables No Convencionales, ERNC, contribuyan en forma sustantiva a la solución del problema de suministro de electricidad, se propone - Promover por parte del Estado el desarrollo de ENRC, facilitando los trámites para su instalación y su ingreso a los sistemas eléctricos, en la medida de que esto no encarezcan las tarifas eléctricas, en caso de que estas fuentes energéticas no logren desarrollarse de manera competitiva.

Estudiar nuevas opciones de generación de energía eléctrica para el largo plazo En el largo plazo, al menos en Chile se visualiza una disminución en los recursos hidroeléctricos significativos aprovechables económicamente por lo que se propone que el Estado prepare la institucionalidad necesaria y explore de manera indicativa las ubicaciones posibles para plantas de energía nuclear para traspasar a los particulares la iniciativa y el riesgo de la inversión, dentro del marco legal del negocio de la energía ya existente en el país.

Desarrollar planes comunicacionales para disponer de una sociedad informada Las preocupaciones en relación a las trabas para la tramitación de los grandes proyectos de generación se han acentuado. Actualmente la opinión pública se ha visto arrastrada a campañas de oposición a la realización de los grandes proyectos energéticos requeridos por el país. Se propone por lo tanto establecer una política de comunicación permanente de los proyectos que están en estudio de modo de que estos tengan una mejor aceptación social y se eviten futuras crisis de abastecimiento y de altos precios de la energía que tienen un impacto importante en el desarrollo de los países y en las posibilidades de superación de la pobreza.

## 6. RECURSOS HIDRICOS Y DESARROLLO

El fundamental para el desarrollo futuro de la sociedad y de una parte importante de las actividades económicas de un país, contar con el suministro de agua. En el presente capítulo se plantean alguna de las propuestas presentadas en el año 2011 por la Comisión de Aguas del Instituto de Ingenieros de Chile en el informe "Temas prioritarios para una Política Nacional de Recursos Hídricos". Estos temas, si bien son prioritarios para Chile, también podrían ser de interés para otros países de la región.

Propuestas en el ámbito de recursos hídricos

Las propuestas en este ámbito son:

Establecer zonificaciones y crear Planes Maestros de Cauces Naturales

Es fundamental avanzar en la creación de Planes Maestros de Cauces Naturales, como instrumentos básicos de gestión en aquellos cursos naturales que presenten una elevada presión como consecuencia de la actividad humana. En este aspecto se deberían delimitar los terrenos de dominio público, establecer zonificaciones en zonas inundables, coordinar las acciones orientadas al control de las crecidas, establecer los criterios y normativas que aseguren el equilibrio mecánico fluvial, y responder a las dinámicas urbanas presentes en su curso y la conservación de los bienes ambientales asociados a los cauces naturales.

Obtener información de calidad para manejo de datos y generación de conocimiento sobre recursos hídricos a la vez que establecer y hacer cumplir normas sobre calidad del agua

Es fundamental, para el desarrollo de políticas y planes de acción, disponer de información de recursos hídricos de calidad y que posea una extensión de años. Con miras a afrontar los complejos desafíos presentes y futuros, se propone

- Desarrollar un plan de mejoramiento de las redes de medición, con énfasis en la vigilancia de la calidad ambiental de los cursos de agua, en el control de las extracciones de agua por los usuarios, en la medición de niveles en acuíferos críticos, en el mejoramiento la red sedimentométrica, y en la ampliación de la red fluviométrica y pluviométrica en zonas específicas.

- Crear un Sistema Nacional de Información integrado, incluyendo las mediciones y archivos manejados en la actualidad por instituciones diversas.

- Generar acuerdos y coordinaciones institucionales para una colaboración eficaz entre el sector público y privado en relación a la obtención de información sobre el agua.

- Desarrollar un plan de apoyo a la investigación en temas específicos relativos al agua, sobre la base de una alianza entre el sector público y privado, incluyendo los centros de investigación universitarios

En relación a la calidad el agua se propone:

- Desarrollar un amplio Plan de Mejoramiento de la Red de Medición de la Calidad del Agua orientado a satisfacer los requerimientos normativos de calidad de los cuerpos de agua, constituir un sistema de vigilancia efectivo, y avanzar en el conocimiento de la situación ambiental de los cuerpos de agua, así como de las relaciones entre los ecosistemas acuáticos y los recursos hídricos.

- Completar el ámbito normativo, dictando las normas de calidad en los distintos cursos y cuerpos de agua, y las normas referidas al control de la contaminación difusa, en

especial en el ámbito de la agricultura.

Integrar, coordinar y modernizar las instituciones relacionadas con la gestión de recursos hídricos

En el país existe un importante y variado número de instituciones que se relacionan con la gestión del recurso hídrico, observándose problemas interinstitucionales por superposición y/o competencia en relación con algunas funciones y actividades, lo que, junto con las dificultades y complejidad de la coordinación interinstitucional, se traduce en un mal aprovechamiento de los recursos públicos asignados al sector. En Chile, el ordenamiento institucional de cada sector tiene un marco regulatorio definido, sin embargo en la gestión del agua se observan problemas que se manifiestan tanto en la interacción entre distintas normativas como en los efectos de iniciativas individuales o sectoriales, generando ineficiencias en el aprovechamiento de los recursos disponibles, pérdida de oportunidades y situaciones de conflicto.

En este aspecto se propone:

- Estudiar e implementar una solución institucional, que integre en una sola entidad los temas relativos a la gestión de la calidad del agua y los aspectos ambientales asociados al recurso hídrico o, en su defecto, crear coordinaciones institucionales eficaces.
- Desarrollar una solución institucional, que permita resolver los problemas de inadecuada delimitación y coordinación de funciones, como son las relativas a la gestión de la calidad del agua, gestión de los cauces naturales y autorización de obras en los mismos, y regulación de los aspectos ambientales relativos a los recursos hídricos.
- Avanzar en la modernización y profesionalización de las organizaciones de usuarios de aguas.

Analizar las externalidades del uso excesivo de aguas sobre el resto de los usuarios

Entre los temas que debieran ser analizados, cabe mencionar las externalidades sobre el resto de los beneficiarios asociadas al uso sucesivo del agua por los distintos usuarios así como los cambios de los balances oferta demanda de agua en las cuencas, como resultado de decisiones relativas a proyectos y programas, de origen público o privado, o a decisiones regulatorias sectoriales. En ese sentido se propone:

- Analizar las limitaciones del sistema de seccionamiento de ríos para abordar temas tales como la contaminación de las aguas, control de crecidas, y la gestión de situaciones de sequía.
- Estudiar las limitaciones existentes para una gestión conjunta de las aguas superficiales y subterráneas.
- Promover la coordinación de las iniciativas que se relacionan, en forma directa o indirecta, con el control y vigilancia de la calidad de las aguas, y con el desarrollo de planes de conservación ambiental asociados al agua, así como también aquellas para el aprovechamiento de las oportunidades de uso intersectorial del agua.

Adaptar el concepto de Gestión Integrada de Recursos Hídricos al marco general del país Con el propósito de enfrentar este tipo de materias, que no tienen una respuesta satisfactoria en el ordenamiento actual, ha surgido la necesidad de abordar el tema de la gestión integrada de recursos hídricos. Esto involucra considerar aspectos históricos, institucionales, legales y geográficos, entre otros. Este esfuerzo adaptativo es clave para que las propuestas y acciones tengan una proyección que permita ponerlas en práctica y se prolonguen en el tiempo.

## Instituto Ethos

Proposals from the Signatories Institutions for Brazil, Civil Society and Government positioning to the negotiations to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

### CONTEXT

The UN Rio+20 Conference, as we all work to guarantee its success and effectiveness, is a privileged experience to discuss measures and mechanisms to implement decisions and agreements firmed 20 years ago, at the Rio(Eco) 92 Conference. The latter was able to advance themes previously proposed, still in an elementary way, at the Stockholm Conference, in 1972, and to produce a robust set of agreements among nations, expressed under the 27 Principles of the Rio Declaration, the Agenda 21, 1 the Declaration of Forest Principles and the Conventions on Biological Diversity, Climate Change and to Combat Desertification. It also opened the way to later agreements, such as the Millennium Declaration and the Millennium Development Goals, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Latin American and Caribbean Initiative for Sustainable Development, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, the Doha Declaration, the Barbados Programme of Action for Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the Mauritius Strategy and the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building. It will be Rio+20 responsibility, therefore, to build a substantial political agreement, increasing the implementation capacity of the multilateral agreements previously signed and provide effective mechanisms to decisions already taken.

There are expressive contextual differences between the last big conferences (Stockholm, 1972 Rio, 1992 Johannesburg, 2002) and the 2012 summit. The first three represented, in their discussions and decisions, parallel worlds in relation to the economic context to which they were immersed in. The Stockholm Conference took place at the end of the period of real effectiveness of the Bretton Woods institutions and preceded two oil crises (1973 and 1979) that changed the global economy. Rio92 occurred along with the process of economic deregulations, the overcoming of national frontiers and the reduction of social protection networks, in contradiction with the sustainable development effort. The agreements generated from Rio92 were fundamental, but were not implemented, as they contradicted the logic of a growing globalization that also tried to sustain itself. The Johannesburg Summit happened at the climax of the movement of financialization of the global economy, when the world's capital was allocated predominantly in service of its own reproduction. In each of these historical moments it was verified a disparity among the summit's proposals and deliberations and daily decisions from governments and businesses. With these, the traditional economic vision and logic predominated over the political agreements.

Rio+20 will face the challenge and the opportunity to analyze the global crisis started in 2008 and unfolded in 2010/2011, taking into account the exhaustion in the traditional development model and the reinforced imposition of short term economic imperatives over political decisions, proposing a change of course based on sustainable development principles and imperatives. Surely, there will be conflicts of interests and of visions, being the responsibility of more advanced voices, Brazil among them, to defend a political affirmation in its multilateral dimension with impacts in internal orders, also leading to the end of the crisis. In this sense, concrete proposals must be presented to internalize decisions in the real politics and in the real economy, in their global and local dimensions, observing the principle of non-regression in relation to previous commitments. If Rio+20 is not able to construct this path, there will be a great risk to miss the accumulation of all decisions mentioned above, which are fundamental in building a fairer, inclusive, whole, and environmentally-friendly global order. With this context, and with this spirit, we offer the following suggestions, proposing the internalization of Rio92 decisions in the political sphere, as well as in the economic sphere through the adoption of goals and concrete actions that, we believe, will contribute to overcome the crisis and to build a new development paradigm.

### 1. CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRANSITION TO A GREEN ECONOMY IN A POVERTY ERRADICATION CONTEXT

Given the accumulation of compromises and agreements shown above, as well as the difficulties in implementation imposed by choices based on a short term financial-economic vision, it is necessary to develop a road map to internalize compromises in the economic order, internally and externally, fostering a transition agenda to a green, inclusive and responsible economy. These concepts are understood as follows:

A green economy seeks to ensure a friendly relationship between society's production processes and natural processes, promoting conservation, restoration and the sustainable use of ecosystems, treating the services they offer to life as assets of public interest.

An inclusive economy seeks to meet the needs and the rights of all human beings, promoting a balanced development among financial, human, social and natural capitals, equitable distribution of wealth and of income-generating opportunities, access to public goods and services, securing decent life conditions for all the population, eradicating poverty and reducing social inequalities.

A responsible economy seeks to strengthen a set of humanistic and universal principles and values that sustain the democratic functioning of societies and markets, through the development of ethical and integrity values, promoting a transparency culture and mechanisms to fight corruption.

For the internalization of compromises in national economies, we propose that all participating countries at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) commit to adopt the following directives:

- i. Adoption, progressively, of a new national accountability standard to measure development, while the United Nations system develops a standard that could, in the medium term, be adopted by all nations (according to item 2.ii). The new national standard should redefine the concept of prosperity at a national level, considering not only the effective GDP (for mediation) and the potential GDP (for planning purposes), but also the costs of natural assets and services implied in the production of goods and availability of services, the social impacts resulting from the growth model adopted and the level of national income vis-a-vis the local population's access to adequate sanitation, health, education, consumption, mobility, culture and well being. The new national standards should, therefore, measure the natural, social, human and financial capitals, modeled in the studies developed by the Stiglitz-Sem-Fatoussi Commission and by research conducted by Ethical Markets in partnership with GlobeScan (Beyond GDP);
- ii. Pricing of carbon and the creation of an internal carbon market. It is suggested to study the adoption of a local standard for carbon pricing, considering the characteristics of local markets and economic agents, as well as the creation of an internal carbon market so the agents can operate and contribute to the achievement of national emission-reduction goals;
- iii. Payment for ecosystem s services. It is suggested to study forms of pricing of natural resources and environmental services as a way to make individual perceptions and market controls effective, leading to productive systems that considers the closed, full cycle of production and the sharing of generated benefits from the use of biodiversity and of traditional knowledge;
- iv. Establishment of Minimum Operating Standards. It is suggested to study and define local minimum sustainable operating standards for public national companies and utilities, as well as national companies that operate internationally (in issues such as decent work relations inclusion of minorities and equality , socio-environmental practices compatible with sustainable development and production's closed cycle), or submitting them to global minimum operating standards, when these are already established (see item 2.1.v). National states must also create conditions in order for multinational corporations to operate locally based on their best world standard, when this is above the local or global minimum. Furthermore, it is suggested to include among the minimum operating standards as a requirement for large national companies that operate internationally, as well as to public companies and utilities the public annual disclosure of sustainability activities modeled in global reporting standards (e.g. GRI) or a justification of impossibility of report;
- v. Inclusion of four aspects in the decision-making process: social, environmental, economic and ethical, encouraging a culture of peace and solidarity among nations and translating in concrete objectives on poverty eradication, reduction of inequalities, promotion of decent work conditions and of a system of integrity and combat against corruption;
- vi. Linkage between public and private actions in developing and following through with the 3 national plans. Additionally, the articulation between governments, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, market and civil society based (major groups), is also fundamental for the transition to a new economic model;
- vii. Adoption of sustainable purchasing policies for governments, in a way to redirect local production, as well as measures that encourage both production with less pressure on natural resources, low emissions and decent work conditions studying differentiated taxation regimes to encourage it as well as new consumption patterns, establishing mechanisms that promote the acquisition of more sustainable products. At the same time that production patterns are shifting, it is imperative that there is a change of culture and behavior from consumers. In this sense, it is suggested to promote responsible advertising that acts as guidance to consumers, as proposed by the EthicMark® Award for Advertising that Uplifts the Human Spirit and Society. Finally, it is necessary to encourage the sustainable treatment of waste from producers as well as consumers, and the financing of R&D processes to develop sustainable products;
- viii. Effective investments, public and private, in a new education model focusing on developing values and culture aiming to develop citizens aware of their socio-cultural heritage, of their position in relation to the environment and of their power to influence and their responsibility as citizens, voters, parents, consumers, investors and entrepreneurs. Assessment mechanisms on the internalization of concepts and practices from a student perspective can be particularly effective in this sense;
- ix. Incorporation to regulation tools, inducing the planning and development of sustainable cities, through urban and rural infrastructure investments, such as greater sanitation coverage, depollution and recovery of water resources, promotion of a sustainable urban transportation system and energy generation from a diversified and renewable matrix.

Even as the plans are of national character, it is encouraged, whenever possible, the exchange of experiences and the search for cooperation among countries.

## 2. CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Regarding the internalization of commitments in national and international politics, we understand as fundamental:

2.1 A real commitment from countries to align their national planning and development agendas with sustainable development criteria, through the elaboration of national plans on sustainable development, to be presented to the new "umbrella body", to be created within the United Nations (see item 2.2), within a deadline convened with the parties (suggested, initially, two to four years).

The plans should be adapted to the different local realities and should contemplate, necessarily, a minimum agenda, consisting of goals in:

- a) Reduction of the ecological footprint, considering reducing the consumption of resources, the impacts on ecosystems and their conservation and restoration;
- b) Poverty eradication and reduction of social, political and economic inequalities, translating into access to goods, income and public services;

c) Implementation of a system of integrity and transparency for commitments in public- private relations, including a mandatory public annual disclosure of sustainability policies and practices by multinational corporations, public companies and utilities, or justification of impossibility of report.

It will be the responsibility of the United Nations to Encourage and Support National Plans and to promote spaces for sharing and exchanges that provoke synergies and scale gains, through:

i. Establishment of a International Fund to guarantee the feasibility of the national plans, which could be based on: the proportional contributive capacity of member countries of the United Nations, advancing the agreement (during the 34 Session of the UN General Assembly , 1980), which was never fulfilled, of 0.7% of GDP from developed countries, to 1% of GDP; resources from the rights of maritime and air space usage; and a tax of 0,05% on speculative international financial transactions (Tobin Tax). These resources would be redistributed according to voluntary goals and commitments agreed by nations, submitted to external and independent accountability.

ii. Adoption, by the UN, of a new national accountability standard to measure development and monitor the national voluntary plans, taking into consideration recent research among which we highlight the works of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission and the studies conducted by Ethical Markets in partnership with GlobeScan (Beyond GDP) , as well as the experiences from the various nations and blocs of nations on defining their internal prosperity and development standards (according to item 1.i). The accumulation of these researches and information, and their thorough evaluation, should develop, in the medium run, into a new standard that can be adopted by all nations;

iii. Pricing of carbon and creation of a global carbon market. It is suggested to study the adoption of a global standard for carbon pricing, as well as the creation of a global carbon market. Both the carbon pricing and the operational model of the carbon market shall consider countries' experiences and the overall information from the implementation of the Clean Development Mechanisms (CDM), within the Kyoto Protocol context;

iv. Payment for ecosystems services. It is suggested to study forms of pricing of natural resources and environmental services as way to direct production systems to a closed cycle. Experiences from countries and blocs will serve as reference for global definitions that shall also consider the effective access to biodiversity and the sharing of generated benefits from its use, in accordance with previous commitments (Convention on Biological Diversity);

v. Establishment of Global Minimum Operating Standards. It is suggested to establish, at a global level, minimum operating standards for multinational corporations (in issues such as decent work relations inclusion of minorities and equality , socio-environmental practices compatible with sustainable development and productions' closed cycle); Furthermore, it is suggested to present annual disclosure reports of sustainability activities modeled in global reporting standards (e.g. GRI) or a justification of impossibility of report;

vi. Redefinition of a Geography of Technical and Scientific Cooperation, suggesting the coordination of efforts and the creation of networks that encourage the exchange of experiences, expertise and skills among regions that are similar geographically (organized by biomes), geopolitically, and by their development stage, in a way to create synergies and accelerate scale gain, with a resulting lowering of costs to the transition agenda.

2.2 Overcoming the current global institutional failure, modifying the institutional framework both in the national and global spheres, in a way to eliminate the imbalance among the four sustainable development dimensions (social, economic, environmental and ethical). Only the creation of a new institutional framework can offer the mechanisms of coordination, cooperation, evaluation and control necessary to an ambitious transition agenda. 5

In this sense, it is proposed to strengthen the management systems in the social, environmental and ethical dimensions within the United Nations, and the creation of an "umbrella body" responsible for planning, coordination, encouragement and implementation of sustainable development commitments. This new body, that shall have a hierarchical level comparable to the Security Council and absorb the Commission on Sustainable Development, shall provide directives to other bodies, agencies and programmes within the United Nations system, specially: ECOSOC, UNEP, UNDP, WTO, WCO, ILO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, FAO, OHCHR, UNFPA and UNESCO. The new body shall also articulate policies and efforts from multilateral financial institutions (International Monetary Fund and the World Bank), settle disputes, mediate conflict of interests and litigate within the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court, gather and provide subsidies to other multilateral organizations (such as G20 and G77), and maintain a dialogue and consulting forums with non-governmental organizations (market and civil society based), guaranteeing legitimacy to decisions and processes.

Besides being responsible for the encouragement and support to the agendas and national plans, this new multilateral institutional architecture would intervene in all situations of social, financial, food, energy, environmental, and cultural crises and in any other issues related to sustainable development.

#### Signatories Institutions

(In Alphabetical order, with international organizations highlighted in bold)

- Global Union for Sustainability
- Instituto Ethos de Empresas e Responsabilidade Social
- ACQUA AMAZÔNIA
- Agropalma
- Amarribo Brasil (Coalizão Brasileira contra Corrupção)
- Amata S.A.
- ARP Ambiental Limpeza e Conservação
- Associação Brasileira de Celulose e Papel (BRACELPA)
- Associação de Marketing Promocional
- Associação Nacional dos Procuradores Federais
- Belcar Caminhões
- Beraca Sabará Químicos e Ingredientes
- Brasitest
- Café Faraó



- Carbono Química
- CARONETAS CARONAS INTELIGENTES
- CHAMA AZUL
- Comunicarte Marketing Cultural e Social
- CONCESSIONÁRIA LITORAL NORTE
- Confederação dos Servidores do Poder Legislativo e Tribunais de Contas do Brasil (Confelegis)
- Conselho Brasileiro de Construção Sustentável
- Conservação Internacional
- Contemar Ambiental
- CORPORE BR
- CPFL Energia
- Cushman & Wakefield
- Damicos Consultoria e Negócios
- DUDALINA SA
- E2 EDUCAÇÃO E EVENTOS
- Ecología y Desarrollo
- Editora Sextante
- ek Comunicação e Marketing
- ELU! Marketing e Inteligência em Eventos
- EQUIFARMA BRASIL SERVIÇOS
- Estaminas Estacionamentos de Minas Gerais
- Estre Ambiental
- Ethical Markets Media
- Faculdade Zumbi dos Palmares
- Federação Nacional dos Servidores dos Legislativos e Tribunais de Contas Municipais (Fenalegis)
- Fersol
- FNQ
- Forum Empresa
- Fundación AVINA
- Fundación Conama
- Gelita do Brasil
- GHANEM LABORATÓRIO CLÍNICO
- Givaudan do Brasil
- Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- Grupo AES Brasil
- Grupo de Institutos Federações e Empresas (GIFE)
- H.Melillo Grupo de Articulação Social
- Hidroazul Indústria e Comércio
- Instituto Alana
- lochpe Maxion
- IP - INSTITUTO DE PESQUISAS QUÍMICAS
- ISOQUALITAS
- Itaú-Unibanco

- Jeserv Serviços
- MACIEL NETO ADVOCACIA
- Marcas Brasil Consultoria
- Moraes Leme Consultoria
- MORAIS DE CASTRO
- Muda Práticas
- Natura
- Natureza em Foco
- Nortech
- Núcleo Engenharia Consultiva S.A.
- ONG Parceiros Voluntários
- PARTNERS GESTÃO EMPRESARIAL
- Portobello Salvador Hotéis e Turismo
- Precisa Comunicação e Eventos
- Proteste
- RL Sistemas de Higiene
- Rubens Naves - Santos Jr - Hesketh
- Sindicato dos Servidores do Poder Legislativo Federal e do Tribunal de Contas da União (SINDILEGIS)
- Six Stars Serviços de Hotelaria e Restaurantes
- Sociedade Afrobrasileira de Desenvolvimento Socio Cultura
- SOFTNET INFORMÁTICA E CONSULTORIA
- Solgenix
- Sonae Sierra Brasil
- SOS Mata Atlântica
- Souza Cruz S.A
- SUPERGASBRAS
- SUPREMA ASSESSORIA CONTÁBIL LTDA
- Suzano Papel e Celulose
- TerraSistemas
- Territória Desenvolvimento Global
- TV PAJUÇARA
- Unimed do Estado de Santa Catarina
- Unimed Federação Rio de Janeiro
- VALE
- Vitória Supermercados
- WFERRY Marketing Sustentável
- Wilson, Sons

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## Instituto Vitae Civilis (Vitae Civilis Institute)

Text not available.

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## Integrative Strategies Forum (ISF)

Text not available.

## Interfaith Consortium for Ecological Civilization

Interfaith Consortium for Ecological Civilization

Introduction:

Interfaith Consortium for Ecological Civilization (ICEC) is a consortium of religious and secular organizations offering an ethical framework for the RIO+20 Compilation Document expressing renewed reverence for the Earth and each other.

We live at a critical moment, with devastating economic inequities and environmental changes that threaten our collective humanity and future. Unless our values and actions are in line with the common good and mutual responsibility for future generations we cannot thrive. We recommend an ethical framework to guide our actions: to encourage actions that focus on the common good for all, on clean air and water and food for all. Deep listening can help us develop empathy and compassion, to connect with our universal humanity, to hear the Earth and all of nature, reminding us of the joy of being alive and awake with vitality in line with the creative force. Life is about being more, not having more. May this understanding give us strength for our collective work. We offer moral guidance from many sources here in brief form following the Rio+20 guidelines for contributions; our website [www.ic4ec.org](http://www.ic4ec.org) offers an appendix with full citations.

### AN EARTH ETHIC

Ethics offers a lens through which to evaluate the actions of international bodies, governments, corporations and individuals. Sustainability must be about the sacredness of all life, of timeless principles of gratitude, humility, and compassion, of the truth of human interconnectedness, and commitment to justice and equality. We will have to deepen conversations and negotiations to honor this and bring fruit from it. This is the work of an earth ethic.

It is in the enlightened self interest of all - in economic, social, and spiritual terms - to develop our commitment to ethical relations with Earth. Our consortium of religious and secular leaders affirms that the environment is sacred and that humans are part of the earth's living ecosystem. We humans call each other to our universal responsibility and moral obligation to stand in solidarity, justice and equity, and offer acts of service. Collectively we insist on eradicating poverty, ensuring universal education and gender equality, and restoring our relationship to the earth.

### Our Expectation of the General Content of the RIO+20 Document

a. - we need an outcome document that can inspire and galvanize action, acknowledging:

- the youth of the world are an immense resource, voicing ethical guidelines and calling us to intergenerational equity.
- the importance of the spiritual dimension of sustainability-that after basic needs are met, life is about being more, not having more, as put forth in The Earth Charter Preamble.
- the need for fundamental changes in values, institutions, and ways of living. Earth Charter Principle 7.f. urges us to Adopt lifestyles that emphasize the quality of life and material sufficiency in a finite world."

b. Principles to be followed - we affirm the following principled approaches:

- Justice - Reduce disparities between rich and poor, and achieve social and economic justice, within a sustainable use and fair share of the world's resources while leaving sufficient essential space for wildlife and wilderness.
- The Right to Development - Human development in harmony with the environment is fundamental to the achievement of sustainable development, so that individuals and societies are empowered to achieve positive social and environmental outcomes including access to healthcare, education and sustainable livelihoods.
- Information, participation and accountability - All citizens have a right of access to information concerning the environment, as well as the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. To ensure that environmental issues are handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, institutions at all levels (national and international) must be democratic and accountable, and make use of tools that enable civil society to hold them to account. In this regard, the access to justice by citizens for redress and remedy in environmental matters is a cornerstone of enhancing accountability.
- Just Transition - There will be costs in making the transition to a low carbon, green economy in the pursuit of sustainable development. Some States and actors are better able to bear those costs than others and are more resilient to transitional changes. In the process of change, the most vulnerable must be supported and protected. Developing countries must have access to appropriate financial and technical assistance, citizens and communities must also have access to new skills and jobs.

c. Examples of Sustainable Development:

- We know that immense changes can be made, as the Green Belt Movement proves, with actions based in a spirit of service, love, gratitude, and respect for the earth's resources, towards development that honors the earth and effectively intervenes in poverty.
- Indigenous peoples around the world continue to call for the right relationship to Mother Earth as a living being, with inherent rights.
- The Earth Charter calls us all to take on the mantle of global citizens, in full responsibility and solidarity, to end poverty and inequality. Its example of participatory democracy through a worldwide conversation sets a new standard for inclusion that can be enhanced through communications technology.

d. Cooperation:

- Religious leaders can insist on being part of the solutions. In Africa, religious leaders are already offering a joint statement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and committing to action on all levels, taking on responsibility while they demand it from decision makers. They offer renewed moral vision and call for economic and political systems based on ecological principles.

Specific Elements:

Stated Objectives of the Conference:

a. To secure political commitment for sustainable development:

We recommend the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goal focused on Sustainable Production and Consumption as articulated in the Bonn Declaration (442- 463), in

particular calling "on nations and populations engaged in wasteful over consumption to reduce their impacts and help increase the consumption of vital goods and services for impoverished nations and peoples, so they also can enjoy reasonably high standards of living that provide equitable access to health care, decent work opportunities and education."

b. To establish a green economy:

- Many, including the Mary Robinson Foundation's Climate Justice initiative, are standing for equitable stewardship, human rights, the rights of the most vulnerable, gender equality and education as the means to a true "green economy."
- Climate Ethics calls us to reduce carbon pollution as a moral obligation, to protect against suffering and degradation, to preserve justice and equity and insist now on stopping the worst violations of human rights caused by environmental degradation.
- The Earth Charter principle 7.d. insists we "Internalize the full environmental and social costs of goods and services into the selling price."
- The Bonn Declaration recognizes "that the market and institutional failures take the form of prices that do not reflect their true environmental and social costs, underinvestment in natural, human, built and social capital, harmful and perverse subsidies, restricted access to information about production technologies and their impacts, lack of democratic economic governance, increasing unemployment and inadequate indicators of progress. (212-215)
- The Bonn Declaration calls "for replacement of the current inefficient, unsustainable and inequitable economic, monetary, financial and commercial models with policies that advance rather than detract from sustainable development goals and that build rather than deplete the stocks of natural, human, built and social capital on which human well-being ultimately depends. We propose that where the current economy aids inequity, destruction and greed, it should be replaced by an economy that cares for the human-earth community.(166-170)
- We recommend the creation of an economic bottom line based on strong sustainability and adoption of alternative economic indicators to GDP as genuine indicators of progress which include social and environmental costs. This is a moral imperative, to measure in an integrated and holistic way such that the reality of the interconnections of environmental, justice, and development issues are seen together, with externalities included.

c. To develop an institutional framework for sustainable development:

Priorities for strengthening and integrating pillars at multiple levels.

- Establishment of Ombudspersons for Future Generations at global, national and local levels as called for in the Bonn Declaration calls "for the, who will advocate for sustainable development as envisaged and defined by the Brundtland Commission: to enhance the well-being and prospects of present and future generations to meet their needs, and to serve as an auditor at the heart of governments and deal with citizens complaints. (283-286)
- Responsibility to future generations by changing the discount rate, adopting the precautionary principle and establishing Ombudspersons for Future Generations at global, national and local levels.
- Strengthening of UNEP so that it may serve as a stronger international force for the respect and care for the environment and protection of our common good and common future. The market economy does not adequately protect common goods such as fresh water, health soil and clean air, so we must institutionalize the preservation of these common goods and protection of Earth's vitality, diversity, beauty and sacredness.

In conclusion, we strongly recommend that an ethical framework be integrated into the content of the Compilation Document. There are other organizations calling for ethical standards; we support their recommendations.

Thank you for considering our recommendations.

For more information on ICEC, our leadership, membership, and initiatives, please visit [www.ic4ec.org](http://www.ic4ec.org).

## Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization

A Four Page Summary of The IPCR Initiative

[Note: All of the documents, resources, etc at the website of The Interfaith Peacebuilding and Community Revitalization (IPCR) Initiative ([www.ipcri.net](http://www.ipcri.net) ) are accessible for free. The IPCR Journal/Newsletter (Winter 2010-2011 issue, 58 pages) is referenced in this "Four Page Summary of The IPCR Initiative" because it is the most comprehensive short introduction to The IPCR Initiative yet created in the almost six years The IPCR Initiative has been on the Internet.]

Many Difficult Challenges Ahead

We now live in very complex world. There are many difficult challenges ahead. These challenges include, but are not limited to:

- a) global warming and reducing carbon emissions
- b) peak oil and reducing dependence on petroleum based products
- c) global inequities and the tragic cycles of malnutrition, disease, and death
- d) an increasing world population requiring more resources when many resources are becoming more scarce (with a special emphasis on the increasing number of people who are consuming resources and ecological services indiscriminately)
- e) cultures of violence, greed, corruption, and overindulgence—which have become so common that many of us accept such as inevitable; which are a significant part of the current crises of confidence in financial markets; and which are in many ways slowing the restructuring of investment priorities needed to respond to an increasing number of other critical challenges
- f) a marginalization of the wisdom associated with religious, spiritual, and moral traditions

More and more people are coming to the realization that overcoming the challenges of our times will require problem solving on a scale most of us have never known before—and that there is an urgent need to restructure our economic systems and our education systems to respond to these challenges.

How can we get more “on track” with the problem solving we so urgently need to do?

#### Gaining a Deeper Appreciation for How Comprehensive Peacebuilding Efforts Can Be

There are many propositions which are explored in depth by The IPCR Initiative—for their potential to provide solutions. Here are three which are at the center of The IPCR peacebuilding approach:

- a) There are countless numbers of “things people can do in the everyday circumstances of their lives” which will contribute to peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability efforts, in their own communities and regions—and in other parts of the world.
- b) Everyone is involved when it comes to determining the markets which supply the “ways of earning a living”. (The ways we “invest” our time, energy, and money have a direct impact on the “ways of earning a living” that are available).
- c) People can, one by one, decide to deliberately channel the way they “invest” their time, energy, and money so that these “investments” are in many ways supportive of solution-oriented activity. (All of us have important responsibilities associated with resolving a significant number of very serious challenges in the months and years ahead.)

The feature article in The IPCR Journal/Newsletter (Winter 2010-2011 issue) is “The IPCR Initiative: Creating a Multiplier Effect of a Positive Nature”. From this article, and other supporting pieces in the 58 page issue, an IPCR peacebuilding approach emerges which may be summarized as follows:

1. A central focus of The IPCR Initiative is its advocacy for a combination Community Visioning Initiatives, “Community Teaching and Learning Centers” with ongoing workshops, and “sister community” relationships as a way of generating an exponential increase in our collective capacity to overcome the challenges of our times.
2. Community Visioning Initiatives can be described as a series of community meetings designed to facilitate the process of brainstorming ideas, organizing the ideas into goals, prioritizing the goals, and identifying doable steps. One of the main goals of Community Visioning Initiatives is to maximize citizen participation in identifying challenges, and in solution-oriented activity.
3. The concept of “Community Teaching and Learning Centers” (created by the “TeachersWithout Borders” organization) (modified and expanded by the The IPCR Initiative) is about creating many local community points of entry which function as information and resource centers, locations for workshops, and locations for the training of “teacher-leaders”.
4. Results from well thought out preliminary surveys (circulated to at least 150 key leaders from a significant variety of fields of activity in the community) can help residents appreciate the need for a Community Visioning Initiative, and for “Community Teaching and Learning Centers” (CTLCs)—and help determine the topics to be covered by workshops in the CTLCs. The IPCR Initiative advocates for Community Visioning Initiatives—supported by many “Community Teaching and Learning Centers”— which are time-intensive, lasting even as much as 1½ years (18 months), so as to give as much importance to developing a close-knit community as it does to
  - a) accumulating and integrating the knowledge and skill sets necessary for the highest percentage of people to act wisely in response to challenges identified as priority challenges
  - b) helping people to deliberately channel their time, energy, and money into the creation of “ways of earning a living” which are directly related to resolving high priority challenges
  - c) assisting with outreach, partnership formation, and development of service capacity for a significant number of already existing (or forming) organizations, businesses, institutions, and government agencies
  - d) helping to build a high level of consensus for specific action plans, which will help inspire additional support from people, businesses, organizations, institutions, and government agencies with significant resources
5. Sister community relationships: communities with the resources to do so matching up with communities in other countries where there has been well documented calls for assistance with basic human needs. These “sister community” relationships can create service work capable of uniting diverse communities of people, and a variety of opportunities for person-to-person peacebuilding.
6. Specific evidence for Proposition a) above (of the countless numbers of “things people can do...”) is provided by the “Links” section at The IPCR Initiative website, which
  - a) identifies 117 fields of activity related to peacebuilding, community revitalization, and ecological sustainability
  - b) provides comprehensive, detailed, and practical starting points for becoming involved—or increasing involvement—in these fields of activity.
7. In addition, one very important feature of the Community Visioning Initiatives the IPCR Initiative advocates for is the job fairs which come at the end of the Community Visioning Initiative process. Such job fairs provide opportunities for all key stakeholders in the community (businesses, organizations, institutions, government, etc) to demonstrate their upgraded awareness—and their interest in the welfare of the community—by offering and facilitating new employment opportunities... and thus assisting with a just transition from patterns of investment which in only limited ways represent solutions to prioritized challenges to patterns of investment which in many ways represent solutions to prioritized challenges.
8. This approach to maximizing citizen participation in solution-oriented activity also provides many opportunities for local newspapers to contribute very valuable community services (for example: making preliminary survey results accessible; carrying out ongoing community specific surveys; highlighting inspirational role models and initiatives associated with the 117 related fields of activity; describing workshop activity in the “Community Teaching and Learning Centers”; reporting on the planning, implementation, evaluation, and follow up stages associated with Community Visioning Initiatives; etc).

This writer feels it is critical for people in every variety of circumstances to gain a deep appreciation for how comprehensive peacebuilding efforts can be—how every person in communities around the world can do something to contribute to the greater good of the whole. And yet...even with all the potential associated with the Internet , and even with community building processes like the ones outlined above, we can still fail to overcome the challenges of our times... if we are not completely honest with ourselves about our shortcomings... and if we fail to access—and apply—the treasured wisdom of religious, spiritual, and moral traditions (the accumulated storehouses of wisdom on how to cultivate compassion and forgiveness—for our fellow human beings... and for ourselves).

#### We Must Help Each Other—and Restore Confidence in the Higher Values of Life

We must be honest with ourselves about what is going on: people who are not sufficiently informed about critical issues are everywhere, and they are investing their time, energy, and money—voting—all the time... and yet...an exponential increase in compassion for our fellow human beings is not, currently, widely recognized as an essential and critical element of truly comprehensive response to the challenges of our times. (One of the most persistent ironies in life is that with so many opportunities to provide real assistance to fellow human beings—and with the potential for such assistance to result in happiness “to those who extend help as well as to those who receive it”—there are still many, many people in this world who cannot find a “way to earn a living” providing such assistance.) This writer believes that there are many serious challenges before us

now, and that we will need to invest our time, energy, and money very wisely to overcome these challenges. How can we do it? We must help each other.

There may be many people in our communities who use irresponsible and disrespectful language in ways which do not suggest that their motive is to respectfully provide good service to their fellow human beings, and contribute to the greater good of the whole. And there may be people in our communities who—regardless of the difficulties and urgencies associated with resolving multiple crises—choose to focus their attention of trying to make money by preying of people's fears, manipulating people's trust, and/or encouraging people to abandon hope in higher aspirations, and indulge in unhealthy, or immoral behavior. The IPCR Initiative recognizes that such behavior is clearly counterproductive to the building of caring communities; it can be very dangerous for community morale; and it can become a crippling obstacle in times of crises.

Many people may think it is naïve to imagine that people from so many diverse religious, spiritual, moral, and cultural traditions can decide to come together in such a way as to not only encourage, but participate in, a high percentage of constructive thinking and constructive action in response to the difficult challenges ahead (as in the high levels of participation encouraged by comprehensive Community Visioning Initiatives). From this writer's point of view, such skepticism and cynicism depend for their existence on doubts as to whether it is possible for people to achieve highly advanced forms of wisdom and compassion through genuine instruction and sincere effort. Thus it is that there is a great responsibility on those people who are in any way representatives of religious, spiritual, and/or moral traditions—to demonstrate what is possible along the lines of wisdom and compassion, to provide genuine instruction when sincere efforts are being made, to contribute to the greater good of the whole, and to help restore confidence in the higher values of life.

The IPCR Initiative is developing tools and resources with the belief that it must somehow be possible for people from many diverse religious, spiritual, moral, and cultural traditions to come together in such a way as to not only encourage, but participate in, a high percentage of constructive thinking and constructive action in response to the difficult challenges ahead... and that—as a result of that being possible—it will also be possible for many people to achieve highly advanced forms of wisdom and compassion through genuine instruction and sincere effort.

The IPCR Journal/Newsletter (Winter 2010-2011 issue; 58 pages) includes:

- a) an 11 page introduction to The IPCR Initiative ("Creating a Multiplier Effect of a Positive Nature")
- b) a 15 step outline for Community Visioning Initiatives
- c) 8 sample questions for a preliminary survey
- d) a list of 117 related fields of activity
- e) an introduction to the concept "Peace Returned on Resources Invested"
- f) a 9 page section titled "A Call to Women's Organizations Associated with Peacebuilding and Philanthropy"
- g) a section describing opportunities for local newspapers to contribute valuable community service —and thus contains enough detail associated with the IPCR peacebuilding approach outlined above to be a valuable starting point for brainstorming sessions, exploratory meetings, and workshops associated with planning and implementing a Community Visioning Initiative.

I invite readers of this message to access The IPCR Journal/Newsletter (Winter 2010-2011 issue) for free, at the website of The IPCR Initiative ([www.ipcri.net](http://www.ipcri.net)).

We have the resources necessary to overcome the challenges of our times... and--

--as a result of the unprecedented opportunities created by the expansion of the Internet, we have now arrived at a very auspicious moment in time... for at no other time in the course of history has so many people had access to so much in the way of time-tested guidelines, inspiring role models, and serviceoriented initiatives relevant to peace, prosperity, and happiness.

Never before has a generation of human beings had such opportunities as are accessible to this generation of human beings. Thousands of years of human efforts in every field of activity has now culminated in opportunities to discover how much of this potential can be fulfilled. This writer urges every one of the readers of this message to make the sacrifices necessary to discover how much of the potential can be fulfilled.

## Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention

### Submission by the Interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention (ISCC) for

#### UNCSD 2012

#### Background

The Third Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention (Slovak Republic, 25-27 May 2011, called "upon the interim Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention and all relevant institutions to promote the Carpathian Convention as a best-practice example of institutional framework for promoting sustainable development and green economy, in the

context of the process leading to the Rio+20 Earth Summit in 2012", The Carpathian Convention is an active Member of the Mountain Partnership.

The Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Carpathian Convention) was adopted and signed by the seven Parties (Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Ukraine) in May 2003 in Kyiv, Ukraine, and entered into force in January 2006. It is the only multi-level governance mechanism covering the whole of the Carpathian area and besides the Alpine Convention the

other sub-regional treaty-based regime for the protection and sustainable development of a mountain region worldwide.

The common vision of the Parties to the Carpathian Convention is to pursue comprehensive policy and cooperation in order to guarantee protection and sustainable development of the Carpathians. The improvement of the quality of life, the strengthening of local economies and communities, and the conservation of natural values and cultural heritage should go hand in

hand in the Carpathian area.

The Convention provides a framework for cooperation and multi-sectoral policy coordination, a platform for joint strategies and projects for sustainable development, and a forum for dialogue between all stakeholders involved – from the local community and various NGO's up to the regional and national Governments, Institutions of the European

Union and the United Nations.

The adoption of Protocols is one of the most important means for achieving the overall objectives of the Convention through effective implementation. At the moment the Protocol on Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological and Landscape Diversity entered into force and the Protocols on Sustainable Tourism and Sustainable Forest management have been adopted.

As a regional mountain agreement the Carpathian Convention gains also importance on the global level in terms of contribution to the implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its related Programmes of Work (PoWs) (e.g. on Mountain Biodiversity or Protected Areas) or the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

The Carpathian Convention likewise the Alpine Convention follows a ecosystem-based management approach, taking into account socio-economic and environmental concerns at the same time. This approach is also in line with the principles of integration and interdependence

as enshrined in numerous political documents such as the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development 2002.

#### **Possible considerations by the ISCC for the process leading to Rio Earth Summit 2012**

· Further capitalizing on the results gained through UNEP's Green Economy Initiative, such as the synthesis for policy-makers entitled "Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication" (2011) and in sector chapters available as part of the Green Economy Report (2011) as well as a number of other significant documents that have been published on this concept.

· Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the demand for goods and services from mountains has grown considerably. Moreover, the ability of **mountain systems to provide essential goods and services for all of humanity** is increasingly under threat from climate change, globalization, a chronic lack of investment and ongoing land degradation.

· The natural capital is source of ecological functions, which are essential for the human well-being. Mountains host a wide range of ecosystems, different in quantity and quality and generally in a good state of conservation. Consequently, mountain areas provide significant ecosystem services of which we are only partially aware, at present. In order to promote the enduring and sustainable development of mountain areas, generally less competitive from a socio-economic point of view, it is essential to identify the natural capital held by these areas, as well as the ecosystem services that they offer. Moreover, this also ensures the preservation of such a capital and the integrity of the services provided. Such ecosystem services are not fully recognized by the conventional measures of income and wealth. Therefore it is necessary to promote actions aimed towards the recognition and the valuation of mountain ecosystem services, by applying market-based mechanisms in the transition to green economy, according to the requirements of mountain territories and consistent with the preservation of the multi-functionality of these ecosystems. **In the context of a Green Economy, new opportunities for investments by the private sector are emerging in mountain regions, especially in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and ecosystem goods and services.**

· However, **innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to trigger governance models and decision support systems** aiming at both the integration of the social, ecological and economic capital at all scales in mountain regions, as well as the actual mainstreaming of mountains into overall national development and conservation processes. The Carpathian Convention is a regional governance mechanism and a best-practice example of institutional framework for promoting sustainable development and green economy.

· The Lucerne Call for Action as outcome of the Lucerne World Mountain Conference, 11 to 12 October 2011, organized by Switzerland is an important strategic document in the field of Sustainable Mountain Development that needs to be taken into account for the discussions and preparation of the Rio Earth Summit 2012.

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#### **Mountains for the World: Call for Action**

Mountains are vital for sustainable development and human wellbeing. More than half of the earth's population depends on fresh water coming from mountains. Mountains also provide a number of important global goods and key services which are under increasing pressure from globalization and climate change.

Following the invitation of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Mountain Partnership Secretariat (FAO), international experts and policy makers met in Lucerne on 11 and 12 October 2011 to convey the importance of mountains to the Rio +20 summit.

Protecting future water supplies, reducing poverty in mountain populations and unlocking the economic potential of mountains calls for the following actions:

- 1) **Adapt** and develop mountain governance that takes into account the unique characteristics of mountains in order to overcome poverty, food insecurity, and social exclusion.
- 2) **Facilitate** mountain communities to gain fair access to resources and share benefits of their use equitably.
- 3) **Involve** mountain people in decision making processes that concern their livelihood, economy, environment, and culture.
- 4) **Strengthen** and develop national, regional and global institutions that address highland-lowland interactions and transboundary cooperation, support capacity building, generation and dissemination of knowledge, technical expertise and innovation for sustainable mountain development.
- 5) **Provide** enabling conditions and incentives for investment by the private sector in sustainable development in mountain areas and include appropriate funding in national budgets in order to enhance wellbeing and reduce disparities.
- 6) **Recognize** the vulnerability of mountain ecosystems within the three Rio conventions and adopt action plans for each related to sustainable development.
- 7) **Make best use of** all new and existing funding mechanisms such as the Global Environment Facility.

**Lucerne, 11 October 2011**

## INTOSAI CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (RIO+20)

### INTOSAI Contribution to the Rio + 20 Conference of the United Nations on Sustainable Development

Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) are cornerstones of good governance and play with their audits of government operations - including the economic, environmental and social sphere - a vital role in the area of sustainable development. SAIs provide independent and reliable information on government spending and operations which facilitates transparency and accountability and contributes to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

To be able to contribute to sustainable development effectively, SAIs must be independent of the governmental agencies they audit, and be protected from any form of outside influence. The Declarations of Lima (1977) and Mexico (2007) delineated the basic principles of independence of public sector auditing by SAIs. On 26 April 2011, ECOSOC recognized the important role of INTOSAI and the Declarations of Lima and Mexico by adopting resolution 2011/2, which states in its OP 2:

"Takes note with appreciation of the work of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in promoting greater transparency, accountability and efficient and effective receipt and use of public resources for the benefit of citizens and of the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts of 1977 and the Mexico Declaration of Supreme Audit Institutions Independence of 2007, which set out the principles of independence in government auditing, and encourages the wide dissemination of these principles;"

On the occasion of the 21st UN-INTOSAI Symposium on "Effective practices of cooperation between supreme audit institutions and citizens to enhance public accountability" the United Nations invited INTOSAI to contribute to the Rio + 20 UNConference on Sustainable Development in 2012.

INTOSAI warmly welcomes the invitation, especially in the light of the fact that sustainable development has emerged as a relevant issue in the work of the audit institutions worldwide: "Environmental Auditing and Sustainable Development" was one main theme of INTOSAI's last triennial congress of Supreme Audit Institutions, INCOSAI XX, held in Johannesburg in November 2010. In that congress, all SAIs committed to prioritizing environmental and sustainable development issues in their audit work while multilateral environmental agreements and coordinated audits between SAIs were underlined as key focus areas.

INTOSAI aims to further improve the use of audit instruments in the field of environmental protection policies through its Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA), chaired by the Auditor General of the National Audit Office of Estonia. The WGEA has already started to prepare for the Rio+20 event with its special project team working on a document compiling the experiences of SAIs on sustainable development related issues. We would appreciate it if you considered involving INTOSAI to the preparatory process as early on as possible.

The INTOSAI WGEA will additionally take part of the UNEP World Congress on Justice, Governance and Law for Environmental Sustainability, which will be held prior to Rio+20.

Following the Rio+20 invitation the Governing Board of INTOSAI suggests to include a reference to the work of SAIs in the area of sustainable development and the therefore necessary preconditions in the final document of the Conference as follows:

- Recalling the UN Millennium Declaration;
- recalling the ECOSOC resolution 2011/2;
- emphasizing that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally-agreed development goals, including the MDGs and multilateral environmental agreements;
- emphasizing the need to improve the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration in order to contribute more effectively to the implementation of the MDG and sustainable development;
- recognizing SAIs role in the improvement of efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration, which is conducive to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs and multilateral environmental agreements;
- emphasizing the importance of SAIs' independence from the agencies they audit;
- recognizing the crucial role SAIs can play in achieving the international goals of identifying and addressing the gaps and building accountability in the implementation process of the global sustainable development agenda;
- taking note with appreciation of the work of INTOSAI and the Declarations of Lima and Mexico as well as the recommendations of the XX INCOSAI;
- calling upon UN member states to implement and apply the principles set out in the Lima and Mexico declarations in order to improve the position of SAIs to contribute to sustainable development.

#### WGEA Rio+20 Project – Report Summary

##### Environmental auditing supports better governance

Good governance, the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented or in turn not implemented, is essential to ensuring that environmental protection and sustainable development promises produce credible results. Governance is one of the key themes to be addressed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (or Rio+20) to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 4-6 June 2012.

National auditors and their audits play a critical role in supporting good governance by advancing accountability, and providing practical, objective and rigorous examinations of how environmental and sustainability programs, regulations, targets and laws are managed and implemented at the national and international level. Some countries have regional auditors or evaluators that play a similar role. This paper summarizes some key observations from two decades of work by supreme audit institutions, which play a major role in auditing government accounts and operations.

Supreme audit organizations (SAIs) go by different names – sometimes National Audit Office, Court of Audit, Audit Board, and Office of the Auditor General – and have different mandates but similar responsibilities to provide legislatures and society with the information they need to hold governments accountable. SAIs audit governments' financial management, compliance with domestic laws and international agreements, domestic and international policy implementation and performance. SAIs are independent, non-political, and fact-based in their work. Between 1993 and 2011, National audit offices in 107 countries have conducted over 3200 environmentally related financial, compliance and performance audits.

Environmental audits have resulted in governments taking action to improve water quality in rivers, strengthen protection of flora and fauna, and reduce pollution. Benefits to environmental governance include the development of new legislation and regulations and stronger compliance with those that already exist. The implementation of



multilateral environmental agreements has been improved through elements such as improving the designs of linked programs and better results reporting mechanisms.

The vast majority of SAI's environmental audits have examined national and sub-national programs such as climate change, acid rain, toxic substances, biodiversity, protected areas and natural parks, environmental assessment, green economy – sustainable energy, sustainable development, environment and human health, forestry, fisheries, mining, waste, water, and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). With regards to MEAs, around 80 audits were conducted between 2003 and 2011 on agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN Convention on Biodiversity, UN Convention to Combat Desertification, Montreal Protocol, and Basel Convention. A comprehensive database of these audits can be found at [www.environmental-auditing.org](http://www.environmental-auditing.org).

Since 1992 the International Organization for Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), the professional association for SAI's, has had an active Working Group on Environmental Auditing. The Working Group has assisted SAI's in acquiring a better understanding of the specific issues involved in environmental auditing; facilitating the exchange of information and experience among SAI's; and publishing guidelines and other informative material for their use. Joint auditing by SAI's of cross border environmental issues and policies, and the audit of international environmental accords, has had the Working Group's special attention.

The Working Group has worked with the United Nations Environment Programme to develop a Guide on Auditing the Implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. The objective of the Guide is to serve as a useful resource for auditors worldwide who evaluate the implementation of those agreements by their national governments and whether the policy tools that their governments use to manage and protect the environment and implement MEAs have produced the intended results. The guide can also be useful in improving future MEAs as it identifies key aspects that we look for in our audits that are important to good governance and accountability.

The Working Group has also produced a number of other guidance documents to aid auditors in auditing a variety of issues including climate change, waste management, water, forestry, and sustainable development. An important upcoming guidance document in 2012 will be on environmental data.

Under the auspices of the Working Group and its regional groups, a number of cooperative audits between different SAI's have been undertaken. The Coordinated International Audit on Climate Change: Key Implications for Governments and their Auditors (2010) involved fourteen supreme audit institutions (Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Republic of Indonesia, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, South Africa, United Kingdom, and United States of America) from six continents who worked cooperatively to design and undertake performance audits of their national governments' implementation of commitments and programs related to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. The SAI's involved included those from both developing and developed countries and the results from 33 audits.

Amongst the six regional groups of the Working Group on Environmental Auditing, over 50 cooperative audits have been conducted since 1995. Important ones have included:

- Pacific Association of SAI's – Solid Waste Management Audit (2011, ten SAI's) - Organization of Latin American and Caribbean SAI's – Compliance against United - Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Commitments Audit (2011, 7 SAI's) and Environmental Protection and Conservation of Natural Resources of the Amazon Region Audit (2010, 5 SAI's)
- African Organization of SAI's – Lake Victoria Basin Audit (2002, 5 SAI's)
- European Organization of SAI's – Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution Audit (2011, 6 SAI's)

#### Putting Our Audits to Work

In 2011, a survey of the members of the INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing was conducted for this paper to identify the key observations that SAI's around the world are consistently finding when conducting their environmental audits. The ten top issues identified by 37 countries are listed below along with examples of the type of issues identified.

- Unclear/overlapping of responsibilities – In some audits the institutional framework for sustainable development is cross-governmental and requires more work from governments in order to integrate economic, social, and environmental aspects. Governments have adapted to this new reality by creating more integration among ministries, departments and agencies, and among programs and projects. However, there is a lack of clarity regarding the specific role each one of those entities plays and what they are responsible for, resulting in overlapping of responsibilities across agencies and departments that compromise the effectiveness of policy coordination and generate duplication of efforts.
- Lack of coordination between sub-national levels and the national level – Through the audits conducted, it has been noted that environmental problems occur at all levels from local to global, and involve municipal, regional and national governments. There is a need to improve integration and coordination between governance institutions at different levels. When local entities are involved in implementing national policies and in the interest of transparency and accountability for national funds and results, it is essential that some credible and verifiable means exist for reporting on how these funds were spent and what results were achieved.
- Absent or deficient policy or strategy – According to some audits some governments have not yet created effective policy tools and systems to govern environment and sustainable development or have not improved public policy tools and process as demanded. With regards to some policies, targets, objectives, or commitments may be in place but they are not always supported by comprehensive and specific national, regional or sectoral strategies and plans. Without the involvement by all affected levels of government an overall policy or strategy cannot hope to achieve the desired national results.
- Insufficient assessment of environmental impacts of governmental policies and programs – Audits have noted that governments are not using policy tools to ensure more timely consideration of environmental aspects before large sums are committed to a policy, program or project. High-level regulatory impact assessment or strategic environmental assessment is not a concern for many governments.
- Lack of analysis (economic, social, and environmental) supporting decisions – In some audits the findings have noted that policy makers are not taking into account the three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental aspects - when making decisions. Sustainable development governance requires better "integration" of economic, social and environmental policies, particularly within the broader development planning frameworks.
- Lack of long-term planning to implement environmental policies and programs – Audits have noted that issues requiring long-term planning to resolve, such as climate change adaptation, do not have corresponding planning processes or plans in place.
- Inadequate financial management of environmental policies and programs – Audits have noted financial management problems can be caused by: insufficient planning resulting in the costs of delivering environmental policies and programs not being anticipated and programmes then requiring an extensive amount of unanticipated funds; lack of appropriate financial management framework to support the implementation of environmental policies and programs; and lack of financial management skills and misuse of funds.
- Lack of enforcement of domestic environmental legislation – National audits have indicated that environmental laws are not self-executing and governments must ensure compliance with domestic environmental legislation, by taking appropriate, effective and proportionate policy measures. It requires administrative capacities and strong

government commitments to implement and enforce the regulatory framework.

- Deficient monitoring and reporting systems – Through the audits it was noted that high-quality accountability and reporting systems are often lacking. Evaluation of key policy choices and instruments is not always in place. In the absence of good evaluation it is difficult for governments to report and measure their progress towards sustainable development and identify where further policy action is required.

- Lack of environmental data for decision-making – Audits have noted that government bodies do not have sufficient and robust environmental data to support their decisions and to evaluate their performance. There are problems in data availability, timeliness, quality, and accuracy. Overall, there is a lack of knowledge and information about various aspects of ecosystems and a failure to adequately use the existing information to support management decision. Independent environmental audits can collect and report information for decision-makers where information is lacking.

For the participating national governments at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 4-6 June 2012, the lessons are twofold. First, national governments can use the survey results and national audit reports, findings and recommendations to improve the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of a range of domestic environmental and sustainable development programs, policies and tools. The results of twenty years of national auditing work can also be used to better design and implement national policies and programs moving forward. Second, at the international level, the results of this survey and the audits conducted by SAs can provide national governments as well as MEA secretariats with important feedback for evaluating the implementation of international commitments. They also show national governments and MEA secretariats the key features of good governance that should be built in from the start against which compliance can be monitored.

The full report will be published in time for the conference in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012.

#### Background on INTOSAI

The International Organization for Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI, [www.intosai.org](http://www.intosai.org)), as a non-governmental organization, is the professional association of SAs in countries that belong to the United Nations or its specialized agencies. INTOSAI provides a forum in which government auditors from around the world can discuss issues of mutual concern and keep abreast of the latest developments in auditing and other applicable professional standards and best practices.

INTOSAI has increasingly recognized over the past two decades that the environment and sustainable development is an important issue that requires attention by the auditing community. The relevance of this topic was recognized by INTOSAI through the establishment of an active Working Group on Environmental Auditing ([www.environmental-auditing.org](http://www.environmental-auditing.org)) in 1992, the same year that the United Nations Earth Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro. At INTOSAI's most recent triennial International Congress of Supreme Audit Institutions (INCOSAI XX) held in 2010 in Johannesburg, South Africa, the resulting Johannesburg Accords noted that "environmental protection and sustainable development is one of the most topical issues that face governments in the new millennium." In addition, "the expectation that sustainable development and environmental protection should be subject to independent audit by SAs has grown in the last decades. By exercising the highest values of professionalism, independence, objectivity and transparency, and through effective cooperation with fellow SAs on environmental issues of common interest, SAs can make significant contributions toward addressing sustainable development issues that are becoming increasingly regional, and even global, in nature."

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## International Association for Impact Assessment

### International Association for Impact Assessment

The International Association for Impact Assessment - IAIA ([www.iaia.org](http://www.iaia.org)) is a professional association founded in 1980. IAIA has 3400 individual members from over 100 countries, including those from its 13 national affiliates.

IAIA is active in promoting the practice of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Impact Assessment (IA) worldwide. We respectfully invite the Rio+20 Conference Secretariat and the participant governments to consider the following:

#### Recognising that

- Over 100 countries already successfully use Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Impact Assessment (IA) through directives, policy or laws.
- The Organization for Economic Cooperation - OECD has a new policy on SEA (2008), the European Union has the SEA Directive (2001), and many developing countries in the last 5 years have been applying SEA to sectoral planning.
- SEA and IA help ensure that high level policies, programs and projects are designed and implemented with more sustainable outcomes while also reducing poverty and advancing green economy objectives.
- SEA and IA work to ensure that development activities of individual sectors complement rather than undermine other sectors. They provide a systematic means for minimizing potential adverse outcomes and maximizing benefits early in policy, program and project design.
- SEA and IA are used to find legislative and policy gaps that would hinder achievement of sustainable development.
- When SEA and IA processes take root in key, cross-sectoral line ministries, the projects that get approved and implemented will have gone through a very rigorous sustainability filter, where full social and economic costs are examined.
- SEA and IA, underpinned by participatory processes, ensure development processes are inclusive and give a voice to society's most vulnerable.
- SEA and IA can alert decision makers to risks, improve community engagement, incorporate traditional knowledge, and facilitate cooperation across sectors and boundaries prior to strategic decisions being taken.
- The results of SEA and IA are used to inform the development of future proposals. They also inform on-going decision-making relating to a given geographic entity such as a country, a province or a river basin, including transboundary and shared basins.
- Political support for sustainable development and the Green Economy, which are core objectives of Rio+20, can be advanced if countries take full advantage of effective existing tools such as SEA and IA.

IAIA urges the Rio+20 Conference Secretariat and the participant countries to consider the adoption of the following statement in the Conference Final Declaration:

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Impact Assessment (IA) be recognised by States as effective high level decision support processes that can assist in the implementation of political commitment to Sustainable Development and Green Economy initiatives.

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## International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges (IAAI)

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

Introduction/Problem analysis:

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) comes at a time of rapidly accelerating global challenges, like e.g. climate change, ecosystem degradation, biodiversity loss, increasing income disparities, financial and economic crises on the one hand and sovereign (public) debt crises and austerity budgets in many countries of the world on the other hand.

Thus the world is facing increasing global challenges with increasingly weak national governments and the central international response mechanism to global challenges - the United Nations - not being equipped with resources on an adequate level. In addition to the resource problem there comes the inadequacy of many sustainable development governance processes based on sectoral ministries (often SD issues are assigned to ministries of environment) not able to integrate the environmental, economic and social dimension of sustainable development and not able to reach out to the many other public and private stakeholders who have great potentials to contribute substantially to sustainable development governance.

Rio+20 therefore stands for a window of opportunity of humankind not only to move towards sustainable global socio-economic resource allocation systems which respect planetary boundaries ('green economy') but Rio+20 is also a window of opportunity for systemic innovation of United Nations system towards being connected more directly with global citizens and their resources (financial, intellectual, emotional, etc.) through ambitious and innovative redesign of the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD) towards multi-stakeholder and multilevel governance.

General Content Input:

#### **a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

In line with what has been said above that Rio+20 should aim at ambitious and innovative redesign of the institutional framework for sustainable development (IFSD) towards multi-stakeholder and multilevel governance, the expected outcome should include

- legally binding outcome document(s) with ambitious global standards and public administration instruments that reflect intergovernmental agreement on green economy and IFSD with appropriate provision on monitoring and enforcement of implementation (standard UN document) and
- a shared vision document of UN system leadership, national governments, local and regional communities, private sector and leading global civil society organizations/networks for multi-stakeholder and multilevel sustainable development (SD) governance/partnership including
  - o global citizens' sustainable development resource mobilization programs (see point d) below)
  - o an integrated global multilevel and multi-stakeholder SD efforts documentation system based on integration of different types of sustainable development resources (natural, intellectual, financial, social, emotional, etc.) as new measures of wealth (e.g. based on the IAAI/GloCha 'collaborative global commons growth' concept as presented at Annual Meeting of Academic Council on the United Nations System 2011 <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/latest-news/138-reportiaaiacuns2011> and UN DPI NGO conference 2011 in Bonn <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/latest-news/149-bonn-2>)
  - o outline of processes and institutions for future political participation of global citizens in global SD governance that harnesses the full potentials of modern informational and communication technologies
  - o reference to a 'Charter of Shared Social responsibility for Global Commons' as 'central global volunteering reference point for civic engagement in UN lead multi-stakeholder engagement in multilevel SD efforts. Such a charter has to be developed based on a UN – civil society dialogue process and which would link up on a voluntary basis global citizens SD efforts with UN system based on above mentioned shared vision and integrated global documentation system (those who would endorse the Charter would be asked on an annual basis to report their contributions to global commons growth/sustainable development in multilevel governance perspective)

With outcomes of Rio+20 that go beyond intergovernmental consensus towards partnering with global citizens, that reach the so called 'man and woman on the street', linking conceptually global SD efforts with individual everyday lifestyle, consumption and resource sharing decisions of 7 billion global citizens would make Rio+20 a landmark event in United Nations Intellectual History (see [www.unhistory.org/](http://www.unhistory.org/) for more info about the intellectual history of the UN system, the evolution of UN ideas, concepts and institutions over time).

#### **b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

Although we at IAAI did not study all existing proposals in depth, our impression in general is that the ongoing Rio+20 preparatory debate on green economy and IFSD does not focus sufficiently on systemic innovation and substantial correction of market failures, governance failures and systems engineering towards delivery of environmental, social and intergenerational justice.

It has to be noted here that the highly participatory design of UNCSD/Rio+20 preparatory process (online consultation regarding outcome document, minutes of all preparatory meetings online, 'donate' button, ...) and the way in which Rio+20 secretariat works with civil society and other stakeholders reflects in many ways already this modern 'spirit of time' of a new level of partnership of UN system with global citizens and we (IAAI) herewith express our thanks and appreciation for these efforts of UN system in general and UNCSD secretariat staff especially.

#### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

Global citizens can be very valuable partners in implementation monitoring by using Web 2.0 technologies, Geographical Information Systems etc. (interesting lessons for innovative SD implementation monitoring can be drawn from 'The International Network of Crisis Mappers' <http://crisismappers.net/> and already existing international law implementation monitoring systems of civil society in the field of human rights, etc.)

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges (IAAI) has developed in cooperation with partners like e.g. the Academic Council on the United Nations System, UNESCO, UN DPI/UNIS Vienna, UNEP Vienna office, UN Academic Impact initiative, UN Alliance of Civilizations, several UN Associations, IPCC, Earth Charter International, International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change research initiative "Knowledge, Learning, and Societal Change: Finding paths to a sustainable future", Regional Cooperation Council for Southeast Europe, youth organizations and individuals from around the world etc. over the last 4 years several concepts and outlines of initiatives for systemic and cultural change towards strengthened civil society participation in global governance:

- Blueprint for a Knowledge and Philanthropy/Ethics driven Global Civil Society Reform <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/iaaiinitiatives/126-cpwc> & <http://www.glocha.info/conferenceindex.html>
- Global Citizenship Ethics for Effective Global Governance – The Rio+20 Window of Opportunity <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/iaaiinitiatives/98-gce/139-rio2012>
- Collaborative Global Commons Wealth Generation (basic rationale: framing all resources that are needed by present and future generations for sustainable development as 'global commons') <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/collaborative-global-commons>
- Building the Knowledge Base for Global Governance [www.investsciencesees.info/ccandun/](http://www.investsciencesees.info/ccandun/), [www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&type=13&nr=372&menu=27](http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/index.php?page=view&type=13&nr=372&menu=27) and Multilevel Climate Change/SD Governance from an Innovation System perspective <http://www.glocha.info/images/stories/news2011/acuns2011/acunspresentationpolzer.pdf>
- Global Challenges Song World Cup – Rio+20 Global Youth Music Contest <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/gcsw>, <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/latest-news/137-rio-2012-youth-song> (report on Rio+20 GYMCA presentation at UN High level Meeting on Youth) and (formal and informal) Global Citizenship Education and Global Community building by means of music and arts <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/globalcanin>
- Establishing a global network of 'Global Challenges (GloCha) centers' that facilitate sustainable development multi-stakeholder partnerships on local level (including foresight/ shared vision building, needs and capacities assessments, 'think global – act local' action plans and resource mobilization) linked globally with UN system by a shared vision, a transparent global financial transaction documentation system and a collaborative/participative global commons growth assessment and documentation system <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/latest-news/149-bonn-2> & [www.glocha.info/index.php/events/upcomingevents/sarajevo-workshop1](http://www.glocha.info/index.php/events/upcomingevents/sarajevo-workshop1)

All these elements of innovative sustainable development governance can be brought together and boosted in Rio+20 with a '15/15/15 UN – Civil Society Partnership' formula as cooperation mechanism/target, meaning:

That Civil Society sets itself the target to mobilize in support of the work of UN system

- 15 billion Euros of financial resources for centrally documented global multi-stakeholder multilevel governance sustainable development efforts and
- 15 million volunteers (documented in cooperation with UN Volunteers and CIVICUS including local feed-back and assessment based on web2.0 technologies)
- by the year 2015

The details of the cooperation mechanism/partnership arrangement shall be adopted at a joint event of UNCSd and "People's Summit of Rio+20 for Social and Environmental Justice" in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 (IAAI can offer to facilitate the process).

Tools for implementation of this cooperation partnership and for resource mobilizations and allocation:

- a shared vision document of UN system leadership, national governments, local and regional communities, private sector and leading global civil society organizations/networks for multi-stakeholder and multilevel SD governance/partnership including (see point a) above)
- a 'Charter of Shared Social responsibility for Global Commons' which has to be developed based on a UN – civil society dialogue process and which would link up on a voluntary basis global citizens SD efforts with UN system. Such a Charter should be systemically linked with Earth Charter and UNESCO's efforts for a 'Universal Declaration on Ethical Principles related to Climate Change' <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/science-and-technology/climate-change/>
- Rio+20 Global Youth Music Contest <http://www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/gcsw> for public awareness building, youth participation and fund raising facilitation (globally broadcasted 'Rio+20 Global Challenges Song World Cup Gala Night' with the finalists from all continents and supporting pop stars to inform about Rio+20 outcomes and to promote and achieve the 15/15/15 objective, charity concerts on regional, national and local level (in cooperation with GloCha centers) shall follow)
- a 'Global Youth Call for Sharing of Resources' (to be prepared in cooperation with UN CSD Major group 'Children and Youth', UN Youth program et al.)
- a High Level Fund Raising event with leading global philanthropists [http://www.efc.be/Networking/InterestGroupsAndFora/Global/Documents/201105\\_GPLI\\_OnePager.pdf](http://www.efc.be/Networking/InterestGroupsAndFora/Global/Documents/201105_GPLI_OnePager.pdf), The Giving Pledge <http://givingpledge.org/>, the global umbrella organization of foundations/philanthropy networks WINGS [www.wingsweb.org](http://www.wingsweb.org) and UN Office for Partnerships [www.un.org/partnerships/](http://www.un.org/partnerships/) & many (web 2.0) micro-philanthropy activities (combined with Global Challenges Song World Cup contests)
- a Global Forum on Social Investment (Philanthropy) and Research, Education and Innovation Funding (see <http://www.glocha.info/gce.html> for more info)
- Global Citizenship Ethics standard setting based on Article 29 (1) of Universal Declaration on Human Rights ('Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible')
- UN- Civil Society Joint Task Force or Commission for institutional engineering towards integration of public and private resources for sustainable development in the context of a renewed UN system. Basic idea: if global citizens succeed to mobilize 15 billion € of financial resources and 15 million + volunteers for global sustainable development governance than global citizens should also be provided with adequate global governance participation possibilities. United Nations is and will stay the central and universal global response mechanism to global challenges but it needs to systemically integrate resources of global civil society to be effective.

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

About

"International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges IAAI" [www.glocha.info](http://www.glocha.info) is a not-for profit private association, which has been established under Austrian law of associations by an international group of scientists, science managers and futures studies experts in April 2007.

IAAI main objective is to explore and promote systemic innovation regarding resource mobilization of global civil society for effective global governance in support of the work of United Nations System. IAAI is a United Nations Department for Public Information (UN DPI) associated NGO and member of United Nations Academic Impact Initiative. Since IAAI General Assembly 2011 global youth representatives constitute the majority of IAAI membership and Rio+20 Global Youth Music Contest is the most important IAAI flagship initiative [www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/gcsw](http://www.glocha.info/index.php/glocha-initiatives/gcsw).

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## International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

- The Rio+20 conference should recognise the contribution of mountain systems and their ecosystem goods and services to a green economy, sustainable development, and human wellbeing and should set principles and policies for global, regional, and national actions in support of sustainable mountain development.
- Considering the increasing importance of mountain ecosystems for downstream communities, the high incidence of poverty and unequal access to resources in mountain areas, the growing vulnerability of upstream and downstream populations, and the threats to the availability of mountain ecosystem services, global stakeholders should revisit the criteria of the mountain agenda and Chapter 13.
- International organisations and national governments are implored to favour policies and all possible efforts to strengthen the efforts of mountain communities to ensure a continued availability of fresh water, biodiversity (including agro biodiversity), cultural diversity, and space for tourism, recreation, and spiritual renewal, as well as to cope with the consequences of climate and environmental change.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

- Green economy should bring new opportunities for investment in ecosystem services (e.g. freshwater, biodiversity conservation, and carbon sequestration), renewable energy, and creation of jobs while meeting the challenges which are sure to come. It must be pursued with a balanced approach of economic, environmental, and social development and appropriate policy and institutional measures to avoid increasing pressure on an already fragile environment and scarce resources. To this end it is necessary to revisit the mountain agenda. The Rio+20 conference offers an important opportunity to do so, taking into account recent developments and ongoing global challenges.
- Climate change and eradication of poverty take the centre stage in sustainable mountain development. The focus of the Rio+20 is on green economy but the number one priority in developing mountain countries is poverty alleviation including the mountainous regions of India and China. What relation does this Asian transition to green economy have on sustainable mountain development (SMD)?
- Some of the specific issues and questions relating to situating the green economy in the context of sustainable mountain development are: a) How to build documentary evidence of national and regional/global influence or contribution of the ecological footprints of mountains? b) What specific roles can mountains play in transforming the "brown" economy of the countries to "green" economy since the current perception and opinion of the national policy makers is that it may be marginal and negligible. For example, in national reports for Agenda 21, chapter 13, the policy space allotted to mountains is very small. It is therefore challenging to use the green economy plank for leveraging more space in national policies.
- Although mountain regions in developing countries face numerous challenges in the context of a green economy, the green economy development model opens windows of opportunity to rectify earlier development models which have tended to exclude the concerns and interests of mountain regions. The green economy can provide the framework for valuing and compensating critical services of mountain regions that benefit downstream communities, and in the process encourage conservation and address mountain poverty. The green economy paradigm of development can hence unlock the potentials of mountains while preserving mountain values towards sustainable development.

In order to promote sustainable development in mountain regions, the following challenges will need to be addressed in the green economy framework;

**Lack of Compensation for Mountain Ecosystem Goods and Services**

Mountain ecosystems are important for national, regional, and global economic growth and human wellbeing. However, their services do not receive adequate recognition in national economic decision-making, including development planning and resource allocation. Mountain ecosystem services are often taken for granted, and the role of mountain communities in generating them receives little or no attention. GDP does not account for depletion of natural capital, which is the fundamental basis for all economic activities.

**Difficulty of Valuating Mountain Ecosystem Services**

The benefits of mountain ecosystem services are largely intangible, and there is no defined market for them, making it difficult to assign a monetary value to particular ecosystems and to demonstrate their value to national, regional, and global economies and to the environment

**Unclear Property Rights with Regard to Mountain Ecosystem Services**

With markets emerging for carbon, watershed services, and biodiversity, these are now marketable resources, as they were not in the past. However, there are no clear

property rights for these resources; the concept of property rights applies largely to assets and products. Without clear property rights, mountain farmers cannot negotiate and benefit from voluntary markets for environmental services such as carbon sequestration and storage, biodiversity, and water protection.

#### Nascent Market for Mountain Ecosystem Services

While markets for mountain niche products are growing, markets for mountain ecosystem regulation and support services are not yet well developed. Complex rules and regulations, precise measurements, and rigorous verification requirements at different stages bar mountain communities managing small plots of forest land from enjoying the benefits of the global carbon market, for example.

#### Fragile Mountain Ecosystems

Geographic and climatic features make mountain systems extremely fragile. The fragility of mountain ecosystems represents a considerable challenge to a green economy and sustainable development. The impacts of unsustainable development in the mountains have been more rapid, have taken a heavier toll, and have been more difficult to correct than in other ecosystems (MA 2005). The lowlands are also heavily influenced by undesired changes in mountain areas, because of their dependency on mountain resources and ecosystem services.

#### Persistent Poverty and Marginalisation of Mountain Areas

Livelihoods in mountain areas are considerably more susceptible to environmental and economic changes than those in lowlands because of rough topography, remoteness, and poor socioeconomic infrastructure. The incidence and severity of poverty and vulnerability are disproportionately high in many mountain regions of the world.

#### Lack of Disaggregated Mountain-Specific Data

Mountain ecosystems and production systems are closely interrelated, and geographically referenced data are essential to their sound management and planning for sustainable development. Disaggregated economic and social data on mountains are difficult to obtain and, in many cases, not available.

### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

#### Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD):

IFSD in the context of the Mountain region should aim to identify the actors at local, national and regional levels and set out the functions of institutions for achieving better coherence and coordination among agencies implementing sustainable development activities, especially in the mountains. Therefore, any new institutional framework must avoid overlaps and duplication of activities, and synergies need to be achieved in programming efforts of international as well as national organisations through enhanced participation of all stakeholders for attaining good governance. Similarly, at the UN level there should be clear and resourceful mechanism to advocate the Mountain Agenda, gradually integrating it with other sustainable development agenda, otherwise there is a great danger of continuation of ignorance of sustainable mountain development in the UN processes.

#### Key challenges for institutional strengthening for SMD

Mountain countries and regions face multiple challenges in creating good institutional framework and more importantly, for avoiding the past track record of poor implementation of SMD commitments and policies. The latter was caused by weak national setups and lack of capacity, coordination, and integration efforts that need to be addressed effectively to ensure clear institutional functions and accountability safeguards at all levels.

#### Role of research-based knowledge and information

Developing proper institutional framework will also have to consider the role of research organisations both at national and regional levels for filling the knowledge gap. SMD issues in the HKH are of transboundary nature e.g., water, biodiversity, markets, and quality standardisation for green products. Before transforming into a green economy, these countries must set green accounting policies and green technology adaptation institutions to assist the shift from GDP to GMP. Consumerism today is a driver of change, changing values and attitudes of the people, but in the green economy context consumers need to also give premium to green products that will require awareness raising, in which data and information will play an important role.

#### Role of technology and technical capacity building

Green economy will require 'green technologies' that will need a suitable framework and mechanism for enabling technology adaptation, retrofitting, and transfer to developing mountain countries. Therefore, strengthening of multi-lateral and research institutions focusing on mountain friendly technologies and knowhow, given the specificity of mountain systems, should be a pre-requisite in the new institutional framework.

### **d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

#### What specific actions are required?

##### Recognition of benefits deriving from mountain regions

As mountain ecosystem services contribute to sustaining and enhancing the Earth's sustainability and prosperity, the green economy framework and Rio+20 need to recognise the benefits arising from mountain ecosystems and should set principles and policies for global, regional, and national actions in support of sustainable mountain development.

##### Improved governance mechanisms

To provide incentives for mountain populations to maintain ecosystem services, environmental governance systems must frame the mountain agenda in environment and development policy. Strengthened governance is needed at all levels, national, regional, and global. National governments have a central role in putting in place policies, strategies, and instruments to create enabling conditions for investment in mountain ecosystem conservation and to attract other actors such as the private sector to finance conservation. The international policy framework needs to recognise the value of mountain ecosystems and the needs of mountain people, and to support international, regional, and country-level implementation of the mountain agenda.

##### Enhanced economic security and poverty alleviation to facilitate peace and stability in mountain areas

Governments must ensure that the green economy contributes to eradicating poverty, ensuring livelihoods, and promoting social equity and security, in line with the MDGs. Promotion of green economy must be based on equitable access to resources, well defined property rights, and inclusive growth. Governments must take steps to ensure that benefits reach poor and marginalised people including women, indigenous people, and ethnic minorities.

##### Institutional strengthening and capacity building

Achieving and maintaining a low carbon economy in the mountains requires substantial changes in policies, priorities, and strategies, the increased application of market-based instruments for conservation and development, and the use of new technologies.

##### Transboundary cooperation

Many of the mountain ecosystems and their services are transboundary in nature; thus their conservation and management demands regional cooperation. Strengthened networks and regional conventions like the Alpine Convention may enhance coordination of activities and assist in raising mountain concerns in international governance and protocols.

##### Financial Instruments

Conservation of mountain ecosystem services and the transition towards a more low-carbon path of development require financial resources. The international community

must provide the necessary support to leverage financial resources, for example through establishment of dedicated funding windows for mountains in existing funding mechanisms (such as GEF), insofar as they link to other global priorities such as climate change, water, and biodiversity. International and regional payment for ecosystem services (PES) schemes may be introduced to stimulate the provision of vital non-marketed ecosystem services at the global and regional levels.

Indicators of progress

Mountain-specific indicators need to be developed for measurement of progress towards a green economy, such as investment in mountain ecosystem conservation, resource allocation in mountain regions, and stock and health of mountain ecosystem resources such as water, biodiversity, and the cryosphere (e.g., river flow, sedimentation control).

Operationalising the Framework of Green Economy and Good Governance: Recommendations

The above elements may be pursued in a three-pronged policy approach focused on global responsibilities, regional interests, and national tasks. The following are some proposed institutional approaches at the three levels.

National level

- Adopt mountain-specific strategies in national development plans and programmes to achieve the twin goals of conservation and poverty reduction.
- Internalise the costs and benefits of conserving mountain ecosystems in national wealth accounting, resource allocation, and development plans. The costs of producing environmental goods and services need to be factored into the design of policies, strategies, programmes, and projects. In this way the costs and benefits of mountain ecosystems will be integrated into actual prices, markets, and incentive structures.
- Promote markets for mountain ecosystem services. Encourage the private sector through appropriate policy and regulatory support such as clear property rights and access and benefit sharing frameworks so that the market can become an option for financing mountain ecosystem management.
- Develop policies for institutionalising incentives and compensation for mountain ecosystem services, and make mountain ecosystem conservation central to economic decision making.
- Modify and correct policy, institutional, and market failures related to undervaluation of mountain ecosystem services or failure to recognise them in national economic decision making.
- Invest in mountain regions to unlock their potential in a green economy and sustainable development, e.g., for energy, water, high-quality mountain agricultural products, and nature-based and organic products. Investment in mountain regions will generate long-term benefits. Owing to positive externalities, investment in mountains brings high welfare gains. To attract green investment in mountain areas, governments may grant financial support such as low-interest loans or exemption from certain regulations, to build economies of scale and competitiveness. Generating new public-private partnerships is equally important in the overall approach to unlocking the potential of mountains; they can be an important source of revenue to ensure the long-term sustainability of mountain ecosystems while relieving pressure on public budgets.
- Create a conducive environment for investment in mountains and green infrastructure, and provide incentives for promoting industry and business for the benefit of mountain and rural communities. As the returns from green sectors (e.g., conservation and management of forests, watersheds, soils, rangelands, and glaciers) comes only after some time, government support (direct or indirect) is necessary at least in the initial stages to attract private investment.
- Adopt alternative forms of energy such as hydropower, wind power, biogas, and solar energy to reduce negative impacts from the use of fossil fuels and fuelwood.

Regional level

- Promote and strengthen networks and partnerships among mountain regions. International and regional development and research organisations should facilitate transfer of knowledge and experience as well as capacity building for key mountain institutions.
- Promote regional mechanisms for the compensation of ecosystem services provided by upstream communities.
- Strengthen value chains to benefit mountain communities, for example through branding of mountain goods and services.
- Strengthen the information and knowledge base on sustainable mountain development and make it accessible to all concerned.
- Use transboundary approaches and facilitate regional cooperation to address issues of water management, biodiversity, and protected areas, and establish regional funds for management of transboundary ecosystem resources.

Global level

- Create compensation mechanisms and markets for globally significant mountain ecosystem services such as biodiversity and carbon sequestration. Establish institutional mechanisms for providing economic incentives to conserve mountain ecosystems and improve the lives of mountain communities.
- Remove trade barriers and price distortions on green goods and services of mountain regions.
- Enhance international and regional cooperation on mountain issues.
- Pursue a global commitment to conservation and low-carbon development of mountain ecosystems. Provide adequate financing targeted to the mountain regions of developing countries for conservation and development of globally significant ecosystems. Support technology transfer and capacity building for institutions engaged in development of mountain regions.
- Strengthen and expand alliances of mountain stakeholders to lead and undertake the process of sustainable mountain development beyond Rio+20. Strengthen cooperation and networking among the different mountain regions. Regional conventions in mountain regions might be pursued following the example of the Alpine and Carpathian Conventions.
- Strengthen international support for research on mountain systems of global relevance.

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

Alternative energy technology: improving lives and reducing carbon footprint

People in mountain areas mostly use fuel wood for cooking and heating, which can have detrimental effects on the environment, air quality, and human health. In the Hindu Kush-Himalayan region, there are also indications that aerosols containing large amounts of black carbon are contributing to regional climate change and glacier melt. Investments in alternative, cleaner forms of energy to replace fuel wood and fossil fuels would reduce carbon emissions, improve human health, and secure mountain livelihoods by conserving mountain forest resources.

Green practices in water management

Water for human consumption, irrigation, and hydropower development constitutes a premium resource of mountain regions. There is ample scope for investments in scaling up green practices in water and watershed management. Scaling up represents both an opportunity and a challenge in the mountain regions.

Diversification and value addition in mountain agriculture

Despite sloping land generally unfavourable to cultivation, agriculture is the main economic sector in many mountain regions of developing countries, accounting for between 30% and 60% of gross domestic product (GDP) and employing up to 80% of the workforce. The market for mountain agriculture is largely organic and is therefore likely to grow, providing opportunities for mountain regions to diversify their agricultural sector. The green economy can help shift agriculture away from subsistence levels through promotion of organic farming, horticultural development, herbal and traditional medicine, and value-added products such as handmade paper, tea, bamboo-based handicrafts, floriculture, horticulture, and mushroom processing, among others. Organic products from mountain agriculture can be marketed for their health values.

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked**

**and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

The green economy can provide the framework for valuing and compensating critical services of mountain regions that benefit downstream communities and in the process encourage conservation and address mountain poverty. The green economy paradigm of development can hence unlock the potentials of mountains while preserving mountain values towards sustainable development. A number of opportunities for developing mountain regions in the context of a green economy are explored below.

**Realising the Value of Mountain Ecosystem Services**

Conventional economics does not take into account depletion and degradation of natural capital and the value of ecosystem services which used to be regarded as 'free public goods'. The green economy recognises the value of the ecosystems in the production of goods and services for downstream economies and for securing overall human wellbeing at local, national, regional, and global scales. This recognition provides an opening for mountain people to be duly compensated and rewarded for stewardship of mountain ecosystems and their services.

**Accessing Growing Market for Niche Mountain Products**

Mountain goods and products such as medicinal and aromatic plants and other non-timber forest products, mountain crafts, and ecotourism hold special values and have niche markets. Enabling policies and supporting rules and regulations for Marketing Mountain products can benefit mountain regions and help them get value for their products and efforts.

**Conserving ecosystem services to fight poverty and enhance livelihood security**

Rural poor people depend heavily on natural resources. Around 350 million people who live within or adjacent to dense forests, for example, depend on them for a high degree of subsistence and income (World Bank 2004, cited in Gundimeda 2011). By linking natural resource based livelihoods to production of ecosystem services, the green economy can help reduce poverty and enhance environmental sustainability.

**Policy innovations in government for conservation and development of ecosystems**

Innovative policy options that are emerging to provide incentives for conserving and developing ecosystem services have potential for mountain regions. For example, the Government of India has established fiscal transfer from the central government to the states for forest ecosystem services.

**Introducing Incentive-based Mechanisms for Mountain Ecosystem Services**

Ongoing global and national efforts to develop policies, strategies, and regulatory frameworks for better ecosystem services are creating emerging markets for mountain ecosystem services. Incentive-based mechanisms such as payment for ecosystem services (PES) and Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+) are emerging opportunities for financing conservation and development of mountain regions.

**Creating New Investment and Employment Opportunities**

Shifting investment from the brown or industrial sector to a green sector may create interest and bring opportunities in green investments and transfer of green technology.

Mountain regions can benefit from green investments in areas such as:

enhanced production and processing of mountain ecosystem goods and services; appropriate pricing and reward or payment systems for proper valuation of mountain goods and services; reducing mountain fragility and the impact of disasters; creation of green employment opportunities (e.g., in agriculture and horticulture) in mountain regions. Promotion and transition towards a green economy need capacity development in education, research, advocacy and policy reforms. Similarly, enabling policies and institutions are needed to provide necessary incentives to producers of mountain-based ecosystem goods and services. Regional as well as upstream-downstream approaches are needed for promoting green markets and for addressing the challenges of poverty, biodiversity loss, trade barriers and climate change. In summary, there is a need to develop a green economy roadmap for the mountains in the Mountain region based on comparative advantages in terms of different eco-systems niches and/or those where nations have and building competitive advantages through training, skills development, provision of appropriate technologies and financial support. Capacity building of policy makers remains the utmost priority because good policies are needed to drive the new development process.

**Role of technology and technical capacity building**

Green economy will require 'green technologies' that will need a suitable framework and mechanism for enabling technology adaptation, retrofitting, and transfer to developing mountain countries. Therefore, strengthening of multi-lateral and research institutions focusing on mountain friendly technologies and knowhow, given the specificity of mountain systems, should be a pre-requisite in the new institutional framework.

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**Role of regional institution for sustainable development of the Mountains:**

Given the growing interest in mountain issues among the Mountain countries and the changing regional and global contexts, the role of regional institutions will have to match with the growing expectations of regional and international stakeholders. The growing importance of the Mountain ecosystems goods and services need more collective and concerted management actions at the regional level to ensure sustainable development. Since issues such as freshwater shortage, increasing natural hazards, environment pollution, ecosystem degradation, rapid melting of ice, loss of biodiversity, persistent poverty and increasing vulnerability, and human insecurity are common and interconnected issues, they will need common solutions.

**Promoting the mountain agenda globally:** While the role of mountain systems as a provider of essential services to the global community has been recognised, countries and relevant international organisations have yet to set priorities in support of mountains. Regional institutions can play an important role in raising awareness, and providing concrete data and evidence on Mountain ecosystems and environment in order to enhance regional and global commitment and actions to support sustainable development in the Mountains, while strengthening upstream-downstream relationships.

**Facilitating regional cooperation:** While the need for transboundary regional cooperation has now been realised, implementation is a real challenge given the difficult geo-political situation in many mountain regions. Non-political regional knowledge-based organisation should be developed and /or strengthened for providing a neutral and common platform for knowledge exchange, sharing and learning. This can facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation among the HKH countries, and enhance common understanding on sustainable solutions

**Facilitating information and knowledge sharing for disaster risk reduction and resilience building:** The Mountain region is classified as the most vulnerable region due to its exposure to multiple risks of extreme events and natural disasters including landslides, floods, droughts, and glacial lake outburst floods that can endanger sustainable development infrastructure. Reducing the risk of natural disasters is critical for poverty alleviation and for sustaining development efforts. There is a need for a regional organisation that can play the role of a catalyst in sharing information and real time data in order to reduce such risks and vulnerabilities.

**Reducing scientific uncertainties and knowledge gaps:** There is a lack of mountain disaggregated data. Easy availability of accurate socio-economical, environmental and biophysical data is vital for policymakers, resource managers and researchers for sustainable management and allocation of limited natural, human and financial resources for achieving sustainable development. Data generated by national and international institutions in the Mountain region are often of a national nature. There is a need for an



agency that can contribute by developing and continuously tracking the trends of key indicators of sustainable development.

**Valuing mountain ecosystem services:** In the context of green economy, there has to be proper valuation of the role of the Himalayan mountain system as the providers of critical ecosystem goods and services. These values need to be translated into enabling policies and actions to help reorient national and global policies towards Mountain region resulting in increased investment in research, conservation and development. Providing more realistic economic value for these green services is possible through carbon financing tools such as REDD+, PES and other compensation mechanisms. This is expected to provide incentives to the mountain people to sustainably manage and preserve the vital goods and services while enhancing their own livelihoods by practicing sustainable resources management.

**Facilitating cross-country learning in sustainable mountain development solutions:** The new agenda of the green economy and good environmental governance will require new knowledge, technologies, and capacities. Although institutions have been generating valuable knowledge in the MOUNTAINS, the knowledge has largely been country specific. Regional institutions can play an important role in consolidating this knowledge, bringing in regional perspectives and facilitating cross-boundary learning for promoting multi-disciplinary and integrated approaches that can enhance SMD.

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Green projects are suitable for subsistence economies:

Most of the mountain areas of the HKH region are under subsistence agriculture. Some are more primitive while others have varying degrees modernisation and inroads of the market economy. Nepal and Bhutan, typical mountainous countries, are over 80 per cent rural. Development has come to these areas due to emphasis on specific niche products such as apples, vegetables, rice as well as services and it has come in different scales due to remoteness. In most of the mountain cities and towns development models have been transported from the plains without much regard to mountain specificity and therefore the environmental consequences have been rather devastating, especially in more fragile valleys.

Traditional and low-external-input agriculture systems have potential for organic production:

Mountain areas of the North Eastern States of India and the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh have been practicing traditional forms of agriculture called shifting cultivation for centuries that have been blamed for deforestation and environmental degradation. A more sustainable solution is community resource management strategy and policy under which land and tree tenure is assured, access to technical and extension service is improved and communities are allowed to choose the crops, and trees, including agro-forestry practices.

Decentralization and devolution can lead to good governance:

Change in mindset has followed the acceptance by governments of the need to accommodate local developmental aspirations, without suspecting secessionist tendencies, which still exist in parts of mountain areas. These social movements and conflicts are about identity politics, caste and class grievances, and protests against general irresponsiveness to local aspirations. Mountain communities that have been given economic freedom and political autonomy to choose the development path have addressed to SMD goals better as shown by case studies of Community Forestry (Van Panchayats) in Uttarakhand, India and Nepal.

Southeast Asia and Pacific (SEAP) mountains, which are spread across two geographic regions – mainland Asia and island/archipelagic states in the Pacific Ocean – form one of the world's highest but also most severely threatened biodiversity pools. A number of indigenous peoples who are marginalized, poor, and underserved by their respective nation states live in structurally weak and fragile SEAP Mountains even made more vulnerable by increased frequency and intensity of rainfall, extreme temperatures and severe tropical storms. Expanding global population and economic pressures are driving migrant lowland settlers toward SEAP Mountains while extractive companies harness the mountains' timber, minerals and water resources without giving due share to the local communities. In general, the mountains have not been mainstreamed in the governance of most Southeast Asian countries, which highlight the need for policy reforms to protect social and ecological systems in the mountains, strengthen sustainable development, prevent environmental damage, and improve national and regional food security.

Governments and civil society organizations, international and local donors, and development agencies have played key roles in facilitating development and/or resolving conflicts arising from competing demands on SEAP mountain resources. Lessons learned in addressing conflicts showed that these involve a slow process that is best initiated by creating an environment for dialogues to take place. Toward this end, stakeholders must be capacitated on collaborative negotiations and non-adversarial communication skills to enable them to engage in multi-stakeholder dialogues that strive for win-win solutions and aim to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people in the long run. Improving governance, meeting the economic needs of the people, and making them more self-reliant through proper education avert conflicts that border on terrorism in remote regions of SEAP Mountains.

People in the SEAP Mountains need to take charge of development of the welfare of their communities and the mountains in partnership with civil society, particularly for advocacy and building public support for mountain-specific policies and development approaches. Partnerships need to be forged with the private sector based on corporate social responsibility initiatives to provide innovative, simple technological and market solutions to livelihoods problems in the mountains following low carbon or green growth pathways. Specifically, private sector support can be directed for empowering mountain stakeholders with community-based technologies and for developing business skills. Product value chains through cooperative efforts among the primary producers and private businesses can result in reasonable returns on their investments for both the mountain people and downstream commercial enterprises. Ecotourism can be promoted to help generate income in mountain communities and among indigenous peoples as strategies, to counter violent conflicts and finance mountain conservation and sustainable development.

Participatory action research that takes into account local good practices and indigenous knowledge are needed to determine carrying capacity of mountains and for implementing plans and measures for adapting to and mitigating the worsening impacts of climate change and unregulated human activities on mountain resources. There is growing awareness on the benefits provided by the SEAP Mountains in terms of ecosystem goods and services. Increasing frequency of mountain-originated disasters both in the uplands and lowlands has raised policy level awareness for integrated approaches. Combining the increased awareness, with traditional and scientific knowledge will help improve sustainability in resource use by creating opportunities for multi-stakeholder participation that can address pressing mountain issues and challenges. Effective participation of communities in mountain governance – supported by enabling policies – can pave the way for sustainable mountain resource management practices, and help end pervasive poverty in the uplands through carefully-planned and community-controlled, human development initiatives. In summary, this report advocates:

- Developing good governance mechanisms that account for unique characteristics and wealth of mountains and meet needs and aspirations of mountain people in reducing poverty and conserving the region's once-rich biodiversity through sustainable development approaches.
- Assisting mountain communities in negotiation and collaborative dialogues for resolving conflicts and enabling them to participate in sustainable mountain development activities in collaboration with government, civil society, donors and the private sector.
- Strengthening research by combining traditional practices and scientific knowledge for developing actionable plans for implementing with the meaningful participation of stakeholders both in the mountains and downstream.

- Consolidating international and national funding mechanisms and resources for financing sustainable development programmes and achieving well being of mountain people.

#### Executive Summary

Mountains of the Hindu Kush-Himalaya (HKH) have abundant natural resources and unique landscapes that provide valuable ecosystem goods and services for livelihoods. However, the harsh terrain and lack of enabling institutional framework and policies pose major challenges to sustainable mountain development. The region includes four global biodiversity hotspots, 330 important bird areas, and 60 global eco-regions. The 488 protected areas in the HKH provide vital ecosystem goods and services to more than 1.5 billion people in the uplands and the lowlands. The greater Himalayas – the water tower of Asia – is source of 10 major river systems that provide the vital resources such as water, food, biodiversity and energy for a large number of people in countries of the region, including India and China – two fast growing economies.

The region is home to more than 40 per cent of the World's poor and is also ranked as being at "extreme" risk from climate change. Progressive warming at higher altitudes has been three to five times the global average. The region has witnessed increased snow and glacial melt and frequency of extreme events that have exacerbated livelihood risks including poverty, food insecurity, hazards and social inequity. Climate-induced changes have not only made it difficult for mountain countries to attain the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) but also threaten to slow down or even reverse the progress achieved so far. The HKH countries face frequent food and energy crises and growing social and political unrest while climate impacts have shrunk development space. Progress on past global commitments to sustainable development remains largely unfulfilled.

The Rio+20 conference is an opportunity for the HKH region to take stock of progress made towards meeting the Sustainable Mountain Development goals defined in Agenda 21/Chapter 13. This report assesses constraints and opportunities in three major areas: environmental quality, economic development, and social equity. It examines community-level progress by studying people-centric, vertically integrated, and participatory efforts made since Rio'92. It reviews policies, legal instruments, and programmes that aimed at benefitting mountain people and highlights the opportunities for transforming to a green economy. Both upstream-downstream relations and benefit sharing mechanisms needed for sustaining resource flows and maintaining ecosystem goods and services for driving the green economy are examined in terms of linking incentivised producers of ecosystem services with both local and distant markets.

The report includes learning from 10 specifically commissioned case studies on sustainable development programmes in forestry, watershed management, agriculture, clean energy, eco- tourism, biodiversity, and community development. The studies indicate that biogas and micro hydro for clean energy, community-based approaches for managing natural resources, eco-tourism for equitable income distribution, organic agriculture and watershed management for enhancing and sustaining productivity of ecosystem goods and services, are some of the best practices that can help achieve sustainable goals.

The report also captures the insights of hundreds of stakeholders on the Green Economy and Institutional Framework – two agenda items of Rio+20 conference. The general consensus is that these concepts were defined somewhere else and passed down to stakeholders and therefore lack clarity from a mountain perspective, and need elaboration to suit mountain specificities – fragility, marginality, inaccessibility, and richness of niche ecosystem products and services. There is also an agreement on the need to look beyond Rio+20 and come up with actionable programmes and concrete proposals for embarking on the green growth and environmental governance pathways focusing on ecosystem management, water resources, biodiversity conservation and poverty reduction as key themes. This would require investment by national and global agencies in creating green jobs through green projects, and policy reforms to incentivise agriculture, natural resources and enterprise development sectors facilitated by enabling policies, knowledge sharing, regional cooperation, environmental governance and substantial and dependable support from the global community.

To sum up, the HKH report calls for:

- Adapting and developing good governance systems for the HKH Mountains taking into account their unique characteristics as 'water towers' and biodiversity hotspots for addressing poverty reduction and enhancing human well being.
- Reducing increased vulnerabilities and risk of HKH mountain ecosystems and linking adaptation and resilience-building plans to sustainable development to create green jobs and develop green infrastructures.
- Empowering and assisting mountain communities to gain fair access to and benefits from ecosystem goods and resources they have been safeguarding as the primary stakeholders.
- Providing enabling conditions and incentives for investment through public-private ventures with appropriate funding mechanisms and technological support for enhancing wellbeing and reducing disparities.
- Strengthening national and regional institutions to facilitate upstream-downstream exchanges, trans-boundary cooperation, capacity building, and generating and disseminating knowledge, technical expertise and information for promoting SMD, and
- Consolidating all new and existing funding mechanisms related to Climate Change, Biodiversity, and MDGs for adequately funding SMD actions in vulnerable and least developed mountain countries and regions.

#### Kathmandu Declaration on Green

#### Economy and Sustainable Mountain

#### Development

7 September 2011, Kathmandu, Nepal

#### Preamble

Following the invitation of the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), 120 participants including scientists, development practitioners, policy makers, and civil society and private sector representatives met in Kathmandu from 5 to 7 September 2011 to deliberate on the role of mountains in green economy. Recalling the recognition of the importance of mountains at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 1992 through adoption of Chapter 13 in Agenda 21, and realising the need to revisit the mountain agenda in the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 (commonly called Rio +20), the participants put forward the following declaration.<sup>1</sup> Declaration Recognising that: - mountain systems support about half of the earth's human population by providing numerous goods and services including fresh water, food, life-saving medicinal herbs, energy, rich biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge, as well as cultural diversity;

- global drivers of change such as growing human population, increasing urbanisation, industrialisation, globalisation, other socioeconomic changes, and climate change put increasing pressure on the available natural resources of the world and the mountains in particular;

- mountain ecosystem goods and services have therefore to respond to an increasing demand, while prevailing policies have not adequately prepared mountain populations and regions for the new challenges, and global dynamics create strong externalities for mountainous areas;
- mountain communities are characterised by their resilience, and their adaptation efforts have produced promising solutions relevant not only locally but also to the global community at large;
- promoting the sustainability of mountain ecosystems and services for future generations and for the continued prosperity of both upstream and downstream areas requires targeted actions and the concerted efforts of local, national, regional, and global institutions, calling for a joint effort of all sectors of society;
- the call for a low carbon economy has the potential to strengthen sustainable mountain development and help to create the conditions necessary for achieving the Millennium Development Goals in mountain areas;
- mountain economies are characterised by their low carbon footprint and by their potential to contribute low-carbon products to the local and global markets;
- however, the low carbon footprint is accompanied by a high incidence of poverty; the participants formulate the following recommendations. General
- The Rio+20 conference should recognise the contribution of mountain systems and their ecosystem goods and services to a green economy, sustainable development, and human wellbeing and should set principles and policies for global, regional, and national actions in support of sustainable mountain development.
- Considering the increasing importance of mountain ecosystems for downstream communities, the high incidence of poverty and unequal access to resources in mountain areas, the growing vulnerability of upstream and downstream populations, and the threats to the availability of mountain ecosystem services, global stakeholders should revisit the criteria of the mountain agenda and Chapter 13.
- International organisations and national governments are implored to favour policies and all possible efforts to strengthen the efforts of mountain communities to ensure a continued availability of fresh water, biodiversity (including agrobiodiversity), cultural diversity, and space for tourism, recreation, and spiritual renewal, as well as to cope with the consequences of climate and environmental change.

#### Recognition, valuation and capture of benefits deriving from mountains

- More focused research, reliable data and information, dissemination of positive experiences, applicable knowledge, and good practices, and systematic efforts to create awareness among grassroots communities, civil society, and government institutions are required.
- Considering the ecological, economic, and cultural diversity of the global mountain systems, regional centres of excellence and knowledge should be created and strengthened.
- Approaches to green economy in mountains shall be designed according to local conditions and must be context appropriate, taking into account mountain specificities such as environmental fragility, vulnerability, and low economies of scale.

#### Appropriate policy frameworks

- International efforts to include the use and value of natural resources in gross domestic product (GDP) are commended and should be adopted at the national level. Concrete mechanisms, customised for mountain areas, must be promoted at the global, national, and local levels to reward and compensate mountain communities for conservation and provision of ecosystem services.
- Governments should create incentives and provide support for market-driven investments and flow of financial resources (including remittances) for low-carbon production and sustainable development in mountains.
- Development of services for mountains (e.g., knowledge, technology, business development, and infrastructure) should be low carbon, environment friendly, and mountain adapted. International organisations, intergovernmental organisations, and the private sector should contribute to the promotion of niche products and services of mountains through mechanisms such as mountain branding, labelling, and standards.
- Approaches must be promoted to improve markets for ecosystem services, to simplify processes of international instruments such as REDD+, and to develop and improve methods for valuation of environmental services.
- The transboundary aspects of mountain ecosystem services call for regional cooperation, collaborative institutional partnerships, and a strengthening of upstream-downstream linkages.

#### Ensuring equity

- Promotion of green economy in mountains needs to be based on equitable access to resources and property rights, inclusive growth, and ensuring that benefits reach poor people including women, men, and children, indigenous people, and ethnic minorities.
- Marginalised groups must have a role in resource governance and a voice in decision making.
- Traditional knowledge and practices need to be documented, evaluated, and built upon to solve problems at the local level and beyond, and to conserve and develop mountain ecosystem services.
- A dynamic green economy and society must be supported so that mountains become attractive to youth and to emigrants from the mountains.

#### Sustainable Mountain Development

##### Draft Regional Report Hindu Kush – Himalaya

prepared for the Lucerne World Mountain Conference 10-12 October 2011

From Rio 1992 to Rio 2012 and beyond

HKH Region Rio+20 Assessment Report

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION

From Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond:

## Sustainable Mountain Development

### Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) Region

The report aims to provide an overview and assessment of trends, issues, and challenges for promoting sustainable mountain development in the HKH region highlighting progress made since 1992, and encapsulating the lessons learned in key areas. It covers all the three pillars of sustainable development and scopes the opportunities in the two themes of Rio+20 conferences – Green Economy and Institutional Framework for sustainable development and poverty reduction.

The Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) a participant in the Mountain Partnership Consortium (MPC) provided financial support for carrying out this study. The views expressed in this document are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect views of their organisations or that of the SDC.

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From Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond: Sustainable Mountain Development Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) Region

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## PART I: Setting the stage

### 1.0 HKH mountain ecosystem goods and services

#### 1.1 Overview

The Hindu Kush-Himalaya (HKH) region are rich in natural resources, including an abundance of water, biodiversity, scenic landscapes, steep heights and deep gorges, and fragile but diverse ecosystems and fertile valleys that provide a bundle of ecosystem goods and services. The HKH is the source of 10 of Asia's major river systems. It includes all or part of four global biodiversity hotspots, 330 important bird areas, two mega-diversity countries (India and China), and 60 eco-regions of which 12 are among the global 200 eco-regions. The 488 protected areas cover 39 per cent of the HKH region. The mountains in the HKH provide fresh water and ecosystem goods and services to more than 210 million mountain people and close to 1.3 billion people living in the plains downstream. The river basins are an important source of water, food, biodiversity and energy. However, recent climatic changes and warming have been threatening these mountain ecosystems, including fresh water, high elevation biota including forests, agro-biodiversity, and range and pasture ecosystems. The following section discusses major ecosystem goods and services of the HKH region.

##### 1.1.1 Water – the lifeline of the people

Water and water cycle are the most important ecosystem goods and the services the HKH region provides to downstream populations and the rest of the earth. This is why they have been referred to as the 'water tower of Asia' for the lowlands (Viviroli 2007; UNEP-WCMC 2002). The 10 major rivers originating in the HKH region provide fresh water to about 1.5 billion people. The rivers also supply water for irrigation. Recent estimates on the extent of ice and snow in the mountains of the HKH region is about 60,000 sq. km. Besides, the region also has a large number of fresh water lakes and groundwater.

##### 1.1.2 Biodiversity: the source for food, nutrition, fibre, and medicine

The HKH Mountains are a treasure trove of biological and agricultural diversity including food, fibre and medicinal plants. The region is rich in medicinal and aromatic plants, different types of mushrooms, fibres such as cashmere, and mountain crops such as amaranths, buckwheat and different types of millet that are in great demand in downstream and global markets. The mountains are also sources of different types of timber, firewood fruits, vegetables, forage plants, and non-timber forest products that support downstream economies. Similarly, the vast and diverse gene pool especially wild relatives of important crops found in the HKH region are important resources for humanity.

##### 1.1.3 Ecosystem services

Besides supporting livelihood in the mountains and downstream the HKH region provides support a healthy and safe environment and climate. For example, the mountains play a vital role in natural water purification and water retention in the form of groundwater, ice, and snow as well as in lakes, forested watersheds and streams. Mountain ranges are also responsible for atmospheric and climate regulation and modulate the climate beyond their geographical boundaries. For example, the cryospheric environment comprising of 'water-ice-air-ecosystem-human' systems in the HKH is believed to influence and respond to the global and regional environmental change processes and mechanisms including the Asian monsoon systems (TPE/CAS 2010). Mountain soils are important reservoirs for water and carbon as well as nutrients that enhance soil fertility in the valleys, and downstream. Mountain forests (28% of the world's forests) are highly relevant as protective shields natural hazards and they help ensure slope stability and prevent or reduce erosion, landslides, and avalanches. Mountain forests, especially in the tropics, have high genetic diversity and serve as important as wildlife habitats. Together with highland wetlands, mountain forests play a significant role in biospheric carbon storage (IPCC 2007b). The predominant land use of the HKH region is forest, range and shrub lands and therefore has a major role in carbon storage

##### 1.1.4 Cultural services

Mountain areas support high diversity of cultures. Many of these cultures have rich traditional agricultural knowledge that promotes sustainable production systems. However, these lifestyles are severely threatened, (The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences 2002) by climate and other changes that are taking place globally. For many of these cultures, mountains play an important spiritual role: they are living forces, sources of power and symbols of the sacred (Bernbaum 1997). Additionally, the mountains and many aspects of the cultures of the people attract tourists, who in turn can contribute towards improving local livelihoods. Every year thousands tourists from downstream areas and all over the world visit the unique HKH landscape for rest, recreation and relief from the unbearable summer heat and urban pollution.

## 1.2 Key physical characteristics of the HKH Mountains

The HKH region, which is also known as the greater Himalayan region or "the roof of the World" extends from 15.95° to 39.31° N latitudes and 60.85° to 105.04° E longitudes. It encompasses mountains of eight South and East Asian countries: Afghanistan, Pakistan, China, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh and Myanmar, from west to east. The region has extensive, rugged, and enchanting high altitude landscapes and the largest areas covered by glaciers and permafrost outside the Polar Regions, and are often also referred to as the 'Third Pole'. The HKH including the Tibetan plateau region plays a significant role in global atmospheric circulation that influences two major weather systems: monsoon and the Westerly as shown in the figure below (Figure 1). It is a geo- morphologically unique region in that the mighty Himalayas act as the geological buffer protecting the lush green south slopes from the dry and arid winds of the north thus supporting a unique mosaic of several biota and eco-regions.

Figure 1: The role of HKH Mountains as atmospheric and climatic modulators and 'water tower' (UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Figure)

Largely these weather systems together with the massive heights of the HKH Mountains define the nature and extent of biodiversity, forest, agriculture, human settlements and hydropower potential as well as diverse range of industrial raw materials extracted from the region for industrial uses and export to the market worldwide (Eriksson & Jianchu 2009).

### 1.2.1 'Water tower of Asia': The 10 river basins of the Hindu Kush-Himalayan Region

The geographic qualifier 'Hindu Kush-Himalaya' is not very precise. The region extends 3,500 km over all or parts of eight countries from Afghanistan in the west to Myanmar in the east and is the source of 10 major Asian river systems — the Amu Darya, Indus, Ganges, Brahmaputra (Yarlungtsanpo), Irrawaddy, Salween (Nu), Mekong (Lancang), Yangtse (Jinsha), Yellow River (Huanghe), and Tarim (Dayan). These rivers provide water, ecosystem services, and the basis for livelihoods to about 210.5 million people (see Figure 2). People living in the basins of these rivers directly depend on the water mainly for irrigation, drinking, sanitation, and industrial uses (Jianchu et al 2009). The river water also recharges and nurtures some of the richest ecosystems and farmlands in the world (ICIMOD 2009).

Figure 2. The ten river basins of the HKH region (UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Figure)

The Himalayan range alone has the snow and ice cover of 35,110 sq.km containing 3,735 cu. km. of eternal snow and ice (Qin 2002). The total snow and ice cover for the HKH region is about 60,000 sq. km. (ICIMOD 2011). Hills and mountains, particularly the HKH mountain system, have been the sites of adaptation, mitigation, and resilience of the local people. Since time immemorial, they have maintained a rich cultural identity, food security and biogenetic diversity within the parameters of their own traditions.

### 1.2.2 Geographic features of the HKH Mountains

The HKH region spreads over 3.44 million sq. km. and has a population of around 210.5 million (ICIMOD 2009).

Table 1. HKH regional area (Total estimated area: 3,441,719 sq.km)

Estimated	Afghanistan	Bangladesh	Bhutan	China	India	Myanmar	Nepal	Pakistan
HKH component (sq.km)*	390,475	13,189	38,394	1,647,725	482,920	317,640	147,181	404,195
% Proportion of country	60%	9%	100%	17%	14%	47%	100%	51%

Source: Sharma. P, Pratap. T., 1994, Population, Poverty, and Development issues in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas, Development of Poor Mountain Areas, ICIMOD

\* Estimate based on earlier definitions of the HKH region, which is smaller than the area used for estimating population.

### 1.2.3 River basin areas of the HKH

Different authors have reported different areas for the HKH region. The tables below reports 4.193 million sq. km. and the total area of river basins is. 8.99 million sq. km. of which 2.79 million sq. km. lie within the HKH region (Tables 2 and Figure 3)

Table 2: Area of 10 major basins of HKH region derived from Albers and UTM projections

S.N.	Basins	Area in km2							
		TEN Major River Basins				TEN Major River Basins within the HKH			
		UTM	Albers	Differences (Albers - UTM)		UTM	Albers	Differences (Albers - UTM)	
				km2	%			km2	%
1	Amudarya	645726	645895	169	0.026	166686	166714	28	0.017
2	Indus	1116086	1116347	261	0.023	555450	555595	145	0.026
3	Ganga	1001019	1001087	68	0.007	244806	244857	51	0.021
4	Brahmaputra	529447	529449	2	0.000	433842	433855	13	0.003
5	Irrawady	426501	426393	-108	-0.025	202745	202769	24	0.012
6	Salween	363778	363898	120	0.033	211122	211205	83	0.039
7	Mekong	841322	841337	15	0.002	138876	138908	32	0.023
8	Yangste	2065763	2066050	288	0.014	565102	565162	60	0.011
9	Yellow River	1073168	1073443	276	0.026	250540	250574	33	0.013
10	Tarim	929003	929254	252	0.027	26729	26738	9	0.035
11	Total	8991813	8993153	1340	0.015	2795898	2796377	479	0.017

Note: - Details of projection parameters and technical literatures are available at MENRIS Division, ICIMOD.

Figure 3. Major basin boundaries in the Hindu Kush-Himalaya (ICIMOD, 2011) (UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Figure)

### 1.3 Trends in the HKH region over the last 20 years

#### 1.3.1 Demographic changes

Birth and death rates in Europe have shifted from very high to very low over the last 2-3 centuries. This model of demographic change seems useful to understand global population change including those of developing countries, albeit with some modifications. One such modification is the quicker rate of demographic change in developing countries starting only half a century ago. For remote mountain areas of the HKH, this change began much later, only a few decades before 1992. The more remote the area, the longer the time lag for major demographic shifts due to the extreme weather and harsh terrains that make life extremely difficult.

The change has been much faster than that in developed countries, primarily due to the easier access to knowledge and technology and the spread of information and communication technologies. However, all changes have not been positive. While the problems of malnutrition and high child mortality rates have not been fully addressed, there has been good progress in education, public service and communications.

Table 3. Population estimates for the HKH region (Total mountain population: 210.53 million)

Estimated Population	Afghanistan	Bangladesh	Bhutan	China	India	Myanmar	Nepal	Pakistan
millions	28.48 (2)	1.33 (3)	0.71 (1)	29.48 (4)	72.36 (5)	11.01 (2)	27.8 (1)	39.36 (2)
Density (per sq.km)	73	100	15	17	150	34	189	97

Sources: (1) Population Reference Bureau, 2007 World Population Data Sheet. (2) Estimated based on data and information from Population Reference Bureau, 2007 World Population Data Sheet and Banskota, m. 2004. The Hindu Kush-Himalayas: Searching for Viable Socioeconomic and Environmental Options, pp. 57-105, In: Banskota et al. (eds.) Growth, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Resource Management in the Mountain Areas of South Asia, ICIMOD, and Nepal (3) Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 2004. (4) China Population Information and Research Centre (CPIRC) : (accessed on 5 June, 2008). (5) Census of India, Population Projection, 2007.

[HKH region and adjacent mountain areas include: Afghanistan – all provinces except Kandahar, Helmand, Nimroz, Farah, and Herat; Bangladesh – Chittagong Hill Tracts; Bhutan – whole country; China – parts of Yunnan (Diqing, Nujiang, Dali prefectures), Sichuan (Ganzi, Aba, Liangshan prefectures), Gansu (Gannan, Wuwei, Zhangye prefectures), Xinjiang (Kashigar, Kezilesu, Hetian, Altai prefectures), whole of Tibet Autonomous Region and Qinghai; India – the 11 mountain states (Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Uttarakhand; Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and Tripura) and Darjeeling district of West Bengal; Myanmar – the states of Kachin, Chin, Shan and Rakhain; Nepal – whole country; Pakistan – North Western Frontier Province (NWFP), Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), Northern Areas, Ajud Jammu and Kashmir (AJK), and 12 districts of Baluchistan]

The population growth rates have been mixed with high birth and death rates. The growth rate is higher in urban areas (Kathmandu city in Nepal has experienced one of the highest rates of 6.8% per annum) and this is associated with conflict and high remittances. Almost all the mountain areas of the HKH are subsistence agricultural economies, some very primitive while others have varying degrees of modernisation and influences of the market economy. Typically, most mountain areas are predominantly rural. The total population of the HKH member countries is 1.81 billion – almost one third of the global population with an average annual growth of two per cent. Afghanistan has the highest growth rate and China the lowest. China has the best indicators of human and economic development except the Gini coefficient, where Bangladesh as well Nepal fare better (Table 5).

Table 4. Basic socio-economic including demographic data for HKH countries

Countries	Total Population 1992 (in 1000s)	Total Population 2009 (in 1000s)	Pop. anual growth rate 2000 - 2009 (in %)	Life Expectancy at Birth (in years) 2009	Human Development Index (HDI) 2010 (Out of 169 countries)	Gender Inequality Index (GII) 2008 (out of 138 countries)	Multidimensional Poverty Index (MDI) 2000-2008 (out of 118 countries)	Gini coefficient of income inequality 2000-2010	Pop. Below intl. Income Poverty line (PPP US\$1, 1.25/day, 1994-2008 %)	Adult Literacy Rate 2005-2008 (%)
Afghanistan	14,572	28,150	3.9	44	155	134	104	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Bangladesh	120,613	144,660	1.4 (2008)	67 (2008)	129	116	80	47 (2005)	50	59 (2008)
Bhutan	537	697	2.7	66 (2009)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	26	53
China	1,172,199	1,345,751	0.8	73	89	38	n.a.	41.5 (2007)	16	94
India	898,410	1,198,003	1.7	64 (2009)	119	122	71	36.8	42	63
Myanmar	42,085	50020	0.9	62	132	n.a.	0.088 (Value)	n.a.	n.a.	92
Nepal	20,068	29,331	2.3	67 (2009)	138	110	88	47.3	55	58
Pakistan	121,698	180,808	2.5	67	125	112	76	31.2	23	54

Source: UNICEF 2011 [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/china\\_statistics.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/china_statistics.html) <http://hdrstats.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/MMR.html>;

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/ch.html>

#### 1.3.2 Globalisation and economic liberalization

Globalisation and economic liberalisation have been major factors in the economic transformation of India, Pakistan, and China (Kemal 2004). The global economy has also undergone profound changes over the last 15 years. The most spectacular change has taken place in China and India. China is likely to become the second biggest economy in the world by 2016, and India the third largest by 2035 (Kaplinsky and Messner 2008). With growing economic leverage, China and India are in a position to play a major role in the global economic, technological, and political arenas and will influence the “rules of the game” in international trade and other aspects of the global political economy. Kaplinsky and Messner (2008: 197) said, “The rise of China and India as global economic and political powers is one of the most important transformative processes of our time - challenging the international political economy dominated by the “transatlantic West. It is likely to remain significant for many years to come”. Similarly, in Global Economic Prospects: Managing the Next Wave of Globalization the World Bank (2007a) has predicted that ‘in the next 25 years the growth in the global economy



will be powered by the developing countries, whose share in global output will increase from about one-fifth of the global economy to nearly one-third'. The publication argues that China and some countries of South Asia, particularly India and Pakistan, will be the future drivers of the global economy. Table 6 indicates economic asymmetry of the HKH countries (Rahman and Amin 2009). Further, the emergence of Asian drivers has created both opportunities and challenges for both developing and developed countries. It is necessary to understand the complexities and dynamism of the economies of the HKH countries in order to promote trans-border economic cooperation in the region. Table 7 below provides a snapshot of the HKH macro economy.

Table 5: Pattern of intraregional trade (% annual growth) in BCIM (Bangladesh, China, India, and Myanmar) sub-region

Country	1990	1995	2000	2005	2007	1990	1995	2000	2005	2007
Bangladesh	2.80	1.79	1.08	1.96	2.39	8.06	24.62	18.16	27.82	29.49
China	0.96	1.35	1.19	1.61	2.39	0.40	0.45	0.66	153	1.58
India	1.78	4.14	3.91	8.36	10.41	0.57	3.05	3.39	7.74	10.98
Myanmar	19.10	23.88	14.97	19.64	22.15	20.98	30.11	19.73	32.27	37.21
BCIM as a whole	1.37	1.91	1.86	3.04	4.40	0.96	1.45	1.89	3.15	4.07

Note: Export (FOB) and import (CIF) (Source, IMF, 2008 as quoted by Rehman and Al Amin)

Table 6: Macroeconomic data of the HKH countries, 2006 (Source: Rahman and Al Amin 2009)

Indicator	Afghanistan	Bangladesh	Bhutan	China	India	Myanmar	Nepal	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
GDP (US\$ billions)	2.96	65.42	0.70	2095.95	703.33	8.80	6.70	100.89	21.27
Per capita GDP (in US \$)	143.00	419.41	1086.34	1597.77	633.74	174.00	242.48	634.50	1069.66
GDP growth (in %)	6.50	6.63	8.47	10.70	9.20	2.90	2.80	6.92	7.35
Share of GDP (in %) Agriculture	32.60	19.61	22.34	11.71	17.53	50.00	34.36	19.39	16.46
Industry	27.80	17.21	7.37	48.48	16.28	35.00	7.68	19.47	13.93
Services	39.60	52.48	39.77	39.91	54.58	15.00	49.31	53.41	56.47
International trade - GDP	NA	44.22	76.79	72.39	48.78	NA	45.29	38.61	74.78

Constraints to Cross-Border Trade in HKH Region: Although South Asian countries and China have made significant progress in integrating with the global economy, integration within the region has remained limited (World Bank 2007b). South Asian countries have consistently maintained greater level of protection than that in other regions. This has actually negated other comparative and competitive advantages such as common geography and low production costs. Consequently, South Asia has remained the least integrated region in the world. Besides, geo-politics and restrictive trade policies, there are several other factors constraining cross-border regional economic cooperation. Some of the key constraints are explained in the following sections.

Political Issues: Political differences due to unsettled boundary disputes and other geo-political interests have seriously affected efforts to foster regional economic cooperation in South Asia. As result the region, despite the huge development potential, has lagged behind all other regions in achieving minimal cooperation not in economics, politics, culture and communications. As a consequence the countries in the region have not been able to realise the benefits of the potential bilateral and intra-regional trade.

Lack of Communication and Transportation Links: Effective and integrated transportation and communication links are lacking among the HKH countries. The production, consumption and trade patterns of potential trading partners within the region have also not been well documented and shared. Three land locked countries: Bhutan, Nepal and Afghanistan have to depend on the goodwill and trade facilitation provided by their neighbours. However, since these countries themselves lack efficient mechanisms, both export and intra-regional trade suffer from inherent disadvantages and vulnerabilities. For example, Nepal's trade with overseas and in the region fully depends on transit facilities provided by India. These facilities are, however, often constrained by high handling and transportation charges and administrative delays hampering the exchanges between Nepal and its trading partners in the region despite the existence of favourable bilateral trade agreements between Nepal and most of its trading partners.

Restrictive Trade Policies: Most HKH countries still have restrictive trade policies that are responsible for the exceedingly low level of intra-regional trade (Kemal 2004). The restrictions have affected the intra-regional exports in the region. However, since the onset of globalisation, the HKH countries have gradually liberalised their economies resulting in growth of trade volume especially between India and China. Significant trade liberalisation has also occurred under the South Asian Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA) regime, which among others accords preferential duty treatment to almost 5,000 products from all SAARC member countries. However, the region still a long way to go for developing intra-regional trade to its full potential.

#### 1.3.3 Political changes and democratization movement

A wave of democracy has been sweeping the HKH region that has been hotbed of ethnic and political conflicts for identity assertion and equitable rights. While absolute monarchy has ceased to exist in the region dictatorship has also been mellowing down. Nepal is undergoing social and political transformation for establishing newer, smaller, federal units that could be more effective to meet local needs. India's Uttarakhand has become an autonomous hill state and has begun focusing on mountains both in policy and practice. In Pakistan, even previously "sensitive" mountain areas such as Gilgit and Hunza now have self-governance and institutional reforms following the creation of Gilgit Balistan province.

Such ecological and economically challenging cultural identities have begun to push and accelerate changes in access, ownership and management of resources giving fresh identities to local institutions for contributing to sustainable mountain development (SMD). These new identities need external resources to achieve SMD for harnessing natural resources and hydroelectricity for development. Economic autonomy can strengthen political and cultural identities of local institutions for contributing to SMD. Decentralisation combined with meaningful devolution as a means of empowering communities is at the centre of the conflict resolution strategy across the HKH. Though it is still too early to assess the impact of smaller governance units, there are indications that they augur well for the on-going socio-political transition.

#### 1.4 Climate change as a major driver of change

The assessment report no. 4 (AR 4) issued by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 2007) characterised the HKH as a 'data deficit' region. Only a limited number of studies provide climatic scenarios that too, only of the Eastern Himalaya and especially on the situation with glacier melting and change in the ice mass. The projected temperatures are expected to be about 3°C warmer than the baseline by the middle of the century and about 4°C warmer by the end of the century. Models project about 20 per cent and 30 per cent increases in annual precipitation in the eastern Himalayas by the middle and the end of the century, respectively. These projections are influenced

by the emission scenarios and have are biased, particularly in the case of precipitation (Shrestha and Devkota 2010). The incidence and impact of aerosol (ABC) and black carbon mixed with green house gases of upper, especially glaciated, slopes is becoming equally important in contributing to the melting of ice and snow. Climate change is believed to impact water availability and water-related hazards. According to the latest report released by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the impacts of Black Carbon (BC) in glacier recession says that a large BC sources in South and East Asia enhances cryosphere vulnerability in the HKH region because of large surface insulation owing to low latitude, high altitude, and low vegetation cover. The region is not downwind from the BC emitting regions but is still impacted. A small, but growing body of peer-reviewed literature suggests that BC is driving significant warming and melt in the HKH region (UNEP 2011). Further, climate change would have multiple implications on this and other aspects of livelihoods and pose new challenges to both the environment and development in the region.

The data collected from the eastern Himalayas show that there is a definite warming trend at higher altitudes and that areas at altitudes above 4,000m seem to be experiencing the greatest warming. The warming trend observed ranges from 0.01 to 0.06 °C/yr (Shrestha 1999) and the annual mean temperature is expected to increase by 3 °C by the middle of the century (Shrestha and Devkota 2010). Only a limited number of studies provide climatic scenarios for the HKH, especially on the situation with glacier melting and change in the ice mass.

#### 1.4.1 Biophysical implications of climate change

A number of authors and ICIMOD (2009) have argued that the HKH mountain regions have experienced above-average warming in recent years (av. 0.06 °C /year recorded in Nepal) with significant implications on the environment and livelihoods of millions of the people living in both the upstream and downstream areas. In the eastern Himalayas (ICIMOD 2009), progressive warming at higher altitudes has much higher rates than the global average warming (up to 0.09 °C/year). The most noticeable impact of climate change has been the increased frequency and ferocity of extreme events such as floods and droughts and rapid recession of Himalayan glaciers. Formation of dangerous glacial lakes at high altitudes is creating increased risks to the lives and livelihoods downstream. Scientists are forecasting that the cascading effects of rising temperatures and loss of ice and snow in the region will affect the amount and seasonality of future water supply including the monsoon patterns. Degradation of permafrost and reduction of snow and ice caps in the Himalayas will reduce water availability affecting diverse ecosystem services that are vital for supporting the livelihoods of millions of people in the region. Of particular concern to the eastern Himalayan region is the impact on lean season river flows that affect the supply of fresh water and energy to downstream populations in the Ganga Brahmaputra Meghna (GBM) basin. Further, the changing socio-economic and demographic scenarios are also contributing to increased risks. Figure 4 below provides the emission share of some of the major HKH countries in relation to the global contribution.

Figure 4. Emission share of major HKH countries and the rest of the world (UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Figure)

Glacial melt now widely observed in the HKH region is changing the river flow regime resulting in severe dry season water shortages. In Nepal, this change in the river flow regime caused by climate change is affecting the operation of many hydro power plants. In some places, glacial lake outburst floods damaging habitats, life and property of the people. These impacts can have severe consequences for a wide range of environmental and economic activities, including substantial negative impacts on food security and human health (IPCC 2008). In Pakistan, for example, climate change is already having severe adverse effects on the natural water supply and glacial release threatening both food and energy security (Sheikh 2008). Pakistan is highly vulnerable to climatic variability and its impact on land resources as water availability is already a serious concern in many part of the country. Climate change has already caused decline in precipitation by 10-15 per cent in the arid and hyper-arid regions over the last 30-40 years. Furthermore, climatic changes increase the vulnerability to drought and flash floods. These natural calamities often pose serious threats to local food production and trigger land degradation and desertification (UNDP 2010).

#### 1.4.2 Implications on biodiversity and land use

Severe climatic conditions, lack of market linkages, and small fragmented farms have forced the farmers to adopt subsistence farming systems that heavily depend on forest resources across the HKH region. The consequent land use and land-cover changes directly impact biodiversity in mountain ecosystems (Körner 2004); contribute to local and regional climate change as well as feedback to global climate warming (Houghton et al. 1999); and by altering ecosystem services, Himalayan environmental change affects the ability of biological systems to support 1.3 billion people in the 10 river basins in the region (Xu et al 2007). Such changes also determine, in part, the vulnerability of people and places to climatic, economic or socio-political perturbations. Communities cannot be expected to remain stationary one their income sources wither leading to, migration within and beyond the region. The shrinking population-land ratio, reduced economic viability and decreasing interest in agriculture have amplified the impact of climate change on land use and land-cover in the HKH region.

The HKH Mountains are likely to experience a wide range of climate change effects on the environment, biodiversity, and socioeconomic conditions (Beniston 2003). Changes in the hydrological cycle may significantly change precipitation patterns leading to changes in river runoff and affect the environment, flow and nutrient cycles along the river basin ecosystems with adverse impacts on ecosystem and agricultural productivity, and the gene pool including from agro- biodiversity and wild relatives of food crops in the natural systems. However, there has been little research on climate change on the mountain ecosystem productivity and functions, and generalizations have been made from scattered studies at sites widely separated in space and time (IPCC 2007a; Noguez-Bravo et al. 2007). The limited evidence that exists (Shrestha et al. 1999; Liu and Chen 2000; Shrestha et al. 2000; Xu et al. 2009) is already ringing alarm bells on the fate of Himalayan biodiversity and the services it has been providing. Recent scientific understanding, led by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), is that global climate change is happening and will present practical challenges for local ecosystems (IPCC 2007a). These include the prospect of more severe weather, longer droughts, and higher temperatures (milder winters), heat waves, changes in local biodiversity, and reduced ground and surface water quantity and quality. These changes will impact everything from the terrestrial biodiversity to human health, built infrastructure, and socioeconomic conditions. The global community is currently trying to understand the nexus between climate change and mountain vulnerability, especially in the most remote and highest mountains of the world i.e., the Hindu Kush-Himalayas. According to Körner (2009) and Scherrer D, Körner Ch. (2011) the real issue of the ongoing and expected climatic changes in the Himalayas is not the pace and magnitude of the changes but how the changes are affecting the ecosystem dynamics forcing species to migrate to cope. In response to fast rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns, species are moving upslope into already occupied territory and are facing heavy competition, and many may not be able to adapt and eventually may face extinction (Eriksson et al. 2008).

The land use/cover change in the key basins in the HKH region is alarming. While Indus and Ganges basins have lost 90 per cent and 84.5 per cent of their original forest cover, Yangtze is down to 84.9 per cent and the Brahmaputra basin is a shade better with 73 per cent. Climate change, agriculture intensification and rapid urbanisation have contributed to this change. The traditional methods of dealing with water scarcity have been fading away in recent years. Additionally, the relatively small size of landholdings in mountain areas has pronounced the net impact of temperature and rainfall variability on the farm-based economy.

#### 1.4.3 Implication on Ecosystem Goods and Services

The HKH region is extremely rich in ecosystem goods and services including water, biodiversity, medicinal and aromatic plants, wild food crops, and eco-tourism resources. The natural capital in the region provide the basis for a substantial part of the region's total Gross Domestic Product (GDP) besides supporting the subsistence vocations of more than a billion people. The global importance of the ecosystem capital of the HKH has been widely recognised (Penland & Kulp 2005; Nicholls 1995; Woodroffe et al. 2006; Niou 2002; She 2004; Macintosh 2005; Sanlaville & Prieur 2005; & ICIMOD 2009). The rapid economic growth in China and the economic advances underway in India can be attributed partially to the availability of a good natural resources base, especially water and industrial raw materials. Conserving and regulating water, preserving soil, supporting forest management and biodiversity conservation, providing fodder and forage resources for pastoral development, maintaining good environmental conditions for agriculture development, and producing timber and non-timber forest products are some of the most prominent ecosystems services the HKH mountains offer. Scientists (Yao

2008; Lu et al. 2004) put the annual ecosystem service value of the ecosystems of Himalayas at US\$ 150-170 billion. Climate change especially global warming is already having pronounced negative effects on all these services. It has led to the shrinkage of many alpine lakes, reduction of river flow, glacial retreat, decrease of water availability, degradation of permafrost, forests, pasture, desertification, water and soil loss and degradation of rangeland resources. Highly mobile organisms, hardy species (growing on wasteland, weeds, etc.), mid-slope species will be the likely winners in the uncertain ecosystem change scenario resulting from climate change and likely losers are late succession plants, species with small, restricted populations and species confined to mountains or the plains.

#### 1.4.4 Impacts on the Rangelands

As the largest land use type and terrestrial ecosystem, rangelands (Stoddart et al. 1975) account for over 60 per cent of the surface of the HKH. Over 100 million people in the region have a direct though not complete dependence on the rangeland resources for daily subsistence while over 1 billion people are benefiting from water resources conserved and regulated by these ecosystems. What is more, rangelands in the HKH are habitats for globally important fauna and flora and are therefore comprise of many Biodiversity Hotspots (CI 2000) and a great number of protected areas of various types and sizes, especially in Tibetan plateau. Climate-induced negative changes are presenting enormous threats to provision of rangelands ecosystems services that are being felt across the HKH. In China, more than 90 per cent of the rangelands are degraded with about one quarter of them being under severe degradation or threat of desertification (Yi et al. 2009). This has resulted in sharp declines in fodder productivity and carrying capacity and has also engendered the social-economic wellbeing of pastoral communities.

Even though people attribute these changes to human factors such as overgrazing and poor governance, there is increasing evidence and belief that natural factors such as climate change are playing the fundamental role. In Afghanistan, annual precipitation determines the available rangeland resources that range between 40 per cent (in poor rainfall years) and over 85 per cent (in good rainfall years) of the total land area (FAO 1995). Frequent and unpredictable droughts in recent decades have further aggravated the unpredictability of the rangeland productivity and have caused high losses to life and property in Afghanistan. Some 70 per cent to 80 per cent of domestic livestock in the northern and western parts of the country perished in the prolonged drought from 1997 to 2004. Similarly, an extremely harsh winter in 2007/08 claimed the life of over 300,000 animals and 800 people (Yi et al. 2009). Another severe drought in the first half of 2008 caused the drying up of pasturelands and reduced water sources in several northern provinces (including Samangan, Balkh, Jowzjan, Herat and Badghis) causing death of thousands of animals, and failure of around 80 per cent of the rain-fed agriculture (Qazi 2008). Case studies initiated by ICIMOD (unpublished) in Afghanistan, Nepal and Pakistan suggest that decreased rainfall in rangelands has often resulted in expansion of degraded area and accelerated desertification, which further weaken the basis for livestock development. The same studies also indicate that the disappearance of water resources due to prolonged drought has forced people to change their migration routes or even abandon pastoralism.

Alpine Himalayan meadows are very important venues for summer grazing vegetation, medicinal plants and endemic biodiversity, and also in the eastern periphery of the Tibetan Plateau (Yi et al. 2007, 2008). However, it is reported (Mosley 2007; Yi et al. 2007) that upward advancement of the treeline triggered by global warming is reducing the area of summer pastures, which are important for the continued existence of local traditional agro-pastoral transhumance. Some others (Singh, SP; Singh, V; Skutsch, M; 2010) have suggested that such upward movement of the treeline is also edging out endemic alpine species. Changing environment is threatening the habitat of some economically important medicinal plants such as *Cordyceps* spp. that has for years been the major income source for many mountain people.

The east of the Changthang area of Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) of China is becoming warmer and dryer. Alpine steppe dominated by *Stipa* spp. and *Poa* spp. that prefer warm and dry weather are spreading to the south at a rate of 14.2km/10a, causing a corresponding retreat of alpine meadow community. This change is unfavourable for livestock development since the alpine steppe has much lower primary productivity than the alpine community, which prefers a more humid environment (Wang et al. 2004). In northern parts of Tibet, the warming in the spring months is becoming slower but temperature drops more quickly during autumn (Wang et al. 2004). This change has enhanced conflicts in seasonal fodder supply sources and severely affected pastoral development.

Additionally, improper land use and governance and climate change have combined to increase stress on the mountain ecosystems in the HKH. For example, in the TAR of China, decades of overstocking and poor management, rangelands are suffering from a process of degradation and desertification turning the carbon-rich grass turf black, and exposing them to gales and blizzards that are becoming more extreme and devastating. Over grazing is widespread and plant biomass is releasing carbon from peat land and underground soils due to grazing pressure. The high alpine meadows are particularly under threat as top-soil cover is being eroded by strong winds making restoration of vegetation more difficult. The rampant degradation of the rangelands is also forcing nomads to change their vocations. To summarise, it can be concluded that Tibetan Plateau is highly prone to heating, drying and more extreme weather conditions, which is having pronounced impacts on rangelands besides influencing the Asian monsoon system as well.

#### 1.5 Community movement in natural resources management

Lateral and vertical integration of communities in local administration is critical to attaining equity and justice leading to good governance, especially environmental governance. Inspiring initiatives of collective actions for natural resources management do exist across the region but their integration into the existing institutions have been slow. However, there are some promising initiatives that could help in attaining the SMD goals.

Uplands of North-east India, comprising of the eight hilly and mountainous states are categorised as underdeveloped regions and also exemplify the classical paradox of 'poverty in the midst of plenty'. Through an IFAD supported North-eastern Community Resources Management Project (NERCOMP) project the region is now focusing on interventions that are technically appropriate, culturally sensitive and institutionally effective, for which a 'genuine partnership between communities, government and civil society' has been forged to ensure that the interventions are demand-driven and client oriented.

Since its inception in mid 1970s, the community forestry programme has been the largest and longest participatory green initiative wherein 40 per cent of Nepal's population is involved in managing 25 per cent of country's forest area. Not only is the programme inclusive and equitable, it has also been able to address socio-political and environmental concerns at the national and regional levels. The emerging carbon payment through the REDD+ mechanism promises to provide incentives and co- benefits to the community thereby exposing local communities to a competitive world wherein protecting community rights would be crucial.

First started as projects, these institutions have now work with genuine local participation and support and have successfully arrested the deforestation and also helped to improve forest cover. These have the potential to be expanded through legal provisions as has been already demonstrated by Nepal's community forestry programme. Though the case studies are country specific, their strengths lie in the diversity of approaches to suit varied socio-economic situations. Nobel laureate Elinor Ostrom whose award winning research on partly based on Nepal's community forestry says, 'When collective action is high, forest users themselves monitor regularly, forest conditions get better; and when local groups have long-term rights and can harvest from a forest, they protect its conditions more'. She added, 'Having rights does not mean taking all; if they have no rights at all, why will they have interest in protecting their resources? The crucial problem is how to match forests with the interests of the people and the communities.' This has been a fundamental philosophy of Nepal's community forestry policies.

#### 1.6 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)

Information technologies, especially computers and mobile phones and increasing internet connectivity in rural areas, have made significant inroads in the HKH region. Tele-density in Nepal reached 41.5 per cent in 2011 from a low of 27 per cent in 2010. Bhutan has 50 per cent mobile penetration; Pakistan has had a cumulative average growth of the mobile market by five per cent during last three years and mobile and Internet penetration in the mountain regions of India has been impressive (Thulasi Bai et

al. 2007).

ICTs can play an important role in development by connecting people to more accurate and up-to-date information. However, there is concern that the 'digital divide' is increasing the gap between the information 'haves' and 'have-nots' especially in mountain regions that are poor and are remote. Studies have shown that market information transmitted via mobile phones has helped farmers reduce transport costs by 33 per cent. Farmers in remote regions, like Humla in Western Nepal, have benefitted from mobile penetration for marketing medicinal plants. However, the impact of ICTs has not been uniform across the region.

Accessibility, both physical and electronic, has increased across the region during last two decades. However, subsistence farmers have found that cost of communication, about 11 per cent of their total cost of production, prohibitive. While extensive road and communication networks have played significant role in access to services and markets, there is need for policy to create mechanisms for easy access for marginal farmers.

Countries of the HKH region have begun to acknowledge the digital divide in policy but the issue of access and equity has remained unaddressed largely because of the overwhelming presence of the private sector in extending telecommunication services. Broadly speaking, computers, mobile phones and Internet access have connected remote areas to the mainstream of development. But road building rarely confirms to region's ecological fragility and vulnerability. While technology can enhance the options for mountain communities to adapt and survive at cheaper costs by accessing market opportunities, its impact on enhancing resilient livelihoods has yet to be fully assessed.

#### 1.7 Expansion of eco-tourism

The HKH region has always attracted tourists. Mt. Everest – the 'jewel of the Himalayas', lies on the border between Nepal and China. This is definitely one of the most sought natural attractions by tourists as it is the highest mountain on earth. Trekking tourism to Khumbu valley, Nepal is still a popular activity in the region.

The growing access of ICTs has contributed to the spread of tourism in the HKH region. They have made it easy for 15-20 per cent of tourists and tourism businesses for locating potential ecotourism sites and making travel plans. It is estimated that 50 million people visit mountains each year (Mountain Partnership 2008). The relationship between tourism and SMD has featured prominently in Agenda 21, and in related scientific and political debates and discussions. Tourism holds special significance for countries like Nepal as tourism earnings comprise around seven per cent of the GDP and during best tourism years (2009) the industry generated 4.7 per cent of the total employment. Tourism's share in India's GDP is 8.6 per cent. However, the impacts of tourism on mountain ecosystems and biological resources are of great concern because of the high fragility and environmental sensitivity of the HKH. Cultural identities and diversity in the mountains are also under threat due to the expansion of economic activities, social and environmental forces associated with mountain tourism. Tourism as an important industry in HKH region has suffered from a narrow interpretation of the allure of the mountains. Reserved as a preserve for extreme sports and adventure or romanticized as a pristine wilderness, mountain tourism especially in the HKH region has long been regarded as an escape from the woes of urban life, unblemished by the civilization-inflicted scars carried by regions at lower elevations. Whatever the purpose of visiting, tourists from around the world and the region have been attracted to the mountains; those visiting mountains comprise about 15-20 per cent of the global tourist trade.

However, many HKH countries, especially the middle-hills, have suffered the impact of this resource intensive industry, with over construction of resorts and other tourist facilities. Further, the mountain landscapes have had the unintended effect of rendering people living there invisible. They have largely ended up working as menials or porters, while the overwhelming share of the tourism revenue flows to interests outside the region.

India's 'National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem' has laid stress on regulatory mechanisms for controlling tourist in flows in ecologically sensitive areas. Effective April 2008, the Government of Uttarakhand has restricted the number of tourists visiting the source of the holy river Ganga to 150 per day. Similarly, the Indian state of Sikkim has been employing an environmental fee, permits for entries, and stay time restrictions in some environmentally sensitive high altitude/ areas. Sikkim had a 25 per cent increase in tourist inflows in the past two decades and has developed a benchmark that can serve as a basis of responsible tourism in other parts of the HKH. Tourism holds potential to contribute to economic development in the HKH region but its expansion cannot be at the cost of loss of biodiversity, local cultures and livelihoods. The need to address such concerns while harnessing the potentials tourism to mountain livelihoods is now being recognised. However unlike the Alps, mountain tourism in the Himalayas is still in infancy. Although record annual growth rates have been forecast for South Asia (5%) – compared to 4.1 per cent for the rest of the world – the overall tourism potential remains underutilised. South Asia attracts less than one per cent of the global tourists leaving the potentially largely untapped.

#### 1.8 Major policy and legal reforms

The policy environment for managing natural resources, especially forests, has been improving consistently since the 1990s although there is lack of compliance on account of a legacy of failed institutions in South Asia. Although progress in policy reform, for example, the 1988 forest policy of India has been mixed regarding the institutionalisation of Joint Forest Management, the potential it holds to transform forestry into green economy wealth is promising. By setting up the National Green Tribunal -- an apex legal body – India has joined the ranks of 47-odd countries in the world that attach significance to Right to Information and justice as enshrined in Agenda 21. India has also recently launched the Green India Mission.

Pakistan has already approved several policies including the National Environmental Policy (2005), National Forest Policy (Draft), National Energy Conservation Policy (2006), National Renewable Energy Policy (2006) and the Policy for Development of Renewable Energy for Power Generation (2006). The National Environment Commission is the key policy institution in Bhutan. In Nepal the National Environment Policy Action Plan has been in existence since 1993. Forest policies of Nepal and Bhutan of 1993 are landmark documents that are now being considered for a global award. India has recently passed a Land Rights Bill, which assures land rights to forest dwellers and dependent indigenous community. It has also developed a range of policies and enacted many laws covering various environmental sectors. Within the ambit of environment policy and forest laws HKH countries are framing mountain specific regulations. The Assam Hill Land and Ecological Sites (Protection and Management) Bill, 2006 is one such legislation that aims at preventing indiscriminate cutting of hills and filling up of water bodies in urban areas, which had led to serious ecological problems in places like Guwahati.

Uttarakhand has recently implemented a policy for harnessing renewable energy sources with private sector/community participation targeting power generation and management through a power council. The policy permits power generation by individuals, Gram Panchayats (village councils), registered societies, and private companies. Such diversity of policies reflects mountain specificity with a possibility of adoption and replication across the HKH region. Many of such policies are also backed by fiscal incentives. Recognising forests as national wealth, the 12th Finance Commission of India recommended an incremental grant of Rs 1000 crores or USD 250 million for maintenance of forests from 2005 to 2010. This amount was distributed among the states based on their forest area. The existing system needs to be modified to adequately account for the mountain states. Such initiatives have the potential to be up-scaled and have possibility of emulation across the HKH region as a national payment for environmental services (PES) programme.

Policies and laws within the respective countries in the HKH reflect environment stewardship at one level. Within the region, China and India have signed up a number of acts together because only cooperate forces can solve global environmental crises, especially taking into account the fact that these two countries contribute greatly to world air and water pollution. Both, China and India are the active members the Asia – Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate. This partnership among the region's two biggest economies auger well for better environmental quality of the HKH Mountains also.

#### 1.9 Harnessing the potential of water resources

The growing water stress, plans for mega dams on shared rivers, and uncertainties about the precise impact of climate change on water supply have brought water to the centre of the political agenda of major HKH countries. The problem is compounded by the shifting patterns of precipitation and river run-off associated with climate change, which is likely to push South Asia to the second-lowest position in terms of per capita volume of freshwater alongside the Middle East and North Africa. Overcoming the impending water crises should merit serious policy consideration in a declining resource environment scenario. But legacies of distrust, bitterness and disinclination to cooperate dampen the possibility of such a policy option. Politically the HKH remains a volatile and unstable region. Its capacity to face water crises is limited; yet a regional approach to resolve water-sharing conflicts does not exist.

Domestic and intra-country riparian water-sharing concerns have persisted in South Asia for decades despite the existence of water-sharing treaties between India, Pakistan, Nepal and Bangladesh. The Ganges-Brahmaputra basin is one site that is most contentious that could become complex once the water crisis deepens. Even though the countries in the region have been able to harness some water resources for irrigation as well as for drinking purposes, their preparedness for an impending water shortage and increasing water hazards on account of glacial meltdown is lacking. The alarming glacier melt rate in the HKH region could mean serious water insecurity everywhere from the Indus Plains to the Yellow River basin; the problem is already being experienced in Amu Darya command area. Lack of water resources for agriculture and hydro-power could even lead to conflicts. On 25 August 2011, the Prime Minister of Bhutan issued a warning saying that their Gross National Happiness Index might be affected if the water they depend on for the Chilkha Hydel project dries up due to glacier melt. The HKH glaciers seem to be melting faster than that in other parts of the world not only due to greenhouse gases but also due to atmospheric black soot that settle on the Himalayan snows and absorb ambient heat to accelerate snowmelt. Water is an emotive as well a political issue that countries often use to divert public attention away from their policy failures. Without doubt, it is for the political leadership in the HKH region to decide on a course of action to overcome the consequences of climate change on water supply, because no outsider can undertake this important task for the region.

#### 1.10 Emergence of major socio-political conflicts

The HKH region has been of great interest to the world due to its geopolitical, cultural, developmental and bio-cultural importance – and of late for matters related to security. Despite the geographical proximity, countries in the HKH region are caught up in mistrust and suspicions. China and India, two largest countries in the region had a less than co-operative relationship for a long time due primarily to border disputes. As a result cross-border economic cooperation could not grow. The situation, however, began improving after the 2001/02 after the two countries signed a bilateral trade agreement.

The socio-political issues in the HKH region are complex and where mutual distrust and hostility have existed between different countries. Even at the best of times these countries find it difficult to resolve their differences, even though the failure to address the issues of climate change, poverty, water crises, and biodiversity loss would be disastrous for all.

Strategic analysts have suggested that the future may remain uncertain for the South Asia region because, unlike Europe, it does not have a history of collaborative actions for developing region-wide policies. The situation has been further complicated by religious positions that have influenced political decision-making, the absence of functioning democratic institutions, and the existence of asymmetric relations and weak implementation. The growth of extreme religious positioning has, as a consequence, has made it more difficult for nation-states to develop region-wide policies. Climate change and the critical need for collaboration for preserving the Water Tower of Asia offer a unique opportunity for these countries to develop a cooperative agenda for benefiting both the mountain communities and downstream beneficiaries of the eco-system services provided by the mountains.

#### 1.11 Major activities in promoting the Mountain Agenda

Agenda 21, Chapter 13 has focussed and institutionalised global attention on mountains. The establishment of an International Center for Integrated Mountain Development in 1983 and the continued support to the centre is one example of such global interest in securing the environment and livelihoods of mountain communities in the HKH region. The Asia Pacific Mountain Forum was formed in 1997 to create virtual platform for exchanging knowledge in the region. Similarly, the Mountain Partnership Consortium (MPC) in an arrangement created to strengthen the Mountain Agenda at the global level.

Both bilateral and multi-lateral institutions have actively pursued projects in sustainable mountain development in the HKH region. The World Bank has been active in Pakistan, as also in the lower hills in India and Nepal; the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has a fairly large portfolio in the region and so has the Asian Development Bank (ADB); IUCN is active in Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh. These agencies have brought active interest, resources and knowledge on sustainable mountain development. ICIMOD has remained the lead agency for promoting the mountain agenda through cross-sector linkages with governments of member countries, research institutes and civil society. To give a fillip to its efforts to promote mountain development, ICIMOD has now begun celebrating ICIMOD Day in member countries and not just its headquarters. A large number of sustainable mountain development initiatives are under or have been undertaken in the HKH region and these have created synergistic impacts and contributed to learning about socio-political institutions, economic-enterprise linkages and cross-sectoral complementarities but at the cost of losing focus on social equity, economic self-reliance and environmental sustainability – the three pillars of sustainable development. This report has commissioned a number of case studies to provide a snapshot of activities in these areas at a micro level.

#### 1.12 Poverty reduction measures and successes

There are many facets of poverty in the HKH region. It is manifested by low income, poor health, low access to health facilities, malnutrition, poor education, low skills, high dependence on the natural environment, high insecurity and physical vulnerability, drudgery and limited capability and entrepreneurial capacity. These dimensions of poverty are directly or indirectly associated with mountain bio-physical and socio-economic specificities characterised by geographic isolation, socio-cultural marginalisation, poor physical and economic infrastructures, poor access to market, technologies, information, poor institutional services, and limited economic opportunities. Geographic isolation, often compounded by differences in language and customs, prevents the benefits of markets, its niche products, and national economic growth from reaching the mountain people.

Limited employment and economic opportunities, and insecurity trigger out-migration keeping back only women, the elderly and economically less active populations in the mountain areas and therefore, the lower entrepreneurial capabilities. Therefore, the nature, causes and dimensions of mountain poverty differ significantly from that in the lowlands and the need to be understood from a mountain perspective. Yet, policy makers have not fully understood poverty in a mountain context. As result, market-driven value chain initiatives and tourism have contributed to poverty reduction only for a limited population and policy and institutional response to poverty reduction has been poor across the HKH region.

India's Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is perhaps the most significant initiative in the region. It guarantees 100 days of assured employment to the rural poor in a calendar year. Though results of the cash-to-work transaction are mixed, reports indicate that the scheme has been able to reduce rural-urban migration and promoted natural resource conservation in the villages.

#### 1.13 Growing urbanisation and high labour migration

For a long time now the mountains and hills have been a region of high migration from north to south (and sometimes the other way around), as well as from the west to the east. There has been substantial seasonal migration of labour to the plains to make up for both the unskilled labour shortages in the plains and the need for cash earnings in

the otherwise non-monetised mountainous areas. This quest for food and additional sources of income has created durable exchanges across the HKH region. In addition, rulers have repeatedly provided inducements to encourage people to migrate – often for political reasons – to under-populated areas and to transform forests into arable land. This movement of people from the mountains and hills to the plains have also resulted in building many economic, political and cultural relationships.

Migration and population mobility are essential elements of human and economic development. In fact migration is increasingly being used as a strategy to raise family income and also adapt to the changes taking place, including that caused by climate change. New destinations have opened up for migrants over the last two decades. These have mainly been the Gulf States, South and North East Asian countries and the West. These population movements have created new regional and transnational links, connecting very distant countries and different cultures. The effects of the remittances on the recipient economies have received much media attention, but have been not been assessed thoroughly. A study carried out by ICIMOD indicates that close to 15 per cent or 30 million of the world's migrants come from countries in the Hindu Kush-Himalayas. Bangladesh, India, China, and Pakistan are among the largest countries with out-bound migrants, a significant percentage of this population come from mountain countries. Labour migration is a major livelihood strategy of mountain people. The countries of HKH region have the highest inflow of remittances that any region in the world (Kollmair and Hoermann 2011).

After Rio, migration from Nepal has tripled, and that from China has doubled. The remittances reaching the region were close to US \$ 70 billion in 2007, or 21 per cent of global flows. No other region has such a large inflow. Diaspora contribution to SMD has remained a myth as home economies have not been able to encourage migrants to return and invest in productive areas thus fuelling unsustainable urbanisation as seen in Kathmandu, Nepal. Skilled migrants never return to their countries of origin. This is particularly true for educated migrants who are often unable or uninterested in investing in their own country and find the host country more attractive thus resulting in net loss to the mountains. Unless migration is purposefully managed, there is no way to make the skilled human capital relevant for SMD.

Almost all the mountain areas of the HKH region are subsistence agricultural economies, some more primitive while others have varying degrees of modernisation. Nepal and Bhutan, typical mountainous countries, are predominantly rural. Development has come to these areas last, and it has come in small scales owing to their physical and social remoteness. Again development models that worked in the plains have been transplanted to the mountains disregarding the upland specificities. Consequently, the results have not led to effective poverty reduction or sustainable development.

#### 1.14 Growing awareness and importance of indigenous and traditional knowledge

Significance of indigenous technical knowledge (ITK) is now being incorporated in development protocols. Over one 1000 villages in Nagaland in North-east India have been organised into Village Development Boards (VDBs), with the specific purpose of taking into consideration the traditional village organization of the specific cultural group. Using this institutional mechanism, the highly distorted shifting agricultural system is now being redeveloped by strengthening the tree component that had been weakened by high deforestation. Keeping in view the traditional approaches, the state government has launched a programme called Commoditisation of Public Institutions and Services.

The programme seeks to augment existing agricultural systems, rather than attempting to bring a radical change. The approach relies on participatory testing rather than transplanting new species through extension agents at the test sites. A dozen tree species have been tested in over 200 test plots. Water being a critical factor in sustainable management of land resources in a monsoonal region where water scarcity is acute for a major part of the year, ITK combined with appropriate water management has been demonstrated as a major factor for sustainable management of natural and human-managed ecosystems not only for the Northeast, but also for other parts of the Himalayas. Converting ITK, often seen as location-specific, into generalisations that are applicable across socio- ecological systems has been a major step undertaken to incorporate research results in public policy and development initiatives. There is a growing realisation in the HKH region that development approaches that link cultural diversity with biological diversity can form the basis for ensuring human security socio-ecologically fragile mountain systems. The Apatani tribe of Arunachal Pradesh has sound ITK of forest, land and water management, and has a highly developed system of growing rice in the valley. The Apatanians under the overall supervision of their village headman have optimised water use along with nutrient use in their rice fields.

The HKH region is home to hundreds of ethnic tribes, and it is their ITK that helped them survive in the harsh mountain environments. It is only recently that countries in the region have begun tapping in the ITK to address some of the current concerns related to climate-induced changes in cropping pattern and for adapting to extreme weather conditions. Institutionalising indigenous knowledge can therefore be a critical element for inter-generational resources enrichment and transfer.

#### 1.15 Regime changes and social movements towards good governance

Since 1992, there has been a general move towards greater devolution and decentralisation of power to local governments, which has to some extent reduced the marginality of mountain people and helped them attain their aspiration for self-governance. Some countries considered mountain areas as “sensitive” borders and were kept under strict restrictions on movement of outsiders and even locals. As consequence either those areas were ignored in terms of development needs or were rapidly developed in terms of roads and other infrastructures.

The entire HKH has witnessed widespread grassroots social movements that have sometimes turned violent (such as the Maoist insurgency in Nepal) while others have been non-violent (Chipko movement in Garhwal, India). While local grievances range from complaints of marginality in national and regional governance for reasons of identity, power, religion, poverty or other socio- political causes, scholars have claimed that other factors such as environmental degradation, and lack of access to political process are key triggers for such movements (Sedon and Karki 2004). While central governments, global powers, and sometimes state powers have looked at mountain regions as possible sources of global terrorism (Afghanistan), the aspiration of mountain people are similar and much of the acrimony can be resolved when more effective governance in sustainable mountain development is achieved as in the case of smaller, mountain-specific governing units such as the case of Uttarkhand in India (Tolia, 2011).

#### 1.16 Emergence of China and India as an economic power

Together, India and China make up almost 40 per cent of the world's population and produce six per cent of the global output. These are two very large markets. With greater integration their economic performance will have externalities—good and bad—in the neighbourhood and in the rest of Asia and the world. China began to open up its economy in 1978, and in 30 it considerably enlarged its share in global export of manufactured goods. India started a process of economic liberalisation about 10 years after China, and by 1991 it had achieved its best export performance in the services sector.

The global financial crisis has further accelerated the shift in economic power to emerging economies. Measured by GDP in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms, which adjusts for price level differences across countries, the largest E7 emerging economies are likely to be bigger than the G7 economies by 2020, and China is likely to overtake the US by then. India could also overtake the US by 2050 on this basis.

The rise of China, followed by India, has led to a new balance of world economic power. Their growth has driven attention to other developing and transition economies, which also have a high potential for growth, based on cheap labour, opening up to foreign technology and capital, economic liberalisation and market regulation. Since the end of 2008, all emerging economies have been hit by the global meltdown. However, India and China – thanks to their large domestic markets – have sustained growth rates that are still high compared to advanced economies. Thus, even during the crisis, the “catch-up” process is still underway.

The rise of China and India as economic and political forces has created both complexities and opportunities, particularly for the smaller countries in the region. Will the high rates of economic growth with increasing interactions with the rest of the world force both India and China to cooperate and settle unresolved disputes? The fundamental

differences between the two with regard to governance systems and international policy positions could deter such a development at least in the near future..

China and India pursue entirely different political paths and in practical terms, policy success has a somewhat different meaning in each country. The philosophical underpinning of their respective policies is different, and divergent political and economic ambitions, increasing rivalry over market share, access to natural resources or selection of strategic partners could even drive them further apart. Consequent to such posturing, conflict over sharing natural resources (mainly water) would remain contentious and could even fuel new conflicts.

China is increasingly demonstrating its commitment to the spirit of international conventions such as the UNFCCC. However, China still classifies itself as a developing country and identifies itself both as member of the G8 and G-20 while maintaining its association with G77. The major strategic concern of all HKH countries in the region, therefore, is how best to work together and reconcile their respective national interests while thinking for the greater good of the region, and jointly promote sustainable mountain development.

## PART II: Progress of changes in the HKH region since 1992

### 2.1 Assessment objectives, methods and activities

The assessment adopted a common framework for case study selection and methodology to be used. The report required to ensure the inclusion of the three-pronged objective of securing renewed political and financial commitment, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps, and addressing new and emerging challenges as a strategic entry point to the Rio+20 agenda. The assessment focused on the two major themes of the Rio+20 Conference: Green Economy for Poverty Reduction and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development. Additionally, good environmental governance was included to reflect the specific needs of the region. The report tries to highlight the specific context of the HKH region and reflects the views collected through multi-stakeholder dialogue and consultations as summarised below:

#### A. Virtual (e-conference) consultations

Table 7: Summary three e-Conferences (Stakeholder Consultation on Rio+20) organised by ICIMOD

e-conference event	Event Duration	No. of stakeholders	Participating countries	Total contribution and key issues
HKH	4-24 April 2011	296	20 countries in Asia Pacific, Europe, North and Latin America (majority from HKH)	Over 210 Key topics: climate change, deforestation, shifting cultivation, water and globalisation
South and Central Asia (Youth Perspective)	9-29 May 2011	550	38 countries Asia Pacific, Europe, North & Latin America (mostly from HKH & Central Asia)	Over 400 Key topics: green jobs, technology transfer and alternative energy, mainstreaming youth in the Rio+20 process

#### B. Commissioning of case studies

Table 8: Distribution of case studies by countries and themes

Event	Countries covered	Total case studies/remarks	Thematic focus
HKH (covered by commissioned case studies)	India, Bhutan, Nepal, and Pakistan	10 (Balance between 3 pillars – economic, ecological and social/institutional of SD/SMD); policies and implementation)	Biodiversity, Community Forestry; Eco-tourism; Micro-hydro; Biogas; Organic Agriculture; Watershed; CBNRM; REDD+
HKH (key informant's sharing)	Bangladesh, China, Myanmar, Afghanistan	Country representatives presented country priorities	Capacity building, Ecotourism, bio-geographic diversity and climate impacts

#### C. Workshop of stakeholders from the HKH and Asia Pacific region

Table 9: Asia Pacific regional capacity building and knowledge sharing workshops

Event	Participating Countries	Key highlights	Major outputs
Asia-Pacific Youth Forum on Climate Actions and Mountain Issues (convened as Asia Pacific Youth meeting on Rio+20), 8-12 August 2011	43 Youth from 17 countries HKH Countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan	- Capacity building sessions - Motivational sessions - Sustainability exercises - Team work for developing youth statements for Rio+20	- Asia Pacific Youth Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development - Asia Pacific Youth Position paper on Rio+20
Regional Sharing Workshop on Assessment of Challenges and Opportunities in the Asia Pacific region for Rio +20, 23-25 August 2011	50 participants from 7 countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China (one each), India (9), Myanmar (1), Nepal (12) Pakistan (3)	- Presentation of and discussion of case studies - Presentation of Key Informants - Sub/regional group work to assess key issues, challenges and opportunities and develop recommendations	- Finalisation of structure of Assessment Report - Documentation of key issues, challenges and opportunities - Development of key recommendations

### 2.2 Overview of the Sustainable Mountain Development efforts in the HKH region

This section deals with broad changes that have affected sustainable mountain development since 1992, from changes in its global definition and practice to more specific drivers of change in the Hindu Kush Mountains. What have we learned that can provide us a way forward to meet emerging challenges? What are the opportunities in sustainable mountain development, post Rio+20? These lessons are drawn primarily, though not exclusively, from specific case studies.

In the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio in 1992, a global consensus was formalised around the need to promote development aspirations of developing nations. This was called the Agenda 21. Various global environmental concerns were listed for concerted global action on different Chapters of which Chapter 13 addressed the issues of mountain environment and development.

The decade of 1992-2002 mainstreamed environmental concerns in development and many actions were offered as examples of sustainable development that culminated with the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg or Rio+10, in 2002.

Progress continued in reducing the ambiguity of the concept with the development of quantifiable indicators in sustainable development such as GINI coefficient, forest area per capita, and GDP growth per capita. Critics, however, maintained that sustainable development was a theoretical oxymoron with the word "sustainable" implying a world of limits from ecology and the World Conservation Strategy 1980, and "development" implying a world of no limits, from economics and "Our Common Future 1987 (Redclift 2005).

With the collapse of multilateral environmental governance envisioned in the Kyoto Protocol, there is now a trend to remould the SMD agenda along the broad parameters of Green Economy and effective Environmental Governance - the twin themes for Rio+20. Most countries are responding to these as an opportunity to better access climate change funds and other low carbon opportunities. There is a fear that this may cause diversion of debate, funding, goals and priority from mountains to elsewhere such as the Green Economy – once again ignoring the need to maintain balance among the three pillars and promote intergenerational equity.

How can the concerns of sustainable mountain development (SMD) be addressed in this context? How can the persistent poverty and livelihoods vulnerability of mountain peoples be addressed in more effective ways? Even with the general slowing down of ecological degradation in the mountains, how can equity concerns and access to the dividends of SMD be brought to unremittingly marginalised indigenous people in this region?

To answer these and other research and development questions, the HKH assessment team carried out 10 case studies selecting topics that while thematically covering all three pillars of sustainable development in a cross cutting manner also addressed the institutional framework and good governance issues. What follows is a description of their key findings.

#### 2.2.1a. Van Panchayats or Community-managed forestry, Uttarakhand, India

##### Case Description

The Van Panchayat (VP: Village Forest Councils) is the oldest community forestry institution in the Indian State of Uttarakhand. The conservation efforts of VPs also contribute in providing a number of ecosystem services including carbon sequestration, which has acquired a significant value in the context of climate change. There is a potential for rewarding VPs through carbon payment mechanisms in Uttarakhand as it is happening in Nepal with support from ICIMOD. In India there is a distinct possibility to do so under the Green India Mission of the National Action Plan on Climate Change that can augment the green economy.

##### Spatial scale/location

Uttarakhand is a newly formed mountainous state formed to respond to the development aspirations of the hill and mountain people. Although approximately 80 per cent of the population of Uttarakhand depends on agriculture but only 14 per cent of 53,000 sq. km. of its total area is under crops. This also indicates the limited scope for the growth of an agrarian economy. Moreover, agriculture and allied sectors depend heavily on forest resources. Forests in the hilly parts of Uttarakhand were not codified or government-managed till 1865 and the local communities followed informal socio-cultural norms to manage and harvest the forests. The VPs are legally recognised, first under the District Schedule Act and later the Indian Forest Act 1927. The overall management of VPs, their constitution, elections, management, planning, representation of marginal groups/ women, various rights of members, etc. are governed by rules notified under the present Uttarakhand Panchayati Forest Rules (UPFR) 2005. The highlights of the UPFR, 2005 include empowerment of women and weaker sections of society, promotion of flexible site-specific community planning, and liberal benefit sharing of usufructs under the VP rules, 2005.

The 12,089 VPs in Uttarakhand (Van Panchayat Atlas, Uttarakhand 2007) manage over 5,449 km<sup>2</sup> of forests in 11 hill districts. This accounts for about 16 percent of the total forest area in the state. Nearly half of the VPs were formed after the creation of Uttarakhand and was made possible by the state policy of "each village having its own VP". There have been significant new interventions, such as Community Carbon Forestry through the Kyoto: Think Global, Act Local (K:TGAL) project, managed by ICIMOD. The project addresses livelihood based management of natural resources, income generation from forest biomass residue, the case of pine needle briquetting for clean domestic energy, and financial resources for strengthening of VPs through the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), for promoting green economy by strengthening institutional governance.

The major stakeholders in the management of the VPs are the local village community, State Forest Department, State Revenue Department, civil society and funding agencies, both government and private.

Most of the VPs have been facing some major challenges, including:

- (i) Inadequate forest area with regard to number of households in a village: nearly 60 per cent of the VPs are of 15 ha while 13 per cent VPs are have 3 ha forest area under their management. Policy and technical interventions are required to have adequate attention on determining viable/ optimum size of a VP;
- (ii) Non-holding of timely elections for democratic governance;
- (iii) Lack of adequate financial resources and appropriate incentives for effective and broad-based participation of the local community;
- (iv) Lack of sensitivity and awareness on the part of government forestry personnel about the significance of VP and its role in improving livelihood options; shortage of skilled and well- oriented human resources in line departments, which has resulted in bureaucratic delays and complexities to linking livelihoods with forest conservation; and
- (v) Inadequate attention to the capacity and leadership building needs of VP members and office holders, especially as regards equipping them with technical capacity and management skills to handle the challenges, and administrative and technical issues related to managing and protecting forest resources.

##### Relevance to Green Economy

- Create fodder banks in VPs and linking them with local dairies by promoting stall-feeding.
- Encourage integrated organic farming (including apiculture and floriculture) with support of VPs.
- Promote and add value to products like Tejpatta (Bay leaves) locally through grading and packaging.
- Produce energy using Chir Pine (*Pinus roxburghii*) needles.
- Encourage plantation of broad-leaf species and build capacity of villagers to generate livelihood opportunities.
- Promote medicinal and aromatic plant, oil seed, fibre and natural dyes cultivation and harvesting, and resin tapping and other non-timber forest products.



- Promote eco-tourism in VP forest and village areas, and
- Improve water conservation techniques and charge royalty on sale of clean drinking water as forest produce of VPs.

#### Relevance to institutional governance

- Formulate and reform policy to improve the property rights of people on tree and tree products.
- Allocate optimum/minimum area of forest under the VP forest according to the size of the forest dependent population to make it a functional and viable proposition.
- Formulate policy to reward community for management and conservation of forests as carbon sinks. This should be at international, national and state level through carbon credits, Central Finance Commission and State Finance Commission, respectively.
- Formulate/ align State and Central ecotourism policies taking into consideration the Forest Conservation Act (FCA), 1980.
- Institute mechanisms for ensuring functional democratically elected local institutions for governance.
- Institute a mechanism to build capacity of communities to handle complex natural resource management issues (protection, regulation, micro planning, implementation, value addition, sustainable harvesting) for sustainable management practices, in addition to the programmes now underway.
- Assess the implication of human-wildlife conflicts in forest rich regions.
- Strengthen existing traditional forest governance institutions rather than creating new ones for new project based interventions, and
- Conduct trainings on participatory skills and attitudinal changes for key stakeholders, including the forestry and revenue staff of the government.
- Emphasise protection and conservation models of forestry rather than target-oriented afforestation (low cost and more sustainable) and link conservation with economic benefits through clear institutional mechanisms.

#### 2.2.1b. Community forestry and good forest governance in Nepal

Community forestry is a nationwide programme covering all districts and physiographic regions of Nepal. The programme has helped in re-greening of the mountains to a large extent. Probably, it is one of the largest and longest ongoing participatory green initiatives that involve about 40 per cent of the population in managing about 25 per cent of the country's forests. In the last three decades, community forestry has evolved from a programme to an effective forestry resources management model for Nepal. Encouraged by the success of the programme, Nepal has adopted community-based approaches to also managing protected areas and watersheds. Experience of community-based resource management in Nepal confirms that the "tragedy of the commons" results not from the sharing rights, but from the absence of well-defined rights, roles, responsibilities and resources (4Rs) of different stakeholders. Furthermore, it clearly shows that poor are neither bad resource managers nor agents of deforestation. Given proper incentives and tenure rights, the poor invest in and can contribute to protecting their environments.

Since its inception in the mid 1970s, the programme has evolved continuously and has been a good learning experience for government agencies, local communities, international development organisations, NGOs and CBOs. The programme has been successful in embracing changing local needs, national development priorities and international environmental concerns. The growth trajectory of community forestry has a linkage with global and national progress and is also contributing to social, economic and environmental agendas at the local, national and international levels. The community forestry took a participatory turn in early 1990s when the government enacted enabling policies, laws and regulations. It directly and indirectly incorporates the spirit of all three objectives of the CBD in policy and practice. The programme is also an excellent example of the local application of the global agenda on environment, sustainable development and human rights; and has been helping the government in fulfilling its international commitments.

Over the years, the community forestry programme has evolved in focus from subsistence-based forestry to good green governance contributing to local democracy and sustainable rural development. Community Forestry Users Groups (CFUGs) are one of the largest and strongest civil society organisations in the country. The community forestry initiative has also been an intervention that includes marginalised communities in the rural socio-political processes and has empowered thousands of rural women as important local development stakeholders. The CFUGs have been an important development engine at local level and in many mountain areas CFUGs have been contributing to local development by performing collaborating with at least 20 ministries. In many ways, the community forestry programme has been successful in tackling the three key constraints of sustainable mountain development – marginality, poverty and environmental fragility. Evidences also suggest that all five important livelihood assets of mountain communities have improved after the implementation of community-based forest resources management in Nepal. Evidences also suggest that community forestry has been contributing directly towards the achievement of five MDGs goals such as poverty reduction, environmental conservation, gender equality, primary education and partnerships for development, and also indirectly, to three other MDGs. These outcomes are testimony that the community-based approach to resource management supports the twin goals of both conservation of mountain ecosystems and improving wellbeing of mountain communities.

Despite the wide acceptance and visible outcomes the community based forestry resources management programmes of Nepal also have deficiencies, controversies and complications. The challenges community-based forestry has been facing are multifaceted and include institutional, social, economic, geographical, and environmental issues. For some time, social justice and inclusion have been the core issues of community forestry governance. The big challenge in community forestry has been how to overcome elite capture and make the process more equitable. These issues will become more complex when community forestry begins to benefit more from global environmental services such as Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+).

Since mid-2000, community forestry of Nepal has been in the process of transformation. Community forestry management has been taking more inclusive, equitable and integrated approaches to address the changing socio-political, economic and environmental issues at the national and global levels. At present, national policy debates on community forestry have been dominated by commercialisation of forest products and climate change. Emerging carbon and other PES-related businesses have increased the potentials of community forestry, and possibilities of local communities to contribute to attaining the global environmental goals. These new green mechanisms can create opportunities for the wellbeing of mountain communities. Also commercialisation of community forest products and environmental services in the national and international markets can expose local communities to larger social competition. A "multi-layer and multi-centric" institutional arrangement may therefore emerge. In the absence of proper institutional and policy safeguards, the community-market interface may generally benefit the "most capable" at a cost to the "most incapable".

A good forest management practice like community forestry should focus on creating a sustainable green economy to further enhance the harmonious relationship between human beings and nature. It can be argued that new innovations and special efforts are necessary to address the issues of integration, inclusion, empowerment and enterprise, and also to manage the changing and challenging national and international contexts. A whole new set of institutions, skills and knowledge would be required to manage climate change adaptation and financial mechanisms, landscape-based resource conservation, forest-based green economy, etc. The government and community forestry institutions should be prepared to ensure that local communities in general and poor users in particular, are not deprived from a fair share of benefits from emerging green businesses. The level of future environmental and livelihood impacts of community forestry will depend on the capacity and cooperation among government agencies,

community forestry institutions and the private entrepreneurs in promoting green economy and creating green jobs for rural communities.

#### 2.2.1c. Forest Watershed CDM, Himachal Pradesh, India

##### Case Description

This case study describes how small farmers and forest user communities in the mid-Himalayan state of Himachal Pradesh, India are working to sequester over 839,582 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent over the next two decades through forestation and reforestation work on 4,000 hectares of variedly degraded agriculture and forest land. For their conservation activity each family in 177 village panchayats (councils) will earn between US\$ 83 to US\$ 145 per hectare per year as payment for carbon stocked.

As a sub-component of the World Bank-supported US\$ 75 million Mid-Himalayan Watershed Development Project, the creation of carbon sinks through afforestation is likely to accrue a net gain of US\$ 4.1 million to the communities over the next 20 years. The World Bank, a trustee of the Bio Carbon Fund, is brokering the transfer of funds between the host country and the client DNA (Oficina Espanola de Cambio Climatico) of Spain.

As the first project of its kind in the mountains, the project, which is larger than the 3,500 ha Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) project in China, will not only generate environmental benefits through carbon sequestration but will also improve income-generating capacity of small farmers. Through restoration of highly vulnerable degraded forestlands in Kangra and Bilaspur districts, the planned afforestation and watershed management activities are expected to generate 343 person days of employment per hectare while resulting in other environmental co-benefits such as natural water storage.

##### Relevance to Green Economy

The recent agreement between the Government of Himachal Pradesh and the World Bank, effective till December 2018, ensures that the carbon credits will go to the community, providing them the necessary incentive to protect watersheds and forests. The flow of "green money" will start reaching communities in end-2011; 10 per cent of the total carbon revenue will be retained by the Forest Department as overhead charges. Some conditions will apply before the carbon credit starts to flow. The landowners need to ensure that tree density is not less than 1,100 plants per hectare; that there is no felling of trees from land under the project; and that no part of the land brought under such plantations shall be diverted for non-forestry purposes. Even though issues related to social and gender equity and community participation remains to be addressed, the project does open the door for accessing "green payment". The success of the project will also open opportunities for afforestation and reforestation in an estimated 2.48 million hectares of degraded wasteland in the state.

#### 2.2.1d. Securing livelihoods and natural resource management through community empowerment: The Experience of Natural Resource Management Groups of NERCORMP

##### Case Description

North-eastern India is characterised by rich biodiversity and also extreme poverty. Aid dependency had eroded self reliance before the North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Project for Upland Areas (NERCORMP) – jointly funded by IFAD and the Government of India – was launched in Assam (in N C Hills & Karbi Anglong), Manipur (in Senapati & Ukhrul) and Meghalaya (in West Garo Hills & West Khasi Hills) benefitting some 87,000 households. The overall objective of NERCORMP is to improve the livelihood of vulnerable groups in a sustainable manner through improved management of the resource base in a way that contributes to protecting and restoring the environment. Its major components are capacity building of communities and participating agencies; economic livelihood activities; community-based biodiversity conservation; social sector activities; and village roads and rural electrification. Encouraged by its success and as response to local demand, the project has now been extended to Arunachal and Manipur states of India.

The project promotes "inclusive" and "client driven" decision-making and development through deliberate formation of Natural Resource Management Groups (NaRMGs) tasked with decision making, fund management, implementation, monitoring, participatory planning of activities (Perspective and annual plans), and gender mainstreaming. Self-help Groups and Federations empower women through affinity groups and alliances. Women are involved in savings and micro credit schemes as well as income generating activities. There is emphasis on reducing dependency on jhum by providing other livelihood options such as home gardens, extended home gardens with incorporation of horticulture, and wet rice cultivation. Off farm income generating activities such as weaving, handicrafts, groceries, and petty business are also promoted. Infrastructure development such as building of small irrigation systems for agriculture and village roads for accessing education and markets are also undertaken. The community has set up elephant reserves and python reserves, and have conserved fish breeding sites. Participatory 3- Dimensional Model pioneered in the Philippines is being used for community planning and decision making. The project has so far formed and used 24 different Participatory 3-D models.

The key messages from this project for Rio+20 are:

- Encourage community-led decision making, planning, implementation and monitoring
- Empowered communities can bring about transparency, accountability, inclusive growth and greater ownership of development initiatives
- Empowered communities can contribute to sustainable mountain development goals

- Social inclusion, empowerment of the marginalised
- Economic development – local resources, value addition, alliances of marginalised
- Environmental conservation – sustainable use and management of resources.

##### Relevance to Rio+20 agenda

There is a great degree of diversity among communities across the three states of India's North East. There is general acceptance of NaRMGs and its harmonisation with traditional institutions. However, at higher level, more work is needed to ensure harmonisation. Linkages are also being formed with the private sector and the government. There is a mix of community and individual approach to development that is being tried out. In North-eastern India, 80-90 per cent of the land belongs to the community or village chiefs. As NaRMGs represent the community, there is no problem in implementing the project because the self-help groups engage entire households, especially women, in meaningful activities.

#### 2.2.1e. Watershed Management in Pakistan – an adaptation and Sustainable Development practice

##### Case description

The Tarbela Watershed Management Project (TWMP) was initially started to control siltation in the Tarbela dam with community involvement. It has gradually evolved into a community-based natural resources management and sustainable development project in Pakistan. The project began in the 1970s and its evolutionary process was parallel with global developments like the Stockholm Conference (1972), the Rio Summit (1992), and the present discourse on the green economy. Alongside field activities related to integrated watershed development and creation of alternative livelihood opportunities, the watershed field stations also addressed the second component of Chapter 13 of

Agenda 21 i.e. knowledge generation about the ecology and sustainable development of mountain ecosystems. Watershed management as a discipline has also been incorporated in the curriculum of the Pakistan Forest Institute (PFI).

Key informant interviews and review of literature reveal that the local processes of the TWMP project have addressed the global concerns but evolved without juxtaposing the Agenda 21 or other global process documents in perspective. The global processes have been the major factors influencing the preparation of the TWMP project documents through other ongoing processes in Pakistan.

The results of this study show that the achievements of the TWMP are significant. An area of more than half a million acres has been brought under tree cover and soil conservation, and check damming has had a positive impact on silt load in the dam. Meeting the main objective of the TWMP – the reduction of silt load through participatory watershed management – is the project's main success story. However, progress could have been much more holistic and sustainable had the concerns of biodiversity conservation also been incorporated in the project's design. Biodiversity concerns that remained largely un-addressed are the creation of buffer zones or biological corridors for wildlife in the mountains catchments. After completion of 30 years of watershed management under different phases the project now stands at a crossroads. There is a huge pressure and high community expectation for securing livelihood benefits commensurate with the sacrifices they have made for protecting watersheds.

#### Relevance to Rio+20 agenda

Climate Change as an external driver has become the most important factor affecting sustainable development in the post 1992 era and the importance of forestry in mitigation has now been recognised. Green economy is currently viewed as the viable path for low-carbon economic development and REDD+ is recognised as the best option for promoting green economy through forestry. The TWMP has been analysed for its relevance to the current discourse of Rio+20, in particular its niche in the green economy. The findings of this study show that TWMP has all the required institutional and social setups to start it as a REDD + project. However, capacity building of communities and TWMP staff, legal and technical arrangements are also required.

#### 2.2.2 Conservation and Development of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in Uttarakhand, India

##### Case Description

Medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) form an important component of biodiversity and these are closely linked with local health care systems, rural livelihoods, and herbal industries. The Himalayan region is extremely rich both in the diversity of MAPs and indigenous/traditional knowledge on the use of herbal medicines. A majority of the communities are socio-economically marginalised and depend heavily on the MAPs for their primary health care needs. However, more than 90 per cent of the MAPs used in herbal industries today are extracted from the wild resulting in rapid decline of high value species. In accordance with the Agenda 21 commitment, and subsequent action plans under the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) all member countries and the Himalayan states need to develop long and short-term strategies for conservation, sustainable and scientific harvesting, utilisation, cultivation and marketing of MAPs with the involvement of all stakeholders.

India's Uttarakhand state is also known as the "herbal state" for its tremendous wealth of MAPs. The state has about 5,000 species of vascular plants, of which about one third are known to have some medicinal properties. Of these, nearly 150 species are sold to the herbal industries and are mostly sourced from the wild.

After the formation of the new state in 2000, there was a paradigm shift in biodiversity conservation and management, and efforts aimed primarily at enhancing the impact on local livelihoods. Since much of the land is hilly and unproductive for regular agriculture, the government realised that forests have potential to sustain local livelihoods if managed through meaningful community participation. An important administrative reform was introduced and a new position of the Forest and Rural Development Commissioner (FRDC) was created. The role of the FRDC is to link forests, biodiversity, and agriculture to rural development. This has resulted in a number of new policies, strategies and actions that included the reforms in MAPs sector.

The state has also made major changes to reorganise its research and development programmes in the MAP sector to include medicinal plant business, policy instruments and long-term strategies for the sustainable development of the herbal sector. A State Medicinal Plants Board (SMPB) headed by the Chief Minister issues necessary policy directives and technical guidelines. The state has also established an Herbal Research and Development Institute (HRDI) for developing and disseminating knowledge. A large number of government and non-government organisations, including traditional practitioners and scholars, have contributed to the development of state's herbal sector.

Uttarakhand also has the advantage of access to a number of national research and development institutions based in Dehra Dun. A rapid MAP inventory and mapping project has been initiated for generating baseline data for preparing Conservation, Development and Harvest (CDH) plans that are to become a part of the Forestry Working Plans. Most significantly, the forestry administration has mainstreamed conservation and development of MAPs in divisional management plans and annual plans of operation. The Forest Department has also made provision for improved access of local communities to NTFPs.

#### Relevance for Rio+20 themes

The experiences of developing Uttarkhand's herbal sector hold promise not only for the development of the state but also for other states and neighbouring countries in the HKH region. MAPs will continue to remain the most important bio-diversity resources for socio-economically marginalised communities in the Himalayan region and for the herbal industries. MAP development in the state therefore has to be comprehensive and must consider its links with nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, and traditional medicines (like Ayurveda) while aiming to promote and strengthen the MAP sector in order to impact on all the three pillars of sustainable development – ecological, economic and social. Integrated and systematic development of the MAPs and NTFP sectors can be good examples of how the green economy can work in the mountains. However, a partnership with private sector that can facilitate value addition close to the production areas and better linkages to markets through buy-back guarantees will be necessary to promote the green economy. Multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary approaches are necessary because cultivation of rare and endangered MAP species is required to allow regeneration in the natural habitats. This explains the state policy of promoting cultivation, processing, marketing, and research in a holistic manner.

#### 2.2.3 Transboundary Eco-tourism in Eastern Himalaya: A case of Sikkim (India) and Bhutan

##### Case description

Ecotourism, which aims to protect the natural environment and cultural diversity by attracting nature enthusiasts and generate revenue for local people without harming nature, has emerged as a successful mechanism for contributing to all three pillars of sustainable mountain development in the Eastern Himalaya. People involved in mountain tourism have witnessed an increase in tourist arrivals, longer length of stay, increasing visitor expenditure and retention. India and Bhutan have been promoting tourism as one of the most promising means for attaining sustainable development. Their cooperative policies are having major impacts on development. In the Eastern Himalaya region, where this case study was focused, visitors experience a safe environment and unique hospitality, with good local awareness about the opportunities that eco-tourism presents. Visitors have also appreciated the quality and maintenance of the unique bio- cultural landscape. The region's highly distinctive natural beauty and Buddhist culture are being conserved for retaining the unique identity and also for benefitting from tourism.

Both Bhutan and India have their own tourism policies and action plans. The formulation of policies that address the place and people in the adjoining transboundary regions can assist in promoting tourism in the across borders and to foster pro-poor tourism enterprises. Regional tourism has not flourished in the HKH region as yet but the model has scope for up scaling. The case study provides an overview of the regional tourism status in Sikkim in India, and Bhutan, and suggests the need for furthering regional

cooperation in tourism in a larger scale. The paper aims to explore the tourism potential in the region by promoting ecotourism as an example of transboundary cooperation between India and Bhutan.

#### Relevance to Rio+20 agenda

ICIMOD has been facilitating regional cooperation through its transboundary conservation initiatives. ICIMOD's Regional Cooperation Framework, developed through consultative processes harmonises national policies and legislation for effective management of the Kanchenjunga landscape and it has been a key instrument for achieving environmental and economic sustainability among the countries that share this territory. Promoting nature tourism in this framework can have a maximum benefits and can help improve the livelihoods of people and the environment of the Eastern Himalaya.

#### 2.2.4 Organic Agriculture in Uttarakhand – a green solution for mountain agriculture

##### Case Description

Organic farming is the manifestation of the traditional environmental stewardship of the people that provides a meaningful outcome in the form of economic growth. Agriculture is the mainstay of economy in mountain regions and therefore sustainable development is directly linked to agricultural development.

The green revolution technologies did not really reach the mountain regions primarily because the farmers could not afford the expensive chemical fertilisers and irrigation. Other inputs – intensive extension services and machineries – were also not available in the hills. Therefore, the indigenous technologies and inputs-based diversified agriculture suited the mountain regions, which Uttarakhand is using for promoting organic agriculture or “green agriculture”. Mountains and hills have a long tradition of collecting of forest waste and using it in barn management, and that gets recycled as an important source of carbon (humus) for soil in mountain farms. This was the only input used in crop production. This tradition also sequestered carbon under the ground as soil organic carbon, which is another benefit of green agriculture. The success of organic agriculture in Uttarakhand can thus be attributed to its rich agro-biodiversity and forestry resources (above 60% of the land). Other reasons are the very high literacy among farmers, the large number of educated rural youth not wanting to pursue traditional agriculture and state's good network of roads, railways, and air links connecting it to large markets in Delhi and even Europe.

Creation and strengthening of farmers associations has served as a tool to ensure participation and equity for small farmers, and also a mechanism to take care of supply chain issues such as marketing, certification, and integration of internal quality management system to help ensure traceability and organic compliance. The Uttarakhand Organic Commodity Board (UOCB) was set up in 2003. The state approached Sri Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT) for support and an initiative, Himmothan Pariyojna, was given the responsibility to run the programme. The State and the SRTT contributed equally to finance the initiative with support of the UOCB, which is viewed as a model institution in a totally new sector in the country. As a support mechanism the state government has tasked the state seed certification agency to undertake organic certification and has also named the State Organic Certification Agency (USOCA), as another major support measure.

#### Relevance to Rio+20 themes (Green Economy)

Organic agriculture that includes forestry, range and pasture development fits into the sustainable development agenda of mountains like “fish in water”. Recent global reports indicate how organic agriculture can contribute to climate change adaptation and provide resilience to farmers in vulnerable regions. Organic agriculture that localises food systems has the potential to mitigate nearly 30 per cent of the global green house gas (GHG) emissions and save one sixth of global energy use (Mae Wan Ho and Lim Li Ching, 2009). Sarah Borron,(FAO, 2006) has argued that environment disturbances affect farmers from marginalised regions and organic agriculture techniques can increase resilience in the areas of soil and water, biodiversity, landscapes as well as community knowledge systems. These are essential for building resilience for the climate change impacts in the HKH region. As discussed above the Organic Production Initiative now needs to be brought into a long-term policy framework of mountainous countries and regions. Institutions supporting the programmes need to be strengthened with realistic budgets. Private sector participation needs to be encouraged and consumer forums need to be built to bring about sustainable and fair trade mechanisms. The government has to take a position on the harmful factors like genetically modified organisms (GMOs), intensive agriculture policy and contract farming.

Development agencies can play a supportive role by fostering reliable institution support systems that can initially help provide the components that farmers find difficult to access such as bio-pesticides and organic fertilisers. Besides, technical capacity building, acquisition of adequate technology and skill-based training, marketing, initial financing for certification and localised input production are some of the immediate requirements. Further, Participatory Guarantee System of group certification schemes can be launched in order to take advantage of scale economies (marketing, production, and certification).

#### 2.2.5a. Case Study on Nepal's Bio-Gas Programme – Opportunities for Green Economy and Sustainable Mountain Development Goals

##### Case description

Biogas, as source of clean energy for rural households in Nepal, is environmentally friendly, economically feasible, and socially accepted. Biogas technology has been in use in Nepal since 1977. The Biodiversity Support Programme (BSP) has also been a successful rural development programme that has fostered a partnership among government agencies, donors, the private sector, NGOs, and Community Based Organisations (CBOs). Initial investment subsidies and low interest loans with long repayment periods were some of key elements for the success and expansion of the programme.

At the local level, the biogas programme has multiple social benefits. A major household benefit is the reduction in the time and energy spent by women and children in collecting firewood for cooking. Reduction in air pollution, including CO<sub>2</sub> and black carbon emissions, is a major environmental benefit. Biogas plants with attached toilets have also promoted better sanitation. The biogas programme also promotes local employment because it requires skilled workers for construction, maintenance, marketing, and financing of biogas plants. Further, the residual biological slurry can be used as organic fertiliser. The biogas programme supports the government's goals of promoting sustainable energy, improving access to energy for the rural poor, and reducing poverty by providing high quality biogas plants to poor households at affordable price. The biogas programme also provides economic benefits through energy and fertiliser substitution, and increased yields from animal husbandry and agriculture.

This case study shows that Nepal has appropriate infrastructure at the macro level, with as many as 243,065 domestic plants installed across the country by July 2011. Effective enforcement of quality control has ensured that around 93 per cent of the plants are operating satisfactorily. This statistic is very high compared to neighbouring countries. Initially greater emphasis was given to extension and promotion while Research and Development (R&D) was given low priority. However, in recent years a number of organisations have initiated programmes to carry out applied research on various issues not only limiting to domestic biogas plants but also on the benefit to rural farmers communities.

#### Relevance to Rio+20 agenda

Nepal's biogas programme has made significant contribution in the improvement of the local, national and global environment. It supports forest conservation goals by substituting the traditional cooking fuel – firewood. Such use of renewable energy contributes to improving the local and global environment by reducing GHG emissions. However, the government has not devised clear policies for providing incentives to promote institutional or community biogas plants. Due emphasis is also needed to support R&D activities for promoting biogas in the mountainous regions for meeting sustainable mountain development goals.

## 2.2.5b. Micro-hydro Energy Development in Northern Pakistan

### Case Description

This study documents a good practice in decentralised development of renewable energy and climate change mitigation in one of the most fragile ecological settings of the world that faces unsettling climate change impacts. With coordinated support from government, NGOs and research and development organisations and funding/ lending agencies, communities in the remote mountains of the HKH region are not only meeting their energy needs from close to 300 self-managed Micro Hydel Projects (MHPs), but are also helping in offsetting carbon emissions and in generating and trading certified emission reductions (CERs) under a UNFCCC recognised CDM project.

The MEPs are changing rural livelihoods in the geographically remote, ecologically fragile and socioeconomically marginalised mountain valleys of Gilgit-Balistan and Chitral (GBC) in northern Pakistan. The entire area is prone to natural disasters and, in recent years, climate change impacts have become visible as weather patterns show extreme swings. Pakistan in general and the remote off- grid valleys of GBC in particular face acute energy shortages. The insufficient provision of energy, despite high potential for clean hydropower, forces people to cut alpine trees and other vegetation to meet their basic energy needs. The use of diesel and other fossil fuels has also increased both by small businesses and local power utilities.

The Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) introduced MHPs as a community-led development initiative in the region in 1990. The management of MHPs has been built on the traditional practices of common property management. By 2005, these communities had built 240 MHPs, with a combined installed capacity in excess of 10 MW. When Pakistan ratified the Kyoto Agreement in 2005, a CDM project was conceived, which after a rigorous and long process was registered with the UNFCCC in October 2009. The bundled CDM Project envisages constructing 103 new MHPs with a total capacity not exceeding 15 MW, at a cost of US\$ 18 million over a seven-year period. The participating communities have provided 20 per cent cash as equity contributions towards the total investment; 50 per cent of the cost is contributed by the Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund (PPAF) in small grants, and carbon income and loan financing make up for the remaining 30 per cent.

### Relevance to Rio+20 agenda

The main lesson is that MHPs are an ideal fit for remote and fragile mountain environments where the population is scattered and where extending and maintaining the national grid over long distances in a difficult terrain is expensive. Therefore, decentralised approaches to generating and distributing clean energy may be the best option in such isolated areas. However, the scaling-up of the approach will require strong commitment by the government in terms of enabling policies and incentives. One practical way to do this is for the public sector to build and maintain "mini grids" and allow local investors and community organisations to generate clean hydroelectricity to feed such grids.

The financing mechanism and business model also provide a scalable partnership approach. Public funds are leveraged to raise community equity from capital and carbon markets. The ownership of smaller units is community-based, and units of 0.5 MW and higher, are designed to operate as formal power utilities with three goals: economic gain, social services and environmental protection.

## 2.3 Major institutions and networks launched or strengthened

Agenda 21, Chapter 13 has institutionalised global attention on mountains. Although ICIMOD was established in 1983, it was Rio'92 that contributed to its strengthening through continued support for its operations including the setting up of other similar organisations and networks. Using the spirit of the Chapter 13, ICIMOD is providing an example of a mountain-focused initiative that is making efforts in securing the environment and livelihoods of mountain communities of the HKH region,

The Asia-Pacific Mountain network was set up by ICIMOD in 1995 after the Rio'92. It was based on the recommendation of the 'SUDEEMA Call to Action 1994 and Asia regional response to Agenda 21 Chapter 13. The initiative was supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). It is intended to be a knowledge-sharing platform connecting mountain regions and individual members through dialogue and networking. The network captures, enriches, and disseminates information from a variety of sources on mountain development issues in and for the Asia-Pacific region. The APMN acts as the Asia-Pacific node of Mountain Forum (MF) – itself an outcome of the Chapter 13 – a role it has played since 1996. In more than a decade of its operation, the APMN has been able to make notable contributions to build knowledge repositories and expertise by collaborating and networking with its large membership[1] that includes organisations for promoting SMD. APMN has over 250 organisational and 2300 individual users.

The APMN operates as a hybrid network within ICIMOD supporting the Mountain Partnership Consortium that includes both the Mountain Partnership (MP) and Mountain Forum. ICIMOD has defined APMN as its 'communication arm' and plans to enhance its role in communication, networking and information and knowledge sharing activities beyond the ICIMOD regional member countries for greater Asia Pacific-wide integration and to fill the gap in knowledge, information, and data among the ICIMOD member countries and beyond.

The Mountain Forum operated as a network of regional networks (in Africa, Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin and North America) and was supported by the Mountain Forum Secretariat (or global Node) based in ICIMOD till 2010. Is is now based at CONDESAN, at NGO working in the Andean Mountains in Lima, Peru. The Mountain Partnership (MP) was set up post after the WSSD in 2002 and is a voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improve the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments. APMN housed in ICIMOD presents itself as key knowledge sharing partner in the Asia Pacific region as a decentralised hub of the Mountain Partnership Secretariat.

Across the HKH region, various bi- and multi-lateral institutions have pursued projects to demonstrate sustainable mountain development. The World Bank has been active in Pakistan, and also in the lower hills across India and Nepal; the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) has a fairly large portfolio in the region and so has the Asian Development Bank (ADB); and IUCN is active in many countries of the HKH region. These have brought active interest, resources and knowledge on sustainable mountain development.

Among the development partners, IFAD has specifically channelled funding to the poor in the uplands aiming at livelihood improvement through community-based resource management. The projects in Northeast India, Uttarakhand, and Nepal have benefitted the poor, women and marginalised mountain communities in the HKH region. One of the most relevant programmes that can be cited in the context of Rio+20 is Rewarding Poor People for Environmental Services (RUPES). According to IFAD (2010), poor rural people have the potential to be important players in natural resource management and carbon sequestration. An IFAD-supported programme has helped build momentum and public interest in rewards for environmental services, and has developed ways to reward poor farmers who protect ecosystems in China, Indonesia, Laos, Nepal, the Philippines and Viet Nam in upland farming and forest systems.

According to Dennis Garrity, former director general of the World Agroforestry Centre, "Many people living in Asia's upland communities manage landscapes that provide environmental services to outside beneficiaries. These services include clean and abundant water supplies from watersheds, biodiversity protection and stocks of carbon that alleviate global warming. Rewarding communities for providing these services reduces poverty and provides incentives to manage uplands in ways that enhance the sustainability of the lowlands, compensate for carbon emissions elsewhere and support global biodiversity conservation goals." (<http://www.ifad.org/climate/perspectives/rupes.htm>)

## 2.4 Social and gender equity and inclusion

Two decades after from Rio'92, the discourse on women's equality and empowerment in the context of development has become sharper and more focused. Concretely, the focus has shifted from Women in Development (WID) and Gender and Development (GAD) approaches to approaches that are more nuanced and critical. The early conceptual basis of WID did not address the basic structures of inequality in relations between women and men, as it had a tendency to focus solely on "women's" issues. This realisation led to much broader discourses and a wider working framework leading to GAD, which focused on the socially constructed dimensions of power, the division of labour and gender as they cross-cut with other dimensions of difference (i.e. class, caste, age, marital status, life-cycle positioning, profession, etc.) and the unequal power relations between and among women and men, as central categories of analysis (Marchand and Parpart, 1995; Verma, 2001). Further shifts in approaches in gender analysis and research have been concerned with transformations in gender power relations and women as active agents of change and important knowledgeable managers of their environments. In many parts of the HKH Mountains, however, gender is still considered to be synonymous with the category women, and is inter-connected social, economic, and cultural roles and relations between women and men are normally confined to largely academic discussions. There is also the tendency to shy away from critical questions regarding transformations in gender power relations (Marchand and Parpart, 1995).

In mountain regions, gender inequalities in access to resources and decision-making processes that affect communities, cultures and environments (U.N. General Assembly Resolution 64/205, 2010) are some key challenges that hinder active participation of women and men in sustainable development processes. Although women in the HKH have always played a critical role in local development, agriculture and natural resources management, in recent years, their workloads in these work domains have intensified without corresponding increases in access to development resources, decision-making and land rights. In the hills of Nepal and Uttarakhand for instance, women have taken up pioneering roles in managing forests and taking up leadership of community responsibilities. However, women continue to face differential access to resources, ownership and control over critical natural resources. Despite a number of development programmes and initiatives by different agencies on gender and development, including agriculture and natural resource management issues, there is limited evidence-based data on the role of differently positioned women in sustainable mountain development, and the weak focus on transforming existing skewed gender power relations have led to limited impact.

Moreover, different drivers of change also create new, or exacerbate on going dynamics. For instance, high rates of male out-migration mean that women experience intensive workloads, responsibilities and burdens, which in turn often results in low enrolment and drop out of girls from formal education as well as increase in gender-based violence and trafficking of girls and women. Increased labour burdens have not translated into increased roles in decision-making or control over resources. These trends are further exacerbated by changes in the climate and environment, and during times of climate induced disasters (ICIMOD, 2009; Mehta, 2007). It is also well known that women are further constrained by unequal power relations, gender-biased attitudes and sometimes, systematic exclusion and under-representation. It is therefore important to increase knowledge of how inequality and drivers of change such as climate change are linked and how unequal power relations are affected by social, economic, cultural and political constraints in dealing with adaptation and sustainable development measures.

## 2.5 Food security situation in the region

The HKH region made tremendous progress in food production during 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s. With impressive growth in food production, China, India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, transformed themselves from countries with chronic food-deficit to those that were almost self-sufficient in the early 1990s. Except Afghanistan and Nepal, all the HKH countries had exported some food grain during the late 1990s. This growth in the agricultural sector has faced setbacks (Rasul 2010). Productivity of major food grains has slowed and has even declined for some crops (Kumar et al. 2008) with food production failing to keep pace with population growth. As a result, South Asian countries are now finding it difficult to meet the most basic food and nutritional needs of their people and remain vulnerable to food insecurity.

In South Asia Afghanistan is the most vulnerable in terms of food security. Wheat – the staple food crop – has seen a decline in both the productivity and production and other major crops have also suffered owing to conflicts and droughts. Because of its mountainous terrain and an arid to semi-arid climate, crops are cultivated on only about 14 per cent of the country's total area. In 2006, consumption in each income group was estimated to have fallen below the minimum nutritional requirements. The unstable political and security environment combined with limited resources and very high population growth (more than 2.0 % per year) may force per capita consumption to continue to decline over the next decade.

Nepal's food security situation has deteriorated sharply over the years. Nepal was exporting agricultural commodities such as rice, jute, timber, garments, hide, and skin up to mid 1980s. In 1975– 76, Nepal's food-grain exports were worth NPR 5,954 million. Exports declined drastically in the 1980's and Nepal has now become a net importer of food. From having one of the highest agricultural productivity rates during the 1960's, Nepal's agricultural productivity became the lowest in the subcontinent in the 1990s (as cited in Cho et al, 2004). Food security has remained a serious concern in remote areas. Generally, those in the lowest income quintile fall short of the minimum needed to fulfil their nutritional requirements. According to a UN report, 2.5 million people in Nepal need urgent food assistance (Pyakuryal, 2009). The WFP estimated population of moderately, highly and severely food insecure people to be 3.6 million (Nepal Food Security Bulletin, 2010). Nepal's food security has remained a serious concern in remote areas. In 2009, the WFP reported that 43 of Nepal's 75 districts faced a food deficit, and 23 districts were chronically food insecure. There was surplus production of cereal grains in Nepal in 1999/2000 and up to 2007/08 except in 2006/07. It had a surplus of 68,496 MT in 1999/2000 and 83,051 MT in 2000/01. However, the deficit in 2008/09 was 132,916 MT (Figure 5)

Figure 5: National Production Surplus/Deficit (UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Figure)

Bangladesh is also considered a vulnerable country in terms of food security. Although the rice yield is marginally increasing and there is significant progress in overall food production, the production lags behind domestic demand fuelled by population growth. The per capita food consumption is close to the minimum nutritional requirement (2199 calories per day in 2004). Only the top two income groups were estimated to have exceeded the nutritional target in 2006 (Rasul, 2010). The food security situation has been made more fragile due to regular floods and cyclones that damage crops and affect food production. Bangladesh currently imports three to five million tonnes of cereal per year on average, depending on weather conditions (Rasul, 2010).

Bhutan is also vulnerable in terms of food insecurity although country's food affordability index is continuously increasing. Only 3.4 per cent of its land is suitable for arable agriculture, although more than 80 per cent of the people depend on agriculture for livelihood. Productivity is low and variation in cereal production is very high. More than one tenth of the cereal consumed in the country is imported or comes as food aid (Rasul, 2010).

India experienced the success of the green and white revolutions, and has made significant progress in food production since the 1960s – it became self-sufficient in food grain and was exporting a sizeable volume of food in the late 1990s. However, production began declining from 2000 while the population has continued to increase. In 2000, net cereal production was 172 million tonnes and it decreased to 163 million tonnes in 2001 and in 2003 it further declined to 143 million tonnes. An estimated 222 million Indians (20% of the total population) in 2006 were below the minimum nutritional requirements (Rasul, 2010). As the major food grain producer and consumer in South Asia, India's challenge is not only to feed its growing population but also to help the neighbouring countries meet their deficits, especially during crises.

Pakistan has also made tremendous progress in its agricultural sector compared to 1960s and the country achieved near self-sufficiency in food during the 1980s. However, food production has remained erratic and has failed to keep pace with population growth (2.4 %). As a result, food security has remained a persistent concern of the government. In 2006, 10 per cent of the population was estimated to have less food than required and the situation could deteriorate further over the next decade due to the gap between population growth and food production (Rasul, 2010).

## 2.6 Analysis of initiatives: challenges, opportunities, lessons learned, links to Rio+20

Mountains of the HKH region face multiple issues and continuing, and new challenges. While the persistent challenges of poverty, rapid urbanisation, population growth and environmental degradation are having greater impact, there are new challenges resulting from climate change, youth migration and growing social conflicts that have aggravated the old challenges. Climate change induced threats and higher rate of global warming in the mountains are causing disproportionate impacts on the HKH Mountains and hills. Economic and food crises, social and political unrest, shrinking development space, and slow progress on past commitments are the key challenges facing the mountains. Globalisation and ecosystem degradation are also seriously affecting and changing agriculture and ecosystem production and productivity directly increasing food insecurity and social and gender inequity. The HKH Mountains are important for their role as water towers of Asia, as biodiversity hotspots or shelter for fragile faunal and floral species, and most importantly as the global environment regulators resulting from their unique location and landscape.

### 2.6.1 Frame conditions for the analysis of progress in SMD

HKH Mountains unlike other mountain systems of the World support many different ecosystems and provide key goods and services that provide livelihoods to millions of people and are also the basis for human activities beyond their natural boundaries (Beniston 2005). Most of the goods and services provided by these mountains have their origin in the upper slopes that are sparsely populated. The consumers of these goods and services are mostly in the lowlands, especially water and energy. Highland and lowland systems are thus highly interdependent in terms of ecology and economy and also social and religious linkages. Himalayan mountain communities with their rich traditional ecosystem knowledge and highly adaptive capacity contribute significantly to the quality and the sustainability of these goods and services. However, they are rarely and/or poorly compensated for the services they provide to downstream communities.

### 2.6.2 Analysis of the case study findings in the context of SMD

The case studies provide a snapshot of micro level changes. Looking at the macro picture based on the messages of the case studies indicate, that while India and China have boomed economically, the rate of change in the HKH region, which is largely rural, has been modest in terms of pace and scale of change. Ethnic conflicts, cross-border tensions, demographic transition including outmigration and increased and unplanned urbanisation have had adverse influence on local economies and the environment. In contrast, growing tourism, increased remittances and improved market linkages for natural and organic products have helped the mountain and hilly regions to register modest growth although growth has not been uniform.

Despite relative invisibility, the significance of sustainable mountain development (SMD) has been established on the global agenda on account of the above mentioned micro-to-macro level progress and changes much of which have also been documented by the 10 case studies in 5 countries of the region (Table 1 provides the list of the case study topics):

Table 10. Summary highlights of the case studies in the HKH region

Case study theme	Major findings
Medicinal Plants/NTFPS	Identification and removal of policy barriers can improve access to medicinal plants by local people and double the benefits; can be a model sub-sector for SMD
Community-based NRM	Enabling communities to participate in planning, designing, implementing and monitoring of NRM at local level can empower and lead to improved resource governance
Community forestry and REDD+	Good model of forest resource governance enabling farmers to improve livelihoods and participate in and benefit from REDD+; CF of Nepal is a good practice case for SMD as it gives "triple dividend": improved environment in terms of watershed management and biodiversity conservation, enhanced local income and carbon sequestration -adaptation, mitigation and poverty reduction
Eco-tourism	Important source of income to local community with relatively more distributive effect achieving income equity.
Van Panchayats (Community forestry)	Generate multiple products such as clean energy, compost, fodder banks; carbon co-benefits (REDD) and lead to biodiversity conservation
Forestry CDM	CO <sub>2</sub> sequestration; helps to develop new forestry institutions; benefits and sharing are issues that need to be addressed.
Organic agriculture	Improved agro-ecosystem resilience, soil organic carbon deposits; reduced costs; increased net income; high community acceptance.
Bio-gas promotion	A good program promoting massive peoples' participation; significant social and economic benefits (carbon credits being paid) and recognised environmental benefits (CDM board has awarded CER certificate).
Micro-hydel projects	Low-cost, clean and sustainable source of energy for remote mountain communities (off-grid locations) offsetting carbon emissions and generating and trading CERs under a UNFCCC recognised CDM programme.
Watershed management	Watershed conservation in catchment areas of a major storage and hydroelectricity dams has multiple benefits; Policy weaknesses have led to poor sectoral coordination and thematic integration of social and environmental pillars; future potentials are high including that through REDD+

### 2.6.3 Major learning from the case studies

Green projects are suitable for subsistence economies: Most of the mountain areas of the HKH region are under subsistence agriculture. Some are more primitive while others have varying degrees modernisation and inroads of the market economy such as Kullu Valley in Himachal Pradesh, India; Kathmandu in Nepal; and Kunming in Yunnan, China. Nepal and Bhutan, typical mountainous countries, are over 80 per cent rural. Development has come to these areas due to emphasis on specific niche products such as apples, vegetables, rice as well as services and it has come in different scales due to remoteness. In most of the mountain cities and towns development models have been transported from the plains without much regard to mountain specificity and therefore the environmental consequences have been rather devastating, especially in more fragile valleys.

Traditional cultivation systems have potential for organic production: Mountain areas of the North Eastern States of India and the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh have been practicing traditional forms of agriculture called shifting cultivation for centuries that have been blamed for deforestation and environmental degradation. Social and ecological scientists have been documenting evidences and suggest that shifting cultivation with adequate fallow cycle can guarantee sustainability. Sedentarisation of agriculture has been a preferred policy for both greater service provision and maintenance of public security. The case study has indicated that, sedentary agriculture alone will not provide food and ecological security besides being culturally inappropriate. A more sustainable solution is community resource management strategy and policy under which land and tree tenure is assured, access to technical and extension service is improved and communities are allowed to chose the crops, and trees, including agro-forestry practices. These have demonstrated that not only food security is qualitatively improved but area under low-intensity shifting cultivation or for that matter nomadic and ranging lifestyle, results in preservation that is evident in parts of the TAR of China and Afghanistan.

Decentralization and devolution can lead to good governance: After 1992 there has been a general trend towards greater devolution of powers to local governments. Most of

mountain areas were considered sensitive border areas and were kept under strict watch of central governments or as parts of larger plain dominated governance units that either ignored mountain people's development needs or awarded them with development projects in terms of roads, infrastructure or industry which were captured by non-mountain intermediaries, civil servants and or local elite thus disrespecting local ecology, culture and needs. Change in mindset has followed the acceptance by governments of the need to accommodate local developmental aspirations, without suspecting secessionist tendencies, which still exist in parts of mountain areas. These social movements and conflicts are about identity politics, caste and class grievances, and protests against general irresponsiveness to local aspirations. Mountain communities that have been given economic freedom and political autonomy to choose the development path have addressed to SMD goals better as shown by case studies of Van Panchayats in Uttarakhand in India and Gilgit Balistan in Pakistan.

#### 2.6.4 Finding a balance among the three pillars of sustainable development

The nature and extent of the problems, issues, gaps and possible solutions in SMD have changed and/or multiplied in some cases since 1992. The multiple challenges and threats are bringing in new perspectives in the region and demanding a new strategy and orientation on the part of scientists, researchers and policy makers for finding a balance among the three SMD pillars. While in the 1970s, the region was concerned about rural development, in the 1980s the shift was to deforestation and soil erosion and general environmental degradation – all linked to the vicious cycle of population growth, environment degradation, and poverty. The issue of development and environment was thus within the region and the problem was considered to be caused by internal forces leading to unsustainable land use.

In the first decade of the 21st century, and with climate change, the fragile Himalayan ecosystem has come under threat, primarily from external drivers of change. Therefore, the challenge of balanced development in the HKH Mountains faces a set of challenges resulting from its specific geological, socio-cultural and geo-political situation (Moddie, 2008). In the 1990s, globalisation and economic liberalisation swept the region and India and China are emerging as economic and political powers. The analysis below provides indications on how the mountain countries have approached their social, developmental and environmental policies in the HKH region: they have attempted to attain SMD in an un-uniform and unbalanced manner.

**Social Pillar:** The challenges of reducing poverty that were identified 25 years ago are still real and as imposing as they were. Only the context, in terms of the trends that are unfolding, and in terms of our understanding of the problems, has changed. During the last 20 years mountain poverty has come down but not in terms of absolute numbers and amounts of natural resources used. Even though deforestation and forest degradation was reduced in many countries, they have once again increased due to social conflicts and poor governance in some countries like Nepal, Afghanistan and Pakistan. As roads link the remote regions to national and international markets, the very notion of subsistence farming is undergoing a fundamental change, and in many areas it is fast losing relevance. The small farmer in the HKH is facing multiple challenges both from within and outside. There has been slow but steady increase in access to resources including credit, increased literacy, and opening up of new opportunities outside the countries e.g., labour market in emerging economies – though this remains limited or inaccessible.

Nepal's economy has been surviving largely on remittances. However, the remittance is not fuelling the rural economy due to lack of investment opportunities, the required entrepreneurship among the youth, and lack of security. The migrants move in increasing numbers with their families from villages to market towns and urban centres. With the increased role of remittances, economies have also exposed themselves to increased vulnerability. Outside interests are benefiting from many opportunities in the mountains – tourism, biodiversity resources, hydropower, both micro and mega, development. The challenge is to create an enabling and favourable investment climate and security environment where mountain communities can benefit and prosper from these new opportunities.

Although sustainable mountain development is being morphed to green economy, poverty alleviation remains the top challenge for the economies in the HKH. What relation does gradual or fast transition to green economy have with SMD and its outcomes are still unclear? Should mountain regions have specific indicators for measuring the green index such as a Gross Mountain Product (GMP), to draw attention to cost of and benefits could be a way of measuring the use of the ecosystems goods and services? Addressing these and other related questions are crucial for articulating and eventually achieving sustainable mountain development in the HKH region.

**Environmental pillar:** Global warming and climate change have added a new dimension to our understanding of environment and related challenges. This has brought to fore the complexity of the policies and processes that need to be reformed and/or formulated to redefine the sustainable development path. It is already clear that climate change impacts are much more pronounced on the mountains than on the plains. In two decades since Rio, while the world is back to reinforcing 'sustainable development' through a global transition to low carbon or green economy in which climate change and poverty eradication centre stage. The HKH region, despite economic gains in fast growing developing countries such as in India and China, is struggling to end mountain poverty. The region still hosts more than 400 million of the world's poor.

Rapidly increasing events and surface warming demand a major shift in the way the critical ecosystem services including rangelands, biodiversity and forestry are managed. While the poverty reduction requires continuation of economic growth, the type of future natural resources management regime needs to incorporate measures to build resilience and adaptation to the impacts of climate change. The Himalayan countries face a daunting set of tasks in building more resilient agriculture and natural resources sectors to protect food, energy, water and ecological security. There is also need for greater understanding and response to the threat of climate-induced migration. More than 60 per cent of the economically active population in the HKH depends on agriculture. A pro-growth, pro-poor, and pro- mountain development policy agenda that supports agricultural sustainability, including more targeted adaptive management programme for ecosystem services, can improve resilience. The agriculture and forestry sector can also help mitigate GHG emissions in the HKH region if we can provide appropriate incentives and innovative institutions, capacity building support, technologies, and management systems and by sequestering carbon in standing trees, soils and range lands. Incorporation of agricultural adaptation and mitigation in the on going international climate change negotiations can open opportunities for financing of sustainable growth under climate change constraints in the mountains. Mitigation strategies that support adaptation and development investments with climate change co-benefits should be favoured for enhancing ecosystem services in the mountains.

**Economic pillar:** The region is faced with challenges that are not only specific to its sub-regions but also those rooted in its socio-cultural distinctiveness. Barring Bhutan, the country that has pioneered Gross National Happiness (GNH) as an indicator of gross happiness based on good conservation of environment, economic development and social and cultural identity, other countries are focused on achieving higher economic growth rates measured by GDP. The later approach is obviously facing questions and challenges mainly for its sustainability. Road networks have made inroads into the mountain and information and communication technologies (ICTs) have connected remote valleys, and even small and large hydro projects have adversely impacted environment and natural habitats. Infrastructure development and ecosystem destruction has kept pace in the mountains, creating economic impact at the cost of forest degradation, and increased hazards in the form of landslides, floods and displacement of people.

#### 2.6.5 What has worked and what has not

Many initiatives on sustainable mountain development have been undertaken in the HKH region and they have led to synergistic impacts and also contributed to learning. The development has often taken place at the cost of losing focus on social equity, economic self-reliance and environmental sustainability – the three pillars of sustainable development. Some of the key lessons learned are analysed in the following sections.

Accessibility, both physical and electronic, has increased across the region. Extensive road and communication networks have played significant roles in improving access to services and markets. Computers, mobile phones and Internet access have connected remote areas to the mainstream of development. However, while policies across the region have helped reduce the cost, the issue of access, equity and cultural identity has remained unaddressed. Road building has rarely conformed to the region's ecological fragility and vulnerability although the concept of 'green roads' was successfully demonstrated by Switzerland – the Lamosangu-Jiri road – in Nepal. The gap is non-existence of policies and regulations and where they do exist, the little attention there is on implementation. How availability of technologies have enhanced options for



mountain communities to adapt and survive at cheaper costs by reaching out to wider market opportunities remains to be assessed.

In recent years, many examples of grassroots, medium-scale, and state level initiatives have emerged and these have potential for building on the existing momentum to reverse the negative trends of environmental degradation. This has been demonstrated by various case studies.

- Community-led initiatives in the ecologically fragile and economically-vulnerable mountain valleys of Gilgit-Balistan and Chitral have demonstrated the virtue of micro hydro projects, both as means to weather unreliable power supply and to leverage carbon credits for expanding the reach of such projects. While 240 micro-hydro units (10 MW) are operative, 103 such units are to be built over next seven years.

- In terms of number of plants and per capita biogas generation, Nepal has conclusively demonstrated the efficacy of an eco-friendly technology. With 93 per cent of the 243,065 domestic biogas plants operating effectively, there has been a 30 per cent reduction in the use of firewood. Since biogas has been covered under the Emission Reduction Purchase Agreement, CDM has opened a new opportunity for further promotion of the technology.

The impact of community-led decentralised energy generation notwithstanding, many parts of the HKH region have been converted into power-houses for generating hydroelectric power for use in the plains. Within the framework of SMD, there is need for a policy push in favour of private sector participation for low-carbon energy development options in the mountains with adequate safeguards for inclusive development and local benefits. Lateral and vertical integration of communities in local administration is critical to attain equity and justice. There are inspiring initiatives across the region but their integration in existing institutions have been lacking. Some of the promising initiatives are discussed below.

- Uplands of North-east India, comprising of the eight states, are one of the most under developed regions in India. Through an IFAD-supported NERCOM project, the region is now focusing on interventions that are technically, appropriate, culturally sensitive and institutionally effective, for which a 'genuine partnership between communities, government and others' has been forged to ensure that the interventions are demand-driven and client oriented.

- Van Panchayats are managing 16 per cent of state's total area in 11 hill districts of the Uttarakhand state and are examples of decentralized planning and management for access and benefit sharing of forest resources. As a consequence, ecosystem services emanating from the forest of Uttarakhand are worth USD 50 billion per year. The Government of India has allocated USD 272 million to forest rich states for better managing their forests for 2005- 2010. This fund has been increased by 10 per cent to be used over the next five years.

- Since its inception in mid 1970s, Nepal's community forestry programme has been the largest and longest participatory green initiative wherein 40 per cent of the population has been involved in managing 25 per cent of country's forest area. The programme is inclusive and equitable and has also been able to address socio-political and environmental concerns at the national and regional levels. Emerging carbon and PES in the form of REDD+ are exposing local communities to a competitive world wherein protecting community rights would be yield triple dividends – mitigation by sequestering carbon, adaptation by conserving biodiversity and watersheds and reducing poverty by improving livelihoods.

Created experimentally, such institutions have proven to work with true local participation from planning to benefit sharing and have the potential to be expanded with legal protections. Though these approaches also suggest that one-size-does-not-fit-all, their strength lies in the diversity of approaches to suit varied socio-economic situations and therefore the potential for generating knowledge and disseminating it in other mountain regions. Such bottoms-up institutions also strengthen the three pillars of SMD and ought to be preserved through legal provisions.

Many areas in the HKH region have been the last to open up to outside forces and processes. Though the rate of opening has been varied, markets have penetrated faster and deeper into the mountain hinterlands and areas with very little government presence. Efforts have also been made to connect the communities with markets but the challenge has been to protect and enhance local livelihoods in the process.

- With over 1.020 million small tea farmer households as members, the West Garo Hills Tea Farmers Federation has been able to arrest price crashes and ensure better returns for growers. The next step is to solicit support to set up a tea-processing factory and open up the option of the growers in adding value to their produce, and marketing finished product. The federation has set an example and demonstrated that alliances of small producers with a supportive administration can help them to take charge of their livelihood options and move towards economic development. Markets are not intrinsically bad and the existence of powerful and committed intermediary institutions with knowledge, legitimacy and joint venture links can increase the bargaining power of local mountain people and such efforts can result in win-win opportunities.

- In the state of Uttarakhand, India, the setting up of the Organic Board has reduced the transaction costs of having a reliable institution for certified organic products. The right institution-at-the-right-place greatly enhances the carrying capacity, resilience, sustainability and social equity goals of SMD. When they are backstopped with proper legal support, they can take off to a national scale as is the case of community forest management led by FECOFUN in Nepal, Van Panchayats and organic farmers in India.

Markets for mountain good and services are important for the green economy or low carbon growth path. Following the failure of the Kyoto Protocol and other multilateral agreements to allocate global warming penalties to historical polluters, there is now a shift towards decoupling economic growth from greenhouse pollution. There is a great shift towards a low carbon economy and India and China are making great strides in this direction (see the green indicators in the chart attached). The scale of impact in reducing global warming by mountain areas of the HKH region might be modest but they serve as important learning experiences for leveraging new marketable opportunities.

- One opportunity that can be stressed is the greater need for regional and national institutions to help local mountain communities tap to national and global resources for accessing markets, availing public services, and gaining legitimacy and power to influence through instruments such as Free Prior Informed Consent (FPIC). Such institutions can promote sustainable mountain development more effectively.

Despite political and economic uncertainty, the HKH region has been a veritable laboratory of innovative approaches towards SMD. It is, however, another matter that neither has these approaches have not been integrated nor scaled up to desired levels for creating impact. As a consequence, the social pillar in the form of social and gender equity and equality, has largely remained unachieved and poverty has continued to persist. The challenge is to build upon existing initiatives from an equitable poverty alleviation perspective.

- Good work on watershed management must be sustained, value-added and up-scaled. Climate Change adaptation can piggyback watershed projects in conflict ridden regions like Afghanistan, Nepal and North-east India where conserving soil and water for addressing food security is critical. Elsewhere in the region, watershed management alone can help reduce siltation in large dams viz., Tarbela in Pakistan as shown by the case study. Watershed management can be multi-purpose approach and also help address equity concerns.

Sustainable mountain development calls for integration of thinking and action around diverse approaches. Multidisciplinary in approach, interdisciplinary in thinking and trans-disciplinary in actions would be the way to go for achieving the elusive goal of sustainability in the mountains. This would need empowering communities, educating and engaging youth and re-crafting and strengthening supportive institutions.

## 2.7 Progress in poverty reduction, social and environmental sectors

According to the MDG progress report, China has achieved the highest progress in poverty reduction by bringing the percentage of people below the poverty line from 60.2 per cent in 1990 to 15.9 per cent in 2005. Pakistan has also reported a very good success and brought poverty numbers down from 64.7 per cent to 22.6 per cent. Bangladesh and Bhutan have also made modest progress while Nepal and India are poor performers (Annex 1, Table 2).

Bhutan has the highest literacy rates among the women and China has the highest literacy rates for both the male and females among the HKH countries (Annex 1, Chart 1). In terms of occupation, close to 50 per cent of the mountain people are still engaged in farming and animal husbandry, with the highest numbers in China's mountainous provinces (Annex 1, Chart. 2). Mountain people across the region perceive food and fodder shortages as the most likely crises in the future (Chart 3). Mountain households in Afghanistan are the poorest (79%) followed by Nepal (27%) and Pakistan (20%); their incomes are less than USD 500/year (Annex 1, Chart 4). Animal dung, shrubs and branches, and firewood are the major sources of domestic energy for more than 90 per cent of mountain people in China, Nepal and Bhutan (Annex 1, Chart 5).

Among the environmental indicators in the region, both China and India have increased their CO<sub>2</sub> emission by 50 per cent between 1990 and 2005. In terms of the energy use, Bangladesh has the highest GDP per unit of energy use at PPP b\$ 9.8/kg. oil equivalent followed by China and India but the highest growth is once again in China ( 2.1 to 4.4 Kg oil equivalent) (Annex 1 Table 3).

In terms of land cover change, during 1990-2005 China increased its tree cover from 16.8 percent to 21.2 percent and India from 21.5 percent to 22.8 percent. In terms of deforestation rate, Afghanistan lost 3.1 percent of its forest cover per year followed by Pakistan, Nepal and Myanmar. During this period, Nepal's forest cover came down from 33.7% to 25.4% (Annex 1 Table 3).

### PART III: Challenges and opportunities for sustainable mountain development

#### 3.0 General overview

The HKH region faces enormous environmental, political, social and developmental challenges. The scale of the challenge is shown by the fact that out of the six countries which account for almost 50 per cent of the annual growth of the human population in the world, four belong to the HKH region – India, China, Pakistan, and Bangladesh (UNPD 2001). This demographic challenge, which over the years has rapidly changed the region from a nature-dominated landscape to a human dominated environment, is expected to result in acceleration in the rate of environmental degradation and natural resource use, and an increase in the vulnerability of mountain societies and economies due to pressure for more natural resources for meeting the increasing demands for food, energy, biodiversity and water. It is clear that major natural processes – local, regional and global – will be influenced by increased human activity, creating a much higher degree of complexity through the interaction of human, natural, economic and political driving forces (Messerli et al. 2000, Steffen et al. 2004). Climate change will aggravate and accelerate the socio-economic and demographic challenges with devastating consequences.

Without going into the complex arguments, scientific controversies and/or political disagreements to challenges mentioned above, this report uses most recent data, information and knowledge and presents findings from the perspectives of climate change, disasters, economic growth, and social and political conflicts juxtaposed in the context of democratisation, devolution, good governance, and growing global attention on the HKH region.

Two years after the Earth Summit, the average living standards have improved but so has poverty, deprivation and gaps between rich and poor. Although decentralised and devolved governance have been pursued, conflicts have multiplied and the rising social aspirations and quests for identity politics are threatening the pace of development. Global market forces have made deep inroads into the region but out-migration continues to depress local production potentials. Some SMD has been achieved in parts of the HKH but others are either not learning or the customisation and transfer of knowledge and south-south collaborations are not taking place as much as they should.

#### 3.1 Emerging trends and opportunities for sustainable mountain development

Climate change has brought about complex problems but for mountain countries it has also opened up a number of opportunities. For example, increasing warming in the highlands also mean that a number of new crops can be cultivated and also new pasture and forest species can appear at higher slopes. This also allows new forms of scientific explorations and livelihood pursuits.

What is required is rethinking of mountain development for building ecological infrastructures not only to produce goods for subsistence but to also generate services that can benefit downstream communities (e.g., water storage). However, environment being an overriding concern, the approach has to be on building resilience of successful programmes (e.g. community forestry, biogas energy and organic farming) and on addressing poverty and inequity, improving property rights and governance. Other emerging opportunities for SMD include expansion of green practices, such as ecotourism, high-value mountain products, and harnessing mountain forestry for carbon sequestration and biodiversity conservation with in-built mechanisms to address equity and environmental sustainability concerns.

**3.1.1 Building on the success stories and learning from the failures** The links between mountain resources and sustainable livelihoods in the HKH region are intricate and tightly knit; almost 1.3 billion people rely on the limited mountain resources, especially water. In Bhutan, for instance, an estimated 78 per cent of the population are rural dwellers and depend extensively on mountain resources to sustain livelihoods. The situation is somewhat similar in Afghanistan, Nepal, and Myanmar. Tighter demographic controls, quest for long-term conservation and policies for harnessing hydro-power resources are helping Bhutan to attain higher GNH.

In Hindu-Kush Himalayan region, countries are united by geography and thereby face common problems, issues and challenges. But the political landscape is different and climate change, political instability and transboundary contentions threaten the region's ability to thrive and prosper. From the perspective of SMD, the HKH region has not been a success story largely because of the inability of the countries to implement the sustainable development agenda they signed on at Rio. The failure is partly also because of the multiple crises such as climate change, energy crises, food insecurity, increased disasters and growing conflicts. These have made mountain communities more vulnerable and perhaps less resilient, and the region more fragile. However, the opportunities to manage water, biodiversity including agro biodiversity, tourism and agriculture are immense. For this the region would need effective regional co-operation and collaboration in sharing policy and institutional support, financial backing, multi-stakeholder partnerships and above all, learn from each other.

#### 3.1.2 Scope for Green Economy for sustainable development and poverty reduction

Markets for mountain goods and services, which are invariably natural and increasingly organic or environmental friendly, have been growing. For example, the global trade in herbal medicines including pharmaceutical and nutraceuticals based on medicinal and aromatic plants is estimated at USD 120 billion/year where China's share is between USD 5-10 billion and that of India about USD one billion/year. Green economy has attracted global attention as a major agenda at the Rio+20 conferences. Due to the failure of the Kyoto Protocol to mitigate the alarming increase in global warming, especially in the mountains and with the prospects of reaching no legal agreement on GHG replacement at the end of 2012, there is now a shift towards decoupling economic growth from GHG related issues. There is global agreement that all countries have common but differentiated responsibilities to pursue low carbon economic growth paths. India and China are already making strides in this direction. The scale of impact of global warming on the HKH Mountains is one of the highest and it is plausible to argue for global policies and financial support to a transition to a green economy in the mountainous regions. The transition to a low carbon economy involves gigantic domestic resource allocation on the Green Economy, estimated at USD 1.4 trillion a year by the global communities. The HKH countries are not in a position to mobilise such resources.

The modest scale of mountain economy terms of the green economy is underscored in the state of Uttarakhand in India. Toila (2011) found that the plains-based economy had the fruits of green revolution in agriculture pushing GDP growth by around 8-9 per cent a year while the hill economy remained at 2-3 per cent and was limited to forest and rain-fed agriculture. The over-riding theme is that while progress and change in the HKH region might be unprecedented by historical comparison to its own records, such changes have been eclipsed by change in the larger non-mountain economies. As result the mountains have remained invisible on national and global agendas.

Climate change and eradication of poverty take the centre stage in sustainable mountain development. The global focus is on green economy but the number one priority in developing mountain countries is poverty alleviation – including the mountainous regions of India and China. What relation does this Asian transition to green economy have on SMD? Is there need for developing a mountain specific indicator like GMP (Global Mountain Product) to draw attention to costs of and benefits of development in the mountains, instead relying only on GDP?

Some of the specific issues and questions relating to situating the green economy in the context of sustainable mountain development are: a) How to build documentary evidence of national and regional/global influence or contribution of the ecological footprints of mountains? b) What specific roles can mountains play in transforming the “brown” economy of the countries to green economy since the current perception and opinion of the national policy makers is that it may be marginal and negligible. For example, in national reports for Agenda 21, chapter 13, the policy space allotted to mountains is very small. It is therefore challenging to use the green economy plank for leveraging more space in national policies.

Global effects of climate change on mountain ecosystem services and globalisation are eroding local culture and values, traditional management systems and knowhow and rules of natural resources governance. Therefore, land use and ultimately local environment management need special analysis and focus. Climate change compensation funding instruments may simply be a change of the label of development aid to make it part of climate change action/green economy support with attached conditionality.

Access to funds remains slow and requires specialised human resources, relevant data and legal regime, and grant seeking is generally a difficult and tedious process to go through. Demand for SMD must therefore articulate local payoff mechanisms as part of global green economy, such as low carbon economy. Decoupling the economy and GHG emissions is fine but there should be a separate window for funding for mountain development.

The green economy focus on production should include the negative implications of unbridled consumerism. One pertinent question to ask will be: Can the green economy actually deliver in terms of changing ground realities for indigenous, local and poor people and rewards (through PES, REDD, REDD+) for good environment stewardship and helping in carbon sequestration through good forest management and use of indigenous knowledge for ecological farming?

Balance between social and environment, and institutional and economic issues; and emphasis on equity and inclusion in the green economy are important. Countries, states and mountain areas should be ranked on their progress on SMD to draw attention to the lack of success on the three pillars of sustainable development.

Ethical values of justice can be explored through suitable international policies for mountains for seeking just redress and rewards for mountain peoples from regional (downstream) or global restitution for the loss and damage caused to mountain ecosystem goods and services alongside provisions for restoring ecosystem services.

It has been scientifically established that the HKH region influences global climatic systems through jet flows, heat exchanges and the distribution of climatic change and that is could be affected by the adverse impacts of climate change on fresh water resources, biodiversity, food security and disasters. The mountainous regions therefore need to be compensated for the damage and loss through suitable climate and non-climate finance mechanisms.

The HKH region is particularly vulnerable to extinction of globally important biodiversity, threatening future sources of medicines, food and other non-timber forest products – all of which are essential to fuel a green economy. Many of these genetic resources are being forced to move higher up the slopes on account of climate change, causing habitat degradation and replacement.

### 3.2 Green Economy: Driving factors and key issues for the HKH Mountains

A recently released preview of the 2011 Global Green Economy Index (GGEI), a robust analytic tool ranking expert perceptions of national green reputations against a new custom index of 37 datasets measuring their performance, indicated that China, the second largest green house gas emitter, is also the second in green performance. ([www.dualcitizeninc.com/ggei2011.pdf](http://www.dualcitizeninc.com/ggei2011.pdf))

However, to date, there is no unified view among the HKH countries on what represents and drives a green economy and there is also no clarity on what it means for the Mountains 3. We need to identify opportunities from developing and least developed mountain country contexts for promoting SMD, and identify specific and strategic approaches to implement green and low-carbon economy concepts. There is a need for new global policies and finance to support poverty reduction and sustainable development through green economy solutions. Here the critical role of good governance cannot be overstressed. The key outcomes that can be desirable for mountains is a mountain ecosystem services- based economy that is both pro-poor and pro-growth and addresses the issues of ecological fragility, social inequity (creating employment for the poor and reducing inequality and marginality) and economic underdevelopment (by reducing poverty and reducing costs of living) that is run by mountain communities and supported by suitable and capable national and regional agencies.

#### 3.2.1 Green Economy: opportunities

Green economy has ample opportunities in the mountain eco-systems but there also are risks. Any green and low carbon solutions in mountain regions should create jobs, promote access to markets and prioritise poverty reduction. Green economy transition in developing and least-developed countries should not constrain the policy space of countries to pursue their development paths, which have been limited. There is a need for a separate programme of work for mountains in the UNCSD process to develop green growth pathways in the mountainous regions by recognising, valuing, and realising the ecosystem goods and services produced by the mountains.

#### 3.2.2 Green Economy: challenges

Mountain countries will face numerous challenges in adapting and adopting green economy policies. Different countries are interpreting green economy differently and are embarking on different approaches to promote green growth concepts and practices to achieve sustainable development and SMD. Some authors are equating green economy and sustainable development, which is not correct. Green economy can be a means to achieve the end i.e., SMD in the mountains. The common challenges mountain countries are or will face are: How to document good green economy relevant cases on which the future pathway can be charted correctly? How effective are the approaches, and what lessons can be learnt from the experiences?

### 3.3 Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD)

According to the Rio+20 Secretariat 4 ‘a key motivation for the Rio+20 Conference to include this agenda is the lack of progress in the achievement of agreed sustainable development goals’ across the globe. The general objective of this theme is to achieve ‘the overall integration of environment and development issues at national, sub-regional, regional and international levels, including in the UN systems’. Some of the key issues identified were: a) lack of implementation of commitments; b) absence of national setup and lack of mainstreaming; c) lack of capacity building, d) lack of coordination and integration among and between sectors, and e) lack of accountability. These were all relevant and true for the HKH region.

Therefore, IFSD in the context of the HKH region should aim to identify the actors at local, national and regional levels and set out the functions of institutions for achieving better coherence and coordination among agencies implementing sustainable development activities, especially in the mountains. Although the UNDESA is focusing more on reforming the UN systems based on the 'one UN' concept, for the HKH mountain countries, the need is to reform the traditional and overly bureaucratic national and regional institutions into modern service delivery type of organisations bringing in more transparency, accountability, good governance and knowledge management. Replacing and reforming out dated policies, reconciling the contradictions among different overlapping policies and implementing the laws and policies will be equally important. In general, there is lack of coherence, coordination and effective monitoring of progress based on agreed targets at all levels. Therefore, any new institutional framework must avoid overlaps and duplication of activities, and synergies need to be achieved in programming efforts of international as well as national organisations through enhanced participation of all stakeholders for attaining good governance.

### 3.3.1 Key challenges for institutional strengthening for SMD

Mountain countries and regions face multiple challenges in creating good institutional framework and more importantly, for avoiding the past track record of poor implementation of SMD commitments and policies. The latter was caused by weak national setups and lack of capacity, coordination, and integration efforts that need to be addressed effectively to ensure clear institutional functions and accountability safeguards at all levels.

### 3.3.2 Role of research-based knowledge and information

Developing proper institutional framework will also have to consider the role of research organisations both at national and regional levels for filling the knowledge gap. SMD issues in the HKH are of transboundary nature e.g., water, biodiversity, markets, and quality standardisation for green products. Before transforming into a green economy, these countries must set green accounting policies and green technology adaptation institutions to assist the shift from GDP to GMP. Consumerism today is a driver of change, changing values and attitudes of the people, but in the green economy context consumers need to also give premium to green products that will require awareness raising, in which data and information will play an important role.

### 3.4 Role of technology and technical capacity building

Green economy will require 'green technologies' that will need a suitable framework and mechanism for enabling technology adaptation, retrofitting, and transfer to developing mountain countries. Therefore, strengthening of multi-lateral and research institutions focusing on mountain friendly technologies and knowhow, given the specificity of mountain systems, should be a pre-requisite in the new institutional framework.

Promotion and transition towards a green economy need capacity development in education, research, advocacy and policy reforms. Similarly, enabling policies and institutions are needed to provide necessary incentives to producers of mountain-based ecosystem goods and services. Regional as well as upstream-downstream approaches are needed for promoting green markets and for addressing the challenges of poverty, biodiversity loss, trade barriers and climate change. In summary, there is a need to develop a green economy roadmap for the mountains in the HKH region based on comparative advantages in terms of different eco-systems niches and/or those where nations have and building competitive advantages through training, skills development, provision of appropriate technologies and financial support. Capacity building of policy makers remains the utmost priority because good policies are needed to drive the new development process.

### 3.5 Opportunities for social and gender equity and inclusion

Future work under this topic needs to focus on achieving equitable and inclusive sustainable development. Development that reduces economic poverty and enables all groups of people in contributing to creating opportunities, in sharing benefits, and participating in decision-making will go a long way in ensuring that SMD makes a real difference to both women and men equally. Gender inclusive development means that a number of issues that affect the differentiated relationship between and among women and men and their ability to participate in the green economy and environmental resource governance in the HKH region are taken seriously. In a rapidly changing climate, environment and socio-cultural context, women need to assume active leadership and decision-making positions. The challenge development interventions face will be how sustainable development measures and policies take into account the prominent role of women and gendered knowledge in shaping an equitable and inclusive green economy, natural resource management and for ensuring access to and provision of development resources (water, information, education, health, income, agricultural inputs, etc.). Taking into account the role of women in the mountains, especially in agriculture and natural resources management, institutions need to be supported in strengthening their resilience to climate change impacts mainly in the context of valuing indigenous knowledge, the sustenance of low-carbon development pathways and SMD. Research also needs to focus on the collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated data, indicators and differentiated experiences of women and men as they adapt to multiple drivers of change.

The initial findings of ICIMOD's the Himalayan Climate Change Adaptation Programme (HICAP) work indicate that women in general are more vulnerable than men to climate change as they face more social, cultural, economic and political barriers that limit their ability to cope and access resources that are critical for livelihoods and survival. At the same time, they are also at the frontline of climate change (Nellemann, Verma and Hislop 2011). Women's increased responsibilities, indigenous knowledge and stewardship in managing natural resources, households, communities, environments and income generating activities in the context of the migration of males, and rapid economic changes, position them well in contributing to effective strategies for adaptation to climate and global changes (HICAP Bulletin, ICIMOD/CICERO/UNEP/GRID Arandal 2011).

### 3.6 Role of regional institution for sustainable development of the HKH Mountains

#### 3.6.1 Overview

Given the growing interest in mountain issues among the HKH countries and the changing regional and global contexts, the role of regional institutions will have to match with the growing expectations of regional and international stakeholders. The views expressed by the regional stakeholders, indicate that organisations such as ICIMOD will have a challenging role ahead as a result of the impacts of global climate and environmental changes and ongoing regional socio-political and economic transformations. The growing importance of the Himalayan ecosystems goods and services need more collective and concerted management actions at the regional level to ensure sustainable development. Since issues such as freshwater shortage, increasing natural hazards, environment pollution, ecosystem degradation, rapid melting of ice, loss of biodiversity, persistent poverty and increasing vulnerability, and human insecurity are common and interconnected issues, they will need common solutions. (Schild, 2008; and Jodha, Karki and Yadav, 2008) Coordinated efforts from all countries of the region, and continuous support from global development partners will be needed to address the challenges. The changing regional context offers an increased role for regional knowledge development, sharing and enabling institutions. Some of works that can help in the promotion of SMD goals are given below.

#### 3.6.2 Promoting the mountain agenda globally

While the role of mountain systems as a provider of essential services to the global community has been recognised, regional countries and relevant international organisations have to set priorities in support of mountains. Regional institutions can play an important role in raising awareness, and providing concrete data and evidence on Himalayan ecosystems and environment in order to enhance regional and global commitment and actions to support sustainable development in the HKH Mountains, while strengthening upstream-downstream relationships.

### 3.6.3 Facilitating regional cooperation

While the need for transboundary regional cooperation has now been realised, implementation is a real challenge given the difficult geo-political situation. ICIMOD as a non-political regional knowledge-based organisation has been providing a neutral and common platform for knowledge exchange, sharing and learning. This can facilitate regional dialogue and cooperation among the HKH countries, and enhance common understanding on sustainable solutions

### 3.6.4 Facilitating information and knowledge sharing for disaster risk reduction and resilience building

The HKH region is classified as the most vulnerable region due to its exposure to multiple risks of extreme events and natural disasters including landslides, floods, droughts, and glacial lake outburst floods that can endanger sustainable development infrastructure. Reducing the risk of natural disasters is critical for poverty alleviation and for sustaining development efforts. There is a need for a regional organisation that can play the role of a catalyst in sharing information and real time data in order to reduce such risks and vulnerabilities.

### 3.6.5 Reducing scientific uncertainties and knowledge gaps

There is a lack of mountain disaggregated data. Easy availability of accurate socio-economical, environmental and biophysical data is vital for policymakers, resource managers and researchers for sustainable management and allocation of limited natural, human and financial resources for achieving sustainable development. Data generated by national and international institutions in the HKH region are often of a national nature. There is a need for an agency that can contribute by developing and continuously tracking the trends of key indicators of sustainable development.

### 3.6.6 Valuing mountain ecosystem services

In the context of green economy, there has to be proper valuation of the role of the Himalayan mountain system as the providers of critical ecosystem goods and services. These include water, watersheds, biodiversity, and rangelands, its role as regulator of regional and global air circulations, as a destination for eco-tourism, and in pollination through indigenous honey bees. These values need to be translated into enabling policies and actions to help reorient national and global policies towards HKH region resulting in increased investment in research, conservation and development. Providing more realistic economic value for these green services is possible through carbon financing tools such as REDD+, PES and other compensation mechanisms. This is expected to provide incentives to the mountain people to sustainably manage and preserve the vital goods and services while enhancing their own livelihoods by practicing sustainable resources management.

### 3.6.7 Facilitating cross-country learning in sustainable mountain development solutions

The new agenda of the green economy and good environmental governance will require new knowledge, technologies, and capacities. Although institutions have been generating valuable knowledge in the HKH, the knowledge has largely been country specific. Regional institutions can play an important role in consolidating this knowledge, bringing in regional perspectives and facilitating cross-boundary learning for promoting multi-disciplinary and integrated approaches that can enhance SMD.

### 3.6.8 Accessing and customizing global knowledge for the HKH region

Scientific knowledge, experiences, simple technologies, and good practices generated in other mountain systems of the world especially the Alps, the Andes, and the Pacific mountains, might have relevance for conservation and sustainable development in the Himalayas. However, external knowledge, technologies and practices may not always suit the needs in the HKH region due to different socioeconomic contexts and capacity levels. Tailor making, retrofitting and customising the tools, technologies and knowledge are needed and this can be done by a regional sustainable development organisation.

### 3.6.9 Networking and building partnerships

Mountains provide global services and therefore promotion of the mountain agenda will need regional and global partnerships and networking. ICIMOD has its footprints in Chapter 13 and has been an active member of different global forums on mountains and mountain development, while focusing in the HKH region. Therefore, in order to play the role as a specialised agency on mountain issues, it will have to build strategic partnerships with relevant regional and global organisations with a view to promoting symbiotic and synergistic relationships to better address the multiple challenges confronting the HKH region and their implications at global level.

## 3.7 Conclusions

a) Our analysis of the case studies and e-discussion outputs indicate that mountain people have not been the real drivers of change in the HKH Mountains. The key players or drivers have been the people in power – the political leaders, bureaucrats, non-governmental actors and international development players including donors. Traditional or public sector institutions are generally centralised and function in archaic ways – still they have been the predominant drivers of change. Changes have occurred since the Rio 92 summit – both spatially and temporally – and some have been for the better, others for the worst. Historically speaking, as argued by an e-conference contributor, the HKH Mountains have been the refuge for people who escaped the violence of wars and social conflicts in the plains. The prevailing peace and tranquillity allowed them to develop unique socio-cultural 'bonding' with the mountains. However, due to neglect, marginality and poverty, these mountain communities have generally been the losers in the seemingly good processes of decentralisation, devolution and governance.

b) In general, changes introduced by successive regimes have been at the cost of peace and harmony of co-existence in the HKH Mountains. Peace has meant more than just the absence of war. New kinds of conflicts over sharing and appropriating natural resources such as water, forest, pasture, and biodiversity have been simmering all across, going beyond the management capacity of the traditional social institutions. Seemingly beyond repair, the undesirable changes of the past can only be reversed by engaging and connecting with diverse mountain dwellers in multi-stakeholder discussion and dialogue frameworks by creating a neo-institutional mechanism of nurturing green economy that suits the mountain people, and by investing in developing technology conducive to the fragile Himalayan geo-morphology.

c) Translating good intentions into sustainable or smart actions would warrant re-thinking new institutional frameworks and developing good governance practices while promoting a low- carbon growth path in the HKH Mountains. There is a downstream demographic push to extract more resources and pressure the ecological balance in some parts of the HKH region. Multi-pronged strategy through education, awareness raising, making the playing field level, developing enabling policies, and creating institutional spaces can help in creative management of the growing demand on mountain resources and services. Learning from local cultures, rebuilding on local knowledge, and strengthening good practices could be crucial drivers of change. Participatory conflict resolution techniques as practiced in the Philippines may also be useful in the HKH communities.

d) Trans-boundary nature of natural resources, especially water, and cross-border relations in managing the mountain resources has yet to get the attention the issues deserve. Should not the countries of the region develop joint policies, programmes, regulations and institutions for sustainable development of the HKH region? They should – perhaps – given that they share many common problems and potential solutions. Only cross-scale and cross-border linkages can help resolve the complexities of equitable sharing of natural resources across diverse social systems. Clearly, there is a case for negotiating out-of-the-box solutions, which should be possible through collaboration and co-operation amongst the key players involved in sustainable management of the HKH Mountains.

e) It is understood that a diverse group of people are aiming to influence the Rio+20 agenda and are interpreting and positioning the green economy agenda using their own understanding and contexts. From the HKH region, the views are that the green economy should not be an alternate to sustainable development that was agreed 20 years ago. Instead it should be a revamped mechanism to reinvigorate the SMD. The crucial question for the mountain is: what form of the green economy can be a good instrument for addressing the problems? Like sustainable development, which has limitations in terms of its interpretation and application, the green economy too can be applied at cross-purposes and that should be avoided.

f) It is being argued that the 'top down' agenda of the green economy is to break the current inertia in the global climate change debate. The views of the HKH mountain regions, however, are that the gain for the environmental pillar need not be a loss for the economic pillar if the green economy can be made to deliver green products and green jobs. Therefore, a balanced approach is needed while promoting green economy concepts in the mountains. Issues of scale, indigenous peoples' rights to resources, and the poverty reduction related outcomes of green economy will be important to consider more than the agenda itself. The green economy concept has already been criticised as being heavy on technology, financial and human resources. Therefore its implications on feasibility, sustainability and gender dimensions must be critically examined. Also important is addressing governance issues, especially social and gender equity and participation of stakeholders in design, implementation and benefit sharing of green economy initiatives.

g) It is clear that the proposed or evolving development and institutional frameworks for any low-carbon or green growth agenda should clearly and properly reflect the needs and aspirations of the mountain people. The drivers for the transformation to green economy and new institutional governance should be the people of the mountain regions and not external forces who might fund and benefit from the initiatives. Change agents and community leaders should be the real drivers of change.

#### Policy messages

h) From the discussions of challenges, issues, and opportunities above it can be concluded that SMD from the perspective of sustainable mountain development in the HKH region has not been a success story. The main reasons for this are the emergence of new and multiple challenges and crises such as climate change, energy crises, food insecurity, market meltdown, increased disasters and growing conflicts. Together, the global, regional and local drivers of change have made the mountain communities more vulnerable, exposed to new risks and therefore, less resilient. The resulting impact on downstream populations could be more severe owing to increasing occurrences of extreme events such as floods and droughts. However, there are also some opportunities for mountain communities. What is lacking is awareness, knowledge, change of mind-sets and above all, good policies and institutional frameworks.

i) The Mountain Agenda cannot be revived for the sake of the mountains alone. It would need to be argued for all from the upstream-downstream perspective, showing the importance of the mountain ecosystem goods and services in a wider context. Equitable and enabling trade regimes, cross border co-operation, knowledge management, common markets, combined with benefit sharing mechanisms by harnessing water resources and promoting public- private-civil society partnership could be the new rallying points for developing a comprehensive green economy agenda for the mountains. A shift from the piecemeal watershed approach to the higher level, of integrated river basin approach with cross-sectoral integration, is vital for addressing the impending challenges including climate change and food security. Mountains specific institutions also need to be strengthened through capacity enhancement and expansion of knowledge because 20th century institutions cannot resolve 21st century problems.

j) The case studies and e-discussions have captured the essential contours of the emerging issues and the impending challenges in mountain development. In the lead up to the Rio+20 summit the task will be to get stronger, incremental and meaningful political and financial commitments from member country leaders so that mountain friendly green economy programmes and instruments get the desired attention that is needed for converting the green opportunities into economic incentives for the vulnerable mountain communities. Least developed and developing mountain countries and regions will also need easy development finance, technology adaptation and transfer mechanisms, and concessional market access for green products.

k) The role and importance of ecosystem goods and services of the HKH Mountains has increased with clear recognition that they have equal or higher role for downstream countries as well as the outside world. The global view of mountains has also shifted towards developing better understanding on the specificity of mountain systems. Enhanced appreciation of Asian mountains as the drivers of change is perfectly timed for renewed attention to the issues and challenges for developing a mountain agenda that is imaginative and forward looking both for the mountain dwellers and those who live downstream.

l) Although costly, mountain countries must invest in green projects and carry out necessary policy reforms to provide incentives to sectors such as agriculture, natural resources and industrial development for promoting green technologies and practices in the mountains.

m) Regional cooperation is necessary for promoting the green economy and good environmental governance since accessing markets, finance and technologies will be critical for the green economy to succeed.

n) Green economy based on national conditions and context can provide opportunities to promote human wellbeing and intergenerational equity and the mountains can contribute significantly to make it happen.

o) Rio+20 should be an opportunity for not only reinforcing the spirit of Agenda 21 but must be a step forward for bringing the environmental and social pillars of SMD at par with the economic pillar in terms of importance in order to harmonise the global processes in favour of mountains and other vulnerable countries because the mountains matter to everyone, in terms of the broader roles they play in regulating the natural global systems.

Annexes (UNDESA: Please Reference Full Submission for Annexes)

#### Sustainable Mountain Development

In 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) – commonly referred to as 'Rio 1992' or 'the Rio Earth Summit' – mountains received unexpected high political attention. They were granted a chapter in the 'Agenda 21' as fragile ecosystems that matter for humankind.

Since then, a wide range of efforts by different actors have been undertaken to promote 'Sustainable Mountain Development'. Some of them relate to the above event others just emerged on their own. However, in view of the forthcoming UN Conference 'Rio +20' in 2012 it seems relevant to assess and understand what has been achieved by whom and how. It appears equally important to learn what has worked or not and why in order to draw lessons for more effective interventions in future. The anticipation of possible future challenges or opportunities may further help to be better prepared for their management. This will certainly encompass the adaptation and mitigation of Climate Change as the 'main stream concern of the last decade' well as probably the 'new mainstream paradigm' of Green Economy. But as in the past, major unexpected and unpredictable political, social, economic or even technological changes and innovations may overshadow any of these mainstreams.

In this complex world of today, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation as one of the most committed agents in global Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) over the past 20 years, has commissioned a number of regional reports to assess achievements and progress in major mountain regions such as in particular Central Asia, Hindu Kush-Himalaya (HKH) and the South East Pacific, South and Meso America or the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE) has commissioned - in the context of the Swiss Presidency of the Alpine Convention 2011/12 – a specific report on the Alps. In addition, UNEP has provided a separate report on Eastern Europe and started compiling a report on Africa's mountains.

The insights gained through these assessments in which key local, regional and global actors have been actively involved are meant to feed into a range of processes such as the UN Secretary General's High Level Panel on Global Sustainability (commonly referred to as 'GSP'), the preparation of the UN Conference in Rio 2012 and possibly the next cycle of the 'Commission for Sustainable Development' (CSD) or its possible successor structure. The present document is to be considered as a 'work in progress'. Hence the Organizers of the 'Lucerne World Mountain Conference' highly welcome inputs, feedbacks, and suggestions for further improvement.

From Rio 1992 to Rio 2012 and beyond

## International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF)

Submission to the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The importance of trees for their contribution to sustainable development is well understood by the international community. However, most attention has been paid to trees in forests, and much less to trees in agricultural settings and pastoral lands. It has been calculated that at least half of the world's farmland has at least 10% tree cover. This amounts to over one billion hectares of land where 558 million people live. On over a quarter of the world's agricultural land, tree cover is over 20%. These trees on farms represent a huge and largely untapped resource both for production and better management of the environment. There is great potential to enhance tree cover in agricultural landscapes through better management but this requires supportive policy, appropriate institutional development and improved tree germplasm and technology options for farmers. More and better managed tree cover on farms could lead to higher and more stable farm incomes, greater food security, more resilient production systems and enhanced environmental services.

Agroforestry is the practice of incorporating trees within agricultural landscapes. The trees are perennial crops that can provide food for people, fodder and shade for livestock, timber and renewable wood energy. They can also contribute to biodiversity conservation, store carbon, maintain and improve soil fertility, regulate water flows, and reduce land degradation and improve water use efficiency. Agroforestry is at the heart of the three Rio UNCED conventions and is vitally important for food security.

### Agroforestry and climate change

Climate change adaptation and mitigation come together in agroforestry. Most agricultural land has been obtained by clearing forests and rangelands, resulting in increased carbon emissions from land use change. In turn, many agricultural livelihoods are facing challenges as a result of climate change. Agroforestry, by increasing tree cover on farmland and pastures, helps to mitigate climate change by sequestering carbon, and assists the sustainable management of land thus helping people to adapt to the effects of climate change. Despite its proven efficiency to improve livelihoods with mitigation and adaptation co-benefits, agroforestry has frequently fallen between the gaps of the climate negotiations in relation to agriculture and forestry. A whole landscape carbon accounting approach that recognizes adaptation and livelihood benefits will bring agroforestry into the centre of ways to sustainably manage natural resources for the future. The micro- and mesoclimatic effects of trees are absent from most discussions of adaptation options in agriculture, although tree cover has large effects on maximum and minimum temperatures, windspeed and humidity, relative to global climate change predictions.

### Agroforestry and biodiversity

Trees on agricultural land can provide a wide range of niches and corridors that support biodiversity and enhance habitat connectivity. For example, trees on pastures and coffee farms surrounding protected forest in Central America facilitate the migration of important bird species that are essential for maintaining the integrity of wildlife reserves. Hotspots of abundance and activity of soil organisms have also been found close to trees on agricultural land, indicating that they promote below-ground biodiversity that underpins soil health. Using trees in agricultural systems can both enhance biodiversity conservation and improve the stability and resilience of crop yields.

### Agroforestry and desertification

Trees are a key component of dryland systems that are susceptible to desertification. Tree roots hold the soil and reduce erosion caused by wind and water. They facilitate the infiltration and penetration of water into the soil and mediate the loss of water through run-off and evaporation. Trees provide sustainable sources of fodder for livestock and can reduce grazing pressure. Trees can improve soil fertility through nitrogen fixation and tightening nutrient and water cycling, thereby increasing the productivity of the land. Trees provide shade and windbreaks that can increase crop and livestock productivity as well as improving animal welfare. Trees have often been seen as free goods provided by nature and they have been lost across many dryland landscapes, but in some places farmers, realizing the multiple benefits they bring, are managing their natural regeneration. For example, in Niger, farmers have nurtured tree cover over almost 5 million hectares of Sahelian farmland. Because of their role in improving food security, improving livelihoods and sustainably managing land, trees play an important role in efforts to restore desertified land.

### Agroforestry, food security and ecosystem services

Trees on farms help to improve food security. Fruits and leaves contribute to human nutrition and fodder feeds livestock. Appropriate trees, if well managed in crop fields can also improve the fertility of the soils and increase crop yields. Timber and fuelwood are harvests that can be used or sold, fuelwood still being the most important source of cooking fuel in many rural communities. Trees on farms also contribute to a broad range of ecosystem services that landscapes provide. Trees regulate run-off, helping to conserve water in the soil. Trees and their roots reduce soil erosion, especially when managed as part of agricultural systems that utilize various systems of conservation tillage. Trees on farms produce numerous products including food, medicines, fencing, timber and fuel.

### Decisions on agroforestry for the Conference

Some text that The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development could adopt is as follows:

- 1) Agree that agroforestry lies at the heart of the three Rio Conventions and food security, and contributes to the Green Economy.
- 2) Agree that agroforestry is an important form of farming and that international and national policies are needed to promote its broader adoption. Recognize that agricultural policies need to embrace agroforestry, rather than agroforestry being discussed exclusively in the context of forests. That said, it is often forest legislation that constrains the use of trees by farmers, so integrated approaches amongst sectors is required.
- 3) Agree that trees on farms contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and recommend that the UNFCCC work towards a whole landscape accounting approach with mitigation, adaptation and livelihood benefits.
- 4) Agree that agroforestry can contribute to biodiversity conservation and utilization, and recommend that plans to achieve the Aichi targets should include agroforestry.
- 5) Agree that agroforestry is vital to the achievement of the targets of the Ten Year Strategic Plan of the UNCCD and recommend that agroforestry should be included in plans to achieve those targets.

6) Agree that agroforestry is an important contributor to improving food security and also to improved livelihoods through the provision of a wide range of ecosystem services. Recommend that agroforestry should be included in Green Economy practices in order to create productive multi-functional landscapes that include mosaics of farmland, agroforests, woodlots, pasture and forest that work synergistically to produce food and provide other ecosystem services.

7) Finally, recognize that through the incorporation of trees on farms, agroforestry creates green jobs that contribute to a Green Economy.

World Agroforestry Centre

1 November 2011

## International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)

### Proposals on behalf of the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) to the RIO+ 20 preparatory process

#### 1. Proposal for a Global Green Innovation and Technology Partnership

1-According to the UNGA Resolution ( A/RES/64/236), the objective of the RIO+20 Conference is to secure "renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges."

2-In this regard, the transfer of environmental sound technologies has been a major item on the international sustainable development agenda in particular since the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. It should thus figure prominently in discussions leading to the RIO+20 conference and in the conference's outcome.

Background: The transfer of environmental sound technologies and sustainable development

1-In 1992, the First Rio Earth Summit adopted Agenda 21, as a comprehensive plan of action to be taken globally, nationally and locally by organizations of the United Nations System, Governments, and Major Groups in every area in which human impacts on the environment.

2-Chapter 34 of Agenda 21 addressed: "Transfer of Environmentally Sound Technology, Cooperation And Capacity-building" and had a number of objectives in particular:

- a. To help to ensure the access, in particular of developing countries, to scientific and technological information, including information on state-of-the-art technologies;
- b. To promote, facilitate, and finance, as appropriate, the access to and the transfer of environmentally sound technologies and corresponding know-how, in particular to developing countries, on favorable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights as well as the special needs of developing countries for the implementation of Agenda 21; (Chapter 34, paragraphs a) and b)).

3-In 1997, a United Nations General Assembly meeting in special session carried out a five year review of Earth Summit progress. Resolution A/RES/S-19/2 called for the urgent fulfillment of all the Earth Conference commitments concerning concrete measures for the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries. In particular, it suggested "the creation of centers for the transfer of technology at various levels, including the regional level, could greatly contribute to achieving the objective of transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries" (Paragraph 93).

4-In 2002, the Johannesburg Plan of Action called upon Governments as well as relevant regional and international organizations and other relevant stakeholders to implement actions to:

- a. Accelerate the development, dissemination and deployment of affordable and cleaner energy efficiency and energy conservation technologies, as well as the transfer of such technologies, in particular to developing countries, on favorable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed.
- b. Promote networking between centers of excellence on energy for sustainable development, including regional networks, by linking competent centers on energy technologies for sustainable development that could support and promote efforts at capacity-building and technology transfer activities, particularly of developing countries, as well as serve as information clearing houses;

5-In 2011, the UNEP Green Economy Report and the UN World Economic and Social Survey, highlighted the key role of technology in the transition towards a green economy.

Progress, Gaps and Proposals:

6-Wide diffusion and transfer of green technologies continues to be a pressing challenge facing the international community.

7-Since the Earth summit, diffusion and transfer of green technologies, in particular of climate change technologies, has taken place via a number of channels such as: development and climate financing, in particular by the Global Environmental Facility (GEF); carbon markets, in particular the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects as well as trade flows in environmental goods and services. However, these channels remain insufficient in relation to the massive scale up of transfer of green technologies required to match the magnitude of the climate change challenge. Furthermore, there are no effective methods of measuring and verifying the extent of technology transfer which have taken place.

8-There is better information and data available about the technological needs of developing countries, particularly in the area of climate change thanks to the technological needs assessments (TNAs) conducted under the framework of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

9-There are greater technological capabilities in a number of developing countries paving the way for more effective and tangible South-South cooperation in the area of green technologies, in particular clean energy technologies.

10-However, obstacles to enhancing technology transfer to developing countries continue to be multiple and range from lack of financing to lack of enabling environments and lack of absorptive capacities. They call for multiple solutions and responses. At the international level, concrete mechanisms have often lacked to operationalise actions and provisions on transfer of environmentally sound technologies agreed upon at the multilateral level.

11-In this regard, the decision by the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC in (2010) to establish a *Technology Mechanism* to enhance the technology transfer and diffusion of climate adaptation and mitigation technologies is of great significance. The Technology Mechanism is composed of a Technology Executive Committee (TEC) and of an operational body to facilitate networking among national, regional, sectoral and international technology bodies, to be called the Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN).<sup>1</sup> The CTCN materializes and elaborates upon previous proposals along the same vein that have been mentioned in



previous international documents such as the Johannesburg Plan of Action.

12-The RIO+20 Conference should welcome of and support the creation of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism as an important milestone in efforts to operationalise international commitments aiming at meaningful and effective actions to enhance the technology transfer and diffusion. It should also emphasize the importance that the Mechanism is endowed with the adequate financial resources to enable it to carry out its tasks effectively and that it is made operational without delay.

13-In this context, the RIO+20 might wish to examine the possibilities of replicating the precedent of the Technology Mechanism at a wider scale by establishing a *Global Green Innovation and Technology Partnership* to galvanize efforts and know how to accelerate the diffusion of green technologies at a wide world scale.

14-As in the case of the Technology Mechanism with the Cancun Conference, the RIO+20 conference could take the decision in principle to create such a partnership and define its broad functions and leave more detailed aspects of its operationalisation to a time bound process of intergovernmental discussions with the participation of all relevant stakeholders.

15-Without duplicating the work of the Technology Mechanism, the broad functions of a *Global Green Innovation and Technology Partnership* could be:

<sup>1</sup> For further information about the Technology Mechanism, see ICTSD, *The Climate Technology Mechanism: Issues and Challenges*, ICTSD Information Note, 2011 available at: <http://ictsd.org/i/publications/103789/>.

- a. Accelerate the deployment and diffusion of green technologies and know-how in particular to developing countries and ensuring coherence and coordination in efforts aiming at this purpose.
- b. Encourage 'green innovation' taking into account the technological and socio-economic needs of developing countries and their development objectives.
- c. Promoting collaboration between a wide range of stakeholders, particularly private-public stakeholders, to accelerate the deployment and diffusion of green technologies as well as green innovation
- d. Facilitate a 'green' network of national, regional, sectoral and international technology centres, networks, organizations and initiatives to respond to the needs of developing countries in a variety of areas including technical assistance, identification of best practices and addressing to barriers to the wider dissemination of green technologies.
- e. Encourage the availability of better information about green technologies through adequate technology platforms.

16-The Partnership should remain a flexible instrument that that can be hosted by an existing international institution. It would act at the same time as a hub, a platform and a catalyst for global efforts to transfer and diffuse green technologies, in particular to developing countries.

17-Finally, the role of intellectual property rights has been a long standing issue in discussions about the transfer of environmental sound technologies, and was mentioned in chapter 34 of agenda 21. Discussions on this issue should be technical, evidenced based and seek to identify and explore means to address existing knowledge and information gaps.

18-In 2010, UNEP, the European Patent Office and ICTSD released a study on *Patents and Clean Energy* in order to contribute towards addressing the evidence gap in this area.<sup>2</sup> The study identified three main policy implications :

- a. Policy processes can have a positive impact on technology development and innovation
- b. Accurate and publicly available information on existing and emerging clean energy technology, including IPRs and licensing, is urgently needed.
- c. There is a need to facilitate untapped potential in licensing of clean energy technologies to developing countries.

<sup>2</sup> The study is available at: <http://ictsd.org/i/publications/85887/>

## 2. Proposal for a Sustainable Energy Trade Agreement

According to the UNGA Resolution (A/RES/64/236), the objective of the Rio+20 Conference is to secure "renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges."

One of the greatest future challenges that Rio+20 will need to address in the transition to a green economy and poverty eradication is the decarbonisation of the global energy system. The dual problem of providing sustainable energy access for all and mitigating climate change is currently hindered by a number of political, economic and institutional factors.

In this context, trade can and should provide part of the solution. Currently, the rapid global deployment of clean energy technology is hindered by significant border and behind-the-border trade barriers.

A Sustainable Energy Trade Agreement (SETA) -aimed at enabling the rapid scale up in innovation, diffusion, and use of goods, services, and technologies in the non-fossil fuel energy sector -could provide a concrete solution. Addressing sustainable energy trade in a comprehensive manner and building on a plurilateral approach, a SETA would fill a major current governance gap.

Numerous possibilities exist regarding the manner in which the scope of issues and market barriers could be addressed within a SETA. Issues could be addressed in two phases, with a first phase addressing clean energy supply goods and services, starting with solar, wind, small-hydro and biomass, and eventually extending to marine, geothermal, clean coal, and transport-related biofuels. A second phase could address the wider scope of energy efficiency products and standards, particularly those related to the priority sectors identified by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for greenhouse gas mitigation: buildings and construction, transportation, and manufacturing.

The first Global Green Growth Forum (3GF) in Copenhagen in October 2011 saw the proposal of a Sustainable Energy Trade Agreement (SETA). As the UN has declared 2012 to be the International Year of Sustainable Energy for All, the coincidence with Rio+20 marks an exciting opportunity to provide a platform for endorsing and further developing the concept.

Background information on the SETA -developed by ICTSD in cooperation with the Peterson Institute for International Economics, the Global Green Growth Institute (3GI), and drawing on ideas discussed in the Renewable Energy Global Agenda Council of the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Redesign Initiative – is available in a report entitled *Fostering Low Carbon Growth: The Case for a Sustainable Energy Trade Agreement* on the ICTSD website:

(<http://ictsd.org/downloads/2011/11/fostering-low-carbon-growth-the-case-for-a-sustainable-energy-trade-agreement.pdf>)

## International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (C.I.D.C.E.)

Objet : soumission des contributions écrites auprès du secrétariat de la Commission du développement durable Pièces jointes :

Annexe 1 : Appel des juristes (Limoges, France)

Annexe 2 : Recommandations Franco-Brésiliennes des juristes de l'environnement (Rio de Janeiro, Brésil)

Annexe 3 : Recommandations Franco-Brésiliennes des juristes de l'environnement (Sao Paulo, Brésil)

Annexe 4 : Recommandations de Limoges (France)

Chère Madame, Cher Monsieur,

La présente lettre vise à soumettre auprès du secrétariat de la Commission du développement durable les contributions écrites du Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement (C.I.D.C.E.) (France), du Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaires en Droit de l'Environnement, de l'Aménagement et de l'Urbanisme (CRIDEAU-OMIJ) (France), de la Fondation Vargas (Brésil) et de la Procuradoria fédérale de Sao-Paulo (Brésil) dans le cadre de l'élaboration de la première version provisoire du document final de la Conférence. L'objectif est de proposer des recommandations juridiques porteuses de protection de l'environnement et de les faire prendre en compte par la Conférence des Nations-Unies sur le développement durable qui se déroulera du 4 au 6 juin 2012 à Rio de Janeiro (Brésil).

Le droit est un instrument indispensable pour traiter les deux thèmes fixés par la résolution de l'Assemblée Générale de l'ONU du 24 décembre 2009 (A/RES/64/236) : "l'économie verte dans le cadre du processus du développement durable et l'élimination de la pauvreté" et "le cadre institutionnel du développement durable".

Nous souhaitons ainsi contribuer à faire progresser le droit de l'environnement, à renforcer son application et à conclure de nouvelles conventions.

Dans cette optique, le Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement (C.I.D.C.E.) et le Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaires en Droit de l'Environnement, de l'Aménagement et de l'Urbanisme (CRIDEAU-OMIJ) ont organisé trois manifestations scientifiques qui ont permis de rassembler, de discuter et de formuler des propositions concrètes en s'inspirant en partie mais pas exclusivement des thèmes cités et de les soumettre au secrétariat de la Commission du développement durable. De plus un appel international des juristes de l'environnement a été ouvert à la signature par internet (<http://www.cidce.org>) (textes en français, anglais, annexe 1).

1. Des journées scientifiques Franco-Brésiliennes des juristes de l'environnement à Rio de Janeiro les 24 et 25 juin 2011 (Brésil), (Recommandations en anglais et en portugais, annexe 2),
2. Des journées scientifiques Franco-Brésiliennes des juristes de l'environnement à Sao Paulo les 27 et 28 juin 2011 (Brésil), (Recommandations en anglais et en portugais, annexe 3),
3. Une « 3ème réunion mondiale des juristes et des associations de droit de l'environnement à Limoges (France) », du 29 septembre au 1er octobre 2011, (Recommandations en français et en anglais, annexe 4),

Liste des thématiques :

I. Droits de l'homme et environnement : les défis du droit

- 1- Le principe de non régression en droit de l'environnement
- 2- Environnement et équité ou « environmental justice »
- 3- Les catastrophes écologiques et les droits de l'homme
- 4- L'effectivité du droit de l'environnement déjà existant
- 5- Le droit fondamental à la terre et à l'alimentation
- II. Les nouvelles conventions mondiales sur l'environnement
- 6- Le Projet de convention mondiale sur l'environnement (covenant de l'UICN)
- 7- Le projet de convention mondiale sur les évaluations environnementales
- 8- Le projet de convention sur les sols (IUCN)
- 9- Pour une convention sur la pollution d'origine tellurique des mers et des océans
- 10- Le projet de convention relative au statut des déplacés environnementaux
- 11- Pour une convention pour la protection de l'environnement en cas de conflits armés

12- Le projet de convention sur l'exploitation pétrolière offshore

13- Le projet de convention sur le mercure

14- Le projet de convention mondiale sur le paysage

III. Le cadre institutionnel du développement durable et la gouvernance internationale de l'environnement

15- La Cour mondiale de l'environnement

16- L'organisation mondiale de l'environnement

17- La transformation du Conseil économique et social des Nations-Unies en Conseil économique, social et environnemental

18- La place de la société civile et des ONG en droit international de l'environnement

IV. L'économie verte dans le cadre du développement durable et l'élimination de la pauvreté : des enjeux pour verdier la planète

19- Les forêts

20- Les aires marines protégées en Haute-mer

21- La gestion intégrée des zones côtières

22- La responsabilité environnementale des entreprises

23- Les énergies alternatives et durables

24- Les nanotechnologies

25- Biodiversité, problème foncier des terres agricoles et mécanismes de compensation

26- Le tourisme durable

Pour chacune des recommandations issues du colloque de Limoges (France), un rapport général est disponible sur le site du CIDCE. En vous remerciant par avance pour la compilation et la diffusions de nos contributions, je vous prie de croire en l'assurance de ma considération très distinguée.

Objet : submission of the writing contributions

Appendix 1 : Call for action from lawyers (Limoges, France)

Appendix 2 : French-Brazilian recommendations (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

Appendix 3 : French-Brazilian recommendations (Sao Paulo, Brazil)

Appendix 4 : Limoges recommendations (France),

Dear Madame, Dear Sir,

The objective of this letter is to submit writing contributions of the International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (C.I.D.C.E., France), the Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Environmental, Urban and Planning Law (CRIDEAU-OMIJ, France), Foundation Getulio-Vargas (Brazil), Federal Prosecution of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the UNCSO Secretariat in order to serve as basis for the preparation of zero draft of the outcome document. The objective is to elaborate legal recommendations carrying environmental protection and to make them take into account by the Conference "Rio + 20" in June 2012.

Law is an essential instrument to treat the two topics fixed by the Resolution 64/236: "green economy" and "the institutional framework of sustainable development".

We want to contribute to make progress the environmental law, to reinforce its application and to conclude new conventions. Thus, the International Centre of Comparative Environmental Law (C.I.D.C.E., France), the Interdisciplinary Research Centre on Environmental, Urban and Planning Law (CRIDEAU-OMIJ, France), Foundation Getulio-Vargas (Brazil) and the Federal Prosecution of the Federative Republic of Brazil have organized meetings :

1. French-Brazilian scientific workshops of the environmental lawyers in Rio de Janeiro, 24th and 25th of June 2011 (Brazil), (Recommendations in English and in Portuguese enclosed, appendix 2),

2. D French-Brazilian scientific workshops of the environmental lawyers in Sao Paulo 27th and 28th of June 2011 (Brazil), (Recommendations in English and in Portuguese enclosed, appendix 3),

3. The third worldwide conference of environmental law NGO and lawyers in Limoges (France), September 29-30th, October 1st 2011, (Recommendations in French and in English enclosed appendix 4),

These events made it possible to gather, discuss and formulate specific proposals while being inspired partly but not exclusively\* quoted topics and to submit them to the UNCSO secretariat. Moreover a call for action from lawyers and environmental law organizations was opened for signature on Internet (<http://www.cidce.org>), appendix 1.

\*Listing of the themes:

I. Human rights and environment: the challenges of the law

1 – The non regression principle in environmental law

2 – The environmental justice

3 – The ecological disasters and human rights

4 – The effectiveness of the existing environmental law

5 - The fundamental right to land and food

II. The new world conventions on environment

6 – The draft world convention on environment (IUCN's covenant)

7 – The draft world convention on environmental evaluation

8 – The draft convention on soil (IUCN)

9 - For a convention on land-based pollution of the seas and oceans

10 - The draft convention on the status of environmentally-displaced people

- 11- For a convention on environmental protection in case of armed conflicts
- 12- The draft convention on the offshore oil exploitation
- 13- The draft convention on mercury
- 14 – The draft world convention on landscape
- III. The institutional framework for sustainable development and international environmental governance
- 15- The World Environmental Court
- 16- The Environmental World Organization
- 17- The transformation of the UN Economical and Social Council in Economical, Social and Environmental Council
- 18- The place of the civil society and NGO in international law of the environment
- IV. The green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: issues for greening the planet
- 19 – The forests;
- 20-21 – The sea and the coast
- 20 – The protected marine zones on the high seas
- 21 – Integrated management of coastal zones
- 22 – Corporate social responsibility
- 23 – The alternative and sustainable energies
- 24 – The nanotechnologies
- 25 – Biodiversity, agricultural land tenure problem and compensatory mechanisms
- 26 – The sustainable tourism

For each recommendation resulting from the third worldwide conference of environmental law NGO and lawyers in Limoges (France), a general report is available on the site of the CIDCE.

Thank you in advance for the compilation and the diffusion of our contributions.

Best regards.

#### APPEL DES JURISTES ET DES ASSOCIATIONS DE DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

Ouvert à la signature le 1er octobre 2011 pour être adressé aux États PARTICIPANTS À LA CONFÉRENCE DE RIO (4-6 juin 2012) Nous juristes, exhortons solennellement tous les participants à la Conférence des Nations Unies de Rio de Janeiro (Brésil) des 4-6 juin 2012, à faire en sorte que cette Conférence soit au service de la protection du vivant et de l'Humanité dans le souci de préserver les générations présentes et futures des désastres écologiques notamment dus au changement climatique,

Nous juristes, préoccupés par la dégradation accélérée de l'environnement et désireux que les activités humaines respectent les limites écologiques de la Terre,

Nous juristes, réaffirmant le rôle indispensable du droit et des moyens mis en oeuvre pour son application effective au plan international, régional, national et local afin de contribuer à l'amélioration continue de la qualité de l'environnement humain et naturel auquel chacun a droit,

Tenant compte des thèmes énoncés pour la conférence de Rio + 20 : « une économie verte dans le contexte du développement durable et de l'éradication de la pauvreté » et « le cadre institutionnel du développement durable ».

I. Appelons les Etats du monde entier à marquer l'importance politique de la Conférence de Rio par des signaux forts :

- 1. La présence des chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement à la Conférence de Rio les 4-6 juin 2012,
- 2. La réaffirmation solennelle des principes de solidarité internationale et de développement durable conditionnant la lutte contre la pauvreté et les inégalités,
- 3. La proclamation de l'interdépendance entre la paix et la sécurité dans le monde, le respect des droits de l'homme et la protection de l'environnement.

II. Appelons les Etats à combler d'importantes lacunes du droit de l'environnement par :

- 1. La consécration d'un principe de non-régression en droit de l'environnement,
- 2. L'engagement des Etats à mettre en oeuvre effectivement la démocratie environnementale telle que définie au principe 10 de la Déclaration de Rio de 1992 à travers les droits à l'information, à la participation et à l'accès à la justice, soit en ratifiant les instruments conventionnels existant dans ce domaine, soit en créant de nouvelles conventions régionales ou mondiale,
- 3. L'engagement des Etats, selon les cas, à ratifier ou adhérer aux conventions de protection de l'environnement mondiale et régionales, déjà en vigueur ou non,
- 4. L'engagement des Etats à signer à Rio la convention mondiale sur le mercure en cours de négociations sous l'égide du PNUE.

III. Appelons les Etats à s'engager dans des négociations devant aboutir à une véritable gouvernance mondiale de l'environnement :

- 1. Par l'invitation transmise à l'Assemblée Générale et au Conseil de Sécurité des Nations Unies d'élargir à l'environnement les compétences du Conseil Economique et Social des Nations Unies et d'y assurer une représentation adéquate des ONG d'environnement,
- 2. Par la création d'une Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement (OME), institution spécialisée des Nations Unies regroupant tous les Etats avec de nouvelles missions,

dotée d'importants moyens et capable de renforcer les actions entreprises par le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement,

3. Par la création de mécanismes juridictionnels de résolution des conflits environnementaux y compris une Cour mondiale de l'environnement,

4. En donnant une place accrue à la société civile et en particulier aux ONG d'environnement dans les processus décisionnels internationaux et régionaux touchant l'environnement et/ ou le développement durable par l'adoption d'un ensemble de lignes directrices garantissant des standards minimum de participation dans ces processus ainsi que dans les organismes internationaux et régionaux,

5. Par le renforcement de l'indépendance des organisations internationales garantissant l'absence de conflits d'intérêts. En particulier pour garantir l'indépendance de l'Organisation mondiale de la Santé (OMS) en demandant de mettre fin à l'accord du 28 mai 1959 qui la soumet à l'AIEA pour les questions relatives à l'exposition aux substances radioactives et à ses conséquences pour la santé.

IV. Appelons les Etats à s'engager de plus dans des négociations devant aboutir à la conclusion de nouveaux instruments conventionnels sur l'environnement répondant à la fois à des nécessités impératives de santé, de préservation de la biodiversité et de droits humains :

- Un Pacte international sur l'environnement et le développement,
- Une convention relative à la protection des sols,
- Une convention relative aux évaluations environnementales intégrant les aspects sociaux et culturels ainsi que les effets sur la consommation d'énergie,
- Une convention relative à la pollution d'origine tellurique des mers et des océans,
- Une convention relative aux aires marines protégées en haute mer,
- Une convention relative à l'exploitation pétrolière offshore,
- Une convention relative aux paysages,
- Une convention relative à la protection de l'environnement en cas de conflits armés,
- Une convention relative aux catastrophes écologiques,
- Une convention relative au statut juridique des déplacés environnementaux.

V. Appelons les Etats à promouvoir une économie à même de favoriser la mise en oeuvre du développement durable et participant entre autres à l'éradication de la pauvreté :

1. En renforçant la responsabilité environnementale des entreprises sous son double aspect préventif et réparateur et en consacrant internationalement l'obligation de gouvernance sociale et environnementale incluant le respect de l'ensemble des normes en vigueur,

2. En renforçant la capacité des juges à trancher les conflits environnementaux au moyen de formations garantissant de leur indépendance et de leur professionnalisme y compris en créant, si besoin est, des tribunaux spécialisés sur l'environnement,

3. Allant au-delà de l'Instrument international non contraignant actuel sur les forêts, en adoptant une convention sur les forêts dans les meilleurs délais et au plus tard à la date butoir de 2015 envisagée par le Forum des Nations Unies sur les Forêts,

4. En consacrant le droit à l'eau et à l'assainissement dans le cadre du développement durable,

5. En renforçant les droits sociaux et environnementaux du traité sur la Charte de l'énergie et en visant un accès universel à l'énergie dans un plan ambitieux de l'Agence internationale des énergies renouvelables (IRENA),

6. Face au phénomène de l'accaparement massif des terres agricoles et des espaces naturels et ruraux et à l'accélération des impacts sur la sécurité alimentaire, la biodiversité et les sols :

- en entamant d'urgence des négociations pour un Protocole à la Convention sur la Biodiversité dans le domaine foncier et des aires protégées ;
- en créant rapidement, au sein de la FAO, un programme international d'actions pour le développement des agro-systèmes et leur préservation,

7. En développant de nouveaux indicateurs qualitatifs et quantitatifs pour mesurer les progrès de l'environnement et du développement,

8. En mettant en place, en application du principe de précaution, un mécanisme de contrôle et de régulation des nanotechnologies susceptibles d'affecter l'environnement et la santé,

9. En favorisant la promotion et la valorisation d'un tourisme durable en cohérence avec les exigences conjointes de l'environnement et du développement.

Nous juristes, sommes convaincus, afin d'aboutir à une rapide mise en oeuvre du développement durable, qu'il est vital de faire progresser le droit de l'environnement et de mieux l'intégrer dans les autres droits.

Pour une application effective du droit de l'environnement, il est nécessaire de renforcer l'action conjuguée des gouvernements et des parlements, des collectivités et communautés locales, des organisations internationales et régionales, de la société civile, des entreprises privées, des organisations de travailleurs, des ONG d'environnement et de développement durable.

Les juges, procureurs et avocats, tant nationaux que régionaux et internationaux ont une responsabilité particulière dans cette application effective vis-à-vis des générations présentes et futures.

Nous juristes, appelons les Etats représentants des Peuples à faire de la Conférence de Rio 2012 un moment décisif pour l'avenir commun de l'humanité et des écosystèmes.

Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement (CIDCE)

À Limoges, France, le 1er octobre 2011

Appel lancé suite aux travaux de la réunion mondiale des juristes des cinq continents et associations de droit de l'environnement réunis à Limoges (France) les 29, 30

septembre et 1er octobre 2011 (rapports disponibles accompagnés de 25 recommandations : [www.cidce.org](http://www.cidce.org)).

#### CALL FOR ACTION FROM LAWYERS AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ORGANIZATIONS

Open for signature 1 October 2011, to be delivered to the PARTICIPATING STATES OF THE RIO+20 CONFERENCE (4-6 JUNE 2012) We, the undersigned lawyers, solemnly appeal to all participants in the United Nations Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 4-6 June 2012, to ensure that the Conference serves all living beings and humanity in an effort to preserve and protect present and future generations from ecological disaster, including climate change,

We, the undersigned lawyers, concerned about the accelerating degradation of the environment, and desiring that human activities respect global ecological limits of the Earth,

We, the undersigned lawyers, reaffirming the indispensable role of law and of the measures in place to provide for effective implementation of the law at the international, regional, national and local level so as to contribute to the continual improvement of the quality of the human and natural environment to which all are entitled, and

Taking into account the announced themes of the Rio+20 Conference, namely "a green economy in the context of sustainable development and eradication of poverty" and "the institutional framework for sustainable development",

I. Call upon the States and Governments of the world to highlight the political importance of the Rio+20 Conference through the following strong signals:

1. The presence of Heads of State and of Government at the Rio Conference on 4-6 June 2012,
2. The solemn reaffirmation of the principles of international solidarity and sustainable development, as essential elements in the struggle against poverty and inequality,
3. The proclamation of the interdependence between world peace and security and the respect for human rights and protection of the environment.

II. We further call upon World leaders to fill significant gaps in environmental law through:

1. Establishing a principal of non-regression in environmental law,
2. Committing States to implement and give effect to environmental democracy as defined in Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration of 1992 through the rights to information, to participation and to access to justice, either by ratifying relevant existing conventions or by creating new global or regional conventions,
3. Commitment by States either to ratify or adhere to, as the case may be, global and regional conventions on environmental protection that are either already in force or not,
4. Commitment by States to sign in Rio the global convention on mercury currently being negotiated under the auspices of UNEP.

III. We further call on World leaders to commit to negotiations that will lead to true global environmental governance:

1. By inviting the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations to broaden the jurisdiction of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to include the environment and to assure adequate representation in ECOSOC of environmental NGOs,
2. By creating a World Environment Organization (WEO) as a specialized institution of the United Nations joining together all States with new missions, endowed with significant capacities and able to reinforce actions undertaken by UNEP,
3. By creating judicial mechanisms for environmental conflict resolution, including a World Environmental Court,
4. By giving civil society and in particular environmental NGOs a greater role in international and regional decisionmaking processes concerning the environment and/or sustainable development, through the adoption of a set of guidelines guaranteeing minimum standards of participation in such processes, as well as a greater role in international and regional organizations.
5. By reinforcing the independence of international organizations so as to guarantee the absence of conflicts of interest; and in particular so as to guarantee the independence of the World Health Organization (WHO), by seeking an end to its agreement of 28 May 1959 to defer to the International Atomic Energy Association on questions related to exposure to radioactive substances and resulting health consequences.

IV. We further call on World leaders to commit themselves to negotiating new Conventions or similar instruments on the environment that respond to urgent needs in regard to health, preservation of biodiversity and human rights, namely :

- An international Pact on environment and development
- A Convention on protection of soils
- A Convention on environmental impact assessment that includes consideration of social and cultural impacts and impacts related to energy consumption
- A Convention regarding pollution of the oceans and seas from terrestrial sources
- A Convention on marine protected areas on the high seas
- A Convention on exploitation of offshore oil
- A Convention on landscapes
- A Convention on environmental protection in the context of armed conflict
- A Convention on ecological catastrophes
- A Convention on the legal status of persons displaced for environmental reasons

V. We further urge World leaders to promote an economy capable of supporting the implementation of sustainable development and contributing among other things to the eradication of poverty:

1. By reinforcing the environmental responsibility of private enterprises, in regard to both prevention and rehabilitation, and by establishing internationally the duty of social and environmental governance, including full respect of existing norms,

2. By reinforcing the capacity of judges to handle environmental disputes through training that ensures their independence and professionalism, including by creating, as needed, specialized environmental tribunals,
3. By going beyond the current non-binding international agreement on forests to adopt a convention on forests as soon as possible and in any event no later than the deadline of 2015 fixed by the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF),
4. By embedding the right to water and to sanitation in the framework of sustainable development,
5. By reinforcing social and environmental rights under the Energy Charter Treaty and aiming for universal access to energy through an ambitious plan of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA),
6. In light of evidence of the globalization of massive acquisitions of agricultural lands and natural and rural areas, and the acceleration of impacts on food security, biodiversity and soils:
  - by initiating negotiation of a Protocol to the Convention on Biological Diversity on land acquisition and control and protected areas, and
  - by creating within the FAO an international program of action for the development and preservation of agro-ecosystems,
7. By developing new qualitative and quantitative indicators for measuring progress in the environment and in development,
8. By establishing, in accordance with the precautionary principle, a mechanism for the control and regulation of nanotechnology that may pose a risk to the environment and health,
9. By supporting the promotion and development of sustainable tourism consistent with both environmental and developmental needs.

We, the undersigned lawyers, are convinced that in order to make rapid progress toward sustainable development, it is vital to make advances in environmental law and to better integrate it with other areas of the law.

To fully implement and give effect to environmental law, it is necessary to reinforce concerted action by governments, legislatures, local communities, international and regional organizations, civil society, private enterprises, worker organizations, and environmental and sustainable development NGOs.

Judges, prosecutors and lawyers, at the national as well as regional and international levels, have a particular responsibility to present and future generations in implementing and giving effect to environmental law.

We, the undersigned lawyers, call upon States, on behalf of the people they represent, to make the 2012 Rio+20 Conference a decisive moment toward the common future of humanity and ecosystems.

Centre international de droit comparé de l'environnement (International Center for Comparative Environmental Law)

Limoges, FRANCE, 1 October 2011

A call issued following the working sessions of the world meeting of lawyers and environmental law organizations from five continents, in Limoges, France on 29-20 September and 1 October 2011 (reports, along with 25 recommendations, available at : [www.cidce.org](http://www.cidce.org))

#### NORMATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RIO + 20

The recommendations in this document are the result of initiatives that were undertaken and continue to be organized by the Program in Law and Environment - PDMA of FGV Law School Rio. Among them may be mentioned: the International Preparatory Journey for Rio + 20, on 24th and 25th June 2011. The theme of the Journey, "The green economy in the context of sustainable development: the governance of public and private actors" resulted in a book edited by Carina Costa de Oliveira and Rômulo Sampaio. Two other initiatives were: the Forum for Sustainability Rio+20 FGV Law School (<http://riomais20.direitorio.fgv.br/>), which remains stimulating discussions on 70 topics related to discussions of the Rio + 20; and the PDMA participation in The Access Initiative - a network of nongovernmental organizations that works with the implementation of Principle 10 of Agenda 21 which addresses the issues of access to information and public participation.

Several partnerships were essential and are co-authors of this proposal: Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement, Pace University, Núcleo de Estudos e Pesquisas do Senado Federal Consultoria do Senado, Instituto de Direito e Meio Ambiente Brasil-Estados-Unidos, EMERJ – Escola da Magistratura do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Academia Paranaense de direito ambiental, Ministério Público da União, PUC-Goiás, Secretaria de Assuntos Estratégicos, Universidade Católica de Brasília, Uniceub, Universidade Federal do Pará, IEDC - Instituto Estudos Direito e Cidadania, Mackenzi-SP, Prefeitura do Rio, CEDA, NKF advogados, Tribuna Animal, CEDAM, FEMPERJ, PUC-São Paulo, IBRADA and Universidade Estadual do Amazonas. In addition, teachers, researchers and professionals who do are not part of institutions mentioned above participated in proposal making: Priscila Pereira de Andrade, Carole Peychaud, João Renato L. Paulon, Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva, Luiz Gustavo Escorcio Bezerra, Maria Collares, Meryem Deffairi, Patricia Pellanda, Rafael Prado, Sandro Schmitz, Tatiana Falcão Octaviano, Virgilio Gibbon, Maria Morelli, Luiz Borges, Teresa Vilac, Colin Crawford. Some recommendations will be made on the general themes of the conference based on the following major topics: 1) Definitions, 2) Sustainable Trade and Investments, 3) National and International Governance, 4) National Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, 5) International Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development. In each topic there are national and international recommendations on the theme.

#### GREEN ECONOMY ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ERADICATION OF POVERTY CONTEXT

##### 1) Definitions

##### a) Important aspects for Green economy concept

- 1) The internalization of externalities of social and environmental costs. Some policies to promote internalization would be, for example, the valuation of natural resources through taxes and tax incentives to encourage sustainable practices (PDMA).
- 2) The determination of social goals that could be implemented by the "green economy". The goals could include: job expansion, consumption decline, production more sustainable and housing guarantee. Relevant policies would promote sustainable bidding criteria, enable regulation and encourage public investment in priority areas (PDMA).
- 3) Concerning to the green economy, it is observed that the more sectorized it is analyzed, can be more easily identified policies that could encourage the construction of "green" perspective. Each specific area, such as construction, tourism, biodiversity, energy, cities, has their peculiarities. The concept of green economy could be taken from the sustainable progress of each economic sector (PDMA).

b) Important aspects for sustainable development concept

1) Identify general criteria of sustainability from a definition given by each country. Each country can send to the UN Secretariat for the Rio + 20 its definition of sustainable development. This proposal stems from disparities between economic, social and environmental performance of each state. Each one must identify how it can contribute to the present and future lives.

2) It is suggested to build a Brazilian concept of sustainable development in accordance with the priorities of public policies for the country.

3) Opinion on the relevance of the concept of each state:

"A concept is an abstraction that is used to intellectualize a complex issue. Thus, it is possible to explain the complexity of reality that becomes more accessible. However, the risk that comes with the use of a concept is the simplifying and trivializing of it. It can be regarded as the perfect mirror of reality. And both a methodological and scientific error. Sometimes this path is taken to the concept of sustainable development. People who work on this issue want to universalize and standardize the concept. Therefore, it kills the content of sustainable development. The principles of sustainable development must be implemented by each state. Each state has its own level of development, its economies and its society. Therefore, they are different and have neither the same goals, or the same means to accomplish their goals. Environmental considerations, for example, have the same value in each state. In this sense, what is sustainable development for a state is not necessarily the same thing to another state. Therefore, it is useful to have a single definition of the concept of sustainable development. Practically every state knows its needs within its development. Therefore, it can decide its policies according to its reality. Finally, it is useful to highlight a point. The final containers of development and sustainable development theories – humans - are sometimes forgotten and neglected by those working on these issues. Their realities are so complex, so different that it is difficult to understand how you can make a theory of sustainable development without realizing some practical studies. Moreover, these theories are often built in offices, in few hours. It is one reason why sustainable development has little practical effect "(Nitish Monebhurrun).

2) Sustainable Trade and Investments

a) Forests

International Recommendations

1) Adopt a convention on the theme (Luciene Araújo).

2) Increased input of financial resources for implementation of payment for environmental services such as the Global Environment Facility – GEF. (Luciene Araújo).

3) Establish social environmental certification (José Antônio Tietzmann Silva).

4) Include recommendations for environmental damage under Human Rights Council and UN councils or commissions of the regional system of protection of Human Rights (José Antônio Tietzmann Silva).

National Recommendations

1) Implementation of mechanisms and instruments for conservation, through voluntary and coercive measures. (Fernando Meneguim).

2) Implementation of policies and measures that encourage the reduction of illegal deforestation. (Fernando Meneguim).

3) Implementation by the states of financial incentives for environment preservation, with the possibility of public and private entities participation. (Fernando Meneguim).

REDD:

4) Utilizing, not carbon stocks, but the annual fluctuations in the opportunity costs in forested areas. (Virgílio Gibbon).

5) Unifying the credit registries of all the states into a single registry office to avoid duplicative valuations of credits on the national level. (Virgílio Gibbon).

6) The need to incorporate the concept of opportunity cost searching for solutions to the issue of deforestation of native forests. (Virgílio Gibbon).

7) Establishing a REDD+ regime demands rights and responsibilities are clarified in the international and national levels. (PDMA).

8) Local participation and transparent processes while defining access to benefits and allocation of REDD+ resources are crucial for guaranteeing effective governance. (PDMA).

b) Renewable energy

International Recommendations

1) Specifically, a framework convention could be :

a) To establish a renewable energy list classified under economic criteria (cost of production, level of necessary energy, the necessary resources for its production, levels of importation/exportation, capacity to create jobs, etc) and environmental (rate of substitution of fossil fuels, environmental impact, carbon balance of the production process, etc..) defining. (Meryem Deffairi).

b) Establish a binding target, "a minimum" of renewable energy in 10 years for developed countries and in 15 or 20 years for developing countries (obligation of result, leaving the states free of the means used to achieve this) and finally integrate the planning requirements for each state. (Meryem Deffairi).

c) Provide a mechanism for financial sanctions applicable in 10 years, and every five years, depending on the level of renewable energy in each state, by paying a fine to an independent international institution responsible for "re-injection" of funds in development projects technology for producing renewable energy. (Meryem Deffairi)

2) Instead of discussing a new institutional framework we should be questioning capacity of action of the International Agency for Renewable Energy established in January 2009 (IRENA - <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>) (Priscila Pereira de Andrade) National Recommendations

1) Be part of International Agency for Renewable Energy established in January 2009 (IRENA - <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>)

2) Adoption of government policies to encourage substitution of energy sources based on fossil fuels by renewable energy (Luciane Mascarenhas).

3) Implementation by local government of legislation and regulations to promote the use of renewable energy (Luciane Mascarenhas).



- 4) "Breaking Patents" or your purchase more favorable for the need for investment in renewable energy due to weather problems experienced. (Luciane Mascarenhas)
  - 5) Public policies aimed at reducing consumption in order to also reduce power consumption (Luciane Mascarenhas).
  - 6) Promotion of granting intellectual property rights relating to renewable energy that may favor developing countries (Luciane Mascarenhas).
  - 7) Patents acquisition more favorable in view of the need for investment in renewable energy due to weather problems experienced. (Luciane Mascarenhas).
  - 8) Reduction of tariffs and subsidies in order to implement technologies used to generate renewable energy to reduce costs and increase their production.(Luciane Mascarenhas).
- c) Biodiversity and compensation mechanisms

#### International Recommendations

- 1) Juridically qualify biodiversity and give it a legal statute in the international arena (Jessica Makowiak).
- 2) Define in international area the compensation and its criteria (Jessica Makowiak). 3) Situate the compensation notion with recognized principles of international and environment law (the precautionary principle, polluter-pays). The compensation can anticipate or intervene prior to the damage (Jessica Makowiak)
- 4) Rank priorities in relation to biodiversity reduction, losses reduction and compensation. (Jessica Makowiak).
- 5) Restrict the actions of compensation for projects that do not cause major or irreversible reduction of biodiversity (Jessica Makowiak).
- 6) Define, classify and prioritize compensation arrangements in the context of biodiversity (Jessica Makowiak).
- 7) Provide, in the texts that allow compensation, measures for monitoring, surveillance and control. (Jessica Makowiak).
- 8) Provide sanctions in case of disrespect of measures for monitoring and its effects. (Jessica Makowiak).
- 9) Evaluate the experiences of compensation at the institutional level (problem of the actors who must decide, implement and monitor measures of compensation) (Jessica Makowiak).
- 10) Identify means to channel economic resources for biodiversity conservation to biodiversity-rich developing states. (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

#### d) Green Private Contracts

#### International Recommendations

- 1) In the private law area, the inclusion of social environmental clauses and also the exclusion of "stabilization" clauses to enable the adoption of rules of human and environmental rights ratified after the signing of agreements. (Sílvia Pinheiro)

#### e) Technology Transfers

#### International Recommendations

- 1) Protection to international finance of technology transfer mechanisms, with respect to intellectual property rights, but focused on development promotion. (Renata Calsing, Maria Marinho and Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).
- 2) Formation of a fund that allows purchase of clean technologies, considered relevant to the environment protection. (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).
- 3) Need to stimulate the formation of sharing platforms of clean technology licenses. (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).
- 4) Promotion of the discussion about mandatory license adaptability to accessing necessities to clean technologies and the discussion about other mechanisms. (the invention is an improvement, a reduction of production costs and that's why the holder company uses its exclusive right to differentiate themselves in the market. So the incentive to transfer technology through licensing will only be effective if states establish mechanisms to encourage holder private sector or co-holder of proprietary technologies that impact on environmental protection). (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).

#### National Recommendations

- 1) Nationally, evaluation of creative forms to give flexibility to intellectual property rights, which do not violate the State's international commitments and, at the same time, make possible the incorporation of new technologies developed abroad. (Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).
- 2) Creation and improvement of national mechanisms about technological innovation financing and tax exemption, especially focused on healthy environmental technologies. (Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva). 3) Adoption of more effective policies to stimulate technological innovation in the business atmosphere. (Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).

#### f) International trade systems

- 1) Put the U.S. government securities that comprise the international reserves of BRICS members (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) in an investment fund managed by the shareholders. (Virgílio Gibbon).
- 2) To develop rules for the Investment Fund regarding the possibility to issue a "Green Currency" to the limit of its assets. The Green Money shall only be applied to actions or funding of sustainable projects of countries that accept to be beneficiaries of the Fund. (Virgílio Gibbon)
- 3) To subscribe to a Shareholders Agreement that give the Green Currency the same treatment given to the U.S. dollar today. That is, it is computed as international reserve and gives rise to the issuance of the corresponding national currency. (Virgílio Gibbon)
- 4) To adopt social and environmental indices on the stock market. Examples: Domini 400 Social Index (DSI), Dow Jones Sustainable Index. (PDMA)

#### g) Sustainable Production

- 1) Conduct an integrated product policy based on an examination of the impact of products throughout their life cycle. Promote discussion between public and private powers

on the subject, so that the measures can be effective and have the lowest cost (PDMA).

2) Corporate Social Responsibility for the entire production cycle, including: local communities, salaried, shareholders, business partners, suppliers, customers, public authorities. (PDMA).

3) Sustainable financing: direct funding for specific areas: the funding would benefit some communities or disadvantaged municipalities. Making loans through local development banks in deposits, with rates equal to or below the market price (PDMA).

h) Sustainable Consumption

1) Accountability of individuals and companies for their sustainable consumption (PDMA).

2) Control of misleading consumers by companies that have clauses in their codes of conduct on environmental protection or certifications related to Corporate Social Responsibility. (PDMA).

3) Green Economy on Sustainable Development context: Governance and Institutional Framework

a) Liability of the State

International Recommendations

1) All Signatories shall promote sustainable management, especially within the public administration. (Maria Augusta Ferreira)

2) Sustainable management means the one conducted with transparency, ethical behavior, respect for interests of interested parties (stakeholders - employees / servers, customers, suppliers, society, government), respect for human rights, respect for the environment. (Maria Augusta Ferreira)

3) Respect for the environment in public administration is based on the following pillars: the rational use of resources, proper disposal of waste, sustainable public procurement, environment, healthy work. (Maria Augusta Ferreira) National Recommendations

1) The environmental responsibility of federal, state and local organs includes, besides the liability for damage provided for in art., prevention of damage by reducing the environmental impact of state activities, from the adoption of sustainable management practices. (Maria Augusta Ferreira)

b) Liability of business

International Recommendations

1) Device that indicates the strict liability of companies for environmental damage caused by companies, with solidarity between the headquarters and branches (Carole Peychaud).

2) Agreement on "Rights and responsibilities of market players" with devices such as: (PDMA)

a) Minimum criteria that compose the Code of Conduct for companies (recipients and obligations must be precise and clear);

b) Obligation to make annual statements considering the environmental and social criteria;

c) Responsibility for voluntary certification obtained by ISO, for example.

3) Increase in environmental conventions devices on law and jurisdiction conflicts indicating the laws and courts that could best repair the damage. Some rules (PDMA):

a) conflict of laws:

1) in the case of compensation for environmental damage, the more favorable rule to the victim and to protection the environment should be applied,

2) if there are environmental insurance, the law on the rights of the insured should be applied,

3) in the case of environmental damage, the law of the headquarters can be applied if it has control over the activities of its branch.

b) conflict of jurisdictions:

1) The victims of environmental damage can choose the court that may decide for the best damage repair, for example, the proximity of the evidence;

2) If the headquarter has control over the activities of its branch, the jurisdiction of the headquarter has jurisdiction over the case;

3) An action against a multinational may be brought before the court of the domicile of the defendant. If the defendant is a corporation, the domicile of the defendant may be found in any of three places: a) where the company has been registered, b) the place where its central administration is located, c) the main place of activities society.

Specific Recommendations for International Law of Investments

1) The integration of clear environment protection provisions in international investment agreements: the future investment agreements or the renegotiation of existing agreements should include specific provisions on environment protection. These provisions can consider (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) The definition of an investment activity: The activities of those companies which are constituted in utter ignorance of domestic environmental laws should not be qualified as an investment and therefore should not benefit from the protection of the investment agreement. The international investment agreement provision on the definition of the investment must underscore this point. The agreement must state that the investor has a duty to check, examine and understand the legal framework on of the host State, especially the one applicable to the environment, and that he must start and conduct his activity accordingly.

(ii) The definition of the environment: Environment is not an abstraction and in the vein of the previous proposition, some details must be available to define or to identify what is to be understood by environment. It might be a complex task to give an exhaustive definition but it is not impossible to give a list of indicators. These indicators may vary from one State to another.

(iii) Affirming the right of States to regulate as per its environmental concerns: The investment agreements should specify that whenever it comes to environmental matters, States should be free to regulate the investor's activity. It should assert that environment is a component of the public interest<sup>42</sup> and that the latter cannot be sacrificed at the benefit of private economic interests. However, a control of these interests can be injected by the means of a proportionality test. In any case, investment protection standards

cannot prevail over environment protection norms.

(iv) The legitimate expectations of States: The agreement must furthermore affirm that States have a legitimate expectation that private companies investing on its territory will always act in good faith to collaborate with them whenever environmental goals are concerned. Private companies therefore have a duty to act accordingly and must not frustrate these expectations.

2) The integration of clear rules of conflict in international investment agreements: highlighting the prevalence of environment protection norms over investment protection norms (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) The principle: Whenever there is a potential conflict between the investor's or the investment's protection and the environment protection, the investment agreements must provide for clear rules of conflict. The investment agreement can state that whenever an investment protection provision is in conflict with an environmental norm, the latter shall prevail over the former. As environment protection is a unanimous objective which is considered as being fundamental, priority must be given to it.

3) Promoting the use of the systemic integration principle (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) The principle: By this means, agreements should provide that international investment law is not clinically isolated from the rest of international law and that the interpretation of an international investment treaty does not exclude references to other non-investment norms, like environmental norms. This is in direct line with article 31(1)(c) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Hence, environmental norms can be integrated in international investment dispute settlements. They can be invoked by States and will have to be considered by arbitral tribunals.

#### National Recommendations

1) Implement and publicize the system of National Contact Points in the OECD so that companies can be questioned about their actions in society.(PDMA).

2) Control the private activities through: 1) creation of accurate sustainability criteria which companies should present; 2) submission of mandatory criteria and 3) government oversight of the information published. These criteria may be based on the GRI (PDMA).

#### c) Liability of financial institutions

1) The public and private, national, foreign or international organizations, donors or sponsors of activities or projects of polluting or potentially polluting activities shall require the submission of all documents relating to the environmental licensing of the project financed by them, issued by agencies control officers, under penalty of becoming co-responsible for any effects arising from the violation of this Act or its regulations. (Bruna Acerbi)

2) Also has to pay attention to cost-benefit analysis of environmental, defining the object and identifying its impacts, defining them according to their relevance and measurement in physical units, valuing them in monetary terms. (Luiz Borges). d)Access to information and public participation

#### International Recommendations

1) It is necessary to define the meaning of the right of access to information in both international and national levels. (PDMA).

2) Sign a Regional Convention in Latin America to be implemented in the region the access to information under control of an institution such as ECLAC network (TAI).

3) Ratify the Aarhus Convention.(PDMA).

#### National Recommendations 1) Deadlines for the publication of all documents related to environmental decisions. (PDMA).

2) Fines for noncompliance with the deadlines for publication. (PDMA).

3) Ratify the Aarhus Convention.(PDMA).

4) Sign a Regional Convention in Latin America to be implemented in the region the access to information under control of a regional institution. (PDMA).

5) Decree full detailed of terms that are usually very inaccurate on citizen participation, with some examples of articles (PDMA):

a) Public audiences may be conducted, for example, by sector, population or community, in order to not allow domination of the audience by people who have greater chance to express themselves (Colin Crawford).

b) Require that there are effective mechanisms for access by population and interested communities to all documents relevant to the public audience, as well as access to versions with comprehensible language of details of the proposed projects. (PDMA).

c) Provide training courses for community leaders and mediation techniques in order to qualify the ones who need the procedure of public audience (PDMA).

d) Require that public participation occurs from the beginning of the procedure or of the process to reach the community (PDMA).

6) Require the preparation of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) linked to the Preliminary Study Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (PDMA).

7) Availability of environmental documents on the Internet and procedural materials (Larissa Pochmann Clare da Silva).

#### e) Oversight and Accountability

1) Implementation of the monitoring system, such as the GRI, in the states. (PDMA).

2) Control of information provided by the companies in its annual statements by the state through a government agency (PDMA).

3) Disclosure of corporate balance sheets over the Internet (with comparable data set by States) (PDMA).

4) Rule on the requirement of social balance, with the prediction of environmental and social aspects. (PDMA).

5) Decree stipulating criteria that should be in the company's annual social report, in order that information is comparable. (PDMA).

#### f) Green Bidding

#### International Recommendations

1) Writing more specific guidelines on the green bidding topic at Rio +20 (Teresa Villac).

2) Strengthening of sustainable public hiring in the MERCOSUL. (Teresa Villac).

#### National Recommendations

1) Insertion of sustainable hiring in the planning activities of public bodies. (Teresa Villac).

g) Water: The Creation of Protected Areas on the High Seas 1) In order to achieve sustainable development, the States should create marine protected areas. (Fernanda Borges).

2) Marine Protected Areas should be considered as strictly protected areas, essential for the preservation of biodiversity and the maintenance of essential ecological marine processes. (Fernanda Borges).

3) Any activity affecting or potentially affecting the ecological balance and biodiversity conservation in marine protected areas should be considered prohibited in respect of the right to an ecologically balanced environment for present and future generations. (Fernanda Borges)

4) Marine Protected Areas should ensure the protection of biodiversity and the quality of marine waters, to avoid acidification and death of organisms required for biotic and abiotic catchment of carbon from the atmosphere, responsible for mitigating global warming and climate change (Fernanda Borges)

5) Marine Protected Areas should ensure the preservation of natural fisheries resources, required for food security of present and future generations (Fernanda Borges)

h) Water: The Management of Aquifers Located under the Territories of Several Countries

1) Reduce asymmetric information (specific case of Guarani Aquifer)

2) Increase regional and local involvement (awareness, capacity-building and traditional knowledge). (David Cassuto e Romulo Sampaio)

3) Harmonization of national legislation. (David Cassuto e Romulo Sampaio)

4) Regulatory structures (ecosystem services). (David Cassuto e Romulo Sampaio)

i) Taxation as a Means of Environmental Management International Recommendations

1) Establish a limit (cap) for each country of carbon emissions. The initial cap will be the result of the average carbon emissions over the past three to five years. A transition rule can be created (more lenient rule) for developing countries and LDCs (Least Developed Countries - as classified by the WTO) - so that these countries are not disadvantaged because of their low level of current development, and so they can develop despite the targets for carbon reduction (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

2) The carbon emitted in each country shall henceforth be taxed in order to encourage companies to use resources in developing new technologies for clean energy production. The tax rates should be the same in each country (we suggest the establishment of a maximum rate and minimum rate), so they are not created "carbon tax havens" (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

3) The establishment of maximum and minimum rates will also prevent the adoption of tariff adjustments on imports of products (Border Tax Adjustments "BTA") (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

4) Create-a treaty that establishes a origin for the carbon emitted as a result of international activities (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

5) Creation of a new international body endowed with police powers to monitor and eventually penalize those who do not comply to the limits imposed by the treaty (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

#### National Recommendations

1) Green tariff:

a) Establish a less onerous form for the final consumer, for fuel tax, so as to encourage the consumption of cleaner fuels (such as biodiesel and alcohol) in order to reduce the fuel of high carbon concentration consumption and therefore more pollutants such as diesel and coal burning (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

b) Establish a green contribution (purposing creation of a fund to combat climate change and reduce the harmful effects of global warming) on fuel. The contribution would be progressive, more burdening the diesel fuel and less the biodiesel, for example. (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

c) The funds raised with the contribution should be used in development of green Brazilian technology for mounting of electric cars, development of new forms of biodiesel (for example, it is possible to transform peel potatoes and other vegetables into fuel) and even for the promotion of "green" initiatives such as increased efficiency in the recycling project, replanting of forests (which are also internationally known as "carbon sinks" as we consume and re-absorb carbon from the atmosphere), construction of bike lanes to encourage bicycle use by local people, etc.. (Tatiana Falcão Otaviano).

j)The Non-Regression Principle in Environmental Law

#### International Recommendations

1) Integration of the principals of non-regression from the area of human rights into environmental law. (Michel Prieur).

2) In order to preserve the sustainable development and ensure the necessary protection of the environment, States may not take legislative, administrative or judicial measures importing an unlawful reduction of their levels of protection granting by laws that protect the environment except in public interest prevalent case. (Maria Morelli).

3) In the event that the States adopt a legislative, administrative or judicial measure which reduces levels of environmental protection in force, shall justify the reasonableness and proportionality of the measure. (Maria Morelli)

#### National Recommendations

1) The environmental objectives should be achieved in a gradual manner, through interim and final targets, projected on the basis of a state planning that facilitates the implementation of activities related to these goals (Maria Morelli)

2) Efforts to ensure environment protection and conservation can not decrease. In this case, it is forbidden to adopt appropriate legislative, administrative or judicial measures

that illegitimately reduce levels of environmental protection legislation, except in public interest prevalent case. (Maria Morelli)

#### 4) Green Economy on Sustainable Development context: eradication of poverty

##### a) Regularization

1) The proposal of fixing of property rights in forested areas and biomes in order to prevent illegal deforestation. (Fernando Meneguín).

2) The concession of rights to public lands to ensure better monitoring of national resources and to facilitate land regularization. (Fernando Meneguín).

3) Imposing limits on land use; the concession of land rights, which are not absolute, but provide benefits to the title holder and to the state through terms and restrictions on the use of the land. (Fernando Meneguín).

4) Establish an effective policy and a coordinated regional planning (Jose Heder Benatti).

a) The State must be proactive and coordinate the process of regional planning for public policies that are effective, because the lack of a policy for allocation of public goods may leave space for the occurrence of a chaotic land of the public areas, through land grabbing and deforestation - which often happens when there is no such policy.

b) Therefore, it is necessary to establish a regional planning policy to include: regulation; environmental licensing of rural properties; fulfill the social function of ownership; control, enforcement and economic instruments to stimulate the sustainable management of natural resources, specially the forest.

i) For example, the economic or tax incentives can stimulate private spending in certain areas, discourage bad behavior, and correct the market trends that can encourage actions against nature conservation and protection of natural resources.

5) The regularization to ensure control and define property rights, allowing the public power to know who is occupying land and how they are being used. (Jose Heder Benatti).

a) To overcome the current chaos, must first be defined party areas - who is the owner of the land, public or private? If public, which federative entity?

b) The official recognition of the different existing forms of occupation should allow the state and society the control over the use of land and other natural resources. Therefore, the regularization will be positive and not negative, since it prioritizes the family occupation.

c) Another positive effect of land tenure policy is to combat illegal occupation of public lands.

6) There are several necessary steps to implement a land use: (José Heder Benatti).

d) to overcome the limited management capacity of agencies responsible for planning land, whether in its technical or staff.

e) understand that the consolidation of rural property, respecting the social and environmental assumptions, represents an important step towards the strengthening of citizenship and environmental protection.

7) The process of regularization of land occupation should: (José Heder Benatti)

f) be accompanied by descriptive memorandum plant and georeferenced. The financial costs for its preparation should be the responsibility of recipient of legitimacy, with exception of the processes of settlement of small estates.

g) include in the title-deeds issued by the national land, clauses requiring the beneficiary to maintain, conserve and, where appropriate, to restore the permanent preservation areas and legal reserves.

8) Other necessary and complementary actions to the regularization (Jose Heder Benatti).

h) scanning of the land collection;

i) modernization of access to registry information of rural land in order to increase the reliability of the processes of property records and ensure that information can be obtained quickly and the distance by public authorities relating to questions of land federal unit.

##### b) Environmental Education

#### International Recommendations

1) Make the investment in education a priority in developing countries and underdeveloped countries, since the lack of education contributes to unemployment, which reflects in crime and poverty. And also ensure that education serves as a tool for public awareness to the current problems in the world, such as politics, health and environmental preservation. The maldistribution of wealth is also a result of poor education. (Patricia Pellanda).

#### National Recommendations

1) Environmental Education, at all levels, is everyone's responsibility because it reflects the reduction of social inequalities, and in schools, should be adhered to the principle of transversality. (Maria Collares). 2) Public Power should be able to train teachers to teach environmental education at all levels of government and to monitor the effectiveness of the method adopted. (Maria Collares). 3) Information on Environmental Education requires transparency necessary for understanding of all because it contributes to the protection of natural resources, to promote population health and to collaborate with the eradication of poverty. (Maria Collares).

4) Environmental education propels sustainable development, due to it would be compulsory in schools, social, professional and public activities. (Maria Collares). 5) The inclusion of Environmental Law as a subject in graduation aims to form student as a professional to make effective environmental legislation in all work activities. (Maria Collares).

##### c) The fundamental right to land and food International Recommendations

1) Regarding the right to food is the focus of discussion on hunger eradication of people. This problem can not be based on instruments that aim at increasing food production in the world, but on appropriate means to combat social inequalities and unequal distribution of wealth. (Patricia Pellanda).

2) Promote the application of the Solidarity Economy in the countries, aware that the private donations and supportive attitudes may contribute to the results of the company itself (Patricia Pellanda).

#### National Recommendations

- 4) Value and respect the concept of land and territories granted to indigenous people and traditional communities as a collective right, transcending the idea of merely individual property (Patricia Pellanda).
- 5) Prevent the assimilation of indigenous lands to the family farm in the States domestic law, through the international commitment and recognition of specific features to indigenous people and their cultural practices. This measure will prevent even the rampant development of agribusiness lands and other explorations that have been occurring frequently on these populations (Patricia Pellanda).
- 3) The commitment of states to their respective populations in order to reduce / eliminate corruption policy and allocate funds to sectors that should be effectively benefited by punishing those who divert funds, individual enrichment and 'forget' their true function forward the government and social powers. (Patricia Pellanda).
- 4) The public awareness that many problems can be solved in the short term from the measures introduced and practiced by the population itself, independent of the Government and effective political action, since problems like world hunger and the current devastation environmental problems are all human problems in the world. If each citizen help only one needy person, the difference would be huge. (Patricia Pellanda).
- 5) In addition to food in sufficient quantity to meet basic human needs, should also be prioritized food (including water) quality, mainly food security internationally wanted. By quantitatively and qualitatively adequate food may also be displayed positive results in the health sector, with the reduction of diseases, especially those arising from the use and consumption of pesticides and new technologies such as transgenic (Patricia Pellanda).

#### d)Definition and Criteria for a Sustainable City

National Recommendations 1) Definition and promotion of sustainability indicators that can be used for the formulation of local environmental policies. Indicators that reconcile the protection and preservation of goods, services and environmental and cultural resources with the needs of economic and social development (PDMA).

#### e)The rights of indigenous people and of traditional communities

#### International Recommendations

- 1) Protocol to bring definitions, obligations and rights more accurate on (PDMA):
  - a) prior, free and informed consent in relation to any activity held in indigenous areas;
  - b) participation in project implementation;
  - c) protect and guarantee access to land, natural resources and the benefits derived there from;
  - d) recognition of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples (how?), protection of people relocating to other areas (how?)
  - e) monitoring mechanism should be created at the international and national levels to ensure transparency and effectiveness of these rights in practice.
- 2) Indigenous people may be impacted from the consequences of global climate change. It is necessary to ensure that such impacts are mitigated and that training and adaptation to climate change are rights of these peoples (PDMA).
- 3) Indigenous people have a crucial role in the conservation of environmental resources and this role should be recognized for compensation for environmental services and distribution of benefits of REDD (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) (PDMA). National Recommendations
  - 1) Greater access to information and participation of indigenous people in the implementation and development of projects that affect them directly or indirectly (PDMA).
  - 4) Value and respect the concept of land and territories granted to indigenous people and traditional communities as a collective right, transcending the idea of merely individual property (Patricia Pellanda).
  - 5) Prevent the assimilation of indigenous lands to the family farm in the States domestic law, through the international commitment and recognition of specific features to indigenous people and their cultural practices. This measure will prevent even the rampant development of agribusiness lands and other explorations that have been occurring frequently on these populations (Patricia Pellanda).
  - 6)Define the meaning of traditional communities. (Colin Crawford).

#### NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

#### 5) National Institutional Framework

#### a) Legal/Procedural instruments

#### International Recommendations: procedural instruments

- 1) Forecast for civil society participation through representative bodies in case of conflict resolution in international environmental institutions as amicus curiae. (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).
- 2) Establishment, into national tribunals, of a right to action with the aim to punish the International Conventions noncompliance. (G rard Mon d aire).
- 3) Creation of Regional Unions, provided with a distinct legal personality from the Member States, that can sign Environmental Treaties, resulting in a better engagement of these States with environmental issues. (G rard Mon d aire).
- 4) Need of a right to petition to the citizen or to the society, with what they can intervene in the Legislative Assemblies or the Committee. (G rard Mon d aire).
- 5) Imposition of financial sanctions to noncompliance or incomplete compliance of the Tribunals decisions or laws concerning environment. (G rard Mon d aire).
- 6) Reversal of burden of proof in environmental disputes. (Carole Peychaud).

#### International Recommendations: legal instruments

- 1) Preparation of a treaty on the repair of environmental transnational damage affecting direct and individually citizens of other countries. (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

National Recommendations: procedural instruments

1) Disclosure of the values of a conviction for environmental damage to the environmental fund, allowing the advertising of such values should be applied from convictions for environmental degradation in repairing the environment (Larissa Pochmann Clare da Silva)

b) Analytical methods to measure the effectiveness of law enforcement

International Recommendations

1) The Secretariats of the Conventions require states to designate national institutions that are National Points of Contact responsible for identifying the breach of environmental treaties that have been ratified by the states. (PDMA).

2) The priority is not the creation of new laws and international treaties, but in political and social commitment to the implementation and effectiveness of existing standards. (Patricia Pellanda).

National Recommendations

1) Goals for improving environmental quality (eg, goals to ban the use of pesticides that harm human health and the environment, already banned in Europe). (Solange Teles).

2) Creation of legal environmental sustainability indicators - indicators of environmental governance and policy of environmental governance.(Solange Teles).

6) International Institutional Framework

a) Existing Institutions

International Recommendations

1) Creation of a new international council within the United Nations to discuss sustainable development. This new body would incorporate the UNEP and the committee inside the ECOSOC responsible for sustainable development. (PDMA).

2) Creation of a committee inside this new body that would represent international NGO's, previously chosen by of group of experts, that are know by their efforts in the subject. (PDMA).

3) Focus on UNEP.

4) The transformation of the UN Economic and Social Council to the Economic, Social, and Environmental Council (PDMA).

5) Reform of the Commission on Sustainable Development in the General Assembly (PDMA).

b) New Necessary Institutions: The World Environmental Court

International Recommendations

Considering the International Court of Justice (ICJ) importance in the international community, we propose reform of the ICJ or the foundation of a World Environment Court, based on the following proposals (Rafael Prado):

1) Flexibility of ICJ Environmental Chamber, and encouragement of the use of principle of participation and access of stakeholders to justice (not just government but also civil society). The principle of participation, a fundamental one in International Environmental Law, was recognized by the ICJ Judgment in the same case of the Pulp Mills on the River Uruguay. (Rafael Prado).

2) Manifestation of ICJ on its wide competence in environmental matters involving Member States, and no modifying necessity in its Statute entered in the UN Charter, which allows the materialization of the principle of participation and access to information and to justice in the case of environmental issues that directly affect national populations of litigants countries. (Rafael Prado).

c) New Necessary Institutions: World Environmental Organization

International Recommendations

1) Environmental conventions Secretariats, as technical instances of conventions, would be specialized organs in the new International Organization. (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

2) One of the body structure proposed is a Settlement Body in the model used by the WTO with activities of mediation and arbitration of violations of International Environmental Law performing functions similar to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR). (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

3) Three would be the sources of the new organization: the quota-share of the participant countries, the resources of the major environmental damage penalties, and fees on their roles certification of carbon credits and environmental economics in general. (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

FGV DIREITO RIO+20

Terceira fase do Forum de Sustentabilidade

FGV DIREITO RIO+20

(14 de setembro até 2 de outubro)

A terceira fase consiste no debate em português, espanhol e inglês sobre as recomendações que serão feitas sobre os temas da Rio+20. Essas recomendações decorreram das Jornadas que foram realizadas pelo PDMA e das discussões que ocorreram durante a 2. fase do fórum.

As recomendações internacionais serão entregues para o Secretariado da ONU para a Conferência Rio+20 e as recomendações nacionais serão entregues para a Comissão Nacional formada para construir a posição brasileira para a Rio+20.

## RECOMENDAÇÕES NORMATIVAS PARA A

## RIO + 20

As recomendações que serão feitas nesse documento são resultado de iniciativas que foram realizadas e que continuam a ser organizadas pelo Programa em Direito e Meio Ambiente-PDMA da FGV-Direito Rio. Entre elas podem ser citadas: a Jornada Internacional Preparatória para a Rio + 20, nos dias 24 e 25 de junho de 2011. O tema da Jornada, "A economia verde no contexto do desenvolvimento sustentável: a governança dos atores públicos e privados" resultou em um livro organizado por Carina Costa de Oliveira e Rômulo Sampaio. Duas outras iniciativas foram: o site Forum de sustentabilidade FGV Direito Rio + 20 (<http://riomais20.direitorio.fgv.br/>), que continua fomentando o debate sobre 70 temas ligados às discussões da Rio + 20; e a participação do PDMA no The Access Initiative – rede de organizações não governamentais que trabalham com a implementação do Princípio 10 da Agenda 21 que trata dos temas de Acesso à informação e de participação pública.

Diversas parcerias foram fundamentais e são co-autoras dessa proposta: o Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement, a Pace University, o Núcleo de Estudos e Pesquisas do Senado Federal Consultoria do Senado, o Instituto de Direito e Meio Ambiente Brasil-Estados-Unidos, a EMERJ – Escola da Magistratura do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, a Academia Paranaense de direito ambiental, o Ministério Público da União, a PUC-Goiás, a Secretaria de Assuntos Estratégicos, a Universidade Católica de Brasília, o Uniceub, a Universidade Federal do Pará, o IEDC - Instituto Estudos Direito e Cidadania, o Mackenzi-SP, a Prefeitura do Rio, a CEDA, NKF advogados, a Tribuna Animal, o CEDAM, FEMPERJ, PUC-São Paulo, a IBRADA e a Universidade Estadual do Amazonas. Além disso, os seguintes professores, pesquisadores e/ou profissionais, que não fazem parte das instituições supra-citadas, tiveram uma participação nas propostas: Priscila Pereira de Andrade, Carole Peychaud, João Renato L. Paulon, Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva, Luiz Gustavo Escorcio Bezerra, Maria Collares, Meryem Deffairi, Patricia Pellanda, Rafael Prado, Sandro Schmitz, Tatiana Falcão Octaviano, Virgílio Gibbon, Maria Morelli, Luiz Borges, Teresa Vilac, Colin Crawford.

Serão feitas algumas recomendações sobre os temas gerais da conferência tendo por base os seguintes grandes tópicos: 1) Definições; 2) Investimento e Comércio Sustentáveis; 3) Governança nacional e internacional; 4) Quadro institucional nacional para o desenvolvimento sustentável; 5) Quadro institucional internacional para o desenvolvimento sustentável. Cada tema possui recomendações nacionais e internacionais. As nacionais representam o aspecto da governança nacional, da implementação e da efetividade de temas ligados à economia verde e ao desenvolvimento sustentável. As internacionais tratam de aspectos de governança internacional desses temas.

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## A ECONOMIA VERDE NO CONTEXTO DO DESENVOLVIMENTO SUSTENTÁVEL E DA ERRADICAÇÃO DA POBREZA

### 1) Definições

#### a) Aspectos importantes para o Conceito de economia verde

1) A internalização das externalidades dos custos sociais e ambientais. Algumas políticas para fomentar essa internalização seriam, por exemplo, a valoração dos recursos naturais por meio de taxas e os incentivos fiscais às práticas sustentáveis (PDMA).

2) A determinação de objetivos sociais que poderiam ser implementados pela "economia verde". Os objetivos poderiam ser: o aumento de empregos, a diminuição do consumo, a produção mais sustentável ou a garantia de moradia. As políticas correspondentes seriam promover licitações com critérios sustentáveis, viabilizar a regularização fundiária e incentivar investimentos públicos em áreas prioritárias (PDMA).

3) Com relação à economia verde, observa-se que quanto mais setorizada é feita a análise, mais facilmente podem ser identificadas políticas que possam fomentar a construção da perspectiva "Verde". Cada área específica, como as construções, o turismo, a biodiversidade, a energia, as cidades, têm as suas peculiaridades. O conceito de economia verde poderia ser tirado dos avanços sustentáveis de cada setor econômico (PDMA).

#### b) Aspectos importantes para o conceito de desenvolvimento sustentável

1) Identificar critérios gerais de sustentabilidade a partir de uma definição dada por cada país. Que cada país possa enviar ao Secretariado da ONU para a Rio + 20 sua definição do que seja desenvolvimento sustentável. Essa proposta decorre das disparidades entre o desenvolvimento econômico, social e ambiental de cada Estado. Cada um deve identificar de que modo poderá contribuir com as vidas presentes e futuras (PDMA).

2) Sugere-se que seja construído um conceito brasileiro de desenvolvimento sustentável de acordo com as prioridades de políticas públicas para o país (PDMA).

3) Opinião sobre a relevância do conceito de cada Estado:

"Um conceito é uma abstração que é utilizando para intelectualizar um assunto complexo. Assim, é possível explicar a complexidade da realidade que se torna mais acessível. No entanto, o risco que nasce com a utilização de um conceito é a sua simplificação e a sua banalização. Ele pode ser considerado como o espelho perfeito da realidade. E um erro tanto metodológico quanto científico. Às vezes, este caminho é tomado para o conceito do desenvolvimento sustentável. Há uma vontade das pessoas que trabalham com esse assunto de universalizar e de uniformizar o conceito. Por conseguinte, elas matam o conteúdo do desenvolvimento sustentável. Os princípios do desenvolvimento sustentável devem ser aplicados por cada Estado. Cada Estado tem seus próprios níveis de desenvolvimento, suas economias e sua sociedade. São, portanto, diferentes e não possuem nem os mesmos objetivos, nem os mesmos meios para realizar seus objetivos. As considerações ambientais, por exemplo, não têm o mesmo valor em cada Estado. Nesse sentido, o que é o desenvolvimento sustentável para um Estado não é necessariamente a mesma coisa para um outro Estado. Por isso, não é útil ter uma única definição do conceito do desenvolvimento sustentável. Praticamente cada Estado conhece suas necessidades no âmbito de seu desenvolvimento. Portanto, ele pode decidir sozinho suas políticas em função de sua realidade. Finalmente, é útil sublinhar um último ponto. Os recipientes finais das teorias do desenvolvimento e do desenvolvimento sustentável - os humanos - são às vezes esquecidos e negligenciados pelas pessoas que trabalham sobre esses assuntos. Suas realidades são tão complexas, tão diversas que é difícil entender como é possível fazer uma teoria sobre o desenvolvimento sustentável sem nunca realizar alguns estudos práticos no campo. Além disso, essas teorias são frequentemente construídas nos escritórios, em poucas horas. É uma razão porque o desenvolvimento sustentável tem poucos efeitos práticos" (Nitish Monebhurrn).

### 2) Investimento e Comércio Sustentáveis

#### a) Florestas Recomendações Internacionais

1) Adoção de uma Convenção sobre o tema. (Luciene Araújo)

2) Maior aporte de recursos financeiros para implantação de Pagamento por Serviços Ambientais como o Fundo Mundial para o Meio Ambiente (Global Environmental Facility – GEF). (Luciene Araújo).

3) Estabelecer certificação socioambiental (José Antônio Tietzmann Silva).

4) Que sejam inseridas recomendações relativas a danos ambientais, no âmbito do Conselho de Direitos Humanos da ONU e em conselhos ou comissões do sistema regional de proteção aos Direitos Humanos. (José Antônio Tietzmann Silva). Recomendações Nacionais

1) Implementação de mecanismos e de instrumentos de conservação, por meio de medidas coercitivas e voluntárias. (Fernando Meneguim).

2) Implementação de políticas e de medidas que incentivem a redução do desmatamento ilegal. (Fernando Meneguim).

3) A implementação pelos Estados de incentivos financeiros para a preservação do meio ambiente, com a possibilidade de participação de entes públicos e privados.

(Fernando Meneguín).

- 4) Foco na regularização fundiária e definição de direitos e benefícios oriundos de instrumentos diversos para a conservação. (Fernando Meneguín).
- 5) Definição de um marco regulatório nacional que privilegie a conservação e valorize a floresta em pé (PDMA).
- 6) Conciliar políticas públicas de desenvolvimento (ex. PAC) com políticas de conservação (ex. PNMC) (PDMA).
- 7) Direitos de propriedade claros e reconhecidos, visto que tal segurança trará a possibilidade de fazer um planejamento a longo prazo pelo detentor da terra (Fernando Meneguín e PDMA).

REDD:

- 8) Utilizar, não os estoques de carbono, mas os fluxos anuais de custo da oportunidade das terras com cobertura florestal (Virgílio Gibbon).
- 9) Unificação dos registros dos créditos de todos os Estados em uma única Empresa de Registro para evitar a dupla contagem no nível nacional (Virgílio Gibbon).
- 10) Necessidade de incorporar o conceito de custo de oportunidade na busca de soluções para o tema do desmatamento das florestas nativas (Virgílio Gibbon).
- 11) Estabelecer um regime de REDD+ demanda que os direitos e os deveres sejam claros tanto no nível nacional quanto no internacional (PDMA).
- 12) A participação local e a transparência no processo de definição do acesso a benefícios e da alocação de recursos de REDD+ são cruciais para a garantia de uma governança efetiva. (PDMA).

b) Energias renováveis

Recomendações Internacionais

1) Especificamente, uma Convenção-Quadro poderia:

- a) Estabelecer uma lista das energias renováveis classificadas de acordo com critérios econômicos (custo de produção, nível de tecnologia necessário, os recursos necessários para a sua produção, os níveis de importação / exportação, a capacidade de criação de emprego, etc.) e ambientais (taxa de substituição de combustíveis fósseis, impacto ambiental, balanço de carbono do processo de produção, etc.) (Meryem Deffairi).
  - b) Estabelecer uma meta vinculativa, "um mínimo", de energia renovável em 10 anos para os países desenvolvidos e em 15 ou 20 anos para os países em desenvolvimento (obrigação de resultado, deixando os Estados livres dos meios utilizados para alcançar este) e, finalmente, integrar as necessidades de planejamento para cada Estado (Meryem Deffairi).
  - c) Fornecer um mecanismo para sanções financeiras aplicáveis em 10 anos, e a cada 5 anos, dependendo do nível de energia renovável em cada Estado, mediante o pagamento de uma multa a uma instituição internacional independente, responsável pela "reinação" de fundos em projetos de desenvolvimento de tecnologia de produção de energia renovável. (Meryem Deffairi).
- 2) Ao invés de discutir um novo marco institucional deveríamos questionar a função e a capacidade de atuação da Agência Internacional para Energia Renovável criada em Janeiro de 2009 (IRENA - <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>) (Priscila Pereira de Andrade). Recomendações Nacionais
- 1) Fazer parte da Agência Internacional para Energia Renovável criada em Janeiro de 2009 (IRENA - <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>) (Priscila Pereira de Andrade).
  - 2) Regulamentação do etanol no Brasil – promulgar o Regulamento de Avaliação da Conformidade para Etanol combustível, cuja finalidade é estabelecer os critérios para avaliar as propriedades intrínsecas do etanol, considerando as normas técnicas estabelecidas, além de avaliar os requisitos socioambientais aplicáveis a seu processo produtivo, baseados nas legislações trabalhistas e ambientais brasileiras e internacionais, das quais o Brasil é signatário (PDMA).
  - 3) Adoção de políticas governamentais de incentivo à substituição das fontes de energia baseadas em combustíveis fósseis por energias renováveis (Luciane Martins).
  - 4) Implementação dos governos locais de legislação de fomento e de regulamentação da utilização de energias renováveis (Luciane Martins).
  - 5) Promoção de concessão dos direitos de propriedade intelectual relativas às energias renováveis que possam favorecer os países em desenvolvimento (Luciane Martins).
  - 6) Aquisição mais favorável de patentes tendo em vista a necessidade de investimento em energias renováveis em função dos problemas climáticos vivenciados (Luciane Martins).
  - 7) Redução de tarifas e de subsídios visando a implementação de tecnologias empregadas para a geração de energias renováveis a fim de diminuir os custos e aumentar a sua produção (Luciane Martins).
  - 8) Políticas públicas visando redução no consumo com o objetivo de reduzir também o consumo de energia. (Luciane Martins).

c) Biodiversidade e mecanismos de compensação

Recomendações Internacionais

- 1) Qualificar juridicamente a biodiversidade e dar-lhe um estatuto jurídico no âmbito internacional (Jessica Makowiak).
- 2) Definir no âmbito internacional a compensação e os seus critérios (Jessica Makowiak).
- 3) Situar a noção de compensação juntamente com os princípios reconhecidos e consagrados do direito internacional do meio ambiente (princípio da prevenção, do poluidor-pagador). A compensação pode antecipar ou intervir antes da realização do dano (Jessica Makowiak).
- 4) Hierarquizar as prioridades com relação à supressão da perda da biodiversidade, de redução das perdas e da compensação das perdas (Jessica Makowiak).
- 5) Reservar as ações de compensação aos projetos que não causem uma perda importante ou irreversível da biodiversidade (Jessica Makowiak).
- 6) Definir, classificar e hierarquizar as modalidades de compensação no âmbito da biodiversidade (Jessica Makowiak).
- 7) Prever, nos textos que permitem compensação, as medidas de acompanhamento, de fiscalização e de controle das medidas de compensação (Jessica Makowiak).

8)Prever as sanções em caso de desrespeito às medidas de compensação e de acompanhamento de seus efeitos (Jessica Makowiak).

9) Avaliar as experiências de compensação no plano institucional (problema dos atores que devem decidir, implementar e controlar as medidas de compensação) (Jessica Makowiak).

10) Identificar meios para canalizar recursos econômicos de conservação da biodiversidade para os países em desenvolvimento com rica biodiversidade. (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

d) Contratos privados verdes

Recomendações Internacionais

1) Na área de Direito Privado, a inserção de cláusulas socioambientais e também a exclusão de cláusulas chamadas de “estabilização” para permitir a adoção de regras de direitos humanos e ambientais ratificadas posteriormente à assinatura dos acordos (Sílvia Pinheiro).

e) Transferência de tecnologia

Recomendações Internacionais

1)Promoção de mecanismos de financiamento mais favoráveis para aquisição de tecnologias limpas por empresas de países em desenvolvimento (Renata Calsing, Maria Marinho e Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).

2) Formação de um fundo que permita a compra de licenças de tecnologias consideradas relevantes para a proteção do meio ambiente (Renata Calsing e Maria Marinho).

3)Necessidade de um estímulo à formação de plataformas de compartilhamento de licenças de tecnologias limpas (Renata Calsing e Maria Marinho).

4)Promoção da discussão sobre a adaptabilidade da licença compulsória às necessidades de acesso a tecnologia limpas e discussão de outros mecanismos (o invento representa um avanço, uma melhoria, uma redução de custos de produção e por isso a empresa titular utiliza de seu direito de exclusividade para se diferenciar no mercado. Logo, o estímulo a transferência de tecnologia, através do licenciamento só será efetivo se os Estados criarem mecanismos de incentivo ao setor privado titular ou co-titular de tecnologias protegidas que tenham impacto na proteção do meio ambiente) (Renata Calsing e Maria Marinho). Recomendações Nacionais

1)Avaliação, no âmbito doméstico, das formas criativas de flexibilização dos direitos de propriedade intelectual, que não violem os compromissos internacionais assumidos pelo País e, ao mesmo tempo, possibilitem a incorporação de tecnologias desenvolvidas no exterior (Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).

2)Criação e aprimoramento de mecanismos nacionais de financiamento e desoneração tributária da inovação tecnológica, em especial voltados para as tecnologias ambientalmente saudáveis (Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).

3)Adoção de políticas mais eficazes de estímulo à inovação tecnológica no ambiente empresarial (Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).

f) Regimes financeiros nacionais e internacionais

1) Colocar os títulos da dívida pública americana que compõem as reservas internacionais dos países integrantes do grupo dos BRICS (Brasil, Rússia, Índia, China e África do Sul) em um Fundo de Investimentos administrado pelos próprios cotistas (Virgílio Gibbon).

2) Elaborar um regulamento para esse Fundo de tal forma que ele possa emitir “Moeda Verde” até o limite de seu ativo, e que tal moeda só possa ser aplicada em ações ou financiamento de projetos sustentáveis de países que aceitem ser beneficiários das aplicações do Fundo (Virgílio Gibbon).

3) Assinar um Acordo de Cotistas de tal forma que a Moeda Verde tenha, por parte dos países cotistas, o mesmo tratamento que hoje se dá ao dólar. Isto é, seja computada como reserva e enseje a emissão correspondente de moeda nacional (Virgílio Gibbon)

4) Adoção de índices sociais e ambientais nas bolsas de valores. Exemplos: Domini 400 Social Index (DSI) , Dow Jones Sustainable Index (PDMA).

g) Produção Sustentável

1)Realizar uma política integrada de produtos fundada em um exame do impacto dos produtos ao longo de seu ciclo de vida. Promover o debate entre o poder público e privado sobre o tema para que as medidas sejam eficazes e que tenham o menor custo (PDMA).

2) Responsabilidade social da empresa para todo o ciclo de produção, incluindo: comunidades locais, salarizados, acionistas, parceiros comerciais, fornecedores, clientes, poderes públicos (PDMA).

3) Financiamento sustentável : financiamento direto para áreas específicas : o financiamento beneficiaria algumas comunidades ou municípios desfavorecidos. Fazer empréstimos por meio de depósitos em bancos desenvolvimento local, com taxas iguais ou abaixo do preço do mercado (PDMA).

h) Consumo Sustentável

1)Responsabilização dos indivíduos e das empresas pelo seu consumo sustentável (PDMA).

2)Controle pelos consumidores da publicidade enganosa das empresas que têm cláusulas em seus Códigos de Conduta sobre proteção ambiental ou certificações ligadas à Responsabilidade Social das Empresas (PDMA).

3) A Economia Verde no contexto do desenvolvimento sustentável: a governança nacional e internacional

a) A responsabilidade dos Estados

Recomendações Internacionais

1)Todas as Partes signatárias devem promover a gestão sustentável, especialmente no âmbito da Administração Pública (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

2)Por gestão sustentável entende-se aquela realizada com transparência, comportamento ético, respeito aos interesses das partes interessadas (stakeholders – trabalhadores/servidores, consumidores, fornecedores, sociedade, governo), respeito aos Direitos Humanos, respeito ao meio ambiente (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

3) O respeito ao meio ambiente na gestão pública se fundamenta nos seguintes pilares: o uso racional dos recursos, a destinação adequada dos resíduos, as contratações públicas sustentáveis, o meio ambiente do trabalho sadio (Maria Augusta Ferreira). Recomendações Nacionais

1) A responsabilidade socioambiental dos órgãos públicos federais, estaduais e municipais compreende, além da responsabilização por danos causados, a prevenção a esses danos, pela redução do impacto ambiental causado pelas atividades estatais, a partir da adoção de práticas de gestão sustentável (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

b) A responsabilidade das empresas

#### Recomendações internacionais

1) Dispositivo que indique a responsabilidade objetiva das empresas no caso de danos ambientais causados por empresas, com solidariedade entre a matriz e as filiais (Carole Peychaud).

2) Acordo sobre "Direitos e responsabilidades dos atores do mercado" com dispositivos como: (PDMA).

a) Critérios mínimos que componham o Código de Conduta das empresas (destinatários e obrigações precisas e claras) (PDMA).

b) Obrigação de realizar os balanços anuais considerando critérios ambientais e sociais (PDMA).

c) Responsabilidade pelas certificações voluntárias obtidas de certificadoras como a ISO. (PDMA)

3) Acréscimo nas Convenções ambientais de dispositivos de conflito de leis e de conflito de jurisdição que indiquem as leis e os tribunais que poderão trazer a melhor reparação para os danos. Exemplo de regras (PDMA):

a) De conflito de leis:

1) no caso de indenizações por danos ambientais, deverá ser aplicada a regra mais favorável à vítima e à proteção do meio ambiente;

2) no caso de existirem seguros ambientais, a lei relativa aos direitos do segurado deve ser aplicada;

3) no caso de danos ambientais, a lei da matriz pode ser aplicada caso ela tenha controle sobre as atividades de sua filial.

b) De conflito de jurisdições:

1) As vítimas de danos ambientais podem escolher o tribunal que poderá decidir pela melhor reparação dos danos em razão, por exemplo, da proximidade das provas;

2) Se a matriz tiver o controle sobre as atividades de sua filial, a jurisdição da matriz terá competência para julgar o caso;

3) Uma ação contra uma multinacional pode ser interposta diante do tribunal do domicílio do réu. Se o réu for uma empresa, o domicílio do requerido pode ser localizado em qualquer um dos três lugares: a) onde a empresa tiver sido registrada; b) o local onde está a sua administração central, c) o principal local de realização das atividades da sociedade.

#### Recomendações específicas para o Direito internacional dos investimentos

1) A integração das disposições de proteção ao meio ambiente nos Acordos Internacionais de Investimento: os Acordos de investimento futuros ou a renegociação da existência de Acordos deveria incluir disposições específicas de proteção ao meio ambiente. Essas disposições podem considerar (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) A definição de uma atividade de investimento: as atividades das companhias constituídas de uma absoluta ignorância em leis ambientais nacionais não deveriam ser qualificadas como um investimento e, portanto, não deveriam se beneficiar de uma proteção a acordos de investimento. As disposições nos acordos internacionais de investimento sobre a definição do ambiente deveriam ressaltar esse ponto. O acordo deveria constatar que o investidor tem o dever de checar, examinar e entender o quadro legal do Estado de acolhimento, especialmente aquele aplicável ao ambiente e, assim, ele deverá começar e conduzir sua atividade conforme o acordo.

(ii) A definição de meio ambiente: meio ambiente não é uma abstração e, seguindo a linha do raciocínio acima, alguns detalhes devem estar disponíveis para definir ou identificar o que deve ser entendido por meio ambiente. Pode ser uma tarefa complexa prover uma definição exaustiva, porém, não é impossível listar indicadores de seu significado. Tais indicadores podem variar de um Estado para o outro.

(iii) Afirmação dos direitos dos Estados de regular de acordo com seus interesses ambientais: compensação é, normalmente, feita em caso de exploração, por exemplo, expropriação com motivos ambientais deveria ter um status específico e a compensação por essa expropriação deveria ser modulada para dar legitimidade ao objetivo de proteção ambiental.

(iv) As legítimas expectativas dos Estados: o Acordo deve, além de tudo, afirmar que os Estados tenham expectativas legítimas em que companhias privadas que investem em seu território sempre agirão de boa-fé para colaborar com eles, sempre que objetivos ambientais estão envolvidos. As empresas privadas devem agir de acordo com essas regras e não devem frustrar essas expectativas.

2) A integração de regras claras de conflito em Acordos internacionais de investimento, destacando a prevalência de normas de proteção ambiental sobre normas de proteção de investimentos (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) O princípio: toda vez que houver um conflito potencial entre a proteção ao investidor ou ao investimento e a proteção ao ambiente, os acordos de investimento devem apresentar regras claras de conflito. O acordo do investimento pode declarar que sempre que a proteção a um investimento entrar em conflito com uma norma ambiental, o último deve prevalecer sobre o anterior. Como a proteção ambiental é um objetivo unânime, considerado fundamental, deve-se dar a ela prioridade.

3) Promoção do uso de princípios sistêmicos de integração (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) O princípio: por este meio, os Acordos deveriam observar que as leis internacionais de investimento não são clinicamente isoladas do resto das leis internacionais e que a interpretação de um tratado internacional de investimento não exclui referências a outras leis que não tratem de investimento, como leis ambientais. Isso está de acordo com o artigo 31 (1) c) da Convenção de Viena sobre Tratados. Logo, normas ambientais podem ser integradas em setores de disputa sobre investimentos internacionais. Elas também podem ser invocadas por Estados e deverão ser consideradas por tribunais arbitrais.

#### Recomendações Nacionais

1) Implementar e divulgar o sistema de Pontos de Contatos Nacionais da OCDE no Brasil para que as empresas possam ser questionadas sobre as suas ações pela sociedade (PDMA).

2) Controlar as atividades privadas por meio de: 1) criação de critérios de sustentabilidade precisos os quais as empresas deveriam apresentar; 2) apresentação obrigatória

desses critérios e 3) fiscalização do governo das informações publicadas. Esses critérios podem ter como base o GRI (PDMA).

3)Votação do Projeto de Lei 6826/2010 sobre a responsabilização administrativa e civil de pessoas jurídicas pela prática de atos contra a administração pública, nacional ou estrangeira e dá outras providências. Disponível em: <http://www.camara.gov.br/proposicoesWeb/fichadetramitacao?idProposicao=4...> (PDMA).

c) A responsabilidade das instituições financeiras Recomendações internacionais

1) As organizações públicas e privadas, nacionais, estrangeiras ou internacionais, financiadoras ou patrocinadoras de atividades ou de projetos de atividades poluidoras ou potencialmente poluidoras, devem exigir a apresentação de todos os documentos referentes ao licenciamento ambiental do empreendimento por elas financiados, emitidos pelos órgãos de controle responsáveis, sob pena de se tornarem co-responsáveis pelos eventuais efeitos decorrentes do descumprimento desta Lei ou de sua regulamentação (Bruna Acerbi).

2) Deve-se, também, atentar para análise de custo-benefício ambiental, definindo o objeto e identificando seus impactos, definindo-os de acordo com sua relevância e quantificação em unidades físicas, valorando-os monetariamente (Luiz Borges).

Recomendações nacionais

1) O Conselho Monetário Nacional deverá estabelecer uma resolução sobre os critérios de análise de riscos ambientais na concessão, pelo sistema financeiro brasileiro, de créditos para atividades efetiva ou potencialmente poluidoras (Bruna Acerbi).

2) O Conselho Monetário Nacional deverá estabelecer resolução sobre a limitação da responsabilidade dos agentes financiadores de projetos que venham a causar dano ao meio ambiente, proporcionalmente aos cuidados de análise prévia de riscos ambientais na concessão, pelo sistema financeiro brasileiro, de créditos para atividades efetiva ou potencialmente poluidoras (Bruna Acerbi).

3) Criação, no âmbito do Ministério do Meio Ambiente, de uma Comissão de Risco Ambiental, com o objetivo de auxiliar na implementação e da fiscalização da incorporação da variável ambiental nas instituições financeiras, além de aperfeiçoar a gestão de recursos financeiros governamentais e privados aplicados ao meio ambiente (Bruna Acerbi).

d) O acesso à informação e a participação pública

Recomendações internacionais

1) É necessário definir melhor o que significa o direito de acesso à informação tanto no âmbito internacional como no nacional (PDMA).

2) Que seja assinada uma Convenção Regional na América Latina para que seja implementado o acesso à informação na região, sob o controle de alguma instituição como a CEPAL (rede TAI).

3)Que seja ratificada a Convenção Aarhus (PDMA). Recomendações nacionais

1) Prazos para a publicação de todos os documentos referentes a decisões ambientais (PDMA).

2) Multas por descumprimento dos prazos de publicação (PDMA).

3) Que seja ratificada a Convenção Aarhus (PDMA).

4) Que seja assinada uma Convenção Regional na América Latina para que seja implementado o acesso à informação na região, sob

o controle de alguma instituição como a CEPAL (PDMA).

5) Que um Decreto seja promulgado com um maior detalhamento de termos que são normalmente muito imprecisos sobre a participação cidadã, com alguns exemplos de artigos (PDMA):

a) Que as audiências públicas possam ser realizadas, por exemplo, por setor, por população ou por comunidade para que não haja uma dominação das audiências por populações que tenham maior possibilidade de se expressar (Colin Crawford).

b) Obrigar que haja mecanismos eficazes de acesso da população e das comunidades interessadas a todos os documentos pertinentes à audiência pública, bem como o acesso a versões com linguagem de fácil compreensão para leigos dos detalhes dos projetos propostos(PDMA).

c) Oferecimento de cursos de capacitação para líderes comunitários e técnicas de mediação com o objetivo de qualificar os que necessitam do procedimento da audiência pública(PDMA).

d) Obrigar que a participação pública ocorra desde o início do procedimento ou do processo que atingirá a comunidade específica(PDMA).

6) Obrigar a elaboração de Relatório de Impacto Ambiental (RIMA) vinculado ao Estudo Prévio de Impacto Ambiental (EIA) (PDMA).

7)As leis devem compor os três níveis de controle (Federal, Estadual, e Municipal) e devem conter a provisão das audiências públicas por setor, ao menos no início dos processos ambientais. (Colin Crawford).

8) A disponibilização na internet dos Termos de Ajustamento de Condutas (TACs) e das Ações Cíveis Públicas em matéria ambiental, nos termos da Resolução Conjunta nº 02 do CNMP e do CNJ, destacando especificamente o objeto da presente ação, com a separação na indicação do que seria para prevenir danos ao meio ambiente e do que seria para reparar danos já causados ao meio ambiente. (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

e) O Monitoramento e a Accountability

1) Transposição do sistema de Monitoramento, como o exemplo do GRI, no Brasil(PDMA).

2) Controle das informações dadas pelas empresas de seus balanços anuais pelo Estado, por meio de um dos Ministérios. Esse Órgão nacional poderia representar o GRI no Brasil. Hoje essas informações não são controladas pelo Estado (PDMA).

3) Divulgação dos balanços das empresas pela internet (com dados comparáveis estabelecidos pelos Estados) (PDMA).

4) Norma sobre a obrigatoriedade dos balanços sociais, com a previsão de aspectos ambientais e sociais. (PDMA).

5) Decreto estipulando quais critérios devem constar no balanço social anual da empresa, para que as informações sejam comparáveis (PDMA).

f) As licitações verdes

#### Recomendações Internacionais

1) Redação de diretrizes mais específicas sobre o tema na Rio +20 (Teresa Villac). 2) Fortalecimento das contratações públicas sustentáveis no MERCOSUL (Teresa Villac).

#### Recomendações nacionais

1) Necessidade de regulamentação do art. 6º, XII e da Lei 12.187/09 (Teresa Villac).

2) Atuação governamental em prol da ampla disseminação da constitucionalidade e legalidade das contratações públicas sustentáveis em todos os entes federativos (Teresa Villac).

3) Fortalecimento do assessoramento jurídico-ambiental nos órgãos públicos de consultoria para que, nos processos licitatórios (artigo 38, parágrafo único, Lei 8.666/93) orientem a implementação das contratações públicas sustentáveis com segurança jurídica e observância dos princípios constitucionais, da Administração Pública e licitatórios (Teresa Villac). públicos (Teresa Villac).

5) Atuação integrada das contratações sustentáveis como mecanismo de gestão pública socioambiental (Teresa Villac).

6) Divulgação de programas existentes, como Agenda Ambiental na Administração Pública (A3P – MMA) (Teresa Villac).

g) Águas: A cobrança pelo uso da água

#### Recomendações Nacionais

1) A Tarifa Progressiva deve ser abolida do sistema jurídico por representar uma ameaça à hidrodignidade com a categorização dos excluídos da água (João Renato L. Paulon).

h) Águas: A criação de áreas protegidas em alto-mar

1) A fim de se alcançar o desenvolvimento sustentável, compete aos Estados a criação de áreas marinhas protegidas (Fernanda Borges).

2) As áreas marinhas protegidas devem ser consideradas como áreas de proteção integral, essenciais para a preservação da biodiversidade e para a manutenção dos processos ecológicos marinhos essenciais (Fernanda Borges).

3) Toda e qualquer atividade lesiva ou potencialmente lesiva ao equilíbrio ecológico e à preservação da biodiversidade nas áreas marinhas protegidas devem ser consideradas proibidas, em respeito ao direito ao meio ambiente ecologicamente equilibrado das presentes e das futuras gerações (Fernanda Borges).

4) As áreas marinhas protegidas devem garantir a proteção da biodiversidade e a qualidade das águas marinhas, para se evitar a acidificação e a morte dos organismos bióticos e abióticos necessários à captação de carbono da atmosfera, responsáveis pela mitigação do aquecimento global e da mudança climática (Fernanda Borges).

5) As áreas marinhas protegidas devem garantir a preservação de recursos naturais pesqueiros, necessários à segurança alimentar das presentes e futuras gerações (Fernanda Borges).

6) As áreas marinhas e as zonas costeiras consideradas pelo Ministério do Meio Ambiente Brasileiro, no PROBIO I e II, devem ser constituídas, por lei, como áreas marinhas protegidas e Unidades de Conservação, para o fim de preservar e manter os processos ecológicos marinhos essenciais (Fernanda Borges).

i) Águas: a gestão de aquíferos sob o território de diversos Estados

1) Redução da informação assimétrica no âmbito dos aquíferos (caso específico: Aquífero Guarani) (David Cassuto e Romulo Sampaio).

2) Aumento do envolvimento regional e local (sensibilização, capacitação e conhecimento tradicional). (David Cassuto e Romulo Sampaio)´.

3) Harmonização das legislações nacionais. (David Cassuto e Romulo Sampaio).

4) Estabelecimento de estruturas regulatórias (serviços ambientais). (David Cassuto e Romulo Sampaio).

j) A tributação como mecanismo de gestão ambiental

#### Recomendações Internacionais

1) Estabelecer um limite (cap) para cada país, de emissão de carbono. O cap inicial deverá ser resultado da média de carbono emitido ao longo dos últimos 3 a cinco anos. Uma regra de transição poderá ser criada (regra mais leniente) para países em desenvolvimento e para os países menos desenvolvidos (Least developed countries – conforme classificação da OMC) – para que estes países não sejam prejudicados em virtude de seu pouco grau de desenvolvimento atual, e para que eles possam desenvolver-se a despeito das metas para redução de carbono (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

2) O carbono emitido em cada país deverá passar a ser tributado, de modo a incentivar as empresas a empregarem recursos no desenvolvimento de novas tecnologias para produção de energia limpa. As alíquotas do imposto deverão ser uniformes em cada país (sugerimos o estabelecimento de uma alíquota máxima e uma alíquota mínima), de modo a que não sejam criados “paraísos fiscais de carbono” (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

3) O estabelecimento de alíquotas máxima e mínima também impedirá a adoção de ajustes tarifários de importação de produtos (Border Tax Adjustments “BTA”) (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

4) Criar-se um tratado que estabeleça uma origem para o carbono emitido em decorrência de atividades internacionais (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

5) Criação de um novo organismo internacional, dotado de poder de polícia para fiscalizar e eventualmente penalizar aqueles que não estiverem obedecendo aos limites impostos pelo tratado (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

#### Recomendações Nacionais

1) Do tributo verde:

- a) Instituir uma forma menos onerosa para o consumidor final, de tributação dos combustíveis, de modo a incentivar o consumo de combustíveis menos poluentes (tais como o biodiesel e o álcool) com o objetivo de reduzir o consumo de combustíveis de maior concentração carbônica e, portanto, mais poluentes, tais como o diesel e a queima de carvão (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).
- b) Instituir uma contribuição verde (cuja finalidade tivesse o fim precípuo de criar-se um fundo para o combate das alterações climáticas e a redução dos efeitos nocivos do aquecimento global) sobre combustíveis. A contribuição seria progressiva, onerado mais o combustível diesel e menos o biodiesel, por exemplo (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).
- c) Os recursos arrecadados com a contribuição verde devem ser empregados no desenvolvimento de tecnologia brasileira para montagem de carros elétricos, desenvolvimento de novas fórmulas de biodiesel (por exemplo, sabe-se que é possível transformar casca de batata e outras verduras em combustível) e até mesmo para a promoção de iniciativas “verdes” tais como aumento da eficiência no projeto de reciclagem, replantio de florestas (que também são internacionalmente denominadas “carbon sinks,” já que consomem e re-absorvem o carbono presente na atmosfera), construção de ciclovias para estimular a utilização de bicicletas pela população local, etc. (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

## 2) ICMS

- a) Sugerimos que seja concedido pelo governo federal uma dedução na base de cálculo do imposto de renda, para as pessoas jurídicas que comprovarem estar adotando práticas que contribuam para a redução das emissões de carbono. Este é um incentivo que já foi testado em países europeus e se mostrou altamente efetivo na redução das emissões de carbono (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).
- b) Sugere-se que o governo federal estabeleça metas para que cada estado reduza a quantidade de carbono emitida em seus respectivos estados (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).
- c) Instituir incentivo governamental na forma de um “prêmio” em dinheiro. Os cinco Estados que conseguissem efetuar a maior redução de emissões (proporcionalmente à média histórica de cada estado) ganhariam este prêmio, que nada mais seria do que um repasse adicional de recursos para utilização no desenvolvimento de obras de infraestrutura “verdes” tais como a construção de novas linhas de metrô e de trem. Esta sugestão estadual é compatível com a política mundial de controle às mudanças climáticas (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).
- k) O princípio da interdição do retrocesso no direito ambiental

## Recomendações Internacionais

- 1) Migração dos princípios da interdição de retrocesso do âmbito dos direitos humanos para o de direito ambiental (Michel Prieur).
- 2) Com o objetivo de preservar o desenvolvimento sustentável e garantir a necessária tutela do meio ambiente, os Estados não poderão adotar medidas legislativas, administrativas ou judiciais, que importem uma redução ilegítima dos respectivos níveis de proteção que concedem as leis protetoras do meio ambiente, exceto que concorresse um interesse público prevalente (Maria Morelli).
- 3) No caso que os Estados adotem uma medida legislativa, administrativa ou judicial, que reduza os níveis de proteção ambiental vigentes, deverão justificar devidamente a razoabilidade e a proporcionalidade da medida (Maria Morelli).
- Recomendações Nacionais
- 1) Os objetivos ambientais devem ser obtidos em forma gradual, através de metas provisórias e finais, projetadas sobre a base de uma planificação estatal que facilite a execução das atividades relacionadas com esses objetivos. (Maria Morelli).
- 2) Os esforços feitos para garantir a devida proteção e conservação do meio ambiente não podem diminuir. Neste sentido, é proibida a adoção de medidas legislativas, administrativas ou judiciais que reduzam ilegítimamente os níveis de proteção da legislação ambiental, exceto no caso de concorrência com um interesse público que seja prevalente. (Maria Morelli).

## l) Definição e critérios para a sustentabilidade local

## Recomendações Nacionais

- 1) Definição e promoção de indicadores de sustentabilidades que possam ser utilizados para formulação de políticas públicas ambientais locais. Indicadores que compatibilizem a proteção e a preservação dos bens, serviços e recursos ambientais e culturais com as necessidades de desenvolvimento econômico e social. (PDMA).
- 4) A Economia Verde no contexto do desenvolvimento sustentável: a erradicação da pobreza
- a) A regularização fundiária
- 1) Propõe-se a fixação de direitos da propriedade nas florestas e biomas para evitar o desmatamento ilegal (Fernando Meneguín).
- 2) A concessão dos direitos da propriedade imóvel pública para melhorar o controle dos recursos nacionais e facilitar a regularização fundiária (Fernando Meneguín).
- 3) A imposição de limites no uso da terra; a concessão de direitos que não sejam absolutos, mais forneçam benefícios a detentor do direito e ao Estado por meio de diretrizes voltadas para o uso da terra (Fernando Meneguín).
- 4) É necessário estabelecer uma política efetiva e um processo coordenado do ordenamento territorial (José Heder Benatti).
- a) O Estado deve ser proativo e coordenar o processo do ordenamento territorial para que suas políticas públicas sejam eficazes, pois a falta de uma política de destinação de bens públicos pode deixar espaço para que ocorra um ordenamento caótico das áreas públicas, por meio da grilagem e do desmatamento – o que, na maioria das vezes, acontece quando tal política não existe.
- b) Para tanto, é necessário estabelecer uma política de ordenamento territorial que inclua: regularização fundiária; licenciamento ambiental das propriedades rurais; cumprimento da função social da propriedade; controle, fiscalização e instrumentos econômicos capazes de estimular a gestão sustentável dos recursos naturais, de maneira especial, da floresta.
- i) Por exemplo, o incentivo econômico ou fiscal pode estimular gastos privados em certas áreas, desestimular comportamentos danificados, e corrigir tendências do mercado que podem encorajar ações contra a conservação da natureza e proteção dos recursos naturais.
- 5) A regularização fundiária para assegurar o controle e definir o direito de propriedade, permitindo o poder público conhecer quem está ocupando as glebas de terra e como estão sendo utilizados. (José Heder Benatti).
- c) Para superar o atual caos fundiário, primeiramente deverá ser definida a dominialidade das áreas – quem é o proprietário da terra: público ou privado? Se for público, de

qual ente federativo?

d) O reconhecimento oficial das diferentes formas de ocupação existentes permitirá ao Estado e à sociedade o controle sobre o uso da terra e dos demais recursos naturais. Portanto, a regularização fundiária terá impacto positivo e não negativo, desde que priorize a ocupação familiar.

e) Outro efeito positivo da política de regularização fundiária é o combate à grilagem de terras públicas.

6) Há várias medidas necessárias para implementar um ordenamento territorial: (José Heder Benatti).

f) superar a limitada capacidade de gestão dos órgãos competentes para o ordenamento fundiário, seja no seu corpo técnico, seja no material.

g) compreender que a consolidação da propriedade rural, respeitando os pressupostos sociais e ambientais, representa um importante passo para o fortalecimento da cidadania e para a proteção ambiental.

h) no caso amazônico, a institucionalização da propriedade privada é, também, uma condição para a consolidação de um modelo democrático e participativo de distribuição e de gestão da terra e dos recursos naturais e, conseqüentemente, de proteção do meio ambiente.

i) promover “[a] arrecadação das terras devolutas, hoje ocupadas ilegalmente, [que] torna-se o primeiro passo no processo de ordenamento territorial.

7) Os processos de regularização de ocupação de terra devem: (José Heder Benatti).

j) ser acompanhados de planta e de memorial descritivo georreferenciado. Os custos financeiros para a sua elaboração deverão ser de responsabilidade da (o) beneficiária (o) da legitimação, com exceção dos processos de regularização das pequenas propriedades.

k) incluir, nos títulos de domínio expedidos pelo órgão fundiário, “cláusulas que obriguem o beneficiário a manter, a conservar e, se for o caso, a restaurar as áreas de preservação permanente e de reserva legal.

l) realizar o processo de varredura fundiária territorial, que leva “um processo de gestão territorial contínua, transparente e democrática, pactuado com os diferentes atores sociais – federal, estadual, municipal e sociedade civil,” seguindo o exemplo do programa já testado no Estado do Pará.

8) Outras ações indispensáveis e complementares à regularização fundiária: (José Heder Benatti).

m) a digitalização do acervo fundiário dos órgãos fundiários estaduais e federais” para contribuir à “resolução de várias problemáticas referentes às questões de terra, principalmente aquelas relacionadas à segurança jurídica dos títulos de propriedade rural.

n) a modernização do acesso às informações de registro de imóveis rurais” com o objetivo de “aumentar a confiabilidade dos processos de registros de imóveis e garantir que as informações possam ser obtidas de maneira rápida e a distância pelas entidades públicas ligadas às questões de terra da unidade federativa.

o)

a implementação do cadastro ambiental rural” (CAR) seguindo o exemplo do Estado do Pará (CAR-PA)

b) A educação ambiental

Recomendações Internacionais

1) Tornar o investimento em educação prioridade em países em desenvolvimento e subdesenvolvidos, uma vez que a inexistência de educação contribui ao desemprego, que, por sua vez, reflete na criminalidade e na pobreza. E, ainda, garantir que a educação sirva como instrumento para a conscientização da população para os atuais problemas no mundo, como a política, a saúde e a preservação do meio ambiente. A má distribuição das riquezas também é fruto de uma precária educação (Patrícia Pellanda).

Recomendações Nacionais

1) A educação Ambiental, em todos os níveis, é responsabilidade de todos porque tem reflexo na redução das desigualdades sociais, devendo, nas escolas, ser obedecido ao princípio da transversalidade. (Maria Collares).

2) O poder Público deverá capacitar professores para o ensino da Educação Ambiental em todos os níveis de governo e acompanhar a eficácia do método adotado. (Maria Collares).

3) As informações sobre a Educação Ambiental exigem a transparência necessária para a compreensão de todos porque contribui para a proteção dos recursos naturais, para promover a saúde da população e para colaborar com a erradicação da pobreza. (Maria Collares).

4) A EducaçãoAmbiental é propulsora do desenvolvimento sustentável, razão de ser obrigatória nas escolas, nas atividades sociais, profissionais e públicas. (Maria Collares).

5) É obrigatória a inclusão da matéria Direito Ambiental na graduação objetivando formar o estudante um profissional capacitado para tornar efetiva a legislação ambiental em todas as atividades laborais. (Maria Collares).

c) O direito fundamental à terra e à alimentação

Recomendações Internacionais

1) No que tange ao direito à alimentação o foco da discussão encontra-se na erradicação da fome das populações. Tal problema não pode basear-se em instrumentos que objetivem o aumento da produção de alimentos no mundo, mas sim em meios adequados ao combate das desigualdades sociais e da má distribuição das riquezas. (Patrícia Pellanda).

2) Incentivar a aplicação da Economia Solidária nos países, conscientizando a iniciativa privada de que doações e atitudes solidárias podem contribuir aos resultados da própria empresa, a exemplo da interpretação e aplicação conjunta do Decreto Municipal nº 51.907, de 5 de novembro de 2010, e da Portaria nº 40.497, de 27 de abril de 2001, da cidade brasileira de São Paulo (Patrícia Pellanda).

Recomendações Nacionais



- 1) Valorizar e respeitar o conceito de terras e territórios reconhecidos aos povos indígenas e às comunidades tradicionais como direito coletivo, transcendendo a ideia de propriedade meramente individual (Patricia Pellanda).
- 2) Impedir a equiparação de terras indígenas à propriedade rural familiar no ordenamento jurídico interno dos Estados, por meio do compromisso internacional e do reconhecimento das características específicas aos povos indígenas e suas práticas culturais. Tal medida impedirá, ainda, o desenvolvimento desenfreado do agronegócio em terras indígenas e demais explorações que vêm ocorrendo com frequência sobre essas populações (Patricia Pellanda).
- 3) O compromisso dos Estados com as suas respectivas populações, no intuito de reduzir/erradicar a corrupção política e destinar as verbas aos setores que efetivamente devem ser beneficiados, punindo aqueles que desviam verbas, enriquecem individualmente e 'esquecem' a sua verdadeira função frente ao poder público e social (Patricia Pellanda).
- 4) A conscientização da população de que muitos problemas podem ser resolvidos em curto prazo a partir de medidas criadas e praticadas pela própria população, independente do Poder Público e da ação efetiva de políticos, uma vez que problemas como a fome no mundo e a atual devastação do meio ambiente são problemas de todos os seres humanos no mundo. Se cada cidadão ajudasse apenas uma pessoa necessitada, a diferença já seria imensa (Patricia Pellanda).
- 5) Além da alimentação em quantidade suficiente para satisfazer as necessidades básicas humanas, também devem ser priorizados alimentos (incluindo a água) com qualidade, com vistas à segurança alimentar internacionalmente almejada. Por meio da alimentação quantitativa e qualitativamente adequadas também poderão ser visualizados resultados positivos no setor da saúde, com a redução de doenças, especialmente aquelas provenientes do uso e consumo de agrotóxicos e novas tecnologias, como os transgênicos (Patricia Pellanda).
- d) O direito dos povos indígenas e das populações tradicionais

#### Recomendações Internacionais

- 1)Protocolo que traga definições, obrigações e direitos mais precisos sobre (PDMA):
    - a) consentimento prévio, livre e informado em relação a qualquer atividade realizada em áreas indígenas;
    - b)participação na implementação de projetos;
    - c) proteção e garantia do acesso à terra, dos recursos naturais e dos benefícios oriundos dos mesmos;
    - d) reconhecimento do conhecimento tradicional de povos indígenas (como?), proteção contra realocação de povos para outros territórios (como?);
    - e) mecanismo de monitoramento deve ser criado no âmbito internacional e nacional para garantir a transparência e a efetividade de tais direitos na prática.
  - 2)Os povos indígenas podem sofrer impactos das consequências das mudanças climáticas globais. É necessário garantir que tais impactos sejam mitigados e que capacitação e adaptação às mudanças climáticas sejam direitos desses povos (PDMA).
  - 3) Os povos indígenas têm um papel fundamental na conservação de recursos ambientais e esse papel deve ser reconhecido para fins de compensação por serviços ambientais e distribuição de benefícios de REDD (Redução de Emissão de Desmatamento e Degradação)
- (PDMA). Recomendações Nacionais
- 1)A FUNAI deve se estruturar melhor para garantir que os compromissos assumidos pelo Brasil a nível internacional sejam implementados. É preciso garantir o cumprimento efetivo de princípios e direitos indígenas (PDMA).
  - 2)Deve haver um maior acesso a informação e participação de povos indígenas na implementação e na elaboração de projetos que possam afetá-los direta ou indiretamente (PDMA).
  - 3)É necessário garantir que povos indígenas exerçam o direito previsto na Constituição Federal de usufruto dos benefícios de suas terras, incluindo os serviços ambientais prestados pelas florestas nas quais vivem (PDMA).
  - 4)Valorizar e respeitar o conceito de terras e territórios reconhecidos aos povos indígenas e às comunidades tradicionais como direito coletivo, transcendendo a ideia de propriedade meramente individual. (Patricia Pellanda).
  - 5)Impedir a equiparação de terras indígenas à propriedade rural familiar no ordenamento jurídico interno dos Estados, por meio do compromisso internacional e do reconhecimento das características específicas aos povos indígenas e suas práticas culturais. Tal medida impedirá, ainda, o desenvolvimento desenfreado do agronegócio em terras indígenas e demais explorações que vêm ocorrendo com frequência sobre essas populações. (Patricia Pellanda).
  - 6)Definição do que seriam populações tradicionais (Colin Crawford).

#### QUADRO INSTITUCIONAL NACIONAL E INTERNACIONAL PARA O DESENVOLVIMENTO SUSTENTÁVEL.

##### 5) O Quadro Institucional Nacional

##### a) Instrumentos processuais e materiais

#### Recomendações Internacionais: instrumentos-processuais

- 1) Previsão de participação da sociedade civil por meio de entidades representativas no caso de solução de conflitos em matéria ambiental nas instituições internacionais como *amicus curiae*. (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).
- 2) Estabelecimento de um direito de ação nos tribunais nacionais para punir o descumprimento de Tratados ambientais (Gérard Monédaire).
- 3) Criação de Uniões regionais dotadas de uma personalidade jurídica distinta dos Estados Membros, que possam assinar Tratados Ambientais, tendo como resultado um maior engajamento desses Estados nas questões ambientais (Gérard Monédaire).
- 4) Necessidade de que o cidadão ou a sociedade civil tenha direitos de petição para intervir nas Assembleias Legislativas ou nas Comissões (Gérard Monédaire).
- 5) Imposição de sanções financeiras para o descumprimento ou cumprimento incompleto das decisões de Tribunais ou das leis voltadas para o meio ambiente (Gérard Monédaire).

6) Inversão do ônus da prova em disputas ambientais (Carole Peychaud).

Recomendações Internacionais: instrumentos materiais

1) Elaboração de um tratado sobre a reparação de danos ambientais transnacionais que afetem direta e individualmente nacionais de outros países (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva). Recomendações Nacionais: instrumentos-processuais

1) Realização de audiências públicas ou de consultas antes de se firmar Termos de Ajustamento de Conduta em matéria ambiental, discutindo-se os termos que o compromisso será proposto, para que haja a participação dos demais legitimados e da sociedade civil na construção da melhor solução na reparação de danos ambientais (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

2) Criação de varas especializadas em tutela coletiva nos Códigos de Organização e Divisão Judiciária de cada Estado, para que seja dado um tratamento mais técnico e prioridade de tramitação nas questões ambientais (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

3) Divulgação dos valores de condenação a danos ambientais destinados ao fundo em matéria ambiental, permitindo a publicidade de como serão aplicados os valores oriundos de condenações por degradações ambientais na reparação do meio ambiente (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

b) A integração das políticas municipais, estaduais e federais

Recomendações Nacionais

1) A integração de políticas ambientais passa pela criação de critérios claros sobre regras de cooperação entre os entes das diferentes esferas da federação. Capacitação do regulador, principalmente do local, visando aumentar o grau de confiança institucional para evitar o controle estatal múltiplo e ineficiente (PDMA).

c)

Métodos de análise da efetividade da aplicação das leis

1) Os Secretariados das Convenções requeiram aos Estados a designação de instituições nacionais que sejam de Pontos Nacionais de Contato competentes para identificar o descumprimento dos Tratados ambientais que tiverem sido ratificados pelos Estados (PDMA).

2) A prioridade não está na criação de novas leis e tratados internacionais, mas no comprometimento político e social para a aplicação e efetividade das normas já existentes (Patrícia Pellanda). Recomendações Nacionais

1) Analisar a efetividade das leis ambientais com variáveis como o fato de possuir Plano Diretor, lei instituindo o Conselho Municipal de Meio Ambiente, dotação orçamentária prevista em lei e ser habilitado a realizar licenciamento ambiental – método utilizado na pesquisa do PDMA e CPDE (Romulo Sampaio).

2) Metas para melhoria da qualidade ambiental (por exemplo, metas para banir o uso de agrotóxicos que causam danos a saúde humana e ao meio ambiente já proibidos na Europa). (Solange Teles).

3) Criação de indicadores jurídicos de sustentabilidade ambiental - indicadores de governança ambiental ou de política de governança ambiental. (Solange Teles).

6) O Quadro Institucional Internacional

a) Instituições existentes

Recomendações Internacionais

1) Criação de uma agência no âmbito da ONU com competência para o tratamento do desenvolvimento sustentável - esse novo órgão deverá incorporar o PNUMA e o comitê dentro do ECOSOC responsável por desenvolvimento sustentável (PDMA).

2) Criação de um comitê dentro do novo órgão que representaria ONGs internacionais selecionadas por sua atuação (PDMA).

3) Foco no PNUMA.

4) Transformação do Conselho Econômico e Social das Nações Unidas em Conselho Econômico, Social e Ambiental (PDMA).

5) Reforma da Comissão de Desenvolvimento Sustentável na Assembleia Geral (PDMA).

b) Necessidade de novas instituições: Corte Mundial do Meio Ambiente

Recomendações Internacionais

Tendo em consideração o papel e o peso desempenhado pela Corte Internacional de Justiça (CIJ) na comunidade internacional, propomos fundamente a reforma da CIJ ou a fundação de uma Corte Mundial do Meio Ambiente, com base nas seguintes propostas (Rafael Prado):

1) Que a CIJ flexibilize a sua Câmara Ambiental, e que fomente a utilização do princípio de participação e de acesso à justiça das partes interessadas (não apenas estatais, mas também da sociedade civil). O princípio de participação, um dos fundamentais do Direito Internacional Ambiental, foi reconhecido pela CIJ mesma na Sentença do Caso das Usinas de Pasta de Papel no rio Uruguai (ARG vs. URU) (Rafael Prado).

2) Que a CIJ se manifeste sobre a sua competência abrangente em matéria ambiental entre Estados-membros, e que sem necessidade de modificar o seu Estatuto inserido na Carta das Nações Unidas, que se permita a materialização do princípio de participação e acesso à informação e à justiça no caso de questões ambientais que afetem diretamente populações nacionais dos países litigantes. (Rafael Prado)

c) Necessidade de novas instituições: A Organização Mundial do Meio Ambiente

Recomendações Internacionais

1) Os Secretariados das Convenções ambientais, assim como as instâncias técnicas das Convenções seriam Órgãos especializados da nova Organização Internacional (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

2) Um dos Órgãos da Organização seria um Órgão de Solução de Controvérsias (OSC) no modelo da estrutura da OMC, com consultas e arbitragem sobre controvérsias

relacionadas ao Direito Internacional do Meio Ambiente. O Órgão seria constituído também por uma Comissão com competências similares à Comissão Interamericana de Direitos Humanos (CIDH) (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

3) Três seriam as fontes de recursos da nova organização: as cotas-partes dos Estados que a integram, os recursos de condenações a grandes danos ambientais e taxas cobradas em suas funções de certificação de créditos de carbono e da economia ambiental em geral (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

FGV DIREITO RIO+20

Terceira fase do Forum de Sustentabilidade

FGV DIREITO RIO+20

(14 de setembro até 2 de outubro)

A terceira fase consiste no debate em português, espanhol e inglês sobre as recomendações que serão feitas sobre os temas da Rio+20. Essas recomendações decorreram das Jornadas que foram realizadas pelo PDMA e das discussões que ocorreram durante a 2.ª fase do fórum. As recomendações internacionais serão entregues para o Secretariado da ONU para a Conferência Rio+20 e as recomendações nacionais serão entregues para a Comissão Nacional formada para construir a posição brasileira para a Rio+20.

CHART OF SAO PAULO PRE RIO +20 / 2011

Participants of the International Symposium towards the UN Conference on Environment, Rio - 2012 Workshop and MPF Rio + 20, which featured the participation of lecturers Antonio Herman V. Benjamin, Minister of the Superior Court of Justice and Professor of Environmental Law and Comparative Law and Bio-diversity at the University of Texas / USA, Gérard Monédiaire - Professor at the University of Limoges / France, Director of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research on environmental law, planning and urbanism (CRIDEAU), Jessica Ma-kowiak, master of conferences at the University of Limoges, Frederic Bouin, master of conferences at the University of Perpignan, Michel Prieur, Professor Emeritus at the University of Limoges (2004) – France and the gold medal of environmental law of the University of Brussels and Paulo Affonso Leme Machado, lawyer, professor of environmental law at the Methodist University of Piracicaba (UNIMEP); of the debaters Alvaro Luiz Valery Mirra, Judge - TJ / SP, Solange Teles da Silva, lawyer and Professor of Environmental Law at the Mackenzie University / SP, Colin Crawford, professor of environmental law in the Law School at Tulane University, New Orleans / USA; Ricardo Stanzola Vieira, lawyer and coordinator of projects on human rights and public policies at the IEDC - Institute of Studies on Law and Citizenship, Consuelo Moromizato Yoshida, federal judge, TRF/ 3rd Region, and Sandra Cureau – Sub General Republic Prosecutor and Vice Electoral General Prosecutor, the panels being chaired by José Leonidas Bellem de Lima, the Regional Republic Prosecutor /PRR-3ª R, Regina Helena Furtado Strong, Promoter of Justice, MP / SP and Nicolao Dino Neto, Regional Republic prosecutor/PRR-1st region, General Director of the Union Public Prosecution School, held on 27 and 28 June 2011, at the headquarters of the Regional Republic Prosecutor of the 3rd Region, São Paulo, after discussing the themes of the International Symposium towards Rio + 20 in workshops, expose and, ultimately, conclude the following:

I) Regarding environmental displaced people:

Considering that according to the report "Climate Change and Forced Migration Scenarios," prepared by the Institute for Sustainable Development for the European Commission, and presented during the conference of Poznan (Poland, 1st to 12th, December, 2008), the number environmental displaced people exceeded 25 million, and is expected to have achieved 50 million people last year (2010); Considering that the "United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in partnership with Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) conducted a study on the relationship between people displacement and climate change. In this research it became clear that in 2008 approximately 36 million people were displaced as a result of natural disasters, including: earthquakes, floods and rains. About 28 million people have completely lost their homes, and nearly 8 million had to be evacuated from their homes because they were temporarily uninhabitable. The most affected region by these disasters was Asia. (OCHA / IDMC, 2009) In the same year, for comparison, the number of internally displaced due to conflicts accounted for 26 million people. (UNHCR, 2009)."

Considering that soon the number of environmental displaced people can exceed the number of refugees as established by the Geneva Convention (1951), recorded at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), following predictions of the United Nations Institute for Environment and Human Security;

Considering that "The Global Humanitarian Forum (GFH) recently did a survey showing the impact of climate change on human society, exploring issues of that impact on food, health, poverty, security and human displacement.

Regarding this last item, the study acknowledges that it is difficult to prove that a heavy rain or a cyclone arises from the effects of climate change. However, the conclusion shows that 40% of weather-related disasters come from the climate change effect, taking in account the increase of this kind of event in the last thirty years. As a result, the research argues that it should be used the concept of displaced people due to climate reasons, which has grown to 26 million people and will triple by 2020."

Considering that, in a prediction exercise, Conisbee and Simms (2003) report that, until 2050, in case of continuing the present level of ecological degradation, about 150 million people will move due to global warming. International reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2008) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (2004) also point to the growing number of people affected by extreme environmental events such as hurricanes, floods and landslides. The rise in the average sea level will affect even urban areas such as Alexandria, Manila, Shanghai and Jakarta, with estimation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), predicting that the number of displaced people will reach 190 million by 2050, population close to the Brazilian territory;

Considering that even countries like Brazil, where climatic conditions historically have produced favorable conditions, keeping it free of major disasters, there are problems with the environmental "displaced" or "plagued" people (as in the case of northeastern drought, forcing the secular people displacement towards large urban centers, especially the city of São Paulo), stated that in the case of torrential rains with flooding and landslides, as the recent drastic hydrological events in the states of Santa Catarina, Rio de Janeiro, Alagoas, Pernambuco and Vale do Paraíba (São Paulo State), there were many dead and displaced people; Considering that "The Stockholm Conference of 1972, already provides for the recognition of early and differentiated responsibilities of States. And the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, in the Principle 13 also provides for State responsibility for environmental damage and cooperation of those States to the development of international environmental law rules relating to liability and compensation."

Considering that the environmental displaced people, to be covered by the Legal Global Statute are those "forced", that is, those to which there is no alternative but to leave their "habitat", not to be confused with voluntary movement, of free choice of individuals and affected groups.

Considering that the concept of forced displacement also includes the displacement of livelihoods, especially in cases of tribal and traditional populations, situations in which displaced people choose to stay in the degraded environment also deserve protection; Considering that the forced displacement caused by development projects are linked to economic activities, in most cases predominantly private interest, and that the principle of solidarity implies the costs transfer of economic activities for the whole society, there should be the accountability of the entrepreneur, based on the polluter pays principle.

Participants of the International Symposium towards the UN Conference on Environment, Rio - 2012 Workshop and MPF Rio + 20, convinced of the urgency of taking appropriate measures for effective protection of the environmental displaced people, conclude: 1. Aimed at ensuring human dignity and effectiveness of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights to deterritorialized people or groups, often victims of economic marginalization, should be approved the "Draft Statute of the International Convention on Environmental Displaced People" as independent and binding standard, rather than as an addendum or supplement to the 1951 Geneva Convention, 1967 New York Protocol on the Status of Refugees and the United Nations Convention for Climate Change, in order to avoid creating situations of discrimination and inequalities in relation to other refugees. This convention shall be prepared as part of an international conference, with the participation of various international organizations and with invitation to all countries. 2. It is necessary to create a Global Legal Statute, with international and domestic norms, with the objective of protection of the environmental displaced people, as well as providing preventive principles to combat its alarming growth. There should also be provided chances of repatriation to the country of origin or resettlement and transfer of environmental displaced people to a third country, as well as integration with the population to which they were displaced, either the stay may be temporary or permanent. The details of that legal statute will occur at the regional level, such as the Convention of Kampala, October 2009, for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in the African Union, due to natural or human-made disasters, recognized in the United Nations Guiding Principles on People Internal Displacement.

3. In principle, the Global Legal Statute should cover the obligation of the signatory States, on behalf of solidarity laid down in ECO -92 Principle 13, to provide full legal and material support to victims of extreme environmental events consequences, according to the category of displacement (temporarily, due to changes in the "habitat" or search for better living conditions), taking into account the origin, speed and degree of the displacement cause - events, as well as the real mobility needs, distances and degree of organization of origin country of those displaced people and affected group itself.

4. In case of livelihoods displacement, States shall take all measures aiming at the recovery of degraded environments, ensuring the restoration of livelihoods and full compensation for losses incurred by the displaced people;

5. Such Convention should provide protection for persons affected by events such as earthquakes, tsunamis, droughts (difficulties in food production and access to water), erosion, landslides, storms (tornadoes, hurricanes, typhoons), floods, desertification, destruction of biodiversity, epidemics, disappearance of rivers and lakes, the appearance of hydroelectric dams or similar ones, water pollution, industrial accidents, nuclear accidents, mining activities, changes in sea level, temperature increases, natural causes, with or without evidence of anthropogenic interference and geological risks. Besides these causes, others may be included with the prior hearsay of the International Program on Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change (IHDP) or specific international body to be created, always open to interdisciplinary scientific contributions of civil society organizations or other public or private militants in the area.

6. The forced displaced people due to development projects linked to economic activities imply cost responsibility to the developer, based on the polluter pays principle. II) Regarding the right to landscape:

Considering that the landscape is an "autonomous legal good", with aesthetic value or not, placed in the unitary conception of the environment, object of an integrated management, in view of its cultural, natural and social aspects;

Considering the cooperation between UNESCO Conventions in the field of culture and the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), which resulted in the recent Declaration on Biocultural Diversity (Montreal, June 2010);

Considering that the landscape is a major factor in cultural identity formation and consolidation, as well as shared by all human beings, involving current and future generations;

Considering that everyone has the right to the landscape and share responsibility for its protection, with social interconnectivity, and between territories and regions, justifying its collective protection and cross-border and regional protective approaches, and cooperation among nations in an intergovernmental and intersectoral collaboration;

Considering that the quality of life also depends on the landscape and that the physical, social and cultural conditions influence the welfare of the people; Participants of the International Symposium towards the UN Conference on Environment, Rio - 2012 and MPF Rio + 20 workshop, convinced of the urgency of taking appropriate measures for effective protection of the landscape heritage, conclude:

1. That civil society, international organizations and States should be engaged in the structuring of a World Landscape Convention; 2. To be taken in account the landscape features such as: dynamic, not static and complex, multidisciplinary, sensitive, spiritual, heterogeneous, integrative and public interest, demanding to preserve its diversity;

3. That the concern about the ambience requires planning and new legal instruments to preserve the landscape.

4. That should be found solutions and mechanisms that safeguard the information and participation of civil society and communities directly involved in protecting the landscape, through consultations, public hearings, prior advertising of projects, studies and decisions, and foster global environmental governance;

5. For the necessary enhancement of environmental education in tourism related to the landscape protection;

6. That countries should be urged to sign and ratify UN and UNESCO international conventions and declarations, considering their instruments of landscape protection, incorporating such protection systems into their systems;

7. That it should be created within UNESCO and UN context, in relation to their respective conventions, oversight committees regarding compliance with the commitments made about landscape protection;

8. To be highlighted and promoted the urgent need for international co-operation for the sustainable use of spaces and territories, given the frequent threats to the global landscape.

9. To be created financial and non-financial instruments, for landscape improvement also in the urban environment, in order to prevent or mitigate pollution in the city, aiming at integrating the built spaces with natural environments. III) Regarding the effectiveness of environmental law:

Considering that since the 1972 Stockholm Declaration, the international community recognizes that "the protection and improvement of the human environment is a fundamental issue that affects the welfare of people and economic development around the world, an urgent desire of the worldwide people and a duty of all governments";

Considering that the 1992 Rio Declaration Principle 11 says that "States should enact effective laws for the protection of the environment";

Considering that Agenda 21 provides the basis for actions, objectives, activities and means of implementation for strategies and measures to halt and reverse the effects of environmental degradation in the context of intensifying national and international efforts to promote environmentally healthy and sustainable development in all countries;

Considering that the 2002 Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Action highlights the need of international community's commitment to act and take concrete measures at all

levels for effective environmental protection;

Considering that several national legal systems have constitutions, like the 1988 Brazilian Constitution, which expressly provide a right to an ecologically balanced environment, including the stipulation of obligations and instruments to guarantee this fundamental right, besides the infra constitutional normative texts that supplements the legal environmental protection;

Considering that despite the existence of the international and national normative framework in a significant number of States, "the global environment continues to suffer, biodiversity loss continues, fish stocks continue to be depleted, desertification claims more and more fertile soils, the adverse effects of climate change are already evident, natural disasters are more frequent and devastating, developing countries are the most vulnerable, and the air, water and the sea pollution keep millions of people away from a decent life". This scenario has been only worse since the 2002 -Johannesburg Declaration;

Considering the Chart of Limoges II, providing subsidies for the 2002 -Johannesburg Summit, contains several instruments ensuring the effectiveness of environmental legal protection, and that their proposals were not fully adopted in international legal texts;

Participants of the International Symposium towards the UN Conference on Environment, Rio – 2012 and MPF Rio + 20 workshop, convinced of the urgency in accomplishing the environment protection instruments, conclude for the adoption of the following measures: 1. Ratification of all propositions contained in the Chart of Limoges II;

2. Promotion of campaigns within the United Nations system to promote and encourage, even financially if necessary, the membership of the largest possible number of countries to the Conventions on environmental protection, especially to their Additional Protocols, with the articulation with non-governmental organizations in order to clarify to citizens the importance of the commitment of their States representatives for international standardization of environmental protection;
3. Express provision about the necessary considering of the environmental issue in internal regulations and in international forums resolutions on trade, agriculture, human rights, energy exploration, military agreements and all other matters object of the international community deliberation;
4. Deliberation of the United Nations system in the sense that the States hosting international sport events as World Cups, meetings of various sports and Olympics, should observe existing environmental standards in carrying out the necessary works and economic activities related to these events;
5. Resolution of the United Nations system to bind conditions for the international and national financial institutions funding, to the commitment of application the resources in compliance with international and national environmental standards, and evaluation of environmental impacts in the case of specific works, emphasizing the public character of all information on environmental matter involved in these financing processes;
6. Affirmation of the principle of Non Retrogression in environmental protection, whether at international or national sphere, in occasion of the legislative procedural or material amendments, or organizational changes, considering that by the time of application of environmental standards it should always be privileged the highest protection level of the healthy environment;
7. The statement of administrative and financial independence of the environmental agencies, with mechanisms able to support the declaration of incompatibilities and impediments of any nature of its officers and servants;
8. Recognition of the express admissibility of the broad legitimacy to environmental protection postulation, including citizens (individually or collectively represented), the local regional and international forums, and ensuring that legitimate access to justice in environmental matters is free;
9. The inclusion of disciplines on environmental, technical and legal ones, in formation and training schools of legal professions and public servants in general that can act on the environment issue;
10. Combination of greater efforts into the environmental education promotion at all teaching levels, as well as courses in applied social sciences, so that environmental law should be a compulsory course in the legal area, with the ongoing training of teachers;
11. Establishment of juridical bodies specialized in environmental and socio-environmental conflict resolution, members or not of the existing judiciary framework, but having, necessarily, the appropriate technical support;
12. The implementation of economic instruments for environmental public management already included in the National Environmental Policy of Brazil (forest concession, environmental insurance) and others such as the generation desertification combat credits, the creation of positive environmental balance systems, based on a universal environmental metric;
13. The implementation by national governments of environmental mapping for contexts likely to suffer environmental impacts in all its areas, in a way to provide citizens, with previous environmental information within the environmental impacts evaluation processes;
14. The incorporation of economic compensation mechanisms at the international level under the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in the forest conservation and reforestation processes, as well as the establishment of mechanisms for these environmental resources distribution in the domestic plan, in order to encourage sustainable development practices;
15. The statement at the international level, of a principle which recognises that the legal liability of multinational corporations that exploit environmental resources is the most protective of the environment, whether based in the corporation headquarters host country, whether based in the environmental exploitation country;
16. The effective protection of environmental leaders in all countries, especially in remote areas, due to the upsurge of political persecution and attacks on the lives of those who engage in the struggle of environmental protection in various quarters of the world, as it is succeeding in the Northern region of Brazil;
17. Assurance of information, participation and transparency of environmental data to allow an effective participatory management of environmental resources as well as giving rise to the corruption combat in environmental matters;
18. Affirmation of the principle of the prevalence of most protective environmental criteria in all spheres - international, regional, national and local ones;
19. The improvement of assistance measures to States that have difficulty in complying with international environmental goals, whether by structural deficiencies whether by conjunctural limitations such the occurrence of disasters;
20. Recognition of the need to emphasize the adoption of preventive measures, including the implementation of environmental management tools, such as management plans, previous studies of environmental impact, environmental zoning, without neglecting the need to mitigate the use of the material fact theory in environment matter, both in the adoption of administrative policies as in judicial decisions, since the continuity of environmental degradation also deserves to be fought.

IV) Regarding environmental governance:

Participants of the International Symposium towards the UN Conference on Environment, Rio ± 2012 and MPF Rio + 20 workshop, convinced of the urgency in accomplishing the environmental protective standards, conclude for the adoption of the following measures:

1. Transform the United Nations Economic and Social Council into Eco- nomic, Social and Environmental Council. This change is essential, even for countries that are not currently members of this Council. This is because it is essential that the UN structure include a permanent commitment to environ- mental governance.
2. Encourage States to take part of the Aarhus Convention. It is essential to pay attention to the geographical and economic peculiarities of the States concerned, which may state exceptions and adjustments according to their real- ity. It is suggested that the mobilization for adoption of this convention happens at the regional level through organizations such as ECLAC.
3. Make effective at the State level the 26 February 2010 UNEP directive. It is worth emphasizing again that any application of this policy, even as 'soft law', must take into account local peculiarities.
4. Encourage international organizations to adopt NGOs conduct code. The conduct code established under the Barcelona Convention of 1976 through the 2009 decision, should be taken as a reference.
5. Approve the Almaty statement in every international organizations. It is extremely important to create mechanisms that enable that the rights to infor- mation and participation of NGOs in the international arena be guaranteed, in- cluding the possibility of administrative appeals. It is suggested to create an in- dependent board, under this and / or other conventions, for the prosecution of remedies for alleged denial of access to information and / or participation.
6. Generalize the "amicus curiae" institute in all international jurisdictions as well as in administrative bodies. The intervention of the "amicus curiae" must be given since the beginning of the process with proof of interest and legitimacy, according to its institutional objectives.
7. Invite the Conference of the Parties to establish a controlling board in all conventions. The assembled group agreed with this suggestion. Furthermo- re, this is the essence of the idea already expressed in the second paragraph of Item 5 above.
8. Give NGOs the right of having access to all existing controlling com- mittees. Also, the assembled group supports this idea. The suggestion is that there ought be well-defined and widely disseminated access mechanisms.

V) Regarding the right to information, and environment:

Considering that the Convention on Access to Information, Public Partic- ipation in Decision-Making Process and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (known as "Aarhus Convention" of 25 June 1998) aims at guaranteeing certain rights, imposes Member States and public authorities obligations regard- ing access to information, public participation and access to justice in environ- mental matters.

Considering that the improvement of access to information and broader participation in decision-making processes, as well as access to justice are es- sential and indispensable tools to strengthen and make more effective environ- mental protection policies and the consolidation of the democratic State of Law itself.

Considering that ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the Aarhus Convention implies of recognition by Member States of the importance of its objectives and a commitment to adopt the necessary measures to accede to the Convention, adopting binding instruments to align the countries domestic legislation to the requirements of the Convention.

Considering and remembering the Stockholm Declaration on the Human Environment Principle 1, and also Rio Declaration on Environment and Devel- opment Principle 10;

Participants of the International Symposium towards the UN Conference on Environment, Rio ± 2012 and MPF Rio + 20 workshop, convinced of the ur- gency in accomplishing the environmental protective standards, conclude for the adoption of the following measures:

1. That the Aarhus Convention should be ratified by the largest poss- ible number of Member States, including Brazil, which should be encouraged to that;
2. That the public right to environmental information be effectively recognized and guaranteed;
3. To be adopted concrete and immediate measures taken by States seeking to assure everyone, without distinction and regardless demonstration of particular interest, free access to environmental information, eliminating legal and administrative constraints which would avoid the achievement of environ- mental information;
4. That the environmental information should be provided in a truth- ful, timely and complete way for all. Confidentiality and secrecy are limits to the information and constitute exceptions to the principle of publicity, and should be expressed and properly grounded when invoked. However, it cannot be argued to contradict the social interest, harm to human health and the environment.
5. That environmental information should be collected, organized, updated, made available and disseminated in the most efficient, comprehensive and accessible way, using all available means of communication, current and future, media, electronics and others. In case of complex technical content is- sues, they should be transmitted in clear and understandable way to every one;
6. Effective measures should be taken in order to inform the public of the participation procedures, creating mechanisms that allow free access to them and to their use; there also must be ensured, to the public, including or- ganizations, the access to judicial effective mechanisms in a way to protect their legitimate interests and ensure enforcement of the law.
7. That environmental education should be encouraged and pro- moted, encouraging the widespread public awareness and participation in deci- sions affecting the environment.
8. That instrument should be created and enhanced in order to en- sure transparency, participation and social control in the design of public poli- cies in the process of decision-making and policy implementation. In case of non-observance, should be considered invalid administrative acts performed.
9. That there should be an improvement and effectiveness of civil liability, criminal and administrative cases of omission, refusal, withdrawal or any form of undue restriction of information access, participation and exercise of social control.
10. That juridical and political means should be encouraged, to ensure the direct popular participation, as the plebiscite, the referendum and the popu- lar initiative, putting in practice and extending such participation forms and its scope.
11. That a new communications regulatory framework should be sought, aiming at ensuring the full dissemination of information, a prerequisite for the exercise of citizenship in the ecological and democratic State.

Attached to this Propositions Chart, follows the poster, the event schedule and the list of participants.

São Paulo, June 28, 2011.

#### CARTA DE SÃO PAULO PRÉ-RIO+20/2011

Os participantes do Simpósio Internacional rumo a Conferência da ONU sobre Meio Ambiente, Rio ± 2012 e Oficina de Trabalho MPF Rio + 20, que contou com as participações dos conferencistas Antônio Herman V. Benjamin, Ministro do Superior Tribunal de Justiça e Professor de Direito Ambiental e Comparado e Direito da Biodiversidade na Universidade do Texas/EUA, Gérard Monédiaire ± Professor na Universidade de Limoges/França, Diretor do Centro de Pesquisas Interdisciplinares em direito ambiental, de ordenamento e de urbanismo (CRIDEAU), Jessica Makowiak, mestre de conferências da Universidade de Limoges, Frederic Bouin, mestre de conferências da Universidade de Perpignan, Michel Prieur, Professor Emérito na Universidade de Limoges (2004)- França e medalha de ouro do direito do meio ambiente da Universidade de Bruxelas e Paulo Affonso Leme Machado, jurista, professor de direito ambiental na Universidade Metodista de Piracicaba (UNIMEP); dos debatedores Álvaro Luiz Valery Mirra, Juiz de Direito - T J/SP, Solange Teles da Silva, advogada e Professora de Direito Ambiental na Universidade Mackenzie/SP, Colin Crawford, professor de direito ambiental na Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de Tulane, Nova Orleans/EUA; Ricardo Stanzola Vieira, advogado e coordenador de projetos sobre direitos humanos e políticas públicas do IEDC - Instituto Estudos Direito e Cidadania, Consuelo Moromizato Yoshida, Desembargadora Federal, TRF/3ªR e Sandra Cureau - Subprocuradora-Geral da República e Vice Procuradora-Geral Eleitoral, sendo os painéis presididos por José Leonidas Bellem de Lima, Procurador Regional da República/PRR-3ªR, Regina Helena Fortes Furtado, Promotora de Justiça, MP/SP e Nicolao Dino Neto, Procurador Regional da República/PRR-1ªR e Diretor-Geral da Escola Superior do Ministério Público da União, realizados nos dias 27 e 28 de junho de 2011, na sede da Procuradoria Regional da República da 3ª Região, em São Paulo, após debaterem as temáticas do Simpósio Internacional rumo a Rio + 20 em oficinas de trabalho, expõem e, ao final, concluem

I) No que se refere a deslocados ambientais:

CONSIDERANDO que o segundo o relatório Alterações Climáticas e Cenários de Migrações Forçadas, elaborado pelo Instituto para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável para a Comissão Europeia, e apresentado durante a Conferência de Poznan (Polônia, 1º a 12 de dezembro de 2008), o número de deslocados ambientais ultrapassava 25 milhões de pessoas, com previsão de ter alcançado no ano passado 50 milhões de pessoas;

CONSIDERANDO que o Gabinete das Nações Unidas para o Coordenação dos Assuntos Humanitários (OCHA) em parceria com o Centro de Monitoramento de Deslocamento (IDMC) realizaram um estudo sobre a relação entre o deslocamento de pessoas e a mudança climática. Nessa pesquisa ficou evidenciado que, em 2008, aproximadamente 36 milhões de pessoas foram deslocadas em virtude de desastres naturais, entre os quais:

terremotos, enchentes e chuvas. Cerca de 28 milhões de pessoas perderam completamente suas casas; e perto de 8 milhões tiveram que ser evacuadas de suas residências, porque elas estavam temporariamente em condições inabitadas. A principal região afetada por esses desastres foi a Ásia. (OCHA/ IDMC, 2009) No mesmo ano, para efeitos de comparação, o número de deslocados internos por conflitos representou 26 milhões de pessoas. (ACNUR, 2009) .

CONSIDERANDO que em breve esse número de deslocados ambientais pode ultrapassar o número de refugiados assim considerados pela Convenção de Genebra (1951), contabilizados pelo Alto Comissariado das Nações Unidas para Refugiados (UNHCR), segundo previsões do Instituto para o Meio Ambiente e Segurança Humana da ONU;

CONSIDERANDO que o Fórum Humanitário Global (GFH) fez recentemente uma pesquisa que mostra o impacto das mudanças climáticas na sociedade humana, explorando as questões desse impacto na alimentação, saúde, pobreza, segurança e deslocamento humano. Com relação a este último item, o estudo reconhece que é difícil provar que uma forte chuva ou um ciclone tenha origem nos efeitos da mudança climática. No entanto, a conclusão aponta que 40% dos desastres relacionados com o tempo são oriundos do efeito das mudanças climáticas tendo em vista o aumento desse tipo de evento nos últimos trinta anos. Como resultado, a pesquisa defende que seja utilizado, o conceito de deslocados por razões do clima, que já chegam a 26 milhões de pessoas e triplicará até 2020.

CONSIDERANDO que Num exercício premonitório, Conisbee e Simms (2003) referem que, até 2050, no caso de continuar o nível de degradação ecológica agora verificado, se deslocarão cerca de 150 milhões de pessoas devido ao aquecimento global. Relatórios internacionais do Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (2008) e da International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (2004), apontam também para o crescente número de populações afetadas por manifestações ambientais extremas, como furacões, cheias e deslizamentos de terras. A subida do nível médio das águas do mar afetará mesmo áreas urbanas como Alexandria, Manila, Xangai ou Jacarta, havendo previsão do Painel Intergovernamental sobre Mudanças Climáticas (IPCC), prevendo que o número de deslocados chegará a 190 milhões de pessoas até 2050, população próxima à do território brasileiro;

CONSIDERANDO que mesmo países como o Brasil, cujas condições climáticas historicamente têm apresentado condições favoráveis, mantendo-os isentos de grandes catástrofes, há problemas com os deslocados ou "flagelados" ambientais (como no caso da seca do nordeste obrigando o secular deslocamento de pessoas para grandes centros urbanos, especialmente a cidade de São Paulo), sendo que no caso das chuvas torrenciais, com deslizamento de terras e inundações, como os recentes eventos hidrológicos drásticos nos Estados de Santa Catarina, Rio de Janeiro, Alagoas, Pernambuco e no Vale do Paraíba (Estado de São Paulo), houve inúmeras pessoas mortas e desalojadas;

CONSIDERANDO que A Convenção de Estocolmo de 1972, já previa o reconhecimento das responsabilidades primeiras e diferenciadas dos Estados. E, a Declaração do Rio sobre o Meio Ambiente e Desenvolvimento, no princípio 13, também prevê a responsabilidade dos Estados pelos danos ambientais e a cooperação desses Estados para o desenvolvimento de normas de direito ambiental internacional relativas a responsabilidade e indenização.

CONSIDERANDO que os deslocamentos por causas ambientais que devem ser abrangidos pelo Estatuto Jurídico Mundial são aqueles forçados, ou seja, aqueles aos quais não resta alternativa que não a de deixar o seu habitat, não se confundindo com o deslocamento voluntário, de livre escolha dos indivíduos e grupos afetados.

CONSIDERANDO que o conceito de deslocamento forçado abrange ainda os deslocamentos de modos de vida, especialmente nos casos de populações tribais e tradicionais, situações em que os deslocados optam pela permanência no ambiente degradado também merecem proteção;

CONSIDERANDO que os deslocamentos forçados decorrentes de projetos de desenvolvimento são ligados a atividades econômicas, na maior parte das vezes de interesse predominantemente privado, e que a aplicação do princípio da solidariedade implicaria na transferência de custos da atividade econômica para toda a sociedade, deve-se buscar a responsabilização do empreendedor, com base no princípio do poluidor-pagador.

Os participantes do Simpósio Internacional rumo a Conferência da ONU sobre Meio Ambiente, Rio ± 2012 e Oficina de Trabalho MPF Rio + 20, convencidos da urgência em adotar medidas apropriadas para a efetiva proteção dos deslocados ambientais:

1. Visando garantir dignidade humana e efetividade da Declaração Universal dos Direitos Humanos às pessoas ou grupos desterritorializados, não raro vítimas da marginalização econômica, deve ser aprovado o Projeto de Convenção do Estatuto Internacional dos Deslocados Ambientais, como norma independente, vinculante e não como adendo ou complemento da Convenção de Genebra de 1.951, Protocolo sobre o Estatuto do Refugiado de New York de 1967 e Convenção das Nações Unidas para Mudanças do Clima, visando a evitar que se criem situações de discriminação e desigualdade em relação aos demais refugiados. Tal convenção deverá ser elaborada no âmbito de uma Conferência Internacional, da qual participem diversos organismos internacionais e com convite a todos os países.

2. Há necessidade de criação de um Estatuto Jurídico Mundial, com normas internacionais e internas aos países signatários, com o objetivo de proteção dos deslocados ambientais, bem como prevendo princípios preventivos para combater seu alarmante crescimento. Também deverão estar previstas hipóteses de repatriação ao país de origem, reassentamento ou traslado dos deslocados ambientais a um terceiro país, bem como integração com a população do local para onde houve o deslocamento, quer a permanência seja temporária ou definitiva. O detalhamento desse estatuto jurídico ocorrerá em nível regional, a exemplo da Convenção de Campala, de outubro de 2009, para Proteção e Assistência dos Deslocados Internos na União Africana, em razão de calamidades humanas ou naturais, reconhecidos nos Princípios Orientadores Relativos ao Deslocamento Interno de Pessoas da ONU.

3. Como princípio, o Estatuto Jurídico Mundial deverá abarcar a obrigatoriedade dos Estados signatários, em nome da solidariedade prevista no princípio 13 da ECO-92, prestar integral apoio material e jurídico às vítimas de eventos ambientais de consequências extremas, segundo a categoria dos deslocamentos (temporário, por mudanças no "habitat" ou busca de melhores condições de vida), levando-se em consideração a origem, velocidade e grau dos fatos geradores do deslocamento, bem como as reais necessidades de mobilidade, as distâncias e o grau de organização do país de origem desses deslocados e do próprio grupo afetado.

4. No caso de deslocamentos de modos de vida os Estados deverão adotar todas as providências com vistas à recuperação dos ambientes degradados, garantindo a reconstituição dos modos de vida e a plena reparação das perdas suportadas pelos deslocados;

5. Tal convenção deverá prever proteção às pessoas afetadas por eventos como terremotos, tsunamis, secas (dificuldades na produção de alimentos e no acesso à água), erosões, deslizamentos de terras, tempestades (tornados, furacões, tufões), alagamentos, desertificação, destruição da biodiversidade, epidemias, desaparecimento de rios e lagos, surgimento de represas hidrelétricas ou similares, poluição hídrica, acidentes industriais, acidentes nucleares, atividades minerárias, alteração no nível do mar, aumentos de temperaturas, causas naturais, com ou sem comprovação de interferências antrópicas, e riscos geológicos. Além dessas causas, outras poderão ser incluídas, com prévia oitiva do Programa Internacional de Dimensões Humanas das Mudanças Globais Ambientais (IHDP) ou específico organismo internacional a ser criado, sempre com abertura às contribuições científicas interdisciplinares da sociedade civil organizada ou de outros organismos públicos ou particulares militantes na área.

6. Os deslocamentos forçados decorrentes de projetos de desenvolvimento ligados a atividades econômicas constituem custo de responsabilidade do empreendedor, com base no princípio do poluidor-pagador.

II) no que se refere ao direito à paisagem:

Considerando que a paisagem é um bem jurídico autônomo, dotado ou não de valor estético, inserido na concepção unitária de meio ambiente, sujeito a uma gestão integrada, tendo em vista seus aspectos culturais, naturais e sociais;

Considerando a cooperação entre as convenções da UNESCO no campo da cultura e da Convenção sobre a Diversidade Biológica (1992), que resultou na recente Declaração sobre a Diversidade Biocultural (Montreal, junho de 2010);

Considerando que a paisagem é um fator determinante para a identidade cultural, sua formação e consolidação, enquanto bem compartilhado por todos os seres humanos, envolvendo presentes e futuras gerações;

Considerando que todos têm o direito à paisagem e compartilham a responsabilidade por sua proteção, com interconectividade social e entre territórios e regiões, justificando sua tutela coletiva e abordagens protetivas regionais e transfronteiriças e cooperação entre as nações, em colaboração intergovernamental e intersetorial;

Considerando que a qualidade de vida depende também das paisagens e que as condições físicas, sociais e culturais condicionam o bem estar das populações;

Os participantes do Simpósio Internacional rumo a Conferência da ONU sobre Meio Ambiente, Rio + 2012 e Oficina de Trabalho MPF Rio + 20, convencidos da urgência em adotar medidas apropriadas para a efetiva proteção do patrimônio paisagístico, concluem

1. que a sociedade civil, os organismos internacionais e os Estados se envolvam na estruturação de uma Convenção Mundial Sobre a Paisagem;

2. que seja considerada a natureza de bem dinâmico, complexo e não estático, multidisciplinar, sensitivo-espiritual, heterogênea, integrativa e de interesse público da paisagem, devendo ser preservada a sua diversidade;

3. que a preocupação com a ambiência exige planejamento e novos instrumentos jurídicos para se preservar a paisagem; (aprimorar redação)

4. que sejam buscadas soluções e mecanismos que resguardecam a informação e participação da sociedade civil e das comunidades diretamente envolvidas na proteção da paisagem, através de consultas, audiências públicas, publicidade prévia dos projetos, estudos e das decisões e estimulando a governança ambiental mundial,

5. pela necessária valorização da educação ambiental do turismo em relação à proteção da paisagem;

6. que os países seja instigados a assinar e ratificar convenções e declarações internacionais da UNESCO e da ONU, considerando seus instrumentos de proteção da paisagem, incorporando tais sistemas de proteção em seus sistemas;

7. que sejam criados no âmbito da UNESCO e da ONU, em relação às suas respectivas Convenções, comissões de fiscalização quanto ao cumprimento das compromissos assumidos, em relação à proteção da paisagem;

8. que seja ressaltada e divulgada a necessidade urgente de colaboração internacional para o uso sustentável dos espaços e territórios, haja vista as frequentes ameaças globais às paisagens.

9. Que sejam criados instrumentos financeiros e não financeiros de melhoria das paisagens também no ambiente urbano, com vistas a evitar ou mitigar a poluição na cidade, visando à integração dos espaços construídos com os ambientes naturais.

III) no que se refere à efetividade do direito ambiental:

Considerando que, desde a declaração de Estocolmo de 1972, a comunidade internacional reconhece que "a proteção e o melhoramento do meio ambiente humano é uma questão fundamental que afeta o bem-estar dos povos e o desenvolvimento econômico do mundo inteiro, um desejo urgente dos povos de todo o mundo e um dever de todos os governos;

Considerando que o Princípio 11 da Declaração do Rio de 1992 afirma que "os Estados deverão promulgar leis eficazes para a proteção do meio ambiente;

Considerando que na Agenda 21 são descritas as bases para as ações, os objetivos, as atividades e os meios de implementação para elaborar estratégias e medidas para deter e inverter os efeitos da degradação do meio ambiente no contexto da intensificação de esforços nacionais e internacionais para promover o desenvolvimento sustentável e ambientalmente saudável em todos os países;



Considerando que a Declaração de Joanesburgo de 2001 e seu Projeto de implementação atenta para a necessidade do compromisso da comunidade internacional a atuar e a adotar medidas concretas em todos os níveis para a efetiva proteção do meio ambiente;

Considerando que várias ordens jurídicas nacionais contam com Constituições, como a Constituição brasileira de 1988, que prevêem expressamente o direito ao meio ambiente ecologicamente equilibrado, inclusive com a estipulação de obrigações e de instrumentos para a garantia deste direito fundamental, além de textos normativos infra-constitucionais que complementam a proteção jurídica ao meio ambiente;

Considerando que a despeito da existência do arcabouço normativo internacional e nacional, em significativa parcela dos Estados, o meio ambiente global continua sofrendo, a perda de biodiversidade prossegue, estoques pesqueiros continuam a ser exauridos, a desertificação toma mais e mais terras férteis, os efeitos adversos da mudança do clima já são evidentes e desastres naturais são mais frequentes e mais devastadores, países em desenvolvimento são mais vulneráveis e a poluição do ar, da água e do mar segue privando milhões de pessoas de uma vida digna, quadro que só vem se agravando desde a sua constatação na Declaração de Joanesburgo de 2002;

Considerando que a Carta de Limoges II, contendo subsídios para a Conferência de Joanesburgo de 2002, contém vários instrumentos asseguradores da efetividade da tutela jurídica ambiental, e que suas propostas não foram plenamente adotadas nos textos jurídicos internacionais;

Os participantes do Simpósio Internacional rumo a Conferência da ONU sobre Meio Ambiente, Rio + 2012 e Oficina de Trabalho MPF Rio + 20, convencidos da urgência na efetivação das normas protetivas ao meio ambiente, concluem pela adoção das seguintes medidas:

1. a ratificação de todas as proposições constantes da Carta de Limoges II;
2. a promoção de campanhas pelo sistema da Nações Unidas para promover e fomentar, inclusive, financeiramente, se necessário, a adesão do maior número possível de países às Convenções de proteção ao meio ambiente, especialmente a seus Protocolos adicionais, com a atuação articulada com organizações não governamentais de modo a esclarecer aos cidadãos a importância do compromisso dos representantes dos seus Estados com a normatização internacional de proteção ao meio ambiente;
3. a previsão expressa da necessidade do pronunciamento sobre a variável ambiental nos regimentos internos e nas resoluções dos foros internacionais sobre comércio, agricultura, direitos humanos, exploração de energia, acordos militares e todos outros assuntos objetos de deliberação da comunidade internacional;
4. a deliberação pelo sistema das Nações Unidas no sentido de que os Estados que sediem eventos esportivos de dimensão internacional como Copas de mundo das diversas modalidades esportivas e Olimpíadas, observem as normas ambientais vigentes na realização das obras necessárias e das atividades econômicas relacionadas a estes eventos;
5. a deliberação do sistema das Nações Unidas pelo condicionamento dos financiamentos de instituições financeiras internacionais e nacionais ao compromisso de aplicação dos recursos com observância das normas ambientais internacionais e nacionais, e à avaliação dos impactos ambientais no caso de obras específicas, ressaltando o caráter público de todas as informações de natureza ambiental envolvidas nestes processos de financiamento;
6. a afirmação do princípio da proibição do retrocesso na proteção ambiental, seja na esfera internacional ou nacional, quando das alterações normativas materiais e procedimentais, ou mudanças organizacionais, devendo no momento da aplicação da norma ambiental sempre se prestigiar a máxima protetividade ao meio ambiente sadio;
7. a afirmação da independência administrativa e financeira dos órgãos e agências ambientais, com a previsão de mecanismos para ensejar a declaração de incompatibilidades e impedimentos de qualquer natureza de seus dirigentes e servidores;
8. o reconhecimento da expressa admissibilidade da ampla legitimidade para postulação da defesa do meio ambiente, abrangendo cidadãos (individual ou coletivamente representados), nos foros internacionais regionais e locais, sendo legítimo que este acesso à justiça em matéria ambiental seja gratuito;
9. a inclusão de disciplinas de meio ambiente, técnicas e jurídicas, nas escolas de formação e de capacitação de carreiras jurídicas públicas e de servidores públicos em geral que possam atuar em matéria ambiental;
10. a conjugação de maiores esforços na promoção da educação ambiental em todos os níveis de ensino, bem como nos cursos das ciências sociais aplicadas, devendo o direito ambiental ser disciplina obrigatória nos cursos da área jurídica, com a capacitação permanente dos professores;
11. o estabelecimento de órgãos jurisdicionais especializados em soluções de conflitos ambientais e sócio-ambientais, integrantes ou não da estrutura judiciária já existentes, mas contando, necessariamente, com devido apoio técnico;
12. a implementação dos instrumentos econômicos de gestão ambiental públicos já contemplados na Política Nacional do Meio Ambiente (concessão florestal, seguro ambiental) e outros como por exemplo a geração de créditos de combate à desertificação, a criação de sistemas de saldos ambientais positivos, com base em uma métrica ambiental universal
13. a realização pelos governos nacionais de mapeamentos ambientais e demais aspectos passíveis de sofrerem impactos ambientais em todas suas áreas, de modo a fornecer aos administrados, previamente, as informações ambientais suscitadoras de questionamentos no âmbito dos processos de avaliação de impactos ambientais;
14. a incorporação de mecanismos de compensação econômica no plano internacional à luz do princípio das responsabilidades comuns mas diferenciadas nos processos de conservação das florestas e no reforestamento, bem como estabelecimento de mecanismos de distribuição desses recursos ambientais, no plano interno, de modo a estimular práticas de desenvolvimento sustentável;
15. a afirmação, na esfera internacional, de princípio que preconize que o regime legal da responsabilidade das empresas multinacionais que explorem recursos ambientais seja o mais protetivo ao meio ambiente, seja do país de sede da matriz ou do local de exploração ambiental;
16. a proteção efetiva das lideranças ambientalistas em todos os países, especialmente em áreas remotas, em virtude do recrudescimento da perseguição política e dos atentados à vida daqueles que se engajam na luta da defesa do meio ambiente em vários quadrantes do mundo, como vem ocorrendo na região Norte do Brasil;
17. a garantia da informação, da participação e da transparência dos dados ambientais, para permitir uma efetiva gestão participativa dos recursos ambientais bem como ensejar o combate à corrupção em matéria ambiental;
18. a afirmação do princípio da prevalência dos critérios mais protetivos ao meio ambiente, em todas as esferas, internacional, regional, nacional e local;
19. o aprimoramento das medidas de assistência aos Estados que tenham dificuldade no cumprimento das metas internacionais ambientais, seja por deficiências estruturais seja por limitações conjunturais como na ocorrência de catástrofes;
20. o reconhecimento da necessidade de ênfase na adoção de medidas preventivas, com a implementação dos instrumentos de gestão ambiental, como planos de manejo, estudos prévios de impacto ambiental, zoneamento ambiental, sem descuidar da necessidade de mitigar o uso da teoria do fato consumado em matéria ambiental tanto na

adoção de políticas administrativas quanto em decisões judiciais, uma vez que a continuidade da degradação ambiental merece também ser combatida.

IV) no que se refere à governança ambiental: Os participantes do Simpósio Internacional rumo a Conferência da ONU sobre Meio Ambiente, Rio ± 2012 e Oficina de Trabalho MPF Rio + 20, convencidos da urgência na efetivação das normas protetivas ao meio ambiente, concluem pela adoção das seguintes medidas:

- 1.Transformar o Conselho Econômico e Social da ONU em Conselho Econômico, Social e Ambiental. Essa alteração é fundamental, mesmo para os países que não sejam atualmente membros desse Conselho. Isso porque é indispensável que a própria estrutura da ONU passe a contemplar de modo permanente o compromisso com a governança ambiental.
- 2.Encorajar os Estados a aderirem a Convenção de Aarhus. É imprescindível atentar para as peculiaridades geográficas e econômicas dos Estados interessados, que poderão fazer as ressalvas e adequações à sua realidade. Sugere-se que a mobilização para a adesão se dê em nível regional por meio de organizações, como é o caso da CEPAL.
- 3.Fazer aplicar pelos Estados a Diretiva de 26 de fevereiro de 2010 do PNUMA. Vale frisar novamente que qualquer aplicação dessa diretiva, mesmo que como « soft law », deve levar em conta as peculiaridades locais.
- 4.Fazer adotar pelas organizações internacionais os códigos de condutas das ONGs. Fazer com que o código de conduta estabelecido no âmbito da Convenção de Barcelona de 1976, através da decisão de 2009, seja tomado como referência.
- 5.Fazer aprovar a declaração de Almaty em cada uma das organizações internacionais. É extremamente relevante criar mecanismos para viabilizar que os direitos de informação e participação das ONGs no cenário internacional sejam garantidos, inclusive com a possibilidade de interposição de recursos administrativos. Sugere-se criar um conselho independente, no âmbito dessa e/ou de outras convenções, para o julgamento de recursos em caso de alegada recusa de acesso à informação e/ou participação.
- 6.Generalizar o « amicus curiae » em todas as jurisdições internacionais e também nas instâncias administrativas. A intervenção do « amicus curiae » deve se dar desde o início dos processos, com comprovação do interesse e da legitimidade, de acordo com seus fins institucionais.
- 7.Convocar a conferência das partes a instituir um comitê de controle em todas as convenções. O grupo reunido concorda com essa sugestão. Inclusive, essa é a essência da ideia já exposta no segundo parágrafo do item 5 acima.
8. Dar às ONGs o direito de ter acesso a todos os comitês de controle existentes. Igualmente, o grupo reunido apoia essa ideia. A sugestão é que haja mecanismos de acesso bem definidos e amplamente divulgados.

V) no que se refere ao direito à informação e meio ambiente:

Considerando que a Convenção sobre Acesso à Informação, Participação do Público no Processo de Tomada de Decisão e Acesso à Justiça em Matéria de Ambiente (designada "Convenção de Aarhus" de Junho de 1998) destina-se a garantir determinados direitos, impondo aos Estados-Membros e às autoridades públicas obrigações em matéria de acesso à informação, de participação do público e de acesso à justiça em questões ambientais.

Considerando que a melhoria do acesso à informação e da ampla participação nos processos de tomada de decisões, bem como de acesso à justiça são ferramentas essenciais e indispensáveis para reforçar e tornar mais eficazes as políticas de proteção do ambiente e a própria consolidação do Estado Democrático de Direito.

Considerando que ratificação, aceitação, aprovação ou adesão da Convenção de Aarhus importa no reconhecimento pelos Estados-Membros da importância dos seus objetivos e no compromisso de adoção das medidas necessárias para aderir à Convenção, adotando-se instrumentos vinculativos que alinhem a legislação interna dos países às exigências da Convenção.

Considerando e recordando o Princípio nº 1 da Declaração de Estocolmo sobre o Ambiente Humano e igualmente o Princípio nº 10 da Declaração do Rio sobre Ambiente e Desenvolvimento.

Os participantes do Simpósio Internacional rumo a Conferência da ONU sobre Meio Ambiente, Rio ± 2012 e Oficina de Trabalho MPF Rio + 20, convencidos da urgência na efetivação das normas protetivas ao meio ambiente, concluem pela adoção das seguintes medidas:

1. Que a Convenção de Aarhus seja ratificada pelo maior número possível de Estados-membros, inclusive pelo Brasil, os quais devem ser encorajados a is- so;
2. Que seja reconhecido e garantido efetivamente o direito público à informação ambiental;
3. Que sejam adotadas medidas concretas e imediatas pelos Estados visando a assegurar a todos, indistintamente e independentemente de demonstração de interesse particular, o livre acesso à informação ambiental, suprimindo os entraves jurídicos e administrativos que obstem a obtenção de informações ambientais;
4. Que as informações ambientais sejam prestadas de forma veraz, tempestiva e completa a todos. O sigilo e o segredo são limites à informação e constituem exceções ao princípio da publicidade, devendo ser expressos e devidamente fundamentados quando invocados. Porém, não podem ser arguidos quando contrariarem o interesse social, prejudicarem a saúde humana e o meio ambiente.
5. Que as informações ambientais sejam coletadas, organizadas, atualizadas, disponibilizadas e difundidas da forma mais eficiente, ampla, integral e acessível, utilizando-se de todos os meios de comunicação disponíveis, atuais e futuros, midiáticos, eletrônicos e outros. Na hipótese de conteúdos técnicos complexos, estes deverão ser transmitidos de forma clara e compreensível a todos;
6. Que sejam adotadas medidas eficientes no sentido de dar conhecimento ao público dos procedimentos relativos à participação, criando mecanismos que viabilizem o livre acesso aos mesmos e à sua utilização. Há que ser assegurado, ainda, ao público, bem como às organizações, o acesso a mecanismos judiciais eficazes de forma a proteger os seus interesses legítimos e a garantir a aplicação da lei.
7. Que seja incentivada e promovida a educação ambiental, encorajando a ampla sensibilização do público e a sua participação nas decisões que afetem o ambiente.
8. Que sejam criados e aprimorados instrumentos que assegurem a transparência, a participação e o controle social na concepção das políticas públicas, no processo de tomada de decisões e na execução das mesmas. No caso de inobservância, deverão ser considerados nulos os atos administrativos praticados.
9. Que haja aperfeiçoamento e efetividade da responsabilização civil, penal e administrativa nos casos de omissão, recusa, supressão ou qualquer forma de cerceamento indevido do acesso à informação, à participação e do exercício do controle social.
10. Que sejam fomentados meios jurídicos e políticos que assegurem a participação popular direta, como o plebiscito, o referendo e a iniciativa popular, concretizando e

ampliando tais formas de participação e seu âmbito de aplicação.

11. Que seja buscado um novo marco regulatório das comunicações que vise garantir a plena difusão da informação, pressuposto para o exercício da cidadania ecológica e do Estado Democrático de Direito.

Acompanham a presente Carta de Proposições o cartaz, a programação do evento e a lista de presença de seus participantes.

São Paulo, 28 de junho de 2011.

CENTRE INTERNATIONAL de DROIT COMPARÉ de l'ENVIRONNEMENT 1 INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF COMPARATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

RECOMMANDATIONS ISSUES DE LA 3ÈME REUNION MONDIALE DES JURISTES ET DES ASSOCIATIONS DE DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (LIMOGES-FRANCE)

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INTERNATIONAL CENTRE OF COMPARATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

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## RECOMMANDATION N° 1

### LE PRINCIPE DE NON RÉGRESSION EN DROIT DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

La réunion mondiale des juristes et associations de droit de l'environnement réunis er à Limoges (France) du 29 septembre au 1 octobre 2011 soucieuse de contribuer aux progrès du droit de l'environnement,

1. Constatant que toutes les conventions internationales en vigueur sur l'environnement, tant universelles que régionales, proclament comme une évidence que les Etats ont pour objectif l'amélioration continue de l'environnement en lien avec le progrès social et la lutte contre la pauvreté,
2. Qu'il en résulte un consensus international sur la nécessité de prendre des mesures juridiques visant à atteindre un niveau élevé de protection et une amélioration de la qualité de l'environnement ce qui a pour effet de diminuer progressivement les pollutions portant atteinte à la santé et d'augmenter la préservation de la biodiversité indispensable à l'équilibre biologique entre les hommes et la nature,
3. Affirmant que des mesures juridiques visant à empêcher la régression des niveaux actuels de protection de l'environnement sont indispensables pour respecter l'engagement d'améliorer progressivement la protection de l'environnement,
4. Considérant que le droit et les politiques environnementales participent d'une évolution positive des sociétés,
5. Prenant acte que l'environnement sain est désormais reconnu comme un droit de l'homme tant au niveau international que dans un grand nombre des Constitutions nationales,
6. Constatant que les pactes internationaux des droits de l'homme de 1966 visent la progression constant des droits protégés ce qui est interprété comme interdisant la régression des droits fondamentaux,
7. Mettant en évidence que le droit à un environnement sain est indispensable pour parvenir au développement durable
8. Considérant que nous avons tous une responsabilité collective de ne pas porter atteinte aux droits des générations futures à la vie, à la santé et à l'environnement, et de

leur transmettre le patrimoine environnemental dans le meilleur état possible,

9. Soucieux des menaces multiples qui pèsent sur les politiques environnementales et qui, de façon explicite ou insidieuse, aboutissent à réduire les protections de la biodiversité et à augmenter les risques de pollutions et de désordres écologiques,

10. Persuadés de la nécessité de prendre toutes les mesures qui empêchent tout recul ou toute régression dans le niveau de protection de l'environnement atteint par chaque Etat selon son propre rythme de développement,

11. Considérant que la non régression peut résulter d'une disposition expresse contenue dans la Constitution ou dans des lois aussi bien que de la jurisprudence des tribunaux s'appuyant sur le principe du droit de l'homme à l'environnement ce qui conduit nécessairement à empêcher toute mesure ayant pour conséquence une diminution de la biodiversité ou une augmentation du niveau des pollutions,

12. Prenant acte avec satisfaction de la résolution du Parlement européen du 29 septembre 2011 sur l'élaboration d'une position commune de l'Union dans la perspective de la conférence des Nations unies sur le développement durable (Rio+20) qui dans le paragraphe 97. « demande que le principe de non-régression soit reconnu dans le contexte de la protection de l'environnement et des droits fondamentaux », Demande solennellement aux chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement réunis à Rio de Janeiro en juin 2012 pour le 20 anniversaire de la Déclaration de Rio de proclamer officiellement dans la déclaration finale en tant que nouveau principe de droit de l'environnement complétant les principes déjà proclamés à Rio en 1992 que : « Pour empêcher tout recul dans la protection de l'environnement, les États doivent, dans l'intérêt commun de l'humanité, reconnaître et consacrer le principe de non régression. Pour ce faire les États doivent prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour garantir qu'aucune mesure ne puisse diminuer le niveau de protection de l'environnement atteint jusqu'alors. »

#### RECOMMANDATION N°1

##### THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-REGRESSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The international meeting of jurists and environmental law associations, having met in Limoges (France) from 29 September to 1 October 2011, and with a view to contributing to the advancement of environmental law,

1. Noting that all current international environmental conventions, whether universal or regional, provide that an objective of States is the continuous improvement of the environment along with social progress and combatting poverty,

2. Observing therefore that an international consensus exists on the need for legal measures to attain a higher level of environmental protection and improvement in environmental quality, including progressive reduction of pollution affecting health and greater preservation of biodiversity which is essential for harmony between humans and nature,

3. Affirming that legal measures preventing regression of environmental protection are an essential component of the commitment to continuous improvement of environmental protection,

4. Considering that sound environmental policy is a reflection of societal progress,

5. Taking into account that a healthy environment is henceforth recognized as a human right at the international level as well as in the majority of national Constitutions,

6. Acknowledging that the United Nations Human Rights Agreements of 1966 aim for the continual advancement of protected rights and are interpreted as prohibiting regression of fundamental rights,

7. Underscoring that the right to a healthy environment is an essential element of sustainable development,

8. Considering that human society has a collective responsibility not to harm the rights of future generations to life, health and a sound environment and to pass on the environment in the best possible condition,

9. Mindful of the multiple threats that weigh on environmental policies and that, either explicitly or by stealth, may lead to reduced protection of biodiversity and increased risks of pollution and ecological distress,

10. Convinced of the need for measures that prevent all backsliding or regression of the level of environmental protection attained by each State according to its development status,

11. Considering that non-regression may be based on an express provision in the Constitution or laws of a State, as well as on judicial jurisprudence founded on the principle underlying the human right to a healthy environment, which necessarily calls for the prohibition of all measures having the effect of reducing biodiversity or increasing pollution levels,

12. Taking note of the European Parliament resolution of 29 September 2011 on developing a common EU position ahead of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) which in the paragraph 97 calls for the recognition of the principle of non-regression in the context of environmental protection as well as fundamental rights;

HEREBY solemnly asks the Heads of State and of Government who will assemble in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 for the 20th anniversary of the Rio Declaration to proclaim officially in the final declaration, as a new principle of environmental law complementing the principles already proclaimed in Rio in 1992, that :

« To prevent any weakening of environmental protection, States shall, in the common interest of humanity, recognize and adopt the principle of non-regression. To this end, States shall take the steps necessary to guarantee that no measure may diminish the existing level of environmental protection. »

#### RECOMMANDATION N°2

##### L'ÉQUITÉ ENVIRONNEMENTALE

Considérant le droit à la vie et à un environnement sain et équilibré pour tous,

Considérant que l'équité environnementale permet de protéger prioritairement les populations, communautés et individus vulnérables exposés aux risques environnementaux ou subissant une situation écologique défavorable,

Considérant le principe de non discrimination,

Considérant l'intérêt général de l'humanité de vivre dans un environnement sain et dans la paix,

Considérant l'équité entre les générations et les droits des générations futures,

Considérant que les injustices environnementales contribuent à accroître la pauvreté,

Considérant que les impératifs de la justice sociale et de l'équité environnementale font partie des règles reconnues par la communauté internationale fondées sur le respect mutuel des États, des peuples et des individus participant à une communauté de vie,

Considérant les objectifs du développement durable,

Considérant la responsabilité des États de protéger les populations et les individus sans discrimination,

Considérant la responsabilité de la Communauté internationale d'assurer le respect de l'équité dans les relations internationales,

Considérant la nécessité d'assurer la sécurité internationale en évitant les déséquilibres et l'instabilité en matière d'environnement,

Considérant les principes de souveraineté, d'indépendance et d'intégrité territoriale des États,

Considérant le droit à l'indépendance environnementale des peuples pour une meilleure protection de l'environnement,

Considérant la compétence de l'État sur son territoire et le droit de ne pas subir de dommages causés par des activités exercées en dehors de sa juridiction,

Considérant que chaque État est le premier responsable de son propre développement durable, La Réunion mondiale des juristes de l'environnement de Limoges recommande l'adoption d'une déclaration de principes selon laquelle :

- 1) L'équité environnementale est l'expression de l'intérêt général de l'humanité et du devoir de respect envers la nature.
- 2) Les États s'engagent dans des modes de production et de consommation compatibles avec le respect de l'intérêt général de l'humanité et la protection des droits des générations futures.
- 3) Les États doivent s'abstenir de provoquer de manière directe ou indirecte par leurs politiques commerciales toute forme de surexploitation des ressources naturelles sur leur territoire ou sur celui d'autres États.
- 4) Les États reconnaissent un principe de solidarité internationale pour faire face aux catastrophes écologiques et s'engagent à soutenir par des moyens financiers et matériels ceux qui sont frappés par de telles catastrophes.
- 5) Les États s'engagent à mettre tout en œuvre pour assumer leur contribution à la « dette écologique » mondiale en application du principe pollueur-payeur et du principe de responsabilités communes mais différenciées.
- 6) Les États doivent s'assurer du contrôle sur le territoire sous leur juridiction de toutes pratiques économiques et/ou commerciales susceptibles de menacer l'équité environnementale sur leur territoire ou sur le territoire d'un autre État. Ils doivent éventuellement prévoir des sanctions significatives pour les entreprises qui contreviendraient par leurs activités ou leurs pratiques aux principes d'équité environnementale. En cas de dommage environnemental, ils s'engagent à recourir et à appliquer la loi de l'État où s'est produit le fait générateur.
- 7) Les principes d'équité environnementale guident les actions de coopération internationale dans tous les domaines. Les États leur reconnaissent une valeur juridique supérieure.
- 8) L'équité environnementale oblige les États à élaborer des politiques respectueuses de l'intégrité et de la sécurité environnementales.
- 9) L'équité environnementale repose sur les principes suivants :
  - a. Le droit à un environnement sain et équilibré. Toute personne a droit à la préservation des conditions essentielles à sa subsistance et à des conditions de vie respectueuses de l'environnement quelque soit sa situation économique, sociale, culturelle, politique, ethnique, sa nationalité, son âge, son sexe, son lieu de résidence ou d'accueil. Aucune personne physique ou morale ni aucune entité ne peut faire supporter des risques environnementaux à une autre personne du fait de son action ou de son inaction, de son activité ou/et de sa méconnaissance du droit national ou/et international.
  - b. L'égalité en matière de sécurité environnementale basée sur le respect des obligations internationales notamment en matière de prévention de risques environnementaux et de lutte contre toutes les formes de pressions ou d'agressions écologiques transfrontières.
  - c. Le droit à l'éducation environnementale pour tous dans des conditions adaptées à la situation sociale, économique et culturelle de chacun et en considérant les risques environnementaux encourus.
  - d. L'accès pour tous dans des conditions équivalentes à des voies de recours auprès de juridictions internes ou/et internationales pour protéger le droit de chacun à un environnement sain et équilibré.
  - e. La solidarité des États et des peuples en matière d'accès aux ressources vitales
  - f. L'interdiction de toute activité susceptible de nuire aux écosystèmes et donc le contrôle de son territoire par l'État.
  - g. La précaution et la prévention en particulier pour toute activité humaine susceptible de nuire à une répartition équitable des bénéfices du développement durable.
  - h. La non-régression du droit de l'environnement.
  - i. L'obligation pour les États de prévenir et de réparer les dommages environnementaux dont ils ont la responsabilité.
  - j. La coopération internationale « éclairée » dans le domaine de l'environnement basée sur l'échange d'informations, le renforcement des capacités d'action et la gestion des risques environnementaux.
  - k. Des mécanismes de gouvernance environnementale internationale favorisant une participation éclairée de tous les membres de la société internationale.
- 10) Les groupes de population les plus vulnérables sur le plan social et économique doivent faire l'objet d'une attention particulière. Les droits des femmes en matière d'accès et de gestion des ressources vitales, et de participation aux décisions environnementales doivent être prioritairement soutenus.

11) Les États s'engagent à utiliser tous les moyens juridiques, humains, matériels et financiers pour assurer la mise en œuvre de l'équité environnementale et notamment par les instruments suivants :

- a. La fiscalité ;
- b. L'étude d'impact environnemental ;
- c. Le suivi et l'expertise de la réglementation environnementale ;
- d. Les droits procéduraux : le droit à l'information, la participation, l'accès à la justice pour contester toute action ou décision susceptible de menacer l'équité environnementale ;
- e. Les institutions juridictionnelles.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°2

##### ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Considering the right to life and to a clean and balanced environment for all,

Considering that environmental justice allows for priority protection of vulnerable populations, communities and individuals who are exposed to environmental risks or subjected to an unfavourable ecological situation,

Considering the principle of non-discrimination,

Considering the general interest of humanity to live in a clean environment and in peace,

Considering intergenerational equity and the rights of future generations,

Considering that environmental injustice contributes to increase poverty,

Considering that the imperatives of social justice and environmental equity are part of the rules recognized by the international community based on mutual respect of States, peoples and individuals participating in community life,

Considering the objectives of sustainable development,

Considering the responsibility of States to protect populations and individuals without discrimination,

Considering the responsibility of the international community to assure respect of equity in international relations,

Considering the need to ensure international security by avoiding environmental imbalance and instability,

Considering the principles of the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of States,

Considering peoples' right to environmental independence to improve environmental protection,

Considering the authority of each States over its territory and its right not to be subjected to harm caused by activities outside of its jurisdiction,

Considering that each State is primarily responsible for its own sustainable development, The world meeting of environmental lawyers at Limoges recommends the adoption of a declaration of principles as follows :

- 1) Environmental justice is the expression of humanity's general interest and duty of respect with regard to nature ;
- 2) States commit to developing modes of production and consumption compatible with respect for the general interest of humanity and protection of the rights of future generations ;
- 3) States shall refrain from directly or indirectly promoting through their trade policies all forms of overexploitation of natural resources on their territory or the territory of another State ;
- 4) States recognize a principle of international solidarity in confronting ecological disasters and commit to provide material and financial support to those who are affected by such catastrophes ;
- 5) States commit to taking responsibility for their contribution to the global « ecological debt » by applying the polluter-payer principle and the principle of common but differentiated responsibility ;
- 6) States shall ensure control on all territory under their jurisdiction of all economic and/or commercial practices that may threaten environmental justice on their territory or the territory of another States. They shall put in place significant sanctions for enterprises that contravene the principle of environmental justice through their practices or activities. In case of environmental harm, they commit to using and applying the laws of the State in which the harmful act occurred.
- 7) Principles of environmental justice guide the acts of international cooperation in all areas. States accord these principles the highest legal value ;
- 8) Environmental justice requires States to elaborate policies that respect environmental integrity and security ;
- 9) Environmental justice is based on the following principles :
  - a. The right to a clean and balanced environment. Every person has a right to the preservation of conditions necessary for subsistence and conditions for life that respect the environment, regardless of economic, social, cultural, political or ethnic status, or nationality, age, gender, or place of permanent or temporary residence. Not physical or legal person or entity may subject another person to environmental risks through their actions or inactions and/or their ignorance of national or international law.
  - b. Equality regarding environmental security based on respect for international obligations, including prevention of environmental risks and the struggle against all forms of transboundary ecological pressure and aggression.
  - c. The right to environmental education for all, under conditions suited to social, economic and cultural conditions and taking into account existing environmental risks.

- d. Access for all in equivalent conditions to remedies from domestic and/or international courts to protect the right to everyone to a balanced environment, favourable to human health.
- e. Solidarity of States and peoples in terms of access to vital resources.
- f. Prohibition of any activity likely to damage ecosystems and thus the control of its territory by the State.
- g. Precaution and prevention especially for any human activity that may affect the equitable distribution of benefits of sustainable development.
- h. The principle of non-regression in environmental Law.
- i. The obligation of States to prevent and remedy environmental damages in accordance with their responsibility.
- j. International cooperation "enlightened" in the field of environment based on exchange of information, capacity building action and management of environmental risks.
- k. Mechanisms of international environmental governance to promote enlightened participation for all members of international society.

10) Instruments of environmental justice must be used in national policies to promote preservation and long-term protection of the right to a healthy environment for all. Population groups most vulnerable socially and economically should be given special attention. Women's rights of access and management of vital resources, and participation in environmental decisions should be primarily supported.

11) States undertake to use all legal instruments, human, material and financial resources to ensure implementation of environmental justice, including the following measures:

- a. Taxation;
- b. Environmental impact assessment;
- c. Monitoring and expertise in environmental regulation;
- d. Procedural rights: the right to information, participation, access to justice to contest any action or decision that would threaten environmental justice;
- e. Jurisdictional institutions.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°3

#### LES CATASTROPHES ÉCOLOGIQUES ET LES DROITS DE L'HOMME

La réunion mondiale des juristes et associations de droit de l'environnement réunis à er Limoges (France) du 29 septembre au 1 octobre 2011, et considérant que :

1. Les catastrophes écologiques d'origine naturelle ou technologique sont caractérisées par leur dimension collective, l'incapacité des victimes de réhabilitation sans aide extérieure et la causalité complexe qui résulte de différents facteurs interdépendants, notamment les vulnérabilités environnementales et socioéconomiques qui affectent la capacité de prévention, de réponse et de réhabilitation.
2. Un cadre juridique des catastrophes écologiques doit adopter une définition élargie considérant tout le cycle des catastrophes (prévention, assistance et reconstruction) et faisant l'option pour une stratégie de gestion de catastrophes centrée dans la promotion du développement durable, la réduction des vulnérabilités environnementales et socioéconomiques, le renforcement de la résilience et la promotion des droits de l'homme, remplacent une vision restrictive centrée sur l'aide humanitaire et la réhabilitation.
3. Les causes diffuses et complexes qui sont derrière les catastrophes et l'intensification de leurs risques et leurs effets comme la dégradation de l'environnement, la pauvreté et d'autres vulnérabilités socioéconomiques, les obstacles au développement durable et les violations aux droits de l'homme, qui exigent l'attribution d'une approche éthique et environnementale au cadre juridique et institutionnel des catastrophes centré dans la promotion et la protection des droits de l'homme et de l'environnement dans un contexte de prévention, ainsi que dans les cas d'urgence et de reconstruction.
4. L'augmentation des risques de catastrophe et des mouvements de population dues aux changements climatiques et la modification des écosystèmes ont des conséquences sur les droits de l'homme, ce qui exige l'incorporation de la réduction des risques de catastrophe dans les stratégies d'adaptation aux changements climatiques ainsi que le respect des droits de l'homme.
5. L'absence de réglementation sur le sujet, une fois qui la plupart des documents et des textes juridiques internationaux ne sont pas contraignants et ne considèrent pas l'approche éthique de la gestion des catastrophes. Si le sujet a été déjà bien développé par rapport à la prévention, à la réponse et à la reconstruction, d'autre part la protection des individus par rapport à leurs droits, la situation des personnes déplacées, les responsabilités des organisations internationales, régionales et nationales et d'autres institutions doivent être développées, ce qui justifie les initiatives capables de donner cette approche éthique et environnementale exigée pour faire face à toutes les dimensions des catastrophes écologiques.
6. Les documents existants concernant la protection des personnes et leurs droits en cas de catastrophe ne sont pas contraignants et donnent la priorité aux catastrophes naturelles, s'appliquant la plupart des cas exclusivement pendant et après les catastrophes.

Les recommandations suivantes sont présentées :

- La relation entre la protection des droits de l'homme et la gestion des catastrophes doit être abordée à partir d'un cadre juridique capable d'intégrer le Droit de l'Environnement, le Droit International des Droits de l'Homme, le Droit Humanitaire et les normes spécifiques concernant les catastrophes, en considérant les différents facteurs qui sont derrière les risques de catastrophes et qui peuvent affecter la résilience.
- Les droits touchés par la catastrophe doivent être protégé de façon pleine et indivisible, en considérant les droits civils et politiques et droits économiques, sociaux et culturels. Les droits économiques, sociaux et culturels ont un rôle important dans la prévention et la reconstruction, compte tenu de leur contribution pour renforcer la résilience face aux risques et aux conséquences des catastrophes.
- L'adoption d'un texte international contraignant indiquant les droits de l'homme à protéger et à promouvoir dans la prévention, la réponse et la reconstruction des catastrophes concernant les victimes potentielles et effectives et le personnel de secours, et qui vise à renforcer la résilience et à réduire les vulnérabilités.
- Le texte contraignant doit adopter une définition intégrale de la gestion des catastrophes, concernant les catastrophes naturelles et les catastrophes technologiques, et tout le cycle des catastrophes, de la prévention à la reconstruction. L'accent doit être mis sur les mesures préventives. Il doit considérer les causes complexes et diffuses qui sont



derrière les catastrophes et qui renforcent leurs effets comme la dégradation de l'environnement, la pauvreté et d'autres vulnérabilités socio-économiques, les obstacles au développement durable et les violations des droits de l'homme, ce qui exige une approche éthique et environnementale du cadre juridique des catastrophes. Cinq idées centrales doivent guider le texte:

1. Le développement durable comme le paradigme pour construire et renforcer la résilience en vue de réduire et de faire face aux risques et aux effets des catastrophes;
2. Les vulnérabilités socio-économiques et environnementales comme un facteur clé de l'exposition aux risques de catastrophes, notamment la pauvreté, ce qui exige la réduction des vulnérabilités et l'éradication de la pauvreté comme mesures de gestion des catastrophes dans une approche éthique et environnementale;
3. L'impact des catastrophes sur la jouissance des droits de l'homme et l'importance de renforcer leur protection comme une mesure pour réduire la vulnérabilité, promouvoir le développement durable et, en conséquence, renforcer la résilience;
4. La contribution des risques et des impacts des catastrophes sur l'augmentation des déplacements et des migrations et la condition spéciale de la vulnérabilité des personnes déplacées;
5. La protection de l'environnement comme une mesure nécessaire pour réduire les risques de catastrophes et de renforcer la résilience, par les services environnementaux rendus par les écosystèmes et leur fonction protectrice, ainsi que les effets de la dégradation de l'environnement sur l'augmentation des risques de catastrophe.

- Considérant qu'il y a un lien étroit entre la qualité de l'environnement, le niveau d'exposition aux risques de catastrophes et la capacité des communautés de faire face aux catastrophes, un droit à un environnement sain devrait être reconnu. Les services environnementaux rendus par les écosystèmes doivent être également reconnus et valorisés comme un moyen de réduire et de prévenir les risques de catastrophes et de préserver les ressources naturelles en tant que des moyens importants pour la reconstruction. Des mesures devraient être prises pour sauvegarder et réhabiliter l'environnement au plus vite possible après une catastrophe.

- Le droit aux mesures préventives et à la préparation aux catastrophes doit être reconnu, comme l'éducation, la formation et la prise de conscience des risques et le droit à une information appropriée pour créer une culture de la prévention en tant que moyens de résilience.

- Des mesures de précaution spéciales doivent être adoptées pour les personnes vulnérables. Les individus et les collectivités sont touchés de manière différente par les risques et les effets des catastrophes et il y aura différents degrés d'exposition selon les vulnérabilités, ce qui donne lieu à la nécessité d'intégration des principes de justice environnementale dans le cadre juridique relatif à la gestion des catastrophes. Les individus et des communautés vulnérables doivent bénéficier de mesures de prévention des catastrophes qui sont adaptés à leur vulnérabilité.

- La connaissance des populations autochtones et communautés traditionnelles sur son environnement et leur histoire peut être une contribution majeure à la réduction des risques et de la reconstruction après les catastrophes et devrait être reconnue et renforcée. Une attention particulière doit être accordée aux populations autochtones et les communautés traditionnelles dans les situations de catastrophes, compte tenu de leur forte relation avec leur environnement qui est essentiel pour le maintien de leur culture et de leur mode de vie.

- Parmi les groupes vulnérables, les personnes forcées de quitter leur domicile en raison des catastrophes, ou à risque d'être déplacées doivent avoir une attention particulière afin d'éviter les déplacements, ou lorsque c'est déjà arrivé, d'avoir leurs droits protégés compte tenu de leur extrême vulnérabilité. Cette vulnérabilité est aggravée par l'absence d'un statut juridique international des personnes déplacées. Par conséquent, les droits de l'homme concernant les personnes déplacées ou les personnes exposées au risque de déplacement en raison de catastrophes doivent avoir une reconnaissance et une protection internationales.

- Le droit à l'assistance humanitaire doit être reconnu, considérant que l'assistance humanitaire n'est pas actuellement reconnue officiellement pour le Droit International. L'assistance humanitaire doit être fournie de façon équitable, impartiale et sans discrimination, considérant et respectant la vulnérabilité des victimes et des groupes ayant des besoins spécifiques.

- Toutes les personnes et les communautés touchées par les catastrophes doivent être tenues informées et ont le droit de prendre part aux prises de décision en matière de réponse aux catastrophes.

- Toutes les personnes victimes des catastrophes doivent avoir reconnu leur droit à la dignité et l'accès à toutes les conditions requises pour mener une vie digne, afin de protéger la dignité humaine. La dignité humaine doit être au centre de la démarche éthique d'un cadre juridique sur la gestion des catastrophes.

- Les droits des personnels de l'aide et de secours doivent être également protégés.

- Les Etats doivent continuer à assurer la jouissance et le respect des droits de l'homme pendant et après les catastrophes. Les États ont la responsabilité de protéger les personnes sur leur territoire en assurant, en dépit de la catastrophe, la pleine application des droits de l'homme, tant pour leur peuple et pour le personnel d'aide humanitaire et de santé. Les entreprises et les autres organismes d'aide économique et humanitaire impliquée dans la reconstruction sont responsables du respect des droits humains et de la dignité de toutes les personnes impliquées dans les opérations de reconstruction ainsi que des victimes.

- Le rôle des juridictions internationales et régionales de protection des droits de l'homme dans l'analyse et la reconnaissance des violations des droits de l'homme en conséquence des catastrophes doit être reconnu et renforcé, ainsi que l'accès des victimes à ces juridictions.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°3

#### ECOLOGICAL DISASTERS AND HUMAN RIGHTS: CONSTRUCTING RESILIENCE BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL AND ETHICAL APPROACH

The International meeting of lawyers and environmental law associations, having met in Limoges (France) from 29 September to 1 October 2011, and considering that:

- Ecological disasters, with a natural or technological origin, are characterized by their collective dimension, by the incapacity of victims to rehabilitate without external assistance and by complex causes, as a result of different interrelated factors, in particular environmental and socio-economic vulnerability, which affect the ability to prevent, to react and to rehabilitate.

- A legal framework on ecological disasters should adopt a broader approach which considers all the aspects of the disaster cycle (prevention, assistance and reconstruction) and opts for a strategy of disaster management based on the promotion of sustainable development, the reduction of environmental and socio-economic vulnerabilities and the protection of human rights, which framework would replace a restrictive view of humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation.

- The complex and diffuse causes that are behind disasters and the growing intensity of their risks and their effects, like environmental pollution, poverty, socio-economic vulnerabilities, obstacles to sustainable development and human rights violations, gives rise to a need for a legal and institutional framework on disasters with an ethical and environmental approach, focusing on the promotion and protection of human rights and the environment in the context of measures for the prevention of such disasters as well as emergency measures and in reconstruction activities.

- The increase in disaster risks and in population movements due to climate change and ecosystems modification have consequences for human rights and requires the incorporation of disaster risk reduction measures and the protection of human rights into strategies for adaptation to climate change.
  - There is a lack of regulation on this matter and most of the documents and legal international instruments on disasters are not binding and do not address the ethical approach to disaster management. Although the subject may have already been extensively explored in relation to prevention, preparedness and recovery, the protection of individuals and their human rights, the situation of displaced persons, the responsibilities of international, regional and national organizations needs to be developed and initiatives adopting the ethical and the environmental approach are required to cope with all aspects of ecological disasters.
  - The existing documents dealing with the protection of persons and their rights in disasters are not binding and prioritize natural disasters and apply, for the most part, exclusively during and after disasters. Present the following recommendations:
  - The relationship between the protection of human rights and disaster management must be addressed in a legal framework capable of integrating Environmental Law, International Human Rights Law, Humanitarian Law and specific norms applied to disasters, taking account of the different factors behind disaster risks, which affect resilience to them.
  - The rights affected by disasters must be protected in a full and indivisible way, having regard to civil and political rights and economic, social and cultural rights. Economic, social and cultural rights have an important role in disaster prevention and reconstruction, having regard to their contribution in reinforcing resilience against risk and catastrophic consequences.
  - The adoption of an internationally binding text that defines the human rights to be protected and promoted in disaster prevention, response and reconstruction measures and dealing with actual and potential victims and rescue workers, with the aims of strengthening disaster resilience and reducing vulnerability.
  - This binding text should adopt an integrated approach to disaster management dealing with both natural and technological disasters, and dealing with the whole disaster cycle with an emphasis on preventive measures. It must consider the complex and diffuse causes behind disasters and which [contribute] to their effects, such as environmental pollution, poverty, socio-economic vulnerability, obstacles to sustainable development and breaches of human rights, which gives rise to a need for an ethical and environmental approach to a legal framework for disasters. The binding text must be based on five central themes:
1. Sustainable development as the paradigm to construct and reinforce resilience in order to reduce and manage the risks and effects of disasters;
  2. Regarding socio-economic and environmental vulnerabilities as key factors in exposing people to disaster risks, especially poverty, which gives rise to a need to reduce vulnerability and the eradication of poverty, as measures to manage disaster in an ethical and environmental way;
  3. The impact of disasters on the enjoyment of human rights and the importance of strengthening their protection as a measure to reduce vulnerabilities, to promote sustainable development and, in this way, to strengthen resilience;
  4. The contribution of disaster risks and impacts on the increase of displaced persons and migration and the vulnerability of the displaced persons;
  5. The protection of the environment as a necessary measure to reduce the risks of disasters and to reinforce resilience and having regard to ecological services provided by ecosystems and the effects of environmental pollution on increasing disaster risks and their impacts.
- Considering the relationship between the quality of the environment, the level of exposure to disaster risks and communities' ability to cope with disasters, a right to a healthy environment should be recognized. The environmental services provided by ecosystems must also be recognized and valued as a means of reducing and preventing disaster risk and preserving natural resources as important means to reconstruction. Measures should be taken to safeguard and rehabilitate the environment as soon as possible after the occurrence of disasters.
  - A right to preventive measures and disaster preparedness must be recognized, as to include education, training and awareness of disaster risks and rights to adequate information to create a culture of prevention and as means to strengthen resilience.
  - Special preventive measures must be adopted for vulnerable persons. Individuals and communities are affected in different ways by the risks and effects of disasters and there will be different degrees of exposure depending upon vulnerabilities, which gives rise to the need for incorporation of environmental justice principles in the legal framework on disaster management. Vulnerable individuals and communities must benefit from disaster prevention measures, which are tailored to their vulnerability.
  - The knowledge of indigenous people and traditional communities about their environment and their history can be a major contributor to risk reduction and to reconstruction after disasters and should be recognized and supported. Special attention must be given to indigenous people and traditional communities in disaster situations, having regard to their strong relationship with their environment, which is essential to the maintenance of their culture and way of life.
  - Among such vulnerable people, those people forced to leave their home due to disaster risk or at risk of being displaced, should have particular attention in order to avoid displacement or if that has already happened, to have their rights protected having regard to their extreme vulnerability. This vulnerability is compounded by the lack of any international legal status for such displaced persons. Therefore, the human rights of displaced persons or persons exposed to the risk of displacement as a result of disaster, should have international recognition and protection.
  - The right to humanitarian assistance should be recognized, considering that humanitarian assistance is not formally recognized in International Law. Humanitarian assistance should be provided fairly, impartially and without discrimination, having due regard to the vulnerability of victims and people's specific needs.
  - All persons and communities affected by disasters shall be kept informed of and have the right to take part in decisions dealing with the response to disasters.
  - All persons who are actual or potential victims of disaster should have their right to dignity recognized and have access to all the conditions required to lead a dignified life, so as to protect their human dignity. Human dignity should be at the center of an ethical approach to a legal framework on disaster management.
  - The rights of assistance and rescue workers must also be equally protected.
  - States must continue to ensure the enjoyment and respect for human rights during and after disasters. States have responsibility to protect people in their territory by ensuring that despite a disaster, human rights both for their people and for the humanitarian and health and aid personnel will be enforced. Companies and other economic and humanitarian aid agencies involved in reconstruction must respect the human rights and dignity of all people involved in reconstruction operations as well as of the victims.
  - The role of international and regional courts dealing with the protection of human rights in recognition and analysis of human rights violations arising from disasters should be recognized and reinforced, as well as the access of victims to these courts.

RECOMMENDATION N°4

## L'EFFECTIVITÉ DU DROIT INTERNATIONAL DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

Considérant que l'environnement est un bien commun de l'Humanité,

Considérant qu'un environnement sain est vital pour la santé humaine,

Considérant que face aux enjeux environnementaux, l'utilisation de l'outil juridique ne peut être pleinement bénéfique que si l'effectivité des normes qui en résulte est assurée,

Considérant que l'effectivité du droit est indispensable à une « bonne » gouvernance,

Considérant que l'effectivité des normes internationales dans le domaine de l'environnement résulte de multiples facteurs qu'il convient d'envisager globalement,

Considérant qu'une action en faveur de l'effectivité des normes internationales dans le domaine de l'environnement implique des réformes internationales au niveau de l'architecture des normes et du contrôle de leur respect par les Etats,

Considérant que l'effectivité des normes internationales dans le domaine de l'environnement résulte en outre de la capacité de la société internationale à institutionnaliser les processus normatifs et juridictionnels, de même que de la reconnaissance du rôle des acteurs de la société civile,

Réaffirmant la place du droit, des acteurs et des mécanismes de contrôle au niveau interne pour l'effectivité du droit international de l'environnement, ème La 3 réunion mondiale des juristes et associations de droit de l'environnement recommande de:

1. Reconnaître que le droit à l'environnement tout comme ses principes fondateurs font partie du jus cogens international, entendu comme une norme impérative du droit international général universellement acceptée et reconnue par la société internationale ;
2. Renforcer l'institutionnalisation de l'environnement au sein des organes permanents et spécialisés de l'ONU, de même qu'au niveau des conférences des parties des accords multilatéraux sur l'environnement;
3. Reconnaître et mettre en œuvre le principe d'équilibre, selon lequel l'ambition des normes environnementales doit être en parfaite adéquation avec le niveau des enjeux environnementaux, notamment en intégrant en droit international, des procédures d'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement des traités;
4. Favoriser la participation du public à l'élaboration et au suivi de l'application des traités internationaux ;
5. Rendre le droit accessible, intelligible et prévisible, de même qu'en favoriser la diffusion ;
6. Améliorer de façon globale la mise en œuvre et l'application du droit international de l'environnement ;
7. Multiplier et améliorer les procédures de non compliance dans les accords multilatéraux sur l'environnement en prenant comme exemple le compliance committee de la Convention d'Aarhus et en prévoyant leur ouverture aux ONG et au public ;
8. Favoriser la création d'une Cour internationale de l'environnement ouverte aux acteurs non étatiques;
9. Institutionnaliser le dialogue des juges en créant des mécanismes de renvoi préjudiciel entre juridictions internationales et entre juridictions nationales et internationales ;
10. Ratifier largement la Convention d'Aarhus pour l'étendre au niveau universel ; appliquer son article 3 §7 au niveau de toutes les COP, de toutes les procédures de non-respect et devant toutes les juridictions internationales qui ont à connaître des affaires portant sur l'environnement ; appliquer les trois piliers de la Convention d'Aarhus au niveau national et régional.

## RECOMMANDATION N°4

### THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Considering that the environment is a common good of Humanity,

Considering that a healthy environment is vital for human health,

Considering that given the environmental stakes, the use of legal tools can only be fully useful if the effectiveness of international environmental norms is guaranteed,

Considering that the effectiveness of law is crucial for "good" governance,

Considering that the effectiveness of international environmental norms depends on multiple factors that have to be viewed globally,

Considering that action to advance the effectiveness of international environmental norms implies international reform of the normative architecture and of measures to ensure compliance by States,

Considering that the effectiveness of international environmental norms also depends on the capacity of international society to institutionalize normative and jurisdictional processes, as well as recognising the role of civil society parties,

Reaffirming the role of the law, relevant actors, and compliance mechanisms at the domestic level to improve effectiveness of international environmental law,

The third world meeting of environmental lawyers and environmental law associations recommends States to:

- 1) Recognize that the right to the environment, as well as the main principles of environmental law, are part of international jus cogens, to be understood as a peremptory norm of general international law universally accepted and recognized by the international community;
- 2) Reinforce institutionalization of the environment within permanent and specialized UN bodies, as well as within conferences of the Parties of multilateral environmental agreements;
- 3) Recognize and implement the principle of equilibrium, according to which environmental law should be fully adequate to address the needs of environmental degradation, notably by integrating within international law, procedures to assess the impact of the international treaties on the environment;
- 4) Promote public participation in the formulation and implementation of international treaties ;

- 5) Make the law accessible, intelligible, predictable and transparent to all, simultaneously promote awareness of and disseminate international environmental law;
- 6) To improve in a global manner the implementation and enforcement of international environmental law;
- 7) Multiply and improve the non-compliance procedures in multilateral environmental agreements by using as an example the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee and by providing access to these procedures to NGOs and to the public;
- 8) Encourage the creation of an International Court of the Environment open to non-state actors ;
- 9) Institutionalize dialogue among judges by creating preliminary ruling procedures between international jurisdictions and between international jurisdictions and domestic courts;
- 10) Encourage wider ratification of the Aarhus Convention to give it universal application; apply its article 3(7) in all Conferences of the Parties, in all non-compliance procedures and before all international jurisdictions in which environmental cases may be brought; and apply the three pillars of the Aarhus Convention at the national and regional levels.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°5

#### DROIT À L'ALIMENTATION ET DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE

La réunion mondiale des juristes de l'environnement :

Consciente de la nécessité de lier la réalisation du droit à l'alimentation à un accès équitable aux ressources naturelles, en particulier pour les populations les plus vulnérables;

Consciente de la nécessité d'assurer la sécurité juridique des droits relatifs à la terre, à l'eau, aux forêts, et aux pêches;

Consciente de la menace qui pèse sur la sécurité alimentaire et le droit vital à l'alimentation des populations autochtones et des communautés locales, d'une part par une exploitation irrationnelle des ressources naturelles; et d'autre part, par un accès inéquitable à ces ressources;

Considérant que la survie de l'humanité se fera, également, par la réalisation du droit à une alimentation suffisante et adéquate, à travers une agriculture durable et une gestion intégrée de toutes les ressources naturelles;

Considérant la Résolution du Parlement européen du 29 septembre 2011, appelant à une réalisation effective du droit à l'alimentation ;

Recommande:

##### 1. Sur le fondement conceptuel:

a) qu'en se fondant sur le concept d'agroécologie, il faut lier le développement agricole au droit à l'alimentation, pour faire en sorte que les systèmes alimentaires garantissent la disponibilité de la nourriture pour tous et que l'offre puisse répondre aux besoins mondiaux;

b) de veiller à ce que le développement agricole contribue à accroître les revenus des petits exploitants, réduisant ainsi la faim autant que la pauvreté ;

c) que le souci d'équité se double d'une exigence de durabilité, en veillant à ce que l'agriculture maintienne sa capacité à satisfaire les besoins des générations présentes et futurs moyennant la sauvegarde de la biodiversité agricole, la préservation de la qualité de l'eau et des sols, ainsi que la lutte contre la désertification et la sécheresse, le changement climatique et les catastrophes naturelles.

##### 2. Sur le cadre juridique:

d) de reconnaître constitutionnellement, au profit de chaque être humain, le droit à une alimentation adéquate, lui permettant d'accéder à des aliments sains et nutritifs en quantité suffisante afin de jouir pleinement de ses capacités physiques et mentales;

e) d'adopter un dispositif juridique - éventuellement sous forme de loi-cadre - spécialement consacré au droit à l'alimentation, qui en spécifie le contenu normatif et définisse les obligations qui en découlent ainsi que les mesures d'ordre institutionnel, judiciaire, éducatif, budgétaire ou autres visant à renforcer son application;

f) que les Etats adhèrent aux divers instruments internationaux pertinents, régionaux et mondiaux, relatifs au droit à l'alimentation;

g) l'application des orientations fournies par les Directives volontaires à l'appui de la concrétisation progressive du droit à une alimentation adéquate dans le contexte de la sécurité alimentaire nationale (2004);

h) la mise en œuvre des futures Directives volontaires sur la gouvernance responsable de la tenure des terres, pêches et forêts dans le contexte de la sécurité alimentaire nationale (en cours de négociation).

##### 3. Sur les politiques et législations foncières:

i) d'adopter, réviser et mettre en œuvre des politiques foncières nationales cohérentes qui tiennent compte du droit à l'alimentation;

j) de réformer les législations foncières en ayant à l'esprit le droit à l'alimentation, notamment en termes d'accès à la terre agricole et aux autres ressources naturelles qui s'y rattachent;

k) de reconnaître la pluralité des régimes fonciers qui coexistent, y compris les droits coutumiers, afin de mieux répondre aux besoins de sécurisation des différents acteurs en milieu rural;

l) de réguler les marchés fonciers en vue de lutter contre la spéculation, en particulier sur le foncier urbain, en vue d'atténuer l'exclusion des populations les plus vulnérables par les mécanismes du marché.

##### 4. Sur la gestion des ressources naturelles (terres, forêts, pâturages, eau, pêche, ressources phytogénétiques):

m) de réformer les législations relatives à la gestion des ressources naturelles en s'efforçant de mettre en cohérence le droit à l'alimentation avec les normes, pratiques et contraintes locales;

n) d'accorder une attention particulière aux mécanismes idoines de gestion locale des ressources naturelles, privilégiant la concertation entre les différents usagers (par ex. à

travers des conventions locales consensuelles);

o) d'associer tous les acteurs concernés, notamment locaux, au processus d'élaboration, de mise en œuvre et de suivi des législations relatives à la gestion des ressources naturelles.

5. Sur l'accès aux ressources par les groupes spécifiques (femmes, populations autochtones, minorités):

p) de veiller au respect des instruments internationaux relatifs aux droits des femmes, des populations autochtones et des minorités, et leur faciliter l'accès au moyens de recours en cas d'atteinte à leurs droits;

q) de mettre en place, et veiller à l'application effective, de dispositifs juridiques adaptés, équitables et non discriminatoires, garantissant l'accès des femmes, des populations autochtones et des minorités aux terres et autres ressources naturelles;

r) d'associer les femmes, les populations autochtones et les minorités à la gestion des terres et autres ressources naturelles assurant leur droit à l'alimentation, au partage des bénéfices qui en découlent et aux processus décisionnels y relatifs.

6. Sur les investissements agricoles et acquisitions foncières en milieu rural:

s) de promouvoir les investissements publics et privés en faveur de l'agriculture, notamment paysanne, ainsi que des activités agro-sylvo-pastorales et de la pêche artisanale;

t) d'adopter un cadre juridique garantissant la sécurité des investissements dans le foncier rural, en tenant dûment compte des dimensions environnementales et sociales;

u) de réaliser ces investissements sans mettre en péril la sécurité alimentaire locale et nationale, dans le respect de l'ensemble des droits individuels et collectifs y compris les droits fonciers existants, individuels comme collectifs, et suivant des procédures participatives transparentes;

v) d'encadrer juridiquement les acquisitions foncières à moyenne et grande échelle en milieu rural, en soumettant les cessions privées au consentement préalable informé des populations concernées, en sauvegardant les droits fonciers locaux et en garantissant le paiement effectif de la valeur réelle des terres cédées.

## RECOMMANDATIONS N°5

### THE RIGHT TO FOOD AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The environmental legal experts global meeting:

Conscious of the necessity to link the achievement of the right to food to a fair access to natural resources, in particular for the most vulnerable populations;

Conscious of the necessity to ensure legal safety of the rights to land, water, forest, fisheries;

Conscious of the threat to food safety and to the vital right to food of indigenous people and local communities, due on the one hand to irrational exploitation of natural resources; and on the other hand to unfair access to these resources;

Considering that the survival of humanity will be done through the achievement of the right to sufficient and adequate food, and through sustainable agriculture and integrated management of all the natural resources;

Considering the European Parliament Resolution of 29 September 2011 calling for an effective achievement of the right to food;

Recommends:

1. Regarding the conceptual basis:

a) That by referring to the concept of agroecology, agriculture development and right to food should be linked so that food systems ensure food availability for all and that the supply satisfies the global needs;

b) To make sure that agriculture development contributes to the increase of small-scale farmers, thus reducing hunger as well as poverty;

c) That the concern for equity be associated with a requirement of sustainability, by ensuring that agriculture maintains its capacity to the needs of the present and future generations provided that agriculture biodiversity is safeguarded, that water and soil quality is preserved, and that desertification and drought, climate change and natural disasters are combated against.

2. Regarding the legal framework:

d) To constitutionally recognize the right to adequate food to every human being so that he/she can access sound and nutritious food in sufficient quantity to fully enjoy his/her physical and mental capacities;

e) To adopt a legal system- which may be in the form of a framework law- specifically focusing on the right to food that specifies its content and defines the resulting obligations as well as institutional, legal, educational, budgetary measures or any other measure aiming at strengthening its implementation;

f) That States accede to the relevant regional and international right to food instruments;

g) The implementation of the orientations of the Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security (2004);

h) The implementation of the future Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the context of national food safety (under negotiation).

3. Regarding land policies and legislations:

i) To adopt, review and implement coherent national land policies which take into account the right to food;

j) To reform land policies bearing in mind the right to food, in particular in terms of access to agricultural lands and to other related natural resources;

k) To recognize the plurality of land tenures that exist, including customary rights, in order to better satisfy the needs of security of the different actors of the rural area;

l) To regulate the land markets in order to fight against speculation, in particular on the urban land market, so as to mitigate the exclusion of the most vulnerable populations by the market mechanisms.

4. Regarding the natural resources management (land, forest, pasture, water, fisheries, plant genetic resources):

m) To reform legislation related to natural resources management through seeking to bring coherence between the right to food and the local rules, practices and constraints;

n) To grant specific attention to the appropriate mechanisms of local management of natural resources, giving priority to concertation/discussions between the different users (e.g. through consensual local conventions);

o) To associate all stakeholders, including the local ones, to the elaboration process, implementation and follow up of legislation related to the management of natural resources.

5. Regarding the access to resources by specific groups (women, indigenous people, minorities):

p) Ensure the respect of international instruments related to women, indigenous people and minorities rights, and to facilitate their access to appeal in case of infringement to their rights;

q) To establish and ensure the effective implementation of appropriate, fair and non discriminatory legal mechanisms that guarantee women, indigenous populations and minorities access to land and other natural resources;

r) To associate women, indigenous populations and minorities to the management of land and other natural resources guaranteeing their right to food, and to the resulting benefit sharing and decision process.

6. Regarding agriculture investments and land acquisition in rural area:

s) To promote public and private investment in favour of agriculture, including peasant agriculture, as well as agro-sylvo-pastoral and small-scale fisheries;

t) To adopt a legal framework that guarantees the safety of investments in rural land sector, duly taking into account the environmental and social aspects;

u) To realize the afore mentioned investments without jeopardizing the local and national food safety, respecting all individual and collective rights including the existing individual and collective land rights, and according to transparent participative procedures;

v) To legally define the rural small and large scale land acquisitions by submitting the private transfers to the prior consent of the populations involved, by safeguarding the local land rights and by ensuring the effective payment of the real value of the transferred lands.

#### RECOMMANDATION N° 6

#### PACTE SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT

La Réunion mondiale des juristes de l'environnement,

Ayant examiné le statut et le contenu actuels du projet d'un « Pacte international sur l'environnement et le Développement » qui comprend la plupart des principes acceptés par consensus depuis la conférence de Stockholm,

Notant que ce dernier a été introduit auprès de la communauté internationale en 1995 à l'occasion du cinquantième anniversaire de l'Organisation des Nations Unies,

Saluant la contribution de l'UICN et du Conseil international de droit de l'environnement à la formulation et à la promotion de cette initiative ;

Considérant que le projet de Pacte contribue au développement du droit international de l'environnement vise à renforcer, la construction d'un véritable droit du développement durable ;

Notant avec satisfaction les progrès accomplis depuis la présentation du projet de Pacte pour le développement durable qui a fait depuis lors l'objet de trois révisions qui l'ont périodiquement actualisé ;

Préoccupée fortement par l'absence persistance de versions du projet en d'autres langues de travail des Nations unies, particulièrement dans une version française,

Convaincue que la traduction en français du projet de Pacte est d'une haute importance pour les pays en développement de l'espace francophone qui doivent jouer un rôle important dans le processus d'adoption d'un tel instrument,

1. Accueille favorablement le projet de Pacte international sur l'environnement et le développement, dont elle recommande l'adoption ;

2. Décide de le recommander fortement à l'attention de l'AGONU pour discussion et adoption ;

3. Propose qu'à ces fins, l'AGONU, par l'intermédiaire d'un État membre, se saisisse du projet de Pacte et l'introduise en tant que document officiel en vue de garantir sa traduction dans les langues de travail des Nations Unies ;

4. Attire l'attention de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie sur l'urgence d'une version française avant la conférence Rio + 20, en vue de faciliter les discussions au sein de la communauté francophone ;

5. Recommande que l'AGONU adopte directement le projet de Pacte international sur l'environnement et le développement en Plénière, le cas échéant, sur recommandation de la 6 commission ;

6. Relève que plusieurs Etats ont utilisé le projet de Pacte international comme référence pour leur législation nationale ;

7. Relève également que les pays de l'UA ont utilisé le projet de Pacte international comme base de révision de la convention d'Alger de 1968 sur la conservation de la nature et des ressources naturelles et que les chefs d'Etats et de gouvernement l'ont accepté à Maputo en 2003 ;

8. Invite les Etats membres de l'UA à une ratification rapide de la convention africaine révisée adoptée lors du sommet des chefs d'Etats et de gouvernements à Maputo ;

9. Propose, si l'adoption par l'AGONU en plénière n'est pas possible, que l'AGONU crée sous son égide un Comité intergouvernemental de négociation chargé d'élaborer de la négociation et de l'adoption d'un tel instrument, en tenant compte des propositions que pourront soumettre les États participant au processus de négociation, de façon à ce que la convention soit mise au point d'ici à juin 2014 ;

10. Recommande instamment qu'une résolution de l'AGONU envisage rapidement la mise en place des conditions d'une adoption du projet de Pacte sur l'environnement et le développement, conformément à la pratique établie de l'AGONU ;

11. Prie le Secrétaire général de saisir dès que possible l'AGONU du projet de pacte aux fins de son examen et adoption ;

#### RECOMMANDATION N°6

##### PACT ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Having examined the actual status and content of the draft for an « International Covenant on Environment and Development » which includes a large number of principles accepted by consensus since the Stockholm Conference,

Noting that the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development was introduced to the international community in 1995 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations,

Recognizing the contribution of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the International Council of Environmental Law -toward sustainable development- (ICEL) in the formulation and promotion of this initiative;

Considering that the draft Covenant contributes to the development of international environmental law, and aims to build a real sustainable development law;

Noting with satisfaction the progress made since the initial presentation of the draft International

Covenant on Environment and Development, which has since undergone three revisions to periodically update it in accordance with the newest developments in the field;

Deeply concerned by the continuing lack of a version of the draft Covenant in other working languages of the United Nations, particularly in French;

Convinced that the French translation of the draft Covenant is of paramount importance to Francophone developing countries, which have an important role to play in the process of adopting such an instrument;

The Third Worldwide Conference of Environmental Law NGOs and Lawyers in Limoges (France), September 29-1 October, 2011:

1. Welcomes the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development, and recommends its adoption;
2. Decides to recommend it strongly to the attention of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for discussion and adoption;
3. Provides for such purposes that the UNGA, through a Member State, embrace the draft Covenant and introduce it as an official document to ensure its translation into the working languages of the United Nations;
4. Draws the attention of the International Organization of La Francophonie to the urgent need for a French translation before the Rio+20 Conference, to facilitate discussions within the Francophone community;
5. Recommends that the UNGA, upon recommendation of the 6th Committee, directly adopt the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development in Plenary; ;
6. Notes that several states have used the draft Covenant as a check list for their national legislation, especially African Union (AU) Member States;
7. Further Notes that AU Member States have concretely used the draft Covenant as a basis for the revision of the 1968 African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and that all Heads of State and Government adopted this Revised African Convention (Maputo Convention) at the Second Summit of the African Union in 2003;
8. Invites AU Member States to quickly ratify the Revised African Convention adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the Second Summit of the African Union in Maputo in 2003;
9. Proposes, that if adoption of the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development by the UNGA in Plenary is not possible, the UNGA establish, under its aegis, an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the negotiation and adoption of such an instrument, taking into account proposals that could be submitted by the States participating in the negotiation process, so that the Convention be developed by June 2014;
10. Urges the adoption of a resolution by the UNGA to quickly consider the establishment of conditions for the adoption of the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development, in accordance with the established practices of the UNGA;
11. Requests the Secretary-General, as soon as possible, to bring the draft Covenant to the attention of the UNGA for its consideration and adoption;

#### RECOMMANDATION N° 7

##### POUR UNE CONVENTION MONDIALE SUR LES ÉVALUATIONS ENVIRONNEMENTALES

Les participants à la réunion mondiale de juristes et des associations du droit de l'environnement sont conscients des incidences réciproques des activités économiques et de leurs conséquences sur l'environnement et de la nécessité d'intensifier la coopération internationale dans le domaine de l'évaluation environnementale pour une gestion de l'environnement et du développement durable meilleure et plus rationnelle.

Ils proposent l'élaboration d'une convention mondiale opérative (en anglais, implementable) sur les évaluations environnementales et la durabilité, sur la base des considérations suivantes :

1. Des nombreux Etats ont adopté des mesures pour que l'évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement soit pratiquée en application de leurs lois et règlements administratifs et de leur politique nationale. Pourtant, les dispositions nationales existantes n'offrent pas toutes le même niveau d'exigence ni ne répondent à des critères harmonisés. Ce manque d'uniformité des législations nationales sur les évaluations a des effets indésirables sur la protection de l'environnement et peut générer des distorsions ayant des effets inéquitables dans les échanges économiques internationaux.
2. La jurisprudence internationale, notamment de la Cour Internationale de Justice (CIJ) et du Tribunal International de Droit de la Mer (TIDM), a constaté « qu'il existe, en droit international général, une obligation de procéder à une évaluation de l'impact sur l'environnement lorsque l'activité industrielle projetée risque d'avoir un impact préjudiciable important dans un cadre transfrontière, et en particulier sur une ressource partagée ». Cependant, la CIJ reconnaît aussi que « le droit international général ne précise (pas) la portée et le contenu des évaluations de l'impact sur l'environnement » et que, par conséquent « il revient à chaque Etat de déterminer, dans le cadre de sa

législation nationale ou du processus d'autorisation du projet, la teneur exacte de l'évaluation environnementale requise dans chaque cas ». Ce cadre normatif, manifestement incomplet, implique l'élaboration urgente de règles harmonisées, décidées par les États dans une convention internationale de portée mondiale, pour définir les standards minimaux que les dispositions nationales et internationales sur les évaluations environnementales et de durabilité devraient respecter.

3. À l'heure actuelle, les dispositions nationales et internationales sur les évaluations environnementales ne s'appliquent pas généralement aux espaces situés au-delà des juridictions nationales. Il est urgent de mettre en place des instruments juridiques qui comblent cette lacune pour renforcer la protection environnementale des espaces communs de la Planète.

4. Dans l'élaboration de la Convention, les lignes directrices suivantes devraient être prises en compte.

a. La Convention devrait avoir une portée mondiale, quitte à être suivie d'autres instruments de portée régionale et sous-régionale

b. Champ d'application : La Convention devrait avoir une portée étendue comprenant les études d'impact sur l'environnement et les évaluations stratégiques et transfrontières ainsi que la surveillance continue. Les évaluations devraient intégrer les aspects sociaux et culturels ainsi que les effets sur la consommation d'énergie.

c. Floor but no ceiling : La Convention établira les conditions minimales des procédures d'évaluation, tout en permettant aux Parties d'adopter des normes nationales plus protectrices. La Convention établira le contenu minimal de l'étude d'impact, la qualité technique et l'indépendance scientifique des auteurs de l'étude d'impact.

d. Screening : La Convention devra fixer la liste d'activités soumises aux procédures d'évaluation, soit sur la base de critères généraux soit par une énumération spécifique.

e. Ex ante approach : La procédure d'évaluation devra être complétée avant qu'une décision soit prise par l'autorité compétente autorisant le projet d'activité ou les lois, plans et programmes correspondants.

f. Global commons: La Convention s'applique aux évaluations transfrontières qui risquent d'affecter d'autres États ou des zones situées au-delà des juridictions nationales. Dans le cas des évaluations transfrontières, les procédures de notification et de consultation entre les États concernés seront exigées. Tous les États concernés pourront participer aux procédures d'évaluation.

g. Public participation : Dans tous les cas, la participation du public à la procédure d'évaluation sera garantie et prise en considération.

h. Compliance mechanisms : La Convention inclura un mécanisme de contrôle et de suivi avec un Comité composé d'experts indépendants qui peut recevoir des demandes de la part du public (independent body + public trigger)

i. La Convention pourra être complétée par des Protocoles en tant que de besoin.

#### RECOMMENDATION N°7

#### FOR A WORLD CONVENTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

The participants in the global meeting of lawyers and environmental law associations are conscious of the reciprocal impacts of economic activities and their consequences on the environment and the need to intensify international co-operation in the field of environmental assessment for a better and more rational management of the environment and for sustainable development.

They encourage the commencement of a process for the drafting of an enforceable world convention on environmental assessment and sustainability, based on the following considerations:

1. Many States have adopted measures to ensure that environmental impact assessment is carried out as part of their laws and administrative regulations and their national policy. But existing national laws and regulations do not provide for the same requirements nor reflect harmonized criteria. This lack of uniformity of national laws on assessments has adverse effects on the protection of the environment and can generate distortions with unfair effects on international trade.

2. International jurisprudence, particularly of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), has found "that there is, in general international law, a duty to undertake an environmental impact assessment when the proposed industrial activity may have an adverse impact in a transboundary context, and in particular, on a shared resource". However, the ICJ recognizes also that "general international law does not specify the scope and content of an environmental impact assessment" and that therefore "it is up to each State to determine, in its national legislation or in the authorization process, the specific content of the environmental assessment required in each case". This clearly incomplete, normative framework gives rise to an urgent demand for the development of harmonized rules, agreed upon by States, in an international convention of global scope, to set minimum standards that must be complied with by national and international instruments dealing with environmental assessment and sustainability.

3. Currently, national and international provisions on environmental assessments do not generally apply to areas located beyond national jurisdiction. Legal instruments to fill this gap and to strengthen environmental protection of the common areas of the planet should be put in place as a matter of urgency.

4. In drafting the Convention, the following guidelines should be considered:

a. The Convention should have global scope, even if it is to be followed by other instruments of regional and sub-regional scope.

b. Scope of application: the Convention should have broad scope covering environmental, strategic and transboundary assessments and continuing surveillance and monitoring. The assessments should integrate the social and cultural aspects and the effects of planned activities on consumption of energy.

c. Floor but no ceiling: the Convention should establish the minimum requirements of the assessment procedures, while allowing the Parties to adopt more protective national standards. The Convention should establish the minimum content of the environmental assessment report and the technical quality and the scientific independence of its authors.

d. Screening: the Convention should fix the list of activities subject to assessment procedures, either on the basis of general criteria or by a specific enumerating list.

e. Ex-ante approach: the assessment procedure must be completed before a decision is made by the competent authority authorizing the project activity or under the corresponding laws, plans and programmes.

f. Global commons: the Convention should apply to transboundary assessments which might affect other States or areas beyond national jurisdictions. In the case of transboundary assessments, procedures for notification and consultation among the States concerned will be required. All the States concerned can participate in the assessment procedures.

g. Public participation: in all cases, public participation in the assessment procedures should be guaranteed and taken into consideration.



h. Compliance mechanisms: the Convention should include a compliance mechanism with a Committee of independent experts who can receive requests from the public (independent body + public trigger)

i. The Convention may be supplemented by Protocols as needed.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°8

##### LA SÉCURITE ET L'UTILISATION DURABLE DU SOL

Considérant que le sol, en tant que base première pour toute biodiversité terrestre, a été jusqu'alors largement ignoré dans les forums internationaux et par les gouvernements nationaux, excepté dans le contexte de la désertification ;

Comprenant que le manque de prise en considération du sol constitue un déficit substantiel dans les politiques environnementales et que le sol, en tant que ressource biologique vitale, nécessite une protection urgente et spécifique, au même titre que d'autres régimes de protection, en particulier la diversité biologique et le changement climatique ;

Réalisant la nécessité d'initier une approche intégrée de la conservation, de la sécurité et de l'utilisation durable du sol et qui prenne le sol en considération dans les régimes environnementaux multilatéraux de la désertification, de la diversité biologique et du changement climatique ;

Rappelant que les objectifs de la Convention relative à la lutte contre la désertification doivent être poursuivis conformément à ses dispositions pertinentes, pour combattre la désertification, réduire les effets de la sécheresse, utiliser des stratégies à long terme axées sur l'amélioration de la productivité des terres, la remise en état, la conservation et la gestion durable des ressources du sol et de l'eau, conduisant à une amélioration des conditions de vie, en particulier au niveau de la communauté ;

Reconnaissant que plus de 70 % des terres pastorales dans le monde sont gravement touchées par la dégradation du sol et en vue de leur contribution dans l'adaptation au changement climatique, la gestion des risques de catastrophes, la protection de la biodiversité et l'agriculture durable et le développement rural ;

Prenant en compte le texte adopté à la séance du Parlement européen du 29 Septembre 2011 sur l'adoption d'une position commune de l'UE avant la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le développement durable (Rio +20), notamment l'article 52 qui « déplore la lenteur de l'avancée des négociations et des engagements dans le cadre de la Convention des Nations unies sur la lutte contre la désertification (CLD), estime que les sols sont une ressource rare et que leur dégradation et leur réaffectation nécessitent une réponse à l'échelle mondiale; appelle de ses vœux des actions concrètes et efficaces et des mesures de contrôle, notamment pour ce qui concerne la production de biocarburants »;

Il est recommandé que, dans une première étape pour résoudre les problèmes de la conservation mondiale des sols, un protocole sur la sécurité et l'utilisation durable des sols soit négocié sous l'égide de la Convention relative à la lutte contre la désertification.

Il est en outre recommandé que la Conférence de Rio + 20 envisage l'élaboration d'un projet détaillé de Convention sur la sécurité et l'utilisation durable du sol, en se concentrant sur la dégradation des sols et la contamination et comportant des dispositions concernant le rôle du sol dans la conservation de la diversité biologique, l'atténuation et l'adaptation aux effets du changement climatique et la sécurité alimentaire à l'égard de toutes les terres.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°8

##### SECURITY AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF SOIL

Recognizing that soil, as the primary basis for all terrestrial biodiversity, has until recently been largely ignored in international fora and by national governments, except in the context of desertification.

Understanding that the lack of consideration of soil represents a substantial gap in global policy making on the environment and that soil, as a vital biological resource demands urgent and specific protection on the same level as other environmental regimes, in particular biological diversity and climate change.

Accepting that it is necessary to initiate an integrated approach to soil conservation, soil security and sustainable use of soil and which takes soil into account within the multilateral environmental regimes of desertification, biological diversity and climate change.

Recalling the objectives of the Convention to Combat Desertification, to be pursued in accordance with its relevant provisions, to combat desertification, mitigate effects of drought, use long-term strategies that focus on improving productivity of land, rehabilitation, conservation and sustainable management of land and water resources, leading to improved living conditions, in particular at the community level;

Recognizing that over 70 percent of the world's pastoral lands are severely affected by soil degradation and in view of their contributions to climate change adaptation and mitigation, disaster risk management, biodiversity protection, and sustainable agriculture and rural development;

Taking into account the text adopted at the sitting of the European Parliament on 29 September 2011 on developing a common EU position ahead of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in particular clause 51 which "Regrets the slow progress of negotiations and commitments in the context of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD); considers that soil is a scarce resource and that land degradation and land use change require a global response; calls for concrete action, efficient measures and monitoring, especially as regards the production of biofuels";

It is recommended that, as a first step in addressing issues of global soil conservation, a Protocol on Security and Sustainable Use of Soil be negotiated under the Convention to Combat Desertification It is further recommended that the Rio + 20 Conference consider the drafting of a comprehensive Convention on Security and Sustainable Use of Soil, focusing on soil degradation and contamination as well as including provisions concerning the role of soil in the conservation of biological diversity, mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change, and food security with regard to all lands;

#### RECOMMANDATION N°9

##### CONVENTION POUR LA LUTTE CONTRE LA POLLUTION MARINE D'ORIGINE TELLURIQUE

La troisième réunion mondiale des juristes et associations de droit de l'environnement

Considérant que la pollution tellurique représente 80% de la pollution des mers,

Considérant le très grand nombre de sources de cette pollution, toutes situées à terre,

Considérant l'insuffisance du cadre international général et régional traitant de la question, il est nécessaire de proposer une convention mondiale de lutte contre ce fléau,

Recommande l'adoption de la convention selon les principes suivants:

1. recommande la prise en compte de toutes les sources de cette pollution y compris les apports sédimentaires, les déversements de déchets solides et les retombées aériennes de polluants volatiles;
2. recommande la prise en compte des trois origines des polluants: rivages, cours d'eau et retombées atmosphériques;
3. recommande la création d'une convention cadre contenant les dispositions minimales et de protocoles additionnels tenant compte des spécificités des écosystèmes océaniques et du développement économique des riverains de ces écosystèmes;
4. recommande que la convention repose sur trois piliers: la mise en place de programmes d'action de 5 à 6 ans déterminant des priorités, l'obligation pour les États parties de se doter de mesures législatives nécessaires pour une application effective des programmes d'action, l'instauration du principe de pollueur payeur mais dont les sanctions pécuniaires serviraient à inciter les acteurs économiques à se doter d'équipements diminuant ou supprimant les déversements polluants;
5. recommande que soit introduit un système de listes de produits interdits de déversement et de produits provisoirement autorisés sous la responsabilité de l'Etat.
6. recommande que la convention soit dotée d'organes permanents dont un secrétariat assurant la continuité et les liens entre les parties, une commission administrative dotée de pouvoirs de décision et de recommandation évaluant la mise en œuvre de la convention, aidant à la coordination des actions, recevant les rapports annuels des parties. Les décisions de cette commission seraient adoptées par voie de consensus. Le recours à la votation serait évité autant que possible;
7. les protocoles additionnels permettraient une approche spécifique *ratione materiae* mais également une approche chronologique *ratione temporis* afin de privilégier les actions prioritaires et de permettre aux États les moins avancés de monter progressivement en puissance. Il conviendrait de prévoir des protocoles précisant les niveaux de rejet, tenant compte des bassins hydrographiques, luttant contre les eaux usées, instaurant une surveillance en continu, adoptant un schéma directeur pour les programmes d'action, fixant les objectifs des politiques publiques;
8. recommande de mettre en place un système de responsabilité des États parties assurant le respect des dispositions conventionnelles. Les États manquant à leurs obligations devraient réparer les dommages causés. Mais dans toute la mesure du possible, les États parties devraient aider l'État défaillant de bonne foi. Les Etats doivent prévoir des sanctions pénales au niveau national;
9. recommande aux parties d'utiliser toutes les formes de règlement pacifique des différends. En cas de non accord, le recours obligatoire au tribunal international du droit de la mer est privilégié.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°9

##### CONVENTION FOR THE LAND-BASED MARINE POLLUTION

The third global meeting of lawyers and associations for environmental law

Considering that the land- based marine pollution represents 80% of the pollutions of the seas,

Considering the great number of causes of this pollution, all of them land-based,

Considering the deficiency of juridical international and regional conventions on this question,

Think it necessary to propose a global convention to fight this pollution and recommend the adoption of a convention to take account of the following:

1. to take account of all the causes of this pollution, including sedimentary deposits, the dumping of solid waste and the atmospheric fallout of volatile pollutants;
2. to take into account the three origins of the pollutants : sea shores, rivers, and atmospheric fallout;
3. the creation of a framework convention including minimum provisions and additional protocols taking into account the requirements of oceanic ecosystems and of the economic development of coastal states;
4. the convention to be based on three pillars : the putting in place of programs of action for 5 or 6 years setting out priorities, the obligation on member States parties to adopt the legislative measures needed for the effective enforcement of the programs, the adoption of the polluter-pays principle while also providing for financial penalties to incite economic actors to adopt equipment to diminish or suppress polluting discharges;
5. the introduction of a system of lists of products which are prohibited from dumping and of products provisionally authorized under State responsibility;
6. the convention to provide for the establishment of permanent bodies to include a Secretariat ensuring continuity and links between parties, an administrative Commission with decision making powers and to make recommendations on the enforcement of the convention, helping to co-ordinate actions and receiving the annual reports of the parties. The decisions of the Commission would be adopted by consensus, recourse to voting being avoided insofar as possible;
7. the additional protocols would allow a specific approach *ratione materiae* and also a chronological approach *ratione temporis* in order to prioritise actions and to allow the less developed States to gradually increase their participation. Protocols should be provided specifying waste standards, taking account of hydrographic basins, waste waters and the putting in place of continuous surveillance and the putting in place of a development plan for action programs, setting out public policy objectives;
8. to set up a responsibility system for the State parties assuring respect for the convention provisions. The non-compliant States would be obliged to make good the damage caused. However, whenever possible, the States parties should help the defaulting bona fide State. The State parties should set up penalties in their national laws;
9. the parties should use lawful peaceful means to resolve their disputes. If they do not resolve them, an appeal to the international tribunal of the law of the sea would be preferred.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°10

##### SUR LES BESOINS D'UNE PROTECTION DES DÉPLACÉS ENVIRONNEMENTAUX

- Considérant l'urgence de la situation de l'environnement mondial qui ne cesse de se dégrader, en raison des changements climatiques et/ou de la perte de diversité biologique, de la sécheresse, de la désertification, du déboisement, de l'érosion des sols, des épidémies, de conflits armés, des grandes infrastructures et, plus généralement, des risques naturels et technologiques,

- Considérant que les victimes de ces phénomènes sont confrontées à la disparition de leur environnement entraînant la dégradation de leur santé et de leur dignité, mettant en cause la substance même de leur droit à la vie,
- Considérant que l'augmentation exponentielle d'ores et déjà prévisible de ces déplacements constitue une menace sur la stabilité des sociétés humaines, la pérennité des cultures et la paix dans le monde,
- Considérant que plusieurs déclarations internationales soulignent l'existence de cette catégorie de déplacés (Déclaration de Rio, principe 18 relatif à l'assistance écologique, juin 1992 ; Agenda 21, chapitre 12, 12.47, élaboration de plans de secours ; Principes directeurs relatifs au déplacement de personnes à l'intérieur de leur propre pays),
- Considérant que de nombreuses conférences internationales évoquent aussi ces situations, telles que :
  - la Conférence de Kyoto (1997) et celle de La Haye (2000), qui mettent en avant les risques de fortes migrations liées aux changements climatiques ;
  - la Conférence mondiale sur la prévention des catastrophes naturelles (Hyogo, janvier 2005) qui a insisté sur l'ensemble des aspects préventifs liés en particulier aux réfugiés écologiques,
- Considérant que certains organes des Nations Unies sont intervenus en ce sens :
  - l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies à travers les résolutions n° 2956 en 1972 et n° 3455 en 1975 sur les personnes déplacées, la résolution n° 36/225 du 17 décembre 1981 sur le renforcement de la capacité du système des Nations Unies de faire face aux catastrophes naturelles et autres situations revêtant le caractère d'une catastrophe, la résolution 43/131 du 8 décembre 1988 sur l'assistance humanitaire aux victimes des catastrophes naturelles et situations d'urgence du même ordre, la résolution n° 45/100 du 14 décembre 1988 sur l'assistance humanitaire aux victimes des catastrophes naturelles et situations d'urgence du même ordre, la résolution n° 49/22 du 13 décembre 1994 concernant la décennie internationale de la prévention des catastrophes naturelles ; e
  - le Conseil de sécurité (5663 séance du 17 avril 2007) en établissant un lien entre l'impact des changements climatiques et la sécurité du monde en particulier par rapport aux personnes qui risquent d'être déplacées d'ici 2050 ;
  - le Secrétaire général des Nations Unies (message du 5 juin 2006) en exhortant les gouvernements et les collectivités du monde entier à penser à ceux qui ne peuvent subsister dans les zones arides et deviennent des réfugiés écologiques,
- Considérant que les institutions spécialisées des Nations Unies telles que l'Organisation mondiale de la santé, l'UNESCO, la Banque mondiale, d'autres institutions du système des Nations Unies telles que le Haut-commissariat aux réfugiés, le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'environnement, le Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement, des organisations régionales telles que le Conseil de l'Europe, l'Union européenne, l'Union africaine attirent l'attention sur les enjeux des migrations écologiques,
- Considérant que des conventions internationales prennent déjà en partie en considération les déplacements environnementaux, notamment :
  - la Convention (No 169) concernant les peuples indigènes et tribaux dans les pays indépendants du 27 juin 1989 (Organisation Internationale du Travail) ;
  - la Convention sur la lutte contre la désertification du 12 septembre 1994 ;
  - la Convention africaine pour la protection et l'assistance aux personnes déplacées en Afrique du 22 octobre 2009,
- Reconnaissant le principe d'assistance à un Etat écologiquement sinistré comme un devoir de la communauté internationale,
- Considérant les Principes de Nansen rédigés les 6 et 7 juin 2011,
- Considérant l'article 14 § f) de l'accord de Cancún

1. Propose l'adoption d'une nouvelle Convention internationale sur les déplacées environnementaux permettant une définition harmonisée des « déplacées environnementaux »
2. Propose d'instituer un mécanisme institutionnel inédit de « double protection » des déplacés environnementaux inter et intra étatiques
3. Propose l'adoption de 11 droits communs aux déplacés environnementaux intra et inter-étatiques : Droits d'être secouru, Droit à l'eau et à une aide alimentaire de subsistance, Droit aux soins, Droit à la personnalité juridique, Droits civils et politiques, Droit à l'habitat, Droit au retour, Droit au respect de l'unité familiale, Droit de gagner sa vie par le travail, Droit à l'éducation et à la formation, Droit au maintien des spécificités culturelles).
4. Propose l'adoption de principes clefs du droit international, droit international de l'environnement, du droit international des droits de l'Homme, du droit international des réfugiés et des déplacés : Principe de solidarité, Principe de responsabilités communes mais différenciées, principe d'humanité, principe de protection effective, Principe de non-discrimination, Droit à l'information et à la participation, Droit au déplacement, Droit au refus du déplacement
5. Recommande la mise en place d'un mécanisme institutionnel de coopération avec la création de Commissions nationales des déplacés environnementaux dans chaque Etat partie, chargée de l'examen des demandes de reconnaissance du statut, d'une Agence mondiale pour les déplacés environnementaux composée d'un conseil scientifique, d'un conseil d'administration et d'un secrétariat
6. Recommande la mise en place d'un mécanisme de suivi de la bonne application de la Convention avec la réunion de Conférences aux parties et la production de rapports nationaux.
7. Encourage enfin la création d'un mécanisme de financement avec le Fonds mondial pour les déplacés environnementaux

#### RECOMMANDATION N°10

#### A PROTECTION FOR THE ENVIRONMENTALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE

- Considering the alarming condition of the global environment and the increasing rate of its deterioration,
- Considering that these negative environmental phenomena produce victims who encounter injury to their health and their dignity, and even impairment of their fundamental right to life,
- Considering that the gravity of environmental harm necessitates the displacement of individuals, families and populations,

- Considering that the exponential growth and clear foreseeability of such movements constitute a threat to the stability of human societies, the preservation of cultures, and world peace,
- Considering the many appeals from non-governmental organizations to recognize a status for environmentally-displaced persons, and insisting on the urgent necessity of responding to their plight,
- Considering that several international declarations underline the existence of this category of displaced persons (Principle 18 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, concerning ecological assistance, June 1992; Agenda 21, Chapter 12, 12.47 ; and the Directive principles relating to internally displaced persons),
- Considering the numerous international conferences that also refer to such situations, including:
  - the Kyoto Conference (1997) and that of The Hague (2000) which set forth the risks of large migrations linked to climate change,
  - the World Conference on the Prevention of Natural Disasters (Hyogo, January 2005) which insisted on prevention linked in particular to ecological refugees,
- Considering that certain organs of the United Nations have spoken of this matter:
  - The General Assembly of the United Nations in resolutions 2956 (1972) and 3455 (1975) on displaced persons, resolution 36/255 of 17 December 1981 on strengthening the capacity of the United Nations system in the face of natural disasters and other catastrophes, resolution 43/131 of 8 December 1988 on humanitarian assistance to victims of natural disasters and emergency situations of the same type, resolutions 45/100 of 14 December relative to humanitarian assistance to victims of natural disasters and emergency situations of the same type, resolution 49/22 of 13 December 1994 concerning the international decade for the prevention of natural disasters,
  - The Security Council (5663rd session of 17 April 2007) making the link between the impact of climate change and international security, in particular in respect to persons who risk displacement by 2050;
  - The Secretary General of the United Nations in his message of 5 June 2006 exhorting governments and societies through the world to think of those who cannot subsist in arid zones and will become ecological refugees,
  - Considering that the specialized institutions of the United Nations such as the World Health Organization, UNESCO, the World Bank, and other institutions in the United Nations system, such as the High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Environment Programme, and the United Nations Development Programme, regional organizations such as the Council of Europe, the European Union, and the African Union have drawn attention to the challenges of environmental migrations,
- Considering the international agreements that already take into consideration environmental displacements, notably:
  - The International Labour Organization's Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries of 27 June 1989;
  - The Convention to Combat Desertification of 12 September 1994;
  - The African Union's Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa of October 22, 2009;
- Considering Principles Nansen prepared 6 and 7 June 2011,
- Considering article 14 § f) Cancun agreements .

1. Proposes the adoption of a new international convention on environmental displacement that includes a clear definition of "environmentally displaced persons".
2. Proposes to establish an institutional mechanism unprecedented protection of environmentally both those displaced within their own country and those who are displaced to other states .
3. Proposes the adoption of common rights for environmentally displaced internally-and inter states -persons including: Right to assistance, Right to water and to subsistence food aid, Right to health care, Right to juridical personality, Civil and Political Rights, Right to housing, Right to return, Right to respect for the family, Right to work, Right to education and training, Right to maintain cultural specificity.
4. Proposes the adoption of key principles of international law, international environmental law , international law of human rights, international law of refugees and displaced persons including: Principle of Solidarity, Principle of humanity, Principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, Principle of effective protection, Principle of non-discrimination, Rights to information and participation, The Right to Displacement, The Right to Refuse Displacement.
5. Recommends the establishment of an institutional mechanism for cooperation with the National Commissions on Environmental Displacements in each State Party, in charge of reviewing applications for recognition of the status of a World Agency for Environmentally-Displaced Persons composed of a scientific council, board of directors and a secretariat .
6. Recommends the establishment of a mechanism to monitor the proper implementation of the Convention through Conferences of the parties and national reporting.
7. Encourages the creation of funding mechanism with the World Fund for the Environmentally-Displaced persons.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°11

#### CONFLITS ARMÉS ET ENVIRONNEMENT

Convaincue que les prétendues nécessités de guerre ne sauraient justifier un manqué de respect pour l'environnement et, par conséquent, des conditions de vie des générations futures ;

Note que la protection de l'environnement en temps de conflit armé par voie de dispositions spécifiques est insuffisante ;

Demande, pour cette raison, qu'un traité soit adopté qui disposerait de problèmes spécifiques à cet égard, applicable aussi bien en temps de conflit international que non-international, à savoir :

- Afin d'assurer la protection de l'environnement en tant qu'objet civil, certains élément de l'environnement doivent avoir le statut de « zone démilitarisée » ;
- Un processus de désignation de telles zones devrait être réglé par un traité, qui pourrait prévoir une désignation par des tiers, notamment par le Conseil de sécurité ;
- Ceux qui préparent et décident une attaque doivent tenir dûment compte de la protection de l'environnement naturel ;

- En particulier, le risque d'un dommage environnemental, y inclus un dommage à long terme, doit être prise en compte dans l'application du principe de proportionnalité en ce qui concerne les dommages causés incidemment ;
- Des activités entreprises pour réparer ou mitiger des dommages environnementaux en temps de conflit armé doivent être protégées et respectées ;
- La réhabilitation de l'environnement entreprise après la fin des conflits armés devrait être aidée et promue.

Demande au Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et aux Etats de tenir compte de cette demande lors de leurs consultations relatives au développement du droit international humanitaire.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°11

##### WAR AND ENVIRONMENT

Convinced that purported necessities of war cannot justify disregard for the environment and, thus, for the living conditions of future generations,

Notes that the protection of the environment in times of armed conflict by way of specific treaty provision is insufficient;

Demands, therefore, that a treaty is adopted regulating a number of specific problems related to armed conflicts, both for international and domestic conflicts, that

- Ensures the protection of the environment as civilian objects, and as "demilitarized zones",
- Provides for a special designation process for environmental areas that should be protected, which could include a designation by third parties such as the Security Council;
- Requires that those who plan and decide upon an attack must pay due regard to the protection of the natural environment;
- Mandates that the risk of environmental damage, including long term damage, must be taken into account in the application of the so-called proportionality principle relating to incidental damage,
- Assures that activities undertaken for the purpose of repairing or mitigating environmental damage during an armed conflict are protected and respected.
- Promotes and makes provision for post-conflict environmental rehabilitation.

Requests the International Committee of the Red Cross and States to take this demand into consideration in consultations concerning the further development of international humanitarian law.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°12

##### SUR L'EXPLOITATION PETROLIERE OFFSHORE

La réunion mondiale des juristes de l'environnement :

Considérant le contexte actuel de développement de l'offshore profond et ultra-profond (plus de 3000 mètres).

Considérant que le prix actuel du baril de pétrole permet de tirer des bénéfices de l'exploitation de ces gisements profonds et ultra-profonds.

Considérant l'extension des plateaux continentaux autorisée par les Nations-Unies ouvrant aux États la possibilité d'engager des forages profonds plus nombreux.

Considérant que les progrès importants des techniques d'exploitation marquent le pas face à l'augmentation constante de la profondeur des forages.

Considérant que les contrats pétroliers liant les États et les sociétés d'exploitation contiennent des clauses de sécurité pour les chantiers mais qu'il n'est jamais question de la protection de l'environnement.

Considérant que l'article 204 de la Convention des Nations-Unies sur le Droit de la Mer prévoit pourtant que les États doivent surveiller les effets des activités qu'ils autorisent sur leur territoire.

Constatant que ces événements, et de façon générale les risques potentiels liés aux activités d'exploitation offshore, attirent l'attention sur les déficiences du droit international face à un développement qui ne peut qu'affecter l'intégrité des océans et des mers en tant que biens communs. Ainsi il convient qu'une résolution des Nations-Unies propose des lignes de conduite qui devraient s'imposer aux États possédant des ressources pétrolières.

Recommande :

- a) qu'en se fondant sur le principe de précaution, les Conventions Mers Régionales qui n'en sont pas encore pourvues se dotent de protocoles sur cette approche.
- b) que les États riverains doivent réaliser un rapport annuel concernant les mesures de protection de l'environnement imposées aux sociétés d'exploitation pétrolière. Ce rapport devra être remis à une agence spécialisée ou à une éventuelle future Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement.
- c) une interdiction globale des forages dans les aires marines protégées.
- d) que la responsabilité de l'État soit systématiquement engagée en cas de pollution qui serait le fait d'une négligence ou d'un manquement dans les restrictions imposées aux sociétés d'exploitation.
- e) qu'une étude d'impact soit systématiquement réalisée antérieurement à toute délivrance d'un permis d'exploitation.
- f) que soit mis en place un système d'inspection des installations pétrolières offshore par des observateurs tiers désignés par une agence spécialisée ou par l'éventuelle future Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement.
- g) que soit constitué un fond de réparation des dommages en cas de pollution alimenté à la fois par les entreprises pétrolières et par les États de la ressource.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°12

##### REGARDING A RESOLUTION ON OFFSHORE OIL DRILLING

The world meeting of environmental lawyers :

Considering the current context of deepwater and ultra-deepwater (more than 3000 meters) offshore oil development ;

Considering that the current price per barrel of oil allows such deepwater and ultra-deepwater to be cost-effective ;

Considering that the extension of the exclusive economic zone authorized by the United Nations (PLEASE CHECK, NOT SURE IF THAT'S WHAT THIS REFERS TO) opens the possibility for a greater number of deepwater wells ;

Considering that significant advances in drilling technology allow an ongoing increase in the depth of deepwater well ;

Considering that oil contracts between States and oil companies contain security questions that do not account for environmental protection ;

Considering that Article 204 of the United National Convention on the Law of the Sea nevertheless anticipates that States shall monitor the effects of activities that they allow on their territory ;

Noting that these activities, and in general the potential risks from offshore drilling, draw attention to deficiencies in international law to deal with a form of development that will undoubtedly affect the integrity of the oceans and seas, and public goods. It is therefore appropriate that a United Nations resolution propose rules of conduct that should be imposed on States with oil resources.

Recommend :

- a). Consistent with the precautionary principle, Regional Sea Conventions ( ??) should be based on the precautionary principle, to the extent that they currently are not.
- b) Coastal States shall prepare an annual report on environmental protection measures imposed on oil development companies. This report should be submitted to a specialized agency or to an eventual World Environmental Organization.
- c) A global prohibition on drilling in marine protected areas.
- d) States shall systematically impose liability in the case of pollution caused by negligence or failure to abide by restrictions imposed on oil development companies.
- e) Impacts assessments shall be required systematically prior to the issuance of all oil drilling permits.
- f) A system shall be established for inspections of offshore oil installations by third-party observers designated by a specialized agency or by an eventual World Environment Organization.
- g) A contingency fund shall be established to cover cleanup and restoration in the event of pollution, to be financed by oil companies and oil States.

RECOMMANDATION N°13

SUR L'INSTRUMENT INTERNATIONAL JURIDIQUEMENT CONTRAIGNANT SUR LE MERCURE (DIT CONVENTION DE MINAMATA) :

La réunion mondiale :

Considérant les dangers avérés du mercure dans l'environnement, notamment relevés dans l'évaluation mondiale du mercure réalisée par le Programme des Nations Unies pour l'Environnement (PNUE) ;

Affirmant que seule une action mondiale peut être engagée sur le mercure, tout en l'adaptant aux réalités locales d'usage de ce métal et de ses dérivés ;

Considérant la nécessité d'une réponse globale aux problèmes posés par le mercure, portant sur l'intégralité de son cycle de vie ;

Constatant les nombreuses injustices environnementales causées par les rejets anthropiques de mercure ;

Recommande :

De veiller à la signature dans les plus brefs délais et si possible lors de la Conférence de Rio 2012 de l'instrument international juridiquement contraignant sur le Mercure dite « convention de Minamata » ;

De poser clairement la définition et l'objectif de l'instrument international juridiquement contraignant sur le mercure, à savoir garantir la protection concomitante de la santé des individus et de la nature, en réduisant au minimum, et, dans la mesure du possible, en éliminant à terme les rejets anthropiques de mercure dans l'air, l'eau et le sol ;

De reconnaître expressément la pertinence des principes de prévention, précaution, pollueur- payeur et de responsabilités communes mais différenciées dans le traitement des problèmes liés au mercure au niveau international ;

D'apporter aux pays où le mercure est utilisé pour des activités artisanales difficilement contrôlables, un soutien technique et financier à la reconversion de cette économie, notamment par la mise en place d'un mécanisme financier, possiblement administré par le fonds mondial pour l'environnement ;

De s'assurer de l'inclusion, dans le texte même de la Convention de Minamata, d'un mécanisme de mise en conformité, étroitement lié à la fourniture effective du soutien technique et financier nécessaire aux pays en voie de développement ;

De régler, le plus en amont possible, la question de l'articulation entre l'instrument international juridiquement contraignant sur le mercure et les conventions connexes (Bâle, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Protocole « métaux lourds » de la Convention de Genève, CNUCC) ;

De réfléchir à un type de structure conventionnelle susceptible de permettre l'inclusion future d'autres métaux lourds que le mercure dans le cadre de la convention, en particulier le plomb et le cadmium ;

D'informer sans attendre les populations sur les risques du mercure et notamment sa présence dans les activités et les objets de la vie quotidienne (piles, ampoules, activité de soins, produits cosmétiques...) ;

De participer avec l'Organisation Mondiale de la Santé (OMS) à la sensibilisation des acteurs de la santé sur la présence de mercure dans les activités de soins pour supprimer son usage.

RECOMMANDATION N°13

#### THE LEGALLY BINDING GLOBAL TREATY ON MERCURY (CONVENTION OF MINAMATA)

Considering the known risks from mercury in the environment, in particular raised in the Global Mercury Assessment Report of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP);

Acknowledging that only a united global action can result in an effective response to mercury pollution, as long as it is adapted to local realities of the use of this metal and its derivatives; Considering the need for a global answer to the problems posed by mercury, and its lifecycle;

Noting that many environmental injustices are caused by anthropogenic mercury emissions:

Recommend:

The signature, as soon as possible and if possible at the time of Rio+ 20 in 2012, of the legally binding global treaty on Mercury known as "Convention of Minamata";

To request the elaboration of terms and objectives for the legally binding global treaty on Mercury, in order to guarantee the protection of health of the individuals and nature, while minimizing, and, as far as possible in the long-term, eliminating the anthropogenic mercury emissions into the air, water and soil;

To expressly recognize the relevance of the principles of prevention, precaution, polluter pays and of common but differentiated responsibilities in any response to problems caused by mercury at the international level;

To bring to technical and financial support to countries where mercury is used for local-level artisanal activities to replace mercury-based economic activities, in particular by the installation of a financial mechanism, possibly managed by Global Environment Facility (GEF);

To ensure the inclusion in the text of the Convention of Minamata of a mechanism for establishing a standardized approach to mercury regulation, closely linked with an effective supply of the technical and financial support for developing countries;

To regulate mercury, as far upstream as possible, through the harmonization of international instruments and conventions related to mercury (Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, "heavy metals" Protocol of the Geneva Convention, CNUCC);

To develop a convention structure to enable the future incorporation of other heavy metals, including, in particular lead and cadmium, into the framework of the convention;

To inform people without delay on the risks of mercury and in particular its presence in the activities and the objects of the daily life (batteries, light bulbs, health care activities, cosmetic products ...);

To take part with the World Health Organization (WHO) in the education of public health workers on the presence of mercury in healthcare tools and procedures, and to seek to eliminate the use of mercury.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°14

##### LE PROJET DE CONVENTION MONDIALE SUR LE PAYSAGE

Considérant

Que le paysage est un élément indissociable de la qualité de la vie et du droit de l'homme à l'environnement ;

Que la perception du paysage dépend des cultures et de leur diversité ;

Qu'il existe plusieurs textes juridiques au niveau international dans le domaine du paysage, mais que leur portée est limitée soit géographiquement, soit matériellement ;

Que l'UNESCO a engagé une réflexion sur l'opportunité et la faisabilité d'un nouvel instrument mondial sur le paysage ;

Que les paysages subissent des dégradations croissantes et qu'il convient de les préserver.

Recommande

La reconnaissance du paysage comme l'un des éléments fondamentaux du développement durable dans la déclaration finale de la Conférence de Rio+20.

La poursuite du processus engagé par l'UNESCO concernant l'opportunité d'élaborer un instrument mondial sur le paysage ;

A cette fin :

1. D'engager des études pluridisciplinaires sur les concepts liés aux paysages et sur les instruments existants aux niveaux mondial, régional et national
2. D'élargir le débat à tous les acteurs internationaux concernés (institutions, société civile, secteur économique ...)

La prise en compte, dans la réflexion sur cet instrument mondial, des éléments suivants :

La bonne gouvernance des paysages à travers la participation des populations et la coopération à tous les niveaux (mondial, régional, local).

La considération de tous les paysages, y compris les paysages ordinaires ou dégradés, et quel que soit l'espace (urbain, rural, naturel...).

La nature juridique de l'instrument, qui devrait permettre à la fois de fixer des principes généraux et cohérents au niveau mondial, tout en laissant aux Etats du monde la faculté de se doter d'instruments régionaux adaptés à leur diversité administrative, juridique et politique, géographique, sociale, culturelle...

#### RECOMMANDATION N°14

##### THE PROJECT OF A GLOBAL LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

Considering

That the landscape is an element which is inseparable from the quality of life and the human rights to the environment;

That the perception of landscape depends on cultures and their diversity;

That there are various international legal texts on the topic of landscape but their scope is limited either geographically or in contents;

That the UNESCO has begun a reflection on the opportunity and feasibility of a new world instrument on landscape;

Those landscapes undergo increasing degradation and should be preserved.

Recommends

The recognition in the final declaration of the Rio+20 Conference of landscape as one of the fundamental elements of sustainable development.

The continuation of the process initiated by UNESCO concerning the opportunity of developing a global instrument on landscape;

To this end:

- 1) To undertake multidisciplinary studies regarding the concepts related to landscapes and the existing instruments at international, regional and national scale.
- 2) To broaden the discussion to all relevant international actors (institutions, civil society, economic sector ...).

Taking into account the following elements while reflecting on the global instrument: The good governance of landscapes through the participation of populations and co-operation at all levels (global, regional, local).

The consideration of all landscapes, including everyday or degraded landscapes, and every kind of space (urban, rural, natural, etc.).

The legal nature of the instrument, which should allow both the establishment of general and coherent principles worldwide, while allowing States around the World the ability to develop regional instruments adapted to their administrative, legal, political, geographical, social and cultural diversity.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°15

##### POUR UNE COUR INTERNATIONALE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (CIE)

«Nous, participants à la troisième Conférence mondiale des juristes et des associations de droit de l'environnement,

Convaincus que l'appel à la création d'une CIE doit être appréhendé à la lumière du problème plus général des procédures de suivi des traités et du règlement des litiges en droit de l'environnement,

Insistant sur le fait que les accords multilatéraux environnementaux (AEM) ne prévoient que rarement des règles obligatoires de règlement des différends,

Reconnaissant qu'en conséquence, la contribution des tribunaux internationaux et nationaux au développement du droit international de l'environnement est entravée par leur incapacité juridictionnelle à générer des décisions sur la base des AEM,

Prenant note de la Résolution du Parlement européen visant à développer une position commune de l'UE avant la Conférence des Nations Unies sur le Développement Durable (29.IX.2011), Rappelant que l'idée d'une CIE doit être maintenue en vie malgré la difficulté de la considérer comme une priorité absolue dans l'agenda international,

Avons approuvé les recommandations suivantes concernant la création d'une CIE: 1. Il est important que le Statut de la CIE soit adopté en prévoyant que les différends concernant l'interprétation et l'application des AME puissent être soumis unilatéralement par l'État qui considère que ses droits ont été violés.

2. Les nouveaux AME et protocoles conclus à l'avenir devraient toujours inclure un règlement des différends obligatoire et des mécanismes efficaces du contrôle du respect des conventions.

3. Une large compétence devrait être accordée à la CIE ; des mécanismes pour éviter une concurrence de juridiction doivent être prévus.

4. Le statut de la CIE serait un instrument utile si les États étaient d'accord pour modifier tous les AME existants afin que les différends concernant leur interprétation et leur application puissent y être soumis par la requête d'une partie. Cela impliquerait que:

(i) les AME soient soumis à une juridiction obligatoire alors qu'actuellement ils ne peuvent être soumis à un juge ou un arbitre que par un accord spécial ou lorsque la «clause facultative» de l'article 36 (2) du Statut de la CIJ (ou des accords régionaux ayant des effets similaires) est applicable;

(ii) l'on aboutirait à une interprétation uniforme des différents accords.

5. Les États pourraient également attribuer à la CIE

(i) une compétence de juridiction pour des questions préjudicielles sur des questions d'interprétation ou d'application des AEM relevant des tribunaux nationaux ou internationaux;

(ii) une compétence consultative sur les questions de droit de l'environnement soulevées par les organisations non gouvernementales et les organisations internationales.

6. Même si il n'existe actuellement pas de réelle possibilité d'intégrer un projet de création d'une CIE au niveau universel, un certain nombre raisonnable d'États pourrait déjà donner à la CIE compétence pour adopter des décisions à titre préjudiciel sur les questions environnementales à la demande des tribunaux nationaux et commencer à préparer des amendements appropriés à la législation nationale. Un tel projet semble complexe mais pas impossible.

7. L'utilisation de l'arbitrage concernant les questions environnementales (qui peut recourir à des arbitres spécialisés en droit de l'environnement) devrait être considéré comme une alternative aux procédures judiciaires.

8. La CIE pourrait être un complément nécessaire à la proposition de convention mondiale sur l'environnement.

#### RESOLUTION N°15

##### FOR AN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COURT (IEC)

"We, attendees to the Third worldwide conference of environmental law NGOs and Lawyers, Convinced that the call for the establishment of an IEC should be considered in light of the more general problem of environmental law non-compliance and disputes,

Emphasizing on the fact that multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) only rarely provide for compulsory dispute settlement rules,



Recognizing that, as a consequence, the contribution of both international and national courts to the development of international environmental law is hindered by their jurisdictional incapacity to generate MEA-based decisions,

Taking note of the European Parliament's Resolution developing a common EU position ahead of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (29.IX.2011),

Recalling that the idea of an IEC should be kept alive in spite the difficulty of considering it as a top-priority in the international agenda,

Approved the following recommendations regarding the creation of an IEC:

1. It is important the IEC Statute be adopted providing that disputes concerning the interpretation and application of MEAs could be submitted unilaterally by the State that considers its rights as being violated.
2. New MEAs and Protocols concluded in the future should always include compulsory dispute settlement and efficient compliance mechanisms
3. A broad jurisdiction should be granted to the IEC ; mechanisms for avoiding concurrent jurisdiction must be provided.
4. The ICE statute would be an useful instrument if States were to agree to amend all existing MEAs so that disputes concerning their interpretation and application could be submitted to it at the request of one party. This would entail that:
  - (i) MEAs would be submitted to compulsory jurisdiction while now they can be submitted to a judge or arbitrator only by a special agreement or when the "optional clause" of art.36(2) of the ICJ Statute (or regional agreements of similar effect) are applicable;
  - (ii) uniform interpretation of different agreements would be obtained.
5. States could also attribute to the IEC
  - (i) jurisdiction for preliminary rulings on questions of interpretation or application of MEAs arising before domestic or international courts;
  - (ii) consultative jurisdiction on questions of environmental law raised by non- governmental and international organizations.
6. Even if there is currently no real opportunity to mainstream any project of creating an IEC on the international level, a reasonable number of States could give to the IEC the competence to adopt preliminary rulings on environmental questions at the request of domestic courts and start preparing appropriate amendments to domestic law. Such a project would be complex but not impossible.
7. The use of arbitration concerning environmental matters (which can use arbitrators specialized in environmental law) should be considered as an alternative to judiciary procedures.
8. The IEC would be a necessary complement to the proposed global convention on the environment.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°16

#### ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT (OME)

##### La réunion mondiale

- Considérant que la protection de l'environnement exige une institution à la hauteur des enjeux relatifs aux luttes contre les pollutions et pour la conservation de la nature,
- Considérant que la gouvernance environnementale mondiale est, pour une large part, fragmentée, inefficace, incohérente, et dotée de moyens souvent dérisoires,
- Considérant que le PNUE, même si le travail qu'il a accompli a été considérable, est doté d'une structure qui n'est pas assez démocratique, d'un mandat qui n'est pas assez large, de pouvoirs et de moyens beaucoup trop faibles,
- Considérant que, comme le commerce international qui a son institution, il est vital que le domaine de l'environnement ait un tel moyen institutionnel décisif,
- Considérant que l'idée et le projet d'une OME ont commencé depuis la Conférence de Rio de juin 1992 et se sont poursuivis à travers de multiples réunions, en particulier au niveau international,
- Considérant que le Conseil d'Administration du PNUE, réuni du 21 au 24 février 2011 en Forum ministériel mondial sur l'environnement rassemblant 144 ministres, a transmis formellement au Comité préparatoire de la Conférence de Rio de juin 1992 les recommandations ministérielles sur le renforcement de la gouvernance de l'environnement qui identifie notamment « la création d'une OME comme une option privilégiée ».

##### Recommande

- (a) de créer une Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement (OME), son siège sera à Nairobi
- (b) d'établir des structures démocratiques fondées sur une vocation universelle, une plus grande équité dans le fonctionnement entre Etats du Nord et Etats du Sud, des organes classiques d'une institution spécialisée des Nations Unies, des ONG ayant des pouvoirs consultatifs particulièrement participatifs, un appui à la mise en œuvre internationale des instruments de participation environnementale des citoyens.
- (c) d'amplifier la démocratie environnementale de l'OME, par exemple après cinq années de fonctionnement, et cela par deux moyens.. Une représentation symbolique, avec voix consultative, des générations passées et futures serait organisée au sein de l'OME. L'Assemblée générale et le Conseil exécutif verraient six collèges s'ajouter à celui des Etats : ONG et syndicats, entreprises, organisations internationales et régionales, communautés locales et peuples autochtones, collectivités territoriales, experts. Leur représentativité, leur élection, leur poids dans la votation et les processus de décision seraient déterminés pendant la cinquième année de fonctionnement de l'OME.
- (d) de fixer les objectifs de l'OME. L'OME a pour objectif la protection de la nature et les luttes contre les pollutions, dans le respect de la démocratie environnementale. Elle assure cette responsabilité dans l'intérêt des générations présentes et futures, sans oublier le respect dû aux générations passées, elle le fait dans l'intérêt de l'ensemble du vivant.
- (e) de déterminer les fonctions correspondant à ces objectifs. Ces fonctions, dans un ensemble opérationnel et global, seraient au nombre de 16 :
  1. déterminer les orientations stratégiques mondiales de l'environnement,
  2. renforcer la cohérence et l'efficacité des accords multilatéraux sur l'environnement,

3. gérer un certain nombre de secrétariats de conventions et participer sous différentes formes aux renforcements de l'ensemble des moyens de tous les secrétariats,
4. renforcer l'expertise scientifique, l'alerte précoce et l'information,
5. contribuer à la promotion massive de l'éducation à l'environnement dans tous les systèmes d'enseignement du monde,
6. renforcer la gouvernance au niveau régional,
7. conduire des évaluations rigoureuses et complètes des instruments juridiques classiques et des instruments économiques de marché afin de mettre en lumière les avantages et les inconvénients respectifs des uns et des autres et d'éclairer les raisons de leur faible efficacité. Aucune priorité de principe ne doit être accordée à l'une ou l'autre catégorie d'instrument, étant entendu que leur fonctionnement doit supporter, compte tenu du principe d'information, la plus grande transparence démocratique sans que puissent être invoqués les secrets protégés industriel, commercial, financier et des affaires, compte tenu de la prééminence du droit de l'Homme à l'environnement,
8. contribuer à répondre aux besoins spécifiques des pays en développement,
9. initier la création d'une Organisation Mondiale d'Assistance Ecologique (OMAE) et agir étroitement avec elle,
10. initier la création d'une Organisation Mondiale pour les Déplacés Environnementaux (OMDE) et agir étroitement avec elle,
11. initier l'élaboration de nouvelles conventions universelles de protection de l'environnement,
12. mettre en œuvre un mécanisme d'aide relatif à l'application des conventions,
13. contribuer à organiser une écofiscalité globale mondiale,
14. mettre en place un mécanisme de règlement des conflits environnementaux,
15. représenter la nature comme patrimoine des générations présentes et futures, et être garante de ses besoins,
16. mettre en place un mécanisme de sanction fondé, en particulier, sur la remise en état. Certaines fonctions, considérées par certains Etats comme trop radicales, en particulier les trois dernières, seraient mise en œuvre au bout de cinq ans de fonctionnement de l'OME.

(f) de donner à l'OME des moyens à la hauteur de ses objectifs et de ses fonctions, moyens financiers, moyens juridiques, personnels particulièrement nombreux, sièges régionaux renforcés et siège de l'OME à Nairobi.

(g) de planifier, dans le temps les moyens et les conséquences, la transformation juridique du PNUE en OME laquelle deviendrait une institution spécialisée des Nations Unies.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°16

##### WORLD ENVIRONMENT ORGANIZATION (WEO)

The world meeting (of environmental lawyers in Limoges)

- Considering that environmental protection calls for an institution up to the tasks related to confronting pollution and conserving nature,
- Considering that global environmental governance is largely fragmented, inefficient, inconsistent and vastly underfunded,
- Considering that UNEP, despite its considerable accomplishments, has a structure that is insufficiently democratic, a mandate that is too limited, and powers and resources that are too weak,
- Considering that, just as international trade has its own institution, it is essential that the environment have a comparable institution,
- Considering that the idea and plans for a WEO originated at the Rio Conference of June 1992 and have been pursued at numerous meetings, in particular at the international level,
- Considering that the Governing Council of UNEP, meeting from 21-24 February 2011 at the Global Ministerial Environment Forum that brought together 144 ministers, formally transmitted to the preparatory committee for the Rio Conference of June 1992 (SHOULD THIS BE 2012 ?) ministerial recommendations on the strengthening of environmental governance that included « creation of a WEO as a favored option ». (NOTE : THIS SHOULD BE CHECKED AGAINST THE ORIGINAL DOCUMENT IN ENGLISH)

##### Recommends

- (a) the creation of a World Environment Organization (WEO), headquartered in Nairobi
- (b) establishment of democratic structures based on UNE VOCATION UNIVERSELLE (NOTE : I DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS), greater equity between States of the North and States of the South, and constituent bodies typical of specialized institution of the United Nations, with NGOs given a strong consultative and participatory role, and support for international implementation of instruments on environmental participation of citizens.
- (c) an increase in the environmental democracy of the WEO, for example five years after the WEO is created, by two principle means. A symbolic representation, with a consultative role, of past and future generations will be established within the WEO. The General Assembly and Executive Council would recognize six groups in addition to States : NGOs and unions, private enterprises, international and regional organizations, local communities and indigenous peoples, local authorities and experts. Their representation, election and weight of authority in voting and other decisionmaking processes would be determined in the WEO's fifth year.
- (d) Establish the goals of the WEO. The goal of the WEO is to protect nature and combat pollution, while respecting environmental democracy. It undertakes this responsibility in the interest of present and future generations, with respect for past generations, and in the interest of all life.
- (e) The determination of the functions related to these goals. 16 functions are proposed :
  1. determine global environmental strategy,
  2. strengthen the consistency and efficiency of multilateral environmental agreements,

3. manage several secretariats of conventions and participate in various ways to strengthening them,
  4. strengthen scientific expertise, early warning systems and information,
  5. contribute to a vast promotion of environmental education in educational systems throughout the world,
  6. strengthen regional governance,
  7. conduct rigorous and thorough assessments of traditional (command-and- control) legal and market-based mechanisms (RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT) in order to shed light on their advantages and disadvantages and to clarify their weaknesses and inefficiencies. No preference should given to either type of mechanism, given that they should support, consistent with rights to information, as much transparency as possible, without overreliance on protected industrial, trade, financial and business secrets, given the preeminence of the human right to the environment,
  8. help respond to the specific needs of developing countries,
  9. initiate the creation of, and work closely with, a World Organization of Ecological Assistance,
  10. initiate the creation of, and work closely with, as World Organization for Environmental Refugees,
  11. initiate the development of new global conventions on environmental protection,
  12. implement means to support the implementation and enforcement of environmental conventions,
  13. help put in place comprehensive global system of eco-taxes,
  14. establish a mechanism for resolution of environmental conflicts,
  15. represent nature as a heritage of present and future generations, and ensure that its needs are met,
  16. put in place a sanctions mechanisms based especially on restoration. Some functions, which some States might find too radical, especially the last three, should be implemented five years after creation of the WEO.
- (f) Give the WEO sufficient resources for fulfillment of its goals and functions, including financial resources, legal tools, adequate staff, strengthened regional offices, and a headquarters in Nairobi.
- (g) Plan for the transformation of UNEP into a WEO, which would be a specialized institution of the United Nations.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°17

#### LA TRANSFORMATION DU CONSEIL ÉCONOMIQUE ET SOCIALE DES NATIONS- UNIES EN CONSEIL ÉCONOMIQUE, SOCIAL ET ENVIRONNMENTAL

Considérant que le chapitre 38 d'Action 21 recommande la mise en place de mécanismes institutionnels adaptés à une gestion internationale efficace de l'environnement ; Considérant que le chapitre XI du plan d'application de Johannesburg recommande le renforcement du cadre institutionnel du développement durable à l'échelon international; Considérant que le chapitre 27 d'Action 21 recommande le renforcement du rôle des organisations non gouvernementales (ONG) en tant que partenaires du développement durable ; Considérant la nécessité d'améliorer la représentation des ONG dans le système institutionnel international de l'environnement et d'assurer leur participation aux processus décisionnels en la matière ;

Notant que la gouvernance internationale souffre d'un déficit démocratique certain, et que la communauté internationale montre des signes encourageants d'acceptation d'une participation active de la société civile, particulièrement des ONG., dans la recherche de solutions aux problèmes d'environnement ;

Recommande :

- (a) D'entreprendre une réforme institutionnelle de la protection de l'environnement dans le système des Nations Unies, à travers la fusion de la Commission du développement durable (CDD) et du Conseil économique et social (CES) en un Conseil économique social et environnemental (CESE) renforcé et doté explicitement par la Charte d'une compétence en matière d'environnement et de développement durable ;
- (b) D'attribuer au nouveau Conseil le rôle de superviseur des Conventions environnementales et de coordination des compétences environnementales des divers organes du système des Nations Unies ;
- (c) De créer un Forum permanent pour le développement durable, organe subsidiaire du Conseil, chargé d'assurer un suivi et une expertise technique dans les trois domaines concernés par le développement durable ;
- (d) D'assurer au sein de ce Forum une représentation des Etats et de la société civile (ONG sociales et environnementales, industriels, scientifiques), afin d'impliquer au même titre tous les acteurs concernés par la question du développement durable en fonction de leurs compétences, et afin d'assurer une meilleure représentation de la société civile au sein de la gouvernance internationale de l'environnement;
- (e) De garantir l'indépendance des représentants de la société civile par un processus de nomination interne aux membres des secteurs concernés, sans que l'avis ni des Etats intéressés ni du Conseil ne soit nécessaires ;
- (f) Que la société civile ait accès, par l'intermédiaire des membres du Forum représentant les ONG, à l'information en matière d'environnement
- (g) Que ce droit soit garanti par la création d'une obligation pour les organes de l'ONU et les Etats de communiquer toutes les informations nécessaires au Forum, dont les membres pourront participer à toutes les sessions au sein de l'ONU intéressant le développement durable.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°17

#### LA TRANSFORMATION DU CONSEIL ÉCONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL DES NATIONS- UNIES EN CONSEIL ÉCONOMIQUE, SOCIAL ET ENVIRONNMENTAL

Considering that Chapter 38 of Agenda 21 recommends the implementation of institutional mechanisms which are adapted to the effective international management of the environment;

Considering that Chapter XI of the Johannesburg Plan of implementation recommends the strengthening of the institutional framework for sustainable development at

international level;

Considering that Chapter 27 of Agenda 21 recommends the strengthening of the role of Non governmental organizations (NGOs) as partners for sustainable development;

Considering the necessity to improve the representation of NGOs in the international institutional system of environment and to ensure their participation in decision making in this area;

Noting that international governance suffers from a certain democratic deficit, and that the international community shows encouraging signs of acceptance for an active participation of the civil society, especially NGOs, in finding solutions to environmental matters;

Recommends:

(a) To undertake an institutional reform of the environmental protection in the UN system, by merging the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in an Economic Social and environmental Council (ECOSOEC), reinforced by the Charter explicitly with a competence in environmental matters and sustainable development;

(b) To give the new Council the role of supervisor of Environmental Conventions, and coordinator of environmental competences of the various organs of the UN system;

(c) To establish a Permanent Forum on sustainable development, as a subsidiary body of ECOSOEC, responsible for monitoring and technical expertise in the three areas of sustainable development;

(d) To provide in this Forum an equal representation of the states and the civil society ( social and environmental NGOs, industry and scientists), to engage in the same way all the actors involved in the issue of sustainable development according to their skills, and to ensure better representation of civil society in international governance of the environment;

(e) To ensure the independence of the representatives of civil society by an internal appointment process for members of the sectors concerned, without notice of the states or the council required.

(f) That civil society could access, through the Forum members representing NGOs, to information about international negotiations on the environmental ;

(g) To guarantee this right by creating an obligation for the UN bodies and the States to provide all the necessary information to the Forum, whose members will serve for all UN sessions interesting sustainable development;

#### RECOMMANDATIONS N°18

##### LA PLACE DE LA SOCIETE CIVILE ET DES ONG EN DROIT INTERNATIONAL DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

(1) La conférence de Rio + 20 devrait décider d'engager un processus de négociation pour l'adoption d'une convention globale sur le principe n° 10 de la Déclaration de Rio, dans le but qu'un texte puisse être proposé à l'adoption en 2017. Le processus de négociation doit lui-même être transparent et participatif.

(2) La conférence de Rio + 20 devrait (a) encourager le développement de traités régionaux basé sur le principe n° 10 de la Déclaration de Rio en s'inspirant de la Convention d'Aarhus, et (b) encourager les Etats intéressés à accéder à la Convention d'Aarhus et à son Protocole PRTR, étant donné que ces deux instruments sont ouverts à tous les Etats membres des Nations-Unies.

(3) La conférence de Rio + 20 devrait exiger du PNUJ qu'il apporte une assistance aux Etats pour leur permettre de mieux mettre en œuvre les lignes directrices de Bali sur le principe 10, et inviter les gouvernements et les institutions donateurs à apporter une aide financière à cet effet.

(4) Tous les nouveaux instruments ou processus établis par la Conférence Rio + 20 devrait être « mis à l'épreuve du Principe 10 », c'est-à-dire qu'ils doivent intégrer des dispositions et/ou des exigences visant à promouvoir un accès effectif à l'information, à la participation du public et à la justice dans leurs domaines respectifs.

(5) Au sein de ses conclusions sur le cadre institutionnel du développement durable, la Conférence Rio + 20 devrait inviter les organes gouvernementaux des Parties aux traités internationaux relatifs à l'environnement, y compris les Parties aux traités multilatéraux sur l'environnement, à s'assurer que les résultats substantiels de ces instruments promeuvent un accès effectif à l'information, à la participation du public et à l'accès à la justice.

(6) La Conférence Rio + 20 devrait adopter une série de lignes directrices garantissant des standards minimum sur la participation de la société civile dans les processus de décision internationaux.

#### RECOMMENDATION N°18

##### THE PLACE OF CIVIL SOCIETY AND NGOs IN INTERNATIONAL LAW ON THE ENVIRONMENT

(1) The Rio+20 Conference should take a decision to start negotiating a global treaty on Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, in order to have a text ready for adoption in 2017. The negotiation process itself should be transparent and participatory.

(2) The Rio+20 Conference should (a) encourage the development of regional treaties on Principle 10 along the lines of the Aarhus Convention, and (b) encourage interested States to accede to the Aarhus Convention and its Protocol on PRTR, both of which are open to accession by any UN Member State.

(3) The Rio+20 Conference should request UNEP to provide assistance to countries to enable them to better implement the Bali Guidelines on Principle 10, and invite donor governments and institutions to provide financial assistance for this purpose.

(4) Any new instruments or processes established pursuant to the Rio+20 Conference should be 'Principle 10-proofed', i.e. they should contain provisions and/or requirements promoting effective access to information, public participation and access to justice in relation to their subject matter.

(5) In its conclusions on the institutional framework for sustainable development, the Rio+20 Conference should invite the governing bodies of and Parties to international treaties relating to the environment, including but not limited to multilateral environmental agreements, to ensure that the substantive outcomes under such instruments promote effective access to information, public participation and access to justice.

(6) The Rio+20 Conference should adopt a set of guidelines guaranteeing minimum standards for civil society participation in international decision-making processes.

#### RECOMMENDATION N°19

##### RENFORCEMENT DU DROIT FORESTIER AU NIVEAU NATIONAL, REGIONAL ET INTERNATIONAL

La Réunion:

Consciente que les forêts, dans la richesse de leur diversité, matérialisent des processus écologiques indispensables à l'entretien de toutes les formes de vie;

Alarmée par la poursuite, à un rythme élevé, de la régression et de la dégradation de la couverture forestière mondiale, en dépit de l'expansion notable des reboisements;

Convaincue que la capacité des forêts de satisfaire les besoins globaux de l'humanité ne peut être maintenue à long terme que par une gestion durable et équitable de leurs ressources, dans l'intérêt des générations présentes et futures, des points de vue écologique, économique, social, culturel et spirituel;

Se félicitant des avancées significatives du droit forestier au niveau national, réalisées à travers de multiples réformes législatives conduites par de nombreux Etats, et convaincue de la nécessité de poursuivre ces efforts afin d'adapter, de perfectionner, de compléter, d'actualiser et d'appliquer les dispositifs juridiques nationaux relatifs aux forêts dans tous les pays;

Appréciant l'importance, dans ce contexte, de la Déclaration de principes, non juridiquement contraignante mais faisant autorité, pour un consensus mondial sur la gestion, la conservation et l'exploitation écologiquement viable de tous les types de forêts, adoptée en 1992 par la Conférence des Nations Unies sur l'environnement et le développement;

Saluant les résultats obtenus au sein du Forum des Nations Unies sur les forêts et dans le cadre de l'Arrangement international sur les forêts, ayant débouché sur l'adoption en 2007 de l'Instrument juridiquement non contraignant concernant tous les types de forêts par l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies;

Notant la tendance croissante de la part des pays consommateurs à imposer des restrictions directes ou indirectes à l'importation de produits forestiers pour assurer la légalité des abattages et la gestion durable des forêts;

Considérant qu'il n'existe pas encore de convention mondiale, de portée générale, applicable à l'ensemble des forêts que compte la planète et constatant la divergence de vues persistante sur l'opportunité d'élaborer une telle convention, aussi bien entre les Etats que parmi les acteurs non gouvernementaux;

Convaincue qu'une convention forestière mondiale créerait un cadre juridique idoine pour une bonne gouvernance et une coopération accrue en matière de protection et de mise en valeur des forêts, et qu'elle permettrait de renforcer la synergie avec les conventions existantes relatives à des domaines connexes, au service du développement durable, de la lutte contre la pauvreté, la préservation de la biodiversité et l'atténuation des changements climatiques;

Recommande:

a) la poursuite du dialogue, dans un esprit constructif, en vue de rapprocher les positions et de dégager un consensus permettant d'initier, dans les meilleurs délais, la négociation d'une convention forestière qui: (i) aurait une portée mondiale; (ii) s'appliquerait à toutes les catégories de forêts et à tous les produits et services qui en dérivent, dans le respect des diversités éco- régionales; (iii) traiterait des dimensions environnementale, économique, sociale, culturelle, sacrée et spirituelle de la conservation et de l'utilisation des écosystèmes forestiers; (iv) se baserait sur les principes de légalité, de durabilité, d'équité, de solidarité, d'éthique et de transparence, en tenant compte du pluralisme juridique; (v) mettrait en œuvre des mécanismes financiers viables et permettrait d'accroître l'aide publique au développement destinée à la gestion durable des forêts;

b) la promotion des initiatives nationales, bilatérales, régionales et mondiales tendant à adopter et parfaire les instruments politiques et juridiques de protection et de mise en valeur des forêts, en particulier: (i) les outils de planification et de programmation forestière; (ii) les critères et indicateurs de l'aménagement durable des forêts; (iii) les programmes de certification forestière; (iv) les directives volontaires concernant des aspects spécifiques de la gestion et l'utilisation des forêts; (v) les accords bilatéraux et les conventions régionales visant à renforcer la coopération en matière de gestion et de protection forêts, y compris sur les questions de gouvernance, de légalité et de commerce dans le secteur forestier;

c) la généralisation et l'approfondissement des réformes visant à améliorer, actualiser et compléter les législations forestières nationales afin qu'elles assurent notamment:

(i) la valorisation des fonctions environnementales, sociales, économiques, culturelles et spirituelles des forêts;

(ii) la planification de l'aménagement forestier et l'encadrement de l'exploitation forestière dans le respect de la durabilité et de la légalité;

(iii) la lutte contre les défrichements et les abattages illicites, la transparence du commerce du bois et la traçabilité des produits forestiers;

(iv) la réduction de la perte de la biodiversité forestière; (v) la certification des produits forestiers;

(vi) une gestion plus équitable, participative et décentralisée des forêts, impliquant tous les acteurs concernés, publics et privés, respectueuse des intérêts des populations usagères et autochtones, des collectivités locales et de la communauté nationale;

d) un meilleur encadrement juridique du rôle des forêts dans l'atténuation des incidences négatives des changements climatiques, notamment au regard:

(i) des droits de propriété liés au stockage, à la fixation et à la vente du carbone;

(ii) des initiatives REDD+, en tenant dûment compte des intérêts des communautés locales et des populations riveraines des forêts;

e) la mobilisation des financements, la formation des capacités, le développement de la recherche et le transfert des technologies nécessaires à la mise en œuvre des mesures énoncées aux paragraphes précédents.

RECOMMANDATION N°19

STRENGTHENING OF FORESTRY LAW AT THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The Meeting:

Aware that forests, in the richness of their diversity, support ecological processes which are indispensable for maintaining all forms of life;

Alarmed at the continued high rate of loss and degradation of the world's forests, despite the notable expansion of reforestation;

Convinced that the capacity of forests to satisfy the global needs of humanity cannot be maintained in the long term except by the sustainable and equitable management, in the interest of present and future generations, from the ecological, economic, social, cultural and spiritual points of view;

Welcoming the significant progress of forestry law achieved at the national level through the many legislative reforms undertaken by numerous States, and convinced of the

necessity to pursue such efforts to adapt, improve, complement, update and enforce the national legal frameworks relating to forests in all countries;

Appreciating the importance, from this perspective, of the Non-Legally Binding Authoritative Statement of Principles for a Global Consensus on the Management, Conservation and Sustainable Development of all Types of Forests, adopted in 1992 by the Nations United Conference on Environment and Development;

Welcoming the results achieved in the framework of the United Nations Forum on Forests and under the International Arrangement on Forest, which led to the adoption in 2007 of the Non- legally Binding Instrument on all Types of Forests by the General Assembly of the United Nations;

Noting the rising trend for consumer countries to impose direct or indirect restrictions on the import of forest products to ensure legal logging and sustainable management of forests; Bearing in mind that there is still no global convention, of general scope, applicable to all the forests which the planet relies on, and noting the persistent divergences in opinion on the desirability to develop such a convention, both between States and amongst non-government actors;

Convinced that a global forestry convention would provide a sound legal basis for good governance and increased cooperation for the conservation and development of forests, and also enhance synergies among existing conventions dealing with related areas, in order to foster sustainable development, the fight against poverty, the preservation of biodiversity and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions;

Recommends:

a) a dialogue should be initiated, in a constructive spirit, to bring positions closer together so as to reach a consensus allowing negotiations to start as soon as possible on a forestry convention which would: (i) have a worldwide scope; (ii) be applicable to all categories of forests and all forest products and services derived therefrom, respecting eco-regional diversities; (iii) cover the environmental, economic, social, cultural, sacred and spiritual dimensions of the conservation and utilisation of forest ecosystems; (iv) be grounded on principles of legality, sustainability, equity, solidarity, ethics and transparency, taking into account legal pluralism; (v) provide for viable financial mechanisms and help to raise official development aid for sustainable forest management;

b) the promotion of national, bilateral, regional and global initiatives aiming at the adoption and improvement of policy and legal instruments for the conservation and development of forests, especially: (i) forestry planning and programming tools; (ii) criteria and indicators for sustainable forest management; (iii) forest certification programmes; (iv) voluntary guidelines on specific aspects of forest management and use; (v) bilateral agreements and regional conventions intended to strengthen cooperation on forest conservation and development, including governance, legality and trade issues in the forestry sector;

c) the dissemination and deepening of reforms to improve, update and complement national forestry legislation in order to promote, inter alia: (i) environmental, social, economic, cultural and spiritual values of forests; (ii) forest planning and management and regulation of forest use, in compliance with sustainability and legality; (iii) the fight against illegal clearing and logging, transparency of trade in timber and traceability of forest products; (iv) reduction of forest biodiversity loss; (v) certification of forest products; (vi) more equitable, participatory and decentralized management of forests, involving all concerned actors, public and private, respecting the interests users, indigenous peoples, local entities and the national community;

d) a better legal regime for encouraging the role play of forests in reducing the negative impacts of climate change, notably in respect of: (i) tenure rights related to forest carbon stocks, sinks and credits; (ii) the REDD+ initiatives, taking due account of the interests of local communities and those living in the vicinity of forests;

e) the raising of funds, building of capacities, development of research, and transfer of technologies necessary to implement the measures mentioned in the preceding paragraphs.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°20

##### LES AIRES MARINES PROTEGEES EN HAUTE MER

1) Les États devraient lancer des négociations pour un accord de mise en œuvre de la Convention des Nations Unies sur le droit de la mer qui énoncerait sous la forme d'un «paquet» commun un régime mondial sur la conservation et l'utilisation durable de la biodiversité marine dans les zones situées hors des juridictions nationales;

2) Le contenu de base de ce futur accord de mise en œuvre comprendrait :

- l'établissement d'un réseau des aires marines protégées en haute mer,
- une procédure d'évaluation de l'impact environnemental dont le contenu et l'effectivité garantissent un haut niveau de protection,
- un régime pour les ressources génétiques marines, comprenant l'accès et le partage des bénéfices,
- des dispositions sur le renforcement des capacités et le transfert de technologie.

3) En ce qui concerne les aires marines protégées, la priorité devrait être accordée à un certain nombre d'éléments, parmi lesquels inter alia:

- l'établissement d'une liste des aires marines protégées en haute mer d'importance mondiale;
- la définition de critères communs pour déterminer les aires marines protégées en haute mer (importance pour la conservation de la diversité biologique, des écosystèmes ou habitats d'espèces menacées ; intérêt particulier pour la science, l'esthétique, la culture ou l'éducation; etc.);
- une procédure pour l'inscription des aires marines protégées en haute mer sur une liste basée sur une décision des parties à l'Accord de mise en œuvre;
- l'adoption au cas par cas d'un ensemble de mesures de protection et de conservation, contraignantes pour toutes les parties à l'Accord de mise en œuvre;
- l'obligation pour les parties d'adopter des mesures appropriées, compatibles avec le droit international, afin de s'assurer que nul ne s'engage dans une activité contraire aux principes et aux objectifs de protection et aux mesures de conservation adoptées pour chacune des aires marines protégées en haute mer d'importance mondial.
- Les dispositions sur les arrangements institutionnels et les mécanismes financiers nécessaires à l'application de l'Accord.
- Des mesures concernant les aires marines protégées en haute mer relevant pour partie d'une juridiction nationale.

#### RECOMMENDATION N° 20

##### MARINE PROTECTED ZONES ON THE HIGH SEAS

1) States should start the negotiations for an Implementation Agreement of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea that would set forth a commonly agreed "package" on a global regime for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction;

2) The basic components of the future Implementation Agreement should be:

- the establishment of a network of high seas marine protected areas,
- a procedure for environmental impact assessment of high level dont le contenu et l'effectivité garantissent un haut niveau de protection,
- a regime for marine genetic resources, including access and benefit sharing,
- provisions on capacity building and transfer of technology;

3) As regards marine protected areas, consideration should be given to a number of elements, such as, inter alia:

- the provision of a List of high seas marine protected areas of world importance;
- the definition of common criteria for the choice of high seas marine protected areas (importance for the conservation of biological diversity, ecosystems or habitats of endangered species; special interest at the scientific, aesthetic, cultural or educational level; etc.).
- a procedure for the inscription of high seas marine protected areas on the List based on a decision taken by the parties to the Implementation Agreement;
- the adoption on a case by case basis of a set of protection and conservation measures, which are binding on all the parties to the Implementation Agreement;
- the obligation of the parties to adopt appropriate measures, consistent with international law, to ensure that no one engages in any form of activity contrary to the principles and purposes of the protection and conservation measures adopted for each high seas marine protected areas of world importance.
- the provisions of institutional arrangements and financial mechanisms necessary for the implementation of the Agreement.
- the provision of measures regarding marine protected zones on the high seas which are partly within national jurisdiction.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°21

#### LA GESTION INTEGREE DES ZONES CÔTIÈRES

Préambule :

Considérant que, nonobstant la participation, les autorités publiques sont les premières responsables des conditions de mise en œuvre de la GIZC

Considérant l'état écologique des mers dont 80% des pollutions sont d'origine tellurique

Considérant la dérive de véritables îlots de déchets sur tous les océans (notamment Pacifique et Atlantique) dont l'origine terrestre est établie

Considérant les enjeux que représente la biodiversité côtière et marine

Considérant les risques technologiques auxquels sont soumises les zones côtières et marines, notamment par les pollutions d'origine terrestre et d'origine marine

Considérant les risques naturels, caractéristiques de ces zones, notamment les risques d'évolution du trait de côte et de submersion

Considérant les enjeux que représentent les zones côtières et marines pour l'humanité, en termes :

- De ressources halieutiques
- De transport (personnes et/ou biens)
- D'activités portuaires,
- De tourisme,
- De production énergétique
- D'urbanisation
- D'activités économiques diverses liées à la mer

Considérant aussi qu'il est nécessaire de prendre en considération :

- L'impact du changement climatique caractéristique sur l'interface terre/mer
- L'impact croissant des activités humaines sur les zones littorales terrestres et maritimes
- La croissance exponentielle de l'humanité, notamment son implantation dans les zones côtières

Recommande que les chefs d'Etat et de gouvernement s'engagent:

I - A mettre en œuvre, en préalable:

- une gestion intégrée des zones côtières, fondée sur la réalisation de leur développement durable,
- une application des droits en vigueur (environnement, urbanisme, aménagement, mer etc..)
- des politiques publiques redéfinies, développées sur le principe d'une démarche intégrée et participative
- une approche prioritaire fondée sur les écosystèmes côtiers et marins,
- une approche transnationale/régionale, fondée sur les bassins fluviaux côtiers et maritimes
- des orientations précises: protection de la biodiversité, maîtrise de l'urbanisation en zone littorale (avec des zones d'interdiction de construire en zone littorale), zones de

protections renforcées, une économie littorale et marine au service des finalités environnementales et sociales

- le développement d'une culture de la GIZC auprès de tous les acteurs, notamment les populations locales

## II - A définir des objectifs pour la GIZC

Les politiques publiques en matière de GIZC doivent reposer sur :

### A - La connaissance

Compte tenu des enjeux et de la complexité des écosystèmes côtiers et marins, seront développées les connaissances sur les écosystèmes côtiers dans un cadre transnational.

En se référant à la création en 2009 du Centre Mondial de Surveillance pour la Conservation de la Nature ([www.wdpa-marine.org](http://www.wdpa-marine.org)) : seront créés d'ici 5 ans des observatoires régionaux

### B - Un ensemble d'objectifs

Dans un cadre régional et/ou interétatique pertinent, des objectifs prioritaires seront définis

Compte tenu des liens terre/mer, et de la nécessaire transversalité des problématiques, mais aussi du rôle de ces écosystèmes et de leur dégradation caractérisée, des objectifs qualitatifs prioritaires concerneront :

1. Les récifs coralliens
2. Les estuaires
3. Les mangroves

Ces objectifs conduiront à :

- a. restaurer les milieux dégradés
- b. préserver les milieux de qualité

### C - Une coordination

La gestion intégrée des zones côtières exige de mettre en œuvre une coordination :

4. des stratégies : d'une part la stratégie GIZC au niveau géographique et d'autre part les dispositions de protection existantes, entre autres la Convention de Montego Bay, la Convention de Ramsar, la Convention sur diversité biologique, la Convention sur la gestion des déchets, les nombreuses Convention régionales ou bilatérales sur la gestion de l'eau etc..
5. des acteurs : ceux de la GIZC et les acteurs des autres politiques publiques, les acteurs publics régionaux et les acteurs nationaux et locaux, les acteurs publics et les acteurs privés
6. des instruments : planification et instruments opérationnels, programmes et financements

## III - A mettre en œuvre des moyens opérationnels dans les cinq ans

Les zones côtières et maritimes, comme les estuaires, les deltas ou les embouchures des fleuves constituent toujours des frontières politiques et administratives, au niveau international et au niveau national.

Le fondement de l'intervention opérationnelle doit reposer sur la volonté des Etat à développer la coopération transfrontalière pour la gestion durable des grands estuaires ou deltas du monde.

Afin d'atteindre les objectifs qualitatifs, sera mis un programme de 2013 à 2018 conduisant à :

7. Renforcer la coordination entre les institutions universelles (PNUE/ONESCO/FAO) etc., mais aussi régionales et locales, à la fois verticale et horizontale
8. Etablir un plan d'action régional intégré aux grands écosystèmes ( Océans), fondée sur les - grands bassins côtiers
9. Etablir un plan national d'action, associé à une démarche locale. La planification spatiale côtière et marine doit être développée de façon transversale et à l'échelle des bassins fluviaux et maritimes, qu'ils soient nationaux ou transfrontaliers
10. Renforcer le processus participatif (Aarhus)
11. Etablir un programme durable associant tous les programmes et tous les acteurs
12. Assurer un financement durable
13. Renforcer l'adaptabilité dans le temps du processus de la GIZC
14. Mettre en œuvre un droit opposable : planification, réglementation, incitation
15. Sensibiliser et former les autorités de police et les magistrats
16. Assurer une évaluation reposant sur des indicateurs partagés
17. Renforcer les capacités de recherche sur les moyens opérationnels et efficaces à développer
18. Renforcer la coopération internationale
19. Développer une culture de la GIZC, s'appuyant sur les cultures locales



VI- A instaurer des outils de contrôle partagés

En s'appuyant sur les acquis des évaluations existantes, sera mise en œuvre une évaluation de la GIZC, reposant sur une expertise indépendante et un ensemble d'indicateurs qualitatifs et quantitatifs communs à tous les Etats, complétés par des indicateurs locaux, notamment :

20. l'urbanisation et l'artificialisation (aménagements, infrastructures) des zones côtières

21. la démographie

22. la biodiversité marine et côtière

23. la qualité des eaux côtières et marines

24. la gestion des déchets

25. le paysage

Afin de disposer d'outils pertinents pour réaliser une gestion intégrée et durable des zones côtières, seront créés :

26. un panel d'indicateurs contribuant à mesurer l'empreinte écologique sur les zones côtières

27. une évaluation ex-post des résultats

28. des pôles d'expertise indépendante

Sur la base de ces propositions, nous recommandons la promotion à Rio+20 d'une résolution pour l'AG des nations unies sur les exigences de la GIZC,

Et une négociation sur des principes universels et les modalités d'intervention de la GIZC, conduisant à une convention cadre, qui sera déclinée par chacune des mers régionales en conventions régionales détaillées.

RECOMMANDATION N°21

INTEGRATED COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT (ICZM)

Preamble:

Whereas, notwithstanding public participation, public authorities have the primary responsibility for the implementation of ICZM

Considering the ecological status of marine pollution, 80% of which is from land-based sources

Considering the drift of islands of waste in every ocean (including Pacific and Atlantic)

Considering the challenges for the protection of coastal and marine biodiversity

Considering the technological risks that coastal and marine areas are subject to, including

pollution from land and marine sources

Considering the hazards, characteristics of these areas, including the risks of evolution of the coastline and flooding

Considering the challenges posed by coastal and marine areas for humanity in terms of:

- Fisheries resources
- Transport (people and / or property)
- Port activities,
- Tourism,
- Energy production
- Urbanization
- Various economic activities related to the sea

Considering also the need to consider:

- The impact of climate change on the land / sea interface
- The growing impact of human activities on coastal land and sea
- The exponential growth of humanity, including its presence in coastal areas

Recommend that the Heads of State and Government undertake:

I - To be implemented in advance:

- Integrated management of coastal zones, based on the achievement of sustainable development,
- An application of Fees (environment, urban planning, land, sea etc. ...)
- Public policy redefined, developed on the principle of an integrated and participatory
- An approach based on priority coastal and marine ecosystems,

- A transnational / regional, based on river basins and coastal shipping

- Specific directions: protection of biodiversity, land-use planning in coastal areas (with closed areas to build in coastal areas), areas of enhanced protection, coastal and marine economy in the service of environmental and social goals

- Developing a culture of ICZM from all stakeholders, including local

II- A set of objectives for ICZM

Public policy on ICZM should be based on:

A - Knowledge

Given the stakes and the complexity of coastal and marine ecosystems will be knowledge on transboundary coastal ecosystems will be developed.

Referring to the creation in 2009 of the World Conservation Monitoring Centre for Conservation of Nature ([www.wdpa-marine.org](http://www.wdpa-marine.org)):

- Regional Observatories will be created in 5 years

B - A set of objectives

Based on regional and / or interstate relevant priorities, objectives will be defined

Given the links land / sea, and the transboundary nature of these issues, but also the role of these ecosystems and their degradation characterized by qualitative targets of priority concern:

1. Coral reefs
2. Estuaries
3. « Mangroves »

These objectives will lead to:

- a. restoration of degraded environments
- b. preservation of environmental quality

C - Coordination

Integrated management of coastal areas requires coordination of:

4. Strategies: first ICZM strategy in geographical and other steps to protect existing, including the Montego Bay Convention, the Ramsar Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on the management of waste, many regional and bilateral Convention on the water management etc. ..
5. Actors: those of ICZM and other policy actors, public actors and regional national and local actors, the public and private actors
6. instruments: planning and operational tools, programs and funding

III - To implement operational capacity within five years

The coastal and marine zones, such as estuaries, deltas and river mouths are always political and administrative borders, international and national levels.

The basis of the operational response must be based on the will of the state to develop cross- border cooperation for the sustainable management of large estuaries or deltas in the world.

To achieve the qualitative objectives, a program will be conducted from 2013 to 2018 leading to:

7. Strength coordination between universal institutions (UNEP / UNESCO / CAM) etc. ..., but also regional and local, both vertical and horizontal
8. Establish a regional action plan integrated with major ecosystems (oceans), based on - coastal basins
9. Establish a national plan of action, combined with a local approach. The coastal and marine spatial planning should be developed in a transversal way across river basins and sea, whether national or transboundary
10. Strengthen the participatory process (Aarhus)
11. Establish a sustainable program involving all programs and all stakeholders
12. Ensure sustainable funding
13. Enhancing the adaptability of the process in time of ICM
14. Implement an enforceable right planning, regulation, incentives
15. Raise awareness and educate law enforcement and judges
16. Provide an assessment based on shared indicators
17. Build capacity for research on ways to develop operational and effective
18. Strengthen international cooperation
19. Develop a culture of ICZM, drawing on local cultures

#### VI- Establishing shared control tools

Building on the achievements of existing assessments, an evaluation of ICZM will be conducted, relying on independent expertise and a set of qualitative and quantitative indicators common to all states, supplemented by local indicators, including:

4. Urbanization and the artificialization of coastal zones (facilities, infrastructure)
5. Demographics
6. Marine and coastal biodiversity
7. The quality of coastal and marine waters
8. Waste management
9. The landscape

In order to have appropriate tools to achieve integrated and sustainable management of coastal areas:

10. A panel of contributing indicators to measure the ecological footprint on coastal areas will be created
11. An ex-post evaluation of results will be conducted
12. Centers of independent expertise will be established

On the basis of these proposals, we recommend the promotion at "Rio +20" of:

- A resolution to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the requirements of ICZM and
- Negotiations on universal principles and methods of intervention of ICZM, leading to a framework agreement, which will be adapted by each of the regional seas in detailed regional conventions.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°22

#### LA PLACE DES ENTREPRISES DANS LE DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE ET LEUR RESPONSABILITÉ

Vu la déclaration de Stockholm de 1972 et plus particulièrement ses affirmations selon lesquelles «l'Homme a un droit fondamental à la liberté, l'égalité et à des conditions satisfaisantes dans un environnement dont la qualité lui permette de vivre dans la dignité et le bien être», et « tous, citoyens et collectivités, entreprises et institutions, à quelque niveau que ce soit, assument leurs responsabilités et se partagent équitablement les tâches»,

Vu les principes de la déclaration de Rio et plus particulièrement le Principe 13 qui pose que «Les Etats doivent élaborer une législation nationale concernant la responsabilité de la pollution et d'autres dommages à l'environnement et l'indemnisation de leurs victimes. Ils doivent aussi coopérer diligemment et plus résolument pour développer davantage le droit international concernant la responsabilité et l'indemnisation en cas d'effets néfastes de dommages causés à l'environnement dans des zones situées au-delà des limites de leur juridiction par des activités menées dans les limites de leur juridiction ou sous leur contrôle »,

Vu le Plan Action 21,

Vu la résolution de l'Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies du 11 décembre 1987 indiquant que « la notion de développement durable... devrait devenir le principe directeur fondamental pour ... les institutions, organisations et entreprises privées »,

Vu, la déclaration de Johannesburg sur le développement durable et particulièrement son § 27 qui souligne que «dans le cadre de ses activités légitimes, le secteur privé dans son ensemble, c'est-à- dire les grandes entreprises comme les petites, a le devoir de contribuer à l'émergence de communautés et de sociétés équitables et durables»,

Vu le Plan de mise en œuvre du Sommet mondial pour le développement durable (§140 f) rappelant la nécessité de «Promouvoir la responsabilité des entreprises, leur obligation de rendre des comptes et les échanges des meilleures pratiques au regard du développement durable, y compris, lorsqu'il convient, par des dialogues multipartites...»,

Considérant que les entreprises, privées comme publiques, devraient être reconnues comme des acteurs à part entière du Droit International de l'Environnement au même titre que le sont les Etats, les ONG, ou la société civile, qu'elles sont notamment les mieux placées pour relever les défis du développement durable, et permettre l'émergence d'une économie verte. Que leur rôle est essentiel dans l'innovation et le développement de technologies respectueuses de l'environnement,

Considérant qu'il est nécessaire de se placer dans la perspective des principes de précaution et pollueur-payeur en encourageant l'esprit d'entreprise, la compétitivité et l'innovation,

Considérant que les entreprises se doivent de faire progresser à tous les niveaux les piliers interdépendants et complémentaires du développement durable que sont les piliers économique, social et environnemental en adoptant une approche intégrée,

Considérant que les entreprises ont le devoir de préserver l'environnement des impacts négatifs générés par leurs activités, tant à l'égard des générations présentes que futures ; qu'elles doivent par conséquent adopter un comportement responsable à l'égard de l'Homme et de l'environnement,

Considérant qu'elles ont l'obligation de respecter les règles contraignantes propres à assurer la protection de l'environnement, en vigueur tant au niveau local, national, régional qu'au niveau international, que trop souvent ces règles sont méconnues et ne sont pas respectées,

Considérant que l'effectivité de la protection de l'environnement doit être assurée,

Considérant que les atteintes graves causées à l'environnement peuvent constituer des violations des droits fondamentaux internationalement consacrés et qu'il est indispensable de garantir ; qu'il est important de renforcer ces droits en matière environnementale et sociale,

Considérant qu'il est nécessaire d'affirmer avec force et vigueur, à l'échelle internationale, le droit fondamental de chacun à vivre dans un environnement viable, sain et garantissant sa dignité ; que chaque Etat a pour obligation de protéger ce droit,

Considérant que de nombreuses conventions existent en matière de responsabilité du fait de certaines pollutions et nuisances générées par les acteurs économiques, qu'il

est toutefois nécessaire de dépasser cette approche sectorielle par une approche plus globale, générale,

Considérant que le temps est donc venu d'élaborer un texte international contraignant dans ce domaine, qu'une telle option avait été d'ailleurs envisagée lors du Sommet de Johannesburg en 2002 et avait même donné lieu à l'engagement d'œuvrer en ce sens,

Considérant qu'il convient de s'adresser à l'ensemble des acteurs économiques multinationaux ou nationaux, privés comme publics, et ce quel que soit leur statut, leur structure ou leur domaine d'activités.

Considérant que ce texte relatif à la responsabilité environnementale des entreprises doit être contraignant pour être efficace, qu'il ne saurait s'analyser en un catalogue de principes directeurs non contraignants, qu'il doit en outre faire l'objet de mécanismes efficaces de surveillance et de sanctions,

Considérant que la notion de responsabilité environnementale, au sens de la présente recommandation, doit s'entendre comme l'obligation de répondre tant de ses actions que de ses inactions pouvant, directement ou indirectement, causer des dommages graves à l'environnement, que ces dommages soient purement environnementaux ou se traduisent par des atteintes aux personnes ou aux biens, et de réparer les atteintes ainsi causées,

Considérant que les Etats sont responsables des atteintes causées à l'environnement par les acteurs économiques qui relèvent de leurs juridictions, qu'il pèse sur les Etats des obligations positives de tout mettre en œuvre pour prévenir et réprimer ces atteintes, dans le respect du principe pollueur-payeur,

Considérant que les Etats ont l'obligation de mettre en place une réglementation nationale adéquate et de s'assurer de sa pleine efficacité sur le terrain, d'informer et d'alerter le public, ainsi que de prévoir et de s'assurer de l'existence et de l'efficacité de voies de recours adéquates et accessibles devant un juge national, permettant d'obtenir une réparation satisfaisante,

Considérant que les Etats doivent également adopter des mesures propres à endiguer les phénomènes de law shopping ou forum shopping par l'instauration de règles de droit international privé, ayant pour finalité d'assurer la protection effective de l'environnement, Considérant qu'il est de la responsabilité des entreprises de prévenir les atteintes graves à l'environnement résultant de leurs activités et de réparer les dommages qu'elles pourraient avoir causé, que cette responsabilité doit pouvoir être engagée au plan national, régional, et international,

Considérant que la prise en compte des enjeux environnementaux et sociaux ne doit pas se faire au détriment des règles de concurrence et que la mise en œuvre de la présente recommandation ne doit pas être discriminatoire,

Les Chefs d'Etat et de gouvernements devraient arrêter ce qui suit :

#### Article 1

Il n'est pas possible d'atteindre les objectifs du développement durable sans une pleine participation des entreprises qui en sont des actrices essentielles. Une bonne gestion des entreprises repose sur la juste appréhension des données sociales et environnementales, à côté des données économiques. Les entreprises doivent intégrer la pluralité des objectifs économiques sociaux et environnementaux dans l'ensemble de leurs activités et pouvoir justifier de l'application des principes et critères du développement durable. Les Etats mettent à la disposition des entreprises les instruments nécessaires à la détermination des coûts écologiques et doivent tout mettre en œuvre pour favoriser des modes de consommation et de production respectueux de l'environnement et de la santé. Ils doivent notamment veiller à ce que les règles du droit de la concurrence garantissent la prise en compte des objectifs du développement durable.

#### Article 2

Les entreprises doivent répondre des atteintes graves à l'environnement et à la santé résultant de leurs activités, produits ou services. Leurs initiatives volontaires en matière environnementale, sociale et de gouvernance doivent être encouragées et il ne doit pas pouvoir être reproché à une entreprise d'aller au-delà des exigences légales.

#### Article 3

Les entreprises doivent adopter une attitude responsable, sur la base des Principes internationalement reconnus, dans le respect de l'ensemble des législations qui leurs sont applicables.

Une entreprise s'implantant dans un pays doit le faire sur la base d'un diagnostic clair de la situation et des possibles impacts de son activité sur l'environnement et la société, et pouvoir justifier de la prise en compte de ce diagnostic et des réponses apportées aux enjeux environnementaux identifiés ainsi que de l'accueil de ces réponses par les collectivités concernées.

#### Article 4

Au sens de la présente, on entend par « entreprise » toutes les entreprises, privées ou publiques, simples ou composées de plusieurs entités. En cas de pluralité d'entités, le terme « entreprise », se réfère aux diverses entités.

Lorsqu'une entreprise exerce une influence déterminante sur une entité contrôlée, elle peut être tenue pour responsable du comportement de celle-ci.

#### Article 5

Dans le cadre de leurs relations commerciales avec leurs sous-traitants et fournisseurs, et au-delà, dans le cadre de leur sphère d'influence, les entreprises doivent s'assurer du respect de l'ensemble des obligations environnementales et sociales légalement formulées.

Dans le respect des obligations applicables à chacun, les entreprises doivent s'assurer de l'absence de défaillance environnementale dans leur chaîne d'approvisionnement et, le cas échéant, assister leurs partenaires pour les aider à y mettre fin.

#### Article 6

Les entreprises doivent évaluer les impacts de leurs actions et proposer des mesures d'accompagnement limitant, le cas échéant, les conséquences sur l'environnement et la santé de l'introduction sur un marché donné de produits.

#### Article 7

Afin de réduire les consommations de matières premières non renouvelables, d'encourager l'utilisation rationnelle des ressources naturelles et de prévenir la production de déchets, les exigences d'éco-conception doivent être systématiquement intégrées aux processus de production. Une préférence doit être accordée à la valorisation et au recyclage, tant des résidus de production que des produits en fin de vie. L'obsolescence programmée des produits doit être combattue.

Les Etats doivent mettre en place un cadre de recyclage permettant la récupération des matières premières dans des conditions respectueuses de l'environnement et de la santé des personnes. A défaut de réglementation étatique, il appartient à chaque opérateur de recyclage de s'assurer du respect de ces intérêts.

Conformément au principe pollueur-payeur, les producteurs de produits générateurs de déchets doivent être incités à prendre en charge les coûts de collecte, de recyclage ou d'élimination des déchets issus de leurs produits.

#### Article 8

Les entreprises mettent en place des structures d'échanges avec les «parties prenantes» (Stakeholders), s'assurent de la qualité des informations qui leurs sont dispensés et prennent en considération leurs recommandations.

#### Article 9

Les Etats doivent garantir l'effectivité du droit de l'environnement et la mise en œuvre des principes du développement durable. A cette fin ils garantissent l'accès à la justice et s'assurent de la réparation des dommages à l'environnement, à la santé et aux conditions de vie.

#### Article 10

La gouvernance des entreprises repose sur une juste identification des informations sociales et environnementales et leur mise à disposition tant des organes dirigeants que des associés et des tiers intéressés.

#### Article 11

Les règles de comptabilité des entreprises doivent intégrer les informations pertinentes en matière d'environnement. Ces informations doivent être présentées de manière accessible et intelligible et être cohérentes avec l'ensemble des données environnementales disponibles. Un auditeur indépendant doit pouvoir attester l'exactitude et la sincérité des informations ainsi produites.

#### Article 12

Les rapports diffusés en matière de résultats économiques des entreprises sont accompagnés des informations environnementales et sociales appropriées.

Les entreprises dont l'activité est susceptible d'avoir des conséquences importantes pour l'environnement doivent élaborer un code de conduite, ou adhérer à un code existant, préconisant les meilleures pratiques et rendre compte de son application ou expliquer pourquoi elles ne le font pas.

#### Article 13

Les salariés et leurs représentants ont accès à l'ensemble des informations environnementales détenues par l'entreprise et sont associés à la gestion des enjeux qu'elles représentent. L'environnement de travail ne doit pas présenter de dangerosité pour les salariés. Ils sont, comme leurs représentants, associés aux mesures réalisées et à la gestion des questions d'environnement au travail.

Les entreprises doivent s'assurer que leurs salariés sont correctement formés aux questions liées au développement durable et notamment aux conséquences environnementales et sanitaires de leurs activités. Lorsqu'ils existent, les plans de formations du personnel doivent intégrer ces dimensions. Lorsqu'ils n'existent pas, de tels plans doivent être élaborés pour permettre une bonne appréhension de ces questions.

#### Article 14

Toute entreprise doit mettre à la disposition des consommateurs de ses produits ou services et du public une information sur l'impact environnemental et sanitaire de ces produits ou services.

A chaque fois que cela apparaît possible, il sera fait référence, pour dispenser cette information, à un programme d'écoétiquetage efficace, transparent, vérifiable, et non discriminatoire. Le PNUÉ élaborera des schémas minimaux d'écoétiquetage et de labels environnementaux auxquels les Etats se référeront dans leurs procédures nationales.

#### Article 15

Toute personne ayant connaissance d'informations lui permettant de penser que des conséquences environnementales ou sanitaires graves pourraient résulter de son silence doit pouvoir alerter librement l'un quelconque des membres de sa hiérarchie ou une personne désignée à cet effet, ou une autorité juridictionnelle, ou ad hoc, désignée par l'Etat dans lequel elle exerce son activité. Chaque Etat prend, conformément à son système juridique interne et dans la limite de ses moyens, des mesures appropriées pour assurer une protection efficace contre des actes éventuels de représailles ou d'intimidation des témoins et des experts qui déposent concernant ces alertes sanitaires ou environnementales

Chaque Etat prend, des mesures appropriées pour assurer la protection contre tout traitement injustifié de toute personne qui lance une alerte environnementale ou sanitaire, de bonne foi et sur la base de soupçons raisonnables.

#### Article 16

Les entreprises qui peuvent justifier de la qualité et de la réalité de leur engagement en faveur des objectifs du développement durable doivent pouvoir en retirer avantage. Les Etats s'engageront dans une procédure de valorisation des initiatives de sollicitude environnementale et sociale.

#### Article 17

L'engagement environnemental, social et de gouvernance des entreprises doit être valorisé dans l'ensemble des procédures d'achats publics. A cette fin, les Etats s'engagent :

- Soit à réserver l'accès à la commande publique aux entreprises pouvant justifier de démarches volontaires dans les domaines environnementaux, sociaux et de gouvernance, vérifiées par un organisme tiers indépendant qu'ils agréent
- Soit à intégrer dans l'ensemble de leurs politiques de commande publique des exigences spécifiques liés aux objectifs du développement durable

Les Etats s'assureront que l'interdiction d'accès à la commande publique puisse être prononcée par les juges statuant en matière environnementale, sociale ou de gouvernance. Les entreprises condamnées par des décisions revêtue de l'autorité de la chose jugée et faisant l'objet d'une telle interdiction d'accès à la commande publique

ne pourront pas, directement ou indirectement, répondre à des appels d'offres publics.

#### Article 18

Dans les entreprises les plus importantes, et au moins dans celles dont les titres sont admis aux négociations sur un marché réglementé, la rémunération des dirigeants devrait être appréciée sur la base d'indicateurs se référant de manière significative aux objectifs du développement durable.

#### Article 19

Les institutions financières, publiques comme privées, intègrent les objectifs du développement durable dans l'ensemble de leurs activités.

Les institutions financières privées communiquent les critères de financement liés au développement durable qu'elles appliquent et dans quelle mesure elles les appliquent ou expliquer pourquoi elles n'en appliquent pas.

Les institutions financières publiques réservent leurs financements à des activités intégrant de manière significative et vérifiable les objectifs du développement durable. Les critères de sélection des projets financés doivent être prédéterminés, clairs et vérifiables et il doit être annuellement rendu compte de leur application.

#### Article 20

Les Etats intègrent systématiquement dans leurs accords économiques un volet environnemental et social afin de concourir à la satisfaction des objectifs du développement durable.

#### Article 21

Des approches sectorielles en matière de responsabilité des entreprises seront développées dans les domaines suivants :

- Transports,
- Gestion des déchets,
- Chimie,
- Eau,
- Agriculture et foresterie,
- Énergie,
- Industries extractives,
- Construction et travaux publics,
- Finance.

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A défaut d'un accord sur les éléments précédents, il peut être envisagé :

1 - d'étendre systématiquement et explicitement à la protection de l'environnement et à la poursuite des objectifs du développement durable les principes directeurs relatifs aux entreprises et aux droits de l'homme (principes Ruggie).

2 - De consacrer dans le cadre d'un texte adopté par les Etats les orientations fondamentales présentées dans les lignes directrices relatives à la responsabilité sociétale : ISO 26000.

3 - De consacrer et de rendre contraignants, dans le cadre des Nations Unies, les principes directeurs de l'OCDE à l'intention des multinationales et les doter de mécanismes renforcés de surveillance et de contrôle.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°22

##### COMPANIES' PLACE IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR RESPONSIBILITY

Having regard to the 1972 Stockholm Declaration and more particularly its assertions according to which "Man has the fundamental right to freedom, equality and adequate conditions of life, in an environment of a quality that permits a life of dignity and well being" and "everybody, citizens and communities, firms and institutions, whatever ..., assume its responsibilities and share tasks on an equal level",

Having regard to the principles of the 1992 Rio declaration, and more particularly Principle 13 which says that "States shall develop national law regarding liability and compensation for the victims of pollution and other environmental damage. States shall also cooperate in an expeditious and more determined manner to develop further international law regarding liability and compensation for adverse effects of environmental damage caused by activities within their jurisdiction or control to areas beyond their jurisdiction",

Having regard to the Action Plan 21,

Having regard to the resolution of the UN General Assembly of the 11th of December 1987 indicating that ' the concept of sustainable development ...should become the directive and fundamental principle for ... institutions, organizations and private firms',

Having regard to the Johannesburg declaration on sustainable development and particularly § 27 which underlines that 'in pursuit of its legitimate activities the private sector, including both large and small companies, has a duty to contribute to the evolution of equitable and sustainable communities and societies',

Having regard to the plan implementation of the World Summit for sustainable development (§140 f) which reminds the necessity of 'promoting the corporate responsibility and being held accountable and the exchange of the best practices in the context of sustainable development, including, as appropriate, through multi-stakeholder dialogues ...',

Considering that companies, either private or public, should be considered as full-fledged actors of Environmental International Law on the same level as States, NGO, or the

civil society and that they have more particularly the best position to take up the challenges of sustainable development, and to permit the emergence of a green economy. That their role is essential in the innovation and the development of technologies which respect the environment,

Considering that it is necessary to look at things from the perspective of precautionary and polluter-pays principles by encouraging team spirit, competitiveness and innovation,

Considering that companies must make interdependent and complementary mainstays - economic, social and environmental ones - progress on all levels by adopting an integrated approach,

Considering that companies must save the environment from negative impacts generated/ caused by their activities, as well towards actual generations as towards future ones; that as a consequence they must adopt a responsible behavior towards the Human and the Environment, Considering that they have to respect the binding rules destined to assure the protection of the environment, in effect on the local, national, regional but also international level, that these rules are too often unknown and not respected,

Considering that the effectiveness of the protection of the environment has to be ensured, Considering that serious damages caused to the environment can constitute violations of the fundamental rights which are internationally recognized and that it is essential to ensure; that it is important to reinforce these rights as far as the environment and social matters are concerned, Considering that it is necessary to claim with force and vigour, on the international scale, the fundamental right of each person to live in a viable and safe environment, which ensure its dignity; that each State has to protect this right,

Considering that lots of conventions exist in terms of responsibility because of some pollutions and nuisance generated by economic actors, that however, it is necessary to overcome this sectoral approach by a more global and general one,

Considering that the time has come to elaborate an international and binding text in this field, that besides such an option had been planned during the Johannesburg Summit in 2002 and had even given rise to the involvement of acting that way,

Considering that one should speak to all the multinational or national economic actors, either private or public, and whatever their status, structure or fields of activity,

Considering that this text which concerns the environmental responsibility of companies has to be binding to be efficient, that it could not be analyzed in a range of directive and non-binding principles, that besides it has to be under efficient monitoring mechanisms and sanctions, Considering that the concept of environmental responsibility, in the context of this recommendation, has to be taken as the obligation to answer both its actions and inactions which can, directly or indirectly, cause serious damages to the environment, that these damages are purely environmental or result in violations to people or goods, and also to repair the violations thus caused.

Considering that the States are responsible for the violations caused to the environment by the economic actors which depend on their jurisdictions, that positive obligations of carrying out everything to prevent and punish these violations - which respect the principle of polluter pays - weigh on the States,

Considering that the States have to introduce adequate national rules and to be sure of its full efficiency to real conditions, to inform and warn people, and also to foresee and be sure of the existence and efficiency of adequate and available remedies in front of a national judge, permitting to obtain a satisfying compensation,

Considering that the States also have to adopt proper statements to hold back the phenomena of law shopping or forum shopping by implementing rules of private international law, which will lead to the carrying out of the final protection of the environment,

Considering that companies are responsible for preventing serious violations to the environment resulting from their activities and repairing the damages that they could have led to, that this responsibility must be held nationally, regionally and internationally,

Considering that the consideration of environmental and social issues must be done at the expense of competition rules and that the implementation of this recommendation must not be discriminatory,

The Heads of States and governments should decide on what follows:

#### Article 1

It is not possible to reach the objectives of sustainable development without a full participation of companies which are the essential actors.

An appropriate management of companies relies on the correct apprehension of social and environmental data, linked to economic data. Companies have to take into account the plurality of economic, social and environmental objectives in all their activities and be able to justify the implementation of principles and criteria of sustainable development.

The States have to make the necessary tools to work out the ecological costs available to companies and have to implement everything they can to encourage consumption and production ways which respect the environment and health. They have to ensure more particularly that the rules of competition law guarantee the recognition of the objectives of sustainable development. Article 2

Companies shall be liable to the serious violations on the environment and on health which result from their activities, products or services. Their voluntary initiatives concerning the environment, social concerns and governance have to be promoted and a company must not be blamed for going over legal requirements.

#### Article 3

Companies have to adopt a responsible behavior, based on the internationally recognized principles which respect all the legislations which are enforceable to them.

A company which establishes itself in a country has to rely on a clear diagnosis of the situation and consider the possible impacts of its activities on the environment and society, and it has to be able to justify the recognition of this diagnosis and the answers given to the environmental issues and the acceptance of these answers by the concerned authorities.

#### Article 4

In this context, the use of the word 'company' means all the companies, either private or public, either simple or composed of several entities. In the case of several entities, the word 'company' refers to these different entities.

When a company has a decisive influence on a controlled entity, it can be blamed for the behavior of this one.

#### Article 5

Within the framework of trade relationships with their subcontractors and suppliers, and beyond, within the framework of their sphere of influence, companies have to be sure of the respect of all the environmental and social obligations, legally set out.

#### Article 6

Companies must evaluate the impacts of their actions and put forward accompanying measures which limit, if necessary, the consequences of the implementation of products - on a given market - on the environment and health.

#### Article 7

In order to reduce the consumption of non renewable raw materials, to urge the rational use of natural resources and to prevent the production of waste, the requirements linked to eco-design have to be systematically integrated to production processes. Upgrading or recycling both production residues and products at the end of their life-cycle have to be underlined. The planned obsolescence of products must be fought against.

The States have to implement a framework of recycling that permits the salvage of raw material in conditions which respect the environment and people's health. Without state rules, each recycling operator has to ensure the respect of its interests.

In accordance with the polluter-pays principle, the producers of products which generate waste have to be urged on taking responsibility of the charges linked to the collection, the recycling or the destruction of the waste issued from their products.

#### Article 8

Companies implement exchange structures with the stakeholders, verify the quality of the information which are given to them and take into consideration their recommendations.

#### Article 9

The States have to guarantee the efficiency of the right of the environment and the implementation of the principles of sustainable development. To reach this purpose, they ensure the access to justice and make sure of the compensation for damages on the environment, health and living conditions.

#### Article 10

The governance of companies relies on a correct identification of social and environmental information and the availability of both the executive bodies and the associates and others taking part in it.

#### Article 11

The rules of companies' accounting must take into account relevant information concerning the environment.

These informations have to be introduced in an accessible and understandable way and be coherent with all the available environmental data. An independent hearer must be able to vouch for the accuracy and fairness of the information thus introduced.

#### Article 12

The spread reports concerning the economic results of the companies are accompanied with appropriate environmental and social information.

Companies whose activity may have important consequences on the environment have to elaborate a code of conduct, or subscribe to an existing code, which recommend the best practices and give an account of its application or explain why they do not do it.

#### Article 13

Workers and their representatives have access to all the environmental information hold by the company and are associated to the management of the stakes they represent.

The working environment must not be dangerous for workers. Like their representatives, they are associated to the implemented measures and to the management of issues linked to the working environment.

Companies have to make sure that their employees are correctly trained to issues linked to sustainable development and, more particularly to the environmental and health consequences of their activities. When they exist, training plans for workers have to take into account these issues. When they do not, such plans have to be elaborated to permit a good apprehension of these issues.

#### Article 14

Each company has to make available to its products' or services' consumers and to people information about the environmental and health impact of these products or services. Each time it seems possible, one will refer to an efficient, clear, easy to check and non- discriminatory program of eco-labelling to spread this information.

The PNUE will elaborate minimum eco-labelling and environmental labels' schemes to which the States will refer in their national procedures.

#### Article 15

Any person who will know information which will permit him to think that serious environmental or health consequences could result from his/her silence has to be able to alert freely one of the members of his/her hierarchy or a person assigned to this, or a judicial authority, or ad hoc, designed by the State in which he/she works.

In accordance with its national legal system and within the limits of its resources, each State takes appropriate measures to ensure an efficient protection against possible acts of reprisal or intimidation of witnesses and experts who testify concerning these health or environmental alerts. Each State takes appropriate measures to ensure the protection against an unfair handling by a genuine person who casts an environmental or health alert, on acceptable suspicions.

#### Article 16

The companies which can justify the quality and the reality of their involvement in favor of the objectives of sustainable development must be able to take advantage of it. The States will get involved in a procedure of promotion of the initiatives of environmental and social concerns.

#### Article 17



The environmental, social and companies' governance commitment must be promoted among all the public purchase procedures. To reach this aim, the States are committed to:

- Either reserve the access to all the public command to companies which can justify for voluntary approaches in the environmental, social and governing matters verified by a third party independent organization that they approve.
- Or integrate in all their politics of public demand of specific requirements linked to the objectives of sustainable development.

The States will make sure that the ban of an access to the public procurement can be sentenced by judges deciding on environmental, social or of governance matters. The companies sentenced by decisions which come under the force of res judicata and which are subjected to a ban of an access to the public procurement will not be able, directly or not, to answer public tenders.

#### Article 18

In the most important Companies and at least in those which titles are admitted for negotiations on a ruled market, the pay of the leadership should be determined on the basis of indicators which significantly refer to the objectives of sustainable development.

#### Article 19

The financial institutions, either public or private, integrate the objectives of sustainable development in all their activities.

The private financial institutions transmit their financing criteria linked to sustainable development that they implement and to which extend they implement them or explain why they do not implement them.

The public financial institutions put aside their financing to activities which integrate in a significant and easy to check way the objectives of sustainable development. The criteria of the choice of the financed plans have to be pre-established, clear and easy to check and a report about their implementation has to be written every year.

#### Article 20

The States systematically take into account in their economic agreements an environmental and social aspect in order to contribute to the satisfaction of the objectives of sustainable development.

#### Article 21

Sectoral approaches concerning the responsibility of companies will be developed in the following fields:

- Transport,
- Waste management,
- Chemistry,
- Water,
- Agriculture and forestry,
- Energy,
- Extractable industries,
- Building and civil engineering works,
- Finance.

In the absence of an agreement on the former elements, it can be planned to :

1 - systematically and explicitly spread to the protection of the environment and to the pursuit of the objectives of sustainable development the directive principles about companies and human rights ( Ruggie principles).

2- to devote - within the framework of a text adopted by the States -the fundamental orientations introduced in the directive lines concerning the societal responsibility : ISO 26000.

3 - to devote and to make restrictive, within the framework of the United Nations, the directive principles of the OCDE aimed at multinational companies and to establish reinforced mechanisms for supervision and control.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°23

##### POUR UNE TRANSITION GLOBALE VERS L'ENERGIE PROPRE

Conscients de l'importance de l'accès à énergie dans la réalisation de nombreux besoins humains fondamentaux,

Vu que près d'un tiers de l'humanité n'a pas accès aux sources modernes d'énergie, Convaincus que le système énergétique contemporain essentiellement fondé sur une énergie issue de ressources minières provoque des dommages irréversibles sur l'environnement et la santé humaine,

Rappelant que le secteur de l'énergie est responsable de trois cinquièmes des émissions anthropiques de gaz à effet de serre induisant un changement climatique, et que les États se sont engagés lors de la quinzième session de la Conférence des Parties de la Convention cadre sur le changement climatique tenue à Copenhague à réduire de moitié ces émissions d'ici 2050 par rapport à celles de 1990, pour ne pas dépasser une augmentation de la température moyenne de 2°C en 2100 par rapport à l'ère pré-industrielle,

Reconnaissant qu'une énergie issue de ressources minières qui s'amenuisent ne peut garantir un approvisionnement pérenne et respectueux de l'environnement, et qu'une demande croissante à son égard devrait conduire à un renchérissement des prix, voire à des conflits diplomatiques ou armés,

Alertés sur la nécessité de réaliser une transition énergétique constituée d'une réduction quantitative de l'énergie consommée et d'une amélioration qualitative de l'énergie

produite,

Éclairés par l'AIE, le PNUD et l'ONUDI sur la possibilité d'assurer un accès universel à l'énergie d'ici 2030, par le DAESNU sur la nécessité de limiter les consommations individuelles annuelles d'énergie à 70 gigajoules, et par le GIEC sur la capacité d'assurer un approvisionnement fondé à près de 80% sur des énergies renouvelables d'ici 2050,

Ayant pris acte qu'aucune source d'énergie n'est propre par nature et que la propreté d'une source dépend de la manière dont elle est utilisée par l'Homme,

Résolus sur la nécessité d'évaluer l'impact énergétique des activités humaines,

Soulignant qu'une transition vers l'énergie propre relancerait la croissance économique,

Affirmant qu'une transition énergétique présente un caractère d'urgence et que seule une action globale et coordonnée de l'ensemble des acteurs du secteur énergétique peut en assurer l'effectivité,

Insistant sur la décision de l'Assemblée générale des Nations unies de proclamer 2012 Année internationale de l'énergie durable pour tous,

Les États sont invités lors de la Conférence des Nations unies sur le développement durable qui se déroulera en juin 2012, à Rio de Janeiro, à établir une feuille de route sur une transition globale vers l'énergie propre reposant sur les engagements suivants :

1. L'accès universel à l'énergie propre doit être garanti à un coût économiquement abordable d'ici 2030, et des mécanismes de solidarités institués afin d'approvisionner gratuitement les plus démunis. A cette fin, le droit à l'énergie intègre les législations nationales et le droit international.
2. La consommation individuelle annuelle d'énergie devra être limitée à 70 gigajoules, et 80% de l'approvisionnement énergétique mondial devra provenir de sources renouvelables d'ici 2050.
3. Tout projet susceptible d'impacter significativement les besoins énergie (mise sur le marché de biens et services, ouvrages et aménagements, activités, politiques publiques, et traités internationaux) doit faire l'objet d'un bilan énergétique préalable et d'un suivi comprenant le cas échéant des mesures correctrices. Cette évaluation repose sur cinq critères: améliorer la sobriété et l'efficacité énergétique ; estimer l'énergie grise ; garantir le renouvellement de la ressource ; partager équitablement l'énergie issue de ressources minières ; et valoriser l'énergie.
4. Le traité sur la Charte de l'énergie établit un cadre juridique essentiel concernant la sécurité énergétique et devrait être amendé afin d'intégrer les droits sociaux et environnementaux fondamentaux, renforcer la coopération entre les États, et disposer de mécanismes de solidarité énergétique.
5. L'Agence internationale des énergies renouvelables (IRENA) constitue une instance de référence pour assurer une transition vers l'énergie propre. Elle est encouragée à adopter au plus vite un plan d'action visant à réaliser les présents objectifs, en impliquant l'ensemble des acteurs du secteur énergétique et en accordant une priorité aux entreprises locales.
6. Les destinataires des projets énergétiques devraient se voir reconnaître un droit à l'information et à la participation dans leur élaboration et mise en œuvre. Ne devraient être éligibles à leur réalisation que les organisations présentant les meilleures garanties en matière d'éthique sociale et environnementale.
7. Les subventions en faveur des énergies issues de ressources minières seront supprimées et remplacées par une taxe mondiale sur la production d'énergie issue de ressources minières. Les revenus générés seront affectés au développement de projets conformes à l'énergie propre, aux ménages les plus démunis, et en faveur de dépenses publiques hautement prioritaires telles que la santé et l'éducation.
8. Les gisements d'énergie issue de ressources minières devraient être conservés pour les générations futures et la préservation de l'environnement. En contrepartie, les États pourraient solliciter une indemnisation dont le financement serait assuré par le produit de la taxe mondiale sur la production d'énergie issue de ressources minières et affectée aux projets conformes à l'énergie propre, aux ménages les plus démunis, et en faveur de dépenses publiques hautement prioritaires telles que la santé et l'éducation.
9. Des objectifs quantitatifs en termes de réduction des consommations et d'énergie renouvelable seront adoptés et régulièrement actualisés. Des certificats et des garanties d'origine pourront les compléter afin d'en garantir l'effectivité.
10. Des normes techniques en matière d'éco-conception seront adoptées afin de n'autoriser la mise sur le marché que des biens, services et activités présentant les meilleures performances énergétiques.
11. Des programmes étatiques inciteront les investisseurs à développer des biens, des services et des activités présentant des performances énergétiques supérieures à l'offre du marché.
12. Tous les moyens seront mis en œuvre pour concourir à une éducation à l'énergie, en intégrant notamment ses caractéristiques et enjeux essentiels dans les programmes scolaires et dans la formation professionnelle.
13. Les biens, services et activités recourant à l'énergie ou pouvant influencer celle-ci feront l'objet d'un étiquetage sur la performance énergétique sous la forme d'une information standardisée et compréhensible pour le public.
14. Les règles concernant le management énergétique des sociétés seront renforcées afin que toute personne puisse accéder facilement à ces informations. Leur sincérité doit être garantie par le contrôle d'organismes indépendants.
15. Afin de concourir à l'effectivité de ces moyens et objectifs, les autorités publiques et les sociétés sont encouragées à collaborer avec des ONG engagées en faveur d'une éthique sociale et environnementale.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°23

#### FOR A GLOBAL TRANSITION TO CLEAN ENERGY

Given the importance of access to energy for the realization of many basic needs,

Recognizing that nearly one third of humanity has no access to modern sources of energy,

Convinced that the modern energy system, which is heavily based on energy mining, is causing irreversible damage to the environment and human health,

Recalling that the energy sector is responsible for three fifths of anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases inducing climate change, and that States are committed at the fifteenth session of the Conference of Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change in Copenhagen to halve emissions by 2050 compared to 1990, and not to exceed an average temperature increase of 2°C in 2100 compared to the pre-industrial era,

Recognizing that decreasing energy mining cannot ensure sustainable access to an environmentally friendly energy, and that a growing demand for them should lead to higher prices of energy and may even lead to diplomatic and armed disputes,

Alerted to the need for an energy transition characterized by a quantitative reduction of energy consumption and an improvement in the quality of energy,

Informed by the IEA, UNDP and UNIDO on the possibility of universal access to energy by 2030, by UNDESA on the need to limit the annual individual consumption to 70 gigajoules of energy, and by the IPCC on the ability to ensure a supply basis at almost 80% renewable energy by 2050,

Having noted that no energy source is clean in nature and the cleanliness of a source depends on how it is used by humans,

Resolved on the need to assess the impact of energy activities,

Stressing that a transition to clean energy would boost economic growth,

Stating that a transition to clean energy is an emergency and that only global and coordinated action of all actors in the energy sector can ensure effectiveness,

Emphasizing the decision of the United Nations General Assembly to proclaim 2012 International Year of sustainable energy for all,

States are encouraged at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, to adopt a roadmap for a transition to clean energy based on the following commitments:

1. Universal access to clean energy must be guaranteed at an economically acceptable cost, and solidarity mechanisms should be established to supply the poor free. To this end, the right to energy includes national legislation and international law.
2. Annual per capita consumption of energy should be limited to 70 gigajoules, and 80% of global energy supplies should be provided from renewable sources by 2050.
3. Any activities likely to significantly impact energy requirements (put up for sale of goods and services, buildings and facilities, activities, public policies, international treaties) are subject to a preliminary energy assessment and monitoring, including appropriate corrective action. This assessment is based on five criteria: improve energy sobriety and energy efficiency, estimate the embodied energy, guarantee the renewal of the resource, equitable sharing of the energy mining, and recover energy.
4. The Energy Charter Treaty establishes an essential legal framework for energy security and should include social and environmental fundamental rights, strengthen cooperation among States, as well as mechanisms of energy solidarity.
5. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) can significantly contribute to the clean energy transition. It is encouraged to adopt without delay a plan of action to achieve these objectives, involving all stakeholders in the energy sector and giving priority to local businesses.
6. The recipients of energy projects should be granted a right to information and participation in their development and implementation. Only organizations with the best guarantees of social and environmental ethics should be eligible for these projects.
7. Subsidies for energy mining will be cancelled and replaced by a global tax on the production of energy from mineral resources. The revenue generated will be allocated to the development of projects in accordance with clean energy, the poorest households, and high-priority spending such as health and education.
8. Mining energy fields should be conserved for future generations and preservation of the environment. In return, States could seek compensation based on the revenue generated by the global tax on the production of energy from mineral resources and allocated to the development of projects in accordance with clean energy, the poorest households, and high-priority spending such as health and education.
9. Quantitative targets in terms of renewable energy and consumption reduction will be adopted and regularly updated. Certificates and guarantees of origin will ensure their effectiveness.
10. Technical standards ecodesign will be adopted to ensure that only those goods, services and activities with the best energy performance are placed on the market.
11. State programs will encourage investors to develop goods, services and activities of energy performance above the market supply.
12. All measures will be implemented in order to contribute to an energy education, especially by incorporating its features and key issues in school curricula and vocational training.
13. Goods, services and activities using energy is subject to energy performance labeling, which should be standardized and easily understandable to the public.
14. The rules for energy management will be open-accessed so that anyone can easily reach this information whose sincerity will be ensured by an energy auditing.
15. To contribute to the effectiveness of these methods and objectives, public authorities and companies are encouraged to collaborate with NGOs working in favor of social and environmental ethics.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°24

#### LES NANOTECHNOLOGIES

##### Lignes directrices en matière de nanotechnologies

1. Principes directeurs
2. Nécessité d'équilibre
3. Risques potentiels
4. Démarche de précaution
5. Prise en compte des risques

## 6. Coopération entre Etats

## 7. Transfert transfrontières

## 8. Traçabilité

## 9. Obligations d'information

## 1. Principes directeurs

La Déclaration de Rio sur l'environnement et le développement durable a posé plusieurs principes qui doivent guider toute réglementation en matière de technologies émergentes, et plus particulièrement :

- Principe de coopération : « Les Etats devraient coopérer ou intensifier le renforcement des capacités endogènes en matière de développement durable en améliorant la compréhension scientifique par des échanges de connaissances scientifiques et techniques et en facilitant la mise au point, l'adaptation, la diffusion et le transfert de techniques, y compris de techniques nouvelles et novatrices » (Principe 9)
- Principe de participation : « La meilleure façon de traiter les questions d'environnement est d'assurer la participation de tous les citoyens concernés, au niveau qui convient. Au niveau national, chaque individu doit avoir dûment accès aux informations relatives à l'environnement que détiennent les autorités publiques, y compris aux informations relatives aux substances et activités dangereuses dans leurs collectivités, et avoir la possibilité de participer aux processus de prise de décision. Les Etats doivent faciliter et encourager la sensibilisation et la participation du public en mettant les informations à la disposition de celui-ci (...) » (Principe 10)
- Principe de précaution : « Pour protéger l'environnement, des mesures de précaution doivent être largement appliquées par les Etats selon leurs capacités. En cas de risque de dommages graves ou irréversibles, l'absence de certitude scientifique absolue ne doit pas servir de prétexte pour remettre à plus tard l'adoption de mesures effectives visant à prévenir la dégradation de l'environnement » (Principe 15).
- Principe pollueur-payeur : « Les autorités nationales devraient s'efforcer de promouvoir l'internalisation des coûts de protection de l'environnement et l'utilisation d'instruments économiques, en vertu du principe selon lequel c'est le pollueur qui doit, en principe, assumer le coût de la pollution, dans le souci de l'intérêt public et sans fausser le jeu du commerce international et de l'investissement » (Principe 16).
- Principe d'action préventive : « Une étude d'impact sur l'environnement, en tant qu'instrument national, doit être entreprise dans le cas des activités envisagées qui risquent d'avoir des effets nocifs importants sur l'environnement et dépendent de la décision d'une autorité nationale compétente » (Principe 17).

## 2. Nécessité d'équilibre

- Dans cet esprit, les Etats doivent tout mettre en œuvre pour éviter que les avantages attendus des technologies émergentes soient amoindris par les inconvénients qu'elles sont susceptibles de créer, tant pour la santé de l'homme que pour l'environnement.

## 3. Risques potentiels

- Les attentes placées dans les nanotechnologies tout au long de leur cycle de vie ont conduit à de forts investissements en recherche et développement. Dans le même temps cependant, elles suscitent de vives inquiétudes notamment en raison des risques qu'elles sont susceptibles de créer pour la santé de l'homme et l'environnement. L'efficacité des barrières naturelles de protection des organismes vivants peut ainsi être prise en défaut.
- Or, l'insuffisance des connaissances scientifiques actuelles sur la dangerosité des produits issus des nanotechnologies ne permet pas d'évaluer les risques qu'ils induisent.

## 4. Démarche de précaution

- Les Etats doivent, dans le respect du principe de participation, mettre en place une réglementation en application du principe de précaution à même de prévenir les effets dommageables des produits issus des nanotechnologies.
- Le risque doit être présumé et faire l'objet d'une évaluation. L'absence de caractère générique de ces produits impose une gestion des risques au cas par cas.
- La mise sur le marché d'un produit issu des nanotechnologies ne présume pas de l'absence de risques et ne doit pas être le prétexte pour cesser les recherches les concernant.
- S'agissant des nanomatériaux, si des données sont disponibles pour des objets de taille supérieure et de même nature chimique, l'hypothèse minimale pour élaborer une démarche conforme au principe de précaution est de considérer que les nanomatériaux correspondants présentent des dangers au moins similaires.

## 5. Prise en compte des risques

- Les Etats doivent n'autoriser la fabrication, la mise en œuvre, la mise sur le marché et l'utilisation des produits issus des nanotechnologies qu'à la suite de cette démarche, et notamment une évaluation environnementale et sanitaire ouverte à la participation du public.
- Une attention particulière doit être accordée aux travailleurs exposés à ces produits.
- Les Etats doivent imposer un suivi permanent des effets de ces produits. Les autorités administratives sont destinataires de l'ensemble des données disponibles et doivent disposer des moyens juridiques et techniques propres à rechercher et à faire cesser d'éventuels effets dommageables.
- Les Etats doivent subordonner les autorisations de fabrication, mise en œuvre, mise sur le marché et utilisation à l'obligation de disposer ou de pouvoir disposer de la capacité technique ou financière aux fins de prévenir et de réparer les atteintes constatées à l'environnement et à la santé. Le risque développement ne doit pas pouvoir servir de prétexte pour que les producteurs échappent à la responsabilité du fait des produits qu'ils fabriquent et mettent sur le marché.

## 6. Coopération entre Etats

- Les Etats doivent coopérer pour étudier les risques liés aux produits issus des nanotechnologies ainsi que les mesures destinées à les prévenir et les circonscrire. La protection du secret industriel et commercial et le droit des brevets ne doivent pas constituer un obstacle à cette coopération.
- Les Etats sur le territoire desquels ces produits sont fabriqués ou mis en œuvre doivent informer les autres Etats des risques encourus et des mesures adoptées.
- Les Etats doivent promouvoir le renforcement des capacités techniques et financières des pays en développement, relatives aux risques associés aux nanotechnologies et aux produits qui en sont issus.

#### 7. Transferts transfrontières

- Les Etats doivent n'autoriser la cession des produits issus des nanotechnologies à destination d'un autre Etat qu'après s'être assurés que cet Etat dispose sur son territoire des moyens propres à circonscrire ces risques ainsi que des installations adéquates, en l'état des connaissances scientifiques et techniques du moment. Une coopération doit être recherchée à cette fin.

#### 8. Traçabilité

- Les Etats doivent imposer les mesures permettant d'assurer la traçabilité des produits issus des nanotechnologies tout au long de leur cycle de vie.

#### 9. Obligations d'information

- Lorsque les produits sont issus en tout ou partie des nanotechnologies, les Etats doivent imposer que les consommateurs en soient informés.

- Les Etats doivent imposer que soient mentionnées les précautions à prendre pour l'utilisation et la déréliction de ces produits.

- Ils doivent promouvoir la sensibilisation du public et lui garantir l'accès à l'information sur les nanotechnologies et les produits qui en sont issus.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°24

#### THE NANOTECHNOLOGIES

Guidelines for international regulations concerning the nanotechnologies

##### 1. Guiding principles

##### 2. Need for balance

##### 3. Potential risks

##### 4. Precautionary approach

##### 5. Risks assessment

##### 6. Cooperation between States

##### 7. Transboundary movements

##### 8. Traceability

##### 9. Information obligations

##### 1. Guiding principles

The Rio Declaration on the Environment and Development has adopted several principles that must guide any regulation on the emerging technologies, and more specifically :

- Cooperation. "States should cooperate to strengthen endogenous capacity-building for sustainable development by improving scientific understanding through exchanges of scientific and technological knowledge, and by enhancing the development, adaptation, diffusion and transfer of technologies, including new and innovative technologies" (Principle 9)

- Participation. "Environmental issues are best handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level. At the national level, each individual shall have appropriate access to information concerning the environment that is held by public authorities, including information on hazardous materials and activities in their communities, and the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. States shall facilitate and encourage public awareness and participation by making information widely available (...) (Principle 10)

- Precautionary approach. "In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capability. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation" (Principle 15)

- Polluter pays principle. "National authorities should endeavour to promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in Principle, bear the cost of pollution, with due regard to the public interest and without distorting international trade and investment" (Principle 16)

- Preventive action. "Environmental impact assessment, as a national instrument, shall be undertaken for proposed activities that are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the environment and are subject to a decision of a competent national authority" (Principle 17)

##### 2. Need for Balance

- In that spirit, Member State must do their utmost to avoid reduction of the potential gains from the implementation of emerging technologies by the disadvantages that may be caused to the human health or the environment.

##### 3. Potential risks

- The expectations placed on nanotechnology throughout their entire life cycle have led to heavy investment in research and development. However, they raise serious concerns about the potential risks that may be caused to the human health or the environment. The integrity and effectiveness of the natural protective barriers of living organisms may be affected.

- Lack of scientific certainty due to insufficient relevant scientific information and knowledge regarding the hazardous character of the products from nanotechnology make the risks assessment difficult.

##### 4. Precautionary approach

- In accordance with the principle of participation, States have to establish regulations on the basis of the precautionary principle to prevent the potential adverse consequences of the products from nanotechnology.
- The risk has to be presumed and assessed. The lack of the generic character of these products imposing a risk management based on a case by case analysis.
- The placing on the market of the products from nanotechnology does not presume the absence of risks and the researches on these products must continue.
- With regard to nanomaterials, if informations on bigger objects with the same chemical composition are available, the minimum valuation in accordance with the precautionary principle is to consider that nanomaterials show similar dangers.

#### 5. Risks assessment

- States shall not authorize manufacture, application, placing on the market and use of the products from nanotechnology without this precautionary approach and shall impose an assessment of the environment and health situation in accordance with the principle of participation.
- Special attention should be given to the workers exposed to these products.
- States have to take measures to ensure a permanent monitoring on the effects of these products. Administrative authorities of the State must be sent all relevant information that is available and should have legal and technical capacities to search and prevent the potential adverse consequences of the products from nanotechnology.
- States should make the manufacturing, application, marketing and using authorisations upon the legal obligation to have technical and financial capacity in relation to prevent the risks potentially associated with nanotechnology and its products and repair the damages that may be caused to the human health or the environment. Liability for development risk cannot furnish a pretext for the producers to escape liability relating to the products they manufacture and market.

#### 6. Cooperation between States

- States have to cooperate to consider risks associated with the products from nanotechnology and the measures to prevent or reduce any adverse effects. Protection of commercial and industrial secrecy and patent law may not constitute an obstacle to this cooperation.
- States within whose territory these products are manufactured or implemented have to pass on information on product risk and to inform national authorities of the action taken to prevent risks.
- States have to support developing countries to build technical and financial capacity in relation to the risks potentially associated with nanotechnology and its products.

#### 7. Transboundary movements

- States shall not authorise international transfers of the products from nanotechnology without having verification that the State of destination has the technical, legal and administrative resources to safely manage the risks potentially associated with nanotechnology and its products, in the light of the present state of scientific and technical knowledge. For that purpose, a cooperation has to be achieved. -

#### 8. Traceability

- States have to take appropriate measures to ensure traceability of the products from nanotechnology throughout their entire life cycle.

#### 9. Information obligations

- When the products derived in part or in full from nanotechnology, States have to require that the consumers are adequately informed.
- States have to impose the indication of safety precautions on the label or on an enclosed leaflet for the use of these products and their management as waste.
- States have to promote the public's awareness and guarantee an access to the information on nanotechnology and its products.

#### RECOMMANDATION N°25

#### PROTOCOLE POUR LA DIVERSITE BIOLOGIQUE ET LA PROTECTION FONCIERE DES ESPACES NATURELS ET RURAUX DE LA PLANETE

Considérant que chaque année plusieurs centaines de milliers d'hectares d'espaces naturels, de forêts et de terres agricoles sont détruits ou dégradés dans le monde,

Considérant que les objectifs fixés par la Convention sur la Diversité Biologique ainsi que les objectifs désignés par l'Union européenne n'ont pas pu être atteints à l'échéance de 2010 et que l'érosion de la biodiversité se poursuit à un rythme élevé partout dans le monde,

Considérant que tant l'Organisation des Nations Unies que l'Union européenne, au vu de ce constat, ont été contraintes de revoir leurs objectifs en envisageant de nouvelles échéances,

Considérant que la disparition des terres exploitées de longue date pour l'agriculture s'oppose à l'objectif d'une alimentation suffisante pour une population mondiale qui pourrait atteindre 9 milliards d'êtres humains à l'horizon 2050 ainsi qu'à la promotion de formes locales de développement rural, en même temps qu'elle participe à l'érosion de la biodiversité,

Considérant que l'artificialisation toujours croissante des sols et leur imperméabilisation constituent une conséquence directe de la consommation des espaces naturels et ruraux,

Considérant le principe d'irréversibilité des situations qui en résulte,

Considérant également que la consommation des terres exploitées de longue date entraîne un report sur les espaces naturels, provoquant ainsi de nouveaux défrichements, la déforestation, le drainage des zones humides, la perturbation des écosystèmes, le cloisonnement des milieux et le recul des espaces naturels, dans une logique de compétition des espaces naturels et des espaces agricoles entre eux,

Considérant que les achats massifs de terres aux fins de production agricoles, énergétiques, minières ou touristiques dans plusieurs parties du monde, à l'initiative de compagnies privées et de gouvernements étrangers, accélèrent encore davantage ce processus,

Considérant que l'érosion de la biodiversité ne pourra pas être stoppée dans ces conditions,

Considérant que les politiques de création de nouvelles aires protégées doivent impérativement être poursuivies et renforcées partout dans le monde,

Considérant dès lors qu'une politique foncière pour la biodiversité doit être définie et promue à l'échelle internationale, dans l'optique d'une complémentarité aux politiques qui ont pour objet la création de nouvelles aires protégées et des autres mesures prises en faveur de la biodiversité,

Soucieuse de promouvoir le principe de non-régression du droit de l'environnement,

DEMANDE aux parties signataires de la Convention sur la Diversité Biologique, réunies, à RIO DE JANEIRO les 14-16 juin 2012, d'adopter la recommandation suivante :

#### PROTOCOLE POUR LA DIVERSITE BIOLOGIQUE ET LA PROTECTION DES ESPACES NATURELS ET RURAUX

#### I- PRINCIPES GUIDANT L'ELABORATION D'UNE STRATEGIE MONDIALE POUR LA DIVERSITE BIOLOGIQUE ET LA PROTECTION FONCIERE DES ESPACES NATURELS ET RURAUX

##### AMELIORATION DU NIVEAU DES CONNAISSANCES SCIENTIFIQUES

- Privilégier et généraliser le critère scientifique de l'habitat naturel en l'intégrant dans :

- les systèmes de comptabilité nationaux et au plan international, notamment les observatoires de la biodiversité, la mesure de l'empreinte écologique, l'évaluation des services écosystémiques rendus par la nature, les indicateurs du développement durable

- les politiques qui ont pour objet la protection de la diversité biologique au plan international et au niveau régional

##### MISE EN PLACE DE CADRES JURIDIQUES

###### Habitats naturels

- Obliger les États à mettre en place au plan national et dans le cadre d'accords régionaux d'un réseau d'habitats naturels et d'espèces

- Permettre aux pays émergents et aux pays les plus pauvres de la planète d'avoir accès rapidement aux outils scientifiques de connaissance des habitats naturels et de la diversité biologique et pour leur évaluation de leur état de conservation, et de se doter d'un cadre juridique foncier

###### Cadastre

- Aider les Etats et les pouvoirs locaux qui le souhaiteraient à se doter d'un système cadastral informatisé permettant d'asseoir les politiques foncières en général et la politique en faveur de la biodiversité en particulier, en veillant à ne pas porter atteinte aux droits coutumiers et aux droits des peuples autochtones, notamment les peuples nomades

###### Études d'impact foncières et compensation

- Obliger les États à compléter leur droit national par des mesures réglementaires sur les études d'impact, lesquelles doivent intégrer des considérations foncières et des mesures compensatoires associées :

- Inscription dans les études d'impact des projets d'ouvrages et d'équipements et dans l'évaluation des incidences sur l'environnement des plans et des programmes, d'un volet foncier faisant apparaître, à l'échelle de la parcelle, la surface totale du projet, les habitats naturels présents et lorsque le milieu est dégradé, les habitats naturels susceptibles d'être restaurés ou renaturés, ainsi que les mesures destinées à éviter, réduire, et le cas échéant compenser les impacts sur la diversité des espèces et ses habitats

- Lorsque les impacts sur la diversité biologique et sur les habitats des espèces ne peuvent pas être évités ou réduits, prévoir une mesure compensatoire foncière reposant sur les principes suivants :

- Prohibition de la compensation financière et du calcul surfacique à parité ; la compensation doit être foncière, fondée sur une équivalence de valeurs (écologiques, paysagères,... ) et avoir pour objet la conservation d'un ou plusieurs habitats ou sa renaturation

- Principe de la réalisation de la compensation, par priorité locale

- Les aires protégées, les habitats naturels présentant un intérêt particulier, notamment pour la fonctionnalité des écosystèmes et pour le renouvellement des ressources naturelles, ne doivent pas être intégrés dans un mécanisme de compensation

#### ACCES A L'INFORMATION, PARTICIPATION DU PUBLIC EN MATIERE DE PROTECTION DE LA BIODIVERSITE ET DES ESPACES NATURELS ET RURAUX

##### Suivi des transactions

- Les Etats doivent mettre en place un système de suivi des opérations portant sur le foncier dans les espaces naturels et ruraux, sur la base d'indicateurs pertinents et actualisés régulièrement

##### Transparence et accès à l'information

- Les Etats veillent à la transparence et à la publication des opérations portant sur le foncier dans les espaces naturels et ruraux, notamment au moyen de la publication en ligne des contrats fonciers et des actes de vente des terres ainsi que le montant des transactions réalisées

- L'ONU soutient des observatoires régionaux et contribue à mettre en place un observatoire mondial des habitats naturels et de la biodiversité, au moyen d'indicateurs établis sur une base scientifique et permettant une appréciation objective de leur état de conservation

- Favoriser la création de comités locaux fonciers à l'image des comités de gestion de l'environnement pour les agendas 21

##### Lanceurs d'alerte

- Les organisations internationales prennent en compte la fonction assurée par les lanceurs d'alerte dans le domaine de l'environnement

##### Formation

- L'ONU soutient des programmes régionaux de formation au droit de l'environnement intégrant le droit foncier, dans la perspective de l'émergence d'une filière

professionnelle de négociateurs fonciers pour la biodiversité

## OUTILS ET MOYENS D'INTERVENTION FONCIERE POUR LA BIODIVERSITE ET LA PROTECTION DES ESPACES NATURELS ET RURAUX

### Agences foncières

- Encourager les Etats à créer des agences spécialisées, nationales ou/et locales, destinées à mettre en œuvre, à titre principal, des mesures foncières spécifiquement orientées vers la protection des habitats naturels et de la biodiversité

### Autorités de régulation

- Encourager les Etats à créer des autorités indépendantes de régulation foncière compétentes notamment sur les questions relatives aux droits d'accès à la terre et à leur mise en œuvre équitable ainsi qu'à la mise en œuvre des mesures compensatoires

### Protections conventionnelles

- Encourager les Etats à compléter leur droit national par une réglementation en faveur de la protection conventionnelle des espaces naturels et de la biodiversité, telles que des baux sur la longue durée et des clauses contractuelles types permettant une protection et une gestion intégrées des habitats sur le long terme

### Fonds mondial

- Création d'un fonds mondial pour la conservation des habitats naturels, destiné à permettre à des organisations non gouvernementales agréées, ayant pour objet statuaire à titre principal la conservation et la gestion des espaces naturels, d'acquérir ou de louer sur le long terme de grandes superficies pour protéger les habitats naturels prioritaires, tout en associant les populations locales à une gestion durable et écologique de ces territoires, et à leur donner les moyens d'une gestion pérenne dans l'objectif de la conservation et de la fonctionnalité des habitats et des espèces

### Stratégie foncière et aires protégées

- Dans les aires protégées, les États mettent en œuvre une stratégie foncière destinée à compléter les mesures réglementaires

- Afin de concilier la protection de la biodiversité, le maintien des espaces naturels et les besoins des communautés autochtones, et notamment ceux des populations nomades, recommander la reconnaissance et la création d'aires de patrimoine autochtone et communautaire

- Encourager les États, en application du principe de non régression, à compléter leur droit national par une réglementation garantissant la pérennité du classement des aires protégées

### Droit de préemption

- Recommander aux États l'inscription dans leur droit national d'un droit de préemption aux fins de protection des espaces naturels au bénéfice des États et des pouvoirs locaux. En cas de création d'un office chargé de l'exercice du droit de préemption, une composition équilibrée de ses instances délibérantes devra être garantie, notamment vis à vis des peuples autochtones et des ONG ayant pour objet statuaire à titre principal la conservation et la gestion des espaces naturels

- Instaurer la faculté, pour les Etats et les pouvoirs locaux, d'affecter les biens préemptés à une ONG agréée ayant pour objet statuaire et à titre principal la conservation et la gestion des espaces naturels

### Régions prioritaires

- Inventorier les régions atteignant un seuil critique, identifier les aires d'intervention foncière et désigner les outils d'intervention fonciers adaptés à leur contexte

- Élaborer des programmes fonciers d'objectifs et de moyens spécifiques pour les régions prioritaires du monde, telles que l'Afrique et Madagascar, l'Amérique du Sud, l'Asie du Sud-Est

## III - UNE VALORISATION EQUILIBREE ET DURABLE DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES

### Agro-systèmes

demande aux États, aux pouvoirs locaux et aux acteurs privés de promouvoir un développement fondé sur les agro-systèmes, modèles locaux intégrant la protection de la diversité biologique, la protection des sols, l'alimentation et la lutte contre la pauvreté

encourager les États à soutenir les activités agricoles respectueuses de l'environnement, compatibles avec la structure et les caractéristiques des sols, ainsi que les débouchés des produits

obliger les États à réglementer l'utilisation des produits phytosanitaires et des organismes génétiquement modifiés dans l'optique d'assurer la protection effective des sols et de la biodiversité ainsi que dans le cadre des politiques de santé publique Principe généraux

- demander aux États d'intégrer dans leur droit national deux principes :

- principe pollueur-payeur

- principe protecteur-receveur

### Services rendus par les écosystèmes

- reconnaissance du principe des services rendus par les écosystèmes

- augmentation des ressources financières au moyen de la mise en œuvre effective des paiements pour les services environnementaux rendus, ou de mesures équivalentes, dont le produit doit être affecté à des actions de protection des habitats naturels

### Agriculture de proximité

- privilégier les circuits courts, à moindre empreinte écologique

- favoriser le rapport direct entre le producteur et le consommateur



### III. COHERENCE DES POLITIQUES ET DES PROGRAMMES INTERNATIONAUX

#### PAR RAPPORT A LA BIODIVERSITE ET A LA PROTECTION FONCIERE DES ESPACES NATURELS ET RURAUX

- Inventorier au sein des programmes internationaux les dispositions qui auraient pour effet contradictoire d'aggraver l'érosion de la biodiversité, notamment en accentuant la disparition des habitats naturels, l'érosion de la diversité biologique et la consommation des espèces naturels et ruraux
- Encourager les Etats à rechercher une complémentarité entre les programmes mondiaux et régionaux d'aide au développement et à l'alimentation avec la protection de la diversité biologique et la protection foncière des espaces naturels et ruraux
- Inscrire dans les programmes mondiaux et régionaux d'aides au développement et à l'alimentation les principes suivants :
- Intégration des objectifs de maintien des habitats naturels et ruraux dans ces programmes
- Désignation des pratiques agricoles et forestières compatibles avec le maintien du bon état de conservation des habitats naturels
- Encourager les Etats et les organisations internationales à élaborer un cadre commun entre les politiques d'aide au développement et la politique de protection de l'environnement
- Encourager les Nations Unies à compléter dans le même sens les objectifs du Millénaire pour le développement, notamment l'objectif

#### RECOMMANDATION N°25

#### PROTOCOL ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL AND RURAL SPACES ON THE PLANET

Considering that every year hundreds of thousands of hectares of natural areas, forests and farmland are destroyed or degraded in the world,

Whereas the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the objectives identified by the European Union could not be achieved at the end of 2010 and the degradation of biodiversity is continuing at a rapid pace throughout the world,

Considering that both the United Nations and the European Union, in light of this, have been forced to review their goals by considering new deadlines,

Considering that the disappearance of land used for many for agriculture is contradictory to the objective of adequate food for a world population that could reach 9 billion people by 2050 and the promotion of local rural development, while it contributes to the erosion of biodiversity,

Whereas the increasing artificiality of soils and their impermeability have direct consequences for the further conversion of natural and rural areas,

Considering the irreversibility of the situations resulting,

Considering also that the conversion of land long exploited for agriculture has further results on natural areas, leading to new land clearing, deforestation, drainage of wetlands, disruption of ecosystems, fragmentation of habitats, and the decline of natural areas, in the logic of competition between natural areas and the farmland between them, Whereas the massive purchases of land for agricultural production, energy, mining and tourism in many parts of the world, at the initiative of private companies and foreign governments, further accelerate this process,

Whereas the loss of biodiversity can not be stopped under these conditions,

Whereas it is imperative that a policy of creation of new protected areas be pursued and strengthened around the world,

Considering therefore that a land policy for biodiversity should be defined and promoted internationally, from the perspective of a harmonization of policies that are intended to create new protected areas and other measures taken for biodiversity,

Anxious to promote the principle of non-regression of environmental law,

REQUESTS the parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, meeting in Rio de Janeiro on 14-16 June 2012, to adopt the following recommendation:

#### PROTOCOL ON BIODIVERSITY AND THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL AND RURAL AREAS

##### I - PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE ELABORATION OF A GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR

##### BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL AND RURAL AREAS

##### IMPROVEMENT OF LEVEL OF SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING

- Prioritize and generalize the scientific criterion of the natural habitat by incorporating it into:
- National accounting systems and internationally, including biodiversity observatories, the extent of the ecological footprint, the valuation of ecosystem services provided by nature, sustainable development indicators
- Policies aimed at protection of biodiversity at the international and regional levels

##### ESTABLISHMENT OF LEGAL FRAMEWORKS

###### Natural habitats

- Require states to implement at the national level and through regional agreements network of natural habitats and species
- Allow emerging countries and the poorest countries on the planet to have timely access to scientific tools for knowledge of natural habitats and biodiversity and the assessment of their condition, and to develop a legal framework on land

###### Cadastre

- To assist States and local authorities who wish to develop a computerized land registration system on which to base land policies in general and biodiversity policy in particular, taking care not to undermine customary rights and the rights of indigenous peoples, including nomadic peoples Studies on impacts to land and compensation

- Require states to complete their national law with regulatory measures on environmental impact assessment, which must incorporate land and associated compensatory measures:

- Inclusion of a land component in impact assessments of the projects of works and equipment and in the assessment of environmental impacts of plans and programs, including the scale of the plot, the total area of the project, natural habitats present and when the environment is degraded, natural habitats that could be restored or rehabilitated, as well as measures to avoid, reduce, and possibly offset the impacts on species diversity and habitats

- Where impacts on biodiversity and the habitats of species can not be avoided or reduced, provided land compensation measures based on the following principles:

- Prohibition of financial compensation and compensation based on the surface area alone; land compensation must be based on an equivalent value (ecological, landscape, ...) and have the purpose of conservation of one or more habitats or its restoration

- Principle of achieving compensation according to local priority

- Protected areas, natural habitats of particular interest, especially for the functionality of ecosystems and for the renewal of natural resources should not be included in a compensation mechanism

#### ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION AND NATURAL AND RURAL AREAS

##### Monitoring of transactions

- States must implement a system to monitor transactions involving the land in natural and rural areas, on the basis of relevant indicators that must be used regularly

##### Transparency and Access to Information

- States must ensure the transparency and publication of transactions involving land in natural and rural areas, including through the online publication of land contracts and deeds of land sales and the amount of transactions

- The UN supports and contributes to regional observatories contributes to the establishment of a global observatory of natural habitats and biodiversity, using indicators established on a scientific basis for an objective assessment of their conservation status

- Promote the establishment of local land committees like the Management Committees of the environment for Agenda 21

##### Whistleblowers

- International organizations take into consideration the function provided by the whistleblowers in the field of environment

##### Training

- The UN supports regional training programs in environmental law, including land rights, in view of the emergence of a group of professional negotiators of land for biodiversity

#### TOOLS AND MEANS OF INTERVENTION IN LAND FOR BIODIVERSITY AND THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL AND RURAL AREAS

##### Land agents

- Encourage States to establish specialized agencies, national and/or local, for implementation, primarily, of land measures specifically aimed at the protection of natural habitats and biodiversity

##### Regulatory authorities

- Encourage States to establish independent land regulatory authorities with particular competence and jurisdiction over the land rights issues of right access to land and their equitable implementation and the implementation of compensatory measures

##### Conventional protection

- Encourage States to complete their national law by a regulation on the conventional protection of natural areas and biodiversity, such as the long-term leases and contractual clauses requiring long-term protection and integrated management of habitats

##### Global Fund

- Creation of a global fund for the conservation of natural habitats, designed to enable accredited non-governmental organizations established principally with the objective of conservation and management of natural areas to acquire or lease long-term large areas to protect priority natural habitat, while involving local communities in a sustainable and environmentally friendly management of these territories, and give them the means of sustainable management with the objective of conservation and habitat functionality and species

##### Land strategy and Protected Areas

- In protected areas, states are implementing a land strategy to complement regulatory measures

- In order to reconcile the protection of biodiversity, the maintenance of natural areas and the needs of indigenous communities, particularly those of nomadic peoples, recommend the recognition and the creation of areas of indigenous heritage and community

- Encourage States, under the principle of non-regression, to complete their national law by ensuring the permanence of the regulatory classification of protected areas

##### Right of pre-emption

- Recommend that States incorporate in their national law a right of first refusal for the purpose of protection of natural areas for state and local authorities. In the case of the establishment of an agency responsible for exercising the right of first refusal, equitable representation on its deliberative or management structure must be guaranteed, particularly with respect to indigenous peoples and NGOs established principally for conservation and management of natural areas

- Establish the authority for states and local governments to allocate preempted assets to an NGO accredited principally established for the conservation and management of

natural areas

Priority Regions

- Inventory regions reaching a critical threshold, identify land areas of intervention and designate land policy instruments adapted to their context - Develop land programs objectives and specific resources for priority areas of the world such as Africa and Madagascar, South America, Asia, South East

## II - EQUITABLE AND SUSTAINABLE VALUATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES VALORISATION EQUILIBREE ET DURABLE DES RESSOURCES NATURELLES

Agro-systems

Request States, local authorities and private actors to promote development based on an agro- system incorporating local models and the protection of biodiversity, soil protection, nutrition and the fight against poverty

Encourage States to support environmentally friendly agricultural activities, that are compatible with the soil structure and characteristics, as well as with markets for products

Require the states to regulate the use of pesticides and genetically modified organisms with a view to ensuring the effective protection of soil and biodiversity as well as safety within public health policy

General principles

-Require States to incorporate into their national law two principles: polluter pays principle

- protector-receiver principle

Ecosystem services

Recognition of the principle of ecosystem services

Increase in financial resources through the effective implementation of payment for environmental services, or equivalent measures, of which the proceeds must be allocated to actions to protect natural habitats

Local agriculture

Focus on short distribution systems in order to lower the ecological footprint Promote the direct relationship between producer and consumer

## III - HARMONIZATION OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES IN RELATION TO INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AND LAND PROTECTION OF NATURAL AND RURAL AREAS

Inventory, conducted by international programs, of provisions that would have the destructive effect of aggravating degradation of biodiversity, notably by increasing habitat loss, degradation of biodiversity and destruction of natural and rural areas

Encourage States to seek complementarity between the global and regional programs of development assistance and food for the protection of biodiversity and protection of natural and rural land

Include in global and regional programs of development assistance and food the following principles:

- Integration of the objective of maintenance of natural habitats and rural areas in these programs

- Designation of agricultural and forestry practices compatible with maintaining the good condition of conservation of natural habitats

Encourage states and international organizations to develop a common framework for development aid policies and politics of environmental protection

- Encourage the United Nations to complete the objectives of the Millennium Development Goals, especially Goal

## RECOMMANDATION N°26

### LE TOURISME DURABLE

Consciente que le tourisme, dans la richesse de sa diversité, est une source d'épanouissement humain et un facteur de paix entre les populations, mais aussi un moyen de prise de conscience des processus écologiques indispensables à l'entretien de toutes les formes de vie ;

Convaincue que la capacité des ressources naturelles, la disponibilité des populations d'accueil, les ressources énergétiques pour satisfaire les besoins globaux de l'humanité en déplacement et découverte touristiques ne peuvent être maintenues à long terme que par une gestion durable et équitable des ressources, dans l'intérêt des générations présentes et futures, des points de vue tant écologique et économique que social, culturel et spirituel ;

Considérant les valeurs de paix et d'échanges des déclarations internationales du tourisme comme la Charte Mondiale du Tourisme Durable de Lanzarote et le Code Mondial d'Ethique du Tourisme ;

Reconnaissant l'intérêt des recommandations issues de la Conférence internationale sur les petites îles en développement et autres petites îles tenue à Mahé en 2001 et rappelées lors du Sommet mondial de Québec sur l'Ecotourisme en mai 2002 ;

Considérant qu'il n'existe pas encore aujourd'hui de convention mondiale, de portée générale, applicable à l'ensemble des pratiques et des sites touristiques que compte la planète ;

Estimant qu'une telle convention mondiale du tourisme durable servirait de fondement légal à une coopération accrue en matière de protection et de mise en valeur des sites touristiques et qu'elle serait de nature à renforcer les conventions existantes relatives à des domaines connexes ;

Rappelant les principes fondamentaux du droit international de l'environnement ;

Revendiquant, qu'à défaut de convaincre de l'opportunité d'élaborer une nouvelle convention mondiale du tourisme durable aussi bien entre les Etats que parmi les institutions internationales et les organisations non gouvernementales, que les recommandations suivantes servent de base pour les déclarations adoptées lors de la Conférence des Nations Unies à Rio en juin 2012 ;

## RECOMMANDE :

1. La reconnaissance du tourisme durable comme facteur de développement socio-culturel des populations et/ou des communautés locales, par sa contribution à la lutte contre la pauvreté, à l'amélioration de leur niveau de vie, à la valorisation de leur cadre de vie et à la considération de la paix entre les peuples ; à travers des processus ad hoc de gouvernance partagée ;
2. l'intensification des réformes visant à améliorer les législations environnementales nationales afin qu'elles favorisent notamment :
  - (i) la revalorisation des fonctions environnementales et sociales des loisirs,
  - (ii) la planification de leur aménagement en vue d'assurer la durabilité de leur utilisation,
  - (iii) une gestion plus équitable, participative et décentralisée de leurs ressources, impliquant tous les acteurs concernés, au profit des populations usagères, des collectivités locales et de la communauté nationale ;
3. l'adoption d'une législation établissant une autorité de police touristique, en relation avec les ministères chargés de l'environnement et du tourisme, des autorités de police et de gardes- côtes, des divers corps d'inspection et des organismes de formation des forces de l'ordre ;
4. la capacitation juridique et économique des populations en vue de l'appropriation et de la maîtrise de leurs territoires et de leurs ressources patrimoniales matérielles et immatérielles;
5. la reconnaissance d'une portée juridique à la Charte mondiale du tourisme durable (Lanzarote, 1995) et au Partenariat mondial pour le tourisme durable (reconnu par l'OMT et le PNUE au Costa Rica, 2011) ;
6. la proclamation de la valeur juridique des chartes, codes et autres instruments institutionnels mondiaux de reconnaissance du tourisme durable, par une codification des principes d'un droit international du tourisme intégrant les exigences des politiques publiques et du droit de l'environnement ;
7. l'élaboration de codes de bonnes conduites entre les pouvoirs publics, le secteur hôtelier, les transporteurs aériens, les autres acteurs économiques du tourisme, les organisations non gouvernementales locales et la population, alliant développement du tourisme et protection de l'environnement et intégrant le principe international usager-payeur pour les activités touristiques ;
8. la promotion des initiatives nationales, régionales et universelles tendant à perfectionner les instruments politiques et juridiques de protection, de mise en valeur et de gouvernance des sites touristiques, en particulier :
  - (i) les outils de planification et de programmation touristiques locaux intégrant les principes de prévention et de participation issus du droit international de l'environnement,
  - (ii) un zonage de densité touristique sur les principales destinations touristiques (locales, régionales internationales), après réalisation d'une évaluation environnementale stratégique et dans une démarche de développement durable,
  - (iii) les critères et indicateurs de l'aménagement durable des espaces touristiques,
  - (iv) la certification environnementale des sites touristiques ;
9. la reconnaissance de l'intérêt et la pertinence d'une démarche d'intégration du changement climatique dans la définition d'un nouveau tourisme durable inscrit dans l'économie verte (Gothenburg, 2009, Copenhague, 2009), notamment par la mise en place de nouveaux instruments juridiques ou financiers d'encadrement des capacités de déplacement aérien touristique et de discrimination dans le choix des moyens de déplacement au profit des réseaux alimentés par des énergies non carbonées.

## RECOMMANDATION N°26

### SUSTAINABLE TOURISM

The 3 Global Meeting of Limoges:

Recognizing that tourism, in the richness of its diversity is a source of human development and a condition of peace between peoples, but also an awareness of the essential ecological processes for the existence of all life forms ;

Convinced that the ability of natural resources, the availability of host populations, the needs of energy resources to satisfy touristical travels can be maintained in long term only by sustainable and equitable management of resources into the benefit of present and future generations both ecological and economic, social, cultural and spiritual point of view ;

Considering the values of peace and exchange of international declarations of tourism as the World Charter for Sustainable Tourism of Lanzarote and the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism ;

Recognizing the value of the recommendations of the International Conference on small islands developing and other small islands held in Mahé in 2001 and reiterated by the World Summit on Ecotourism in Quebec in May 2002;

Whereas there is for the moment no global convention applicable to all touristical practices and attractions that exist on the Earth ;

Considering that such a global convention on sustainable tourism serve as legal basis for increased compatibility in the protection and promotion of tourist sites and would strengthen the existing conventions on related fields ;

Recalling the fundamental principles of international environmental law ;

Claim, failing to convince the opportunity to develop a new global convention on sustainable tourism among States as well as among international institutions and nongovernmental organizations, the following recommendations are the basis for the declarations adopted at the United Nations Conference in Rio in June 2012;

## RECOMMENDS:

1. The recognition of sustainable tourism as a factor of socio-cultural development of populations and / or local communities, for his contribution to the fight against poverty, to improve their standard of living, to the consideration of peace between peoples ;

2. the improvement of national environmental laws so that they promote :

(i) the revaluation of environmental and social functions of leisure,

(ii) the planning of their development to ensure sustainability of their use,

(iii) a more equitable, participatory and decentralized management of resources, involving all stakeholders for the benefit of user populations, local and national community ;

3. the adoption of legislation establishing a tourism police authority, in relation to the environment and tourism ministries, the Coast Guard, and various inspection bodies ;

4. the legal and economic empowerment of population to the ownership and control of their territories and their heritage resources ;

5. the recognition of legal value to the World Charter for Sustainable Tourism (Lanzarote, 1995) and the Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism (recognized by the WTO and UNEP in Costa Rica, 2011);

6. the proclamation of legal value to charters, codes and other global and institutional instruments of sustainable tourism, by a codification of international law tourism principles integrating public policies and environmental law;

7. the development of codes of good conduct between public authorities, hotel industry, airlines companies, other tourism stakeholders, local NGOs and the public, combining tourism development and environmental protection and integrating polluter pays principle for international tourism activities ;

8. the promotion of national, regional and universal legal instruments for a new governance of tourist sites, including:

(i) planning tools integrating the principles of prevention and participation from the international environmental law,

(ii) a zoning density of the main tourist destinations (local, regional, international), after conducting a strategic environmental assessment and with a sustainable development approach,

(iii) the criteria and indicators for sustainable management of tourist areas,

(iv) environmental certification of tourist sites;

9. the recognition of the value and relevance of an integrating approach to climate change for a new sustainable tourism included in the green economy (Gothenburg, 2009, Copenhagen, 2009), specially with the establishment of new legal and financial supervisory capacity for air travel and with a discrimination in the choice of tourism transport for the benefit of non-carbon energy.

## International Chamber of Commerce (ICC)

Present in over 120 countries through its global network, ICC the world business organization - is a representative body that speaks on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world. ICC would like to underscore the private sectors vital role in efforts to promote sustainable development as recognized in Chapter 30 of Agenda 21. In particular, it notes that increasing prosperity, a major goal of the development process, is contributed primarily by the activities of business and industry.

As a convener of the Business Action for Sustainable Development (BASD) 2012, ICC welcomes this opportunity to submit input to the compilation document for the outcome document for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). Our submission complements and supports the BASD 2012 submission.

In this regard, ICC's input focuses particularly on the two Rio+20 themes a) green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and b) institutional framework for sustainable development. It should be read in conjunction with various ICC policy statements and papers produced over the past several years.

### I. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

#### Global Policy Context on Green Economy

The green economy concept has emerged prominently in various intergovernmental forums such as the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Green Economy Initiative, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Green Growth Strategy and in discussions among G20 leaders. In addition, green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication has been declared a priority theme for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 (Rio+20). Clearly governments around the globe are seeking ways to define and shape this concept into meaningful policy frameworks that advance economic growth while enhancing environmental protection.

#### Definition and Terminology

Green Economy is a term principally utilised by policy makers. There is neither yet a single agreed definition nor a set of indicators or financial measurements on what exactly consists the Green Economy. Global business would therefore rather focus on greener economies which acknowledges the many challenges and opportunities present across sectors and value chains. However, for the purpose of the upcoming United Nations Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development, we acknowledge the term Green Economy as a policy term and view it as a unifying theme to articulate sustainable development as the direction in which all economies need to strive towards while acknowledging existing tensions and current global economic turmoil. Whilst the concept is global in scope, the priorities and actions needed to transition towards a Green Economy may vary from sector to sector, value chain to value chain, and specific national circumstances.

#### Definition

The ICC Green Economy Task Force has thus defined the term Green Economy as follows: The business community believes that the term Green Economy is embedded in the broader sustainable development concept. The Green Economy is described as an economy in which economic growth and environmental responsibility work together in a mutually reinforcing fashion while supporting progress on social development. Business and industry has a crucial role in delivering the economically viable products, processes, services, and solutions required for the transition to a Green Economy.

#### Terminology (often used interchangeably)

- Green Growth (Bottom Up) - Operational, Process Level What enterprises do every day: Companies green products, processes, services, technologies, implement sustainable consumption and production (SCP) practices, green their supply chains, drive research and development (R&D) for green innovations and solutions, as well as integrate sustainability into business strategies.

- Green Economy (Top Down) - Strategic, System Level The term economy applies to the macro-economic policy level and addresses systemic challenges beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP), including incorporating environmental externalities in economic terms. In this way sustainability is mainstreamed into macro-economic policy. Business acknowledges the shared need for action and the need to work on both, bottom up and top down approaches simultaneously. A one size fits all approach does not exist.

#### The Ten Systems Conditions for a Transition towards a Green Economy

A Green Economy requires the three pillars (economic, social, and environmental) of sustainable development to work in a mutually reinforcing fashion while supporting progress on social development. Efforts by all actors should reconcile the need for short and medium term profit with longer term systemic change. Economic growth is and will be essential to provide the resources and social equity necessary to build capacity and finance actions in a transition towards a Green Economy.

The private sector has already taken concrete actions towards building a Green Economy, including by reducing environmental impacts across value chains to increasing energy and resource efficiency, investing in low-carbon and renewable energy and reducing waste. To provide guidance for governments on key lessons learned, the ICC Task Force on Green Economy undertook extensive analysis and consultation to determine what is required to further a transition towards a Green Economy, including the development of the following ten high level systems conditions that will form Tier I of a longer term ICC Green Economy Roadmap as outlined below.

Graphic 1: Development of tiers for a longer term ICC Green Economy Roadmap.

(See full submission for Graphic)

Graphic 2: Interdependence of the ten systems conditions for a transition towards a Green Economy.

(See full submission for Graphic)

#### Social innovation

##### 1. Awareness

The shift towards a Green Economy requires awareness about the depth of global economic, environmental and social challenges as well as new opportunities. Awareness and understanding are pre-requisites for setting priorities and action and require a shift in the global debate. It is a shared priority and challenge for all actors, whether government<sup>4</sup>, inter-governmental bodies, business or civil society and consumers.

##### 2. Education and Skills

Education is paramount for the operationalization of the Green Economy. Education must be enhanced by policy makers, academia and business in order to build the skills and entrepreneurship needed for implementation. All skill requirements will be affected from continuously evolving environmental and scientific understandings. A Green Economy should seek to develop the necessary skills in STEM<sup>5</sup> and inter-disciplinary disciplines, in human and natural capital, sustainable livelihoods, capacity building.

##### 3. Employment

Employment is a critical element to the economy, the environment and social development. A Green Economy provides decent and meaningful employment and promotes employment throughout the world, especially as a means to overcome poverty. Policies aimed to create so called green jobs should not come at the cost of a net reduction of jobs across the overall economy. A distinction between green and brown jobs must be avoided as all jobs contribute to green all aspects of the economy.

#### Environmental innovation

##### 4. Resource Efficiency and Decoupling

A Green Economy recognizes that the world's resources are finite and must be managed with scarcity in mind. It enhances the resource efficiency of materials flows through the principle of more from less. It also seeks to take into account the economic value of natural capital and ecosystem services. Over the long term, Green Economy strives to increase economic, social, and environmental benefits to achieve sustainability while decoupling economic activities and societal developments from negative environmental impacts.

##### 5. Life Cycle Approach

A Green Economy adopts a life cycle approach which involves further minimizing the environmental footprint of all economic activity through applying science and acknowledging emerging knowledge. The life cycle of a product starts at raw material extraction, research on conceptual design and development of products and services, manufacturing, distribution, use and end of life treatment options such as recycling, recovery and re-use or re-manufacturing. At every stage of the life cycle of a product, process, technology or service, critical questions about costs, benefits, environmental responsibility and social impact are being addressed. A life cycle approach also helps identify hidden opportunities and accounts for unintended consequences, spillover implications, and competition for resources.

#### Economic innovation

##### 6. Open and Competitive Markets

A Green Economy emphasizes the importance of sustainable growth and access to open, well-functioning, and efficient markets. It recognizes that relying on markets is indispensable to the evolution of both societies and companies toward greener economic activity and prosperity. In order to become a functional economic system, Green Economy needs to become ingrained in international and global markets and operationalized in the market and business balance sheets. Economy-wide approaches should be adopted that include receptive markets for delivering business value and commercially viable products and services along the value chain.

##### 7. Metrics, Accounting, and Reporting

For a Green Economy to become operational, indicators, metrics, accounting measures and better disclosure and reporting must be developed that make sense in economic terms while ultimately including the cost for externalities. This entails the simultaneous pursuit of developing operational green growth measures at company level (bottom up) and strategic macro-political accounting standards and economic indicators at the system level beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP; top down). A flexible approach which balances the cost-benefits remains critical for success; flexibility will also be essential to incorporate new knowledge and scientific understanding in coming decades.

##### 8. Finance and Investment

A Green Economy actively drives innovation in private and public finance and investment into the direction of sustainable development. To succeed, it should set supporting

policy and regulatory frameworks that promote informed investment decisions for both public and private investors. It stimulates new demand for innovative and responsible businesses and government services through transparency. It also provides appropriate public-private engagement mechanisms that look beyond short-term pressures and focus on the development of long term shared value.

Mutually enforcing cross-cutting elements

#### 9. Integrated environmental, social and economic policy and decision making

A Green Economy has a holistic approach to decision making. It integrates and balances policies with respect to environmental, social and economic priorities by considering the intended and unintended consequences of interlinked policies that may result in synergies or barriers and promote or hinder economy-wide, greener growth. Consequently, it will be essential to enhance scientific input and consider perspectives from a variety of stakeholders to assess policy pathways and to improve processes moving forward.

#### 10. Governance and Partnerships

A Green Economy is based on governance structures that allow all actors can meet their shared responsibilities. Governance structures at local, regional, national and global level need to be aligned and mutually reinforce each other for innovation to occur. Elements include but are not limited to multilateral rules-based trade and investment, a stable economic environment governed by the rule of law, including effective intellectual property rights protection, strong contractual arrangements, and safe and stable communities. A key modus operandi of a Green Economy is working through new approaches that facilitate innovative collaborations and partnerships between business, government and civil society. Such collaborations can take many forms including public private partnerships, business value chain engagements and alliances with academia and consumers. No one can do this alone.

#### II. Institutional framework for sustainable development

##### Key messages

„h For business, this important area can be divided into two parts:

- a) improving the institutional framework for sustainable development from the perspective of business;
- b) enhancing the role of business therein;

„h Moreover, we regard it as inextricably linked with other key matters in Rio+20, notably green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and emerging issues.

„h Achieving improved conditions for transparency and integrity in doing business in all countries is of paramount importance for private and public sector actions in support of implementation of Rio+20 recommendations. The fight against bribery and other corruptive practices should be a shared priority.

Institutions and governance are critical elements of enabling frameworks for sustainable development, and improving their effectiveness will be an important outcome of Rio+20. Challenges of globalization require active collaboration between governments and stakeholders, particularly business. While companies doing business in globalized markets and across supply and value chains welcome and often prefer globalized approaches and integrated frameworks, they also understand the importance of tailored approaches and institutions reflecting national circumstances and priorities. Such approaches will create a mosaic of solutions and approaches across global, national and local levels - however they will pose challenges for coordination, jurisdiction, and efficiency. Finding the right balance is critical. ICC believes that the following three points should be considered in the Rio+20 outcome document:

- Development of a system-wide strategy for sustainability across the United Nations system. The long-term goal of integration will require global economic and social institutions to become more responsive to environmental concerns, but will also require more integration of social and economic dimensions by environmental institutions. We support the option of enhancing institutional reforms and streamlining existing structures, as the primary vehicle for advancing larger sustainability goals - thus, preserving and strengthening what has worked well; understanding and responding to challenges and strains; continuing progress to increase value and effectiveness for government delegations and observer groups. A system wide strategy for sustainable development across the United Nations would ensure greater coordination.

- Identification of priorities by United Nations institutions and concentration on their specific expertise: In the past two decades, a number of new challenges to sustainable development have surfaced which have required the international community to produce joint efforts. Climate change, the loss of biodiversity, the spread of desertification and land degradation, damages to marine life, governance, corruption, poverty eradication, education, amongst others, all these issues have been taken up at the UN level in an effort to offer concerted solutions. A clear process leading to a thorough assessment of emerging issues would assist in the allocation of tasks and responsibilities amongst a variety of actors within and outside the United Nations.

Following, two concrete steps that can assist in flagging the priorities, and ensuring that resources are well deployed:

- we support strengthening the science-policy interface within international institutions, with the full and meaningful participation of developing countries. This must also include channels for credible and robust science from stakeholders, particularly from business.
- another key element relates to strengthening links between policy making and financing, to widen and deepen the funding base. Governments must approach the challenge of the overall framework of intergovernmental institutions with more deliberate and strategically guided resourcing, as well as more vigilant oversight.

We encourage synergies between compatible multilateral environmental agreements. However, preserving and complementing the independence and tailored nature of multilateral agreements should be a priority.

Enabling frameworks and incentives in policies, markets and institutions are critical to effective and successful implementation of sustainability policies. In addition to sound, science- and risk-based national environmental regulations, important elements include rule of law, strong local and national institutions, and open trade and markets.

- Enhancement of the engagement of business and business organizations: Sustainability and globalization challenges cannot be addressed by governments alone, and require active collaboration between governments and stakeholders, particularly business. Since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio, discussions in numerous forums have increasingly - whether implicitly or explicitly - acknowledged the need for engagement by business on multiple fronts: technology, investment, implementation, job creation, competitiveness, capacity building, among others. While each of the nine major groups brings varied capabilities, networks and structures to the process, we believe that business is a central actor for the achievement of the sustainable development goals.

Enhancing the engagement of business and business organizations iV along with other major groups iV is an indispensable attribute of a substantive outcome of Rio+20 discussions on institutional framework for sustainable development. Enhancing the role that business plays is one way to strengthen synergies across the various bodies

involved in the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development, and thus accelerate its implementation.

From a business perspective, the starting point of strengthening its contribution is in national sustainable development efforts, that builds on compliance with national laws, in associated business planning and management systems and in implementation wherever a company operates. These can include and be reinforced by a number of additional voluntary approaches, including:

- Partnerships with governments, inter-governmental organizations, and NGOs
- Voluntary codes like ICC Business Charter for Sustainable Development or the Global Compact
- Voluntary sectoral approaches such as the chemical's sector's Responsible Care
- Soft law approaches, like the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises
- Reporting initiatives, such as the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)
- Standards and guidance, such as ISO 14000 and ISO 26000

#### Policy Recommendations

1. affirm that the two themes of Rio+20 (a) green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and (b) the institutional framework for sustainable development are mutually reinforcing as there is a need for structural change in the institutions that govern the global economy.
2. affirm that a transition to a green economy will depend on structural change in the institutions that govern the global economy. Improving these institutions and their ability to enable the right frameworks are critical prerequisites for all actors to deliver on their shared responsibilities and ensure better coordination in policy implementation. Governments should support this by undertaking, inter alia, the following:
  - (a) affirming that the long-term goal of integration will require global economic and social institutions to become more responsive to environmental concerns, but will also require more integration of social and economic dimensions by environmental institutions.
  - (b) encouraging synergies between compatible multilateral environmental agreements, whilst preserving and complementing the independence and tailored nature of multilateral agreements as a priority.
  - (c) developing a system-wide strategy for sustainability in the United Nations system to better accommodate all three pillars of sustainability, and foster a more integrated approach with economic international institutions.
  - (d) creating a stronger link between global environmental policy making and financing, to widen and deepen the funding base for environment.
  - (e) developing a system-wide capacity-building framework for the environment.
3. approach the challenge of the overall framework of intergovernmental institutions with more deliberate and strategically guided resourcing, as well as more vigilant oversight.
4. build consensus on strengthening the synergistic roles of governments, business, civil society for a transition towards a green economy, and in particular seek to enhance business engagement.

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## International Coalition for Sustainable Production and Consumption (ICSPAC)

Text not available.

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## International Coastal and Ocean Organization, Secretariat of the Global Ocean Forum

Global Ocean Forum

Through its Secretariat, the International Coastal and Ocean Organization accredited to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development since 1993  
 INPUT TO RIO+20 COMPILATION DOCUMENT  
 November 1, 2011

For an in-depth analysis of ocean and coastal issues in the context of Rio+20 and detailed recommendations for each issue-area, please see our report, Oceans at Rio+20: How Well Are We Doing in Meeting the Commitments from the 1992 Earth Summit and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development?--Summary for Decision Makers at <http://www.globaloceans.org/sites/udel.edu.globaloceans/files/Rio20SummaryReport.pdf>

#### INTRODUCTION

The Global Ocean Forum calls on all of the world's governments participating in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to seize the opportunity to achieve a significant ocean outcome at Rio de Janeiro on June 4-6, 2012. The new vision embodied in the 1992 Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development) represented a major paradigm shift that changed the world and many of us around the world. Twenty years later, we must take advantage of Rio+20 to assess what we have achieved (and not achieved) and to craft the way to a new future: A future where we can all live and prosper in a low-carbon global economy in health and harmony with nature. There must be sustained political attention on the importance of oceans and coasts in achieving sustainable development goals. Oceans are the quintessential sustainable development issue, essential to all three pillars of sustainable development: economic development, social development, and environmental protection. Oceans perform vital life-sustaining functions for the planet; oceans generate half of the oxygen on Earth, are a vital source of sustenance and livelihood, absorb carbon dioxide, and regulate climate and temperature. Marine and coastal biodiversity provides many valuable services and products to people, including climate regulation, cancer-curing medicines, genetic resources, nutrient cycling, carbon storage, cultural value, and sustainable livelihoods, among others. Healthy oceans are inextricably linked to the long-term management, development, and well-being of coastal populations. Just as one cannot do without a healthy heart, the world cannot do without a healthy



ocean.

However, the impacts of a number of key drivers, including overfishing, pollution, population rise, and climate change are compromising the ability of the oceans to continue providing essential resources and critically important services. The magnitude of the cumulative impacts on the ocean is greater than previously understood. As we continue to delay the urgent and critical action needed to address these negative trends, environmental conditions continue to deteriorate, coastal communities continue to suffer, and the action needed to mitigate these impacts becomes more costly and difficult.

Urgent action can no longer be delayed if we hope to provide a sustainable ocean for current and future generations. Societies must implement integrated and cross-cutting approaches to managing the world's ocean and coastal resources to ensure the survival of the planet and the safety and well-being of coastal and island populations in 183 coastal countries.

## GENERAL PERSPECTIVES

We must embrace the vision of the whole, and institute integrated oceans governance at all levels. At the global level, we need enhanced and decisive United Nations mechanisms for dealing with the new levels of risk arising from climate change impacts and realizing the opportunities that lie ahead. At the regional and national levels, we must bolster our collective capacity for addressing the intertwined issues of oceans, climate, and biodiversity in an effective and decisive manner, building on the experiences and partial successes since the 1992 Earth Summit and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. We must create and take advantage of opportunities presented by the movement towards a green economy and an improved framework for sustainable development, in order to alleviate poverty in coastal and island nations around the world and find better means by which these countries can sustainably benefit from the ocean resources found under their jurisdiction and ensure local benefits, social equity, resource conservation, and public transparency.

We must link the actions of the major global negotiating fora related to oceans (the Law of the Sea processes, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity, etc.) to achieve coherent and decisive outcomes for ocean policy. Oceans must become a prominent aspect of the UNFCCC outcomes, given the central role of oceans in the climate system and the profound impacts of climate change on coastal and island resources and communities. We must support the implementation of a regular process for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects (Regular Process), and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and promote linkages among these initiatives, to provide a broader basis for more effective and coordinated decision making among the major fora and across all levels.

## SPECIFIC ELEMENTS

The link between healthy oceans and sustainable development must be further recognized and enhanced. We must strengthen and underpin efforts already being taken on the ground that have laid the foundations for prolonged success; but with stronger measures, more decisive actions and, most importantly, enhanced global, regional, and national institutions that can adapt to changing conditions and potential tipping point scenarios in an effective, decisive, and timely manner. These efforts should build on successful experiences and effective institutional frameworks, rely on lessons-learned, and should be supported by sustainable financing. In order to provide a basis and rationale for crafting a strong oceans outcome at Rio+20, the Global Ocean Forum, in collaboration with members of the Global Ocean Forum Working Groups and support from the Global Environment Facility, the UN Development Programme, and the University of Delaware, prepared a major report assessing progress achieved in the implementation of international commitments emanating from the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) related to oceans, coasts, and small islands, and examining the prospects of a green economy for oceans, coasts and small islands and an improved institutional framework for sustainable development. The report examines the implementation (or lack thereof) of each of the major UNCED/WSSD goals related to oceans, coasts, and island states in the following areas:

- „h Ecosystem-Based Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management
- „h Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, and Integrated Water Resources Management
- „h Biodiversity and Marine Protected Areas
- „h Small Island Developing States
- „h Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture
- „h Addressing Critical Uncertainties for the Management of the Marine Environment and Climate Change
- „h Coordination of UN Activities on Oceans
- „h A Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment
- „h Capacity Development and Public Outreach

For each topic, we provide an overview of the issue-area as it has evolved, on the basis of the available data. We then provide a rating of progress achieved on the major UNCED/WSSD goals in the form of a Report Card. The report cards assess three major variables: 1) Extent of efforts; 2) Extent of progress, and 3) Timing; Goals reached. The report cards also provide an explanation for the grades that are given, discuss major obstacles to implementation, point to „bright spots“ or successful cases, if appropriate, and present a set of recommendations for the consideration of decision makers. The report relies, in large part, on policy analyses prepared by the Global Ocean Forum and the expert judgments of participants at the five global ocean conferences organized by the Global Ocean Forum who come from all sectors of the global ocean policy community (governments, international agencies, NGOs, industry, science groups).

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR OCEANS AT RIO+20

Major cross-cutting recommendations which emanate from the Oceans at Rio+20 report are highlighted below.

### 1. Ecosystem-Based Management/Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management (EBM/ICM)

#### Proposal

Enhance the implementation of integrated ecosystem-based ocean and coastal management at the national, regional, and global levels, including in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction

#### Rationale/Justification

Oceans can no longer be managed solely on a sector-by-sector, use-by-use basis. Sole reliance on sectoral institutions at the national level does not provide an appropriate framework needed to manage complexity and uncertainty for effective EBM/ICM. Instead, as Agenda 21 put it, approaches that are „integrated in content, and precautionary and anticipatory in ambit“ must be adopted.

Since 1992, the paradigm of ecosystem-based integrated coastal and ocean management has been widely accepted and put into place in a growing number of countries. A major challenge in the next phase is to further enhance the implementation of integrated ocean policy, including its institutional aspects, at various levels, and consider appropriate applications in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction.

#### Recommendations

- „h Scale up successful EBM/ICM efforts at the national level to include larger portions of the coastal zone and ocean under national jurisdiction;
- „h Further strengthen integrated institutions and decision-making processes for oceans and coasts, including through the enactment of ocean and coastal laws;
- „h Accelerate the development and implementation of EBM/ICM in regional and transboundary governance approaches, including through the Large Marine Ecosystem Programs and the Regional Seas Programs, encouraging the adoption of regional protocols on EBM/ICM to guide action at the national level;
- „h Apply established EBM/ICM principles and approaches to the 64% of the ocean that lies beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ) to address multiple use conflicts, manage new uses, and protect vulnerable ecosystems and marine biodiversity. Vest authority for applying EBM/ICM approaches in ABNJ in existing or new institutions and establish a process for multiple-use decision making;
- „h Accelerate efforts to create representative, resilient and well-managed networks of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the context of the ecosystem approach, complemented by the integration of harmonized economic and non-economic valuation methodologies into development planning and sectoral management frameworks;
- „h Incorporate and apply Marine Spatial Planning, aiming to achieve, in national waters and regional areas, the Convention on Biological Diversity's Aichi target of protecting at least 10 per cent of marine and coastal areas.

## 2. Oceans and Climate Change

#### Proposal

Develop an integrated approach to addressing the interlinked issues of oceans and climate change, including through the development of an integrated strategy on oceans and climate within and outside the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

#### Rationale/Justification

The world's oceans play a central role in global climate processes, generating oxygen, absorbing carbon dioxide and regulating climate and temperature. But climate change is now threatening the oceans' ability to continue to provide these services. The more than 50% of the human population that lives in 183 coastal countries, including 44 small island nations, are already experiencing the earliest and most pronounced effects of climate change, and will suffer disproportionate impacts from ocean warming--e.g., sea level rise, extreme weather events, glacial retreat, and ocean acidification--if bold action is not taken.

Despite the threats to these key resources, however, oceans and coasts have not figured on the agenda of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) until very recently.

#### Recommendations

Develop an integrated strategy for oceans and climate within and outside the UNFCCC that would include provisions for:

#### Mitigation

- „h Adopt stringent reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, including from marine industries such as shipping, within a short timeframe;
- „h Support additional research on quantifying the amounts of carbon stored and released by marine and coastal ecosystems (‘Blue Carbon’), take measures to protect and restore marine ecosystems as major carbon sinks, and move toward incorporating Blue Carbon into emissions reduction and climate mitigation protocols;
- „h Sustainably develop ocean-based renewable energy (such as offshore wind power, wave energy, tidal power, etc.) and accelerate efforts to implement these approaches through marine spatial planning;
- „h Consider and, if appropriate, develop regulatory systems for possible carbon capture and storage via injection in deep seabed geological formations;
- „h Strongly discourage application of other geo-engineering approaches, such as iron fertilization, and CO<sub>2</sub> injection in the water column.

#### Adaptation

- „h Implement ecosystem-based adaptation strategies, including marine protected areas, through integrated coastal and ocean management institutions at national, regional, and local levels to build the preparedness, resilience, and adaptive capacities of coastal communities;
- „h Provide sufficient funding, supported by improved estimates of adaptation costs in coastal areas and small island States, to support adaptation for coastal and island communities that are at the frontline of climate change, including through the possible creation of a special Coastal Adaptation Fund;
- „h Develop and support measures to address the issues associated with the displacement of coastal populations as a result of climate change.

#### Capacity development, scientific monitoring, and public education

- „h Provide technical assistance to small island developing States (SIDS) and developing countries to build institutional capacity to implement adaptation measures, early warning systems, and disaster risk reduction;
- „h Improve awareness of understanding among policymakers and the general public of the importance of oceans and climate issues and the need to take bold policy measures and changes in behavior and lifestyle to avoid disastrous impacts on the world's coastal and island communities;
- „h Establish the scientific capacity in all countries for marine environment assessment, monitoring, and prediction;
- „h Expand public outreach and education efforts to improve awareness of the risks posed to coastal communities and to catalyze support for mitigation and adaptation responses.

## 3. Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Oceans

#### Proposal

Improve the ability of SIDS to sustainably utilize and effectively govern their oceans and coastal resources to ensure the continued functioning of marine resources and ecosystems as a critical aspect of livelihood, well-being, and survival

#### Rationale/Justification

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are stewards of vast ocean resources and play a key role in efforts to sustainably manage ocean and coastal resources. Social and economic development for most SIDS is inextricably linked to the sustainable management and use of coastal and marine resources.

Many SIDS are often unable to benefit from the resources within their EEZs due to lack of funding support, exploitation by foreign entities, and, in some cases, insufficient technical and management capacity. Climate change further threatens the very survival and economic and social well-being of SIDS, bringing the drastic possibility, in some cases, of loss of country and widespread population displacement.

Building the capacity of SIDS to equitably access and sustainably manage and utilize their oceans and coasts is critical to achieving sustainable development goals for oceans and coasts.

#### Recommendations

„h Enhance ocean use agreements in the Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) of SIDS by improving their design and implementation to ensure social equity, resource conservation, and public transparency, and that the benefits from EEZ resources accrue to SIDS and their peoples;

„h Provide financial support to SIDS to improve their ability to adapt to the impacts of climate change, supported by improved cost estimates, and to protect coastal and ocean ecosystems, securing their role in providing valuable ecosystem services, products, and livelihoods critical to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, especially poverty alleviation;

„h Enhance capacity development on the interrelated issues of ocean and coastal management/climate change/biodiversity, especially: 1) among high-level leaders, 2) fostering the next generation of leaders through investment in university programs, especially through the SIDS Consortium of Universities, and 3) among leaders and stakeholders in local communities.

#### 4. Capacity Development

#### Proposal

Increase capacity for ocean and coastal management, and sustainable resource use, and ensure that capacity building projects are linked to national and regional sustainable development goals

#### Rationale/Justification

The ambitious agenda on capacity development laid out by the UNCED and WSSD processes has not yet been realized. The total level of funds expended on capacity development has been very small, and there is little collaboration and coordination of efforts among the wide array of actors; educational institutions, UN agencies, multilateral and bilateral donors, and NGOs, that assist in capacity development.

Capacity development remains an issue of central importance to developing states and SIDS. With the threats of climate change, the importance of capacity development of country leaders, current and future professionals in the field, local communities, and the public, becomes even more important and urgent. Likewise, the strengthening of national institutions dealing with oceans and coasts to respond to the challenges of climate change adaptation and mitigation, represents an essential imperative. There needs to be greater collaboration and coordination among countries, donors, UN agencies, providers of capacity training and education, others, to provide an accurate assessment of needed financial investments, and to develop a strategic approach to capacity development at the global level and in various regions.

#### Recommendations

„h Develop a strategic approach to funding and capacity building for oceans and coasts, including through increased collaboration and coordination among countries, donors, UN agencies, and providers of capacity training and education. Periodically assess and track overall efforts and expenditures in capacity development, aggregate impact, and the extent to which current and emerging needs are being met;

„h Substantially increase the total amount of financing devoted to capacity development, commensurate with the needs and challenges facing developing countries and SIDS;

„h Develop and/or strengthen mechanisms for sharing of training materials and education curricula, and lessons learned in capacity development among organizations involved in capacity development for ocean and coastal governance, including the development of a clearinghouse of information on capacity building activities, courses, and training materials.

#### 5. Green (Blue) Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

#### Proposal

Develop a low-carbon green (blue) economy that facilitates the sustainable utilization of ocean and coastal resources that provides for improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental and ecological impacts

#### Rationale

A green economy has been defined as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. It is an economy which is low in carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive. The oceans play a critical role in sustainable livelihoods and social well-being around the world and offer a multitude of opportunities for greening the economy, especially in key sectors such as ocean and coastal ecosystems management, sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, ports and shipping, coastal tourism, and renewable energy. Therefore, the oceans must factor critically into the movement towards a low-carbon green economy to support sustainable development and poverty eradication.

#### Recommendations

For the world's oceans and coasts, a blue approach to a green economy should:

„h Support the greening of ocean industries through efficiency measures, low carbon technologies, and enhanced access to international markets and finance, especially for

the developing and least developed countries;

„h Identify and scale-up ongoing successful green economy initiatives (e.g., responsible coastal tourism practices modeled in small island developing States, sustainable fishing practices such as through certification of sustainably caught seafood, greening of the shipping industry through efforts to reduce sulphur oxide emissions) and strengthen means of implementation, including capacity building, technology transfer, and the mobilization of financial resources from both the public and private sectors;

„h Ensure that the greening of ocean industries contributes significantly to: 1) new sources of income and jobs; 2) low carbon emissions, efficient use of resources, and reduced production of waste and pollution; and 3) sustainable development of oceans and coasts, social equity and inclusiveness, and poverty reduction in coastal communities;

„h Support the valuation and payments of ecosystem services and other biodiversity financing mechanisms for more effective decision making in development planning involving ocean and coastal environments and resources. Information on the estimated value of particular ocean/coastal ecosystems in terms of the goods and services that they provide (such as food provision, raw materials, nutrient cycling, gas and climate regulation, and recreation), is a powerful tool for justifying conservation measures and the expenditure of financial resources for management;

„h Support scientific research efforts to quantify the carbon sequestration capacity of coastal ecosystems, include mangroves in the existing REDD+ program,\* and pursue the potential for the trading of various forms of „Blue carbon“ (coastal vegetation such as mangroves, seagrasses and salt marsh grasses that sequester carbon) in a similar way to green carbon (e.g., rainforests) and how this could be incorporated into emission and climate mitigation protocols;

„h Address the gaps in the implementation of international commitments on ocean-related targets within the framework of a green economy. For example: 1) reduce fishing pressure on overfished or depleted stocks through alternative livelihood development as part of a broader green growth roadmap; 2) apply the integrated and ecosystem-based approach to marine pollution prevention through more effective engagement of industry and the private sector;

„h Enhance the capacity and participation of all stakeholders for effective ocean and coastal management and governance in a green economy through: provision of incentives for green/blue production and resources for promoting research, development, and transfer of clean technologies; investment in capacity development, and development of a toolbox of best practices and mechanisms for sharing knowledge, experience and practices, including through communities of practice.

## 6. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development of Oceans and Coasts

### Proposal

Develop a coordinated and coherent institutional approach to sustainable development of oceans and coasts at various levels, underpinned by renewed political attention and effective institutional frameworks, to enable a crosscutting approach and timely response to major threats and opportunities

### Rationale

The institutional framework for oceans and coasts is made up of a complex web of agreements, agencies and organizations operating at various levels, characterized by overlapping mandates, substantive policy gaps, conflicting priorities, and/or lack of coordination. In light of growing drivers of change, such as climate change and population growth, and insufficient political attention on oceans, achieving sustainable development goals for oceans and coasts becomes very difficult.

A coordinated and cross-cutting approach at the global, regional, and national levels (including a greater focus at the highest political levels) is needed to provide a common vision for sustainable development of oceans and coasts, enhance the joint capacity to address difficult issues (such as climate change), facilitate cross-sectoral and trade-off decisions among different sectors, develop integrated and coordinated solutions to interrelated problems, and enable joint action with appropriate funding support.

### Recommendations

„h Elevate oceans to the highest levels of the UN system (UN Secretary General), to enable a cross-cutting approach and appropriate and timely response to major threats and opportunities for oceans, including through the establishment of a UN Secretary-General or other high-level entity/coordination mechanism on oceans;

\*Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD) is an effort to create a financial value for the carbon stored in forests, offering incentives for developing countries to reduce emissions from forested lands and invest in low-carbon paths to sustainable development. „REDD+“ goes beyond deforestation and forest degradation, and includes the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks (UN REDD Programme).

„h Link various ocean-related fora (Law of the Sea processes, Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN Food and Agriculture Organization, International Maritime Organization, etc.) and reform existing institutions, including the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD), and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), to provide for consistent and coordinated policy development and priority-setting in addressing ocean and coastal issues;

„h Develop a UN Secretary-General „Ocean Budget“ report that would address financing needs for oceans and coasts and provide an assessment of previous and current expenditures on ocean-related issues;

„h Support regional institutional approaches to cross-sectoral ecosystem-based ocean governance by further developing existing regional mechanisms or creating new regional mechanisms where they do not exist to facilitate regional cross-sectoral coordination and priority-setting;

„h Integrate ocean and coastal issues into national sustainable development strategies and frameworks providing institutional support for the critical role of oceans in sustainable development, and focus continued efforts to improve the national-level implementation of duties and responsibilities emanating from multilateral instruments and agreements.

## ABOUT THE GLOBAL OCEAN FORUM

The Global Ocean Forum, first mobilized in 2001 to help governments place issues related to oceans, coasts, and SIDS on the WSSD agenda, brings together ocean leaders from all sectors from 112 countries to advance the global oceans agenda. The Global Ocean Forum promotes the implementation of international agreements related to oceans, coasts, and SIDS by assessing progress made, and identifying obstacles and opportunities for achieving sustainable development. Through expert working groups and multi-stakeholder dialogues, the Global Ocean Forum has been reporting on progress achieved on each of the WSSD ocean-related goals. The Secretariat of the Global Ocean Forum, the International Coastal and Ocean Organization, is an international NGO that was accredited to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development in 1993, and received special Consultative Status with the UN Economic and Social Council in 2006.

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## International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers

Dear Ms. Tonya Vaturi,

Sub: ICSF's Inputs towards Compilation Document

The International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) is a non-for-profit organization working on establishment of equitable, gender-just, self-reliant and sustainable fisheries, particularly in the small-scale, artisanal sector.

I-CSF, has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and Liaison status with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. It is also admitted to ILO's special list of NGOs.

ICSF would like to submit its inputs to the compilation document, as attached. We would be thankful if the same could be acknowledged.

Looking forward to hear from you, Best regards,

Chandrika Sharma

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY Encl.: As above

Annexe

International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF)

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development: Rio+20

Contribution of International Collective in Support of Fishworkers (ICSF) to outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference

Inputs for Compilation Document

1 November 2011

### 1. Introduction

1. ICSF welcomes the objective of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development: Rio+20 to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development. We welcome its focus on 'green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication' (GESDPE) and 'institutional framework for sustainable development' (IFSD). We understand GESDPE integrates economic, environmental and social pillars of sustainable development. In the context of marine resources, GESDPE, we assume, also recognizes 'blue economy' or sustainable and equitable distribution of ocean resources. 2. ICSF is concerned that since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) the dominant model of development has encompassed a very narrow conceptualisation of development that has emphasised industrial growth at the expense of the social and environmental components of sustainable development. Similarly, economic values have come to dominate discussions on green and blue economy, minimizing the importance of social, cultural and spiritual values inherent in the quest for a sustainable and equitable global society.

### 2. Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20:

#### 2. 1 Rio+20 would uphold human rights approach towards sustainable use of fisheries

3. Rio+20 should be seen as an opportunity to strengthen the social pillar of sustainable development. Towards accelerating progress on this front, principles of equity and respect for human rights need to be upheld. The fishery sector needs greater attention from a human rights perspective considering the vulnerability of the sector to resource overexploitation, unsafe working conditions, and natural disasters. Fishery conservation and management measures that are insensitive to social dimensions can be a threat to sustainable fishery and GESDPE. It is imperative, therefore, to make rights-based approaches to sustainable use of fishery resources consistent with a human rights approach.

4. Towards establishing greater parity between environmental, economic and social dimensions of sustainable fisheries, Rio+20 should support fishers and fishworkers, including fishery-dependent indigenous peoples, towards fully securing their human rights in relation to the development, use and management of aquatic (inland and marine), riparian and coastal ecosystem goods and services.

5. To improve working conditions and safety of fishing operations, and to provide social security, Rio+20 should call upon States to ratify the ILO Work in Fishing Convention, 2007, which is of direct benefit to fishers on board fishing vessels and to promoting and sustaining decent work in the fishery sector. In addition, Rio+20 should help address existing gaps and bring important provisions of post-Earth Summit international developments like the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, and the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries to benefit fishers and fishworkers, and fishing communities.

#### 2.2 Rio+20 would exert pressure to uphold obligations for fishery governance

6. The environmental and social problems identified by Agenda 21 facing fisheries under national jurisdiction such as local overfishing, unauthorized incursions by foreign

fleets, ecosystem degradation, excessive fleet sizes, insufficiently selective gear, and increasing competition between artisanal and large-scale fishing, and between fishing and other types of activities, continue to remain unresolved in many parts of the world. The share of fully exploited, overexploited, depleted or recovering fish stocks has reached the highest percentage recorded since the mid-1970s. This is in spite of many States ratifying the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, and adopting legislation and policies that conform to the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. Traditional and customary rights of fishing communities and indigenous peoples continue to be threatened. The Rio+20 should seek States to honour their legal commitments, especially towards sustainable use of fishery resources.

7. Inadequate commitment to international obligations is most evident as reflected in the state of poor governance of natural resources. Good governance, although recognized as essential for sustainable development, as pointed out by the 2002 Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, still remains elusive in many parts of the world, especially in regard to conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources.

8. In the context of the green economy, there should, in relation to fishery, be a concerted effort to promote capacity and effort reduction, as well as energy optimisation, programmes. In this context, destructive and high external input fishing methods like bottom trawling should be prohibited in a time-bound manner. While considering the appropriate model relevant to sustainable use of fishery resources, larger fishing vessels may be considered in a fishery only after exhausting the possibility of employing smaller vessels--- an approach that may be called "scale subsidiarity"— with due consideration for safety of fishing operations and for the safety and working conditions of fishers on board.

9. Rio+20 should bring greater attention to governance issues at the local, national, regional and international levels. Context-specific governance structures where governments and communities, fishers, civil society, fishworkers and indigenous groups collaborate for fishery conservation and management should be promoted. States should financially assist formation of local committees, cooperatives and trade unions, and encourage traditional associations and indigenous councils to actively participate in fishery governance, towards strengthening the bulwarks of sustainable development.

10. Rio+20 should encourage greater recognition of collective rights in the management of fisheries such as community-based fishery management regimes. Rio+20 should discourage privatization of fishery resources through quota management and other systems that confer property rights to individuals since this would undermine the social pillar of sustainable development, a key determinant in the success of sustainable development, especially in multi- species, labour-surplus fishing economies that are fully dependent on fisheries for their livelihood.

11. Whilst supporting protected areas and marine reserves in reversing overfishing pressures, habitat destruction and conservation of biodiversity, it is important to adopt these measures within the framework of sustainable use of living resources that integrates the fundamental principles of environmental justice, social justice and human rights in consultation with the resource users, especially small-scale, artisanal, indigenous and traditional fishing communities.

## 2.3 Rio+20 would recognize sustainable forms of artisanal and small-scale fisheries

12. In the context of sustainable fisheries, artisanal and small-scale fisheries are more sustainable and equitable, and are recognized as a low input system. Rio+20 may therefore seek States' support to ensure future growth in capture fishery production originates from enhanced small-scale fisheries that do not harm ecosystem health and respect ecological limits, and ensure an equitable distribution of benefits. In the context of green and blue economy, artisanal and small-scale fisheries can make significant contributions to sustainable development, particularly in labour-surplus fishing economies by sustaining livelihoods, quality of life and culture of coastal and inland fishing communities, and indigenous peoples. Artisanal and small-scale fisheries may also be seen as a vehicle for poverty eradication and food security and for promoting access to resources for women and marginalised groups.

13. Agenda 21, the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and the 1995 FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries have recognized the importance of protecting the rights of subsistence, small-scale and artisanal fishers and fishworkers to a secure and just livelihood. Rio+20 should re-emphasize the importance of small-scale, artisanal fisheries to coastal communities and in promoting sustainable use of fishery resources, as recognized in these instruments, albeit overlooked in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

14. It should be ensured that pillars of sustainable development not only draw elements from legal instruments but also from civil society initiatives. In this regard, Rio+20 should draw upon elements of sustainable development from civil society statements such as the 2008 Bangkok Statement of Civil Society on Small-Scale Fisheries and the "Shared Gender Agenda" emanating from the 2010 ICSF Workshop on defining a gender agenda for sustainable life and livelihoods in fishing communities, Mahabalipuram, India.

15. The proposed FAO Voluntary Guidelines on Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries (VG-SSF) should be seen as an opportunity to complement the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, especially to build bridges between sustainable use of fishery resources and human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and other relevant legal instruments. Rio+20 should encourage States to actively participate in the process of developing VG-SSF to benefit small-scale fishworkers and fishing communities.

## 2.4 Rio+20 would promote nutritional security of the poor

16. Rio+20 should recognize the role small indigenous fish species play in nutritional security in several Asian countries, especially to address micronutrient deficiency in the diet of the poor. In this context, conservation and protection of micronutrient-dense small indigenous fish species in the wild should be promoted. It is also important to recognize and document traditional knowledge in regard to nutritional and therapeutic use of fish-based traditional food.

## 2.5 Rio+20 would promote extensive and modified extensive aquaculture

17. In promoting aquaculture production in the context of the GESDPE, herbivorous species in extensive and modified extensive aquaculture systems should be given priority. Local and domestic food security should be the primary focus of aquaculture development. Particular attention should be given to developing systems that use native species, and prohibiting systems that rely on exotic species.

## 3. Views on implementation

18. Rio+20 should develop plans of implementation, set targets, develop indicators and establish monitoring mechanisms, inter alia, for achieving social goals of sustainable development, especially for sustainable use of natural resources, including fisheries. There should be systematic follow-up post-Rio+20 through special sessions. An independent monitoring body may be set up with representation of indigenous and local communities to ensure that funds committed to realize ocean-related goals of sustainable development are utilized in a socially-just manner. Capacity-building of traditional, local and national institutions as well as State agencies should be undertaken towards better integrating economic, environmental and social pillars of sustainable development. Redress mechanisms may be established in the event of abuse of human rights of indigenous and local communities, and other legitimate users of natural resources, during the course of implementing sustainable development programmes.

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## International collective of researchers in early childhood education for sustainability

Full submission to zero draft of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio +20 outcome document

International collective of researchers in early childhood education for sustainability

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We are a group of researchers in early childhood education for sustainability. The group is intergenerational, international and interdisciplinary. Our research focuses on the time period in children's lives from birth to eight years of age, and recognises that young children are active participants in sustainability agendas and practices. The research involves a collaborative process for social change through education, and our work is anchored in principles of envisioning, critical thinking, multiplicity, participation, systems thinking and inclusiveness. We aim to meet annually and engage in transnational critical and continuous dialogues on the importance of children's participation in sustainability issues.

Sustainability is a complex, ever-changing, messy issue that is loaded with socio-political tensions, challenges and possibilities requiring engagement with ethical and justice considerations. Voices and experiences of all ages can bring necessary multiple perspectives and wisdom to sustainability debates, discussions and deliberations. Children have experiences that provide knowledge and perspectives needed for constructive contributions to sustainability strategic plans, policy and actions. In the longer term, children have the most to lose and are the most vulnerable in the current debates. They also have rights to be involved in all matters that concern them and to participate in the decision making in matters that will impact on their futures.

We expect the outcome of Rio+20 to include a commitment to the inclusion of children's voices in all proposals, and that measures, initiatives, strategies for sustainability include people of all generations, beginning in the early years. Early education is a crucial arena for cultivating collective skills, knowledge, dispositions and responsibility for sustainability. By prioritising children's participation in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Rio +20 outcome document, children will have the opportunities to rightly see themselves, and to be seen, as significant contributors to actions for a sustainable planet. From the early years, children can initiate and create sustainable change. International, national and local education and research authorities in agreement with Article 12 and 29 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) are necessary enablers of the enactment of children's participation and perspectives, which we expect should be clearly stated in the document.

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## International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON IRRIGATION AND DRAINAGE

SUBMISSION BY ICID

To The Preparatory Committee of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, 2012 (RIO+20) -----

Background

This submission is a contribution to the preparatory process of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, scheduled to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from 4-6 June 2012 (Rio+20). The contribution is submitted to the Preparatory Committee established by the UN General Assembly, through its Secretariat, in

response to an open invitation by the Committee to all relevant stakeholders to submit their inputs by 1st November 2011 for preparing the draft outcome document for the UNCS.

#### The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID)

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) is the leading scientific, technical, professional and not-for-profit Non-Governmental International Organisation (NGO) in the fields of irrigation, drainage and flood management. It draws together the diverse disciplines and professions involved in the planning, design, operation, management and development of irrigation, drainage and flood management works throughout the world. The Commission, with active support from a network of nearly 110 member countries, provides an international forum and network in which the technical, agronomic, socio-economic, environmental and managerial complexities involved in the development, management and operation of irrigation, drainage and flood control works are discussed. Improved practices are identified and promoted through the National Committees in the member countries.

The ICID's vision is for a world that is food secure by ensuring adequate water for food following best agricultural water management practices.

While the main focus on best irrigation and drainage practices remains in the fore, risk management by addressing concerned issues like drought and floods in a climate change scenario is also on the top of agenda. Given the new situation wherein some external drivers impact some of the above actions, ICID had started addressing these issues also. These inter-alia include Poverty elimination, rural livelihood, Bio Energy, Enhancing Storage under the changing Climate scenario, MDG, waster water reuses etc., to quote a few.

#### 1. Sustainable Development and Poverty reduction

Multiple global crises have undermined the progress towards sustainable development and poverty alleviation efforts in the last 20 years. Implementation of Agenda 21 has been slack and has failed to avert the food crisis and thousands of deaths due to famine. The global population is expected to be over 9 billion by 2050 and they have to be provided for food and means of livelihood. There is increasing need to innovate in agriculture and food production in order to respond to this and other challenges posed by, inter alia, climate change, urbanization and globalization.

Directly or indirectly, agriculture provides the livelihood for 70 percent of the world's poor. Dependent on rainfed production in an increasingly variable and unreliable natural environment communities are faced with regular drought and yield losses. Locked into a scenario where spatial expansion of a household's agricultural production area, due to dense population patterns, is not possible any more, a more intensive use of their assets i.e. land and labor might therefore be a way forward.

Lack of access by the poor to adequate, safe and reliable supplies of water limits their options to improve their livelihoods. Water availability being variable in space and time; the rural well being is intimately dependent on its supply, use, disposal and reuse. Impact of climate change, on the agricultural production on one hand, and the hydrological regimes that directly impacts the production methods due to reduced water availability and precipitation variability, on the other, will undermine the rural income base. This loss of income will be further exacerbated by the need for increased spending as a result of damage caused by extreme weather events. Broad-based water resources interventions such as major infrastructure provide national, regional, and local benefits from which all people, including the poor; can gain (Camdessus, 2003). Effective water resources development and management, therefore, are basic to sustainable growth and poverty reduction, in several ways.

Poverty alleviation is therefore closely linked to agriculture and water security and how climate change impacts on the two are dealt with by the international community, particularly in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable.

#### 2. Agriculture and Food Security

Food security is a complex issue that requires complex solutions. The food security concept has evolved over the years and is presently focused on ensuring food access, its utilization, stability of the access and food availability through domestic production and import (FAO 2002). In the recent times it has been proven time and again that production both at international level as well as at domestic level needs to be assured, one cannot be sacrificed at the cost of the other. Countries that import large amounts of food will be very vulnerable to increased food prices. Therefore increased food production has to be supported more equitably, particularly in large parts of Africa. Globally, 70% more food will need to be produced to satisfy the growing demand.

Malthusian specter of a world running out of food, originally premised on satiating the demon of an exploding population now includes the livestock revolution, and most recently bio-fuels. Yet since the 1960s, the global application of science to food production has maintained a strong track record of staying ahead of these demands. Looking to 2050, demons such as water and land scarcity and climate change raises the specter once again. Considering what is in the technology pipeline, the new funding mechanism to support the small farm financing one can be cautiously optimistic about the ability of world to feed itself to 2050. But cautiously indeed!

Starting in the 1960s, the Green Revolution increased the global food production dramatically based on the development of high-yielding varieties of cereal grains, expansion of irrigation infrastructure, and distribution of hybridized seeds, synthetic fertilizers, and pesticides to farmers. Some of these tools may no longer be acceptable, while the success of others such as hybridized seed varieties depend on assured water supply through irrigation. Despite impressive gains in yields over the past 50 years in most of the world, large and economically exploitable yield gaps remain in many places, especially in the developing world and nowhere more so than in sub-Saharan Africa where food supply is the most precarious.

Producing more food will largely depend on increasing crop yields, not farming more land. Further, most of the food production in the Asian region comes from smallholders, part of the poorest segment of the population and most vulnerable to climate risks. The challenge is particularly daunting in Africa, where prospects are good, resources abundant but there is need for a paradigm policy shift, particularly in terms of financing infrastructure related to irrigation. Africa has yet to experience a green revolution in a sustained manner. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD, 2001) sees support focusing on sustainable land management and water utilization through small-scale irrigation (SSI) as an important element of a broader development strategy for Africa.

The gravity of the current food crisis is the result of 20 years of under-investment in agriculture and neglect of the sector even though agriculture accounts for a third of GDP and two thirds of employment in many developing countries. Investment in agriculture must be increased because for the majority of poor countries a healthy agricultural sector is essential to overcome hunger and poverty and is a pre-requisite for overall economic growth. Net investments of US\$83 billion a year must be made in agriculture in developing countries if there is to be enough food for 9.1 billion people in 2050.

#### 3. Water Security

Water is crucial for food security and human well-being. Enhancing the food productivity targets have to go hand in hand with increased land and water productivity. Scarcity of and competition over freshwater is a growing concern for many regions in the world. Climate change will exacerbate water stress and other problems. It simply offsets the climatic risk that rainfed production would otherwise be exposed to but also makes possible the cultivation of a range of exotic crops that would not otherwise survive under rainfed conditions – notably horticultural products. Water security is, therefore, a pre-condition for increasing agricultural productivity and should form intrinsic part of an effective poverty reduction strategy. A water-secure world means a better quality of life.



Fresh-water is finite and is significantly unevenly distributed in time and space determined by the hydro-climatological conditions of a region. Although the global average annual water availability per capita in 2025 will be 4800 m<sup>3</sup>, due to the uneven distribution of water resources, some 3 billion people will live in countries - wholly or partly arid or semi-arid having less than 1700 m<sup>3</sup> per capita water availability. In 1990, eighteen countries in the world were 'severely water scarce', a number that could swell to 30 by the year 2025. Most of these are located in Asia and Africa that are also facing food shortages. Further, there are 12 countries with availability less than 500 m<sup>3</sup>. This number too is likely to increase to 19 by 2025. More than 1 billion people including one third of the population of China and India live in arid regions facing water scarcity. Similarly, 350 million people mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa face severe scarcity, and can't do without embarking upon massive water development projects to meet with their water needs.

The essence of water security combines the concern for the resource base coupled with concern for their quality. Services which exploit the resource base for agriculture and other economic enterprise should be developed and managed in an equitable, efficient and integrated manner. Achieving water security thus requires cooperation between different kinds of water users, and between those sharing river basins and aquifers, within a framework that allows for the protection of vital eco-systems from pollution and sustainability of the environmental services that are so crucial for rural livelihood and health.

Climate change is expected to alter hydrological regimes and the patterns of freshwater resources availability (IPCC 2008). Reduced rainfall and higher evapotranspiration are projected over the next three decades for many semi-arid areas, and drought-affected areas are likely to increase in extent with climate change. Changes in temperature, rainfall and evaporation determine the basic agro-ecological zoning which set the spatial limits to plant growth. Worldwide, this is expected to result in a decline in food production unless suitable technologies and management are developed and provided to the agricultural sector.

Water security requires tackling the extremes: too little water and too much of water. Climate variability is likely to increase with climate change. The combined effect of a change in climate and an increase in variability will result in more frequent and larger flood and drought impacts. More often these extremes produce destructive effects in terms of floods and droughts. Combination of long-term changes and the greater frequency of extreme weather events is likely to have adverse impacts on the agricultural sector. Drought and water scarcity affect the availability of food to some 600 million people of the arid and semi arid tropics of Africa and Asia and parts of Latin America.

Floods can pose taxing hazards to human lives and property, but in many parts of the world societies are increasingly taking advantage of river basins and other flooding-prone areas as vehicles for development. Accordingly, societies are more and more willing to assume the risk of coexisting with flooding, an approach which also lends itself readily to the participative themes of risk management, vulnerability and capacity building as an integrated approach to flood management (WMO 2009).

#### 4. Sustainable food production and rural development: role of irrigation

Agriculture is by far the largest user of water. Irrigated agriculture provides 40% of world's food production from 17% of cultivated land. In regions of water shortage, yield of irrigated land often is more than 2 to 3 times that of rainfed agriculture. Even in temperate and humid zones, with the timely irrigation during critical periods of growth, yield of crops may double or even treble. In case of rainfed cropped areas, if assured or even supplemental irrigation is provided, it can make significant contribution to food production. Irrigation increases productivity and value of land, which brings prosperity.

Water is used in agriculture in a great variety of situations, drawn from variety of sources and applied through various means. The spectrum covers individual efforts spanning from the small scale irrigation through groundwater abstraction, on-farm rainwater harvesting to community based tank irrigation and covers more extensive large public irrigation command areas. Aside from large public funded irrigation schemes, a major part of the sector consists of privately-financed tube wells using groundwater. Small scale irrigation is of increasing importance for smallholder farming systems in developing countries particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa and contributes to the increase of agricultural incomes, employment and reduction of poverty and malnutrition.

Irrigation serves as an important preventive tool in climate risk management that mitigates the impacts of droughts, increasing resilience of the farmers to extreme weather thereby reducing the risks in agricultural production through:

- (i) intensification and diversification of the farming system
- (ii) improving significantly agricultural productivity by reducing the effects of seasonality; and
- (iii) enabling farmers to cultivate crops with diverse vegetation periods.

Lack of assured irrigation results in unsatisfactory agriculture returns, breeding the tendency to switch over to non-agricultural occupations resulting in migration to urban areas in search of better employment. Irrigation while reversing this trend, plays a major role in poverty alleviation and builds resilience of rural people against natural disasters like droughts and famines. The poor landless segments of the communities served with irrigation have better employment opportunities in construction and maintenance works of irrigation schemes.

Irrigation and drainage schemes not only play a critical role in increasing crop yield and improving rural household income, but also help in accelerating the pace of development of rural infrastructure through improved communications and road systems, better healthcare, education facilities for rural communities. Irrigation canals often serve as the only source of potable drinking water for the rural areas of the developing world. The increased agricultural production and overall infrastructural improvements act as powerful magnets to attract investments in rural agro-based industries.

Historically, irrigation project plans have not given sufficient consideration to their environmental impacts. Additionally, the potential gains from irrigation are far from being realized optimally due to a variety of interconnected reasons such as: sub-standard design and construction; under-investment in infrastructure; poor canal management; inadequate investment in running and maintenance; poor crop production techniques and agricultural services; poor land and water management at farm level; poor coordination between agriculture scientists and water managers. Due to these and the sub optimal participation of farmers in the management of irrigation there are some adverse environmental impacts of irrigation. One of the most evident adverse impacts of irrigation development is the creation of water logged and salinated land. Subsurface drainage, an effective tool to combat this twin problem and increase the sustainability of irrigated agriculture, has attracted inadequate attention. Despite these shortcomings irrigation is likely to remain a keystone of food security policies and therefore all efforts should be made to overcome these shortcomings.

More resilient farming practices, irrigation services and adapted infrastructure are needed to cope with increasing climate variability and water scarcity situation. Investments in water storage, water harvesting and introduction of water saving technologies are required to improve food production in water scarce regions.

#### 5. Irrigation as a tool to support Green Economy

Green economy is defined (UNEP, 2011, (1)) as the one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities (Ref UNEP). It is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive which lays the path to sustainable development and poverty alleviation by way of pursuing opportunities to invest in sectors that rely on use of natural resources. The move towards a green economy aims to increase access to basic services and infrastructure as a means of alleviating poverty and improving overall quality of life. However, the present literature has failed to fully appreciate the role of irrigation in Green Economy (UNEP, 2011 (2)).

Presently, irrigation covers more than 260 million hectares i.e. about 17% of world's arable land, but is responsible for around 40% of crop output and employs nearly 30% of population spread over rural areas. It uses about 70% of waters withdrawn from global river systems, 60% of which gets used consumptively, the rest predominantly returning to the river systems enabling its reuse downstream. Irrigation is a time tested and effective tool for creating rural livelihood, uses natural renewable resources, is a proactive means for reducing vulnerability against droughts and thus forms a crucial area for investment within green economies. Further, the role of irrigation both in ensuring water supplies, maintaining and restoring, wherever possible, biodiversity and ecosystem services, needs to be recognized.

In the coming decades feeding the growing world population and meeting the increasing demand for bio-fuel will call for increased output from both irrigated and rainfed agriculture. Some of this will come from an increase in the irrigated acreage, though the scope for this will be much more limited than in the past. The larger part of extra output will have to come from the more efficient use of water resources already being exploited, epitomised in the slogan more crop per drop, while restricting use of fossil fuel based energy.

Good infrastructure helps improve the land productivity. Like any socio-economic activity utilising finite natural resources, growth and sustained yield from agriculture per unit of water and land, calls for adequate financial and human investments. Water service interventions (such as water and sanitation and irrigation services for the unserved poor) play a major role in reaching some of the MDGs (Camdessus, 2003).

In certain cases, past success in irrigation has in a sense been achieved by mining of non-renewable resources underground water using fossil energy. Where groundwater is used for irrigation, the fossil energy costs of supply may be high. Energy consumption for groundwater irrigation is a regionally important and significant quantum in India and China. Better environmental management in catchments, rivers and irrigation areas with minimal use of fossil fuels is necessary for water security and sustainable food production and achieving the objectives of Green Economy.

Irrigation policies that are broad based and follow the principles of equity, economic efficiency and environmental sustainability as envisaged in the Dublin principles (ICWE, 1992) of Integrated Water Resources Management and support both the adaptation as well as mitigation efforts need to be developed. An integrated approach through a mix of irrigation sources, scales of interventions, means of applications based on the local hydro-climatic situation would serve the objectives of Green Economy.

Adaptation strategies targeted at food security may actually include i) the re-allocation of water away from the agricultural sector in order to maintain or supplement environmental stream flows thereby supporting other forms of water dependent livelihood or economic activities; or ii) the capping of spatial expansion of irrigated areas where water savings are achieved to reduce overall demand.

#### 6. Resurrecting irrigation to support Green Economies

The International Commission on Irrigation and drainage has deliberated on these issues (ICID, 2008; ICID, 2009; ICID, 2010; ICID, 2011) at length and urges the international community to resurrect irrigation and drainage to ensure water security, achieve food security and facilitate climate change adaptation and mitigation and pave the way for green economy as a pathway to sustainable development and poverty eradication. ICID has been urging the governments and the international community that:

- There is an urgent need for implementing various strategies and measures to boost agricultural production utilizing the available water and land resources with the highest efficiency possible with due consideration to the social, economic and ecological factors.
- Rainfed agriculture, which continues to perform below its potential needs to be supported to enhance food security and ecosystems sustainability. Impacts of climate change and droughts on rainfed agriculture requires greater support to research and capacity building in rainfed agriculture, especially for understanding the impacts and developing adaptation options, in addition to optimizing water management.
- Recognizing the enormous challenges and complex issues facing the irrigation sector, increased investment both from public and private sources both for expansion of irrigation area as well as for modernizing existing infrastructure are needed.
- Storage, both natural and in reservoirs, supported by improvement in management of stored water is key to reducing uncertainty and risks associated with rain fed agriculture to address the challenges at the interface of water, land, livelihoods, and the environment.
- The potential of micro-irrigation technology for saving water through precise delivery of water and fertilizer to crops and to raise farm incomes needs to be further exploited. Inexpensive small-scale versions of this technology can be used on the smallest of land holdings, making the benefits available to the poorest smallholders.
- Rehabilitation and modernization of irrigation system using an integrated and participatory approach can raise agricultural productivity significantly, often without increasing the total use of water, and is addressing that need.
- Participatory Irrigation Management (PIM) with well introduced reforms can enhance irrigation performance. National and regional governments and donor agencies are urged to support PIM, and encourage reforms by mobilizing financial and technical sources. There is a need to make Water User Associations (WUAs) economically sound and legally empowered.
- Enhanced support is needed for applied research and development, capacity building at the farm level, improved extension services in the dissemination of technology/information/ knowledge among all stakeholders, especially farmers to promote best agricultural technologies and their dissemination.
- An integrated approach of agricultural drainage by developing and adopting modern technologies and tools suited to local conditions for the reclamation of waterlogged and saline areas is required right from planning / implementation stage.
- The public private partnership in development and management of water resources for irrigation with the involvement of local stakeholders to ensure efficient management of the scarce water resources is to be given immediate attention.

Investment in improved technologies in agriculture and irrigation

Productivity improvement in agriculture rests on the removal of a number of structural constraints affecting the sector. A key constraint is climatic variability, which raises the risk factor facing intensive agriculture based on the significant inflow of private investment. Policies for rapid productivity growth, with a range of innovations in risk management, market development, rural finance, organizing and training farmers, and provision of technical advisory services, need to be strengthened to make markets work better and provide a conducive environment for technology adoption.

Large scale funding is required to provide for projected additional withdrawals of water as well as for the requirements regarding drainage and flood protection. One estimate calls for enhancement of present level of funding for irrigation by at least 40%, not only for new infrastructure but also for replacement, modernisation of ageing systems and imparting sustainability to them. Governments have to support the provision of irrigation when private agents are unwilling to do so. For modernisation, replacements and new construction, a significant part of funding will still have to come from governments. The reengagement of MFIs and donors with dams and other major hydraulic works would improve water and food security for many farmers, especially in Africa.

Global financial flows into water, after a slight increase in the 1990s, have recently fallen to a very low point. ODA for the water sector has been declining in recent years, partly because of the general decline of aid in agriculture sector, partly because of the sharp drop in aid for large dams and water storage schemes. Despite its spread into other sectors, microfinance has made limited penetration into agriculture and needs to be expanded.

Public irrigation agencies need to be granted more financial autonomy, though major reforms are going to be needed to improve their creditworthiness. Small scale farmer-financed schemes would benefit from the proposals to develop local capital markets, micro-credit and development finance institutions (Camdessus, 2003).

Affordable credit facilities to finance their investments continues to be cumbersome as a result they continue to need additional off-farm income to improve their livelihoods thereby limiting the possibilities for sustainable increase in productivity in the smallest of smallholdings to ensure their families basic needs.

#### Water productivity efficiency in agriculture

The larger part of extra agricultural output will have to come from the more efficient use of water resources already being exploited, epitomized in the slogan more crop per drop. More crop per drop implies the reduction of losses from the transport and distribution of irrigation water, and its more efficient application to crops.

Lack of regular annual maintenance results in many irrigation systems falling into disrepair. There is urgent need for modernisation of several large irrigation schemes in Asia besides replacement of old schemes. Low water use efficiency can also be attributed to low level of on-farm irrigation technology, land management as well as deficiency of operation and maintenance. The more efficient use of water in rainfed systems will have a major part to play, in some cases supplemented by irrigation water. Communities and households will need to capture more water through catchments for local productive purposes.

Lining of canals and distribution system or use of low pressure pipes for distribution wherever feasible as well as introduction of efficient on-farm facilities and practices can help achieve better efficiency. It is also necessary to set up a water accounting system based on real time monitoring of flows and water demand. Adoption of water saving sprinkler and drip irrigation systems may help to achieve not only better utilisation of scarce water resources, but also better output of crops due to application of the correct quantum of water at the critical stages of growth. It also would mean enhancement of standards for new areas of irrigation and drainage, including guarding against the risk of salinisation, and sustainable development of the rural area, for which financial resources ought to be earmarked.

Agricultural services and irrigation and drainage management agencies as service providers need to effectively engage the smallholders' WUA / WUAFs as partners in all aspects of development and management.

#### Working towards irrigation targets

Although water is the subject of only one of the goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, it is vital to achieving the others, such as poverty, education and gender equality. To take just three examples: providing segregated toilet facilities in schools is in many societies a pre-condition for the further education of girls; the availability of private toilets and water in-house or close by would make a big difference to the lives of millions of women; and irrigation is and will increasingly be a prerequisite to increasing food production to feed the growing world population and address malnutrition thereby improving health and well being.

During the last 15 years the investment in water infrastructure, particularly the irrigation sector has declined. While the Agenda 21 had identified water use efficiency, introduction of drainage, development of irrigation programs including small scale irrigation the progress has been slow and tardy, at the best, and is incommensurate with the enormity of the problem. There is lack of political support due to the complexities of the issues: financing of large infrastructure, participation of users in infrastructure management, over-exploitation of groundwater, environmental impact of irrigation etc., some of which are mired in controversies.

It is not that there are no problems in the implementation of 'Water Management System Projects'. There is a wide knowledge on these issues in ICID circles. And even willingness to tackle them. Striving to build a stronger evidence base of the contribution of improved water management which encompasses more efficient and effective use of all the 'Environmental Resources' and its contribution to 'Poverty Reduction' will be brought out effectively in the days to come. Efforts will also be made to identify the means to enhance the sustainability and effectiveness of water management systems with pro-poor objectives and moving towards achieving the goals set in MDGs.

The International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage urges the global community to commit itself to fulfilling the following targets in Irrigation sector with a view to support the sustainable development and poverty alleviation, submits that following targets need to be achieved:

1. Develop clear Irrigation Policies within next 15 years, relevant to the country, as an integral part of the National Water Policy following IWRM principles.
2. The irrigated area at the global level should be increased by 15 percent in the next 15 years with differentiated increments
3. The water productivity efficiency should be improved by 15 percent with due consideration of basin irrigation system efficiency.
4. Investment in irrigation sector should be increased by 30 percent in next 15 years

The achievement of the aforementioned targets and outcomes would help the global leaders assembled at the Rio+20 Summit to deliver a new model of human and economic development and ensure a real impact on human well-being across the world.

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## International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)

Text not available.

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## International Council for Science (ICSU)

### UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

#### International Council for Science (ICSU)

in its capacity as co-organising partner of the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group

#### Input for Rio+20 Compilation Document

## Part 1: Priority Recommendations

### Securing renewed political commitment – and a new contract between science and society

· New scientific evidence, including work on “planetary boundaries”, reaffirms that humanity has reached a point in history at which a prerequisite for human development – the functioning of the Earth system as we know it – is at risk. Current economic patterns are responsible for many of the interlinked and growing social, environmental and economic crises facing the planet. **The Rio+20 outcome must be commensurate with the urgent need to move humanity to a sustainable path of development. It must reflect a recognition of our planetary boundaries. Poverty eradication, human wellbeing, economic prosperity, social equity and environmental sustainability must be addressed in an integrated fashion.**

(see policy brief on Interconnected risks and solutions – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

· **The Rio+20 conference should decide to launch a process to develop a new contract between science and society to deliver the knowledge necessary for a sustainable future.** There should be a better exchange and application of existing knowledge and technology towards solutions, and support for globally coordinated research initiatives on sustainable development challenges, as well as technological innovation. Commitments in the Rio+20 outcome to significantly increased large-scale investments in targeted science (natural, social, economic, health and engineering sciences and humanities), technology and innovation for sustainable development will be a crucial element to progress.

### Assessing gaps in implementation – in the light of new scientific evidence

· Implementation in many sustainable development areas has been woefully insufficient. Recognizing our planetary boundaries, policy makers need to fulfill the commitment to ‘precautionary’ policy as laid out in Agenda 21. Long term catastrophic risk must be balanced against short term economic implications. There is enough scientific evidence to call for immediate urgent action on climate change and other global environmental risks. Remaining gaps in knowledge cannot be taken as a reason to stall on making strong policies for sustainable development.

· There is a need to strengthen Principle 10 on public participation and access to data and information, through the development of regionally and nationally appropriate mechanisms following the model of the Aarhus convention on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters.

### Green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development

· Food, water, energy, resource and economic development needs should be addressed through a greening of all economic sectors. Create green economies based on ‘inclusive wealth’, which includes all forms of capital – natural, social and human as well as financial and manufactured – and in which intergenerational wellbeing increases over time.

· Unprecedented challenges require novel, innovative responses. Rio+20 must call for incentives and much enhanced public-private funding needed to strengthen national and international systems for technology, policy, economic and social innovation to achieve sustainable development, and for novel transdisciplinary research programmes in this context.

· New scientifically sound integrated indicators should be developed to monitor progress towards sustainable development and a green economy, taking into account human wellbeing, social equity and environmental sustainability, as well as economic development.

· Targeted capacity building in science (natural, social and economic sciences) and technology, including support to developing countries and attention to gender issues, will be crucial in a move towards sustainable development and a green economy.

· Unsustainable interlinked patterns of consumption, production and resource exploitation in industrialized countries and in some parts of the emerging countries should receive special attention in any road map to a green economy. Targeted policies and programmes to fundamentally reorient these patterns need to create synergies between government regulatory action and mobilizing civil society and business and industry alike.

(see policy briefs on Green Economy and Human Wellbeing – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

### Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

· We urge decision makers to seize the opportunity of Rio+20 to develop a clear and ambitious roadmap for institutional change at all levels and bring about fundamental reform of current sustainable development and environmental governance within the next decade.

· Policies and decision making should be based on the best available natural science, social science, economic science and technology and they must benefit from scientific advances and technological, economic and social innovation. Efforts to improve the institutional framework for sustainable development at all levels, and international environmental governance institutions, must therefore include strengthening of science-policy links, and strengthening the science-base within all institutions.

· Proposals should be explored for international multistakeholder technology assessment mechanisms to evaluate the potential environmental, health, social and economic impacts of existing and new and emerging technologies, based on the precautionary principle.

(see policy brief on **Error! Hyperlink reference not valid.** – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

### New and emerging challenges

· Concerted, global and immediate action is needed to reduce the risk of fundamentally disrupting the stability of the Earth system, with consequences for global economic and political systems. Actions to enhance the resilience and decrease the vulnerability of human communities are also urgently needed. This must be accompanied by concerted global and enhanced action aimed at bridging the development gap between North and South and eradicating poverty, taking into account a growing world population.

· Specific topical priorities which require urgent action include climate change, food security, water security, energy security, biodiversity loss, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable consumption and production patterns, with an overarching goal of human wellbeing, social equity and environmental and economic sustainability.

· Other immediate challenges to be addressed include: ocean acidification, pollution and overfishing; disruption of the nitrogen and phosphorus cycles; global chemical pollution; deforestation; and megacities and urbanization; all of which need action based on the latest science and technology, coordinated targeted observations and research, and improved governance.

· Addressing human health needs and concerns should generally be among the priority actions towards sustainable development and poverty eradication. It should also be

central in addressing most if not all new and emerging challenges identified above. The increasing global mobility of people, animals and goods, as well as global warming, is leading to new disease risks in countries and regions where these diseases did not occur before.

(see the series of 9 policy briefs: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs))

#### ***Climate change:***

· The immediate priority is to stabilize the global climate at a temperature of no more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels. We must reduce the carbon intensity of the global economy, undertake a massive decarbonisation of the energy sector, and effectively manage Earth's carbon and radiant energy budgets. Strategies for adaptation will also become increasingly important.

#### ***Food security:***

· The planet needs to feed an estimated 9 billion people by 2050. There will be a need for a knowledge-based focus on enhancing sustainable production and productivity: increasing yields while minimizing environmental footprints, and greatly reducing waste at all stages of the food chain.

#### ***Water security:***

· An expanding population, growing economies and poor water management are putting unprecedented pressure on our freshwater resources. We simply cannot continue to use water as wastefully as we have in the past. We have to turn to a knowledge-based approach to water conservation and management, in which we evaluate our needs, prioritise allocations, and greatly reduce waste.

#### ***Biodiversity and ecosystem services:***

· Current trends in biodiversity and ecosystem services are sharply and dangerously negative. We must incorporate the multiple values of biodiversity and ecosystem services into policy and management decisions, and reduce inequities in access to the benefits derived from biodiversity and ecosystem services.

#### ***Energy for all:***

· Efforts to provide energy for all should be based on the development and deployment of clean energy technologies focusing in particular on technologies for energy efficiency and conservation, as well as on advanced renewable energy systems. In this context, R&D and investment in renewable and alternative sources of energy should be significantly stepped up; including feed-in-tariffs to incentivise investment in renewable energy. There is also a need to develop strategies for achieving greater energy efficiency in all sectors, notably the construction and transport sectors.

#### ***Disaster risk reduction:***

· The world faces an increasing loss of human lives, livelihoods and economic assets due to natural and human induced disasters. There is an intrinsic relationship between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and poverty eradication. An urgent priority is to strengthen significantly disaster preparedness using knowledge, innovation and education for effective response at all levels.

#### ***Sustainable consumption:***

· Unsustainable consumption patterns in industrialized countries and in some parts of the emerging and developing economies are one of the main factors putting increasing pressure on the planet's social, economic and environmental systems. This requires special and urgent action. Solutions should be considered throughout efforts to move towards a green economy and sustainable development. Practical action, including awareness raising and education, should be underpinned by appropriate knowledge and transdisciplinary research across the multidimensional factors of economics, waste and environment, human behaviour, and lifestyle.

These recommendations are taken from work by the worldwide international scientific community for Rio+20, particularly a series of ICSU-UNESCO regional science and technology workshops in the five UN geo-political regions (see: [www.icsu.org/rio20/regional-workshops](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/regional-workshops)) and a series of nine policy briefs prepared specifically for Rio+20 (see: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)) in the context of the Planet Under Pressure science and policy conference (London, 26-29 March 2012). The recommendations also draw on consultations with the constituencies of the scientific and technological community spanning all relevant disciplines in the natural, social, economic, engineering and health sciences, in cooperation with the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO), UNESCO, WMO, UNEP and UNU. For further information and recommendations from a disciplinary perspective see submissions for Rio+20 by ICSU's Scientific Union Members ([www.icsu.org/rio20/icsu-members](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/icsu-members)).

Part 2 provides more detailed recommendations, further background information and links to relevant sources.

## **UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)**

### **International Council for Science (ICSU)**

in its capacity as co-organising partner of the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group

### **Input for Rio+20 Compilation Document**

### **Part 2: Expanded and more detailed recommendations**

#### **Interconnected risks and solutions**

For stated policy objectives on sustainable development to succeed, societies can no longer view the global economic system and the political systems that shape it in isolation from the Earth system. Economic development and global governance must value natural capital and respect boundaries in the Earth system, while ensuring equitable and just resource use. **The time has arrived for people to become planetary stewards.**

The urgent global risks and challenges facing all nations are interconnected: poverty alleviation; the financial crisis; economic development; political stability; pollution; food, water and energy security; health; wellbeing; climate change; ocean acidification; and loss of biodiversity, to name just some. Understanding this interconnectedness is crucial for tackling these challenges and improving the wellbeing of all societies.

The path forward hinges on an interconnected approach to policy and a rapid response. Political recognition and acceptance of the scale of the challenges has led to wide ranging efforts to solve them. Real progress has been made in reducing poverty, tackling HIV and protecting the ozone layer, for example. But political processes have had limited success in many other areas, **prompting calls for a fundamental transformation of the global economic and governance model to make it fit for 21st-century challenges** (see policy brief on Interconnected Risks and Solutions – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### **Securing renewed political commitment – and a new contract between science and society**

- New scientific evidence, including work on "planetary boundaries", reaffirms that humanity has reached a point in history at which a prerequisite for human development – the functioning of the Earth system as we know it – is at risk. Human induced global environmental change, including climate change, is occurring at an increasing rate and intensity. **The Rio+20 outcome must be commensurate with the urgent need to move humanity to a sustainable path of development. It must reflect a recognition of our planetary boundaries.**

(see policy brief on Interconnected Risks and Solutions – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

- Current economic patterns are responsible for many of the interlinked and growing social, environmental and economic crises facing the planet. **Poverty eradication, human wellbeing, economic prosperity and environmental sustainability must become part of the integrated vision and practice of sustainable development.**

- **The Rio+20 conference should decide to launch a process to develop a new contract between science and society to deliver the knowledge necessary for a sustainable future.**

- There should be a better exchange and application of existing knowledge and technology towards solutions and support for globally coordinated transdisciplinary (natural, social, economic, humanities, health and engineering sciences) research initiatives on sustainable development challenges.

- Commitments in the Rio+20 outcome to significantly increased large-scale public and private investments in targeted science, technology, and innovation for sustainable development will be a crucial element to progress.

- The contract between science and society must include a focus on poverty eradication and bridging the development gap between the North and the South. It must pay particular attention to women, vulnerable communities and indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge.

#### **Assessing gaps in implementation – in the light of new scientific evidence**

- Implementation in many areas of sustainable development has been woefully insufficient. Recognizing our planetary boundaries, policy makers need to fulfill the commitment to 'precautionary' policy as laid out in Agenda 21. Long term catastrophic risk must be balanced against short term economic implications. There is enough scientific evidence to call for immediate urgent action, and remaining scientific uncertainties cannot be taken as a reason to stall on making strong policies for sustainable development.

- There is a need to strengthen Principle 10 on public participation and access to information, through the development of regionally and nationally appropriate mechanisms following the model of the Aarhus convention on access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental matters.

#### **Green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development:**

- A 'Green Economy' is one of the necessary implementation tools for sustainable development, but is not a panacea, and it does not replace the goal of sustainable development.

- Food, water, energy resource, and development needs should be addressed through a greening of all economic sectors. Create green economies based on 'inclusive wealth', which includes all forms of capital – natural, social and human as well as financial and manufactured – and in which intergenerational wellbeing increases over time.

- Unprecedented challenges require novel, innovative responses. Rio+20 must call for incentives and much enhanced public-private funding needed to strengthen national and international systems for technology, policy, economic and social innovation to achieve sustainable development.

- Support is needed for novel transdisciplinary research programmes (with collaboration between the natural sciences, social sciences, humanities and technological community), which address the integrated economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development and a green economy. Significantly enhanced targeted funding will provide direction, momentum and coordination to global, regional and national research efforts.

- Unsustainable interlinked patterns of consumption, production and resource exploitation in industrialized countries and in some parts of the emerging countries should receive special attention in any road map to a green economy. Targeted policies and programmes to fundamentally reorient these patterns need to create synergies between government regulatory action and mobilizing civil society and business and industry alike.

- New scientifically sound integrated indicators should be developed to monitor progress towards sustainable development and a green economy, taking into account human wellbeing, social equity, and environmental sustainability, as well as economic factors.

- Targeted capacity building in science (natural, social and economic sciences) and technology, including assistance to developing countries and a focus on gender issues, will be crucial in a move towards sustainable development and a green economy.

(see policy briefs on Green Economy and Human Wellbeing – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### **Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development**

- We have to reorient and restructure our national and international institutions and governance mechanisms related to sustainable development, including environmental governance. Incrementalism will not suffice to bring about societal change at the level required; the world needs structural change in global governance.

- We urge decision makers to seize the opportunity of Rio+20 to develop a clear and ambitious roadmap for institutional change at all levels and bring about fundamental reform of current sustainable development and environmental governance within the next decade.

- Stronger consultative rights for civil society representatives in intergovernmental institutions should be introduced.

- Policies and decision making should be based on the best available natural science, social science and technology and they must benefit from scientific advances and technological, economic and social innovation. Efforts to improve the institutional framework for sustainable development at all levels, and international environmental governance institutions, must therefore include strengthening of science-policy links, and strengthening the science-base within all institutions.

- Mechanisms such as the IPCC and IPBES are examples of good practice, but further innovation and research in the area of science-policy linkages is required.

- Proposals should be explored for international multistakeholder technology assessment mechanisms to evaluate the potential environmental, health, social and economic impacts of existing and new and emerging technologies, based on the precautionary principle.
- To better integrate sustainable development policies within the UN system, governments need to support overall integrative mechanisms within the UN system that better align the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainable development.
- In order to strengthen national governance, other policy instruments can complement regulation if they are carefully designed. But they are not panaceas.
- International economic institutions must advance transitions to a sustainable economy, including by multilaterally harmonized systems that allow for discriminating between products on the basis of production processes, based on multilateral agreement. Global trade and investment regimes must be embedded in a normative context of social, developmental, and environmental values.
- In order to fill regulatory gaps in international sustainability governance, new or strengthened international regulatory frameworks are needed in several areas, including on emerging technologies, water, food, and energy.
- Public-private governance networks and partnerships should be streamlined and strengthened. However, there is still a strong need for effective and decisive governmental action.

(see policy brief on Transforming Governance and Institutions – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### **New and emerging challenges**

- Concerted, global and immediate action is needed to reduce the risk of fundamentally disrupting the stability of the Earth system, with consequences for global economic and political systems. Actions to enhance the resilience and decrease the vulnerability of human communities are also urgently needed. This must be accompanied by concerted global and enhanced action aimed at bridging the development gap between North and South and eradicating poverty, taking into account a growing world population.
- Specific topical priorities which require urgent action include climate change, food security, water security, energy security, biodiversity loss, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable consumption and production patterns, with an overarching goal of human wellbeing and environmental and economic sustainability.
- Other immediate challenges to be addressed include: ocean acidification, pollution and overfishing; disruption of the nitrogen and phosphorus cycles; global chemical pollution; deforestation; and megacities and urbanization; all of which need action based on the latest science and technology, coordinated targeted observations and research, and improved governance.
- Addressing human health needs and concerns should generally be among the priority actions towards sustainable development and poverty eradication. It should also be central in addressing most if not all new and emerging challenges identified above. The increasing global mobility of people, animals and goods, as well as global warming, is leading to new disease risks in countries and regions where these diseases did not occur before.

(see the series of 9 Rio+20 policy briefs – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### ***Climate change:***

- The immediate priority is to stabilize the global climate at a temperature of no more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels. We must reduce the carbon intensity of the global economy, undertake a massive decarbonisation of the energy sector, and effectively manage Earth's carbon and radiant energy budgets.
- As climate change is already occurring, action is needed by all countries to design and implement strategies to adapt to the consequences of climate change and to limit its socio-economic costs for societies worldwide, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable regions, nations and socio-economic groups. Participation of a broad range of stakeholders will be essential in this undertaking.
- Action is also critical in the domain of science. We must continue to improve our understanding of the climate and Earth system, to refine our predictive tools and reduce uncertainties in projections of future climate and its impacts, particularly at the regional level. Social science research into adaptation and good governance will also be crucial.

#### ***Water security:***

- Water security is vital to all social and economic sectors as well as the natural resource base on which the world depends. But an expanding population, growing economies and poor water management are putting unprecedented pressure on our freshwater resources.
- We simply cannot continue to use water as wastefully as we have in the past; we have to change the way we manage our water resources.
- Scientists and policy makers have a joint responsibility to work together in the development of more sustainable solutions to existing and emerging water problems.
- Water must be given the prominence it deserves on the global agenda
- Human and environmental water needs must be balanced to safeguard biodiversity and ecosystem services. Unavoidable compromises should be mediated by science rather than lobbies.
- Water security has multiple dimensions, including social, humanitarian, economic and ecological. Major decisions on water resource management must be made therefore with broad cross-sectoral input.
- There is a need to improve the availability of data and information, particularly on transboundary water resources and planetary thresholds. We need to evaluate our water needs and prioritize allocations.
- There is a need to introduce and implement strong policy and legal frameworks (i.e. water laws).
- Proper finance mechanisms are required to ensure sustainability of water services, while capacity building is required at all levels.

(see policy brief on Water Security – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### ***Food security:***

- The planet needs to feed an estimated 9 billion people by 2050. There will be a need for a knowledge-based focus on enhancing sustainable production and productivity:

increasing yields while minimizing environmental footprints.

- Waste reduction at all stages of the food system (post harvest losses, transport, storage) and resolving distribution issues is also essential, as this would provide much of the extra food needed for a growing population.
- A strong foundation of multi-lateral and cooperative mechanisms that work across disciplines, sectors and national boundaries needs to be put in place. Institutions operating effectively at multiple levels will be at the centre of sustainable food systems; these will need to be flexible, promote appropriate use of innovative technologies and policies, and recognize the increasingly important role of non-state actors in enhancing food systems.
- As the greatest proportion of the world's poor are small-scale farmers, agriculture must also be a key focus for poverty eradication.
- Investment is needed in training, knowledge sharing and extension services for farmers at all scales.
- Greater involvement of farmers, including small holders and big agro business, in planning and decision making is needed.
- Research is needed for multiscale, multi-level analyses of the dynamic linkages between food security, environmental concerns and development issues.
- A food systems approach is recommended. This links the activities of producing, processing, retailing and consuming food with the outcomes of these activities for food security and other societal goals, showing how food insecurity arises and also providing a framework for policy development to meet the food security challenge.
- A transition to healthier diets as societies grow richer is needed to reduce both environmental and public health burdens.
- Food trade needs to be enhanced to encourage secure access to nutritious food for the poorest and most vulnerable.
- There is an urgent need to develop technologies and policies that will result in sustainable production practices.
- Above all, there is need for a strong focus on resilience, equity and sustainability.

(see policy brief on Food Security – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### ***Biodiversity and ecosystem services:***

- We share this planet with millions of other species and varieties of life, and depend on ecosystems for all our basic needs. While current trends in biodiversity and ecosystem services are sharply and dangerously negative, the right actions, developed and implemented promptly, can restore a biologically rich and ecologically viable planet.
- The multiple values of biodiversity and ecosystem services should be incorporated into policy and management decisions.
- Green economies should be created based on 'inclusive wealth', which includes all forms of capital – natural, social and human as well as financial and manufactured – and in which intergenerational wellbeing increases over time.
- Biodiversity and ecosystem services should be incorporated into water and land-use planning at all scales from local to global, including both protected areas and production landscapes and seascapes.
- Policies and practices should be implemented that reduce inequities in access to the benefits derived from biodiversity and ecosystem services, and ensure that those who bear the cost of their provision are fairly compensated.
- Ecosystem governance and management should be restructured to recognize that ecosystems transcend political boundaries.
- Global governance institutions should be developed that work in partnership with national institutions, local organizations and the private sector, to address global-scale drivers of biodiversity change.
- The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Targets should be implemented at all scales.
- The important contributions played by the planet's forests and oceans should be recognised and terrestrial and marine ecosystems should be linked in policy planning.
- Indigenous peoples and their knowledge should be involved in biodiversity research and in the development of conservation strategies and plans.

(see policy brief on Biodiversity and Ecosystems – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### ***Energy for all:***

- There is no uniform solution for making low-emissions sustainable energy available globally, including for more than one billion people without access to modern energy services. Decisions regarding the use of any given energy technology must be based upon thorough analyses of technological and economic feasibility, diverse energy needs, as well as analyses of long-term sustainability and compatibility with the goals of climate stability, environmental protection, social equity, and personal health and safety.
- The optimal energy mix for any particular country and sector will depend upon the natural resource base, trade access to energy sources and socio-economic context.
- Efforts to further develop and deploy energy technologies must focus in particular on technologies for energy efficiency and conservation, as well as on advanced renewable energy systems.
- In this context, R&D and investment in renewable and alternative sources of energy should be significantly stepped up; including feed-in-tariffs to incentivise investment in renewable energy.
- There is a need to develop strategies for achieving greater energy efficiency in all sectors, notably the construction and transport sectors.
- In the transportation sector, urgently needed actions include diversification of engine fuels, increased use of low-emissions vehicles, and a strong emphasis on urban mass transit. Enhancing support for R&D in this sector will be essential.

(see policy brief on Energy Sustainability: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### ***Disaster risk reduction:***



- The world faces an increasing loss of human lives, livelihoods and economic assets due to natural and human induced disasters. There is an intrinsic relationship between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and poverty eradication. An urgent priority is to strengthen significantly disaster preparedness using knowledge, innovation and education for effective response at all levels.
- Integrated natural and social sciences research should be developed, including improved methods for predictive multi-risk assessment and socioeconomic cost-benefit analysis of risk reduction action at all levels. The technical and scientific capacity to develop and apply methodologies, studies and models to assess vulnerabilities to and the impacts of hazards should also be strengthened.
- The resilience of nations and communities to disasters should be enhanced through people-centred approaches to the entire disaster risk cycle, including prevention, preparedness and emergency response as well as recovery and rehabilitation.

#### **Sustainable consumption:**

- Unsustainable consumption patterns in industrialized countries and in some parts of the emerging and developing economies are one of the main factors putting increasing pressure on the planet's social, economic and environmental systems.
- Addressing this problem requires urgent action, and this should be considered throughout efforts to move towards a green economy and sustainable development.
- Practical action, including awareness raising and education, should be underpinned by appropriate knowledge and transdisciplinary research across the multidimensional factors of economics, waste and environment, human behaviour, and lifestyle.
- Communication of clear messages to the public on sustainable consumption and waste reduction will be key, as will clear strategies for public action.

(see policy brief on Human Wellbeing: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

These recommendations are taken from work by the worldwide international scientific community for Rio+20, particularly a series of ICSU-UNESCO regional science and technology workshops in the five UN geo-political regions (see: [www.icsu.org/rio20/regional-workshops](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/regional-workshops)) and a series of nine policy briefs prepared specifically for Rio+20 (see: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)) in the context of the Planet Under Pressure science and policy conference (London, 26-29 March 2012). The recommendations also draw on consultations with the constituencies of the scientific and technological community spanning all relevant disciplines in the natural, social, economic, engineering and health sciences, in cooperation with the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO), UNESCO, WMO, UNEP and UNU. For further information and recommendations from a disciplinary perspective see submissions for Rio+20 by ICSU's Scientific Union Members ([www.icsu.org/rio20/icsu-members](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/icsu-members)).

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## International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHEMICAL ASSOCIATIONS (ICCA)

INPUT FOR UNCSD 2012 COMPILATION DOCUMENT

OCTOBER 2011

### Executive Summary

<sup>[1]</sup> SAICM is the preferred international framework for achieving the 2020 goal for sound chemicals management set at WSSD, and ICCA calls for SAICM to be strengthened as an outcome of UNCSD 2012.

<sup>[2]</sup> ICCA's Responsible Care® and Global Product Strategy initiatives highlight the chemical industry's contributions to sustainability and the safe management of chemicals throughout the lifecycle.

<sup>[3]</sup> ICCA supports the development of a flexible, customizable roadmap to a green economy as an outcome of UNCSD, integrating all three pillars of sustainable development.

<sup>[4]</sup> The global chemical industry supplies many of the innovative products and technologies required for the transition to a green economy, and policy frameworks must support the production, diffusion and deployment of these products and technologies.

<sup>[5]</sup> Sound economic, social and environmental governance is a necessary prerequisite for creating the conditions to develop a green economy and promote greener growth.

<sup>[6]</sup> Reform of the institutional framework for sustainable development should be pragmatic, and form must follow function. Institutions must evolve to better accommodate all three pillars of sustainable development and pursue a more integrated approach to sustainability.

### Introduction

1. Chapter 30 of Agenda 21 recognized the vital role of the private sector in efforts to promote sustainable development. In particular, it noted that "increasing prosperity, a major goal of the development process, is contributed primarily by the activities of business and industry." The International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)<sup>3</sup> was an active participant at both the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development and the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, and has played a significant role in subsequent intergovernmental initiatives to promote safer chemicals management internationally. ICCA has also committed to voluntary initiatives and self-regulation under its flagship Responsible Care® and Global Product Strategy programs that highlight the industry's commitment to sustainability and the safe management of chemicals throughout the lifecycle.

### Objectives for UNCSD 2012

2. ICCA sees UNCSD 2012 as a valuable opportunity to take stock of progress made since the 1992 Earth Summit, and to develop policies, responses and new forms of collaboration that address new and existing challenges. UNCSD should focus on outcomes that recognize all three pillars of sustainable development as essential components of recommended policies and solutions. Innovation and the deployment of new products and technologies will be critical for future sustainable development, particularly in ensuring that society makes the best use of scarce resources as the world's population rises. The global chemical industry will be instrumental to the development, production and delivery of these products and technologies.

3. In the chemical sector, while serious challenges remain, significant advances have been made since 1992 in promoting the sustainable management of chemicals worldwide. This includes international instruments focused on the key global elements of chemicals management (e.g. the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions, and the new instrument under negotiation on mercury); innovative multi-stakeholder partnerships such as the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM); and industry-led initiatives such as the Global Product Strategy and the Responsible Care Global Charter.<sup>4</sup> Taken together, these initiatives show that the chemical sector has made real progress towards sustainable development since the Rio Earth Summit across a range of forums and initiatives.

4. In 2002, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) called on stakeholders to renew the commitment advanced in Agenda 21 to sound management of chemicals throughout their lifecycle for the protection of human health and the environment.<sup>5</sup> In addition to the ratification and implementation of relevant international instruments relating to global chemicals management, the launch of SAICM in 2006, with a mandate to achieve the WSSD's "2020 goal" for sound chemicals management, has been the international community's primary contribution to advancing the 2020 goal to the regional and national levels as well. ICCA is a strong supporter of SAICM and its innovative, multi-stakeholder framework, which has brought governments and non-governmental stakeholders together to build trust and promote collaboration in addressing common challenges.

5. SAICM has made important progress towards achieving the 2020 goal for sound chemicals management, although all stakeholders recognize that there is much more to be done. ICCA supports the strengthening of SAICM as an outcome from UNCSD to enable it to achieve its mandate, including through the provision of adequate resourcing for SAICM activities and the functioning of its Secretariat. ICCA further supports continued efforts to improve the efficiency and coherence of the Stockholm, Rotterdam and Basel Conventions, while respecting the specific mandates of each Convention.

6. ICCA supports the principle that sound chemicals management is best achieved through a combination of transparent, science-based and cost-effective regulation and industry-led initiatives. Given the positive steps that have been taken on international chemicals management since 1992, and the ongoing contributions of SAICM, as outlined above, ICCA does not see the need to develop a new international regime on chemicals and hazardous substances. The mandate to promote sound chemicals management set at WSSD runs through to 2020, and UNCSD should focus on assessing progress towards the 2020 goal and providing recommendations to help facilitate further progress. Any effort to change or supersede the 2020 goal set at WSSD would be counter-productive, detracting from the considerable work that has gone into SAICM and the synergies process amongst the existing chemicals conventions. ICCA would in particular not support any effort to exclude non-governmental stakeholders from direct participation in decision making, which would undermine the innovative and constructive example set by SAICM.

#### Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

7. As the engine of economic growth, the private sector has a critical role in delivering the products, technologies, services and solutions required for the transition to a green economy. The private sector is the primary source of green jobs and the principal supplier of green products and services, through the innovation, commercialization and implementation of new technologies. Recognizing that planning for the transition to a green economy needs to account for regional, national and local priorities and development challenges, ICCA supports the development of a flexible, customizable roadmap to a green economy as an outcome of UNCSD. A green economy roadmap should be based on the following core principles:

(a) A central focus on innovation and the development of policy frameworks to facilitate the production, diffusion and deployment of products and technologies that enhance sustainable outcomes (for example, tax incentives for research and development). Innovation has an especially critical role in poverty reduction. The chemical industry today manufactures the basic building blocks that enable virtually every other sector of society, and chemistry innovations are helping other sectors to develop solutions to today's societal challenges.

(b) Policies aimed at creating green jobs should not come at the cost of a net reduction of jobs across the economy. The emphasis should be on greening all sectors of the economy, rather than attempting to identify certain sectors as "greener" than others. In addition to its own products, the chemical industry provides essential inputs for other industry sectors (over 95% of all manufactured goods rely on chemistry). Chemical products and technologies provide sustainable development solutions for industries as diverse as energy, information technology, environmental industries, and the waste sector.

(c) Resource efficiency is crucial in enhancing the sustainable use of scarce resources. The chemical industry has a key role in promoting energy efficiency. It is the principle supplier of energy efficient materials worldwide, from insulation to materials for wind and solar power. A 2009 life cycle analysis study by McKinsey and Company, validated by the Öko Institut, revealed that the GHG emission savings enabled by the chemical industry are more than double the industry's emissions. The chemical industry is unique in manufacturing, in that its use of energy enables net energy savings.

(d) Economic growth is critical to solving social and environmental problems. A focus solely on the environmental dimension risks a distorted perspective on the green economy, overestimating the viability of some "green" investments and understating the larger societal interest in investments addressing all three pillars of sustainable development. Policy frameworks need to be clear, stable and predictable to give investors and financiers the confidence to foster innovation-led green growth and development.

(e) The transition to a green economy requires a focus on sustainable consumption as well as production. Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) should focus on making the market work for sustainable development, with a focus on producing goods and services efficiently and consuming them differently rather than simply focusing on producing and consuming less. ICCA supports the text on SCP and a Ten Year Framework of Programs (10YFP) negotiated at CSD-19 forming the basis for consideration of SCP issues at UNCSD.

(f) Sound economic, social and environmental governance is a necessary prerequisite for creating the conditions to develop a green economy and promote greener growth. Efforts to advance the green economy, including public-private partnerships, should work within market systems and not distort markets or limit market access, with an appropriate balance between public and private sector roles. Corruption should be fought in order to make the best possible use of scarce resources.

(g) Open trade and non-discriminatory trade is indispensable for growing a green economy. The chemical industry, as a provider of innovative products and technologies addressing key societal challenges, should not be subject to tariff or non-tariff trade barriers that could hinder the application of these products and technologies to greening economies worldwide. In particular, secure and cost-effective access to key renewable raw materials for specific chemical end-use (i.e. excluding fuel uses) is of utmost importance. The global diffusion of state of the art technologies that will be crucial to progress towards a green economy (e.g. on issues such as climate change) depends heavily on free and open trade.

(h) A global culture which fosters sustainable values and life-styles is the foundation of a green economy. Public at large should know more about the science that supports sustainable development, and governmental authorities and officers, industry professionals and other decision makers should be educated through capacity building initiatives related to sustainability, particularly in developing countries. Education and skills, especially in STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) are important prerequisites for priorities and action by the chemical industry.

(i) Life-cycle thinking, sound economics and scientific understanding have a fundamental role to play in framing the vision for green economies. A life-cycle approach involves further minimizing the environmental footprint of all economic activity through science and new knowledge. As an example, some chemical products, such as insulation

materials, lead to a net-reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions during their use, despite the fact that CO<sub>2</sub> is emitted during their production and disposal. Trade-offs are almost always inherent in sustainable development, and at times when public and private sector financing is constrained, it is critical to set priorities, and determine how resources can best be leveraged and most cost-effectively deployed.

(j) For a green economy to become operational, indicators, metrics, accounting measures and better disclosure and reporting must be developed. These must make sense in economic terms while ultimately including the cost of externalities. This entails the simultaneous pursuit of developing operational green growth measures at company level (bottom up) and strategic macro-political accounting standards and economic indicators at the system level (top down). A flexible approach which balances the costs and benefits remains critical for success.

#### Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

8. The current institutional framework for sustainable development has a number of shortcomings. The failure of CSD-19 to agree on an outcome is an important illustration, highlighting the way that negotiated text has taken priority over the identification of practical mechanisms for advancing sustainable development. ICCA strongly believes that the focus of discussions on the institutional framework at UNCSD must be on pragmatic reform to ensure a more integrated approach to sustainable development at the inter-governmental level.

9. Institutional frameworks should foster sustainable development rather than constrain it, and form must follow function. Relevant activities should be grouped together in clusters, without establishing additional layers of bureaucracy. Efficiencies should be pursued in all instances where they can help to promote sustainable outcomes. The private sector has technical and implementation-related expertise that can help inform policy decisions and improve the effectiveness of implementation.

10. ICCA supports the strengthening of UNEP to enable it to more effectively coordinate and address environmental issues within the overall context of sustainable development. Reform must, however, extend beyond that to include key global institutions covering all three pillars of sustainable development. These institutions should be integrated into the priority-setting process, and concentrate on their specific added value. ICCA proposes two concrete steps to assist in setting priorities and ensuring that resources are appropriately deployed:

(a) ICCA supports strengthening the science-policy interface within international institutions, with the full and meaningful participation of developing countries. This must also include channels for incorporating credible and robust science from stakeholders, including business and industry.

(b) Links between policy frameworks and the financing for relevant institutions also need to be strengthened. Government resourcing for international institutions should be more strategic, and the institutional framework should provide for vigilant oversight of resources contributed.

11. The institutional framework for sustainable development should also help build capacity and develop institutions that support implementation at the national level. National and regional differences mean that imposing a top-down global model for sustainable development is unlikely to effectively address underlying problems and challenges. Taking ownership of sustainable development through national institutions (with appropriate international support) is the most likely means of securing real impact at the national level.

12. Finally, sustainability challenges cannot be adequately addressed by governments alone. The challenges of globalization require active collaboration between governments, business and other stakeholders. In this regard, new approaches are needed that facilitate innovative collaborations and partnerships between business, government and civil society. Such collaborations can take many forms, including private-public partnerships, business value chain engagement, and alliances with academia and consumers. No one can do this alone. Public-private partnerships can supplement inter-governmental activities and act as a catalyst for improved implementation. SAICM provides an innovative model of how multi-stakeholder frameworks can help advance sustainable development objectives. Any reforms to the institutional framework for sustainable development emerging from UNCSD must recognize the contribution of non-governmental stakeholders, including business and industry, and ensure an appropriate role for these groups in the pursuit of sustainable outcomes.

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## International Council of Environmental Law

### RECOMMENDATION N°6

#### PACT ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Having examined the actual status and content of the draft for an « International Covenant on Environment and Development » which includes a large number of principles accepted by consensus since the Stockholm Conference,

Noting that the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development was introduced to the international community in 1995 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, Recognizing the contribution of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) and the International Council of Environmental Law –toward sustainable development- (ICEL) in the formulation and promotion of this initiative;

Considering that the draft Covenant contributes to the development of international environmental law, and aims to build a real sustainable development law; Noting with satisfaction the progress made since the initial presentation of the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development, which has since undergone three revisions to periodically update it in accordance with the newest developments in the field;

Deeply concerned by the continuing lack of a version of the draft Covenant in other working languages of the United Nations, particularly in French; Convinced that the French translation of the draft Covenant is of paramount importance to Francophone developing countries, which have an important role to play in the process of adopting such an instrument;

The Third Worldwide Conference of Environmental Law NGOs and Lawyers in Limoges (France), September 29-1 October, 2011:

1. Welcomes the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development, and recommends its adoption;
2. Decides to recommend it strongly to the attention of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for discussion and adoption;
3. Provides for such purposes that the UNGA, through a Member State, embrace the draft Covenant and introduce it as an official document to ensure its translation into the working languages of the United Nations;
4. Draws the attention of the International Organization of La Francophonie to the urgent need for a French translation before the Rio+20 Conference, to facilitate discussions within the Francophone community;

5. Recommends that the UNGA, upon recommendation of the 6th Committee, directly adopt the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development in Plenary;
6. Notes that several states have used the draft Covenant as a check list for their national legislation, especially African Union (AU) Member States;
7. Further Notes that AU Member States have concretely used the draft Covenant as a basis for the revision of the 1968 African Convention on the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and that all Heads of State and Government adopted this Revised African Convention (Maputo Convention) at the Second Summit of the African Union in 2003;
8. Invites AU Member States to quickly ratify the Revised African Convention adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the Second Summit of the African Union in Maputo in 2003;
9. Proposes that if adoption of the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development by the UNGA in Plenary is not possible, the UNGA establish, under its aegis, an Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for the negotiation and adoption of such an instrument, taking into account proposals that could be submitted by the States participating in the negotiation process, so that the Convention be developed by June 2014;
10. Urges the adoption of a resolution by the UNGA to quickly consider the establishment of conditions for the adoption of the draft International Covenant on Environment and Development, in accordance with the established practices of the UNGA;
11. Requests the Secretary-General, as soon as possible, to bring the draft Covenant to the attention of the UNGA for its consideration and adoption;

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## International Council of Forest and Paper Associations (ICFPA)

Forest products industries at the core of the "green economy"

The International Council of Forest and Paper Associations' (ICFPA) is an organisation representing the forest, wood and paper sector globally. Its membership includes the trade associations of 43 countries. Members represent industries accounting for more than 90 percent of the world's paper and more than 50 percent of the world's wood production. ICFPA members represent an industry in transformation delivering an increasingly wide range of products - including textile fibre, chemicals, new materials, functional products, food additives, solid biomass, liquid and gaseous fuels, etc. all made of a natural renewable raw material, wood. The ICFPA is committed to the principles of sustainable development and to working with other stakeholders to ensure that environmental, social and economic benefits of our natural resources are available to current and future generations. ICFPA Members are committed to legal, certified forestry and procurement practices.

The global forest products industry contributes more than US\$ 470 billion annually to global GDP and employs over 14 million people in almost every country in the world.

The forest sector and the green economy

Commonly agreed definitions of « green economy » include elements that are already today mirrored by the forest products industries:

- Delivery of better returns on natural, human and economic capital investments
- Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions
- Resource efficiency
- Waste reduction
- Reduction of social disparities

Through numerous commitments and actions, the industry demonstrates on a daily basis its contribution to the green economy from the "cradle" to the "grave" of its products.

It is committed to sustainable forest management. Since 2000, ICFPA members have realised a 346% increase in the total area of certified responsibly managed forests, reaching a level of 273 million hectares of forests certified. 53% of the wood supply used by ICFPA member companies was certified in 2010.

It is truly bio-based. The industry represented by ICFPA uses wood as its main raw material, hence making it an industry using a natural renewable resource. Depending on the production, all qualities and wood assortments are used, including the bark and the branches.

It provides jobs to local communities, especially in rural areas. Since the wood processing mills – whether it is for veneer, fibreboards, pulp and paper or other wood-derived products – are located close to their raw material sources -- forests -- they contribute to the rural livelihood by maintaining rural infrastructures (e.g. roads, railways, etc.) and services (e.g. public transport, schools, hospitals, etc.) and offering jobs. By relying on managed forests and the raw material they deliver, they are also a source of income for local population and small businesses depending on forests.

It contributes to social and society's well-being. The wide range of products delivered by the forest products industries to society contributes to people's well-being and improved living standards: comfort and warmth thanks to reliable construction materials offering excellent mechanical properties and decorative features, literacy and culture thanks to paper being the material support to literature, culture and education resources, hygiene thanks to packaging protecting goods and offering barriers to bacteria, but also thanks to tissue paper used widely in healthcare and for daily sanitary uses.

It uses resources efficiently and responsibly. By reclaiming and recycling wood-based products after they have been used, the industry is committed to the efficient use of raw materials. In 2009, the global recovery rate for paper has reached 55.6%, compared to 46.5% in 2000. In some regions, the industry aims as well to limit the landfilling of its products by using it as biomass for energy recovery at the very end of its life cycle. It also consumes some water, but after cleaning, releases back the majority of it, sometimes even cleaner than before. At the same time, responsibly forests provide acknowledged benefits for water quality and protection.

It is part of the solution to climate change mitigation. As stated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its 4th Assessment Report: "A sustainable forest management strategy aimed at maintaining or increasing forest carbon stocks, while producing an annual sustained yield of timber, fibre or energy from the forest, will generate the largest sustained mitigation benefit." Forest products have the inherent capacity to store carbon until they decay or are converted into energy. In addition, they are replacing other less climate and environment friendly materials, as well as fossil fuels.

At the same time, it reduces its impact on the environment. It has notably reduced its direct greenhouse gas emissions per ton produced by 8% between 2004 and 2009.

Already today the forest products industries have decoupled their environmental impacts and their production.

The global forest products industries represented by ICFPA strongly believe that these achievements are giving it already today a very prominent role in the green economy and are convinced that they can further improve if the right enabling conditions are established.

Recommendations to further boost the contribution of the forest products industries to the "green economy"

The Global Forest Products Industries represented by ICFPA fully support the recommendations listed in the co-chairs' summary of the country-led initiative "Contribution of forests to a green economy" that took place in Bonn on 4 to 7 October 2011, namely, that further action is needed to:

- Ensure that the tools used to enhance and demonstrate the sustainability of forest management and production processes – including third-party verified forest certification – are guaranteeing fair competition with sectors using other resources and fair trade between countries and are not used as non-tariff barriers to trade, or as a deterrent to use wood;
- Promote public-private partnerships to strengthen dialogue and information flows between science and practice along the whole value chain, with a view to support the transformation of the industry and enhance its contribution to the "green economy";
- Dedicate seed funds from the public and/or private sector in order to (i) help local communities to develop businesses and have access to the markets and (ii) support pre-competitive research and development for innovation;
- Ensure transparency and fairness on the markets for forest products and services, including for its raw materials (both from the forests and secondary raw materials); Transparency should also apply to ownership and tenure right as a preliminary condition to a stable and predictable business environment;
- Promote the potential of harvested wood products as long-term carbon storage and as substitute to other less climate and/or environment friendly materials.

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## International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM)

### 1. Overview

The International Council on Mining and Metals (ICMM) is a collaborative of 21 of the largest mining and metals companies in the world. We also link 32 affiliated industry associations through which we can potentially reach an additional 1,500 companies. ICMM was created in the lead up to Rio + 10 as a catalyst for improving environmental and social performance for its members, thus enhancing mining and metals' contribution to sustainable development. ICMM seeks to create value for shareholders while simultaneously creating value for host communities and countries.

The purpose of this submission is to address the issue of mining and metals in the green economy. We argue that mining and metals are fundamental to sustainable development in the green economy – both through the mining and refining processes and through innovative uses.

Mining and metals are critical to society – today and in the future. Their contribution to the Millennium Development Goals is but one indication of this indispensable role. To achieve this end, implications must be carefully managed and specific steps must be taken by all concerned to ensure an equitable distribution of costs, benefits, risks and responsibilities. This can be done. We believe that it is in fully considering all aspects of this distribution - throughout the life cycles and complex value chains that we are tied to – that mining and metals' full contribution can be understood and realized. This realization is at the heart of the green economy.

### 2. Proposed text for the Rio+20 zero draft

#### Mining and metals in a green economy

Mining of minerals and production of metals are fundamental to sustainable development in the green economy – through the contribution of the industry itself and through innovative uses of the metals and minerals that are produced. As with any human activity, there are significant social, environmental and economic implications – positive and negative – at each step along the value chain. These can be managed effectively and efficiently to provide a foundation for environmentally and socially responsible economic development which is sustainable and which contributes to meeting the Millennium Development Goals agreed to in 2000.

A key success factor is ensuring that the benefits, costs, risks and responsibilities – local, regional, national and international – are all recognized, effectively managed and equitably distributed using a time horizon that spans the full project and product life cycles. This is only possible through public policies, instruments, and action that are designed and implemented to: (1) ensure that the interests and values of host communities and countries and project operators are considered; and (2) facilitate collaboration and partnerships between the many stakeholders important to resolving the complex issues that arise – no single party can deliver sustainable outcomes working in isolation. Important interests include governments, intergovernmental organisations, mining and metals companies (junior to major), investors, labour, service providers and associations, civil society groups, public institutions, mining affected communities, Indigenous peoples and their organizations, customers, end users, suppliers and academia.

A second key success factor is the effective and efficient use of natural resources and the materials derived from them throughout their lifecycles – in a way that maximizes their contribution to sustainable development over the long term. This will require careful development and implementation of integrated energy and materials management policy frameworks.

### 3. Mining and metals in a green economy

#### Mining and metals and sustainable development

Mining and metals lie at the very foundation of society. Their use permeates all aspects of life and it is for this reason that the 2002 Plan of Implementation of the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development recognized that "Mining, minerals and metals are important to the economic and social development of many countries. Minerals are essential for modern living".

Over the last two decades the mining and metals industry has been particularly active in innovative, sustainability-related policies and practices because:

- the potential implications – both positive and negative – of mining activities and the minerals and metals that result are significant, for people, for their economies for the environment;
- many interests are touched by mining and metals;
- the role of many of these interests in decision-making is growing (e.g., communities, consumers and indigenous people);
- the nature of contemporary communications systems has brought the often dramatic nature of mining operations into the public eye;

- industry, governments, civil society organizations, and the public, in general, have taken great interest in ensuring that mining and its products make a net positive contribution over the long term; and
- the importance of minerals and metals to meeting society's needs.

The above factors also underscore the importance of communicating the full life cycle sustainable consumption and production processes to the general public. Without this understanding, the linkage between everyday uses of products, their origins, and the true costs of bringing them from that origin to use, is lost.

#### The Activities of Mining and metals Production

The nature of mining and metal production activities sets them apart from all other human activities. Mines are situated where natural geological deposits dictate. There is little to no choice in location. Conditions and resulting mine design (technical, social, environmental) will vary dramatically between sites. Because of the hugely varying nature of ores, the processing technologies required to make these materials available for use will also vary from site to site.

The mine project life cycle comprises a series of steps including exploration, design and construction, operation, closure and post closure. This life cycle varies in length from a few to many decades, sometimes stretching to centuries. Thus, the connection to people and their communities reaches across generations and the relationships developed between mines and their host communities are long-term.

Each phase of the mine project life cycle described above brings different environmental, economic and social challenges and opportunities. Sometimes, the national economic benefits can seem out of proportion relative to local level benefits where the immediate disruptions are most likely to be felt. The full spectrum of implications must be carefully managed and all of the costs, benefits, risks and responsibilities shared in an equitable manner.

Poor management can bring serious social disruption, economic decline and environmental degradation.

Effective management of extractive resources requires long time horizons and a need for multiple interests to be involved in the governance and development of natural resources. However, managed effectively and efficiently, the opportunity to contribute to societal development is significant.

The mining industry often serves both as a foundation and as a catalyst for economic and social development. It is often the first to make significant inward investment in low income countries, placing it in a position to catalyze a positive contribution at a critical stage in the host nation's economic and social development. Working in partnership, mining and metals operations can spark local economic activity through other service oriented businesses and industries. Nurtured effectively, these can strengthen and diversify, leading to benefits that exist long after the original mining activities cease.

In resource rich parts of the world and with effective systems of private and public governance in place, mining and metals production can provide a significant boost to achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

#### Products and innovative uses

Mined ores and minerals require processing into a usable form. The intrinsic properties of the resulting minerals and metals (for example, electrical conductivity, recyclability, and durability) are indispensable for meeting essential societal needs in an efficient way.

There are three fundamental categories of materials in the world: metals and minerals; fibre-based from bio-mass; and synthetics from petroleum products. Of these, only metals and minerals have a proven capacity for continuous re-cycling (though we are far from achieving optimum efficiency in this matter). This recycling capacity and the energy savings that it represents are powerful technical reasons why metals and minerals have a key role to play in the green economy.

Much of the "green economy" concept is based on a quest for greater efficiencies in energy and resource production and use. A key is the development of alternative energy sources. Many metals are crucial to innovations in the development of this technology (e.g. the use of platinum in automotive catalytic converters, or metallurgical coal in wind turbines or copper for more efficient electrical motors). Most innovations in these fields are only possible with the use of metals.

#### Two Decades of Progress in the Mining and Metals Industry

Since the 1992 Earth Summit, practices in the mining and metals industry have evolved significantly. The creation of ICMM as a change agent specifically tasked with strengthening environmental and social performance and enhancing mining and metals' contribution to sustainable development is in itself a significant indicator.

The evolution of SD reporting in the industry provides another indicator. Prior to the 1980s, no companies reported out on non-economic performance indicators. In the mid-1980s, state-of-environment reporting; in the 1990s corporate sustainability reporting followed. ICMM's sustainable development principles were approved in 2003; a Metal Mining Sector Supplement (MMSS) was jointly developed with the Global Reporting Initiative during 2005 - 2009. ICMM members reported publicly for the first time in 2009. Now, over 100 mining and metals companies are annually reporting following the MMSS. Starting with the early treatment of environmental and health and safety topics, they now include such issues as equity, social justice and human rights.

This evolution marks a step change not only in reporting and assurance, but also in the commitment to transparency and accountability, a commitment that is underlined by ICMM's early and strong support for and engagement with the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative.

The following initiatives all reflect mining's commitment to engage actively and openly in addressing many of today's most pressing sustainable development-related issues. It is unlikely that many of these would have occurred in the past.

- good practice for addressing mining and biodiversity (with the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, 2006),
- good practice for materials stewardship (2006)
- metals environmental risk assessment guidance (MERAG, 2007)
- health risk assessment guidelines for metals (HERAG, 2007)
- integrated treatment for addressing mine closure (2008)
- managing HIV/AIDS, TB and Malaria (with the World Health Organization in 2008)
- effective community development (with the World Bank, 2009)
- effective health impact assessment (2010)

- intense engagement with John Ruggie as Special Representative to the UN Secretary General on Business and Human Rights through to his final report published in 2010
- ICMM's publication of guidance on building effective relationships with indigenous people (2010)
- International Network for Acid Prevention (INAP) published its Global Acid Rock Drainage (GARD) Guide in 2010
- Initiation of ICMM's climate change program, publication of its principled approach to developing climate change policy
- establishing a formula for avoiding the resource curse through building effective partnerships for development (2005 - 2011)

#### 4. Further Input to Rio + 20

Rio +20 offers an exciting opportunity for new forms of collaboration, particularly between the private sector and multilateral organizations like the United Nations. Expectations have been set that the private sector will be the largest funding source for concrete actions to achieve sustainable development. If this is to be achieved, effective mechanism to include the private sector in policy discussions as a full partner must be established. To date, that has not happened.

We are not able to comment at this time on such important topics as: (1) concrete desired outcomes of Rio + 20 and the structure of the Outcome Document; (2) a specific framework for action, renewed SD Goals; (3) closing the implementation gap; and (4) specific implementation tools. We believe that these should be designed collaboratively through the Rio + 20 process and we look forward to playing our part in doing so over the next eight months and beyond

#### Appendix 1: The International Council on Mining and Metals

##### Overview

ICMM is a collaborative of 21 companies that together reflect about one-third of the formal mining industry. We also serve as an umbrella for some 32 affiliated industry associations through which we can significantly increase our reach to other companies across the industry. Our member companies have about 800 operations in over 65 countries and employ about 800,000 of 2.5 million in the formal mining sector.

##### Vision

ICMM's vision is one of leading companies working together and with others to strengthen the contribution of mining and metals to sustainable development. The clear implication of this vision is to create value for shareholders while simultaneously creating value for host communities and countries. We serve as a change agent to catalyze improved environmental and social performance for its members, strengthening mining and metals' contribution to sustainable development.

##### Origins

ICMM was created in the lead up to the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development. A decade earlier, at the time of the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the mining and metals industry was in the earliest stages of applying sustainable development ideas. A predecessor organization to ICMM – the International Council on Metals and the Environment (ICME) – had been created in 1991 in response to the rise of contemporary environmental concerns and as a vehicle for the mining and metals industry to participate in the expanding international discussion about environmental issues.

The second half of the 1990s saw a precipitous drop in commodity prices while public concern over practices in the mining industry reached an unprecedented high.

Late in the 1990s, a small group of mining industry leaders initiated an innovative "Global Mining Initiative (GMI)" to review issues facing the industry and develop an action plan for aligning mining and metals industry with the newly emerging ideas of sustainable development. At the core of this initiative was an unprecedented multi-stakeholder international public debate about how mining and metals could contribute better to the transition to a more sustainable future. The Mining, Minerals, and Sustainable Development (MMSD) project not only identified the challenges but also identified the roles that each of the major stakeholder groups should play."

Running from 2000 through 2002 and led by the London-based NGO, the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), MMSD involved some 50,000 people across the world from all parts of society. ICMM (administratively born of the earlier ICME) was established in 2001 as the delivery mechanism for the action plan that was generated through MMSD. The work allowed the industry to make an active and well informed contribution to the 2002 Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development.

The fact of ICMM's existence may represent in itself the most significant single indicator of change in mining, metals and sustainability during the last 20 year period.

Table 1: ICMM member companies grouped by head office location

Please reference full submission for Table 1

Table 2: ICMM member associations

Please reference full submission for Table 2

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## International Diabetes Federation

### NCDs in the Rio+20 conference outcomes

The NCD Alliance, an international network of over 2000 organizations working on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) including cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory diseases, and diabetes, believes the outcome document from the Rio+20 conference must contain a strong focus on health, specifically the threat to sustainable development and poverty eradication posed by the global NCD epidemic.

Rio +20 will be a critical opportunity to build on the efforts already underway to accelerate progress towards sustainable development and reduce poverty and inequality, which will ultimately contribute toward the prevention and control of NCDs worldwide.

Overall outcomes of the conference should be sustained political commitment and willingness to adequately address and invest in NCD prevention and control on the local, national, regional, and international levels. The conference will also provide a platform for Member States and other stakeholders to follow up on the commitments made during the UN High-level Meeting (HLM) on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases, held on 19-20 September 2011 at UN Headquarters.

NCDs since the Johannesburg Declaration

The 2002 Earth Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, put forth a comprehensive agenda for action on sustainable development. Paragraph 19 of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development highlights a key area for further attention in the Rio+20 Outcome Document. It states:

'We reaffirm our pledge to place particular focus on, and give priority attention to, the fight against the worldwide conditions that pose severe threats to the sustainable development of our people, which include...endemic, communicable and chronic diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis...'1

In the 10 years since the adoption of the Johannesburg Declaration, NCDs (referred to as chronic diseases in the declaration above) have emerged as one of the foremost development challenges of the 21st century. There is growing evidence that NCDs are impeding progress to achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Effective prevention and control of NCDs requires that these diseases not be dealt with in isolation but be fully integrated into all aspects of the global development agenda.

#### NCDs and the eradication of poverty

The linkages between NCDs and sustainable development, particularly as a means toward the eradication of poverty, are clear and require concrete actions on the part of all stakeholders.

Member States unanimously adopted a Political Declaration during the HLM recognizing NCDs as a global development priority and the "the vicious cycle whereby NCDs and their risk factors worsen poverty, while poverty contributes to rising rates of NCDs, posing a threat to public health and economic and social development."

According to the World Health Organization, 100 million people are pushed into poverty annually because they have to pay directly for health services, which results in up to 5% of the population being forced into poverty in many countries.

In addition to the economic burden they place upon individuals, families, and communities, NCDs are already having devastating consequences on the global economy. A recent study by the World Economic Forum and Harvard University estimates that NCDs will cost the world economy \$47 trillion over the next 20 years, representing 75 percent of annual global GDP and surpassing the cost of the current global financial crisis.

#### NCDs in the green economy

WHO's Health in the Green Economy series, published in spring of 2011, highlights the relationship between sectors of the green economy and health and recommends solutions that both mitigate climate change and improve health conditions, particularly in low-income settings.<sup>5</sup> The NCD Alliance urges Member States and other stakeholders to strongly consider these solutions in the discussions and outcomes of the Conference.

The NCD Alliance suggests the following priorities for consideration during the Rio+20 Conference:

**Health systems integration:** The NCD Alliance urges governments to integrate NCDs into existing health policies and health systems strengthening initiatives, refocusing health systems on prevention, health education, and chronic disease care. Strengthened health systems will also benefit other diseases and conditions, including HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. The Rio Declaration should reaffirm the commitment made by Heads of State in the Political Declaration issued at the HLM to 'promote, establish or support and strengthen, by 2013, as appropriate multi-sectoral national policies and plans for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases' (para 45).

**Development goals:** The MDGs currently contain no goals or targets for NCDs. Yet, NCDs cause 60 % of all deaths globally (36 million) each year and four out five of these deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. It is therefore critical that Member States include NCDs in discussions at the Conference and at the 2013 MDG Review Summit, and commit to including targets on NCDs in the follow up development framework when the current MDG goals expire in 2015.

**Donor assistance:** Less than 3% of official development assistance (ODA) on health is spent on NCDs.<sup>6</sup> The NCD Alliance requests all governments with major overseas aid programmes to low and middle income countries to end the policy ban on funding NCDs that most bilateral donors operate now. Bilateral donor countries must live by the commitments made in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The Rio Declaration should support the commitment in HLM Political Declaration to 'promote all possible means to identify and mobilize adequate, predictable and sustained financial resources and the necessary human and technical resources, and to consider support for voluntary, cost-effective, innovative approaches for a long-term financing of non-communicable disease prevention and control' (para 49).

**Whole of Government engagement:** NCD plans must involve the whole of government, not just the health sector. Action to prevent and control NCDs requires the active engagement of ministries of finance, foreign affairs, education, agriculture, and transportation, trade and others.

**Adopt policies to prevent NCDs:** Only governments have the power to regulate environments so that healthy food, smoke free places and physical activity are the norm and not the exception. The NCD Alliance expects governments to regulate unhealthy food content – salt, trans-fats and sugar - and harmful use of alcohol through policies on price, availability and marketing. Governments must accelerate implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) and tax tobacco to the level recommended by the WHO to both reduce tobacco use and generate revenues that can be used for sustainable development.

**Universal access to NCD medicines, technologies and care as a human right:** Today, over 100 million people with NCDs are denied access to the basic medicines (including for pain relief), technologies, education and care they need to stay alive and stay healthy.<sup>7</sup> Individuals and families in many contexts are being tipped into poverty by catastrophic expenditure on NCD care. NCDs are not new diseases and many can be treated effectively with off patent medicines. NCD prevention, and investment in early NCD diagnosis and treatment, is both morally right and sound economic strategy.

**Follow Up Action on Non-communicable Diseases:** Heads of State committed to a 'comprehensive review and assessment in 2014 of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable disease' (para 65) in the HLM Political Declaration.

The Rio Declaration should recommend that this review culminate in a High-Level Meeting of the United Nations to ensure that prevention and control of NCDs are given adequate follow-up as a priority factor in achieving sustainable global development.

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## International Disability Alliance (IDA)

### INTERNATIONAL DISABILITY ALLIANCE (IDA)

**Member Organizations:** Disabled Peoples' International, Down Syndrome International, Inclusion International, International Federation of Hard of Hearing People, World Blind Union, World Federation of the Deaf, World Federation of the DeafBlind, World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry, Arab Organization of Disabled People, European Disability Forum, Red Latinoamericana de Organizaciones no Gubernamentales de Personas con Discapacidad y sus familias (RIADIS), Pacific Disability Forum



## Draft IDA contribution to the Rio+20 Conference

### Introduction

Persons with disabilities need to be considered in all initiatives that are undertaken in the area of sustainable development at international and national level.

To ensure this, the Rio + 20 Conference outcome document must include references to persons with disabilities.

IDA and its members are exploring together with other stakeholders, including some UN agencies, the convening of a side event on sustainable development and the rights of persons with disabilities during the Rio + 20 Conference.

IDA would also like to remind that a Conference like this needs to be fully accessible to persons with disabilities, both in terms of access to the facilities and within the premises, as well as related to access to all the information produced by this Conference, including the official website of this Conference. Too often, Conference like this are not organized in an accessible way, excluding therefore many persons with disabilities from participating in these events.

### Population with disabilities and the consequences of exclusion

The recently published World Report on Disability<sup>1</sup> produced by the WHO and World Bank has updated the statistics on persons with disabilities, indicating that one out of 7 persons, i.e. one billion persons, have a disability.

Sustainable development goals cannot be achieved if such an important group of the population is not adequately taken into account in national and international actions in this area.

<sup>1</sup>World Bank and World Health Organization, *World Report on Disability*, World Health Organization, Geneva, 2011, at pp. 237-9.

Like in many other areas, including the MDGs, persons with disabilities have been largely invisible in the sustainable development agenda. The new UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which has already now been ratified by 105 Member States of the UN and by the European Union, states very clearly in its article 4 that persons with disabilities and their representative organizations need to be consulted on all policies affecting them. Sustainable development initiatives cannot be an exception to this.

### Poverty eradication and persons with disabilities

Poverty eradication is one of the key issues on the agenda of the Rio + 20 Conference.

It is a commonly accepted fact that persons with disabilities are overrepresented among persons living in poverty and extreme poverty worldwide.

This has been confirmed again by the recently published World Report on Disability produced by the WHO and World Bank, which noted that "adults with disabilities tend to be poorer than those without disabilities". Furthermore, the World Report reminds how the cost of exclusion of persons with disabilities affects the gross domestic product.

### The need for coherence and consistency of different global initiatives, all of which need to include persons with disabilities

There are a number of important initiatives (in place or being negotiated) at the global level all of which are relevant to persons with disabilities.

While poverty eradication is an objective in all these initiatives, more needs to be done to establish a coherent approach across initiatives, all of which are also related to sustainable development.

#### MDGs and post-2015 framework

The outcome document of the 2010 MDG Review Summit includes a number of references to persons with disabilities in recognition of the fact that the MDGs in general and MDG 1 in particular cannot be reached if persons with disabilities are excluded from these initiatives. As an example of this, the World Report on Disability stressed that MDG 2 cannot be achieved without ensuring access to education for children with disabilities.

Thus paragraph 28 of this document indicates that: "We also recognize that policies and actions must focus on the poor and those living in the most vulnerable situations, including persons with disabilities, so that they benefit from progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals. In this respect there is a particular need to provide more equitable access to economic opportunities and social services.

Even more relevant is subparagraph d) of paragraph 70 which refers to sustainable development and marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities:

"(d) Pursuing job-intensive, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women, indigenous people, young people, people with disabilities and rural populations, and promoting small-and medium-sized enterprises through initiatives such as skills enhancement and technical training programmes, vocational training and entrepreneurial skills development. Employers and workers' representatives should be closely associated with these initiatives;"

Subparagraph v) reminds us about the extreme vulnerability of many persons with disabilities in the area of food security:

"(v) Making special efforts to meet the nutritional needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, as well as those living in vulnerable situations, through targeted and effective programming;"

These important references need to be the first step towards an adequate inclusion of the rights of persons with disabilities in the international framework that will be established for the post-2015 period.

#### Social Protection Floor Initiative

IDA welcomes the decision taken by the ILO Labour Conference in 2011 to produce an ILO recommendation on a Social Protection Floor.

This initiative has a very important potential to address poverty in developing countries through the provision of a number of basic services as well as cash benefits. IDA is following closely the start of the negotiation process towards this important document, in order to ensure that persons with disabilities will benefit from this initiative.

The need for an approach that promotes participation (and not dependence) of persons with disabilities is central to our demand in this area.

#### Global Pact for Jobs

The other key global initiative resulting from the global financial and economic crisis, the Global Pact for Jobs, is also extremely relevant to persons with disabilities.

It is widely accepted (see also evidence in the World Report on Disability) that persons with disabilities have much higher levels of unemployment and much lower levels of activity rates compared with the general population.

#### Aid effectiveness

IDA will be present at the High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan at the end of November 2011 in order to ensure that aid effectiveness, which started with the Paris Declaration and continued with the Accra Agenda for Action, respects disability-rights inclusive development.

All too often, international co-operation in general, and official development aid in particular, is provided in such a way that it further discriminates against and excludes persons with disabilities.

Development cannot be effective or sustainable if it excludes a large part of the population.

The need to ensure that international co-operation is inclusive of the rights of persons with disabilities is reflected in article 32 of the CRPD, the only UN human rights treaty with a stand-alone article on international co-operation.

#### The three pillars of sustainable development are relevant for persons with disabilities

All three pillars of sustainable development (environmental, economic and social) have a great impact on persons with disabilities.

The UN Secretary-General Report on the Objective and themes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development recommends that the Preparatory Committee:

"(b) Continue to give high priority to policies that directly aim at poverty reduction, such as investments in education and access to basic services such as water, sanitation and energy;

(f) Put in place social safety nets that support incomes and limit the impacts of unemployment on long-term outcomes such as access to education;"

All those policies and investments should include persons with disabilities.

It is crucial that sustainable development does not further hide persons with disabilities. As highlighted by the World Report on Disability, "children and youth with disabilities are less likely to start school or attend school than other children. They also have lower transition rates to higher levels of education. A lack of education at an early age has a significant impact on poverty in adulthood".

The UN Secretary-General recommends in his report that the Preparatory Committee: "(c) Prioritize green economy policies that have the potential to deliver social benefits,". The green economy has a huge potential to create new jobs and this opportunity should be seized to also address the employment situation of persons with disabilities. There are examples, albeit very insufficient, of persons with disabilities working in the green economy, thus showing the important contribution persons with disabilities can make in this area.

It is also a fact that persons living in poverty are the most affected by environmental issues, including the consequences of climate change.

Public procurement policies play an important role in ensuring that sustainable development is taken into account in the different initiatives supported by the public sector. There are good examples of public procurement being used to promote environmental objectives and also some, but still far too few, examples of how public procurement can support social issues, including accessibility for persons with disabilities to any infrastructure, as well as employment of persons with disabilities.

Any initiatives in the area of sustainability evaluation and reporting must include the impact of initiatives on persons with disabilities.

#### Conclusion: good governance through the involvement of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations

The Rio + 20 guidance document refers to the objective of the Conference to revise also the institutional framework at international level dealing with sustainable development.

In this respect, IDA would like to insist that the meaningful involvement of civil society, including organizations that represent population groups directly affected by these policies, like persons with disabilities, need to be part of this new framework.

The new standard of good governance established by the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities can serve as a good example for other global processes, which are still too often lacking adequate participation of those populations that are most affected. The direct participation of these constituencies will improve the quality and effectiveness of decisions taken and will prevent leaving large groups of the population out of these initiatives.

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## International Environment Forum

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

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### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

a) Objective of the Conference - sectoral priorities: natural disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation

## PREPARING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL MIGRATION

### Basis for action

With accelerating climate change, sea level rise, resource degradation and water shortages, the projected scale of forced environmental migration in coming decades will exceed anything previously experienced, with estimates of 100-500 million people or more permanently displaced. This will be traumatic for those displaced, and represents an enormous challenge for the receiving countries and communities where immigration is presently a major source of tension and human rights violations.

### Objective

To organize an appropriate international response to forced environmental migration with institutional, financial and humanitarian dimensions in a proactive response to prevent crises, widespread human suffering and environmental impact.

### Activities

1. Undertake scientific assessments of the human carrying capacity of different regions of the world and anticipated changes with climate change to determine which regions and countries will be unable to support their present or projected populations and which areas have the space and resources to receive environmental migrants.
2. Create an international legal framework for environmental migrants comparable to that already functioning for political refugees, to recognize their status as displaced persons with no possibility of return, and to protect their human rights as far as possible. Provision could be included for migration in groups or as whole communities to assist in preserving social relationships, community structures and cultures.
3. Establish a mechanism under the United Nations, similar in function to the World Trade Organization, to negotiate a lowering of barriers to immigration and to allocate environmental migrants equitably among countries able to receive them. This could include a financial mechanism to ensure that the costs of resettlement are equitably shared by the international community.
4. Initiate wide public discussion of environmental migration, the imperative of showing solidarity with victims of climate change and other environmental changes based on underlying ethical principles, the advantages of immigration for receiving communities, and the means to build unity in diversity among peoples of diverse origins and cultures.

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

b. Green Economy

## PRINCIPLES FOR THE GREEN ECONOMY

### Basis for action

The controversy surrounding proposals for the green economy reflects fears that a superficial response will not address fundamental concerns about justice, equity, and social and environmental responsibility. Some relevant principles have already been adopted in the Rio Declaration and elsewhere. To achieve consensus, an explicit statement is needed of the principles underlying the green economy, recalling previous principles and extending them where necessary. The following are some suggestions to be elaborated further.

### Objective

To develop a clear declaration of the principles underlying the green economy for a sustainable society.

### Principles

The green economy should:

- further a dynamic and thriving social order that is just, fair and equitable to all;
- be strongly altruistic and cooperative in nature;
- provide meaningful employment;
- help to eradicate poverty in the world while reducing extremes of wealth;
- ensure sustainable environmental management;
- provide the peoples and institutions of the world with the means to achieve the real purpose of development: that is, the cultivation of the limitless potentialities latent in human consciousness for the betterment of the world.

## INDICATORS

### Basis for action

The dominant economic indicators such as GDP do not provide signals for sustainability, and even sustainable development indicators miss some of the most important driving forces necessary to move on a trajectory towards sustainability. In particular, the underlying materialistic assumptions of most economic thinking do not reflect the views of a majority of the peoples of the world. The development in Bhutan of a Gross National Happiness measure is an example of what can be done at the national level. Recent research has shown the practicality of values-based indicators at the project or group level (<http://www.esdinds.eu>).

### Objective

Develop indicators reflecting the values and ethics underlying individual and collective choices and behaviour necessary to achieve sustainability, while incorporating and adapting to the diverse cultural, ethnic and spiritual traditions of nations and peoples, to express a more complete vision of the goals and purpose of a sustainable and ever-advancing civilization and of desires for happiness and prosperity.

#### Activities

1. Encourage research and public debate on rethinking prosperity and happiness in the context of human well-being and community development in a sustainable society, as the basis for developing national indicators of progress towards these goals.
2. Add values-based and ethical indicators to the indicators of sustainable development prepared under the Commission on Sustainable Development.
3. Stimulate and encourage work on values-based indicators of education for sustainable development for use at all levels in organizations, communities, projects, governments and businesses.

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#### **c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

##### c. Institutional framework for sustainable development

#### ETHICAL SUPPORT TO POLICY-MAKING

##### Basis for action

The UN has adopted ethical principles in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Rio Declaration and other instruments, but too often they remain as generalities and their implications are not sufficiently considered in policy and decision-making. Paragraph 6 of the WSSD Plan of Implementation on the importance of ethics for sustainable development requires further action to be effective. Civil society has also completed the Earth Charter after Rio.

##### Objective

Ensure that both recognized international ethical principles and the ethical concerns of civil society are available to UN bodies and decision-makers when adopting policies, programmes and actions.

##### Activities

1. Establish a UN Permanent Forum on Ethics and Religion, patterned after the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, where faith-based organizations and those addressing ethical issues, that accept the principles of the UN Charter, declarations and covenants, can consider the ethical and spiritual implications of UN policies, activities and proposals and make submissions to ECOSOC and other relevant UN bodies.
2. Create within the UN Secretariat an Office of Ethical Assessment to prepare reports, at its own initiative or on request for the General Assembly, the Security Council, ECOSOC and other UN bodies, programmes and agencies, on the ethical implications of issues, policies and programmes, with reference to the ethical principles in the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Rio Declaration and other instruments and covenants, and to the world's spiritual, philosophical and cultural traditions.

#### SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

##### Basis for action

The foundation of human development is our inherent capacity to learn. Science and technology should be accessible to everyone in accordance with their capacity, but they remain largely the preserve of an educated elite with a top-down process of delivery. Most technological development today is driven by market forces that neither reflect nor respond to the basic needs of the world's peoples. To achieve sustainability, everyone should be empowered with the tools and approaches of science: evidence based reasoning, understanding cause and effect, experimentation, thinking in terms of systems in a long-term perspective, and learning adaptive management in a time of dynamic change. The natural and social sciences, crafts, and local and indigenous knowledge based on similar processes of observation and experimentation, can all contribute to sustainable community development. Institutional capacity and learning processes should be developed within local populations to create and apply knowledge in ways that address the specific needs of that population.

##### Objective

Build a base for the universal extension of natural and social sciences and technology through educational programmes and regional centres of research and training accessible to everyone and allowing widespread participation in the generation and application of knowledge.

##### Activities

1. Support the development and implementation of curriculum materials that introduce scientific thinking and methods into all levels of education, with particular attention to developing countries.
2. Encourage the efforts of civil society organizations in community and neighbourhood education and consultation on the science and ethics of environmental responsibility, climate change, moderation in consumption, sustainable use of energy and resources, environmental migration, and local environmental management.
3. Facilitate the integration of natural and social sciences and indigenous knowledge systems in defining sustainable environmental management adapted to local conditions and cultures and to community needs.
4. Adapt methodologies for environmental impact assessment and monitoring to make them accessible to local communities and resource users regardless of their educational level, supported by extension programmes in their use to support local sustainability.
5. Establish regional centers of research and training for sustainable development empowered to create technologies addressing locally defined needs and priorities that take into account both the material and moral prosperity of society as a whole.

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#### **d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and**

## poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".

The International Environment Forum (<http://iefworld.org>), a Bahá'í-inspired professional organization for environment and sustainability with members in over 50 countries, accredited to WSSD in the science and technology major group, offers the following specific elements for the compilation of the zero draft outcome document for UNCSD next year.

## International Environmental Governance Architecture Research Group

Towards a Charter Moment

Hakone Vision on Governance for Sustainability in the 21st Century

The International Environmental Governance Architecture Research Group

### Introduction

The issues and political dynamics in the 21st century are different from those in 1945 when the institutions in the United Nations were founded. Today's problems are characterized by temporal, spatial, and sectoral interdependencies, complexity, as well as uncertainty. While incremental changes have enabled certain progress towards sustainability, the current system governing sustainable development is no longer sufficient given the number, impact, interdependence and complexity of problems associated with global change. Governance for sustainability requires transformative reforms with clear vision. The 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) could be a charter moment -- the beginning of a reform process leading to transformative change of sustainability governance.

The Hakone Vision Factory proposes principles and recommendations to guide this transformation clustered around three interrelated issues: Aspirations, Actors, and Architecture. Aspirations

We are living in a highly dynamic, human-dominated earth system in which non-linear, abrupt, and irreversible changes are not only possible but also probable. Governance for sustainability in the era of the "anthropocene" requires that objectives, underlying values and norms, as well as knowledge and uncertainty be refined and operationalized.

- Planetary boundaries illustrate the finiteness of natural resources and resource use and define the safe operating space for humans. Governance for integrative economic, social, and environmental sustainability must respect these, and other limits to human, intellectual and natural resources and simultaneously ensure just and equitable development and stewardship.

- Governance for sustainability must be capable of governing the legitimate and effective policy responses to potential changes to natural systems that could result from crossing planetary boundaries and potentially triggering tipping points in the earth system.

- Similarly, policy responses to natural disasters that are likely to occur more frequently and with larger magnitude due to global change require new effective governance mechanisms at the global level to complement, coordinate and improve existing disaster reduction and management policies on national and local levels.

- Governance goals have changed from those in 1945 when the post-WWII institutions were established. This requires changes in governance systems. The international community should discuss the priorities, pathways and qualitative and normative goals of sustainability.

- The economic, social, and environmental pillars of sustainable development are strongly interrelated. Horizontal harmonization therefore is crucial to ensure that actions are mutually reinforcing and to realize the governance goals for sustainability. Vertical integration is needed within each pillar to achieve improved implementation of sustainable development.

- The emerging discussion on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) in line with and complementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDG's), could become an important political target, providing momentum and drawing attention to sustainable development. Careful consideration is required to determine how the SDG's can be positioned alongside the successful MDG's, which continue to be of high relevance and importance.

- Approaches to sustainability governance based on economic values are insufficient - and partly the cause of unsustainable development. There is a clear need to go beyond GDP and market-value in measuring development. Human well-being and the quality of life are important additional values, as are considerations of ecosystem services and the non-anthropocentric values of other living beings.

- Alternative metrics to GDP have been developed, such as the Human Development Index. Further development of the goals of sustainable development and methodologies could result in a sustainable development indicator, combining variables from the three pillars of sustainable development, or a small suite of indices that have to be pursued simultaneously and without tradeoffs. This is considered to have potential as a useful and policy relevant tool, but only when institutional and financial underpinnings are provided.

### Actors

Governance for sustainability demands the broadening of meaningful and accountable participation and solutions from people for people.

- Governance for sustainability should be as inclusive as possible for all groups in society. Inclusiveness requires governance systems to listen to all voices and to have transparent mechanisms to moderate, synthesize and prioritize them to allow for inclusive, representative, and effective decision making. The level of inclusiveness, the kind of inclusion of voices, and the mechanisms to ensure this, could be tailored differently for each distinct step in the policy cycle, noting that there is a distinction between listening and decision-making. Deciding whose voices shall be heard and whose views should help determine decision-making outcomes is a highly normative and extremely sensitive process that needs further research and deliberation as well as a system of checks and balances. Initially, meeting basic human needs could be the core criterion for making these choices.

- Information technologies, including social media, have the potential to support governance for sustainability by giving voice to those groups and individuals that have been marginalized in the decision making process, and stimulating and facilitating trans-boundary communication and deliberation. However, contentious issues remain regarding the legitimacy and accountability of decentralized participation (e.g. referenda), in particular because these technologies are not universally available and affordable.

- The evolving nature of governance and the problems of global change have engaged a wide variety and large number of non-state actors. Mechanisms to include non-state actors in the intergovernmental UN system (for example through Major Groups in the CSD) are laudable but insufficient and not truly inclusive, often leading to misrepresentation. One way to improve representation in the current intergovernmental system would be to add a mechanism of checks and balances (between governments and non-state actors) that could be inspired by the example of the EU Parliament in relation to the EU Council. In designing such a mechanism, attention should

also be paid to the risk of paralysis. o Mechanisms to enable meaningful involvement of other actors, including persons or organisations of high respect, cities, communities, and social movements in governance for sustainability are needed.

- The emergence of new actors requires a governance system with a larger range of instruments. While states are the central actors, non-state actors are necessary for accountable and effective governance for sustainability. Options include improved private governance (such as the Forest Stewardship Council or Marine Stewardship Council) and public-private partnerships. Safeguards need to be in place to ensure the accountability and legitimacy of non-state actors.

#### Architecture

The architecture for sustainability governance needs to be re-built to include better integration, as well as improved institutions and decision-making mechanisms.

- Proposals for the required transformative changes in the architecture of governance for sustainability need to be assessed based on a set of criteria, including:

1. Membership: Meaningful participatory approaches that are inclusive and account for power differentials between nation states, non-state actors, and other groups in society.
2. Funding: Appropriate and stable levels of funding.
3. Authority/Mandate: Appropriate authority and efficiency.
4. Compliance and Implementation: Appropriate capacity to address compliance and implementation.
5. Adaptability: Effective adaptive approaches that could include sunset clauses and scheduled re-chartering moments in agreements, dynamic criteria to all selection and decision-making mechanisms to reflect changes in natural and social systems, and network approaches.
6. Accountability: Strong accountability and transparency safeguards

The absence of suitable arrangements on one or more of these criteria will jeopardize prospects for transformative change.

- Governance for sustainability concerns governance at all levels, from global to local. Efficient and legitimate governance mechanisms at the global level are important to support efforts at other levels. Likewise, governance mechanisms at other levels can support governance initiatives at the global level.
- Effective management of the global commons is in each country's interest, as global problems increasingly have local impacts, and local problems have trans-boundary consequences. Responsible decisions are needed that respect the trans-boundary nature of causes and consequences of global change as well as of the appropriate policy responses.
- The UN System plays a key role in the current and future architectures for sustainability governance. Transformative change will require stronger links between the institutions and organisations working within the UN System and those of the Bretton Woods System and other sustainable development activities taking place outside the UN System.
- Accountability, legitimacy and authority within the UN System need improvement, and for global efforts towards sustainable development outside the UN, mechanisms need to be newly developed.

#### Sustainable Development Council

Drawing on the discussion of Aspirations, Actors, and Architecture, the Hakone Vision Factory discussed and evaluated many of the proposals for a re-structured institutional framework for sustainable development that would improve governance and determined that proposals for a Sustainable Development Council deserve more serious consideration.

- The process towards the establishment of the Sustainable Development Council needs to be carefully balanced with other governance reforms for sustainable development and with consideration to the oversight of the process, and the positioning and configuration of the Council in the constellation of the institutional framework for sustainable development, including but not limited to the UN System. The six requirements for the architecture of the governance for sustainability, as mentioned above, should be applied when assessing IFSD.
- The mandate of the Sustainable Development Council needs to result from further research and a deliberative process that could be set in motion at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Amongst others, the mandate and charter of such a Council could include mechanisms and authority for governance of crisis, for example along the lines of the WHO.
- The Sustainable Development Council could include the following set of members, whereby different responsibilities could be assigned to different member groups. The optimal number of members for each member group needs further exploration.
  1. Primary member states. Countries with high capacity to contribute to implementation of sustainable development through various forms of capital. These same countries also have a high capacity to contribute to the problem of unsustainable development, if their actions are not changed in significant ways. Selected based on a set of criteria (of which GDP could initially be an important part until adequate alternative metrics are common and accepted, for example also including scores of countries on the SDG's). At set points in time (not too frequent), membership will be re-assessed based on changed scores on criteria.
  2. Rotating member states. Countries most affected by specific issues of sustainable development and thus called into the group depending on the issue on the table.
  3. Non-state actors. Selected through a mechanism that reflects the criteria for architecture of governance for sustainability.
- The total number of members should be kept sufficiently small to allow decisions to be made reasonably efficiently.
- Taking into account the evolving nature of governance, gradually, and over the medium to long-term, the Council could create a dual-chamber system, consisting of governments on one side and issue specific representatives from non-state actors on the other.
- Generally, qualified majority voting is a promising way to improve the quality and decisiveness of decision making in governance for sustainable development. Given the high level of the Council, careful development of decision-making procedures, whether based on the common one-state one-vote unanimous decision making procedures, re-definition of consensus, or on innovative other models, is needed.
- The academic and political considerations and development of a Sustainable Development Council should not exclude the required strengthening of the environmental pillar (such as upgrading UNEP) of sustainable development; and should take place with meaningful involvement and strengthening of integration with economic governance. But

such reform directions suggest a review on the role and future of CSD.

Rio+20 and beyond

Fundamental improvements in the economic system are necessary in addition to improved governance for sustainability. Green economy should be linked up with IFSD in this regard. We see Rio+20 as the beginning of a charter moment. Ultimately, this may involve amending the UN Charter to better reflect the challenges of the 21st century.

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## International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA)

Resolution to be put forward to Rio+20

Towards a UNESCO International Landscape Convention

General content:

a) Expectations:

We urge the Rio+20 conference to recommend the development of an International Landscape Convention (ILC).

b) relationship to existing proposals

This proposal deals with the relationship populations have with the landscape. This sets it apart from other charters and categorisations of a more scientific, or specifically delineated territorial nature and from those concerned with the protection, or sanctuary of more exclusively natural environments.

Whilst many of these documents may refer to the cultural, recreational, aesthetic and social aspects of landscape, they are seen as elements that play a supporting role as part of a complex range of topics affecting a defined area. The distinctive nature of this proposal is that it deals with the experience people have of, and with the landscape, shaped by ideas, materiality and culture. It is an entirely different approach.

c) What are opinions on the implementation and how to reduce lags about it?

The aim is for the ILC to stimulate a more integrated, democratic approach that establishes the landscape as a holistic tool for planning, managing and creating sustainable development. Dealing with the protection of the past as well as the shaping of the future, it would recognise the vital connections between governance, culture, health and economics.

Rather than being an enforceable tool, it was agreed that the convention should:

- offer inspiration through principles and guidelines;
- encourage work across established institutional, geographical and disciplinary boundaries;
- provide leadership;
- share and reward good practice; and
- deal with the whole space, the rural and the urban, wilderness and man-made, the most treasured and memorable and as well as the unloved and degraded (see attached leaflets).

Recognising that different cultures have different ideas about the landscape, a convention will be comprehensive and overarching yet flexible, encouraging national, regional and local interpretation and application. The idea will empower communities and people who are concerned with economy, health, and sustainability of their culture and environment.

The urgent need for an international convention will capitalize on the intense interest in this proposal from across the world, and will give leadership, complement and reinforce the bottom up approach which has led to existing and proposed landscape charters in Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela, Bolivia, Chile, Uruguay and Peru, national charters in Australia and New Zealand, regional charters in The Mediterranean, West Africa, East Africa and South Africa, and the European Landscape Convention (signed by 39 nation states).

d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other means of implementation are expected to use and what is the term appropriate to adopt the proposed decisions and apply the measures?

Establishing the need for and shape of a proposed international landscape convention has been a collaborative effort. An expert seminar organised by and held at UNESCO in October 2010, was attended by 23 experts including lawyers, landscape architects, architects, geographers, planners, engineers, biologists, anthropologists, ecologists and developers, with representatives from Africa, Europe and North America, Latin America, the Caribbean and the Arab States, international NGOs including ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM, IFLA, ISOCARP, UIA, FIDIC, and other organizations including Council of Europe. It was also attended by representatives from the UNESCO Centre for Traditional Knowledge and the UNESCO World Heritage Centre, Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences and Legal Affairs and members of IFLA.

The report was circulated internally on 29th October, and distributed in mid November for comment. In January 2011 governments, officials and individuals were encouraged to inform the UNESCO ambassadors of the executive committee about the globally recognised need for an ILC. The groundswell of support for this proposal was overwhelming, with notices and messages on Facebook, Linked In and various blogs across the world, requests for articles in journals and newsletters, and letters of support from many international organizations, including ICOMOS, IUCN, ISOCARP and UIA, as well as national and regional institutions including RECEP-ENELC and CIDCE. The proposal was discussed at special meeting in UNESCO to celebrate the publication of National Register of the Historical Rural Landscapes, funded by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forestry and the University Consortium for Industrial and Managerial Economics.

Although not adopted by the UNESCO Board in May 2011, the level of support for this important and vital initiative was such that we strongly believe that its adoption is a matter of time. As the proposal helps to promote sustainable development we believe the sooner it is adopted, the better, if possible by 2013.

### 4 Specific Elements

a. Objective of the Conference: Securing renewed commitment policy to achieve sustainable development, assessing the progress so far and the gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.

The quality of the environment is a key component of every society's identity and robust economic growth. Certain remarkable, valuable, historical and beautiful landscapes are given sanctuary, but at present, the everyday landscape, the social, economic and physical context of our lives, has no champion. Fragmented into various components that are green, grey or blue, agricultural, historical or ecological, landscapes are often undervalued and neglected, seemingly belonging to everyone, but actually to no one.

b. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and Poverty Eradication: Opinions on how the green economy provide a means for achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, and the eradication of poverty, what is its value added potential, experience to date, including what has worked and how to get good results, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address these challenges and opportunities, and possible elements according to a final document on a green economy in the context sustainable development and poverty eradication.

Each week, across the world, communities are experiencing benefits, but also feeling the impacts of industrialisation, urbanisation, and the search for energy. Lives are endangered or affected by poor or badly planned development. Problems are caused by demographic shifts and changing patterns of work and habitation, as well as climate change, the depletion of natural resources, de/reforestation, difficulties relating to food production, biodiversity, heritage, and a host of other issues relating to aspects of land use change and development. The quality of the landscapes of daily life is constantly being eroded. A more strategic and holistic approach is desperately needed to provide support to communities in dealing with these global threats and challenges.

c) Institutional framework for sustainable development priorities and proposals for strengthening the different pillars of sustainable development, -3 -11-42780 (S) to strengthen the integration of the three pillars on multiple levels - local, national, regional and international levels.

A new international convention would encourage a different way of thinking about the landscape by:

- Considering the landscape as a cultural and natural concept, a physical and abstract entity, having economic and social value.
- Focusing on the experience people have of their physical environment, dealing with the protection of the past as well as the shaping of the future.
- Recognising the vital connections between governance, culture, health and economics.
- Offering inspiration through principles and guidelines, encouraging work across established institutional, geographical and disciplinary boundaries.
- Providing leadership, sharing and rewarding good practice.
- Dealing with the whole space, the rural and the urban, wilderness and man-made, the most treasured and memorable and as well as the unloved and degraded, will help establish the landscape as a holistic tool for planning, managing and creating sustainable development.

d. Any proposal to improve the two issues. It is recalled that in resolution 64/236 described the priority of the Conference: "The Conference will focus, among others, the following issues, which will tested and perfected in the preparatory process: the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the frame institutional framework for sustainable development."

A UNESCO convention would encourage intergovernmental, transnational and public-private cooperation. Stimulating integrated policy making, unlocking greater value for people and the economy for now and in the future, it will help raise aspirations, reinforce democracy, encourage local culture and by recognising the true value of the landscape help ensure the creation, protection and long-term management of memorable, equitable and sustainable landscapes to improve the quality of life for all.

Kathryn Moore Chair of the IFLA Working Group for an International Landscape Convention

Desiree Martinez, President of the International Federation of Landscape Architects

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## International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA)

"Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature" – Principle 1 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992

This position statement and submission is delivered in response to the request for input from the co-chairs of the UNCSD Bureau, dated 14 March 2011, to the compilation document used to prepare the zero draft of the UNCSD Rio+20 outcome framework.

### Preamble

The International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) represents 1.3 million medical students from 91 countries across the globe.

We affirm our commitment to the principles outlined in the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and of Agenda 21. In particular, we believe that human health and wellbeing must be a central tenant of any global agreement made at the UNCSD Rio+20.

Whilst acknowledging the considerable improvements achieved in development and poverty eradication (in no small part as a result of the Millennium Declaration), we note the limited progress made in bringing together historically independent social, environmental and economic policy at a national and international level.

Rio+20 must support global recognition that social, economic and environmental principles underpinning sustainable development are mutually enhancing, not mutually exclusive. Evidence and experience have proven that health and sustainable development are interdependent and indivisible. Progress thus far in sustainable development has been impeded by constrained thinking, which assumes that economic growth coupled with a focus on specific disease and discrete sectors in isolation to one another, will stimulate development.

### Objectives from Rio+20

We call for a return to the principles of health and human rights as enshrined in Article 1 of the 1992 Rio Declaration and of health as the highest social goal as enshrined in the 1978 Declaration of Alma-Mata. This should place health at the centre of the international negotiation process, as a necessary precondition for sustainable development, fundamental to social, environmental and economic development. Such an approach must address the social, environmental and economic determinants of health as a means to reduce health inequities through integration of health in all outcomes of the summit.

Shifts in a geopolitical world have exacerbated many of the challenges faced by Majority World Nations. Chief among them are the provision of access to medicines, health services, adequate food and clean water for drinking and sanitation. We look to Rio+20 to elevate and further validate the social determinants of health nexus as a core



concept in sustainable development.

Rio+20 must provide a comprehensive and ambitious plan of action for the mainstreaming, enhancement, and accelerated implementation of Agenda 21. Such strategies should include formal mechanisms to ensure the co-implementation of social, economic and environmental policies and the securing of resources for development and implementation of Action Plans.

#### Health in the Green Economy

We view the green economy as a means to achieving the overarching goals of global poverty eradication and improved health and well-being for all, and not an end in itself. We support the initiatives and strategies outlined in the World Health Organisation's 'Health in the Green Economy' Series<sup>1</sup> which proposes a series of co-beneficial solutions for health and climate change mitigation and adaptation, relating to health systems, housing and household energy, and the transport sector. We call for a Health in All Policies (HiAP)<sup>2</sup> approach to sustainable development, which outlines the need for cooperation between all sectors of society, to advance human development, sustainability, and equity. Such an approach emphasise that all implementation strategies which emerge from Rio+20 will be best achieved when integrated with health and well-being as a key component of their policy development. A key factor in the green economy must involve strengthening the capacity of national healthcare systems with an emphasis on devolved yet integrated care, and embedded prevention thinking to face the emerging epidemiological and demographic challenges in health. Such an approach will coincide with the development and implementation of sustainable practices within healthcare systems.

The promotion of holistic and long-term sustainable city planning based on environment-sensitive master planning that takes into account population growth, resource utilization, building design, efficient transportation and waste management. Sustainable architecture should strive to improve living conditions, reduce vulnerability and diminish exposure to hazardous materials, tackling the social determinants of health. This could be made possible through financial incentives and mandatory technical standards for new developments.

The implementation of environmental policies must stress green strategies which enhance health and economic benefits in an equitable fashion, rather than environmental protectionist strategies, concerned only with environmental benefit.

#### Youth Engagement and Capacity Building

Article 25 of Agenda 21 states that "Youth comprise nearly 30 per cent of the world's population. The involvement of today's youth in environment and development decision-making and in the implementation of programmes is critical to the long-term success of Agenda 21." We agree with the sentiment expressed in Article 25 and call upon all parties to engage youth organisations and in particular young professional organisations, with sustainable development decision making processes. As future health professionals who will be involved in the delivery of healthcare and as young people whose health will be affected by failing to develop sustainably we request all parties to listen to the views of future health professionals on sustainable development.

With regards to capacity building, we take the concepts outlined in Article 6 of the UNFCCC and would like to see them applied to the field of sustainable development. We call on parties to further 'the development and implementation of education and training programmes, including the strengthening of national institutions and the exchange or secondment of personnel to train experts in this field in particular for developing countries'. We would also like to see this incorporated within existing professional education programs so as to enable future professionals to actively participate in tackling sustainable development problems and promoting of their solutions.

#### Implementation, Accountability, and Building Momentum

We support the use of key health-based indicators as a measure of global progress, and in the evaluation of all sustainable development policies implemented as a result of Rio+20. Unlike sustainable development, health is a simplistic and tangible concept, with immediate and personal benefits. As such, health outcomes generate significant public interest and additional political will.

We look to the World Health Organisation, and their established tools and instruments useful in evaluating the social impacts of policies across all sectors. Member states should implement similar evaluation and monitoring mechanisms to obtain specific data on the effectiveness of the policy agreements made at the Earth Summits, feeding back to regional reporting and support systems to ensure enhanced political accountability.

Whilst broadly supportive of proposals to upgrade the UNEP to a Specialised Agency, in that it would advance the sustainable development agenda, we believe the integration and strengthening of health and human rights institutions to tackle issues in sustainable development to be of equal importance. As such, any additional Specialised Agency should include the economic, social and environmental principles of sustainable development in its mandate.

We support an evidence based, precautionary approach to sustainable development detached from the biases of the political process. As such, we see great merit in the establishment of an intergovernmental scientific body tasked with reviewing and assessing the scientific, technical, and socio-economic information relevant to sustainable development. Such a body would simultaneously act to form a link between policy- and decision- makers, and sustainable development science.

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## International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM)

IFOAM Submission to the UNCSD Rio+20 Zero Draft – November 1st, 2011

IFOAM is the global umbrella organization of the international organic movement with over 750 member organizations in over 110 countries worldwide. IFOAM represents millions of certified and non-certified organic farmers and consumers around the world as well as the hopes of many more who want to see a transition to resilient, humane and equitable food and farming systems that nourish everyone as well as the planet. IFOAM believes that only farming that nourishes Nature and supports biological activities, efficient use of water, climate, seeds, breeds and naturally developed soils can guarantee food and nutrition for all; now and in the future.

#### The Definition of Organic Agriculture

Organic agriculture is a production system that sustains the health of soils, ecosystems and people. It relies on ecological processes, biodiversity and cycles adapted to local conditions, rather than the use of inputs with adverse effects. Organic agriculture combines tradition, innovation and science to benefit the shared environment and promote fair relationships and a good quality of life for all involved.

#### Introduction

Farmers represent one-third of the world's population and one-half of its poor and unacceptably many of its hungry and starving and almost all are in developing countries and subject to unjust policies and climate change that significantly reduces their livelihood opportunities. The real structural reasons behind hunger, obesity, and diet related diseases and inequality must be acknowledged. Massive perverse subsidies for industrial agriculture in developed countries, dismantling of research and extension services and land grabbing in developing countries have deprived millions of their livelihoods and sent many into hunger, exploitation and slums.

In 2008 the United Nation's IAASTD report (the most comprehensive study into the future needs of agriculture ever undertaken) shattered the paradigm that technological fixes were the solution to food security. It stressed the multi-functionality of agriculture and has led to the increased focus on small holders by policy makers. Many of its recommendations, including an essential shift towards ecosystem-based farming, have yet to be implemented however, as they call for the business as usual approaches favored by the interests of a minority yet powerful group of stakeholders to be fundamentally addressed.

Rio+20 comes at a critical time when despite significant increased awareness of the multiple negative impacts of industrial agriculture and the global commodity market, the expansion of industrial agriculture is actually accelerating. Given the wide range of issues from climate, to biodiversity, to trade, to food security, to poverty, desertification, deforestation and global ecosystem integrity, UNCSD 2012 offers a highly significant opportunity to change course by holistically addressing the core structural reasons behind poverty and our unsustainable path. We therefore urge the UNCSD Secretariat to be bold in preparing the Rio+20 Zero Draft and include solutions to addressing food and agriculture systems in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication as outlined in this document. IFOAM is ready to provide any support or clarification that might be required.

Rio+20 decisions and outcomes:

1. Rio+20 must comprehensively address the urgent transition to Sustainable and Equitable Food and Agriculture Systems. This must be reflected in a major section in the Outcome Document
2. Rio+20 must ensure all people and communities both today and in the future are nourished with healthy, diverse and culturally appropriate food that respects animal welfare and the integrity of natural ecosystems at both the local and global level.
3. Rio+20 must recognize that the scaling up of agro-ecology through the reorientation of policies that support small-scale farmers is today's main and most urgent food and agricultural challenge, and that a transition to an ecologically based, resilient, fair and fully inclusive and humane agriculture is essential if the goals of sustainability and poverty eradication are to be simultaneously achieved.
4. Rio+20 must recognize agro-ecological based farming or organic farming practiced by small-scale farmers as the most effective approach in addressing climate change adaptation and mitigation, food and water security, biodiversity loss, poverty eradication and sustainable development. Smallholder farmers with their diverse farming systems produce the most sustainable and nutritious and fresh food for local and regional communities throughout the world. Such investments in sustainable nutritious food security are the key to alleviating poverty throughout much of the developing world and for stimulating green growth and addressing diet related disease in the developed world.
5. Rio+20 must put smallholder farmers, pastoralists and indigenous and traditional farming systems at the center of sustainable food and agriculture policies at all levels. Rio+20 must ensure that they are appropriately strengthened, especially their rights, so that they can continue to not only be the backbone of food security but also the basis of healthy and diverse diets throughout the world.
6. Rio+20 must support food sovereignty as the overall framework for food and agricultural policies and encourage communities, peoples, states and international institutions to recognize and realize food sovereignty. Food sovereignty puts the right to sufficient, healthy and culturally appropriate food for all individuals, peoples and communities at the center of food, agriculture, livestock and fisheries policies, rather than the demands of markets and corporations that prioritize internationally tradable commodities.
7. Rio+20 must pave the way for an urgent transition to sustainable, humane and socially inclusive and fair food and agriculture systems that nourishes all people without compromising the natural capital of future generations. It must put the needs of all the world's citizens and the planet above the interests of a few powerful stakeholders that are currently driving the agriculture agenda across many aspects of international governance (climate, food security, trade etc.).
8. Rio+20 must recognize the 2008 IAASTD report and its multi-stakeholder process, supported by multiple countries and UN institutions, as the most comprehensive and legitimate study for guiding the ongoing re-orientation of agriculture to socially inclusive and ecological based systems.
9. Rio+20 must adopt the recommendations of the IAASTD Report and those of other UN reports, policy briefs and agreements (outlined below) that increasingly call for an urgent shift to ecological-based and people centered food and agriculture systems:
  - a. The UN the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food's report; "Agro-ecology and the Right to Food" presented to the Sixteenth Session of the Human Rights Council of the United Nations General Assembly on the 8th March 2011. The report demonstrates that agro-ecology, if sufficiently supported, can double food production in entire regions within 10 years while mitigating climate change, alleviating rural poverty and strongly contributing to broader economic development.
  - b. The high quality and groundbreaking papers prepared by FAO for the FAO/OECD Expert Meeting on Greening the Economy with Agriculture (GEA) in Paris, France, 5 - 7 September 2011 bravely outline the structural reasons for many of the agriculture related problems that the world faces today and brings together and systematically evaluates a wide range of potential solutions for addressing the challenges – many of which are already happening and can be scaled-up and further enhanced with the right support.
  - c. The agreements relevant to agriculture made at UNCSD 16 and 17
  - d. The FAO High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition report "Price volatility and Food Security" of the UN's Committee on World Food Security integrates a rights-based approach to food security and nutrition.
  - e. UNCTAD's Policy Brief on Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security strongly outlines the economic reasons for shifting to ecosystem-based and people centered farming systems in LDCs.
10. Rio+20 must increase the proportion of overseas development assistance focused on agriculture and rural development to 20% and prioritize the needs of small-scale food producers, indigenous peoples, peasants and the rural poor.
11. Rio+20 must mark the end of perverse policies that undermine sustainability and the livelihood and well being of agricultural based communities especially in LDCs.
12. Rio+20 must reshape the Research for Development (R4D) institutions so that they can address sustainability issues from the perspective of transitioning to ecosystem based and people-centered approaches.
13. Rio+20 must recognize the urgent need for the public sector to fund research and development activities (as outlined in the IAASTD Report), since food security is a matter of national security and so falls within the responsibility of government. Public spending on research on agriculture must increase and the bulk of research should be refocused to agro-ecological solutions for the challenges ahead by promoting bio-diverse and resilient farming systems and enabling food sovereignty. There must be much higher investment in pro-smallholder science, technology, infrastructure, services and innovation.
14. Rio+20 must usher in an era of Rights based approaches in food and agriculture for small scale food producers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, peasants and the rural poor in which the Right to Food, the Right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent, The Right to Justice, The Right to their land and resources and The Right to Protect and

Utilize their knowledge and innovations are acknowledged, respected and universally implemented and realized.

15. Rio+20 must ensure small scale food producers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, peasants and the rural poor are provided with enhanced access to information as basis for decision-making; access to justice; and free, prior and informed consent for both policy development and implementation actions on the ground including issues that pose a threat to local food security, livelihoods and tenurial rights such as land-grabbing.

16. Rio+20 must guarantee the rights of small scale food producers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, peasants and the rural poor to participate in decision making processes in all aspects of agriculture processes including production, distribution, pricing, marketing, standard setting, policy making and regulation of the agricultural commodities market, and empower them to exercise these rights.

17. Rio+20 must protect the rights of small-scale food producers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, peasants and local communities to utilize their knowledge, resources, practices and innovations (including traditional and indigenous) and ensure their unimpeded access to them.

18. Rio+20 must recognize the importance of knowledge and innovations (including traditional and indigenous) of small-scale food producers, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, peasants and local communities for achieving sustainable development. This recognition must be part and parcel of the body of agricultural knowledge that includes Knowledge, Science and Technology. This is a very important for agriculture and sustainable development as farmer's knowledge is usually not peer reviewed.

19. Rio+20 must ban 'Terminator' type agricultural technologies. There are moves by some governments to overturn the global moratorium on 'Terminator' technologies. Rio+20 must urgently establish a global ban.

20. Rio+20 must condemn the patenting of genetic information (including multi-genome patent claims) and encourage governments to block or rescind such claims. Governments must also develop a clear intergovernmental process for examining the impact of intellectual-property regimes on living materials and processes.

21. Rio+20 must support in situ conservation and breeding strategies of peasant, communities and other small-scale producers. The diversity of the peasant food web offers enormous potential to respond to climate change and enhance nutrition security – yet it's under threat. The peasant food web conserves approximately 50,000 species of wild relatives, breeds and nurtures 7,000 food crop species and has contributed over 2 million food and feed varieties. Policies must strengthen their efforts to diversify the food web especially as the industrial food chain concentrates on just 150 species with almost all research focused on only 12 species.

22. Rio+20 must recognize the important role that States and donors have to play in the transition to socially inclusive and ecological based farming systems as agro-ecology is knowledge-intensive rather than external input / product / capital intensive and is therefore less attractive to private companies that develop and supply such products. As a consequence the transition will require public policies supporting agricultural research and the wide dissemination of outcomes and outputs including through the development of participative extension services.

23. Rio+20 must commit States to transition to an ecological-based and socially fair and inclusive food and agriculture systems as outlined in this document. States can immediately start to implement actions locally such as; prioritizing the procurement of public goods in public spending rather than solely providing input subsidies; investing in knowledge by reinvesting in agricultural research and extension services; investing in forms of social organization that encourage partnerships, including farmer field schools and farmers' movements innovation networks; investing in agricultural research and extension systems; empowering women; and creating a macro-economic enabling environment, including connecting sustainable farms to fair markets.

Specific Mechanisms & Actions for Implementing Outcomes & Decisions:

24. Rio+20 must give the FAO's Committee on World Food Security (CFS) a mandate to develop a work plan for implementing:

- a. the decisions of UNCSD 2012,
- b. the findings of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD),
- c. the recommendations on agro-ecology by the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food in his report presented at the 16th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in March 2011,
- d. the relevant parts of Chapter 14 of Agenda 21, and
- e. UNCSD 16/17, making sure that the views and concerns of small scale food providers are taken into account

25. Rio+20 must establish an 'International Multi-stakeholder Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems', based on the IAASTD process and its objectives, that informs the transition to a green, fair, ecologically sound and humane agriculture through the provision of regular updates on Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology options that address food and water security within the context of sustainable development and which complements the role of the CFS of FAO.

26. Rio+20 must establish a new, broad, participatory and transparent UN environmental network. Within this network, Southern governments, backed by civil society, can coherently address the full range of climate, environmental and social issues currently covered by a variety of treaty bodies, funds and offices.

27. Rio+20 must support the adoption of a UN Declaration on Peasant Rights. Across the world, peasants and small farmers, agricultural workers and landless people are victims of violent oppressions, criminalization, discrimination, and expulsion and alienation from their lands and livelihoods. In order to address these unique patterns of violations, there is a need for specific provisions and mechanisms to fully protect the rights of peasants. An international instrument to respect, protect, fulfill, and uphold peasants' rights must therefore be created within the UN.

28. Rio+20 must establish a multi-stakeholder technology (bio, nano and geo-engineering) assessment and information mechanism at the global and regional levels that assesses the potential environmental, health and social economic impacts of new and emerging technologies based on the precautionary principle. Such a mechanism must be transparent and participatory and build the capacities of countries and communities in all aspects of technology assessment.

29. Implementation is urgent. States and donors as well as all other stakeholders need not wait for international agreements or mechanisms to be in place to start implementing the following:

- a. the decisions of UNCSD 2012,
- b. the findings of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD),
- c. the recommendations on agro-ecology by the United Nations' Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food in his report presented at the 16th Session of the United Nations Human Rights Council in March 2011,

- d. the relevant parts of Chapter 14 of Agenda 21, and
- e. UNCSO 16/17, making sure that the views and concerns of small scale food providers are taken into account
- f. all points outlined in this document

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## International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD)

Mobility and accessibility is crucial for poor people in remote mountainous areas to pull themselves out of isolation and poverty. Environment friendly technology, therefore, must be used as leverage for empowerment. This, indeed, was the consensus among the participants at International Forum for Rural Transport and Development (IFRTD) organised international workshop on Transport in the Mountains held at the Godavari Village Resort in Kathmandu, Nepal in November 2010.

The workshop participants agreed to a Statement of Intent and some of them as mentioned below, are mentioned as key recommendations to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), in regard to the transportation in the mountainous areas. It should be an important concern of governments, local governments, UN Agencies and other relevant sectors to ensure the environmental protection of the fragile and active mountains, to minimize the construction of conventional transport infrastructure (e.g. Roads).

The transport systems, infrastructure, services and means required by and available to poor people living in mountainous ecosystems may challenge our traditional perception of what are suitable and appropriate solutions. The participants have witnessed and commend the level of expertise that Nepal has on complementary technological solutions such as trail bridges, ropeways - including gravity ones - and trails which are essential in areas where access by roads is not economically and environmentally viable. Given the impact that such options can have on the lives and livelihoods of the poor and any technological options promoted should consider the necessary safeguards and maintenance required. Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies dealing with infrastructure, in general, and (rural) roads in particular must synchronize their efforts. Any Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) of a Ministry must clearly define how it interacts with other government bodies also dealing with infrastructure.

The current "island approach" where each institution operates as if the other does not exist affect negatively the effective use of limited public resources and must be avoided. Based on the experiences from developing countries with mountain regions, workshop participants believe that the following Good Governance principles should be introduced:

With respect to sustainable road construction:

1. Ensuring quality control of mountain roads by defining and enforcing norms, standards, and technologies.
2. Local communities must be informed, consulted and if possible involved in the planning, construction and maintenance of infrastructure passing their location or vicinity thereof.
3. Enhancing transparency and accountability markedly by introducing Cost Accounting and facilitating access to the accounts by the public through the web and other accessible information means.
4. Keeping Central and Local Governments more efficient by ensuring the safeguarding of natural resources and avoid constructions leading to man-made disasters.
5. Applying the Feasibility Study Approach to include procedures on how to compute the per km capita cost and requirements to adjustments with respect to Geology, Hydrology, Drainage, Resettlement-needs, and replacing (heritage) trails. The respective Ministries are to set the acceptable upper limits on the per capita cost and tolerable limits on the adjustments.
6. Workshop participants acknowledge the tensions between road infrastructure works and environmental protection. Thus it is very important to ensure that Environmental Impact Assessments and mitigation plans for environmental damage and biodiversity loss are comprehensive, well conceived and properly implemented. In view of increasing vehicle imports and the consequent air pollution, a favourable duty system for carbon emissions-free vehicles should be considered.
7. Workshop participants are conscious that the isolation of people living in mountains exacerbates their poverty and the conditions of inequality they face in our societies. Thus, workshop participants endeavor to continue exchanging ideas, identify areas of potential collaboration and promote this important debate at national and international levels.

The above extracts were taken from the Statement of Intent (The Godavari Statement of Intent) published at the conclusion of the International Workshop on Mountain Transport held in Kathmandu, Nepal, from 21 -27 November, 2010.

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## International Human Rights Consortium, Worldwide Creative Solutions, LLC and the Spalding International BrainTrust

Uniting Nonprofit, Business, and Elected Officials

Using ABCDE Solution-Creating Model and Proposed Wellness Hubs

from International Human Rights Consortium, Worldwide Creative Solutions, LLC

and the

Spalding International BrainTrust

Media Motto:

"Honoring the past, acting in the present, and positively impacting the future."

Purpose: To bring together individuals, groups, peoples, and nations from different perspectives of expertise at local hubs (and virtually), to assess best overviews for

successful implementation and actionables with sensitivity to traditional roots and ways to revitalize living heritages to assist in the achieving of MDGs and beyond.

Special focus for Rio+20 "Inputs for Compilation Document, Co-Chairs' Guidance Note, Item 3 (c) and (d)"

Offering the ABCDE Method©

Apply a local "Appreciative Enquiry" Survey; then, create a small (no more than 10 individuals) solution-creating group composed equally of an (A) academic, (B) business person, (C) person representing culture and the arts, a (D) 'diplomat' or a respected, non-confrontational mediator type, and (E) a grassroots person who is known as a person who brings out the Excellence in others.

Give the group only five minutes to create a solution to an issue that is handed to them just prior to their 5-minute solution-creating task. Enjoy the plenarity of successes and breakthroughs!

From the March 2011 SIBT "The Fabric of Life: Reasons for Hope" prep for Rio+20 held at the School of Law, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, NC, USA and subsequent sessions. Utilizing the above ABCDE Method©, a number of proposals and commitments to the success of Rio+20 were made including the offering to assist work with interactive data collection of an International Organic Growers Cooperative--- working together for soil enrichment, water harvesting and oceanic/river healthy life, CO2 containments and other air concerns, organic vegetable household gardens and larger tended acreage, fish farming, and other opportunities for greater community garden sustainability research and production. Serving a as part of a larger interaction between traditional and interactive/biophysics wellness, sustainable equitable job production and rehabilitation of wounded persons, other species, and the life-giving forces of this planet. Using as three points of Phase I: The Peruvian Amazon Rainforest, The Triad of North Carolina, and partners in Africa including Lesotho, Ghana, and Liberia in its first phase.

For further information, contact: IHRC via [wspalding3@gmail.com](mailto:wspalding3@gmail.com)

## International Hydropower Association

### IHA MESSAGES FOR RIO+ 20 - HYDROPOWERING THE GREEN ECONOMY

The International Hydropower Association (IHA) was founded in 1995 under the auspices of UNESCO. It is an international not-for-profit organisation, established to further knowledge on all aspects of hydropower. IHA's mission is to advance sustainable hydropower by championing continuous improvement and sustainable practices, building consensus through strong partnerships with other stakeholders and driving initiatives to increase the contribution of renewable energy.

The International Renewable Energy Alliance (REN Alliance) was formed during the Bonn 2004 International Renewable Conference and has been established to advance policy and information on renewable energy by providing a combined voice for renewable energy technologies and practice. The REN Alliance goal is to advance policies that favour the increased deployment and use of renewable energy by fostering collaboration, removing barriers, promoting successful implementation strategies, enhancing business conditions and developing markets.

Renewable energy resources will be critical in meeting climate change mitigation and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Furthermore, hydropower has a key role in both mitigating against further climate change and assisting in adapting to the effects of climate change: in mitigating further change, it is the largest renewable energy by capacity and a valuable renewable energy in its own right, and a key enabler, as the only viable energy storage technology, of the integration of other renewable energies. In adapting to climate change, multi-purpose storage projects provide significant water infrastructure benefits, often only paid for through the hydro generation element.

IHA presents the following key messages as input to Rio+20:

#### 1. Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 and the associated outcomes document

##### 1.1 The role of renewable energies is identified as key to achieving sustainable development and climate change targets

1.2 The role of hydropower in contributing to both adaptation and mitigation is recognised; in mitigating against further climate change, a valuable renewable energy and a key tool in the integration of other renewable energies at required scales.

#### 2. Key actors for implementation of Rio+20 goals

Current opportunities for non-governmental, non-public-sector finance actors from the renewable energy and water sectors, to influence and provide guidance to policy-making on UN-level is limited, specifically private sector actors expected to contribute significantly to the Rio +20 goals.

Recognition of the key role of the private sector, and the facilitation of its involvement in system design and implementation, is proposed as fundamental to achieving the Goals. This involves recognition that the private sector cannot be treated as a single homogenous entity – key actors will be private sector players directly engaged with renewable energy, and, separately, water.

3. What are specific implementation tools and relevant time frames for implementation of Rio+20 goals? Implementation tools require frameworks designed to ensure that they are effective. Ensuring engagement of appropriate private sector representatives will facilitate implementation tools effective in delivering Rio+20 goals.

Specific to the hydropower sector, this technology must be developed in a sustainable manner to ensure that it realises its significant potential in contributing to the Rio+20 goals

The Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol (the Protocol) is an enhanced sustainability assessment tool to measure and guide performance in the hydropower sector. The Protocol assesses the four main stages of hydropower development: Early Stage, Preparation, Implementation and Operation. Assessments rely on objective evidence to create a sustainability profile on some 20 topics depending on the relevant stage, and covering all aspects of sustainability. The Protocol is the result of intensive work from 2008 to 2010 by the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Forum, a multi-stakeholder body involving representatives from social and environmental NGOs (Oxfam, The Nature Conservancy, Transparency International, WWF); governments (China, Germany, Iceland, Norway, Zambia); commercial and development banks (Equator Principles Financial Institutions Group, The World Bank); and the hydropower sector. More information can be found at: <http://www.hydrosustainability.org/>.

#### 4. Suggested objectives of the conference

Developing countries require significant increases in current energy capacity to meet MDG's. A key objective of the conference is to ensure that this increase in capacity is delivered in a manner that contributes to both climate change goals and MDG's. It is proposed that this will require recognition of the following objectives:

- A recognition of the fundamental role of renewable energies in achieving the goals;

- Facilitation of appropriate systems to ensure that renewable energies are able to meet these goals without perverse outcomes ( a systems approach to the integration of renewables energies into existing grids);
- Financing systems that allow for both large scale centralised integration of renewable energies, and that recognise the role that small scale renewable energies systems can play in addressing the MDGs in least development countries/ remote areas.

Adaptation will require significant investment in water infrastructure, investments that can be financed through appropriate hydropower development. A further objective should be facilitation of financial mechanisms to aid this investment, specifically incentivising traditionally non-financial elements of water infrastructure development, such as irrigation and flood control.

#### 5. Suggestions for the two conference themes

##### a) Green Economy

The Green Economy requires appropriate energy generation systems to support its implementation. The integration of renewable energies, as fundamental to the Green Economy, must be ensured. This integration must also be technology neutral, and focussed on systems that guide implementation without resulting in perverse outcomes.

##### b) Institutional Framework for sustainable development

Appropriate energy systems (and especially the required increases in capacity in developing regions) are fundamental to achieving the Rio+20 goals. Institutional frameworks to realise these systems demand increased collaboration between existing environmental, social, energy, economic, and climate change agencies. This entails recognition of the fundamental nexus between water, energy and food.

Furthermore, there needs to be stronger collaboration between different government bodies within countries, and also between national governments at the regional/international level, including collaboration between agriculture, energy, environment, development, finance, and water ministries and agencies. There also needs to be more opportunity for regional power pools and river basin organisations to play an increased role in future institutional frameworks.

Official pathways for public-private partnerships should be initiated and promoted by governments.

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## International Indian Treaty Council

Monday, October 31, 2011

Secretariat, United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20)

RE: Input and Contributions to the Rio + 20 compilation document to serve as a basis for the preparation of zero draft of the outcome document.

Dear UNCSD Secretariat,

The Dene Nation (Northwest Territories, Canada), the Nishnawbe Aski Nation (Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada), the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC), the Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN), the Indigenous Peoples Council on Biocolonialism (IPCB), Indigenous World Association IWA, as well as Alaska Community Acton on Toxics (ACAT), and Ms. Mirna Cunningham, President, UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and on behalf of CADPI (Nicaragua), all Indigenous Nations, Organizations and individuals of the Arctic, North America and Mesoamerica and other regions<sup>1</sup>, present the following recommendations for the compilation document which will serve as a basis for the Zero draft of the outcome document of Rio + 20.

We acknowledge with approval the Manaus Declaration and in particular affirm the Conclusions and Recommendations adopted by Indigenous Peoples at the Preparatory Conference for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio + 20, June 4 – 6, 2012.

We affirm that Indigenous peoples and individuals are free and equal to all other peoples and individuals and have the right to be free from any kind of discrimination, in the exercise of their rights, in particular that based on their indigenous origin or identity.

#### A. Indigenous Peoples and UNCED (Rio)

As does the Manaus Declaration, we recall the United Nations World Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED, more popularly known as the "Earth Summit" held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992. We note that Indigenous Peoples, although denied access to the UNCED, are prominently mentioned in the outcome documents and the activities that the United Nations committed to carry out, including: The Rio Declaration (Principle 22); Agenda 21 (Section 3 and Chapter 26 therein) The Statement of Principles of Forests (Principles 5(a) and 2(d) ); The Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (Theme: traditional forest-related knowledge); the Commission on Sustainable Development (Cluster: Roles of Major Groups including Indigenous Peoples and Chapter 26); and the Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 8j).

The Rio Declaration, in Principle 22, stated that, "Indigenous people and their communities... have a vital role in environmental management and development because of their knowledge and traditional practices. States should recognize and duly support their identity, culture and interests and enable their effective participation in the achievement of sustainable development."

Chapter 26 within Section 3, "Recognizing and strengthening the role of indigenous people and their communities," calls for the objectives of Agenda 21 to be accomplished, "in full partnership with indigenous people and their communities." Chapter 26 also recognizes Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge of ecology and sustainable development. It calls upon the states to strengthen and facilitate Indigenous Peoples' participation in their own development and in external development activities that may affect them: "Indigenous Peoples should be accorded greater self-control over Indigenous lands and resources, recognition of traditional subsistence practices and the strengthening of national legislation (26.3)."

Chapter 26 does not refer specifically to right to food, it provides for the protection and strengthening of indigenous peoples' access to and utilization of resources which form the basis for ensuring indigenous peoples' food security. Chapter 26.3 highlights the special status of indigenous peoples in the development process that is a basis for the control of land and resources necessary food security and food sovereignty. Chapter 26 also recommends, as activities in furtherance of Agenda 21, the ratification of international instruments relevant to Indigenous Peoples; action within the UN and international development agencies, including financial and technical support that incorporates the views of Indigenous Peoples and their organizations in the implementation and design of policy and; the adoption or strengthening of policies to protect Indigenous Peoples' intellectual and cultural property. (26.4 and 26.5)

Chapter 17 refers to Indigenous Peoples' traditional fisheries (17.17), the incorporation of traditional knowledge concerning marine ecosystems into domestic management

plans [17.75(b)] and the recognition of subsistence rights in the negotiation of international instruments on marine resources (17.83).

Chapter 11, "Combating deforestation," recommends Indigenous participation in state activities pertaining to forests [11.1(b)]; capacity building programs to facilitate research and implementation of measures to protect forest ecosystems and biodiversity [11.1(g) and 11.19]; the creation of protected reserves and areas, including the traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples [11.13(b)]; programs to support the participation of Indigenous Peoples in forestry management [11.13(i)], and support for Indigenous organizations and communities [11.14(c)(c)].

## B. Indigenous Peoples since Rio

It was not encouraging that in the 74 pages of the Commission on Sustainable Development's report on its second session, Indigenous Peoples are specifically mentioned only twice (paragraphs 100 and 101, under the heading, "health, human settlements and freshwater").

Other statements in Rio Documents with regard to Indigenous knowledge and its relevance to sustainable development have been effectively undermined by the focus of UNCED and the subsequent World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002), as well as other UN Conference such as the World Food Summit (1996) and the World Food Summit Five Years Later (2002). All of these Summits and Conferences called for more "sustainable" development and a reliance on globalization that has proven unsustainable and detrimental to global food and water security, the loss of biodiversity, deforestation, and an increased addiction on fossil fuels.

UNCED did not address the problem of over-consumption of the world's resources and the actual and growing inequitable distribution of wealth. Agenda 21 does not address the issue of wellbeing or how it is measured. It only addresses Gross National Product and defines "well being" in terms of dollars produced by development, but shared more "equitably." In effect, it called for more consumption and more development.

The rights of Indigenous Peoples have been universally recognized since UNCED in 1992 though the adoption in 2007 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, now supported by all States. As noted in the Manaus Conclusions and Recommendations, the UN Declaration is the now the accepted minimum standard which contains many provisions that are directly relevant to the issues under discussion at Rio + 20. Nevertheless, Indigenous Peoples rights have still not been mainstreamed or effectively safeguarded in the various processes which were created by the UNCED, nor, overall, in international discussions about development. Our lands and resources remain fodder for the machine that continues at an alarming, exponential rate to consume not only the world's biological diversity, but forests, waters and fisheries, air, and all that we hold sacred, including our cultures and identities. The focus of Rio + 20 and its slogan, "the green economy" promises to change very little."

In response, and do offer a different direction, we underscore the affirmation in the Manaus Conclusions and Recommendations that, in preparation for Rio + 20 as follows:

"Indigenous Peoples continue to challenge the development model based on resource extraction and market-based models, which fails to recognize that we human beings are an integral part of the natural world, and also fails to respect human rights, including the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples. International standards like the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples affirm that development is social and cultural, as well as economic. Indigenous Peoples maintain the right to define and freely pursue our own vision of development based on our needs, priorities, traditional understandings and responsibilities, including the cultural and spiritual relationships with the Natural World, our ancestral territories and the ecosystems that have sustained us since time immemorial. We also affirm our sacred responsibility to defend the lives and survival of future generations of our Peoples."

Indigenous Peoples have much to offer the world in maintaining its sustainability. Our vision of the Sacred relationship to our Mother the Earth is real and has allowed us to maintain the Earth's remaining biological diversity and its life creating and life sustaining capacity. Not considering humanity's relationship to the Earth and ensuring the Earth's capacity to create and maintain life can only lead to humanity's destruction.

Even by accepted western scientific measurement, the focus on globalized development is inexorably going down that destructive road. The world's monetary crisis should serve as a lesson on the greed and indifference to humanity and human rights that characterizes the liberalization of trade. Indigenous Peoples are most directly and most profoundly affected by this indifference. Now the rest of the world is as well affected by this crisis and its causes.

But all things are related. The relevance of the fact of Indigenous Peoples living in harmony and balance within very diverse ecosystems demonstrate the essential relationship between cultural diversity and biological diversity. The focus of UNCED and now, Rio + 20, on assigning monetary "value" to "ecosystem services" are themselves related to the creation of markets and the destruction of biodiversity and with that, the destruction of Indigenous cultures, of identities and sacred relationship with the Earth.

## C. Rio + 20 and the "Green Economy"

The themes of Rio + 20 promise much as did UNCED 20 years ago: "Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication;" and, "Institutional Framework for sustainable development." It is clear by the discussions so far, that the icons of 'green' including the solar panel, the wind turbine and the neon light bulb are not the sole agenda items. Global Industrialized Agriculture and biomass are included in the discussion on the "Green Economy."

As in the discussions on climate change, the Green Economy debate places great importance on renewable sources of energy and the production and manufacturing of materials now petroleum based, as the basis for a new vision of "sustainable development." The transition to the Green Economy calls for agriculture as the primary source of renewable material for bio-fuels and new technologies for non-petroleum based manufacturing. New biological technology is being touted as the provider of renewable and thus "sustainable" development, for food security, "clean" energy and poverty alleviation. As all things are related, it is no accident that the largest transnationals in the world are developing technologies on bio-mass and its use in renewable fuels and manufacturing materials.

A world-wide "bio-economy" is proposed as the solution to climate change and sustainable development. Again, as in proposals for "market based solutions" to climate change, the Earth's biological resources are the target for this new "green" economy and the markets that it will create. The very basis of life, genetic material, both plant and animal, become potential markets in this formula. The experience of Indigenous Peoples, particularly those that inhabit bio-rich environments, is that their lands, territories, waters and total environments are targets for the new technologies, industrialized agriculture and the concentration of productive lands, their lands, in the hands of the private few, for the production of so-called "renewable" resources.

Rio + 20 must include a deeper examination of global sustainability and not merely an opportunity for more markets and business as usual in the name of a "Green Economy". It is an opportunity to examine why the promise of UNCED, in spite of the many UN fora, conventions and subsidiary bodies that it created and the billions of dollars spent in its search for sustainable development, failed not only to alleviate poverty, but produced a major and growing loss of biological diversity, the pollution of the world's waters, oceans, rivers and streams, growing food insecurity and an unsustainable world economy. As in climate change, there is also an ecological debt outstanding. As many have said and are saying, "Business as usual is not an option. And Governance as usual is not an option."

Specific Text Recommendations for the Zero Draft

Zero Draft Preamble

Keeping in mind the United Nations Declaration on the right to development and its recognition that the right to development is an inalienable human right by virtue of which every human person and all peoples are entitled to participate in, contribute to, and enjoy economic, social, cultural and political development, in which all human rights and fundamental freedoms can be fully realized,<sup>ii</sup>

Noting the relevance of the United Nations Declaration on the right to development to sustainable development, that the human right to development also implies the full realization of the right of all Peoples, including Indigenous peoples, to self-determination, which includes, subject to the relevant provisions of both International Covenants on Human Rights, the exercise of their inalienable right to full sovereignty over all their natural wealth and resources,<sup>iii</sup>

Recognizing that sustainable development is a process that leads to the fulfillment of all human rights,<sup>iv</sup>

Recognizing and reaffirming the human rights basis of sustainable development and rejecting unsustainable development practices that violate human rights, in all programmes and outcomes of Rio + 20, States shall recognize, respect and fulfill all human rights and particularly the rights recognized in the United Nations Declaration on the right to Development as the right of all Peoples and individuals, emphasizing its goal of a participatory development by all,<sup>v</sup>

Keeping in mind, General Assembly Resolution A/Res/60/1 of 24 October 2005, on the outcomes of the World Summit, that: "the sustainable development of indigenous peoples and their communities is crucial in our fight against hunger and poverty", and its commitment,: "to respect, preserve and maintain the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their utilization"

Reaffirming the General Assembly's "commitment to continue making progress in the advancement of the human rights of the world's indigenous peoples at the local, national, regional and international levels, including through consultation and collaboration with them." in that same resolution,

Affirming that all decisions, programs and actions pertaining to sustainable development shall be carried out in conformity with international human rights norms and standards including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.<sup>vi</sup>

Further affirming, the United Nations Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples (2007) article 32 that the Right of Development for Indigenous Peoples must be based on the right to Free Prior and Informed Consent.

Operative paragraphs f of the Zero Draft

General Provisions

1. Indigenous Peoples have much to offer the world in maintaining its sustainability. Our vision of the Sacred relationship to our Mother the Earth is real and has allowed us to maintain the Earth's remaining biological diversity and its life creating and life sustaining capacity. Not considering humanity's relationship to the Earth and ensuring the Earth's capacity to create and maintain life can only lead to humanity's destruction.

2. But all things are related. The relevance of the fact of Indigenous Peoples living in harmony and balance within very diverse ecosystems demonstrate the essential relationship between cultural diversity and biological diversity. The focus of UNCED and now, Rio + 20, on assigning monetary "value" to "ecosystem services" are themselves related to the creation of markets and the destruction of biodiversity and with that, the destruction of Indigenous cultures, of identities and sacred relationship with the Earth.

3. Rio + 20 must include a deeper examination of global sustainability and not merely an opportunity for more markets and business as usual in the name of a "Green Economy". It is an opportunity to examine why the promise of UNCED, in spite of the many UN fora, conventions and subsidiary bodies that it created, the billions of dollars spent in its search for sustainable development, failed not only to alleviate poverty, but produced a major and growing loss of biological diversity, the pollution of the world's waters, oceans, rivers and streams, growing food insecurity and an unsustainable world economy. As in climate change, there is also an ecological debt outstanding. As many have said and are saying, "Business as usual is not an option. And Governance as usual is not an option."

The "Green Economy"

4. The call of UNCED for "national and international efforts to implement environmentally sound and sustainable development should recognize, accommodate, promote and strengthen the role of indigenous peoples and their communities" is reaffirmed along with a call for the full respect, protection and fulfillment of Indigenous Peoples' rights as recognized in the United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples, in all outcomes of Rio +20.<sup>vii</sup>

5. In this context, we continue to challenge the development model that promotes the domination of nature, relentless economic growth, resource extraction without limits with profit, consumption and production patterns, products and unregulated financial markets. The prevailing econometric system fails to understand that humans are an integral part of the natural world, and does not respect the inherent human rights, including rights of indigenous peoples. We believe that our world view and respect for natural law, our spirituality and culture and values of reciprocity, harmony with nature, solidarity, community, caring and sharing among each other, are crucial to a more just, equitable and sustainable.<sup>viii</sup>

6. The proposed "Green Economy" should be defined and differentiated from the model of development based on market approach and resource extraction. It is important that developed countries emphasize conservation and reduced consumption levels and that projects and proposals for sustainable development support the functioning, protection and restoration of Indigenous economies, food systems and local production, respect and implementation of human rights including the rights of indigenous peoples and respect for our development proposals. Any discussion of green economy must include full and effective participation and the Free, Prior and Informed Consent of indigenous peoples in all stages.<sup>ix</sup>

7. The "Cultural Pillar" should be adopted at Rio + 20 as the missing "4th Pillar" of Sustainable Development based on the perspectives, rights, traditional knowledge, cultural integrity, identity and sustainable practices of Indigenous Peoples which are integral to our vision, practice and understanding of development, thus effectively, reflecting the international accepted definition of the right to development, as a fundamental component of self-determination of all peoples.

8. The "Green Economy" shall focus sustained efforts to fund and ensure sustainable communities and not on global markets and globalized activity.

Poverty: Food Sovereignty as the basis of Food Security

9. Food Sovereignty is the right of Indigenous Peoples to define their own policies and strategies for sustainable production, distribution, and consumption of food, with respect for their own cultures and their own systems of managing natural resources and rural areas, and is considered to be a precondition for Food Security for Indigenous Peoples.<sup>xi</sup>



10. For indigenous peoples, "living well" is not about per capita income or economic growth; it is about cultural identity, harmony between human beings and Mother Earth. Living well is based on the values of the culture of life, coexistence and complementarities not only between individuals, but in the harmony between them and nature, responding to the protection of the common good and benefit of all life. Food sovereignty and food security is a crucial aspect of the notion of "living well" of indigenous peoples. Everyone has the right and responsibility to participate in the decision on how to produce and distribute food. The vision of food sovereignty entails transforming the current food system to ensure that those who produce food have equitable access to and control over, land, water, seeds, fishing and agricultural biodiversity.<sup>xii</sup>

11. Emphasizing the importance of ensuring sustainable access to water resources for agriculture to realize the right to adequate food, attention should be given to ensuring that disadvantaged and marginalized farmers, including women farmers, have equitable access to water and water management systems, including sustainable rain harvesting and irrigation technology. Taking note of the duty in article 1 in Common., which provides that a people may not "be deprived of its means of subsistence", States, international financial institutions and investors should ensure that there is adequate access to water for subsistence farming and for securing the livelihoods of indigenous peoples.<sup>xiii</sup>

12. Indigenous Traditional Practices related to agro-ecology, and various forms of food production (fishing, hunting, farming, gathering and pastoralism) as a basis of Food sovereignty, which also serve to protect biological diversity and traditional knowledge should be recognized and supported as alternatives to the non-sustainable industrial food production models, based on genetically modified seeds, plants and animals and the use of toxic pesticides and other agro-chemicals.<sup>xiv</sup>

13. In all processes related to Rio + 20, the rights to lands, territories and natural resources of the Indigenous Peoples, their vision of well-being and sustainability based on a harmonious relationship with the Natural World be formally incorporated, respected and included, as a vital contribution to prevent the urgent threats to the destruction of the global environment.<sup>xv</sup>

14. Indigenous peoples' guaranteed and uninterrupted access to and their utilization of their traditional lands, territories and resources is the basis for ensuring the preservation of biodiversity and indigenous peoples' right to food sovereignty and food security in their own means of subsistence and shall be a particular focus of all efforts, programmes and measures undertaken in furtherance of the outcomes and objectives of Rio + 20.

15. Indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage, innovations, technologies, traditional cultural expressions, indigenous peoples' spiritual beliefs and their relevance to sustainable development, food sovereignty and food security and the alleviation of poverty are inalienable and shall be recognized and protected in all intellectual property regimes and schemes.

16. Environmentally sound and sustainable development shall include Indigenous Peoples' right to development, including their right of free, prior and informed consent before any development activities are planned or implemented on their traditional lands and territories.

17. Recognizing the important contribution Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge of ecology and sustainability to sustainable development, the objectives of Rio + 20 shall be accomplished in full partnership with indigenous people and their communities and their right of free, prior and informed consent.

18. The traditional knowledge, held, used and transmitted to future generations by Indigenous women, particularly in regard to methods of adaption and mitigation must be respected, promoted and strengthened and that their roles as leaders and actors in all levels of discussion and decision making regarding sustainable development and wellbeing for Indigenous Peoples be respected and protected.<sup>xvi</sup>

19. Consistent with Agenda 21, Chapter 26, one global economic system of free markets for the world has proven to be destructive to sustainability, biodiversity, and water as a source of self sustaining production of means of subsistence, Indigenous Peoples food sovereignty, food security, cultures, spiritual lives and identities shall be protected.

20. Particularly for Indigenous Peoples and world sustainability, an alternative emphasis on sustainable communities and green economies should be emphasized;

21. Consistent with the United Nations Declarations on the Right to Development and on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, we affirm Indigenous Peoples' right to participate in sustainable development as subjects and not objects of development. We further affirm Conclusion # 1 from the Manaus Declaration that "The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2007 and now supported by all UN member States, provides a framework for the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in all stages of the Rio + 20 process."

22. As 80% of the world's population is fed by small scale food producers, including Indigenous Peoples, industrialized agriculture is not a solution for Indigenous Peoples food security and food sovereignty as it creates poverty by displacing Indigenous and local communities from their lands and resources necessary for their subsistence, and leads to the loss of biodiversity, the pollution of our oceans, groundwater, rivers and streams; industrialized agriculture deprives small scale food producers and subsistence based indigenous food production of land, biodiversity and other resources causing even more poverty and food insecurity.

23. Existing human rights standards that call for the return of lands and territories taken from Indigenous Peoples without their free, prior and informed consent be returned to them shall be respected and affirmed, and States shall take effective measures toward environmentally sound and sustainable food sovereignty particularly for these lands and territories and Indigenous communities.

#### Water, Food security, Food Sovereignty

24. Indigenous Peoples' relationship with their lands, territories and water is the fundamental physical cultural and spiritual basis for their and humanity's existence and should be respected and protected for the benefit of humanity: This relationship to our Mother Earth requires us to conserve our freshwaters and oceans for the survival of present and future generations. We assert our role as caretakers with rights and responsibilities to defend and ensure the protection, availability and purity of water. We stand united to follow and implement our knowledge and traditional laws and exercise our right of self-determination to preserve water, and to preserve life.<sup>xvii</sup>

25. Indigenous peoples have the right to determine and develop priorities and strategies for the development or use of their lands or territories and other resources. States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples concerned through their own representative institutions in order to obtain their free and informed consent prior to the approval of any project affecting their lands or territories and other resources, particularly in connection with the development, utilization or exploitation of mineral, water or other resources.<sup>xviii</sup>

26. The UNESCO Universal Declaration of Cultural Diversity (2001) and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002) urges the dialogue and cooperation within human society and among cultures in order to wisely use and sustainably manage earth's resources. Water is a vital resource, having economic, ecological, social and spiritual functions. Consequently its management determines to great extent sustainability. Due to its fundamental role in society's life, water has a strong cultural dimension. Without understanding and considering the cultural aspects of our water problems no sustainable solution can be found.<sup>xix</sup>

27. UNESCO lists issues that must be positively addressed at Rio + 20 in order to find sustainable solutions to the world's water and food crisis:<sup>xx</sup>

- Relations between peoples and their environment are embedded in culture.

- The ways in which water is conceived and valued, understood and managed, used or abused, worshipped or desecrated, are influenced by the cultures of which we are a part.
- Water is life, physical, emotional and spiritual. It should not be considered merely as an economic resource. Sharing water is an ethical imperative and expression of human solidarity. The intimate relationship between water and peoples should be explicitly taken into account in all decision-making processes.
- As the frequent failure of "imported solutions" has proven, water resources management will fail without the full consideration of these cultural implications.
- Cultural diversity, developed during the millennia by human societies, constitutes a treasure of sustainable practices and innovative approaches. Indigenous knowledge holders should be full partners with scientists to find solutions for water-related problems.
- Indigenous ways of life and knowledge are an integral part of humanity's heritage and cultural diversity. Indigenous peoples have an important role to play in sustainable water resources management. In this context, due respect must be given to indigenous peoples' rights.

#### Treaty Rights, Food Security and Food Sovereignty

28. "Our ancestors in some areas have secured our traditional ways and food systems in Treaties. These international agreements were signed for "so long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the rivers flow"<sup>xxi</sup>

29. "The Privilege of hunting, fishing, and gathering the wild rice upon the lands, the rivers and the lakes is guaranteed."<sup>xxii</sup>

30. Indigenous Peoples' have stated that Inherent and Treaty Right to Food<sup>xxiii</sup> includes the need to:

1. Affirm that our Right to Food is an Inherent Right affirmed in our Treaties, and that Food Sovereignty is an essential aspect of our Sovereignty as Treaty Nations.
2. Affirm that our traditional foods are essential to our physical, cultural and spiritual health, identity and survival.
3. Recognize that the Creator placed us on our traditional lands and provided clean food and water for our health and survival and that we have a inherent and Treaty right and responsibility to care for and protect the land, plants, animals and water, and our sacred Mother Earth as a whole, from destruction and contamination.
4. Affirm that any attempt to restrict or curtail our rights to hunt, fish, grow or gather our traditional foods and to use the water on our Treaty lands by federal, provincial or municipal government laws, regulations or ordinances are fundamental violation of our human rights and Treaty rights, including our Treaty Right to Food.
5. Recognize the negative impacts of imposed development such as mining, damming, drilling, Tar Sands extraction and clear cutting, as well as climate change and environmental contamination on our traditional foods and water sources. We recognize our Inherent and Treaty rights and responsibilities to care for and protect the food and water sources that have been the basis of our survival since time immemorial.
6. Recognize that we continue to have the traditional knowledge and wisdom within our Nations about how to use and protect our traditional foods, and that our elders, spiritual leaders and other traditional practitioners carry this knowledge as passed down from our ancestors.
7. Recognize the urgent need to make sure that our children, young people and future generations learn about our Treaty Rights, including our Treaty Right to Food and how to use and care for our traditional subsistence foods, waters and medicines. This is fundamental for our continued survival.
8. Recognize the importance of re-establishing the traditional trade relationships that always existed between our Nations as part of our Indigenous development, Nation-to-Nation relations, and food sovereignty; we recognize the importance of reestablishing these Indigenous trade relations that include the exchange of traditional foods and knowledge as a response to the urgent situations now facing many of our Nations as their traditional foods become more scarce (such as urbanized areas).
9. Call upon all of our Treaty Nations to assert and put into practice these rights and responsibilities, to exercise their Inherent and Treaty Right to Food and Food Sovereignty on their traditional and Treaty lands, to protect these resources from contamination and destruction, and to accept this responsibility for the survival of our Nations, especially our children, grandchildren and future generations.

31. An objective of Rio + 20 shall be to ensure the implementation of Treaty Rights to Food and Food Sovereignty in accordance with these internationally binding treaties and agreements made between Indigenous Peoples and Colonialist States and their successors.

#### Indigenous Women: Biodiversity, Climate Change, and Food Sovereignty

32. The UN Rapporteur on the Right to Food Olivier de Schutter reported to the UN Human Rights Council 10th session in March 2009 that "Climate change constitutes the single most important threat to food security in the future".<sup>xxiv</sup>

33. "Indigenous women are life givers, life sustainers and culture holders. Our bodies are sacred places that must be protected, honored and kept free of harmful contaminants in order for the new generations of our Nations to be born strong and healthy."<sup>xxv</sup>

34. Indigenous knowledge systems and the diversity of life within our territories are collective resources under our direct control and administration. Indigenous women play a key role in the protection and maintenance of the biodiversity in diverse ecosystems including forests, dry and sub-humid, inland waters, and marine and coastal, mountains regions. Our lifeways, our artistic expressions, are dependent on and the bounty of the land. Any erosion of biodiversity irreversibly impacts not only our Indigenous cultural heritage but the ability of the world to sustain itself and its future generations.<sup>xxvi</sup>

35. Medicinal knowledge of Indigenous women is widespread and in their vast expertise, they are our midwives, spiritual leaders, healers, herbalists, botanists and pharmacists. Their knowledge, use and control of these medicinal plants must be protected from external research and commercialization efforts in order that they continue to heal us and maintain all related biodiversity necessary for sustainability and food sovereignty.<sup>xxvii</sup>

36. Technologies and policies such as the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) regimes that violate Indigenous Peoples' rights to maintain our traditional knowledge, practices, seeds and other food related genetic resources threaten biological diversity and food sovereignty and food security. The introduction of genetically engineered life-forms, and genetic use restriction technologies (GURTs) which pose serious negative impacts to biodiversity as well as Indigenous peoples' food security, health, environment, and livelihoods,<sup>xxviii</sup>

37. Indigenous communities have been and continue to be expelled from their lands and to be victimized by the despoilment of their lands and sacred sites, on the pretext of the establishment of protected areas and national parks. The rights of Indigenous women and all Indigenous Peoples should be restored and that these acts, which violate

our human rights and the rights of women, cease immediately.<sup>xxix</sup>

38. Protected Areas should serve to protect Indigenous and local communities, who should manage and control those areas consistent with the rights of local communities and the UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Protected areas should protect their biodiversity, for future generations. Unsustainable logging, mono-crop industrialized agriculture, mining and mineral extraction should not be permitted. Concerted efforts should take place to restore and sustain their sustainability as communities.

39. Adequate compensation for all the past wrongs and damages inflicted by the establishment of protected areas should be provided for their restoration and protection.

40. Current debate regarding the protection of traditional knowledge and genetic resources that is taking place in various UN fora is centered on mechanisms for exploitation of these resources, not their protection. These discussions focus on the use of Western Intellectual Property Rights to be used as the mechanisms for the protection of Indigenous knowledge. These mechanisms are not only inadequate, but dangerous to biodiversity and life itself, creating markets for the very source of life, subjecting it to commercialization and exploitation.

41. To ensure that truly sui generis systems of protection of Indigenous peoples are adequate to the task, sui generis systems of protection should be based on Indigenous customary laws and traditional practices. Indigenous existing protection systems are legitimate on their own right and any new mechanisms for protection, preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge and associated biological resources must respect and be complementary to such existing systems and not undermine or replace them.<sup>xxx</sup>

Forests and Climate Change including Global Warming, REDD, and Biodiversity

42. The potential loss of traditional knowledge and of the cultural and spiritual identity of indigenous peoples and local communities shall be addressed in any safeguards, including the concern that REDD-related payments could alter and undermine the traditional way of life and related knowledge and customary practices of indigenous peoples and local communities. REDD-plus efforts should build on community-based governance systems, and acknowledge the shared responsibility of national governments in strengthening community-based institutions of indigenous and local communities with regards to the sustainable management, use, and control of biodiversity and natural resources.<sup>xxxiv</sup>

43. There is a need for monitoring the impacts of REDD-plus on indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with the main risks identified by the Nairobi Global Expert Workshop. Indicators could include: (i) indicators on full and effective participation; (ii) status and trends of boundaries of indigenous territories, land tenure, and access rights; (iii) involuntary resettlements; (iv) changes in livelihoods and traditional knowledge related to REDD-plus, and (v) gender equality and rights and livelihoods of women. However, it should be noted that the social indicators identified here are not necessarily indicators to be used at global level, and that any monitoring of social impacts on a significant scale will be costly and requires adequate resources and capacity.<sup>xxxv</sup>

44. The Cultural Indicators for Food Sovereignty and Sustainable Development, the Indigenous Peoples' Indicators of Bio-diversity and the "Indicators of Well-being", developed by the UN Permanent Forum shall be considered and applied as important assessment tools directly related to the themes of Rio+20 and should be used as a basis of indicators for any assessments of programmes and policies of Rio+20.<sup>xxxvi</sup>

45. Indigenous women and peoples and local communities can also be essential in cost- effective monitoring of impacts of REDD-plus on biodiversity. This could include links to indicators about traditional knowledge, for example the quality and quantity of natural resources and biodiversity that is used for traditional purposes such as cultural ceremonies.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

46. The detrimental effects of climate change are most directly, immediately and most acutely felt by Indigenous Peoples in the Arctic Region where the overall magnitude of warming in the Arctic is nearly twice that of the global average. The Arctic is a hemispheric sink for persistent organic pollutants (POPs) many of which originate from thousands of miles away, traveling northward via oceanic and atmospheric currents. POPs accrue in the north through global distillation, as the cold climate and fat-based food web favor retention of pollutants. Arctic Indigenous Peoples suffer levels of POPs contamination in blood and breast milk that are among the highest of any population on earth, even though these chemicals have never been produced in the Arctic. Because of this long-range transport of POPs, even those toxic chemicals that have been banned (e.g. DDT and PCBs) continue to accumulate in the Arctic and sub-Arctic and certain currently used POPs such as PBDEs and PFCs are increasing exponentially. Increasing global temperatures accelerate transport and mobilization of POPs into and within the Arctic. Contaminants threaten the health of present and future generations of Indigenous Peoples who rely on traditional diets of fish and marine mammals, and their biodiversity and Food Sovereignty.<sup>xxxviii</sup>

47. We call for the rapid phase-out of chemicals that are subject to long-range transport and that cause adverse health effects, including those chemicals that are carcinogenic, cause harm to learning and neurodevelopment, damage the immune system, or disrupt our endocrine and reproductive systems.<sup>xxxix</sup>

48. Indigenous Peoples continue to reject market-based mitigation and adaption models regarding climate change and reaffirm paragraph 6 of the "Anchorage Declaration" regarding carbon markets and forest offsets, as follows: "We challenge States to abandon false solutions to climate change that negatively impact Indigenous Peoples' rights, lands, air, oceans, forests, territories and waters. These include nuclear energy, largescale dams, geo-engineering techniques, "clean coal", agro-fuels, plantations, and market based mechanisms such as carbon trading, the Clean Development Mechanism, and forest offsets. The human rights of Indigenous Peoples to protect our forests and forest livelihoods must be recognized, respected and ensured."<sup>xli</sup>

49. Mining is an activity that produces large amounts of environmental contamination, including greenhouse gasses, and is vastly destructive to natural ecosystems, biodiversity, our health and well being, and the water and food sources upon which Indigenous Peoples and other communities depend. We therefore call for a moratorium on mining in fragile and culturally important ecosystems such as forests, deserts, near water sources, in sacred, subsistence, in fragile arctic ecosystems and in or near the traditional lands or territories of Indigenous Peoples.<sup>xlii</sup>

50. Particularly environmentally and biologically damaging fossil fuel extraction such as hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and tar sands oil extraction should immediately be reduced and eliminated.

51. Principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development should be fully implemented, requiring all polluters to internalize the environmental cost of their pollution. National authorities should promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution.

Agriculture, Sustainable Development, Food Sovereignty, Biodiversity, and Poverty

52. Agricultural methods and practices used traditionally by Indigenous communities based on safe alternatives to toxic pesticides be recognized and supported. The "precautionary approach" (principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development) is reaffirmed at Rio + 20, together with a renewed commitment by States to eliminate the production, use and dumping of chemicals that are toxic, persistent and hazardous that pose dire threats to the health of impacted communities and ecosystems, and most of all violate human rights; including the rights of Indigenous Peoples to free, prior and informed consent as stated in Article 29 of the UN Declaration on the Rights

of Indigenous Peoples. We call upon States to make a commitment to utilize and implement the Precautionary Principle as an alternative to the models of “risk assessment” and “management” of toxic chemicals presented in sections 19 and 20 of Agenda 21<sup>xliii</sup>.

53. The practice of exporting banned pesticides and other chemicals by the USA and other States should cease immediately. The provisions within UN Conventions and national laws which permit this practice without the free, prior and informed consent of the Indigenous Peoples and communities, who may be impacted at the source of exposure as well as through global transport, be reviewed immediately and revised.<sup>xliiv</sup>

54. The indiscriminate use of pesticides and other toxic chemicals promoted and applied by industry poisons the food chain and causes involuntary infertility, premature births, and severely affects infant health. Environmental reproductive justice must address involuntary infertility and the inordinately high level of birth defects among Indigenous Peoples and other local communities exposed to these agricultural toxics, and the disproportionate numbers of premature births, miscarriages, and developmental disabilities that is occurring with alarming frequency and part of a global trend. Impaired fecundity over the past two decades has increased in all reproductive age groups, but most sharply in younger women under age twenty-five. Data (together with a growing body of epidemiological research) show a causal link between male and female fertility impairment and a wide array of modern chemicals.<sup>xliv</sup>

55. Indigenous Peoples, and in particular women and children suffer the detrimental, devastating, multi-generational and deadly impacts of environmental toxins and contaminants that were unheard of in their communities prior to industrialization, including:

- Contamination of mothers’ breast milk at 4 to 12 times the levels found in the mother’s body tissue in some Indigenous communities;
- Elevated levels of contaminants such as POPs and heavy metals in infant cord blood; Disproportionate levels of reproductive system cancers of the breasts, ovaries, uterus, prostate and testicles, including in young people;
- Increasing numbers of miscarriages and stillbirths, and;
- High levels of sterility and infertility in contaminated communities.<sup>xlvi</sup>

56. States, international financial institutions, United Nations programmes and actions, as well as private investors and corporations must do due diligence and fully disclose to all Indigenous Peoples, Nations, tribes, and communities, their activities and potential risks. Peoples and individuals who may be affected by or exposed to pesticides, mining, dumping, incineration and other forms of toxic chemical production, the complete known or suspected affects of the chemicals in question, the location and names of corporations producing them, any current or prior legal sanctions or cases filed against them, the Indigenous Peoples in the same or other countries who have experiences with the given process or corporation, so that informed decisions can be made as part of Indigenous Peoples right to free, prior and informed consent.

57. Commercial pressures on land are rapidly growing. Biofuels, large-scale infrastructures projects, carbon-credit mechanisms, and speculation lead to rapid changes in land rights, creating new threats for vulnerable land users, particularly Indigenous Peoples. Climate change and population growth will exacerbate tensions within countries and between them. Guidelines on land governance, consistent with the UN Declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples and other International human rights Standards should be adopt rules on land investment, and harmful investments to the detriment of local populations – so- called land grabbing - be warded off by securing the underlying rights of indigenous peoples, small scale farmers, herders and fisherfolk.<sup>xlvii</sup>

58. States, International financial institutions and other investors must strengthen security of tenure for small-scale food producers, such as Indigenous Peoples, smallholder farmers, nomadic herders, and fisherfolk, all of whom are gravely threatened by the current commercial pressures on land.<sup>xlviii</sup>

59. In encouraging responsible investment in land, States should be wary of the dangers of speculation over land and concentration of ownership when land rights are transferred to investors offering to ‘develop’ farmland. We must escape the mental cage that sees largescale investments as the only way to ‘develop’ agriculture and to ensure stability of supply for buyers. Focus should be placed on the improvement of access to markets for Indigenous Peoples and other small-scale farmers.<sup>xlix</sup>

#### Institutional Framework f or Sustainable Development:

##### Governance

1. The Precautionary Principle, Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development shall be applied to all technologies and practices, existing and proposed for sustainable development by Rio + 20. “In order to protect the environment, the precautionary approach shall be widely applied by States according to their capabilities. Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage, lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation.”

2. The Polluter Pays, Principle 16 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development should be fully implemented, requiring all polluters to internalize the environmental cost of their pollution. National authorities should promote the internalization of environmental costs and the use of economic instruments, taking into account the approach that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution.

3. The focus of Rio + 20 shall be on sustainable “communities” and not on sustainable “development.”

4. Food Sovereignty should be the framework for food security and the alleviation of poverty.

5. The “Cultural Pillar” be adopted at Rio + 20 as the missing “4th Pillar” of Sustainable Development based on the perspectives, rights, traditional knowledge, cultural integrity, identity and sustainable practices of Indigenous Peoples which are integral to our vision, practice and understanding of development, thus effectively, reflecting the international accepted definition of the right to development, as a fundamental component of self-determination of all peoples.

6. All Human Rights, particularly the rights recognized by the United Nations Declaration on the rights of indigenous people must be recognized, protected and fulfilled by States, international funds and financial institutions and private investors, in all Rio + 20 programmes, actions and activities,

7. Reliance on carbon fossil fuels must be reduced as it is the major element in the world’s unsustainable and environmentally damaging economy. False market solutions such as carbon trading, carbon offsets and the creation of markets in sequestration have not worked and have actually led to higher carbon emissions, the loss of biological diversity, land grabs, forced displacement of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and the violations of human rights, and should be rejected.

8. A moratorium shall be declared for the development of the extraction of fossil fuels; particularly environmentally and biologically damaging fossil fuel extraction such as fracking and tar sands oil extraction should immediately be reduced and ultimately eliminated.

9. Industrialized agriculture and particularly its introduction of genetically modified seeds and foodstuffs, toxic chemicals, non-native species and the production of bio-fuels and other non-food plants are not a solution to sustainable development and actually lead to the mounting loss of biodiversity, displacement of indigenous and local

communities, the loss of livelihood and the loss of production of means of subsistence.

<sup>i</sup> IITC and IWA are in Consultative Status with ECOSOC (IITC – General, IWA – Special.) The NGOs listed herein are themselves organizations of Indigenous Nations and organizations, See, e.g., Addendum, the Board and the affiliates of the IITC.

<sup>ii</sup> Source: UN Declaration on the Right to Development (1986)

<sup>iii</sup> Source: Article 1 in Common, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) (1966) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESC) (1966); UN Declaration on the Right to Development (1986); UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007).

<sup>iv</sup> Source: Fn. 1, UN Declaration on the Right to Development.

<sup>v</sup> Fn.2, UN Declaration on the Right to Development.

<sup>vi</sup> Source: International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change proposals at the UNFCCC COP 16, December 2010, reaffirmed by the Second Technical Workshop of Indigenous Peoples and States in the UNFCCC in preparation for COP17 in Durban South Africa held in Oaxaca Mexico October 10 – 12, 2011.]

<sup>vii</sup> Source: All references to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and its respect, protection and fulfillment by Rio + 20 are supported by the following international norms relevant to indigenous peoples: Article 1 in Common to the Universal Bill of Human Rights (Fn. 3, supra); ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries (1989); articles 29 (c) and (d) and 30 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989); article 8 (j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (1992), recommending that States respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovation and practices of indigenous communities; Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992), in particular chapter 26; and Part I, paragraph 20, of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (1993), stating that States should take concerted positive steps to ensure respect for all human rights of indigenous people, on the basis of nondiscrimination. See also the preamble and article 3 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992); and article 10 (2) (e) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (1994). During recent years an increasing number of States have changed their constitutions and/or introduced legislation recognizing specific rights of indigenous peoples.

<sup>viii</sup> Source: Mirna Cunningham Kain, Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the UN. Paris, France. 5 - 7 September, 2011 Meeting of FAO / OECD initiative on "Greening the economy with agriculture" (GEA)

<sup>ix</sup> Source: Id, Mirna Cunningham Kain, Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the UN. Paris, France. 5 - September 7, 2011 Meeting of FAO / OECD initiative on "Greening the economy with agriculture" (GEA), and Chief Bill Erasmus

<sup>xi</sup> Source: The Declaration of Atitlan from the 1 st Global Consultation on the Right to Food, Food Security and Food Sovereignty for Indigenous Peoples, 2002'.

<sup>xii</sup> Source: Id, Mirna Cunningham Kain, Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at the UN. Paris, France. 5 - September 7, 2011 Meeting of FAO / OECD initiative on "Greening the economy with agriculture" (GEA)

<sup>xiii</sup> Source: Committee on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, General Comment 15, articles 11 and 12, the right to water (2002).

<sup>xiv</sup> Source: Manaus Declaration, Global Preparatory Meeting of Indigenous Peoples on Rio +20 and Kari-Oca 2, August 22 - 24, 2011, Manaus, Amazonia, Brazil.

<sup>xv</sup> Id.

<sup>xvi</sup> Source: Manaus Declaration, fn. 6.

<sup>xvii</sup> Indigenous Declaration, 3 rd World Water Forum, Kyoto, Japan, March 2003,

<sup>xviii</sup> Article 32, Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples

<sup>xix</sup> UNESCO Statement to the Ministerial Conference Preamble,, 3rd World Water Forum, Kyoto, Japan, 22 March 2003.

<sup>xx</sup> Id., Issues

<sup>xxi</sup> Chief Wilton Littlechild, Ermineskin Cree Nation, United Nations World Food Summit, Rome, November 1996

<sup>xxii</sup> 1837 United States Treaty with the Chippewa Nation.

<sup>xxiii</sup> Source: Official Resolution #T1-11.2011-09-23/05, Treaties No. 1 – No. 11 Gathering, September 21 – 23, 2011, Treaty No. 7 Traditional Territories, Treaties No.1 - No. 11 Elders gathered in the Tsuu T'ina Nation territories September 20,2011 wherein they held discussion on the Treaty Right to Food.

<sup>xxiv</sup> Source: Report of the UN Rapporteur on the Right to Food, UN Human Rights Council, 10 th session, March 2009

<sup>xxv</sup> Source: "Declaration for Health, Life and Defense of our Lands, Rights and Future Generations," 1 st International Indigenous Women's Environmental and Reproductive Health Symposium, July 1 st , 2010.

<sup>xxvi</sup> Source: The Manukan Declaration of the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network Manukan, Sabah, Malaysia, 4-5 February, 2004, <http://www.ipcb.org/resolutions/htmls/manukan.html>

<sup>xxvii</sup> Id.

<sup>xxviii</sup> Id.

<sup>xxix</sup> Id.

<sup>xxx</sup> Source: Indigenous Peoples' Council on Bio-colonialism, <http://www.ipcb.org/>

<sup>xxxiv</sup> Source, Source [modified]: Submission by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 26 September 2011, UN Doc. UNEP/CBD/WS-REDD/1/3, Citing COP Decision IX/5 <http://www.cbd.int/forest/doc/2011-09-26-cbd-submissionunfccc->

reddplus-en.pdf, visited 10/11/2011.paras 29(v) and 32.

<sup>xxxv</sup> Source: Id, para. 38

<sup>xxxvi</sup> Source: Manaus Declaration, Global Preparatory Meeting of Indigenous Peoples on Rio +20 and Kari-Oca 2, August 22 - 24, 2011, Manaus, Amazonia, Brazil.

<sup>xxxvii</sup> Source: Id, para 39.

<sup>xxxviii</sup> Source: Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) and the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC)

<sup>xxxix</sup> Id.

<sup>xli</sup> Source: Manaus Declaration Recommendations, Fn 28 supra.

<sup>xlii</sup> Id.

<sup>xliii</sup> Id.

<sup>xliv</sup> Id.

<sup>xlvi</sup> Source: Alaska Community Action on Toxics (ACAT) and the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC)..

<sup>xlvii</sup> Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, 10 th Session, Report of the International Indigenous Women's Environmental and Reproductive Health Symposium , June 30 – July 1, 2010 UN Doc. E/C.19/2011/CRP. 9, 3 May 2011, International Indian Treaty Council

<sup>xlviii</sup> Source: UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, Olivier de Shutter, Rome Food Summit 2011. See, also, "Access to Land and the Right to Food", Report presented to the 65th General Assembly of the United Nations by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, UN Doc. A/65/281), 21 October 2010, <http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/food/annual.htm> or [http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/officialreports/2\\_0101021\\_access-to-land-report\\_en.pdf](http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/officialreports/2_0101021_access-to-land-report_en.pdf); and, Comments on the Zero Draft of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests", 16 May 2011, [http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/food/other\\_documents.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/food/other_documents.htm) or [http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/otherdocuments/20110516\\_comments-zero-draft-guidelines\\_en.pdf](http://www.srfood.org/images/stories/pdf/otherdocuments/20110516_comments-zero-draft-guidelines_en.pdf)

<sup>xlvi</sup> Id.

<sup>xlvi</sup> Id.

## Addendum

### International Indian Treaty Council Board of Directors (2011)

1. Francisco Cali: Mayan Kachiquel, Guatemala; IITC Board President; representative, Comité Campesina del Altiplano (CCDA) ; Alternate: Rigoberto Garcia
2. Hinewirangi Kohu: Maori Nation, Aotearoa (New Zealand); Te Rau Aroha, Maori Women's Resource Center; Board Vice-President; Alternate: Anaru Fraser;
3. Ron Lameman, Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations, Cree Nation, Canada, Board Board Treasurer; Alternate: Colby Tootoosis, Cree Nation Canada (youth representative)
4. Saul Vicente Vasquez: Zapoteca, Oaxaca Mexico, Unidad de la Fuerza Indígena y Campesina (UFIC); Board Secretary;
5. Rodney Factor: Seminole Nation, Oklahoma; Seminole Sovereignty Protection Initiative, Alternate: Jacquelyn Warledo;
6. Leonard Foster: Dine' Nation, National Native American Prisoners' Rights Coalition, Arizona;
7. William A. Means: Oglala Lakota Nation, Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota;
8. Faith Gemmill, Venetie Tribal Government, Gwich'in Athabaskan Nation, Alaska;
9. Patricia Bellanger : Ojibway (Anishnabe) Nation, Three Fires Society, Minnesota; Alternate: Lisa Bellanger,
10. Pu'uhonua "Bumpy" Kanahele: Hawaiian Nation; Spokesperson and Head of State, Independent & Sovereign Nation State of Hawaii; Alternate: Gina Maikai;
11. Yamilka Hernandez, Movimiento Juventud, Kuna/Kuna Youth Movement, Panama; Alternate: Taira Stanley;
12. Radley Davis, Pit River Nation, California: Alternate: Mark Lebeau;
13. Naniki Reyes: Taino, Boriken, Caribbean, Confederacy of United Taino People; Alternate: Roberto Borrero;

### Partial List of IITC Affiliate Indigenous Nations and Organizations

#### Mesoamérica

##### Mexico:

1. Congreso Nacional Indígena de Mexico,
2. Asamblea Nacional Indígena Plural por la Autonomía (ANIPA),
3. Consejo de Pueblos Nahuas del Alto Balsas, Guerrero, AC,
4. The Traditional Authorities and Yaqui Pueblo of Huirivis, Rio Yaqui, Sonora Mexico
5. The Traditional Authorities and Yaqui Pueblo of Potam, Rio Yaqui Sonora Mexico
6. The Traditional Authorities and Yaqui Pueblo of Torim, Rio Yaqui Sonora Mexico

7. Unidad De la Fuerza Indígena y Campesina (Mexico)

8. Red Indígena de Turismo, A.C. (RITA)

9. Jittoa- Bat-Nataka-Weria ( Río Yaqui, Sonora)

Guatemala:

10. Defensoría Maya,

11. Fundación Rigoberta Menchu/Indigenous Initiative for Peace,

12. Comité de la Unidad Campesina,

13. Centro de Proyectos para el Desarrollo Integral Indígena (CEPRODI)

14. Centro Pluricultural para la Democracia (CPD)

15. Oxlajuj Ajpop de los Ajq'ijab' (Conferencia Nacional de Ministros de la Espiritualidad

Maya de Guatemala);

16. Consejo de los Aj'quija'b/Mayan Spiritual Leaders' Council (Guatemala);

17. La Unión Nacional Campesina (Guatemala)

Panama:

18. Movimiento de la Juventud Kuna

19. Pueblo de Estupu (Kuna Yala)

20. Asociación Napguana

21. Congreso General Kuna (Kuna Nation General Congress)

El Salvador:

22. ANIS (Asociación Nacional Indígena de El Salvador)

Nicaragua:

23. Consejo de Ancianos de la Nacion Comunitaria Moskitia/Elders Council of the Moskitia Nation (Atlantic Coast, Nicaragua),

24. Centro para la Autonomía y Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas (CADPI)

North America:

United States:

25. National Native American Prisoners' Rights Coalition,

26. White Clay Society/Blackfoot Confederacy,

27. Columbia River Peoples,

28. Rural Coalition Native American Task Force,

29. Yoemem Tekia Foundation,

30. Tohono O'odham Nation Traditional community,

31. Pit River Tribe,

32. Redding Rancheria,

33. Tule River Nation,

34. Muwekma Ohlone Nation,

35. Coyote Valley Pomo Nation

36. Round Valley Pomo Nation,

37. Oklahoma Region Indigenous Environmental Network,

38. Wanblee Wakpeh Oyate,

39. Independent Seminole Nation of Florida,

40. Cactus Valley/Red Willow Springs Big Mountain Sovereign Dineh Community,

41. Leonard Peltier Defense Committee,

42. Eagle and Condor Indigenous Peoples' Alliance,

- 43. Seminole Sovereignty Protection Initiative,
- 44. Mundo Maya,
- 45. Los Angeles Indigenous Peoples Alliance,
- 46. American Indian Treaty Council Information Center,
- 47. Vallejo Inter-Tribal Council;
- 48. Three Fires Ojibwe Cultural and Education Society (Minnesota, USA).

Canada:

- 49. Confederacy of Treaty 6 First Nations, Cree Nation Canada
- 50. Saddle Lake Cree Nation,
- 51. Kehewin Cree Nation,
- 52. Frog Lake Cree Nation,
- 53. Enoch Cree Nation,
- 54. Paul Cree Nation,
- 55. Alexis Nakoda Sioux Nation,
- 56. Alexander First Nation,
- 57. Samson Cree Nation,
- 58. Ermineskin Cree Nation,
- 59. Louis Bull Tribe,
- 60. Montana Cree Nation,
- 61. Sunchild First Nation,
- 62. O'chiese First Nation,
- 63. Cold Lake First Nation,
- 64. Whitefish/Goodfish First Nation,
- 65. Heartlake First Nation

Arctic:

Alaska

- 66. Native Village of Venetie Tribal Government/Arctic Village Traditional Council,
- 67. Chickaloon Village Traditional Council,
- 68. Stevens Village Traditional Council, Pacific:

Hawai'i

- 69. Sovereign Nation of Hawai'i
- 70. Aloha First (Hawai'i)

Aotearoa/New Zealand:

- 71. Kirikiriroa and Tauranga Moana Marae,
- 72. Maori Women's Resource Center,
- 73. Te Rau Aroha
- 74. Waitangi Action Committee
- 75. Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Network (Pacific-Wide)

Maluku

- 76. Bangsa AdatAlifuru in Maluku (The Indigenous Alifuru Peoples of Maluku)

South America:

Chile:

- 77. Ad-MAPU



Brazil:

78. GRUMIN

Argentina:

79. AIRA

Ecuador:

80. CONAIE (La Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador)

Columbia:

81. ONIC (Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia),

Bolivia:

82. CONNIOB (La Confederación Nacional de Naciones Indígenas Originarias de Bolivia)

Caribbean:

83. United Confederation of Taino Peoples

Multi Regional/MultiNational:

84. Indigenous Environmental Network

85. North-South Indigenous Network Against Pesticides

86. International Indian Women's Environmental and Reproductive Health Network

87. Indigenous Environmental Network Youth Council,

88. Indigenous Peoples Working Group on Toxics

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## International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Text not available.

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## International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Joint Submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20:

A pledge to phase out fossil-fuel subsidies

This submission proposes that, at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development on June 4-6, 2012, countries adopt a pledge to phase out fossil-fuel subsidies and provide the necessary technical and financial support to assist developing countries reform their subsidies.

Fossil-fuel subsidy reform has become an international priority. Already, 53 countries in the G-20 and APEC forums have committed to phasing out fossil-fuel subsidies over the medium term. The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, is an opportunity to expand that commitment, and to broaden the pledge beyond the G-20 and APEC countries.

From a sustainable development perspective there is a strong argument for reforming fossil-fuel subsidies. If the goal of sustainable development is the balancing of economic, environmental and social considerations, then fossil-fuel subsidy reform delivers on all three fronts:

1. Fossil-fuel subsidies are costly. Global fossil-fuel consumption subsidies amounted to US\$409 billion in 2010 (International Energy Agency (IEA), 2011). In addition, the OECD estimates that subsidies for fossil-fuel production and consumption in its member countries cost US\$45-75 billion annually (OECD, 2011). Globally, producer subsidies are estimated by the GSI to be at least US\$100 billion annually (GSI, 2010).

2. Phasing out fossil-fuel subsidies would reduce growth in global energy demand by 4.1% and carbon dioxide emissions by 4.7% by 2020 (IEA, 2011). Fossil-fuel subsidies create incentives for higher levels of consumption, which in turn produce more local and global pollutants on behalf of both industry and consumers.

3. Fossil-fuel subsidies are socially regressive; the IEA estimates that only 8% of the US\$409 billion spent subsidizing fossil-fuel consumption went to the poorest 20% of the population. While fossil-fuel subsidies are often designed for the interests of poorer populations, they typically benefit medium- to high-income households or lead to diversion. Subsidy reform should be complemented with measures to protect poor and vulnerable groups in society.

The G-20 and APEC commitments have helped to raise the political importance of subsidy reform and have led to increased international activity on the issue. Building on that foundation, we encourage United Nations Member States to use Rio+20 to widen the country coverage of the reform commitments and endorse a comprehensive strategy for fossil-fuel subsidy reform, including technical and financial assistance for developing countries.

By adopting a pledge to phase out fossil-fuel subsidies at Rio+20, Member States would show their commitment to an important means to achieving sustainable development. The pledge could also be expanded to include subsidies to other energy sources, such as nuclear, for greater impact.

The undersigned organisations propose that countries adopt the follow pledge:

COUNTRIES PLEDGE TO:

1. Phase out fossil-fuel subsidies that undermine sustainable development.

2. Assist developing countries to phase out fossil-fuel subsidies that undermine sustainable development. IN ADDITION, COUNTRIES PLEDGE TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SUPPORTING MEASURES:

1. Reporting and Review Countries commit to annual reporting of:

- a. Prices they charge each consumer group for each energy product. These reports should be delivered to an international organisation such as the IEA, a UN agency or another organisation experienced in collecting data.
- b. Subsidies they grant to fossil-fuel consumers and producers. Existing reporting mechanisms, such as the World Trade Organization's Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM) or UNFCCC National Communications, are recommended for this process. More specific formats for reporting could also be used, such as those developed by the IEA (energy consumers) and OECD (energy producers and consumers).
- c. Subsidy reform, detailing the subsidies under reform, progress towards reform and the expected outcomes. Countries should review progress against the commitment annually, using a peer review process or delegating to a third party such as an international organisation. All reports and reviews should be made public. Databases of energy prices, subsidies and subsidy reform should be developed and maintained.

2. Technical and financial assistance for developing countries

Technical and financial assistance may be needed to help governments improve their reporting of subsidies or to assist industries or consumers transition away from fossil-fuel subsidies. For example, assistance may be needed to establish a transparent pricing mechanism, design social safety nets (such as a cash transfer), finance cash transfers or restructure investment incentives. Technical and financial assistance can be provided directly or through organisations such as intergovernmental organisations and development banks.

3. Common research and analysis

While country-specific considerations are important, common problems are faced across the world, and solutions in one country can have generic application in many others. Setting up a common research and analysis program to support the Pledge initiative is proposed.

4. Secretariat support

Countries will investigate options for providing Secretariat support to countries. This is likely to include meetings of officials and expert groups to facilitate the exchange of information and best practices This proposal is submitted on behalf of:

IISD's Global Subsidies Initiative Mats Hellstrom, GSI high-level advisor, formerly Sweden's Ambassador to Germany, Sweden's Minister for Foreign Trade (1983-86) and Minister for Agriculture (1986-91). Mats.hellstrom@bfr.se

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GSI is an initiative of the International Institute for Sustainable Development Deutsche Naturschutzring – German League for Nature and Environment Helga Inden-Heinrich, Deputy Managing Director Koblenzer Straße 65, D - 53173 Bonn, Germany Helga.inden-heinrich@dnr.de

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## International Institute of Monetary Transformation (IIMT)

### MONETARY JUSTICE:

The Guiding Principle of Global Governance?

A contribution to the UN Commission for Sustainable Development's Compilation Document serving as the basis for preparing the zero draft of the outcome document of Rio 2012 Earth Summit

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New York City

October 28, 2011

"As to methods there may be a million and then some, but principles are few. The man who grasps principles can successfully select his own methods. The man, who tries methods, ignoring principles, is sure to have trouble."

Ralph Waldo Emerson, 1890s

### INTRODUCTION

A main theme of Tierra Fee & Dividend (TFD) system, following Emerson's observation, is the need to first search for principles before searching for methods. One of the main shortcomings in UN conferences and negotiations seems to be a basic lack of interest, unwillingness, or inability in dealing in a substantial and coherent way with the ethical dimension of the various global challenges the UN and the world community face.

Thus, the main premise of the TFD system is that no stability in the monetary, financial, economic and commercial systems is possible without the principles of equity and sustainability. Underlying the principle of monetary sustainability is the principle of monetary justice not only in its social, ecological and procedural meanings, but especially in its transformational meaning as the foundation of a carbon-based international monetary system. Monetary justice is proposed here to be the main guiding principle that unifies many other important principles as spelled out in the recent Bonn DPI/NGO Declaration. Monetary justice is proposed here to function as the organizing principle for the much discussed integration of the three pillars of sustainable development as called for by the UN SG Report of December 2010 and in various DESA Reports. Consequently, monetary justice is presented as the guiding principle for sustainable global governance or, in Rio 2012 terms, as the guiding principle for the development of a global institutional framework that can lead to green economies and low-carbon and climate resilient development.

The world over millions of people are demonstrating and protesting in various Occupy settings the gross inequality between people and demand basic overhaul of the monetary, financial, economic and commercial systems, because these systems do not work for the 99% of them as these systems continue to enrich the few, impoverish the many and imperil the planet. It is most important that government, business and civil society leaders in the Rio process respond to this demand for fundamental and transformational change. The TFD system is presented as a transformational pathway of an integrated solution to a non-working international monetary system, an increasing global threat of catastrophic climate change and an unsustainable model of development.

### WHAT IS MONETARY JUSTICE?

International monetary justice is the application of social, environmental, procedural and intergenerational justice principles to the international monetary system with its volatile exchange rates, imbalances in the balance of payments, fluctuating national and reserve currencies and an expensive global reserve system that costs non-reserve currency nations hundreds of billions annually. These justice principles also apply to domestic or regional monetary policies, which, in this globalizing world, are ever more intertwined as has become very apparent in the upheavals in the euro-zone countries.

There is little social monetary justice in the present international monetary system because this most basic system supports financial, economic and commercial systems that enrich the few and impoverish the many. Because of an unnecessary global reserve system, developing countries pay about \$100 billion annually to maintain a 3 or 4 month supply of hard currencies. Nobel Economics laureate Robert Mundell has called this monetary system a "non-system" and "criminal." There is also little environmental or climate justice in the international monetary system because it imperils the planet's climate and other Earth's services by supporting those other international systems that continue to cause environmental damage, particularly climate damage.

There is also little procedural justice in the international monetary system because the major decisions are controlled by the industrialized nations using the rules of the IMF, Bank of International Settlements, World Bank and the World Trade Organization to set monetary rules of the road. One of the major reasons for both the Great Depression of the 1930s and the Great Contraction at the end of last decade is the instability of the international monetary system due to the lack procedural justice where rules of the road were and are presently set within a context of great inequality.

There is also little intergenerational justice in the international monetary system because the present international monetary leadership thinks short-term and is unable to take the hard decisions for fundamental reform. The recent euro agreements are more stopgap measures than measures of monetary craft for the common well-being of present and future generations. In conclusion: Without monetary justice no monetary stability and sustainability is possible.

### MONETARY JUSTICE IS IMPORTANT AND POSSIBLE

The international monetary system is the foundation upon which the other international systems rest. It functions as glue according to monetary historian Eichengreen, binding the monetary, financial, economic and commercial systems together. Pope Pius XI pointed to the lending of money as the life blood of the economic system—another

metaphor indicating the connectedness of the monetary system with the economic system. However, the present international system is inequitable and, therefore, unstable and unsustainable. Monetary justice in its transformational sense of unifying the various forms of justice is necessary to transform it.

Needed for this transformed international monetary system is a plan that would lead to a financial system that is credit- rather than debt-based and that would be democratically governed by a Global Central Bank. The Chicago Plan of the 1930s was proposed by many outstanding economists to deal with the Great Depression. It withdrew the privilege of fractional reserve banking by privately-owned banks, making them utilities without the privilege of creating money.

Monetary justice in its transformational meaning demands realigning the inequality in the monetary system by the adoption of a standard, not a gold standard but a carbon standard that introduces fixed exchange rates and currencies, reduces volatility, affords little opportunity for currency manipulation and speculation and removes the need for a costly global reserve system.

Such carbon-based international monetary system is possible if government, business and civil society and particularly their leaders are able to think outside the box. Such thinking is demonstrated by Maurice Strong who believes that basing the international monetary system on a carbon standard is "innovative" and that such system "seems to be very promising particularly in light of the stalemate in post-Kyoto prospects". (October 8, 2011 email); by author Bill McKibben, leader of the global [www.350.org](http://www.350.org) who believes a carbon-based international monetary system "deserves careful attention" in these times where politics and biology increasingly intersect and demand a global solution; by those who signed an international petition entitled "Make monetary justice the basis of your Rio negotiations" at <http://www.change.org/petitions/g20-and-rio-summitteers-make-monetary-justice-the-basis-of-your-negotiations>

#### MONETARY JUSTICE AND THE 21st CENTURY CARBON MONETARY STANDARD

Proposals for monetary reform, not monetary transformation, suggest moving away from the US dollar as reserve and vehicle currency to a basket of currencies, a particular set of commodities or the IMF's Special Drawing Right (SDR). A carbon-based international reserve currency could even be a possible alternative. However, all these reforms make an ineffective system a little less ineffective. Others want to return to a gold standard. This standard, never perfect in the past, has rigidity and liquidity problems. Moreover, given the expanding global economy, there would not be enough gold to meet the needs of all.

The International Institute of Monetary Transformation has developed a carbon-based monetary standard with the Tierra as its unit of account. It is set to a specific ton of CO<sub>2</sub>e per person, determined by the GHG emission targets set by the IPCC. It is based upon the assumption that the control of the changing climate is humanity's foremost challenge in the 21st century and that climate justice is an essential value in redressing the ecological imbalance caused by the ecological indebtedness of industrialized nations. This standard would transform the international monetary system and go beyond the suggested monetary reforms.

This transformed, i.e. carbon-based, international monetary system is integrated with the Fee & Dividend carbon reduction method as opposed to the cap-and-trade and other carbon reduction methods. Thus, the system is called the Tierra Fee & Dividend system (TFD). The main aim of the TFD is to introduce a just, stable and sustainable international monetary system, to combat the climate crisis and to advance low carbon, climate-resilient development.

Adopting the TFD with its carbon-based monetary standard would mean fixed exchange rates and stable currencies which would be convertible to each other because they are all based upon the same standard. That standard could also become the basis of the global currency of the Tierra. No longer would a costly global reserve system be necessary. Adopting the TFD with its carbon-based monetary standard would also mean an institutionalized transfer of funds from carbon debtor nations in the global North to the carbon creditor nations in the global South. Thus, carbon accounts would be settled in the nations' balance of payments. Adopting the TFD with its carbon-based monetary standard means the establishment of the Tierra, UN affiliated, federally structured Global Central Bank with its administering, monitoring, regulating and money creating functions. This global bank would be the centerpiece of the global governance framework that is one of the two main topics of the Rio 2012 process.

Note that the notion of a carbon-based international monetary system such as the TFD is new and novel or, in Mr. Strong's terms, "innovative". The other two components of the TFD, i.e. banks being utilities and an international financial system being credit-based rather than debt-based are positions that are increasingly being advocated, following the example of the supporters of the Chicago Plan of the 1930s.

Major references to the TFD are: IIMT's forthcoming book entitled THE TIERRA SOLUTION: Monetary Transformation, Climate Change and Sustainable Development. (Cosimo Books January 2012); articles for the 2nd Yale/UNITAR conference on Global Environmental Governance (September 17-9, 2010), for the Stakeholder Forum's Sustainable Development Governance program; Powerpoint presentations at the IPRA Conference in Sydney, Australia in July 2011, at the UNFCCC Cancun Conference in December 2011, and the upcoming ones at the CoNGO Sustainable Development Committee and at the Riverside Church conference called "Monetary Justice: The Guiding Principle for Global Governance?" which, beside the UK Christian Council for Monetary Justice at <http://www.ccmj.org> would be the first US religious organization that engages in monetary justice discussions as basis of global governance The following table presents a comparison along some dozen features that illustrates the basic differences between the present IMF international monetary system and the proposed carbon based Tierra global monetary governance system.

#### COMPARISON OF THE PRESENT IMF AND TIERRA MONETARY SYSTEMS

FEATURES	PRESENT SYSTEM	TIERRA SYSTEM
Monetary standard	None	Carbon standard
Currencies	Most are non-convertible	All are convertible
Reserve currencies	Several	None –no need
Global reserve system Yes and costly	Yes and costly	Removed
Currency manipulation & speculation	High	Well-nigh absent
single world currency Difficult to achieve	Difficult to achieve	Phase 2 of Tierra MS
Exchange rates	Floating and volatile	Fixed and stable
Balance of payments	Financial accounts	Financial and carbon accounts
BOP imbalances	Financial	Financial and ecological
Governance	IMF, BIS, WTO, IBRD	UN Federal Central Bank
Surveillance	No enforcement authority	Enforcement authority
Philosophy	Neo-classical economics	Sustainability economics
Equity social/procedural	Minor emphasis	Major emphasis
--climate justice	Missing value	Crucial value
Earth Charter	Absent	Important common value base
Long-term orientation	Weak	Strong
Connection to climate crisis	Absent	Strong and essential
Historical perspective	Reformist	Transformational

#### CONCLUSION

The September 2011 DPI/NGO Bonn Conference's Declaration states in line 265 that governments, among many other things, are "to rethink the monetary system based upon a carbon standard." Given that the Earth Summit wants to develop "New Foundations for the Future", it is essential that among those foundations the monetary foundation is going to be considered because it is the international monetary system functioning as glue, a lubricant for the other international system that can be considered to be the linchpin of those systems. As a consequence it is crucial that the Rio 2012 Earth Summit process basing itself on the requirements of monetary justice give priority to monetary governance as the basis of governance systems for the 21st century.

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## INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE-ASSOCIATION OF REGIONAL ECOLOGICAL PROBLEMS

Proposal WEC UA 31.10.11-1

for zero draft of the outcome

document of Earth Summit Rio+20

Division for Sustainable Development

UNCSD Secretariat

UN-DESA, DC2-2212, 2 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017, USA

Dear Colleagues!

NGO International Institute-Association of Regional Ecological Problems (IIAREP) proposes to include into the zero draft of the outcome document of the Earth Summit "Rio+20" the following provision:

Transform UNEP into a fully-fledged UN Agency named World Environmental Organization (WEO) and simultaneously initiate the process of elaborating the World Environmental Constitution (WEC) as the only way of reaching the required efficiency of the WEO and as a legal framework for the transition to "green" economy.

The proposal concerns the strengthening of integration of the three pillars of sustainable development (environment, economy and social aspect) at international level.

Arguments for the proposal in brief

The discussion on establishing the World Environmental Organization (WEO) and the beginning of the process of creation of the World Environmental Constitution (WEC) in their indissoluble unity would add an enhanced integrity and deeper understanding of the three pillars of sustainable development at Rio+20 Summit and will make the work of the Summit more constructive. In prospect, Rio+20 decisions on WEO and WEC would provide for: institutionalization of proposals and ideas for dealing with problems of climate change, prevention of other global environmental threats and problems of transition to "green" economy in the wake of relevant initiatives and declarations made by world politicians during the 20 years after the "Rio-92"; creation of a permanent effective mechanism for a global dialogue of all interested parties, for reducing the conflict of interests between the South and the North and for the elaboration of a universal legal framework to achieve the goals of sustainable development, relying, among other things, upon a huge array of over 500 treaties and conventions concerning the environment, which are currently valid but ineffective.

Yours sincerely

Yuriy Tunytsya

Executive Director, Dr., Professor

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## International Movement ATD Fourth World

November 2011

Contribution by the International Movement ATD Fourth World to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development zero draft outcome document.

Eradicating extreme poverty is a necessary condition for the realization of sustainable development. For this to be possible, the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development must be fully integrated and treated with equal importance in programming and delivery. It is within this context that the International Movement ATD Fourth World proposes that the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development contain the following elements:

1- Outcomes from the Conference should be based on internationally agreed human rights principles and standards. The work of the Human Rights Council in developing Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights provides a useful reference in developing a human-rights based approach to sustainable development and poverty eradication. A rights-based approach will ensure the following:

- Specific attention is given to the poorest and most vulnerable people who have been historically, and remain at present, most affected by both environmental degradation, and social and economic exclusion. Proposals on environmental protection, climate change mitigation and adaptation and economic transition should include mechanisms to ensure that benefits reach people living in extreme poverty. This should include guaranteeing a social protection floor which enables universal access to social, economic and cultural rights.
- All sectors of society are able to participate in the planning, implementation and assessment of sustainable development policies and programs, including people living in extreme poverty. This requires relevant decision-making bodies at all levels to establish specific mechanisms and institutional arrangements through which persons living in extreme poverty can also effectively and meaningfully participate in all stages of decision-making processes. Obstacles to participation must also be identified and addressed, such as lack of access to relevant and understandable information and opportunity costs.
- Priority is given to climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies that build on local knowledge and capacities, and empower local communities with the technologies, financial resources and skills required in order for these strategies to be sustainable. To the extent possible, small-scale, inclusively managed projects will be promoted and supported, in order to protect the environment and improve the living conditions of people living in poverty.

2 – An outcome of the Conference to create Sustainable Development Goals must have at its core the eradication of extreme poverty, in each of the three pillars of a sustainable development: environmental, economic and social. This will ensure complementarity with efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. It will also

contribute to the development of a post-2015 development framework that maintains the eradication of extreme poverty as a central aim.

## International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE).

The Importance of Environmental Compliance and Enforcement for Sustainable Development for the Rio+20 Conference

Submitted by

The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE), 2300 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Suite 300B, Washington, D.C., 20007, [inece@inece.org](mailto:inece@inece.org),

<http://www.inece.org>

Summary

Robust national environmental compliance and enforcement systems for environmental and energy laws are critical parts of an effective overall governance strategy to meet green economy, poverty eradication, and sustainable development objectives. Multidisciplinary approaches to capacity building for parliamentarians, inspectors, prosecutors, and judges are keys to this process.

Well designed environmental laws and regulations, which include implementation and enforcement systems, advance a green economy by improving the health and safety of the workforce and communities, conserving natural resources and ecosystem services, promoting sustainability in the business community, expanding markets for environmental goods and services, creating sustainable jobs, driving technology innovation, and leveling the playing field for investment by reducing costs.

Recommendation for Language in the Rio+20 Outcomes

Robust national environmental compliance and enforcement systems for environmental and energy laws are critical parts of an effective overall governance strategy to meet green economy, poverty eradication and sustainable development objectives. Chapter 8 of Agenda 21 specifically directs States to develop their compliance and enforcement capacity. The outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference should emphasize institutional mechanisms at the international and domestic levels for implementation, accountability, compliance, and enforcement, supported by a science-based approach.

a) Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20

The International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement (INECE) anticipates that the Parties to Rio + 20 recognize that robust national environmental compliance and enforcement systems for environmental and energy laws are critical parts of an effective overall governance strategy to meet green economy, poverty eradication and sustainable development objectives. The outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference should emphasize institutional mechanisms at the international and domestic levels for implementation, accountability, compliance, and enforcement, supported by a science-based approach.

INECE calls on the conveners of the Rio+20 process to recognize that compliance with and enforcement of national environmental and energy laws are critical components of an overall strategy for achieving green economic growth. In part, green economy objectives can be achieved through a modern approach to regulation and compliance that creates value and opportunities by reducing costs for industry and business, creating markets for environmental goods and services, reducing business risk and increasing investor confidence, creating sustainable jobs, improving the health of the workforce and the wider public, and conserving natural resources. Well-designed environmental regulation can trigger innovations within firms that partially or fully offset the costs of compliance with those regulations.

b) Comments on existing proposals

Recognizing the importance of well-designed institutions for international environmental governance and echoing the recommendations of the Key Messages from North American Major Groups and Stakeholders, INECE encourages Rio+20 to emphasize the need for countries to develop domestic enforcement mechanisms that empower all citizens to call for and seek legal recourse in terms of compliance to commitments, laws and regulations.

c) Views on implementation and closing the implementation gap, including relevant actors

1. Views on implementation

Environmental laws and policies must be designed with compliance and enforceability in mind. For the regulated community to comply, it must be aware of the rules, willing to comply, and able to comply. Laws must therefore be no more complex than necessary, cost-effective to comply with, and consider the social, cultural and psychological profile of the regulated community. Rules running counter to cultural practices or ignoring economic incentives are likely to fail. Rules that reward environmental leadership, build on best practices, and ensure a level playing field are more likely to succeed in securing compliance.

Investing in compliance and enforcement benefits the public by securing a healthier and safer environment for themselves and their children. It benefits individuals, firms and others in the regulated community by ensuring a level playing field governed by clear rules applied in a fair and consistent manner. Economically, firms meeting or exceeding environmental standards regularly build customer loyalty, increase efficiency, and enhance their profits. Countries benefit by creating a predictable investment climate based on the rule of law thereby promoting economic development. And through strengthening compliance with international obligations, countries ensure that multilateral environmental agreements are implemented by all parties through effective domestic action.

2. Closing the implementation gap

Closing the implementation gap will require building the capacity of countries to enforce domestic laws and multilateral environmental agreements. Even the best designed rules may still pose difficulties to those who lack technical, financial, or administrative capacity. Securing compliance therefore calls for renewed efforts to raise awareness of the law, to strengthen compliance assistance programs, and to enhance incentives for compliance. Efforts at the national level must be designed to address the needs of small- and medium-sized enterprises, and, at the international level, the needs of the least developed and developing countries. International institutions and donors have a particular role to play in supporting these efforts.

d) Specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements and other implementation tools and the time frame for their implementation

Trans-governmental Networks Advance Cooperation for Sustainable Development

Cooperation among government officials help create a level playing field for regulated industries domestically and internationally, resolve and prevent transboundary environmental problems, respond to environmental crimes, create efficiencies in the development of tools and programs, and foster the political will needed to strengthen implementation of environmental standards.

Operating as transgovernmental networks focused on environmental compliance and enforcement, the International Network for Environmental Compliance and Enforcement and its regional and topical networks provide the forums and mechanisms that enable direct interaction among and between domestic officials, international institutions, and private actors. The Rio+20 process should recognize the role of transgovernmental networks in improving compliance with and enforcement and implementation of environmental law.

Strengthening environmental compliance and enforcement requires renewed efforts by individuals and institutions everywhere. Government officials, particularly inspectors, investigators, and prosecutors, must exercise public authority in trust for all of their citizens according to the standards of good governance and with a view to protecting and improving public well-being and conserving the environment. Legislators play a key role in creating legislation that can be effectively enforced to achieve its goals. The judiciary has a fundamental contribution to make in upholding the rule of law and ensuring that national and international laws are interpreted and applied fairly, efficiently, and effectively.

The regulated community and the public have a responsibility to comply with the letter and spirit of the law and to encourage compliance by others. Non-governmental organizations play a leading role in public education and assisting enforcement agencies. The media has a responsibility to raise public awareness by providing objective analysis and information about environmental challenges and efforts to address them. The international community, including donors and international organizations, has a responsibility to strengthen domestic efforts through capacity building, technical and financial support, and by promoting an enabling environment for more effective compliance and enforcement.

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## International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE)

INFORSE<sup>1</sup> Proposal for the Rio+20 UN Conference

Transition to Sustainable Energy

Must Be a Central Result of Rio+20

When the countries of the world meets again in Rio de Janeiro this coming June, 2012, 20 years after the original UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), it is urgently needed that the countries take up the issues that were discarded in 1992 and that are still imperative for a sustainable development. The transition to sustainable energy<sup>2</sup> is the most important of these issues. It is increasingly evident from the climate science as well as from the depletion of the easier accessible fossil energy resources that a fast energy transition is necessary. At the same time the technological development has resulted in better technologies for the transition. Therefore the transition can be done with known technologies, without significant sacrifices, and in parallel with the elimination of poverty. It will also bring additional benefits such as improved employment.

In the INFORSE network we have shown how a timely transition can be made in Northern countries with high greenhouse gas emissions as well as in villages in the global South, where this transition can be one of the steps on the way out of poverty.

Unfortunately, the negotiators at the UNCED conference discarded ideas to build a global cooperation and a structure for promotion of sustainable energy. Later the focus on energy at Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) lead to no results, as countries as well as the UN system showed lack of leadership.

From INFORSE the expectation for the outcome of Rio+20 is that the transition to sustainable energy is not only welcomed, but also included as a major cooperation issue for the coming years. This must involve international organisations as well as the countries of the world. All countries and most international organisations are already promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in some form. In addition the countries have agreed in the international climate negotiations to keep global warming to below 2°C. This climate target can in reality only be reached with a transition to sustainable energy. The challenge of Rio+20 is then to transform this global agreement into increased global action and cooperation to realise the sustainable energy transition and thereby the climate target. A part of this challenge is to make it clear that the unsustainable energy sources, like nuclear power, should not be supported internationally, in spite of large vested interests. Such support will divert resources from the sustainable energy transition, and could even make it impossible.

Comments on Existing Proposals

The Green Economy Roadmap (Towards a Green Economy, published by UNEP 2011) gives many arguments for a transition to sustainable development and it also shows that sustainable energy must be in the center of the transition. Half of the proposed investments shall go to renewable energy and energy efficiency in the model proposal of the Roadmap. In spite of this priority, the proposed energy transition is too slow to meet the climate objectives or the need to replace dwindling fossil energy resources. In effect, faster actions than proposed in the Roadmap are needed. The proposed actions in the Roadmap are shown to be cost-effective compared with business as usual, which mean that also faster actions will probably also be cost-effective.

<sup>1</sup> International Network for Sustainable Energy (INFORSE), see [www.inforse.org](http://www.inforse.org)

<sup>2</sup> By sustainable energy we mean efficient use of renewable energy in sustainable ways

The Roadmap report also has an appropriate focus on the need to phase out subsidies for fossil fuels globally as this holds back the sustainable energy transition in many countries. The challenge for Rio+20 is now to turn visions, as those shown in the Green Economy Roadmap, into reality at a fast pace with international cooperation. The cooperation must deliver advices and support to countries on how to choose the green solutions.

INFORSE supports a continuation of global sustainable development goals, as we have seen the positive effect of the Millennium Development Goals. It is important that the goals to be agreed at Rio+20 include a goal for universal access to sustainable energy to eradicate poverty and also a goal for transition to sustainable energy.

INFORSE supports that the framework for global partnerships are revitalized as many global partnerships have proven to be effective means of cooperation on specific topics. Therefore, INFORSE is member of several partnerships. The partnerships should be used where they are useful to foster multi-stakeholder action. They should not be an excuse for not acting on the intergovernmental level as well.

Comments on the Implementation Gap

The lack of action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions is probably the most severe "implementation gap" in the world today, but unfortunately, not the only one as also many development goals and environmental goals are not reached.

To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet environmental objectives, a concerted actions are needed from the international community including financing institutions as well as a change of the promotion mechanisms and the economic drivers in most economics. These must include change of subsidies and taxation.

To end poverty, concerted actions are needed from the global North and South to build sustainable and inclusive economies in all countries that can provide basic needs for all populations, including basic energy services.

#### Proposals for Specific Mechanisms

For the transition to sustainable energy, involvements of most international institutions are needed including intergovernmental banks. There are also needs for new international structures. An international agency for renewable energy is already established in the form of IRENA, but it should be better integrated in the international cooperation. In parallel, an organisation is needed for energy efficiency.

In addition, a revision of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is needed, which is presently supporting the use of nuclear power including the establishment of nuclear power plants in poor countries. This support is directly counterproductive as this inadequate solution will make the countries even poorer and give them, as well as the world, new safety and proliferation problems. Further, it is necessary to make international regulation and taxation of the fossil fuel combustion of aviation and shipping, which cannot be regulated by individual countries.

#### Other Specific Elements of the Outcome of Rio+20

In addition to the proposals for agreements and institutions given above, it is needed to establish a new mechanism to promote sustainable development to replace the CSD. The process should focus directly on improving international cooperation including existing institutions. It should not spend two years for discussions of one issue, but instead should have better managed and better prepared discussions during a maximum of one year for each issue.

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## International Organisation of Employers (IOE)


### About the IOE

The International Organisation of Employers (IOE) is recognised as the only organisation at the international level that represents the interests of business in the labour and social policy fields. Our mission is to promote and defend the interests of employers in international fora. To this end we work to ensure that international labour and social policy promotes the viability of enterprises and creates an environment favourable to enterprise development and job creation. Today, the IOE consists of 150 national employer organisations from 143 countries from all over the world. In line with our mandate we will focus, in this contribution, on the social pillar of sustainable development. The IOE has been working with other business organizations, such as the ICC and the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC), and we endorse and support their submissions on the broader conference themes.

### The IOE view of the purpose of RIO+20

The IOE supports a balanced discussion of social elements in the discussion topics to be taken up in Rio+20 and believes that the conference must

 deliver an appropriate institutional framework to enable conditions for the transition to the current concept of a „green economy“, monitor and respond to the evolution of the „green economy“ and eradicate poverty. It must look to practicalities, learning and experience, to enable action and empower the relevant actors to deliver renewed commitment for sustainable development.

 set up clear measures and means to allow stakeholders to monitor the assessment of progress to date and enable them to identify and provide solutions for the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and achievement of the millennium development goals.

 set up clear measures and means to allow stakeholders to monitor, identify, prioritise and propose solutions to address new and emerging challenges.

### Business Engagement

Business and industry is one of 9 “major groups” recognized by Agenda 21, and engaging employers in the RIO+20 processes is essential to the pursuit of sustainable development. Business and employment creation provides not just skills, technological and innovative developments and finance but also inclusive livelihoods capable of transforming social systems.


What progress has been made, what remains to be done.

The 3 dimensions of sustainable development require that all policy developments and activities should be analysed pre and post implementation for their potential and actual impact on the economy, the environment and social infrastructure. That way we can follow whether policy developments had their desired impact and make appropriate adjustments to keep on course to achieve targets.

The aspirations of previous conferences on Sustainable Development and achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) have not yet been met. But as well as some setbacks, there have been many recent positive developments, capable of delivering solutions. There has been a major increase in scientific information, public awareness and involvement on environmental issues, largely because of the development of internet communications. Many nations have developed economically, socially and environmentally, providing them with new powers, along with which come new roles and responsibilities. Future economic growth is likely to be fastest in emerging economies, and if well managed, can help lift the majority of their people out of poverty.

### How business can help deliver the solutions

Business will be key to providing the solutions to the interlinked challenges of

 meeting the expectations of improved living standards for a growing world population and

 at the same time not degrading the economic, environmental and social systems on which they depend

Many employers recognize and have risen to the challenge of sustainable development by controlling emissions and resource uses from their products, services and operations. Voluntary business initiatives and innovative solutions for resource efficiency, emission control, waste management, protection of ecosystems, food and energy security, renewable and low carbon technologies are being commercialized and shared.

Business to business partnerships via multinationals and their supply chains will help diffuse the information and technologies. However in order to do this in a fair and equitable way businesses will have to work with governments and international governance bodies to develop instruments and incentives, sensitive to market needs and set the enabling conditions for investment and innovation, including rule of law, sound science and risk, open markets and trade and protection of intellectual property rights.



Critical long-term policy and market frameworks are being developed in many influential inter-governmental discussions and it is vital that these frameworks and their implementation support economic prosperity and growth, job creation and livelihoods. Job creation, in particular, is a critical path out of poverty, and more urgent than ever in the current economic situation.

#### The green economy as the solution

The themes of RIO+20 postulate that if the challenge is the gap between what has been achieved and what needs to be achieved, then the solution is the green economy. The IOE believes that if the green economy is to be the solution to the challenge to be addressed by the conference, of delivering sustainable development and the MDGs, then it has to be structured to do so.

Solutions to these challenges will come from business initiatives, products and services facilitated by policy measures that promote the right kind of growth. Economies need to be able to secure growth and development, while at the same time improving human well-being, providing sustainable jobs and enterprises, reducing inequalities, tackling poverty and preserving the natural resources on which we depend.— this is what is implied by a green economy. However the green economy will evolve as technologies and economies develop and provide other challenges and solutions. It will be a dynamic process requiring continual review and revision as the concept of what constitutes a green economy shifts over time.

#### Understanding the green economy

Employers believe that the first challenge is for the concepts of the „Green economy" and „Green jobs" to be more clearly understood and have resonance with and endorsement by all stakeholders. The green economy cannot be divorced from the economy in general and green jobs are reliant on other jobs. Ordinary people need to be able to see what it means and that it means something different and better than the economic model they have now. They need to understand how their current model can move towards the concept of a green economy and have a clear idea of some of the policy and practice tools needed to get there. Employers have risen to their crucial role in influencing policy measures to structure a framework conducive for enterprises to deliver sustainable jobs, economically viable products, processes, services and solutions that promote a greener economy. They also play their part in informing consumers of what actions, products and services will help deliver a green economy.





#### The priorities to achieve a green economy

Moving towards a green economy requires resilient enterprises and communities who are able to withstand the inevitable natural and man-made shocks that will occur in the future. They will enable challenges to be transformed into economic opportunities, not only reversing negative environmental trends, but also driving future growth and jobs. This will facilitate the preservation and investment in the assets of key natural resources. It will enable the use of low-carbon and resource efficient solutions and increasing efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns. All this involves greater business involvement in establishing the right regulatory frameworks, creating strong incentives for markets and innovation, leveraging financial resources, and promoting entrepreneurship.

The green economy offers opportunities to all countries, irrespective of their level of development and the structure of their societies and economies. While in many cases investments to move towards a green economy can result in short-term win-win solutions, in other cases a medium to long term perspective will be needed and transitional costs will have to be addressed. These may require support for developing nations and SMEs

#### Priorities for future action resulting from RIO+20

The IOE believes that the future should be aimed at action, based on an analysis of what needs to be done, how it can be done and by whom. The development of a suitable green economy, requires addressing the following priorities

-  Building resilience for enterprises and communities
-  Establishing efficient use and sustainable management of key resources
-  Developing well-functioning markets and effective regulatory conditions
-  Improving governance and stimulating private sector involvement




The IOE will focus its efforts on strengthening the social pillar of sustainable development by Building resilience for enterprises and communities and look at how the other priorities support this.

#### Building resilience for enterprises and communities Resilience to deal with uncertainty

Examination of the existing plans to move towards sustainable development and achieve the Millennium Development Goals shows that the world must be ready for the unexpected. Whilst many projects will go to plan, as the expected has been anticipated and factored in, some plans will always be knocked off course by natural disasters, financial or political turmoil, resource scarcities or supply chain and service disruptions. Employers seek to minimize disruption and maintain sustainable enterprises, jobs and economies, whatever the challenge. Resilience is seen as an active approach of using the available tools to take responsibility for one's own enterprise, community and self, in sustaining and developing wellbeing, competences, resources and entrepreneurship to adapt and thrive in a fast-changing and uncertain world, giving governments, enterprises and individuals the means of turning uncertainty, risk and turmoil into opportunity.

Realizing a green economy, that in itself will also evolve, will require a low-emission society that offers substantial opportunities, ensures growth and sustainable development, based on innovative technologies and more sustainable production and consumption, while ensuring sustainable enterprises and jobs.

#### To face the uncertainties involved,

-  Governments need access to resources and expertise to plan for, not just implementation, but also disruption, disaster and recovery
-  Enterprises need the versatility and flexibility to unleash their innovative technologies and service and the skills and creative potential of all their employees.
-  Individuals need jobs and opportunities that enable them to develop and use their competencies, skills and creative potential to the full in their work and in their communities

People encouraged to develop problem solving, creativity, and team or community building in a high-trust environment are more likely to respond to change as an opportunity rather than as a threat. They need to be provided with the skills, knowledge and experience needed to deal with it successfully. Individuals, their workplaces and wider society are highly interdependent, so national governments and regional authorities have a key role to play in helping to support and develop enterprises which promote resilience for their workers and communities.

#### Health and wellbeing

The sustainable management of resources, such as land, agriculture, forests, water and the oceans are underpinned by ecosystems and biodiversity, which determine the longer term resilience and health of the environment are major factors contributing to the wellbeing of people necessary as a foundation for their resilience.

Solutions to many of the challenges of sustainable development as well as disaster aversion and recovery are trans-boundary and need to be addressed at the regional and international level. Governments, international organisations and businesses need to coordinate their resources and expertise in times of crisis.

#### Employment

Just as jobs have a direct relationship to economies, then green jobs are seen to have a similar relationship with green economies. This is important as considerable sums, within recent economic stimulus packages, have been earmarked for green growth and green jobs. Policy decisions, measures and funding to address green issues are now so extensive that they have a direct effect on business decision making and will affect enterprises of all sizes and sectors. Enterprises need to understand the funding implications, the sources and how to access the funds.

Business will be the key to providing solutions to climate change and environmental concerns and new industries developed solely as a response to these challenges will owe allegiance to other technologies and businesses. New jobs – green or otherwise- will mainly be created by the market, to satisfy market needs and utilise innovative developments. It should be recognized that green jobs and green technologies will rely greatly on all jobs and technologies and the distinction will become even more blurred in the future.

The green economy should aspire to full employment for all, whether it is returning to full employment post-economic crises or creating employment to overcome poverty. Policies aimed at creating so called green jobs should not come at the cost of a net reduction of jobs across the overall economy, nor should such policies create temporary, unsustainable jobs or those that reduce productivity or have unacceptable working conditions.

#### Skills, education and training

In order to operationalise the green economy concept, there is a need for society to build competencies for resilience and for enterprises to have access to the right skills for the right jobs. The moves to greener economies will mean all skills requirements will be affected to a greater or lesser extent. Human capital, the quality of jobs, and generational shifts also need to be addressed.

Without the necessary skills and know-how, a transition to a green economy will not be possible. Economic policies need to be aligned with labour policies to equip employees with new skills and help create new job opportunities. A thorough analysis is needed on a regional basis of the demographics, state of current and potential economic development and the major skills requirements needed to move that region from where it is now to a greener economy.

Government, employers, education and training providers and individuals need to work in partnership to benefit from a continuum from education, training and lifelong learning. It is necessary to build and develop resilience into the economy and population so that they are capable of dealing with change.

#### Establishing efficient use and sustainable management of key resources Holistic life cycle thinking

The efficient use and sustainable management of key resources will require holistic life-cycle thinking and will be a long term effort with no certainly defined end point. There is a growing awareness of the benefits of ecosystem services, efficient resource and waste management, for businesses and society at large, and of the potential of investing in natural capital for the green economy.

#### Managing key resources

People's livelihoods rely on resources such as water, energy, land, agriculture and marine food sources. Especially in developing countries, the lack of access to quality resources, as well as the inability to manage them sustainably, are important underlying causes of poverty. Where the sustainable management of these resources become the economy's key growth markets they can underpin future economic development, create jobs, alleviate poverty and embed resilience in the population.

Developing well-functioning markets and effective regulatory conditions Framework for open markets and trade A number of market and regulatory conditions need to be put in place to enable and direct growth in the above areas. Such enabling conditions are not only key to promote environmental objectives, but also to ensure predictability, resilience and equitable treatment for business. They also provide a sound basis for investments and fostering eco-innovation through new technologies and new ways of working.

Open trade and investment are critical enablers of technological dissemination and financing that will be required to move to greener economies. Policies to promote green economy concepts should be incorporated into domestic and global markets in a way that promotes competition within open markets on an equitable basis.

#### Stimulating innovation

Innovation for the solutions to move to a green economy requires major progress in the development and deployment of key technologies, better use of existing knowledge and technologies across sectors and geographical boundaries, and increased international and public-private co-operation. It will also require the institutions and framework to foster such development, key of which is appropriate recognition and protection for intellectual property rights

Governments should avoid choosing winners and losers, and refrain from using regulations that benefit certain sectors to the detriment of others. Well-intentioned measures focused on improving environmental performance and generating employment may not necessarily create lasting employment and may introduce sector distortions that should not be seen as a substitute for long term job creation through the market. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) need equitable treatment to be able to access the expertise and finance needed for making the necessary investment.

There are opportunities now to green enterprises and the current economy, using tools and facilities already available, as a step en-route to realizing the full benefits of the transition to a greener economy. Governments should provide appropriate incentives (ranging from information, demonstration, application, taxation, incentivisation, regulation) so businesses in all sectors and consumers will see the practical benefits of adopting resource efficient and lower carbon-intensive practices.

#### Regulatory improvement

Regulatory instruments should be objective seeking and well-structured to maximise compliance and minimize unintended consequences. They should be combined with market-based instruments (such as taxes, tradable permits and environmental subsidies) which are flexible and cost-effective tools that can help achieve combined economic, social and environmental objectives. Fiscal reforms that shift tax burdens from labour to environmental impacts can create highly visible incentives that send messages to society to influence their behaviour and provide win-win outcomes for employment and the environment.

#### Financing and investment

To enable the transition to a global green economy, large scale financial resources will have to be mobilized to help finance flow towards and in the green economy. Such policies should provide clear, legally-binding, long-term signals wherever possible. This will require action by all countries, international organisations and banks and will require a significant change in approaches to financing, enabling countries to make use of innovative public and private solutions. Access to finance and venture capital coupled with a favourable regulatory environment is crucial to stimulate eco-innovation, environmental technologies and green SMEs.

#### Improving governance and stimulating private sector involvement Measuring progress

Progress towards a greener economy will benefit from development of transparent measures and indicators that make sense in societal, economic and environmental terms, at the level of individual enterprises and at national, regional and global levels. Reporting requirements should not add further burdens on business but should be part of a rationalization process for the development of indicators to be used alongside Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Improving governance It is widely recognized that current governance structures need significant reform to help deliver sustainable development, make economies greener, eradicate poverty and measure and track progress. There are several options to strengthen sustainable development governance within the UN organizations involved, either by strengthening the mandates of the main players or enhancing the scope of one to give it overarching responsibility. All options have advantages and disadvantages, and will have to be further discussed, but the outcome should be defined by minimizing duplication of effort and maximizing coordination and efficiency in the delivery of the objectives.

Sustainable development governance needs to be reinforced and mainstreamed within the UN system, by enhancing coherence and policy integration between the activities carried out under the economic, social and environmental pillars. Dedicated teams focused on sustainable development should ensure regular interaction between and within organizations. Corresponding regional, national and local structures also need attention with new roles and responsibilities defined for emerging economies.

Today, „Green Economy“ remains an aspirational concept. As it evolves elements of greening economies may require new governance procedures. The UN governance structures should be regularly reviewed to ensure they are fit for purpose. Stimulating private sector involvement and partnerships

Moving towards a green economy is a shared, cross-sectoral, and economy-wide challenge which no actor can achieve on its own. The green economy needs to provide the governing structures and platform which allow new and transformative partnerships, involving business, to be shaped and activated. They should recognise that business plays a crucial role in the social and economic development of a country. Prosperity is contributed largely by activities of business, including jobs, investments, technologies, products and services that drive the changes and innovations needed to move towards a green economy.


A greener economy depends on an engaged and incentivized private sector working in alliance with the public sector to create essential knowledge, skills, and to promote a continuum of life-long learning, technology, investment and financing required. In particular, boosting the participation of business will be essential. Business operates in supply and value chains, many of which are global and have influence beyond national governance structures. Achieving improved conditions for transparency and integrity in doing business in all countries is of paramount importance for private and public sector actions.

Measures to green businesses and contribute to green economies is most efficient and effective if they are aligned and integrated with other business systems and initiatives. Many businesses have already made significant progress in making their operations more resilient and resource efficient. They have excellent examples of good practice to share. Business involvement needs to be taken further through more dynamic public/private partnerships, new business networks and alliances.

#### Achieving the Objectives - Key messages

All countries and players have to work together to make sure that the outcomes of Rio+20 can meet our global challenges. In particular the business community must be empowered to put in place emission-reduction and resource-efficient technologies and solutions that create jobs, that raise standards of living, and that address major environmental problems. To give renewed impetus to achieving sustainable development and eradicating poverty, Rio+20 needs to involve business in Creating a shared vision that is understood, endorsed, publicized and actioned by all stakeholders on

 what is the current visions for a green economy


 what changes are needed to get there

 what tools and policies will be available to use

 how success can be measured and publicized at the international level Developing cohesive action plans at all levels

These will need to be developed at enterprise, community, national and international levels. Actions should build on existing efforts and could be incorporated into national economic and development strategies, also bringing together low carbon strategies and sustainable consumption and production plans. Where needed, donor countries and international organisations could provide assistance, in line with national development strategies. Measuring effectiveness of policies and actions for all pillars of sustainable development

All policy developments and activities should be assessed pre and post implementation for their potential and actual impact on the economy, the environment and social infrastructure Focusing on the issues identified as requirements for a green economy


 Building resilience for enterprises and communities

 Establishing efficient use and sustainable management of key resources

 Developing well-functioning markets and effective regulatory conditions

 Improving governance and stimulating private sector involvement the following specific actions, where business has particular leverage, are proposed as contributions to the action plans.

#### Developing skills and training for the enterprises of the future

 As the transition to a green economy will create jobs and replace others, the re-skilling of the existing workforce will be needed. Rio+20 should establish the main elements for green skills training programmes in priority areas such as energy, agriculture, construction, natural resource management, waste and recycling. Based on this work and the analysis of the likely effect of the transition to a green economy, Governments, training providers and businesses should identify

o What skills will be needed for future business architecture,

o What programmes have to be put in place to develop those skills

o How will the workforce, that do not have those skills, be managed

<sup>64</sup> Youth and community training programmes are also needed. These should support life-long learning and the school-to-work transition with specific training and competence development on the green economy in mind. Developing partnerships for making key resources sustainable

<sup>65</sup> Many private companies are involved globally in the delivery of water supplies of the appropriate quality for the task. Water management and water governance needs to have firmer linkages to economic as well as environmental aspects. This could be achieved by establishing international partnerships on water involving public and private-sector enterprises and governments.

<sup>66</sup> Similarly partnership involving governments, public and private-sector enterprises must be established to increase energy access, achieve secure energy supplies, promote renewable energy and energy efficiency and leverage private investment for a low carbon economy.

<sup>67</sup> Frameworks should be developed to ensure protection of intellectual and physical property rights and provide access to the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the utilisation of genetic and other resources.

<sup>68</sup> There is an urgent need to promote sustainable agriculture and forestry, land-use and food security by involving businesses more closely in strengthening existing initiatives on sustainable agriculture, building on multilateral actions (such as the FAO), regional activities (such as sustainable farming). There is merit in establishing new partnerships on food commodities involving business to make the consumption and production of food commodities more sustainable.

<sup>69</sup> Now is a good time to establish a more robust and coherent international regime on chemicals and hazardous substances and Rio+20 could launch a process to achieve this. Businesses should be involved in the design of such a regime building on their experience of existing initiatives.

<sup>70</sup> All these challenges will involve business in scientific and technological cooperation at the global level and a mechanism for greater global science and research cooperation on societal challenges of global importance should be put in motion.

#### Achieving well-functioning markets

<sup>71</sup> Business should assist in the development of well-designed domestic and regional market-based instruments with a view to reducing emissions at least cost. Such instruments may also play an important role in generating innovative finance.

<sup>72</sup> Financial Institutions should play a strong role, working with private financial institutions to commit to establish green economy financing strategies that can lead to demonstrable results. An important focus of these financing facilities and schemes should be to assist developing countries, vulnerable regions as well as SMEs. Improving governance and stimulating private sector involvement

<sup>73</sup> Better and more efficient global governance is needed to accelerate global action towards a greener and more sustainable economy, greener and more sustainable jobs and to eradicate poverty. As businesses are the engines of the economy, Rio+20 must strengthen and formalize the engagement of business in the variety of partnerships and schemes proposed. The arrangements should address the special needs and realities for employers in developing countries and vulnerable regions, particularly SMEs and should provide opportunities for capacity building between groups in developed and developing countries.

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## International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture (IPSA)

Promoting urban rural linkages for food and nutrition security in the context of the green economy and sustainable governance

Submission to the UN Secretariat from International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture (IPSA)

"Making urban market facilities accessible to regional and local producers will create urban-rural linkages that could slow rural-to-urban migration, stimulate local economic development, and strengthen food security."

- Vision Statement from Gerda Verburg,

Chair of the Seventeenth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development upon successful conclusion of the Session, 15 May 2009

International Partners for Sustainable Agriculture (IPSA) is a civil society organization ([www.practice2policy.org](http://www.practice2policy.org)) that has worked to promote coherent policy that meets good practice in scaling up of agroecological and sustainable agriculture serving small farmers and vulnerable peoples since the first Rio UN Conference on Environment and Development. IPSA worked with sustainable agriculture and rural development (SARD) initiatives led by civil society major groups, supported by governments and facilitated by intergovernmental organizations from the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) through the CSD 16th and 17th sessions in 2008-9.

As a result of Major Group and government collaboration facilitated by IPSA during CSD 17 related to issues of agriculture, land, water, desertification and sustainable development for Africa, recognition was given to the importance of urban rural linkages for food security. In addition to the Chair's Vision Statement cited above the final text calls on governments to "encourage strong rural-urban linkages and partnerships between countryside and communities, to enhance livelihoods and food security".

Since 2009 major conferences hosted by Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), UN Habitat, FAO and other organizations have highlighted the importance of urban rural linkages in the context of a volatile urbanizing world, and transformations to the food system resulting from climate change, economic instability and biodiversity loss. As one of the pillars of sustainable development, agriculture and the food system are necessarily linked to, and part of, the solutions to these challenges.

Food and agriculture systems are instrumental in the greening of the economy and the coming transformation of agriculture demands a multi-level governance response from local to national and international levels. Urban to rural and rural to urban linkages for food and nutrition security, environmental resilience and economic vitality, can bring to the foreground "bundled solutions" to conserve biodiversity, improve land use and natural resource management and adapt to climate change while increasing food security and fostering sustainable diets that reduce non-communicable disease worldwide.

Policy outcomes related to urban rural linkages in the UN Conference on Sustainable Development are:

1. Key roles of local and national governments, collaborating with civil society and the private sector, need to be acknowledged and formally engaged in coming efforts and collaborations.
2. Improvements of the technical competencies of partners to address challenges to food and nutrition security, and to provide educational and policy guidance to national

governments and ministries to enable local urban and rural decision makers and planners are needed.

3. Collaborative strategies for implementing technical and policy support need to be developed in greater detail.

4. Recommending areas of policy support for effective implementation from the global and national levels to engaging local authorities and communities in a more coordinated and systematic manner is also a key step in addressing the challenges of food and nutrition security, agriculture and natural resources management in an urbanizing world.

The elements of greening food and agriculture systems that need to be understood in linking growing cities to both urban and rural landscapes, and the dimensions of approaches in a multi-level governance approach to food system resilience are topics of the recently published multistakeholder FAO paper: Food, Agriculture and Cities: the challenges of food and nutrition security, agriculture and ecosystem management in an urbanizing world. This paper was presented at a side event in the recent 37th session of the FAO Committee on World Food Security (available at <http://www.fao.org/index.php?id=28645>)

IPSA plans to work with Major Group partners, FAO, UN Habitat and interested governments during upcoming intersessional and preparatory meetings for the Rio20 conference. For more information, contact Thomas Forster at [Thomas.Forster@practice2policy.org](mailto:Thomas.Forster@practice2policy.org).

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## International Planned Parenthood Federation

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

At the Earth Summit in 1992 it was agreed that population is inextricably linked to consumption patterns, production, environment and long-term sustainability. As the world's population reaches 7 billion, the issue is more pressing than ever and contributes to the degradation of natural resources already under pressure due to climate changes. At the same time this increases the resilience of society's most vulnerable populations, especially women and children. Therefore, the ability and right of women or couples to choose the number, timing and spacing of pregnancies is a pre-requisite for sustainable development.

It is our expectation that the Rio+20 Outcome document will include a strong focus on the inter-relationship between population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health and rights and sustainable development, especially seen in the context of the effects of climate change, with an emphasis on protecting and promoting the rights, including sexual and reproductive rights, of women and young people.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

It is important to create a comprehensive framework that captures all sustainability challenges facing the world. It is essential therefore, that SDGs include objectives for sustainable consumption and production in the global North, as well as for development issues in the global South. In specific regard to the goals and objectives focusing on the Global North, it is important to set targets that deal with unsustainable consumption and production patterns, as such targets are a prerequisite to enforce global transformation to a green and fair economy. This would also align itself to Agenda 21. In regard to the Global South, it is important to address the lack of implementation of universal rights for the world's poor and marginalized populations. As we are approaching 2015 and the deadline for the MDGs, it is clear that many of the MDGs will not be met in the poorest countries. This is especially the case for MDG 5b "Achieve universal access to reproductive health" which is the MDG furthest off track, but which at the same time is one of the most cost-effective health interventions for reaching sustainable development. Furthermore, it is important that the SDG Framework entails a clear inter-relationship between the social, economic and environmental pillars, and is seen in an adaptation perspective.

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

In agreement with the Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/ NGO we call for full engagement and "involvement of youth, women, and wider civil society in decision-making processes and partnerships, as stressed in Agenda 21, Section 3, is critical to the success of sustainable development initiatives".

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

In agreement with the Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/ NGO we call for full engagement and "involvement of youth, women, and wider civil society in decision-making processes and partnerships, as stressed in Agenda 21, Section 3, is critical to the success of sustainable development initiatives".

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### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Submission by the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) for the Rio+20 compilation document

This submission argues why Rio+20 must recognize the centrality of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) to sustainable development and particularly to the well-being of women and young people in a changing world.

IPPF urges the Rio+20 process and all member states to ensure the conference outcome:

1. Recognizes that SRHR and gender equality are essential components of sustainable development;
2. Highlights the importance of adolescents and young people's access to comprehensive sexuality education in advancing a sustainable development agenda; and,
3. Supports policies and legal measures that will ensure universal access to reproductive health.

#### Introduction and Argument

Human rights and sustainable development both aim to promote well-being and freedom based on the inherent dignity and equality of all people. The 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED – 'Rio Summit') recognized that human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development, and that all people are entitled to a healthy and productive life, in harmony with nature.<sup>i</sup> The principle of sustainable development is to integrate an approach to development that balances social, economic and environmental justice goals. These principles were adopted at the 1992 Rio Summit and reaffirmed at the Johannesburg 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development. However, the implementation of these principles and their integration into national policies and programs continues to receive insufficient attention.

Echoing the 1992 Rio Summit, governments agreed at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) that population and development, human rights, patterns of consumption and production and the environment were inextricably linked and could not be examined in isolation. The ICPD also marked a paradigm shift, focusing on the needs and rights of individuals rather than on demographic targets. It deemed that empowering women and meeting their reproductive health and rights were crucial for both individual advancement and sustainable development. Advancing gender equality and ensuring women's rights and ability to control their own fertility therefore, became cornerstones of population and development policies.

Population variables — including growth rate, household size, population distribution by age and sex, and urban versus rural orientation — all affect the ability of individuals, families and communities to manage their natural resources and to respond appropriately to the impacts of climate change. Population growth, density and migration may place additional pressures on the natural environment by increasing demand for natural resources. This in turn exacerbates environmental problems, including deforestation, land and water shortages and degradation, loss of biodiversity due to habitat destruction and the depletion of natural resources. As such women's empowerment is threatened and stalled by many issues related to environmental sustainability, including the impacts of climate change.

Allowing individuals the ability to realize their sexual and reproductive rights, access appropriate services and avoid unwanted births, leads to the creation of more opportunities for individuals to break the poverty-cycle and take positive steps towards securing a healthier, more educated, economically productive and sustainable present which will not just benefit current generations, but positively impact on those of the future. This is critical to the Rio+20 themes of the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and the institutional framework for sustainable development. It is thus vital that the cross-cutting contribution that sexual and reproductive health services can make towards long term sustainable development is highlighted and prioritized in negotiations leading up to and during the Rio+20 Summit.

Protecting and realising the rights of the most vulnerable and promoting the sexual and reproductive health and rights of poor and marginalized groups must be a cornerstone of efforts to support adaptation to change and seize development opportunities. Intensified efforts to improve sexual and reproductive rights, including rights-based voluntary family planning, should – in helping reduce vulnerability to impact – be a vital component in supporting countries and communities adapt and respond to climate change. The ability of women to control their own fertility and realise their sexual and reproductive health and rights are fundamental to and inseparable from efforts to promote better health, gender equity, economic and political opportunity and sustainable growth – all of which will better equip countries and communities to cope with and respond to the challenges posed by climate change and contribute to sustainable development.

IPPF laments that one of the rights that remains unfulfilled for hundreds of millions of women around the world, and especially for young women, is the right to decide on all the aspects related to their reproduction and their sexuality, including the possibility to avoid a pregnancy through access to contraception. The denial of the right to choose if, when and how many children to have increases human vulnerability to the impacts of climate change. In addition, 1.8 billion young people between the ages of 10 and 24 years are increasingly demanding access to these services and have expressed the desire to have smaller families than their parents, but need family planning to realize this goal. UNFPA estimates that demand for voluntary family planning is expected to increase by about 50 to 75 per cent from 2005-2020 in many developing countries.<sup>ii</sup>

In October 2011 the world's population reached seven billion. This has led to a resurgent interest in discussion on the role of population dynamics, especially in the context of sustainable development and climate change. IPPF acknowledges the evidence that climate change is one of the major threats to human wellbeing, especially for the poor and the most vulnerable sections of the populations in the poorest and most marginalized countries. IPPF also recognizes the scientific evidence that meeting the unmet need for voluntary family planning contributes to ensuring sustainable development,<sup>iii</sup> including the management of climate change and finite resources such as arable land and drinkable water, and can contribute to reducing carbon emissions.<sup>iv</sup> Whilst climate change is a global challenge to which all countries must respond, the primary drivers of climate change - and responsibility for mitigation and the support needed to help poor countries adapt - rest with the more wealthy industrial and new economies as the main generators, consumers and emitters of pollutants contributing to climate change.

IPPF therefore specifically urges the Rio+20 process and all member states to ensure the conference outcome:

1. Recognizes that SRHR and gender equality are essential components of sustainable development;
2. Highlights the importance of adolescents and young people's access to comprehensive sexuality education and SRH services in advancing a sustainable development agenda; and,
3. Supports policies and legal measures that will ensure universal access to reproductive health.

1. Recognize that sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality are essential components of sustainable development

The ICPD Programme of Action recognises that the empowerment of women and women's equity are important ends in themselves and essential for the achievement of sustainable development<sup>v</sup>. Addressing women's reproductive health and rights positively impacts on gender equality, population growth, environmental issues and sustainable development.

Yet the lack of priority accorded to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health continues to perpetuate the inter-generational cycle of poverty and exacerbate gender inequality. Some 215 million women still have an unmet need for safe and effective family planning and are unable to meet this need because they are denied the right to choose the number, timing and spacing of their pregnancies, lack access to the relevant information and services, or the support of their partners and communities. In 2008, an estimated 358,000 women died due to complications developed during pregnancy and childbirth and for every woman who dies a further 20 more suffer injury, infection or disability - approximately seven million women every year.<sup>vi</sup> Ninety nine per cent of this maternal mortality and morbidity occurs in developing countries where resources and

priority for gender equality and sexual and reproductive health services is lacking. Between 2000 and 2008, funding from Official Development Assistance (ODA) for family planning declined from 8.2% to 3.2 % meaning there are now less resources to fund reproductive and maternal health programmes than in the year 2000.<sup>vii</sup>

Climate change and environmental degradation have the greatest impact on poor and vulnerable populations, especially women and young people who often have the fewest resources and are the least resilient to environmental changes and shocks. For example, at the individual level women and girls, who are often responsible for agriculture and supplying water for the household, must work harder and travel further to fulfill their duties,<sup>viii</sup> leaving them less time to spend in school or engage in income-generating activities which would otherwise contribute towards poverty alleviation and long term sustainable development.. Increased environmental degradation may be exacerbated by population dynamics and and climate change. In the absence of appropriate policy measures and investment, consequences could include: an increase in pressure on fresh water availability; an increase in soil degradation/erosion and its negative consequences for agriculture; over-grazing and shortage of land per capita, increased deforestation and more rapid urbanisation.

Women and young girls must be able to make free and informed decisions regarding their fertility which could otherwise negatively impact on their productivity potential as well as ability to participate in these processes. The consequence of this lack of priority for women's empowerment also exacerbates the gradual depletion and deterioration of natural resources which in turn can have a negative impact on population dynamics, economic development and women's empowerment. As highlighted in the Rio Declaration "Women have a vital role in environmental management and development".<sup>ix</sup> Yet for women to be able to participate fully and contribute to sustainable development it is essential to recognize their participation in decision-making processes and governance at all levels including their role as "agents of change".<sup>x</sup>

"Addressing women's reproductive health and rights is a goal in itself. It will in turn positively impact gender equality, population growth, environmental issues and sustainable development."<sup>xi</sup>

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

"Climate change is already undermining the realization of a broad range of fundamental rights for many people – the right to health and even life, rights to food, water, shelter and property, rights associated with livelihood and culture are all affected. Our challenge is to build accountability for human rights into future efforts to address climate change."

Mary Robinson, October 2009

2. Highlights the importance of adolescents and young people's access to comprehensive sexuality education and access to SRH services in advancing a sustainable development agenda

Today, the world has the largest generation of young people in history with the least developed countries having particularly large and rapidly expanding youth populations - sub-Saharan Africa is for example, the "youngest" region in the world with 28 per cent of the population ranging between 12 and 24 years of age.<sup>xii</sup> As young people enter working age, they can significantly contribute to sustainable development. However, they can only do so provided that they benefit from good health and adequate education and meaningful employment.

While everyone has important contributions to make to society, the rights, needs and contributions of young women and girls must be prioritized so as to improve health outcomes and accelerate sustainable development. Yet many young women have only limited opportunities for contributing to their own well-being or to society as they are often denied the right to secondary education and essential health services, including sexual and reproductive health services. Young people account for a disproportionate burden of sexual and reproductive ill health because society continues to deny their needs. This is not only a denial of their individual human rights but also makes it increasingly difficult for many countries to eliminate poverty and achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Empowering young people in this way is critical to achieving their individual development and well-being, and human rights for all. Yet young people remain largely invisible in internationally-agreed development frameworks. As a result, their needs and the realities of their lives are largely ignored. This results in the perpetuation of a cycle of poverty from which it difficult to escape. It is vital, therefore, that any sustainable development agreement takes into account the need and rights of young people to be able to secure a livelihood, good health and good quality of life.

Comprehensive Sexuality Education<sup>xiii</sup> (CSE) helps young people develop awareness about their sexual and reproductive health and rights, strengthen critical thinking skills, acquire the ability to develop healthy relationships and negotiate safer sexual practices, including whether and when to engage in sexual intercourse. However, many young people around the world lack access to CSE, which prevents them from being equipped with the knowledge, attitudes and life skills required to make informed evidence-based decisions. As is known, more and more young women and couples of reproductive age are choosing to have fewer children than the previous generation<sup>xiv</sup>, but are unable to fulfill these desires because of their lack of access to sexual and reproductive health services, information or education. Addressing the sexual and reproductive health and rights of young people is therefore critical if long term sustainable development is to be realized. Investing in education, including comprehensive sexuality education, plays a major role in addressing these concerns along with targeted investment in the provision of and access to sexual and reproductive health supplies, services and information. Nearly 13 million adolescent girls give birth each year in developing countries, most often before they are physically, emotionally or financially prepared to so<sup>xv</sup>. As a result pregnancy is the primary cause of death among teenage girls in developing countries<sup>xvi</sup>. This is not just a major health issue that puts significant pressure on health systems, but also affects girl's resilience and decreases their ability to adapt to the consequences of climate change and degradation of essential natural resources.

If sustainable development is to be realized it is imperative that young women and girls are meaningfully engaged in all levels of decision-making. Sustainable development not only affects their lives today, but the principle of inter-generational equity is a further imperative to ensure their active leadership and engagement with decision-making in the future. In addition to young people's intellectual contribution and their ability to mobilize support, they bring unique perspectives that need to be taken into account.

A girl growing up in Chad today is more likely to die in childbirth than she is to attend secondary school.<sup>xvii</sup>

UNICEF 2010

When a girl in a developing country receives seven or more years of education, she marries four years later and has 2.2 fewer children<sup>xviii</sup>

UNFPA 1990

3. Universal access to reproductive health (MDG5b) is key to sustainable development

The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) serve as the framework for sustainable development, setting social equity goals and targets that contribute to economic development while ensuring environmental sustainability<sup>xix</sup>.

MDG 5 (improve maternal health) is closely inter-connected to all of the MDGs and is at the heart of the MDG framework, and therefore central to sustainable development. For example, reducing maternal mortality strongly affects newborn mortality (MDG4); while MDG 6 aims to combat HIV and AIDS and malaria which are important indirect

causes of maternal mortality. Promoting gender equality and women's empowerment (MDG3) will help achieve MDG 5. And MDG 1 and 2, increasing primary education for girls and eradicating extreme poverty and hunger, are a means to empower women that will again positively influence the achievement of MDG 5. In addition MDG 5 strongly resonates with MDG 7 'ensure environmental sustainability'. This is because enabling people to realize their sexual and reproductive rights, access appropriate services and avoid unwanted births, helps families make informed choices about family size making it more possible to be able to adapt to the changes brought about by climate change. There will also be benefits for the age structure, and it will help reduce levels of urban migration, reduce pressure on existing infrastructure, social services and natural resources, reduce pressure on food and water and their security, improve sustainable use of space and land and enhance women's empowerment and role as resource managers.<sup>xx</sup> Universal access to reproductive health is therefore a central component of any sustainable development strategy. And since 'sustainable development' is the overall theme of the UNCSD it is crucial that MDG 5b - "Achieve universal access to reproductive health" is prioritized if sustainability is to be achieved.

MDG 5 "Improve Maternal Health", aims to empower women and girls to exercise their rights to reproductive health. Later first pregnancy, fewer pregnancies and birth spacing results in healthier pregnancies, and mothers and children are more likely to survive and are less likely to be malnourished or suffer from chronic morbidity. Yet MDG 5 and particularly its target 5b - the main goal of the ICPD - is the most off-track of all MDGs. MDG 5 recognizes that the well-being of women is influenced significantly by the health, knowledge and choices available to them while they are adolescents. Yet alarmingly few low- and middle-income countries are on track to achieve MDG 5. And although the use of contraception has improved during the past two decades in many regions, the unmet need for family planning remains unacceptably high in these countries.

The decrease in funding for MDG 5 is one of the main reasons why the goal is off-track in most developing countries and means there is now less funding for reproductive and maternal health programmes than in 2000, the year the MDGs were adopted. After being neglected for almost a decade, MDG 5 has in recent years experienced an increased focus resulting in a small step forward. But if we are serious about achieving long term sustainable development it is vital that there is support for the attainment of the health MDGs. As highlighted in the Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference<sup>xxi</sup> it is essential that "By 2015, to support attainment of the health MDGs, and to contribute to health, well-being and sustainable development, ensure universal access to health care and services, wherever feasible, free at the point of use for women and children, and including sexual and reproductive health, and thus strengthen the resilience of people and communities to the consequences of climate change and environmental degradation".

"The Millennium Development Goals, particularly the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger, cannot be achieved if questions of population and reproductive health are not squarely addressed. And that means stronger efforts to promote women's rights, and greater investment in education and health, including reproductive health and family planning."

KOFI A. ANNAN (UNSG 1997 - 2006)

"Today, maternal mortality is the slowest moving target of all the Millennium Development Goals – and that is an outrage. Together, let us make maternal health the priority it must be. In the 21st century, no woman should have to give her life to give life."

BAN KI-MOON (UNSG 2006 - )

i Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992; Principle 1

ii UNFPA (2009) Personal communication with S Bernstein

iii Zlotnik, H (2009) Does population matter for climate change? UNFPA Experts Meeting on Climate Change. Population Division, DESA.

iv O'Neill BC et al (2010) Global demographic trends and future carbon emissions. PNAS Early Edition. 11 October 2010. Available at: <http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2010/09/30/1004581107.full.pdf+html>. Accessed 16 May 2011.

v ICPD Programme of Action, Chapter IV, Gender Equality, Equity and Empowerment of Women

vi The World Health Report 2005: Make every mother and child count. World Health Organization, Geneva 2005. [http://www.who.int/whr/2005/whr2005\\_en.pdf](http://www.who.int/whr/2005/whr2005_en.pdf)

vii United Nations Department for Public Information, DPI/2650 E/Rev.1 - September 2010, see: [http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG\\_FS\\_5\\_EN\\_new.pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/MDG_FS_5_EN_new.pdf)

viii Langer, A (2009) Smart Global Investment: Save a Mother's Life. Huffington Post. 28 September 2009.

ix Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992; Principle 20.

x Key Highlights From Bonn Declaration

xi Tellier, S (2010) Addressing Population Growth, Gender, Climate and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights – a Win-Win Situation? Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark: Copenhagen.

xii The World Bank (2008) Youth in Africa's Labor Market: 25

xiii Comprehensive sexuality education is "Education about sexuality and its expressions. It seeks to equip young people with the knowledge, skills, positive attitudes and values they need to determine and enjoy their sexuality – physically, individually and emotionally. Topics include relationships, love and emotions, individual and societal attitudes towards sexuality, sexual roles, gender relations, social pressures, sexual and reproductive rights, information about sexual and reproductive health, services and communication skills training." IPPF, Glossary 2011 available at: <http://www.ippf.org/NR/rdonlyres/5603D072-DA1B-4D86-8CDE-C3028BFE1896/0/IPPGlossary.pdf>

xiv Zlotnik, H (2009) Does population matter for climate change? UNFPA Experts Meeting on Climate Change. Population Division, DESA.

xv UNFPA, State of World Population 2003: Investing in Adolescents' Health and Rights, New York, 2003.

xvi WHO: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs334/en/index.html> [accessed 2 September 2011]

xvii UNICEF, Basic Indicator Statistics. United Nations Children's Fund, New York 2010. [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/chad\\_statistics.html](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/chad_statistics.html)

xviii State of World Population. United Nations Population Fund, New York 1990. [http://www.who.int/child\\_adolescent\\_health/documents/9241593784/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/child_adolescent_health/documents/9241593784/en/index.html)

xix UNDP, Sustainable development and the MDGs, <http://www.undp.org/fssd/crosscutting/sustdevmdg.html>

xx Adapted from Family Care International: Millennium Development Goals and Sexual and Reproductive Health briefing cards available at: <http://www.familycareintl.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/MDG-cards-AN.pdf>



xxi Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference 2, Chair's Text 3, Bonn, Germany, 3-5 September 2011 available at: <http://www.un.org/wcm/webdav/site/ngoconference/shared/Documents/Final%20Declaration/Chair%27s%20Text.pdf>

## International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN)

DRAFT

IPEN Submission

UN Conference on Sustainable Development

Rio+20 June 2012

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input and comment to the UNCSD Secretariat's preparation of the zero draft for the outcome document for adoption by governments at Rio+20.

IPEN

The International POPs Elimination Network (IPEN) was formed in response to the global recognition of the need to eliminate persistent organic pollutants. Since its inception in 1998, IPEN has grown to a global network of over 700 public interest non-governmental organisations (NGOs) from more than 100 countries united in support of the common goal of a 'toxics-free future.' IPEN facilitates the engagement of public interest NGOs in efforts to eliminate POPs and other persistent toxic substances (PTS), and works for a world where exposure to chemicals is no longer a significant source of harm to public health and the environment. IPEN has emerged as a broad-based international chemical safety network with a global reach. It has the ability to translate chemical policy into concrete action on the ground and provides developing country NGOs with a voice at international forums.

This submission was prepared on behalf of IPEN (the International POPs Elimination Network) and its Participating Organizations by:

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Introduction

The chemical industry plays a significant role in the global economy with sales in 2007 of more than three trillion U.S. dollars.<sup>1</sup> A steadily increasing share of the world's chemical production is shifting to developing and transition countries<sup>2</sup> and by 2020 developing countries are expected to lead in highvolume chemicals production.<sup>3</sup> The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has noted rapidly rising import and use of chemicals in developing countries and estimates that by 2020, they could account for one-third of global consumption.<sup>4</sup> Almost all developing countries are increasing their use of pesticides and industrial chemicals, including substances contained in consumer and commercial products such as plastics, paints, adhesives, dyes, metals, and so forth.<sup>5</sup>

To achieve a sustainable future where individuals and societies can truly have green livelihoods, a sustainable chemical industry is essential. Many chemicals still on the market are simply unmanageable and industry can no longer be allowed to outsource its harmful impacts and expect communities to pay the 'costs'. Achieving a sustainable chemical industry is a significant challenge for Rio+20. This submission will address this challenge and identify expectations and desired outcomes of Rio+20.

Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20

Expectation 1 - Taking Stock a Generation On A prime expectation of Rio+20 is a 'taking stock of progress' against the goals and objectives of the previous Rio Earth Summit in 1992 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). It has been a generation since Rio and it is time to both assess progress and reinvigorate the Rio Principles of intergenerational equity, precaution, right to know, polluter pays and participation.

In 1992, governments meeting at the Rio Earth Summit acknowledged that chemical contamination could be a source of "grave damage to human health, genetic structures and reproductive outcomes, and the environment."<sup>6</sup> The subsequent Chapter 19 of Agenda 21 focused on Environmentally Sound Management of Toxic Chemicals, and in particular, the needs of developing countries when faced with the chemical hazards of their rapidly industrialising economies.

<sup>1</sup> International Council of Chemical Associations, ICCA Review 2007–2008, 2009, [http://www.iccachem.org/ICCADocs/01\\_icca\\_review2007\\_2008.pdf](http://www.iccachem.org/ICCADocs/01_icca_review2007_2008.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> OECD, OECD Environmental Outlook to 2030, 2008.

<sup>3</sup> OECD, OECD Environmental Outlook for the Chemical Industry, 2001.

<sup>4</sup> Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, Financing Options for Chemicals and Wastes (UNEP/GCSS.XI/INF8), December 18, 2009, <http://www.unep.org/dec/pdf/chemicalfinancing/k0953863-%20gcxxi-inf8.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Joe Digangi, Civil Society Actions For A Toxics-Free Future, New Solutions, Vol. 21(3) 433-445, 2011

<sup>6</sup> Agenda 21, Chapter 19, Environmentally Sound Management of Toxic Chemicals, Including Prevention of Illegal International Traffic in Toxic & Dangerous Products, Section 19.2 Available at [http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/res\\_agenda21\\_19.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/agenda21/res_agenda21_19.shtml)

Yet, 20 years on, toxic chemicals contaminate all living things, including vulnerable populations such as children and indigenous peoples. Since 1992, many more new

synthetic chemicals have been manufactured and released into the environment, with estimates of over 1,500 new chemicals being introduced each year. Approximately 80,000 are currently in use. The vast majority of pesticides and industrial chemicals have still not been adequately tested for their long term health and environmental impacts, particularly in terms of emerging concerns such as endocrine disruption and the impacts of mixtures of chemicals, which is how they occur in the environment. The little information that does exist is often not available to workers and exposed communities, particularly in developing countries and countries with economies in transition.

The developing world still faces dirty industries setting up in countries with limited capacity and compliance, as well as the escalating threats of ever increasing waste streams and illegal dumping by developed countries. In particular, the quantity of hazardous electronic waste finding its way to developing countries is still growing exponentially.

A generation on, our water, soil, air and food chain are contaminated with toxic persistent chemicals and 'toxic trespass' of our bodies and those of wildlife continues unabated!

It is essential that Rio+20 reviews its past and takes stock of progress against Chapter 19 of Agenda 21. It should also assess the lack of progress in regards to the WSSD 2020 goal and incorporate activities that would address the systematic failings into its outcomes.

To achieve a sustainable future, Rio+20 will need to develop a program to eliminate the toxic legacy faced by countries as a result of unsound chemicals management and provide concrete and measureable deadlines crucial to ensure focus, credibility and public trust.

#### 4. Specific Elements: a. Objectives of the Conference:

##### Reinvigorate Rio Principles and WSSD Objectives Pertaining to Chemicals and Waste

Rio+20 provides an appropriate opportunity to reinvigorate the original Rio principles and WSSD objectives pertaining to chemicals and waste. Chapter 19- "Environmentally Sound Management of Toxic Chemicals"- focused on the generation, harmonisation and dissemination of chemical data, and strengthening capacity for chemical management. It contained specific reference to the right of communities to chemical information and the obligations on industry and governments to generate and provide that information. It was acknowledged that it is in the public interest for the community to be informed, to exercise their right to understand, to make informed choices and to participate in informed decision-making. Informed consumers can help drive cleaner production and reduce the generation of hazardous waste.

Right-to-know was also supported by the Aarhus Convention and the Strategic Approach to International Chemical Management (SAICM), which aimed to ensure that information about chemicals throughout their life cycle, including chemicals in products, was available to all stakeholders.<sup>7</sup> There is a clear acknowledgement that right-to-know is essential to implement the WSSD 2020 goal; "to achieve the sound management of chemicals throughout their life-cycle so that, by 2020, chemicals are used and produced in ways that lead to the minimization of significant adverse effects on human health and the environment."<sup>8</sup>

Despite this, two decades after the Rio Earth Summit, the rhetoric of community right-to-know and access to chemical information still outstrips the reality. In many countries, information on product ingredients is still withheld under commercial confidentiality regimes. While some countries have implemented right-to-know initiatives like the Pollution Release Transfer Registers, their effectiveness is restricted by the limited number of chemicals covered and their dependence on industry estimations. Environmentally sustainable chemical management requires reliable, comprehensive and accessible information, yet legal and regulatory frameworks still often do not allow for an open and equal exchange of information among stakeholders.

The application of the Precautionary Principle is crucial to the assessment of chemicals and new technologies; nevertheless, new and emerging technologies including bio-engineering and nanotechnology have been introduced with little or no oversight or assessment. The principles of substitution and elimination of hazardous substances as envisaged by SAICM, established to implement the WSSD Plan of Action for chemical management, are integral to protection of vulnerable populations, like agricultural workers, indigenous peoples and children.

Rio+20 must reinforce a global commitment to the Rio principles, their implementation by all governments and to the WSSD 2020 goal. These are essential to achieving a sustainable future and green livelihoods.

Rio+20 must reaffirm the central role of sustainable development in the international agenda and revive public trust in sustainable development as a policy that can finally make a positive breakthrough.

It is necessary to acknowledge that certain industries, which cannot fulfill these principles, cannot be part of a sustainable future. Clear criteria need to be developed to encourage sustainable investments into chemical industry that will help to phase out unsustainable chemical production.

<sup>7</sup> SAICM Overarching Policy Strategy, para 15 (b) (i)

<sup>8</sup> Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM), Overarching Policy Strategy, paragraph 13

##### Commitment to the chemical management objectives to ensure intergenerational equity

Two decades after the Rio Earth Summit, babies are born pre-polluted with hundreds of manmade toxic chemicals present in their small bodies. The developing foetus is contaminated by chemicals bio-accumulated in the mother's body and that readily cross over the placental barrier. Newborns take more in through breast milk or formula, and as they grow are exposed to hazardous chemicals through residues in their food, indoor and outdoor air pollution, and through household products and contaminated house dust.<sup>9</sup> Many of the synthetic chemicals they are exposed to are persistent and bio- accumulative, remaining in the human body long after exposure. There are still no regulatory approaches to assess the combined impacts of the chemical soup to which children are exposed.

The unique vulnerability of children to hazardous chemicals was recognised by the Intergovernmental Forum on Chemical Safety, the World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and UNEP<sup>10</sup> when they identified a growing number of children's health impacts from chemical exposure. These include asthma, birth defects, (eg, hypospadias), behavioural disorders, learning disabilities, autism, cancer, dysfunctional immune systems, neurological impairments, and reproductive disorders.<sup>11</sup> The WHO has estimated that three million children under the age of five die every year due to environmental hazards.<sup>12</sup> All children, both in the developing and developed world, are affected by exposure to hazardous chemicals. In 2004, the European Union's Ministerial Conference on Children's Environmental Health concluded that reducing exposure to hazardous chemicals could save the lives of many children.

For Rio+20, to achieve real sustainability, the impacts of our chemical activities, products, and waste on future generations must be addressed in the Rio+20 outcomes. All governments and intergovernmental organisations will need to ensure a long term, sustainable, intergenerational commitment to chemical reform.

<sup>9</sup> Lloyd-Smith, Mariann; Sheffield-Brotherton, Bro, 'Children's Environmental Health: Intergenerational Equity in Action—A Civil Society Perspective.' Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences, Volume 1140, Number 1, October 2008, pp. 190-200(11)

<sup>10</sup> IFCS Children and Chemical Safety Working Group. 2005. Chemical Safety and Children's Health: Protecting the world's children from harmful chemical exposures - a

global guide to resources, October.

<sup>11</sup> UNEP, UNICEF & WHO. 2002. Children in the New Millennium: Environmental Impact on Health. Available at [www.unep.org](http://www.unep.org), [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org) and [www.who.int](http://www.who.int).

<sup>12</sup> World Health Organization / Children's Environmental Health. Available at <http://www.who.int/ceh/en/> Accessed 23/3/2009

#### Specific Elements:

Sound Management of Chemicals to Achieve Sustainable Development In February 2006, Ministers of over 140 governments endorsed the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM) High Level Declaration, which states:

The sound management of chemicals is essential if we are to achieve sustainable development, including the eradication of poverty and disease, the improvement of human health and the environment and the elevation and maintenance of the standard of living in countries at all levels of development. <sup>13</sup>

Many developing and transition countries continue to face burgeoning industrial growth as industries, many of them hazardous, set up where there are few regulations and little capacity to control effluent, air pollution and waste. While there is a global consensus that sound management of chemicals is an integral part of the sustainable development agenda and that an inability to manage chemicals can negatively affect development and poverty reduction initiatives, sound chemicals management has not been successfully integrated into development assistance. Some of the problems stem from limited resources, the multitude of other obligations, and the urgent need to address other global environmental issues such as climate change. However, another obstacle includes the view that chemicals management is an environmental issue not a health and development concern. Hence there is not a strong demand by developing countries to include chemical safety in development assistance. While donor countries insist on country driven programs, there remains a disconnect between chemical safety and the development agenda.

As sound chemical management is essential to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, Rio+20 outcomes must ensure that chemical safety and chemical policy reform occupies a place at the core of the economic and development policy agenda. Rio+20 must recommend that sound chemical management be taken into account while determining the direction of all international development assistance.

In order to achieve this, IPEN offers the following model for Rio+20 activities: In 2007, IPEN collaborated with UNEP Chemical and the SAICM Secretariat to initiate and coordinate the Global NGO SAICM Outreach Campaign. <sup>14</sup> The purpose of the campaign was to raise awareness about SAICM and to secure commitments from NGOs in all regions to undertake efforts to elevate the threats posed by toxic chemicals. The campaign targeted not only environmental NGOs, but also organisations from other sectors including

<sup>13</sup> United Nations Environment Programme, Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management: SAICM texts and resolutions of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, 2006, [http://www.saicm.org/documents/saicm%20texts/SAICM\\_publication\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.saicm.org/documents/saicm%20texts/SAICM_publication_ENG.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> See Global SAICM Outreach Campaign. Available at <http://www.ipen.org/campaign>

health, agriculture and labour. As a result of the campaign, more than one thousand NGOs in over 100 <sup>15</sup> countries endorsed a civil society statement supporting SAICM and its objectives, committing themselves to contribute to the SAICM implementation. The campaign spread the message for the need for chemical management to ensure the protection of human health and the environment but also human rights and national development.

This model could be utilised as an activity from Rio+20 to assist in achieving greater awareness of the role of chemical management in sustainable development.

#### Sound Management of Chemicals to Ensure the Protection of Human Rights

The protection of the environment is a vital part of contemporary human rights doctrines. It affects the right to life and the right to health. The International Court of Justice has found that damage to the environment undermines all human rights spoken of in the Universal Declaration and other human rights instruments. <sup>16</sup>

In 2001, the United Nations Human Rights Committee found that 'living in a pollution-free world is a basic human right' <sup>17</sup> and those who pollute violate these rights. It was noted that, 'human rights cannot be secured in a degraded or polluted environment' and that 'the fundamental right to life is threatened by exposures to toxic chemicals, hazardous wastes, and contaminated drinking water.'

The rise of chronic diseases such as cancer, heart disease, diabetes, degenerative diseases and mental health have all shown to have links to pollution of air, water and/or food. WHO has assessed almost a quarter of all disease is caused by environmental exposure, which can be averted. <sup>18</sup> Their report, 'Preventing disease through healthy environments - towards an estimate of the environmental burden of disease,' shows that in one way or another, the environment significantly affects more than 80% of major diseases.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child <sup>19</sup> recognises the dangers of environmental pollution <sup>20</sup> and places an onus on all parties to ensure the

<sup>15</sup> See <http://www.ipen.org/campaign/signed.html>

<sup>16</sup> Case Concerning the Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros Project (Hungary v Slovakia), 1997 ICJ Rep 7; (25 September; sep op., Judge Weeramantry), 4. ; Also see Per C G Weeramantry J, in his separate opinion in the International Court of Justice's decision in Gabčíkovo-Nagymaros Project (Hungary v Slovakia) 1997 ICJ 97 at 110; 37 ILM 162 at 206 (1998).

<sup>17</sup> Press Release, 27 Apr 2001 'Living In A Pollution-free World A Basic Human Right' Available at <http://www.grida.no/news/press/2150.aspx>

<sup>18</sup> WHO Media Release 'Almost a quarter of all disease caused by environmental exposure' 16 JUNE 2006 | GENEVA Available at <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2006/pr32/en/index.html>

<sup>19</sup> Convention on the Rights of the Child, opened for signature 20 November 1989, 1577 UNTS 3 (entered into force 2 September 1990). Australia ratified the CRC on 17 December 1990.

<sup>20</sup> Article 24 2(c) To combat disease and malnutrition, including within the framework of primary health care, through, inter alia, the application of readily available technology and through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and clean drinking-water, taking into consideration the dangers and risks of environmental pollution;

healthy development of the child, to the maximum extent possible. To achieve this, the epigenetic basis of health and disease must also be considered, for once there is a mutation in a gene, this intergenerational impact cannot easily be remedied. All children have a right to a healthy, toxic-free environment with clean air, clean water and food free from chemical residues, as well as safe and toxic-free toys.

The human rights of indigenous people are also badly affected by chemical contamination. Under the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People 2007,<sup>21</sup> indigenous people have the right to practice and revitalise their cultural practices, customs and institutions; however, the ongoing contamination of the food chain seriously threatens indigenous peoples' right and need to consume traditional foods.

In the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) 2001 preamble, Arctic peoples are given special consideration which acknowledges that the Arctic ecosystems and indigenous communities are particularly at risk because of the biomagnification of POPs in their traditional foods. The blood and breast milk of Arctic peoples are contaminated with the full suite of POPs chemicals and their metabolites. The level of perfluorooctanoate (PFOA), a carcinogen and immunotoxin, is doubling in the Arctic environment every 5 years. Perfluorooctanesulfonate (PFOS), a newly listed POPs chemical with no known breakdown, already contaminates every aspect of the Arctic environment and its inhabitants. Despite this, governments permit the continuation of this pollution by allowing a wide range of acceptable uses and exemptions for PFOS.

Rio+20 outcomes must include active support for activities to reduce chemical contamination to protect basic human rights. They need to facilitate the phase-out of all ongoing uses and exemptions for POPs, which are transboundary, intergenerational poisons that cannot be managed.

Rio+20 must provide a clear pathway for global phase-out of particularly hazardous chemicals, specifically PBTs (persistent bioaccumulative toxins), vPvBTs, (very persistent, very bioaccumulative toxins), genotoxics, carcinogens, chemicals affecting the immune and nervous system, and endocrine disruptors. The SAICM emerging policy issue on endocrine disruptors needs to be supported.

Recommendations for Rio+20 Specific Chemical Safety Activities needed to achieve a sustainable future

- Life Cycle Analysis and Polluter Pays -

To achieve a sustainable future, Rio+20 outcomes must support a move away from the standard risk assessment paradigm to an assessment of the complete life cycle of a chemical, product or activity. Understanding the systems of production, distribution, use, and disposal reveals a more

<sup>21</sup> See United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, GA Resolution 61/295, UN Doc A/61/L.67 (2007) at article 5, 9 and 11

complete view of chemical relationships and where a given chemical may create threats to human health or the environment.<sup>22</sup>

Through a life cycle approach, the full cost of a product or activity can be properly assessed, ensuring extended producer responsibility for all aspects and impacts of the chemical's life cycle. A polluter pays approach is essential, as countries can no longer afford to pay the burgeoning costs of chemical contamination and hazardous waste management in terms of adverse environmental health impacts and the economic imposts on the public purse.

Currently, much of the cost of chemical production, use and waste management has been externalized as costs to governments and society. These encompass legacy issues such as obsolete stockpiles, contaminated sites and children whose development has been impaired as a result of pre- natal and post-natal chemical exposure; others whose health has been injured as a result of chemical exposure, eg, workers; those providing health care services to such people; property owners or users whose property value decreases as a result of chemical contamination; fishers, hunters, small farmers, and others whose livelihoods are impaired by chemical contamination; indigenous peoples whose way of life has been undermined through contamination of their traditional foods; people whose water supply is contaminated; and others.

Externalities of modern industrial agriculture include depletion of water, soil, and biodiversity; pollution by pesticides and fertilizers; loss of livelihoods and knowledge, and the resulting economic and social costs to communities. These externalities retard economic productivity, harm the environment, and impose additional burdens on a country's health delivery and education systems.

While the Polluter Pays Principle and its internalization of costs helps address these impacts, economic instruments that internalize costs of chemicals management have not been widely implemented.

Rio+20 outcomes should provide support for cost internalization mechanisms as an effective method to provide the resources needed to establish infrastructure and foster investment in safer practices and in the substitution of less hazardous chemicals and materials. Rio+20 outcomes must support a cradle-to-cradle approach to product design, giving due consideration to the chemical components and an acceptance of what is not recyclable, should be degradable.

- Substitution and elimination of hazardous substances in consumer products -

In most countries, the consumption of products containing hazardous chemicals is increasing, resulting in a growth in emissions from the

<sup>22</sup> Geiser, K., Redesigning Chemicals Policy: A Very Different Approach, NEW SOLUTIONS, Vol. 21(3) 329-344, 2011

manufacture and use of products as well as a massive growth in the waste generated. SAICM acknowledged fundamental changes are needed in the way products are manufactured, consumed and managed in their waste or recycling phase.

Many low quality products are supplied to and also made in developing countries and economies in transition, including cosmetics, household goods, paints, toys and other goods for children that are contaminated with a range of heavy metals and chemicals. In most cases, no information on contents of hazardous chemicals in products is available to governments or civil society and there remains inadequate public awareness of health risks associated with many products.

Lead content in paint is a pertinent example. Lead levels in paint sold in developing countries are significantly higher than those of developed countries. Lead is renowned for its toxic effects, particularly on children, and the removal of lead from paint is an iconic intergenerational and equity issue, which needs immediate global attention.

While right-to-know about product ingredients will help drive cleaner production, the onus must remain with manufacturers and governments to ensure hazardous substances are eliminated from consumer products and substituted with safer ingredients.

Rio+20 outcomes will need to ensure not only a reduction in product obsolescence but chemical management reforms based on green product design, substitution and the elimination of toxic substances. A primary outcome of Rio+20 outcomes must be a complete phase-out of toxic substances from all children's products, including toys, by 2020.

- Addressing the Toxic Ewaste Trade -

Many developing countries already facing their own domestic waste pressures are experiencing import of hazardous waste, particularly electronic waste, from other countries, including developed countries. The export of old computers to 'bridge the digital divide' is still being used as an excuse for toxic waste dumping on some of the poorest communities and countries in the world. It is estimated that between 50% and 80% of ewaste collected for recycling in the developed countries each year is being exported.

Developed countries have not invested in adequate ewaste recycling/treatment facilities and have not provided adequate legislation, monitoring and compliance to stop the

toxic exports. The lack of adequate infrastructure in developing countries to manage ewaste safely results in the burning of ewaste in open air or dumping in sewers, rivers or on the ground, with global impacts.

The phenomenal growth in ewaste requires that all countries develop sound capacity to prevent, minimise, re-use or recycle materials from ewaste. Active support must be given to green product design to design-out toxic components in electronics, as well as green procurement policies.

To achieve sustainability, Rio+20 outcomes need to support countries and help build capacity for the prevention, management and recycling of ewaste

. Rio+20 should encourage all Governments to ensure prompt ratification and entry into force of the Basel Ban Amendment by 2016 at the latest to assure developing countries are not dumping grounds for external toxic waste.

#### - Hazardous Stockpiles and Destruction Technologies -

Many developing and transition countries have large stockpiles of obsolete pesticides that pose a serious threat to human health and the environment in these countries themselves and in neighbouring countries as well. These legacy stockpiles need an international approach to ensure their destruction using environmentally sound techniques.

In the last decade, the availability of non-incineration destruction facilities has been seriously impaired through a lack of institutional support. While these technologies are still available, the market approach has resulted in the preference for what appears to be cheaper incineration options. This is despite emitting air pollutants and producing toxic ash requiring permanent storage, as well as ongoing public opposition in all continents.

Rio+20 outcomes need to provide support for non-incineration destruction technologies to urgently address the legacy wastes. Rio+20 outcomes must provide awareness-raising and capacity-building for developing countries and countries in transition to help them resist the attempts to push through old incineration technologies.

#### - Ban Highly Hazardous Pesticides -

The agricultural use of pesticides that are highly hazardous to human health and the environment is long overdue for replacement by sustainable alternatives. As part of its commitment to implementing the objectives of SAICM, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has called for the global phase-out of highly hazardous pesticides and has developed criteria to identify them. These include pesticides that are highly acutely toxic (WHO Classes 1a and 1b), carcinogenic, mutagenic, reproductive toxins, those listed under the Stockholm or Rotterdam Conventions, or pesticides with active ingredients and formulations that have shown a high incidence of severe or irreversible adverse effects on human health or the environment.<sup>23</sup>

FAO has also called for the use of these pesticides to be replaced by an ecosystem approach to agriculture based on biological process and the use of

<sup>23</sup> <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/core-themes/theme/pests/pm/code/hhp/en/>

pesticides only as a last resort.<sup>24</sup> This approach echoes that of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, who found that in order to combat hunger and malnutrition, states should implement policies to adopt agroecological practices, as agroecology raises productivity, reduces rural poverty, improves nutrition and contributes to adapting to climate change.<sup>25</sup>

A World Bank report on community managed sustainable agriculture in India found that non-pesticide management of the agro-ecosystem significantly increases farmers' net income, improves household food security and reduces environmental damage.<sup>26</sup> The agroecological approach to agriculture in place of the use of highly hazardous pesticides is also supported by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD);<sup>27</sup> the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in its report on the Green Economy;<sup>28</sup> and the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD), a World Bank initiative in partnership with FAO, UNEP, UNDP, WHO, governments, civil society, the private sector and scientific institutions.<sup>29</sup>

Despite this high level support for replacing hazardous pesticides with an agroecological approach to food production, little progress has been made. Many governments and others continue to believe, despite abundant evidence to the contrary, that chemical-based agriculture is the only way to feed the world. In ignorance, many farmers continue to use highly hazardous pesticides, poisoning themselves, their families, future generations and the environment, usually also diminishing their potential returns and food security.

Rio+20 outcomes must provide a process for the global phase-out of highly hazardous pesticides and endorse and actively support an agroecological approach to agriculture.

#### - Achieving Mercury Phase-Out through a Global Treaty -

The impacts on human health from exposure to mercury are well documented, with children most at risk from its neurotoxicity. The current negotiations need to result in a convention text that covers the full life cycle of mercury in all media, including in products and waste streams. BAT/BEP (best

<sup>24</sup> FAO. 2010. Report of the twenty-second session of the Committee on Agriculture, Rome, 29 November – 3 December 2010. Rome. Also see FAO, 2011. Save and grow: A policymaker's guide to the sustainable intensification of smallholder crop production. <http://www.fao.org/ag/save-and-grow>

<sup>25</sup> Report to UN Human Rights Council, March 2011, by UN Special Rapporteur on Right to Food, Oliver De Schutter: Agro-ecology and the Right to Food)

<sup>26</sup> Kumar TV, Raidu DV, Killi J, Pillai M, Shah P, Kalavadonda V, Lakhey S. 2009. Ecologically Sound, Economically Viable Community Managed Sustainable Agriculture in Andra Pradesh, India. The World Bank, Washington DC.

<sup>27</sup> United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Feb 2011: "Assuring Food Security in Developing Countries under the Challenges of Climate Change: Key Trade and Development Issues of a Fundamental Transformation of Agriculture" [http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/osgdp20111\\_en.pdf](http://www.unctad.org/en/docs/osgdp20111_en.pdf)

<sup>28</sup> UNEP Green Economy report: Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication, 2011 <http://www.unep.org/greeneconomy/v2/GreenEconomyReport/tabid/29846/Default.aspx>

<sup>29</sup> IAASTD: The International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development, 2008. <http://www.agassessment.org/>

available techniques/best environmental practice) should be required for all new and existing release sources, as well as adequate financial and technical assistance for developing and transition countries to assist them in meeting BAT/BEP requirements and other aspects of treaty implementation.

All Parties should be required to develop a national goal consistent with treaty goals for reducing and eliminating its mercury emissions, and implement education, training and awareness-raising with regard to the action plan.

The treaty should address both large and small scale mining and refining operations, and in particular address artisanal small scale gold mining (ASGM). Mercury imports and other sources of mercury supply for ASGM should be banned and measures to prohibit, restrict, or discourage should include child labour. Importantly, all mercury waste must be covered by the treaty.

Rio+20 outcomes should support the development of an effective and comprehensive mercury treaty.

#### - Interaction of Climate Change and Chemicals -

In 2011, UNEP acknowledged that chemical management reform needs to be undertaken in the context of the growing interaction of climate change on chemical releases, transport, degradation, exposure and toxicity.<sup>30</sup> The report by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) Expert Group, 'Climate Change and POPs: Predicting the Impacts,' concludes that higher temperatures increase primary emissions and releases of POPs. Temperature also changes rates of mobilisation from materials, products or stockpiles and alters use patterns, eg, increased demand for disease vector control/DDT. It was demonstrated that increased exposure to POPs also results from secondary re-volatilisation and re-mobilisation from sinks, eg, melting of ice, glaciers and permafrost, flooding of contaminated lands, waste sites and landfills, as well as increase partitioning of POPs from water to atmosphere. There is already evidence of increased remobilization of POPs and heavy metals from glacial and permafrost melt. While enhanced degradation of POPs due to temperature increases is possible, if microorganisms have a higher degradation capacity, this could also lead to increased formation of toxic transformation products.

POPs exposure has direct impacts on individuals and populations, including endocrine effects on reproduction, immunosuppression and epigenetic effects (heritable changes) at cellular level. Temperature has been shown to affect POPs toxicity, and climate change impacts on salinity, ocean acidification, eutrophication and water oxygen levels could (either alone or in combination) enhance the toxic effects of POPs.

<sup>30</sup> Climate change and POPs: Predicting the Impacts, Report of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)/Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme (AMAP) Expert Group, January 2011 Available <http://chm.pops.int>

Rio+20 outcomes must ensure a coordinated and global response to counteract immediate, medium and long-term effects on human health and ecosystems of concurrent exposure to POPs and changing climates.

Rio+20 outcomes should endorse the precautionary approach to guide development of policy actions to address combined negative impacts of climate change and POPs, including support for mitigation activities with co-benefits.

#### - Support for Zero Waste and Recycling and the Removal of Single Use Plastics -

To achieve sustainability, societies and governments must succeed in implementing Zero Waste policies,<sup>31</sup> which requires improvement of product design and content to better ensure the ease and safety of recycling. Industries and governments have argued that recycling costs are in some cases more than the production of new items, but this fails to assess the full costs of the life cycle impacts including the waste phase and the impact on finite resources.

A pertinent example is the cost of plastic marine debris. The plastic 'gyres' of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian oceans are growing as the result of low recycling rates for plastic. Either via direct dumping, river transport or unsecured landfill, waste plastics find their way to the ocean vortices. As plastics do not biodegrade easily in the environment, the amount of plastic in the vortices is increasing substantially. About 250 billion pounds of plastic raw material are produced annually worldwide with unintentional releases to the environment during manufacturing and transport. Plastic pellets are now widely distributed through the world's ocean along with plastic wastes.<sup>32</sup> The plastic accumulates pollutants including nonylphenols, DDE and PCB, which can be up to one million times more concentrated on the surface of the pellets than in the ambient seawater. This high accumulation potential means that plastic resin pellets serve both as a global transport medium and a source of toxic chemicals in the marine environment. Mortality due to plastic ingestion is now common in seabirds, marine mammals and sea turtles. The extent to which the ingestion of hazardous chemical components attributes to wildlife deaths is not available.

To achieve sustainability, Rio+20 outcomes will need, as a priority, to ensure single use plastics are phased-out and provide a clear path to a global reduction of plastic use and disposal.

<sup>31</sup> Zero waste is a philosophy that encourages the redesign of resource life cycles so that all products are reused. SAICM agreement refers to "zero waste resource management, waste prevention, substitution and toxics use reduction, to reduce the volume and toxicity of discarded materials"

<sup>32</sup> Mato, Isobe, Takada, Kahnehiro, Ohtake, and Kaminuma. Plastic Resin Pellets as a Transport Medium for Toxic Chemicals in the Marine Environment Environ. Sci. Technol. 2001, 35, 318-324

#### - Ensure Precautionary Principle and Adequate Assessment is applied to Nanotechnology and Nanomaterials -

In recent years, a wide variety of nanomaterials (substances smaller than 100 nanometers in size) have been added to an increasing numbers of consumer products used in day-to-day life, eg., food packaging, sunscreens, clothing (odor-resistant textiles), pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, agrochemicals, household appliances, and medical devices. This is despite the lack of adequate toxicity assessment, labeling, government regulation or environmental monitoring; and despite the SAICM requirement for publically available information about all stages of a chemical's life-cycle, including in products.

There is huge uncertainty regarding the health impacts and toxicity of nanoparticles.<sup>33</sup> Without mandatory labelling and registration of nano- products, no one, not even governments, knows which products contain nanoparticles. Surveys show that many companies do not conduct risk assessments.<sup>34</sup> Yet both in vitro and in vivo studies have shown that manufactured nanoparticles, now in widespread commercial use, pose new toxicity risks<sup>35</sup> including asbestos-like pathogenicity and the onset of mesothelioma in test mice,<sup>36</sup> and granulomas, lesions, cancer or blood clots.<sup>37</sup> There is evidence that some nanoparticles can cross the placenta, posing particular risks to developing embryos.<sup>38</sup> Nanoparticles have been shown to have a potential for biomagnification and bioaccumulation in the environment,<sup>39</sup> and a recent study provides clear evidence that nanoparticles

<sup>33</sup> Nel A, Xia T, Li N (2006) Toxic potential of materials at the nanolevel. Science Vol 311:622-627; Oberdörster G, et al., (2005). "Principles for characterising the potential human health effects from exposure to nanomaterials: elements of a screening strategy". Particle and Fibre Toxicology 2:8.

<sup>34</sup> Helland A et al., (2008) Risk Assessment of Engineered Nanomaterials: A Survey of Industrial Approaches. Environ. Sci. Technol. 42 : 640–646 ; Helland A. et al., (2008) Precaution in Practice: Perceptions, Procedures, and Performance in the Nanotech Industry. J Ind Ecol 12(3):449-458.

<sup>35</sup> For example see Ashwood P, Thompson R, Powell J. 2007. Fine particles that adsorb lipopolysaccharide via bridging calcium cations may mimic bacterial pathogenicity towards cells. Exp Biol Med 232(1):107-117; Brunner T, et al., (2006) In Vitro Cytotoxicity of Oxide Nanoparticles: Comparison to Asbestos, Silica, and the Effect of Particle

Solubility. *Environ Sci Technol* 40:4374-4381 ; Limbach L, Wick P, Manser P, Grass R, Bruinink A, Stark W. 2007. Exposure of engineered nanoparticles to human lung epithelial cells: Influence of chemical composition and catalytic activity on oxidative stress. *Environ Sci Technol* 41:4158-4163; Long T, Saleh N, Tilton R, Lowry G, Veronesi B. 2006. Titanium dioxide (P25) produces reactive oxygen species in immortalized brain microglia (BV2): Implications for nanoparticle neurotoxicity. *Environ Sci Technol* 40(14):4346-4352.

<sup>36</sup> Poland C, Duffin R, Kinloch I, Maynard A, Wallace W, Seaton A, Stone V, Brown S, MacNee W, Donaldson K. 2008. Carbon nanotubes introduced into the abdominal cavity display asbestos-like pathogenic behaviour in a pilot study. *Nat Nanotechnol*, Published online: 20 May 2008 (doi:10.1038/nnano.2008.111); Takagi A, Hirose A, Nishimura T, Fukumori N, Ogata A, Ohashi N, Kitajima S, Kanno J. 2008. Induction of mesothelioma in p53+/- mouse by intraperitoneal application of multi-wall carbon nanotube. *J Toxicol Sci* 33: 105-116.

<sup>37</sup> Ballestri M, Baraldi A, Gatti A, Furci L, Bagni A, Loria P, Rapana R, Carulli N, Albertazzi A. 2001. Liver and kidney foreign bodies granulomatosis in a patient with malocclusion, bruxism, and worn dental prostheses. *Gastroenterol* 121(5):1234-8; Gatti A. 2004. Biocompatibility of micro- and nano-particles in the colon. Part II. *Biomaterials* 25:385-392; Gatti A, Rivasi F. 2002. Biocompatibility of micro- and nanoparticles. Part I: in liver and kidney. *Biomaterials* 23:2381-2387.

<sup>38</sup> Takeda K, Suzuki K, Ishihara A, Kubo-Irie M, Fujimoto R, Tabata M, Oshio S, Nihei Y, Ihara T, Sugamata M. 2009. Nanoparticles transferred from pregnant mice to their offspring can damage the genital and cranial nerve systems. *J Health Sci* 55(1):95-102.; Tsuchiya T, Oguri I, Yamakoshi Y and Miyata N. 1996. Novel harmful effects of [60]fullerene on mouse embryos in vitro and in vivo. *FEBS Lett* 393 (1): 139-45.

<sup>39</sup> SCENIHR (Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks). 2009. Risk assessment of products of nanotechnologies, 19 January 2009.

can build up in a terrestrial food chain;<sup>40</sup> even in important staple crops like rice where transmission of nanoparticles from plant to seed to the next generation was demonstrated.<sup>41</sup> The potential impacts of these processes on both food safety and the environment are unknown.

The United Kingdom's Royal Society, the world's oldest scientific institution, has recommended that given the emerging evidence of serious nanotoxicity risks, nanoparticles should be subject to new safety assessments prior to their inclusion in consumer products, and the release of nanoparticles into the environment should be avoided as far as possible.<sup>42</sup> Still, the overwhelming majority of nanoproducts are reaching the marketplace without specific safety assessments, and with the workers handling nanoparticles not informed of this fact. No nano-containing products are required to be labeled, and as uses continue to expand, the societal and environmental exposure to nanomaterials, both deliberate and unintentional, will inevitably increase.

Current international efforts, such as the OECD nanomaterials sponsorship program, focus on only a fraction of the nanomaterials already in circulation or nearing commercialization, and are not expected to provide results that can assist risk assessment for some years. It is likely that nanotechnology will do little to redress the systemic causes of poverty, hunger or pollution, and developing countries may even disproportionately bear nano-risks, by hosting manufacturing that wealthy countries reject, or becoming dumping grounds for waste.

Rio+20 outcomes must ensure the precautionary principle is applied throughout the life cycle of manufactured nanomaterials, and that global governance and assessment processes for nanomaterials are transparent, inclusive, equitable and driven by sustainability.

Rio+20 outcomes must ensure consumers' and workers' right-to-know and right-to-choose in respect to nanotechnologies and nanomaterials be respected, as well as a country's right to reject particular applications or uses of nanotechnologies and nanomaterials.

In conclusion -

In this time of increasing globalisation, there is a growing acceptance of the need for a social license and community consent for industrial activities, including new and emerging technologies, to go forward. This is critical for a sustainable future and for the protection of the environment, intergenerational equity and basic human rights. Taking into account Agenda 21 requirements, industries must function within these parameters and have no right to operate

<sup>40</sup> Jonathan D. Judy, Jason M. Unrine, & Paul M. Bertsch, Evidence for Biomagnification of Gold Nanoparticles within a Terrestrial Food Chain, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2011, 45 (2), pp 776-781

<sup>41</sup> Sijie Lin, Jason Reppert, Qian Hu, JoAn S. Hudson, Michelle L. Reid, Tatsiana A. Ratnikova, Apparao M. Rao, Hong Luo & Pu Chun Ke, Uptake, Translocation, and Transmission of Carbon Nanomaterials in Rice Plants, *Communications Cellular uptake* 2009, 5, No. 10, [www.small-journal.com](http://www.small-journal.com)

<sup>42</sup> Recommendations of the Royal Society and The Royal Academy of Engineering, UK (2004). Nanoscience and nanotechnologies. Available at <http://www.royalsoc.ac.uk/>

unless they satisfy social needs and meet the requirements for a safe, toxic- free environment.

With the added pressure on the planet posed by climate change and world population, the limits of sustainability in a 'business as usual' model have been reached. The urgency has never been greater for sound chemical management, environmental protection and social justice. If a sustainable future is to be possible, the protection of our global commons and, in particular, our shrinking resources of clean air, water and soil, is paramount.

While communities and civil society view a social license in terms of a dynamic, ongoing relationship between companies, government, stakeholders and communities, many regulators still see a 'social license' in terms of a formal permission linked to the regulator granting the 'license.' This is simply not adequate. There are many worrying examples of the failure of this model, for example, in many parts of the world, mining activities and the search for unconventional gas (shale gas, coal seam gas) has resulted in companies undertaking activities that contaminate the global commons and the life support systems on which we all depend. Regulation has not stopped the intentional release of vast quantities of unassessed industrial chemicals into waterways, aquifers and airsheds. The time when an industrial activity can be undertaken purely for profit or economic growth has gone. Sustainable futures depend on access to clean water, soil, air, food and products as well as the right to be protected against toxic trespass. These are basic inalienable human rights for all peoples of the planet and to ensure and protect them is the real challenge for Rio+20.

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## International Rivers

October 2011

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012 offers an opportunity for world leaders to confront the challenges of natural resource depletion, poverty and climate change in an integrated way. With bold thinking and concrete commitments, Rio+20 could help transform the global economy to one that promotes equity, sustainability and security. It could facilitate a shift in investment away from destructive, outdated technologies towards innovative, pro-poor, sustainable solutions to meet the world's food, water and energy needs. International Rivers welcomes the opportunity to provide input into this critical process and offers the following comment and recommendations on the conference's Green Economy theme.

#### Executive Summary

Poor and marginalized communities are especially dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods. Therefore, sustainably managing, conserving and valuing these natural assets while meeting the world's food, water and energy needs is essential to reducing poverty. The impacts of climate change, particularly on water, will make sustainable-development challenges more acute. Water, energy and food security in a warming world will require major improvements in water-use efficiency, sustainable agricultural intensification, and in decentralized techniques that are flexible and adaptable. Small-scale, bottom-up water and energy projects offer win-win solutions in terms of efficient and low-impact water supply, strengthened food security, improved access to energy, and enhanced resilience to climate change. They include local check dams, other water harvesting techniques, mechanic treadle pumps, drip irrigation, the system of rice intensification, as well as wind, small hydro, solar and geothermal energy technologies. These projects empower poor people, enhance their livelihood security, promote climate resilience and have an impressive track record. If adapted to local circumstances and backed with the necessary legal, scientific and financial support, bottom-up approaches can be scaled- up significantly. Future development strategies need to move away from energy and water projects that depend on stable climatic conditions and subsidies for environmentally and socially harmful technologies must urgently be phased out. Avoiding the errors of the past will require the application of participatory planning and decision-making processes as well as strict, mandatory social and environmental standards. The guidelines that have been recommended by the World Commission on Dams (WCD) are the most appropriate framework for decision making on water and energy projects.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See World Commission on Dams (2000), pp. 195ff.

#### Green Economy: Food, Water and Energy Security in a Changing Climate

Sustainable strategies for meeting food, water and energy needs while conserving natural capital must be central to a green economy that seeks to eradicate poverty. Poor and marginalized communities are especially dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods. Therefore, sustainably managing, conserving and valuing these resources and the services they provide is a necessary pre-condition for achieving global targets to reduce poverty. Without a reversal of current trends that favor natural capital depletion by, in part, failing to value ecosystem services and subsidizing unsustainable activities, poverty eradication will remain an elusive goal.

The threat posed by climate change exacerbates the challenges of addressing food, water and energy needs of a growing population. Some of the worst impacts of climate change on both people and ecosystems will be felt through its impacts on water. Rivers, the lifelines of our planet, are already experiencing a higher rate of species extinction than any other major ecosystem. Climate change will compound the problems caused by large dams and other water infrastructure for species as well as for people who depend on rivers for their livelihood. Additionally, more extreme floods will threaten the safety of existing infrastructure, and unprecedented droughts will reduce the hydropower and water supply services that dams are built to provide. A new paper in the scientific journal, PLoS Biology, found that "particularly for large [water] infrastructure projects, the risks for investors, communities, and ecosystems are extremely high given uncertainties in future hydrological conditions". It concluded that "climate-infrastructure mismatches may make poor nations even poorer".<sup>2</sup> Water security in a warming world will require major improvements in water-use efficiency and in decentralized techniques such as rainwater harvesting and improved groundwater management. These low-impact solutions allow more flexible responses to changing rainfall and streamflow patterns than large centralized infrastructure projects.

It will be essential to intensify agriculture and improve water security to meet the water, energy and food security challenges of the future. Yet intensification should not be equated with an increase in chemical inputs and traditional irrigation techniques, just as water security should not be equated with big dams and centralized reservoirs. Organic and sustainable agriculture practices should be expanded as much as possible. Decentralized, smallscale water and energy projects offer win-win solutions in terms of efficient and low-impact water supply, strengthening food security, improving access to energy, and strengthening resilience to climate change. These projects empower poor people and enhance their livelihood security.

Fortunately, solutions that integrate water, food and energy security with climate resilience exist. They include a wide spectrum of small, decentralized, bottom-up approaches such as local check dams, other water harvesting techniques, mechanic treadle pumps, drip irrigation, and the system of rice intensification (SRI). Combining traditional knowledge and innovative techniques, these approaches rely on farmers' initiatives, use water efficiently, cost less than

<sup>2</sup> Matthews JH, Wickel BA, Freeman S (2011) Converging Currents in Climate-Relevant Conservation: Water, Infrastructure, and Institutions. PLoS Biol 9(9): e1001159. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1001159.

large dams, enhance the food security of the poor, and typically help conserve our natural wealth. Similarly, a diverse mix of decentralized renewable energy projects – including wind, small hydro, solar and geothermal – can strengthen our resilience to climate change, improve energy access for the rural poor, and minimize negative environmental impacts.

Bottom-up solutions have an impressive track record. For example, SRI increases yields and makes the rice crop more resilient to climate change through reduced use of water, fertilizer and pesticides, but increased attention to soil biology. SRI methods have been validated in 42 countries in tropical, subtropical and moderate environments and across dry and humid climates.<sup>3</sup> SRI has typically shown marked increases in rice yields of 50-100%, water savings of usually 25-50%, cost savings of 10-20%, strengthened resistance to pests and diseases, and improved resilience to the stresses of extreme weather events linked with climate change.<sup>4</sup> The methods of SRI have also been extended to the growing of wheat, sugar cane and several other crops. Making use of labor, the one factor that poor farmers typically control, they have strengthened food security and resilience to climate change while simultaneously reducing the need for water inputs.

Water supply initiatives, such as the small check dams that the Tarum Bharat Sangh (TBS) has pioneered, have revived several rivers and brought prosperity to arid regions throughout Western India. In Rajasthan, supplying water from the check dams promoted by TBS costs \$2 per person, whereas water supply from the massive Sardar Sarovar multipurpose dam costs approximately \$200 per person. The simple treadle pumps that International Development Enterprises (IDE) developed have also cost-effectively lifted millions of farmers out of poverty. Irrigating a hectare of land from the Sardar Sarovar Project costs \$3,800 but only \$120 using the treadle pumps promoted by IDE.<sup>5</sup> UNDP's 2006 Human Development Report on water security strongly supports such a soft, decentralized approach to water infrastructure and food security. It estimates that with an initial investment of \$7 billion, extending Gujarat's check dams all across India's rainfed farming areas could raise the value of the country's monsoon crop from \$36 billion to \$180 billion a year.<sup>6</sup>



## Enabling Conditions

Building decentralized, small-scale water infrastructure not only improves the access of the poor to water, but also makes the water sector more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Yet these approaches have so far only received a minuscule proportion of the aid, investment and political support that large water and energy projects receive. If adapted to local circumstances and backed with the necessary legal, scientific and financial support, bottom-up approaches can be scaled-up significantly. Local communities and small farmers deserve legal rights to the land and water that they have worked with for generations. Small

<sup>3</sup> See Uphoff Norman (2011), The System of Rice Intensification: An Alternate Civil Society Innovation, in: Technikfolgenabschätzung – Theorie und Praxis, July 2011, pp. 45-52, p. 47.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> See International Rivers Network (2006), Spreading the Water Wealth: Making Water Infrastructure Work for the Poor, pp. 2ff.

<sup>6</sup> UNDP (2006), Human Development Report 2006, Beyond Scarcity: Power, Poverty and the Global Water Crisis, p. 196.

farms and rainfed agriculture require research support on the same scale that was poured into the green revolution. Decentralized renewable energy options deserve priority over fossil fuels and large dams if development aid is to reduce energy poverty in a sustainable manner. Projects that address the nexus of water, energy and food security should be focused at the local level.

Future development strategies need to move away from harmful technologies that depend on stable climatic conditions. A recent World Bank report warns that “long-lifespan infrastructure, such as hydropower plants, is generally less adaptable” to climate change.<sup>7</sup> In addition to their often significant environmental and social impacts, large, centralized water and energy projects tend to prioritize the needs of urban centers, industry, and export markets. In comparison, small, decentralized and diversified renewable energy projects are more effective at providing access to electricity to the poor, safeguarding the environment, and strengthening resilience to climate change.<sup>8</sup> In many cases, renewable energy projects are not more expensive than large, conventional energy technologies, with the added benefit of not externalizing social and environmental costs. Subsidies for environmentally and socially harmful technologies must be phased out.

While decentralized, cost-effective approaches to water and energy supply and food security have huge potential, building large dams and other centralized water and energy projects may still be appropriate under certain conditions. Avoiding the errors of the past will require the application of participatory planning and decision-making processes as well as strict, mandatory social and environmental standards. The guidelines that have been recommended by the World Commission on Dams (WCD) are the most appropriate framework for decision making on water and energy projects.<sup>9</sup> This will include thoroughly assessing all available options; recognizing affected and, in particular, indigenous peoples’ land rights; sharing benefits; and addressing the unresolved problems of existing projects.

## Recommendations

- Before any water and energy programs and projects are initiated, national governments and intergovernmental organizations should carry out comprehensive, balanced and participatory assessments of all needs and options. These assessments should integrate social, environmental and economic aspects with equal weight.
- Given the perverse incentives and vested interests favoring new projects over efficiency improvements and restoration of existing infrastructure, national governments, parliaments and intergovernmental organizations should make low-impact solutions such as mechanic treadle pumps, drip irrigation, decentralized rainwater harvesting and groundwater recharging, the use of underground storage, decentralized renewables, the restoration of existing infrastructure and the installation of hydropower components at

<sup>7</sup> World Bank ESMAP (2011), Climate Impacts on Energy Systems, Key Issues for Energy Sector Adaptation, Jane Ebinger and Walter Vergara, 2011, p. 58.

<sup>8</sup> For the risks of centralized hydropower projects in terms of climate resilience, see World Bank ESMAP (2011), Climate Impacts on Energy Systems, Key Issues for Energy Sector Adaptation, Jane Ebinger and Walter Vergara, 2011, pp. 48, 58, 93.

<sup>9</sup> See World Commission on Dams (2000), pp. 195ff.

existing irrigation facilities an explicit priority of their agriculture, water and energy sector policies to improve access and security.

- Strengthening water, energy and food security for the poorest population groups requires a shift of financial resources, research and institutional support from large, centralized projects to decentralized, small-scale projects that can be managed at the local level. National governments and parliamentarians should redirect resources from international financial institutions to civil society organizations and others that are able to effectively support local-level initiatives.
- Intergovernmental organizations, national governments and parliaments should explicitly acknowledge and guarantee the customary and formal rights of local communities to their land, water, forests and other resources in their infrastructure strategies. This includes the right of indigenous peoples to free, prior informed consent (FPIC) regarding projects on their lands.
- Public and private financial institutions should establish or strengthen mandatory social and environmental standards to guide project selection and implementation. These standards should include evaluations of the risk that climate change poses to a proposed project as well as the expected impact of the project on climate change.
- A global initiative for universal energy access by 2030 should be carried out, with energy efficiency and decentralized renewable options – which are more effective at expanding energy access for the poor than centralized large dams – as top priorities.

## International Road Assessment Programme (iRAP)

Sustainable Mobility at Rio+ 20

A submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development by the international Road Assessment Programme ([www.irap.org](http://www.irap.org))

1. Sustainability of life and development on this planet requires the prevention of actions that destroy life. With over 1.3 million people killed and 20-50 million people injured every year on the world’s roads the elevation of road safety as a global development priority is essential. Unsustainable mobility contributes negatively to the environment, our climate and poverty eradication.

2. Sustainable and safe mobility will enhance life and directly improve the quality of life for millions of affected people in every community across the world. Safer roads and mobility must become a priority goal of the international community and action accelerated as part of the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020.

3. All forms of sustainable development and poverty eradication require sustainable mobility to enable progress. Mobility for goods and services to link suppliers with markets; access of people to employment, health services and market opportunities. Without sustainable mobility, sustainable development will not be possible.
4. Meeting mobility needs worldwide is currently unsustainable. Crashes predominately impact the young and economically productive members of society. "Unless immediate and effective action is taken, road traffic crashes are predicted to become the fifth leading cause of death in the world, resulting in an estimated 2.4 million deaths each year."<sup>1</sup>
5. Road traffic fatalities are preventable. Safe vehicles on safe roads at safe speeds with safe road users and effective post crash care will eliminate road crashes as a major cause of death. This will unlock the estimated 2-5% of GDP that is lost every year as a direct result of road crashes. The significant burden on hospitals will be lifted and the long term social and financial impacts on families who need to survive after the loss of the income earner or while supporting a permanently injured family member will be avoided.
6. More than half of the world's road deaths occur on less than 10% of roads. The international Road Assessment Programme (iRAP) is a registered charity with the vision for a world free of high risk roads. The elimination of one and two star iRAP roads (the lowest two safety ratings out of a five star standard) with high return proven improvements has the potential to save one in every three fatalities and serious injuries on both urban and rural road networks.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety [http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade\\_of\\_action/en/](http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/en/)

7. iRAP programmes are now active in over 60 countries and are typically lead by the Government and/or FIA affiliated automobile club in that country. 55% of all roads assessed by iRAP globally are currently one or two star. Death rates are estimated to halve for each star rating improvement achieved.
8. iRAP estimates that the elimination of high risk one and two star roads has the potential to reduce road death and injuries by more than 1,700,000 every year. This equates to an economic benefit of US\$250 billion every year and a discounted benefit of over US\$3,700 billion over the twenty year life of the road upgrades. The potential benefits are highlighted in the table below.<sup>2</sup>

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this image\]](#)

<sup>2</sup> McInerney, Turner, Smith (2010), A world free of high risk roads, ARRB Conference Proceedings, Melbourne, Australia

9. Together with sustainable mobility policies that encourage travel demand management and shifting to more sustainable urban transport modes, a world free of high risk roads will have direct benefits to environmental outcomes. This must be connected with safe urban transport provision for pedestrians (e.g. minimum four star iRAP standard for pedestrians in high use areas) to ensure shifts to public transport do not lead to an additional increase in global road deaths.
10. Rio+20 must address sustainable mobility as a priority issue to address sustainable development and poverty eradication. Sustainable mobility and safer roads must be part of the institutional framework to support sustainable development and the millennium development goals.
11. The United Nations Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety<sup>1</sup> must be elevated to a key global priority and resourced to achieve the desired outcomes of removing road death as a leading cause of death and injury and a by-product of unsustainable development.

Further Details

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[www.irap.org](http://www.irap.org)

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## International Union of Railways (UIC)

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

3.1 The UIC has been involved in many different UN conferences and discussions (including for example the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, through to the 19th session of the UNFCCC COP meetings).

3.2 In our view the output documents from many such conferences lack a clear focus on concrete actions that national governments and international institutions should take to deliver sustainable development. Where action plans have been created (e.g. Agenda 21), it is not clear who is holding governments to account for the delivery of these plans.

3.3. With these points in mind, we propose that the Outcome document for Rio+20 should be structured in the following way:

Section 1: Objectives

This section should be divided between specific sustainable development objectives (e.g. goals on the Green Economy; Access to Information, etc) and objectives on Institutional Reform.

## Section 2: How these Objectives will be met

For objectives on specific issues, e.g. the Green Economy, the Outcome document

should describe the process by which these objectives will be reached. For example, how roadmaps be developed to meet the objectives, and national governments will come together to assess progress.

For objectives concerning Institutional Reform, the Outcome document should already be able to provide a clear roadmap on how these reforms will be implemented.

3.4 These two sections will have some overlaps – for example, it may be necessary to reform the UN CSD process to accommodate the goals reached in the Rio+20 conference. The document should also have a section on how to measure the results and check if the objectives have been met.

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### **b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

3.5 UIC supports the concept of the Green Economy, however it is crucial that the question of transportation is included in this debate. There must be a discussion on how we can accommodate people's need for greater mobility, and the transportation of goods, with environmental constraints. From our perspective, railways, and public transport in general, must play a greater role in both emerging and developed economies, to offer transport solutions with comparably lower environmental and social costs than road and air transport.

3.6 We would also like to briefly comment that from our long experience in UN negotiations and conferences, it is quite clear that there is an urgent need for a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, both globally and regionally.

3.7 We hope that Rio+20 to achieve this, and in our own way we will contribute to this goal by encouraging and supporting railway organizations around the world to embrace the concept of sustainable development and incorporate it into their business operations.

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### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

3.8 The UIC is accredited to ECOSOC and is a member of the Business and Industry Major Group. From our experience of being involved in the process we have found the Major Group process relatively effective as we can find consensus and make statements in partnership with colleagues from other sectors.

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### **d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

3.9 The UIC would like to see a stronger and more prominent role for UN CSD, to allow this unit of the United Nations to track the implementation of sustainable development at the national level.

3.10 The UIC would urge the Rio+20 Secretariat to conduct a "mapping" exercise to highlight all the United Nations agencies, departments and institutions currently playing a role in Sustainable Development (e.g. UN CSD, UNEP, UNDP etc) and assess which of these should be the lead partner with a coordinating role. Currently, from the point of view of a neutral observer, it can seem as if the various sections of the UN are competing with each other to take a lead on Sustainable Development.

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## **Specific Elements**

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

4. Specific Elements:

a. Objective of the Conference:

4.1 The UIC proposes that the Outcome theme should include a sectoral initiative for the transportation sector. More specifically, we would recommend that the Outcome Document contain a "Challenge to Transport", constructed in the following way:

a)Challenge to each transport mode

The Rio+20 Outcome Document should challenge the global representatives of the motorized transport modes (e.g. UIC, IATA, IRF, IRU) to present, within 1 year of publication, a comprehensive roadmap for sustainable development for their mode.

The UIC already has a global sustainability initiative – our Declaration on Sustainable Mobility and Transport, which has been signed by 49 of our 200 members. A copy of the Declaration is attached. More information can be found here: <http://www.uic-sustainability.org/spip.php?article76>

b)Multi-Modal Challenge

The Rio+20 Outcome Document should challenge the global transport organizations to produce a joint action plan for improving multi-modal cooperation in the interests of sustainable development worldwide. This should also be produced within 1 year of the Rio+20 conference.

4.2 This concept of a "Challenge" could be introduced for other sectors too, and coordinated via the Business Action for Sustainable Development 2012 (BASD 2012).

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

Please see paragraph 3.5

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

Please see paragraphs 3.9 and 3.10

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

No specific remarks.

Paris, 24th October 2011

UIC Input to the Rio+20 Compilation Document

This is the submission of the UIC (International Union of Railways) to the Rio+20 compilation document. UIC is an accredited member of ECOSOC and regularly participates in UNCSD activities as a member of the Major Group – Business and Industry. This submission follows the structure proposed in the guidance document for submissions.

3. General Content

a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

3.1 The UIC has been involved in many different UN conferences and discussions (including for example the World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002, through to the 19 th session of the UNCSD in 2011 and many UNFCCC COP meetings).

3.2 In our view the output documents from many such conferences lack a clear focus on concrete actions that national governments and international institutions should take to deliver sustainable development. Where action plans have been created (e.g. Agenda 21), it is not clear who is holding governments to account for the delivery of these plans.

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b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

3.5 UIC supports the concept of the Green Economy, however it is crucial that the question of transportation is included in this debate. There must be a discussion on how we can accommodate people's need for greater mobility, and the transportation of goods, with environmental constraints. From our perspective, railways, and public transport in general, must play a greater role in both emerging and developed economies, to offer transport solutions with comparably lower environmental and social costs than road and air transport.

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3.7 We hope that Rio+20 to achieve this, and in our own way we will contribute to this goal by encouraging and supporting railway organizations around the world to embrace the concept of sustainable development and incorporate it into their business operations.

c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

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d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

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#### 4. Specific Elements:

##### a. Objective of the Conference:

4.1 The UIC proposes that the Outcome theme should include a sectoral initiative for the transportation sector. More specifically, we would recommend that the Outcome Document contain a "Challenge to Transport", constructed in the following way:

##### a) Challenge to each transport mode

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The Rio+20 Outcome Document should challenge the global transport organizations to produce a joint action plan for improving multi-modal cooperation in the interests of sustainable development worldwide. This should also be produced within 1 year of the Rio+20 conference.

4.2 This concept of a "Challenge" could be introduced for other sectors too, and coordinated via the Business Action for Sustainable Development 2012 (BASD 2012).

##### b. Green economy

Please see paragraph 3.5

c. Institutional framework for sustainable development: Please see paragraphs 3.9 and 3.10

d. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes No specific remarks.

I hope this input is useful, and the UIC wishes the UN all best wishes for the Rio+20 conference.

Alexander VEITCH

Head of Unit – Sustainable Development

Attachment: Declaration on Sustainable Mobility and Transport

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## Internationale Touaregue

### CONTRIBUTION DE L'ONG INTERNATIONALE TOUAREGUE POUR RIO+20

«On aurait continué à garder le silence, si, de ce qu'on le gardait, plusieurs personnes n'avaient conclu qu'on y était réduit.» Montesquieu, De l'Esprit des lois, II

Sur la question de la gouvernance mondiale :

1-La participation de la société civile

Rappelant que l'article 38.5 de l'Action 21, sur l'importance de la participation active des ONG

Rappelant l'article 38L de l'Action 21 sur les moyens de rendre efficace la participation des ONG

Rappelant le chapitre 27 de l'Action 21 sur le renforcement du rôle des organisations non gouvernementales

Rappelant la reconnaissance et le renforcement du rôle des peuples autochtones et de leurs communautés, énoncé au chapitre 26 de l'Action 21 Notant que la gouvernance mondiale souffre d'un déficit démocratique certain s'agissant de la participation active des ONG

Recommande :

(a) La fusion de la CDD avec l'ECOSOC pour devenir un conseil économique, social, culturel et environnemental ECOSOCE, qui serait renforcé par une Charte de l'environnement

(b) L'attribution à ce nouveau Conseil des compétences en matière environnementale, quant au suivi des normes juridiques internationales.

(c) Que plutôt que la création d'un forum permanent à l'instar de l'UNFPII, présentant les risques d'une expression trop parallèle, d'intégrer directement les ONG accréditées ECOSOCE dans les négociations internationales relatives à l'environnement

(d) Que la représentativité des différents modes de vie des peuples (peuples sédentaires ou mobiles), à travers leurs ONG soit garantie

2-Sur l'opportunité d'une Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement et d'une juridiction internationale spécialisée

Rappelant que l'idée d'une Organisation Mondiale de l'Environnement a émergé avec la Conférence de Rio de juin 1992

Rappelant que le Conseil d'administration du PNUE, réuni du 21 au 24 février 2011 en forum ministériel mondial sur l'environnement a adopté et transmis au Comité préparatoire dans le contexte de la préparation de RIO+20 la création d'une OME, « comme option privilégiée ».

Aussi nous recommandons :

(a) La création de l'Organisation de Mondiale de l'environnement OME, son siège serait en Afrique, nous proposons Accra, capitale du Ghana

(b) Cette organisation aurait pour but d'amener tous les peuples à pouvoir vivre dans un environnement sain d'un niveau le plus élevé possible, par des dispositifs permettant la protection de la nature.

(c) L'Organisation pour atteindre son but exercera les fonctions suivantes :

- L'organisation aura une autorité de direction et de coordination dans le domaine de l'environnement et du développement durable

- Etablir et maintenir une collaboration effective entre les différentes parties prenantes dans le respect de la démocratie environnementale.

- Fournir l'assistance technique appropriée et dans les cas d'urgence, fournir l'aide nécessaire, certes à la requête des gouvernements, mais aussi via tout autre système d'alerte

- Fournir et aider à fournir les Nations Unies une assistance dirigée aux groupements spéciaux tels que les peuples autochtones et particulièrement les peuples mobiles.

- Stimuler en coopérant au besoin avec d'autres institutions spécialisées et les ONG, des mesures propres à prévenir les dommages environnementaux

- Proposer des conventions, accords et règlements, faire des recommandations concernant les questions internationales en matière environnementale

- Aider à former les peuples à une opinion éclairée en ce qui concerne l'environnement

- Favoriser tous les modes de vie, notamment ceux se rapportant à l'établissement et la préservation de relations harmonieuses entre l'homme et son environnement, comme par exemple ceux des peuples autochtones

- Renforcer la gouvernance au niveau régional et local

- Mettre en place un mécanisme de règlement des conflits environnementaux, plus particulièrement une procédure de référé

- Restaurer les terres dégradées ou à défaut prévoir une compensation en regard des dégradations environnementales causées par les industries ou l'agriculture intensive

- Pour cela, créer une cour internationale de l'environnement

- Cette cour pourrait se décliner au niveau national, et être compétente pour des questions préjudicielles en matière d'environnement

- La saisine de cette cour internationale doit être ouverte aux Etats, et ONG spécialisées dans le domaine de l'environnement.

- Sans qu'il puisse être objecté la question de la spécialité, les organisations autochtones accréditées pourront saisir cette cour

3-La place des entreprises et leur responsabilité en matière environnementale

Ce serait une gageure de traiter les questions environnementales sans intégrer la question de l'implication des entreprises. Le monde des entreprises est une partie prenante au même titre que les états et la société civile. Pour autant, il est parfois difficile de ne pas considérer que les états et les entreprises ne sont en fait pas qu'une seule et même partie prenante, d'autant que certains états sont actionnaires de ces entreprises.

Ainsi, rappelant la déclaration de Stockholm des 5-16 juin 1972 et plus particulièrement ses affirmations selon lesquelles « l'Homme a un droit fondamental à la liberté, l'égalité et à des conditions satisfaisantes dans un environnement dont la qualité lui permette de vivre dans la dignité et le bien être », et « tous, citoyens et collectivités, entreprises et institutions, à quelque niveau que ce soit, assument leurs responsabilités et se partagent équitablement les tâches ».

Rappelant aussi les principes de la déclaration de Rio et plus particulièrement le Principe 13 qui pose que « Les Etats doivent élaborer une législation nationale concernant la responsabilité de la pollution et d'autres dommages à l'environnement et l'indemnisation de leurs victimes. Ils doivent aussi coopérer diligemment et plus résolument pour développer davantage le droit international concernant la responsabilité et l'indemnisation en cas d'effets néfastes de dommages causés à l'environnement dans des zones situées au-delà des limites de leur juridiction par des activités menées dans les limites de leur juridiction ou sous leur contrôle ».

Rappelant la résolution de l'Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies du 11 décembre 1987 indiquant que "la notion de développement durable... devrait devenir le principe

directeur fondamental pour ... les institutions, organisations et entreprises privées".

Rappelant le Plan de mise en œuvre du Sommet mondial pour le développement durable (§140 f) sur la nécessité de « Promouvoir la responsabilité des entreprises, leur obligation de rendre des comptes et les échanges des meilleures pratiques au regard du développement durable, y compris, lorsqu'il convient, par des dialogues multipartites... ».

Rappelant La déclaration de Johannesburg sur le développement durable et particulièrement son § 27 souligne que « dans le cadre de ses activités légitimes, le secteur privé dans son ensemble, c'est-à-dire les grandes entreprises comme les petites, a le devoir de contribuer à l'émergence de communautés et de sociétés équitables et durables »

.Rappelant les principes directeurs de l'OCDE dans chapitre VI sur l'environnement « Les entreprises devraient, dans le cadre des lois, règlements et pratiques administratives en vigueur dans les pays où elles opèrent, et eu égard aux accords, principes, objectifs et normes internationaux pertinents, tenir dûment compte de la nécessité de protéger l'environnement, la santé et la sécurité publiques, et d'une manière générale, de conduire leurs activités d'une manière qui contribue à l'objectif plus large de développement durable »

rappelant la Déclaration des nations unies dans son article 29 «1. Les peuples autochtones ont droit à la préservation et à la protection de leur environnement et de la capacité de production de leurs terres ou territoires et ressources. À ces fins, les États établissent et mettent en œuvre des programmes d'assistance à l'intention des peuples autochtones, sans discrimination d'aucune sorte. »

nous recommandons :

(a) de rendre contraignant dans le cadre des Nations Unies, les principes directeurs de l'OCDE impliquant des mécanismes de contrôle

(b) afin d'éviter le « law shopping » ou « forum shopping », les conventions régionales doivent pouvoir s'appliquer pour les activités extra-régionales des entreprises. Ainsi la Convention d'Aarhus doit pouvoir être invoquée s'agissant d'activités en dehors du territoire européen. La responsabilité des entreprises doit pouvoir être engagée sur le plan national, régional et international.

(c) la création de voies de recours adéquates au niveau national par la création de cour spécialisée, et au niveau régional sur l'exemple de la CEDAO, la création d'une procédure qui échapperait à l'obligation d'épuisement des voies de recours internes

(d) l'environnement étant une partie intégrante des droits de l'homme, il doit être de manière systématique dans tous les textes fondamentaux, car la protection de l'environnement ne saurait se faire sans normes juridiques contraignantes.

A propos de l'économie verte

Le pastoralisme constitue un exemple d'investissement au sein duquel le double objectif de développement et de conservation de la biodiversité peut être atteint par la reconnaissance de la contribution importante de ce système aux cultures, traditions, moyens d'existence et service des écosystèmes.

Le pastoralisme représente un mode de vie qui concerne 100 à 200 millions de personnes dans le monde.

Les systèmes de production pastoraux extensifs couvrent 25% de la surface des terres émergées. En Afrique sub-saharienne, environ 16% de la population dépendent du pastoralisme

les terres arides occupent 41% de la surface des terres émergées et abritent plus de 2 milliard d'habitants.

L'évaluation des écosystèmes pour le millénaire, un projet qui impliqua plus de 1300 experts dans 95 pays, a fait l'état de 24 services écosystémiques contribuant directement au bien-être des êtres humains et tira la conclusion suivante : les politiques qui visent à remplacer une agriculture sédentaire dans les zones de parcours contribuent à la désertification et donc à la diminution des moyens d'existence et conduisant à l'accroissement de la pauvreté.

Les défis environnementaux auxquels doivent faire face les systèmes pastoraux sont multiples : changement climatique, surexploitation des ressources en eau par des acteurs extérieurs, non accès au foncier, politiques nationales ou internationales défavorables, colonisation de peuplement, pression foncière de sédentaires agriculteurs et d'industriels.

Selon une étude de 2006 de Hatfield et Davis, la désertification apparaît souvent là où les choix politiques ont sous-estimé les systèmes pastoraux. Ainsi, rappelant l'article 1ier b de la convention internationale sur la lutte contre la désertification, définissant cette lutte en désignant les activités qui relèvent de la mise en valeur intégrée des terres arides, semi-arides et subhumides sèches en vue d'un développement durable en :

•en prévenant et/ou réduisant la dégradation des terres

•en remettant en état les terres dégradées et restaurer les terres désertifiées.

Nous recommandons :

(a) la création d'un Haut-Commissariat à la Biodiversité

(b) prendre en compte le droit territorial et foncier des peuples autochtones en général et des peuples mobiles en particulier

(c) lorsque les impacts sur l'environnement ne peuvent pas être évités ou réduits, la compensation ne doit pas être financière. La compensation doit être foncière fondée sur une équivalence de valeur (écologique, moyens de subsistance etc...). ce principe repose sur la priorité locale

(d) d'encourager les états à promouvoir leurs aires protégées, à les protéger de manière constitutionnelle

(e) la reconnaissance des APAC (aires de patrimoine autochtones et communautaires).

Bordeaux, le 1ier novembre 2011

## Interregional Public Movement of Aborigines - The Innovative Ecocity System - New World

The Interregional Public Movement of Aborigines The Innova Ecocity ive System "New World", hereafter called as IPMA NW MOD(A NM), expects that at the Rio+20 Summit

the priorities will be identified allowing all the people on the Earth to rise to a new level of development complying with modern eco-safety requirements of the Planet.

Within the framework of the Summit the foundations of an entirely new policy should be laid, which aim to preserve an environmental and ethnic-cultural heritage, the basis of an eco-orientated education for the Earth's population. At the same time, a historical heritage should be interpreted as a memory, a sort of the genetic code of ethnic groups and human species as a whole.

IPMA "NW" (MODA "NM") offers the following issues for consideration at the Summit: ethnic diversity preservation and indigenous rights protection of aborigines. It is native minorities and large nations who are considered to be real bearers of national culture, wardens of folk wisdom and customs, and traditional nature management, accordingly, that provides human existence in harmony with the environment. The present day situation in the society is in urgent need to put more emphasis on indigenous culture as an important factor. It is ancestral tortuaries - long experience in symbiosis with state-of-the-art technologies that will contribute to soil-fertility restoration and help an individual get used to climate changes.

Being granted de-jure political status of aboriginal peoples, the mankind would be able to take advantage of their ancestors' knowledge and cultural heritage for the sake of preserving the Planet. To that effect, it is necessary to focus on developing and enriching cultural identity, international cultural cooperation, eco-ethnic tourism, using utterly green technologies and expanding public participation in cultural life.

It is the aborigines' knowledge of ecological way of human coexistence with nature in definite regions and understanding of phenotypic national diversities that the 'geopolitical tolerance' notion, should be based on because studying the other nations way of life will guarantee global prosperity and peaceful coexistence of the representatives of different nations.

In that respect IPMA "NW" (MODA "NW") proposes

1. To hold a round-table meeting on the cultural issues and traditions of the Indigenous Peoples of the World aimed at preserving centuries-long wisdom and passing it over to future generations.
2. To discuss the necessity of drafting Ecological (Green) Constitution of the Planet.

As an example IPMA "NW" (MODA "NW") submits the project allowing to implement gradual transition from carbon to Green Economy - the innovative Ecocity system "New World". - The scale transition to green technology will provide the world as a whole and Russia in particular with CO2 emissions reduction and thus fulfil Kyoto Protocol's conditions.

"New World" is a unique project as it includes all spheres of life activity of modern human. The main emphasis is put on culture, tourism and education - those branches which need to be developed and supported in the post-industrial society.

The "New World" project originated in December 2001 after the economic crisis in Argentina, which demonstrated the importance of food safety development for the society and state. The project transparent structure allows it to be updated and transformed amid market turbulence. In that connection, it was repeatedly re-edited and upgraded according to innovative technologies development which contribute to rational use of the environment.

In the contemporary world the urbanized territories crisis has become evident: small towns are losing their importance in connection with a number of economic factors such as drop in product prices, fixed capital irrational usage and natural urbanization, whereas large megapolises are suffering from overpopulation, ecological, social-demographic and other problems.

3. To discuss the possible solution of some ecological, economic and social issues through advertising the opportunities of urban-to-ecovillage migration. Such a decision might be the only possible in the period of crisis, dramatic climate changes under the influence of devastating atmospheric effects, natural disasters, mass migration, megapolis ecological hazards, possible terror acts and infectious subversive actions in the places of urban population concentration.

The strategy of ecocity development amid global drinking water and food shortage will help solve the problems of abandoned land colonization and make possible to live without giving up urban comfort and in full agreement with the environment. IPMA "NW" (MODA "NM") sees way out of this situation in ecovillages competent management which is able to solve social, economic and ecological problems:

- unemployment;
- regular displacement over the territory of the Planet which will favourably affect demographic conditions and result in avoiding economic skewness in the development of countries;
- fair housing for orphanage residents, needy families and returnees;
- food self-supporting families;
- agricultural eco-production;
- remote work opportunities to solve urban transport and ecological problems;
- craftsman enterprise renewal and rural tourist centres due to small and family businesses in ecovillage;
- budget overspending due to reassignment of funds from pension provision to medical provision;
- urban environmental condition because of overpopulation;
- food crisis danger;
- free-of-anthropogenic activities land development;
- preservation of multinational palette, world natural and cultural heritage - far from being a complete list of issues, which can be solved in the process of the project implementation. The rural tourism development on these territories will also let raise additional funds to federal and local budgets through fiscal revenues.

The representatives of Indigenous Peoples have worked out the Ecocity Project based on communal villages which is being offered to all the countries as the basis for transition to the 'green economy' concept.

The "New World" Ecocity project can be applied all over the world.



In connection with above mentioned, IPADAM <sup>33</sup>NNMW ) (applMOes ifor accreditation at the RIO+20 Summit in 2012.

Sincerely, Director IPMANW

Anna Vititina

The International System of innovative

cities "New World"

"New World" - a comprehensive solution priorities of the Russian Federation

- The project, developed under government programs, the modernization of Russia and the renewal of "green" lifestyle.
- "New World" - a project of the first city in Russia, which will be built in - line with the elements of broadcast shows.
- "New World" - the format of the new concept of living in the XXI century.
- "New World" - a demonstration platform of innovative technologies of construction, production, educational programs, maintenance of farm and agro - industrial farms, and just a comfortable existence.
- "New World" - an ideal platform for the introduction of IT- technologies in farming and agricultural sector.
- "The new world - a complex for the implementation of educational and scientific programs

"New World" - the goals and objectives

- Create an innovative environment-friendly village with a complete self assurance and inner, modern infrastructure.
- Development of innovative technologies of agriculture in harmony with nature.
- Creation of cultural - historical basis for the initiation of young people in agriculture, nature, traditional crafts.
- Involve young people in the agricultural field.
- Provide young professionals with jobs in rural areas.
- Reduction in unemployment in the country.
- Training and retraining to change careers professionals.
- Provision of housing to socially disadvantaged people, young professionals, families and other groups.
- Ensure that the resettlement of young people from children's homes in new housing estate.
- Attracting young families in the agricultural settlement.
- Providing the population with ecologically pure products.
- Obtaining a platinum international certificate of environmental quality.
- Introduction of innovative technologies in farming.
- Create a free base for recreation and education of children in harmony with nature, involve young people to a healthy lifestyle.

"New World" - the investment

attractiveness

- Novelty - on the market today there are no analogues of the project, and the need for acomfortable accommodation for Russians is the most acute problem for the state.
- Relevance - Russia's policy aimed to build one-story house, focuses on villages that are not designed, to meet all the needs of residents and leave the dependence of the settlers to the city. "New World" covers the full range of services to the public. Thus save people from traveling into the city. The project includes the execution of a number of government programs, the introduction of innovative technologies, considers most comfortable living conditions.
- Development - given the unprecedented nature of all components of the project, the construction of these cities will be in every region of Russia.
- Exclusivity - the world has a similar project a green city in the U.S., the establishment of settlements in the "New World" will be unique not only in Russia but also for entire Eurasian continent

"New World" - the stages of implementation

- Selection of land corresponding to the construction and agricultural household goods
- Architectural plans
- Harmonization of the construction plan
- The architectural design competition
- Conducting PR campaigns
- Conduct planning areas and landscaping
- Construction of major buildings

- Placing production and tourism zone
- Construction and landscaping on individual plots and common area • Conducting planned presentation of reports of construction green Design
- Carrying out planned activities to attract professionals and the organization of space
- Start the farms and household plots
- The organization of social programs of the project

Pilot version of the implementation of systems of innovation eco-city

The city projected onto a circular system. Town buildings dismantled by thematic quarterly, with the possibility of expanding residential and industrial zones on the perimeter.

Parts:

1. administrative
2. technical
3. residential
4. tourist
5. Cultural en-US educPilot vationaler sion of the implementation of systems
6. agro-industrial
7. airport

New World "- All-Russian project

- Residential District "New World"
- "Star Home" street of houses built with the participation of stars of show business and politics with the demonstration of innovative "green" construction techniques and finishes.

- "Elite complex" high-tech luxury single-family houses with a demonstration of "smart house".

"Affordable housing" single-family houses for the residents of an area of 100 - 150 sq.m.as an example of real quality, comfortable accommodation for each Russian.

Homes are designed with the system energy saving and heat preservation. Greenhouse equipped with a system

"Winter Garden"

Home obledeneny 4-6 houses with internal patio, children / playground and place under the Private Farmland

The main component of green plants City - fruit trees. All residents Have the opportunity to make free harvest and eat the fruit straight from the trees

"New World" - a socially significant project

- Agro-industrial quarter "Farm area" - area of environmentally friendl products and livestockbreeding and conservation of endangered species of animals.

Plant Nurseries

- Research and production facilities - laboratories, experimental fields for practical experiments and the agricultural production base of bio-preservation and cultivation ofgenetically pure media. Water resources for industrial fish farming, seaweed, Service farmland and compliance with fire security

"New World" - an international, independent project

- Technopark

Industrial zone - final products: Finishing materials, energy saving and energy- producing products, foods, household items. Environmental Center, representatives of international organizations. Scientific-Technical Complex. Craft workshops. Technical Station of Service life Space.

- Bio-base.

"New World" - an international youth project

- sports quarter

Multifunctional stadium quickly collecting

School of the military-patriotic education of youth Children's band of sports equipment SPA center "pascivnogo" sports for people with problems musculoskeletal Polygon "special forces" training historic landfill The site of parachuting Rock climbing The festival site

"New World" - the first independent Russian conceptual design

- Tourist quarter

The hotel complex. Sanatorium "Family House".

- Shopping center. 3D complex innovations. Innovation Exchange. Health center. Restaurant street. Tea yard. Landscape Sculpture exhibition, Topiary. children's recreation program, "The world of fairy tales." Eco circus. Museum exhibitions, thematic exhibitions of Russian and foreign artists, jewelers andphotographers. Ethnocultural cycle, the

revival of Russian culture and daily life.

- On-line exhibition of the latest developments in the field of housing.

"New World" - caring for future generations

- Health
- The project provides a sanatorium complex for children's activities
- Center for Healthy lifestyle Eco dentistry
- Medical Center prenatal training
- Education
- Platform for students trainees
- School of historical education of the youth
- School of IT technologies of 3D modeling and design
- Center for Vocational and further education
- School revival of Russian villages Gleb Tyurin
- Preschool program to prepare children for the unique author's program

"New World" - an innovative project

• "New World" is being built in an open broadcast on the Internet, with regular stories on the center channel, press - releases in foreign media. Weekly magazine will keep the body:

- On the construction of
- To hold contests and quizzes on entertainment stages of the project
- Maintain the casting of future residents - Promote and highlight current "economic technology" construction, and the least cheap building materials
- Perform ratings among heads of districts and municipalities on the title of the best and most advanced self-management
- Provide legal advice in
- Housing and land issues
- Lighting the world achievements in the field of Eco

" New World "- anti-corruption project

A key feature of the concept of the project to provide free housing project participants, the organizers of the local productions of "New World", including crafts and farming, intellectuals, and families with children and Curators of the permanent eco-city projects of the Russia "New World"

"New World" is aimed at solving social problems

- Current solution to housing and jobs for young families and specialized professionals
- Will significantly reduce human-induced pressures and have a healthy effect on the surrounding environment and people; Solve the problem of overcrowding in cities, the problem of unemployment;
- To contribute to the awakening of this sense of the motherland; Reduce transport costs associated with forced travel to work;
- Solving problems internally displaced persons;
- Involve young people to realize themselves outside of the city and to promote the revival of the village;
- Solve the problem of crime;
- Solve the problem of abandoned children and orphans;

"New World" focuses on the implementation and development of state programs

- State Program "Development of physical culture, sport, tourism and improving the implementation of youth policy", including the federal programs - "Development of physical culture and sports in the Russian Federation for 2006-2015" and "Development of domestic tourism in the Russian Federation (2011 - 2016) "
- State Program "Development of Science and Technology"
- State program "Economic Development and Innovation Econom"
- The State Programme "Information Society (2011 - 2020 years)"
- State Agricultural Development Programme and the regulation of markets of agricultural products, raw materials and foodstuffs
- State Program "Development of fish-economic complex"
- State Program "Development of Foreign Economic Activity"

- The State Program "Regional policy and federal relations"

"New World" focuses on the implementation and development of state programs

- State Program "Russian Culture"
- State Program "Environmental Protection - State program" Energy saving and energy efficiency for the period up to 2020 "
- The state program "Social support to citizens"
- State Program "Providing quality housing and utility services of the Russian population"
- The State Programme "Promotion of Employment"
- The state program "Protecting the population and territories from emergency situation protect populations, territory, critical infrastructure of the population and critical threats from natural and man-made, fire safety and security at water bodies"
- State support for small business

"New World" was developed in the framework of federal programs

- Federal Target Program "Social development of the village" • Federal Target Program "Development of Education in 2011-2015"
- Federal Targeted Programme for Education Development for 2011-2015
- Federal Programs - "low-rise Russia - social housing" The federal program "Affordable Housing" National project - "Development of agriculture," the federal program "Health"
- Sub "Providing housing for young families"
- Sub "Modernization of municipal infrastructure facilities"
- Sub "Implementation of state obligations to provide housing for groups of citizens by the federal law"
- Routines

"Incentive programs for the development of housing entities of the Russian

- Federation"

"Provision of land for municipal infrastructure construction"

"Implementation of state obligations to provide housing for groups of citizens by the federal law"

Service of Public Security «Green Police»

- All-Russian youth movement of the new world

Draft new forms of youth self-rescue and ecology in the places where we live, is designed for management and maintenance of infrastructure eco- city "New World" The Russian response to Greenpeace - Green Police in Russia" General Security Service "Green Police" - officers of good Will the Earth that are respectful to nature lifestyle. Prevent negative impacts on the environment. Direct perpetrators of cleanliness and order in the correctional work as care for plants and animals.

The motto "Green Police Russia":

"Saving the planet - start with yourself!"

[www.Green-Police.ru](http://www.Green-Police.ru)

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## INTOSAI Working Group

INTOSAI Contribution to the Rio + 20 Conference of the United Nations on Sustainable Development

Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) are cornerstones of good governance and play with their audits of government operations - including the economic, environmental and social sphere - a vital role in the area of sustainable development. SAIs provide independent and reliable information on government spending and operations which facilitates transparency and accountability and contributes to the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

To be able to contribute to sustainable development effectively, SAIs must be independent of the governmental agencies they audit, and be protected from any form of outside influence. The Declarations of Lima (1977) and Mexico (2007) delineated the basic principles of independence of public sector auditing by SAIs.

On 26 April 2011, ECOSOC recognized the important role of INTOSAI and the Declarations of Lima and Mexico by adopting resolution 2011/2, which states in its OP 2:

"Takes note with appreciation of the work of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in promoting greater transparency, accountability and efficient and effective receipt and use of public resources for the benefit of citizens and of the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts of 1977 and the Mexico Declaration of Supreme Audit Institutions Independence of 2007, which set out the principles of independence in government auditing, and encourages the wide dissemination of these principles;"

On the occasion of the 21<sup>st</sup> UN-INTOSAI Symposium on "Effective practices of cooperation between supreme audit institutions and citizens to enhance public accountability" the United Nations invited INTOSAI to contribute to the Rio + 20 UN-Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012.

INTOSAI warmly welcomes the invitation, especially in the light of the fact that sustainable development has emerged as a relevant issue in the work of the audit institutions worldwide: "Environmental Auditing and Sustainable Development" was one main theme of INTOSAI's last triennial congress of Supreme Audit Institutions, INCOSAI XX, held in Johannesburg in November 2010. In that congress, all SAls committed to prioritizing environmental and sustainable development issues in their audit work while multilateral environmental agreements and coordinated audits between SAls were underlined as key focus areas.

INTOSAI aims to further improve the use of audit instruments in the field of environmental protection policies through its Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA), chaired by the Auditor General of the National Audit Office of Estonia. The WGEA has already started to prepare for the Rio+20 event with its special project team working on a document compiling the experiences of SAls on sustainable development related issues. We would appreciate it if you considered involving INTOSAI to the preparatory process as early on as possible.

The INTOSAI WGEA will additionally take part of the UNEP World Congress on Justice, Governance and Law for Environmental Sustainability, which will be held prior to Rio+20.

Following the Rio+20 invitation the Governing Board of INTOSAI suggests to include a reference to the work of SAls in the area of sustainable development and the therefore necessary preconditions in the final document of the Conference as follows:

- Recalling the UN Millennium Declaration;
- recalling the ECOSOC resolution 2011/2;
- emphasizing that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally-agreed development goals, including the MDGs and multilateral environmental agreements;
- emphasizing the need to improve the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration in order to contribute more effectively to the implementation of the MDG and sustainable development;
- recognizing SAls role in the improvement of efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration, which is conducive to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the MDGs and multilateral environmental agreements;
- emphasizing the importance of SAls' independence from the agencies they audit;
- recognizing the crucial role SAls can play in achieving the international goals of identifying and addressing the gaps and building accountability in the implementation process of the global sustainable development agenda;
- taking note with appreciation of the work of INTOSAI and the Declarations of Lima and Mexico as well as the recommendations of the XX INCOSAI;
- calling upon UN member states to implement and apply the principles set out in the Lima and Mexico declarations in order to improve the position of SAls to contribute to sustainable development.

#### WGEA Rio+20 Project – Report Summary

##### Environmental auditing supports better governance

Good governance, the process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented or in turn not implemented, is essential to ensuring that environmental protection and sustainable development promises produce credible results. Governance is one of the key themes to be addressed at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (or Rio+20) to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 4-6 June 2012.

National auditors and their audits play a critical role in supporting good governance by advancing accountability, and providing practical, objective and rigorous examinations of how environmental and sustainability programs, regulations, targets and laws are managed and implemented at the national and international level. Some countries have regional auditors or evaluators that play a similar role. This paper summarizes some key observations from two decades of work by supreme audit institutions, which play a major role in auditing government accounts and operations.

Supreme audit organizations (SAls) go by different names – sometimes National Audit Office, Court of Audit, Audit Board, and Office of the Auditor General – and have different mandates but similar responsibilities to provide legislatures and society with the information they need to hold governments accountable. SAls audit governments' financial management, compliance with domestic laws and international agreements, domestic and international policy implementation and performance. SAls are independent, non-political, and fact-based in their work. Between 1993 and 2011, National audit offices in 107 countries have conducted over 3200 environmentally related financial, compliance and performance audits.

Environmental audits have resulted in governments taking action to improve water quality in rivers, strengthen protection of flora and fauna, and reduce pollution. Benefits to environmental governance include the development of new legislation and regulations and stronger compliance with those that already exist. The implementation of multilateral environmental agreements has been improved through elements such as improving the designs of linked programs and better results reporting mechanisms.

The vast majority of SAls' environmental audits have examined national and sub-national programs such as climate change, acid rain, toxic substances, biodiversity, protected areas and natural parks, environmental assessment, green economy – sustainable energy, sustainable development, environment and human health, forestry, fisheries, mining, waste, water, and multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs). With regards to MEAs, around 80 audits were conducted between 2003 and 2011 on agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, UN Convention on Biodiversity, UN Convention to Combat Desertification, Montreal Protocol, and Basel Convention. A comprehensive database of these audits can be found at [www.environmental-auditing.org](http://www.environmental-auditing.org).

Since 1992 the International Organization for Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), the professional association for SAls, has had an active Working Group on Environmental Auditing. The Working Group has assisted SAls in acquiring a better understanding of the specific issues involved in environmental auditing; facilitating the exchange of information and experience among SAls; and publishing guidelines and other informative material for their use. Joint auditing by SAls of cross border environmental issues and policies, and the audit of international environmental accords, has had the Working Group's special attention.

The Working Group has worked with the United Nations Environment Programme to develop a Guide on Auditing the Implementation of Multilateral Environmental Agreements. The objective of the Guide is to serve as a useful resource for auditors worldwide who evaluate the implementation of those agreements by their national

governments and whether the policy tools that their governments use to manage and protect the environment and implement MEAs have produced the intended results. The guide can also be useful in improving future MEAs as it identifies key aspects that we look for in our audits that are important to good governance and accountability.

The Working Group has also produced a number of other guidance documents to aid auditors in auditing a variety of issues including climate change, waste management, water, forestry, and sustainable development. An important upcoming guidance document in 2012 will be on environmental data.

Under the auspices of the Working Group and its regional groups, a number of cooperative audits between different SAls have been undertaken. The Coordinated International Audit on Climate Change: Key Implications for Governments and their Auditors (2010) involved fourteen supreme audit institutions (Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Republic of Indonesia, Norway, Poland, Slovenia, South Africa, United Kingdom, and United States of America) from six continents who worked cooperatively to design and undertake performance audits of their national governments' implementation of commitments and programs related to the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. The SAls involved included those from both developing and developed countries and the results from 33 audits.

Amongst the six regional groups of the Working Group on Environmental Auditing, over 50 cooperative audits have been conducted since 1995. Important ones have included:

- Pacific Association of SAls – Solid Waste Management Audit (2011, ten SAls)
- Organization of Latin American and Caribbean SAls – Compliance against United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Commitments Audit (2011, 7 SAls) and Environmental Protection and Conservation of Natural Resources of the Amazon Region Audit (2010, 5 SAls)
- African Organization of SAls – Lake Victoria Basin Audit (2002, 5 SAls)
- European Organization of SAls – Convention on the Protection of the Black Sea Against Pollution Audit (2011, 6 SAls)

#### Putting Our Audits to Work

In 2011, a survey of the members of the INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing was conducted for this paper to identify the key observations that SAls around the world are consistently finding when conducting their environmental audits. The ten top issues identified by 37 countries are listed below along with examples of the type of issues identified.

- Unclear/overlapping of responsibilities – In some audits the institutional framework for sustainable development is cross-governmental and requires more work from governments in order to integrate economic, social, and environmental aspects. Governments have adapted to this new reality by creating more integration among ministries, departments and agencies, and among programs and projects. However, there is a lack of clarity regarding the specific role each one of those entities plays and what they are responsible for, resulting in overlapping of responsibilities across agencies and departments that compromise the effectiveness of policy coordination and generate duplication of efforts.
- Lack of coordination between sub-national levels and the national level – Through the audits conducted, it has been noted that environmental problems occur at all levels from local to global, and involve municipal, regional and national governments. There is a need to improve integration and coordination between governance institutions at different levels. When local entities are involved in implementing national policies and in the interest of transparency and accountability for national funds and results, it is essential that some credible and verifiable means exist for reporting on how these funds were spent and what results were achieved.
- Absent or deficient policy or strategy – According to some audits some governments have not yet created effective policy tools and systems to govern environment and sustainable development or have not improved public policy tools and process as demanded. With regards to some policies, targets, objectives, or commitments may be in place but they are not always supported by comprehensive and specific national, regional or sectoral strategies and plans. Without the involvement by all affected levels of government an overall policy or strategy cannot hope to achieve the desired national results.
- Insufficient assessment of environmental impacts of governmental policies and programs – Audits have noted that governments are not using policy tools to ensure more timely consideration of environmental aspects before large sums are committed to a policy, program or project. High-level regulatory impact assessment or strategic environmental assessment is not a concern for many governments.
- Lack of analysis (economic, social, and environmental) supporting decisions – In some audits the findings have noted that policy makers are not taking into account the three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social, and environmental aspects - when making decisions. Sustainable development governance requires better "integration" of economic, social and environmental policies, particularly within the broader development planning frameworks.
- Lack of long-term planning to implement environmental policies and programs – Audits have noted that issues requiring long-term planning to resolve, such as climate change adaptation, do not have corresponding planning processes or plans in place.
- Inadequate financial management of environmental policies and programs – Audits have noted financial management problems can be caused by: insufficient planning resulting in the costs of delivering environmental policies and programs not being anticipated and programmes then requiring an extensive amount of unanticipated funds; lack of appropriate financial management framework to support the implementation of environmental policies and programs; and lack of financial management skills and misuse of funds.
- Lack of enforcement of domestic environmental legislation – National audits have indicated that environmental laws are not self-executing and governments must ensure compliance with domestic environmental legislation, by taking appropriate, effective and proportionate policy measures. It requires administrative capacities and strong government commitments to implement and enforce the regulatory framework.
- Deficient monitoring and reporting systems – Through the audits it was noted that high-quality accountability and reporting systems are often lacking. Evaluation of key policy choices and instruments is not always in place. In the absence of good evaluation it is difficult for governments to report and measure their progress towards sustainable development and identify where further policy action is required.
- Lack of environmental data for decision-making – Audits have noted that government bodies do not have sufficient and robust environmental data to support their decisions and to evaluate their performance. There are problems in data availability, timeliness, quality, and accuracy. Overall, there is a lack of knowledge and information about various aspects of ecosystems and a failure to adequately use the existing information to support management decision. Independent environmental audits can collect and report information for decision-makers where information is lacking.

For the participating national governments at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 4-6 June 2012, the lessons are twofold. First, national governments can use the survey results and national audit reports, findings and recommendations to improve the effectiveness and cost-efficiency of a range of domestic environmental and sustainable development programs, policies and tools. The results of twenty years of national auditing work can also be used to better design and implement national policies and programs moving forward. Second, at the international level, the results of this survey and the audits conducted by SAls can

provide national governments as well as MEA secretariats with important feedback for evaluating the implementation of international comments. They also show national governments and MEA secretariats the key features of good governance that should be built in from the start against which compliance can be monitored.

The full report will be published in time for the conference in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012.

#### Background on INTOSAI

The International Organization for Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI, [www.intosai.org](http://www.intosai.org)), as a non-governmental organization, is the professional association of SAls in countries that belong to the United Nations or its specialized agencies. INTOSAI provides a forum in which government auditors from around the world can discuss issues of mutual concern and keep abreast of the latest developments in auditing and other applicable professional standards and best practices.

INTOSAI has increasingly recognized over the past two decades that the environment and sustainable development is an important issue that requires attention by the auditing community. The relevance of this topic was recognized by INTOSAI through the establishment of an active Working Group on Environmental Auditing ([www.environmental-auditing.org](http://www.environmental-auditing.org)) in 1992, the same year that the United Nations Earth Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro. At INTOSAI's most recent triennial International Congress of Supreme Audit Institutions (INCOSAI XX) held in 2010 in Johannesburg, South Africa, the resulting Johannesburg Accords noted that "environmental protection and sustainable development is one of the most topical issues that face governments in the new millennium." In addition, "the expectation that sustainable development and environmental protection should be subject to independent audit by SAls has grown in the last decades. By exercising the highest values of professionalism, independence, objectivity and transparency, and through effective cooperation with fellow SAls on environmental issues of common interest, SAls can make significant contributions toward addressing sustainable developments issues that are becoming increasingly regional, and even global, in nature."

## Investigadora Instituto Latinoamericano para una Sociedad y un Derecho Alternativos (ILSA)

Colombia: aportes de algunas organizaciones de la sociedad civil

Las organizaciones ambientalistas, no gubernamentales, campesinas, de mujeres rurales y de la sociedad civil colombiana abajo firmantes, someten algunas consideraciones para el documento de compilación que servirá de base para la preparación de un borrador preliminar del documento final de la Conferencias de las Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sostenible, Río + 20.

Lo primero que hay que anotar es que las preguntas guía responden a una orientación específica en el marco de los temas que han sido definidos como centrales (economía verde y marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible), pero no permiten abordar otros temas ambientales desde una visión holística. Particularmente, la centralidad en la economía verde, por un lado, sigue supeditando lo ambiental a lo económico, por otra parte, está desplazando otros aspectos que debieran ser abordados en la conferencia y, además, no permite proponer el indispensable cambio drástico de rumbo que la situación ambiental requiere.

Adicionalmente, anotamos que el contexto desde hace 20 años ha cambiado y son manifiestos los límites de la naturaleza frente a la explotación de los recursos naturales. De ahí que se requieran acciones concretas por parte de los Gobiernos, que partan de una evaluación sobre los compromisos adquiridos y los resultados durante estos años. Estos temas se desarrollan a continuación con base en las preguntas planteadas.

a. ¿Cuáles son las expectativas en relación con los resultados de Río+20, y qué propuestas concretas hay a este respecto, incluidas las opiniones sobre una posible estructura del documento final?;

El punto de partida de Río + 20 debe ser una evaluación de los compromisos adquiridos por los Estados respecto del medio ambiente, en el mismo período. Esta evaluación debe permitir no sólo una medición del cumplimiento, sino también un análisis causal, una búsqueda del por qué y quienes son los responsables. Algunas preguntas que se deben resolver en Río + 20 son:

- ¿Cuál es el estado actual del cumplimiento de los compromisos de los Estados en materia ambiental?
- ¿Qué se ha cumplido?
- ¿Cuáles son los resultados?
- ¿Cómo ha sido la implementación de las medidas de acuerdo a los tratados, convenciones, declaraciones, planes, declaraciones y programas adoptados por los Estados?
- ¿Cuáles son las causas del cumplimiento/incumplimiento de los compromisos?
- ¿Cuáles son las medidas realistas que se pueden adoptar?
- ¿Cuáles son los mecanismos para garantizar el cumplimiento de los compromisos estatales?
- ¿Cuáles son las pérdidas irreversibles?

Este proceso de evaluación debe producir propuestas concretas, a través de medidas de carácter vinculante, que puedan traducirse en una política ambiental al interior de los Estados. Anotamos que Río + 20 debería contar con la presencia de jefes de Estado, por la centralidad de los temas a tratar y por la necesidad de generar compromisos internacionales de carácter vinculante.

Además, del ámbito internacional y regional, Río + 20 debe tener efectos al interior de los Estados, en el nivel local y nacional. Se debe hacer un llamado para la generación de una agenda ambiental, que tenga carácter vinculante, que contemple mecanismos de cumplimiento y que pueda ser exigida por la sociedad civil. En los últimos años ha habido un proceso de flexibilización de lo Estatal derivado del modelo de desarrollo, que ha desplazado su atención a los sectores económicos, quienes también deben asumir responsabilidad por la devastación ambiental, pero sin perder de vista la responsabilidad estatal. Por ello, es imprescindible que los Estados creen, reformen o mejoren entidades y designen funcionarios competentes, capaces y con formación en el área. Así mismo, que se articulen acciones conjuntas entre entidades responsables en el tema ambiental, que exista una actividad legislativa que considere los efectos ambientales y una actuación decidida de los órganos de control.

En el mismo sentido, se debe garantizar: el empoderamiento de la sociedad civil, particularmente, de las mujeres, indígenas, jóvenes, campesinos y afrodescendientes, en la toma de decisiones en materia ambiental, mediante las veedurías ciudadanas y el ejercicio de acciones judiciales y administrativas.

Río + 20 no puede centrar su discusión en la economía verde, sino que debe abordar otros temas urgentes, como: los efectos por el cambio climático, la seguridad alimentaria, el acceso a la tierra, el acceso al agua potable, aplicabilidad y desarrollo de energías alternativas, biodiversidad, entre otros. Consideramos que en materia ambiental es difícil establecer una priorización o sectorización de temas, puesto que la mirada debe ser holística. Se requiere la transversalidad del tema ambiental en el desarrollo de planes y programas. Adicionalmente, el cumplimiento de compromisos ambientales involucra a diversos actores y a diversas entidades al interior de los

Estados, que de una u otra forma están relacionadas con estos temas.

Asimismo, se debe fomentar acciones para una cultura ciudadana ambientalista que se base en la sensibilización, conocimiento, capacitación y organización de la sociedad civil para promover el cuidado, la ética y cultura ambiental.

También es necesario que se reconozcan los saberes ancestrales y tradicionales en el uso del suelo y los recursos naturales; en el manejo, preservación y conservación del material genético; y los demás aspectos culturales derivados de la relación de las comunidades locales con sus territorios.

Por otra parte, Río + 20 debe hacer un llamado a la cooperación de los organismos especializados, a los países desarrollados y a las instituciones financieras internacionales, para que incorporen y adopten criterios ambientales en sus decisiones. La cooperación al desarrollo pese a que tiene efectos en la explotación de recursos naturales, no obedece a criterios de sostenibilidad o aspectos ambientales, sino que está orientada por la pobreza. De igual manera, no existen recursos para la investigación, condiciones o acuerdos que respondan y respeten aspectos ambientales.

Adicionalmente, se deben renovar y definir compromisos respecto del cambio climático. El compromiso internacional que se derivaba de la implicación sobre cambio climático expira en el 2012, por tanto resulta insuficiente. Además, los grandes contaminadores no hacen parte del mismo. Por ello, es necesario que existan instrumentos vinculantes, que superen la voluntariedad de los Estados, para llegar a acuerdos obligatorios al respecto.

b. ¿Cuáles son las observaciones, en caso de que las haya, en relación con las propuestas existentes? (por ejemplo, una hoja de ruta para la economía verde, un marco de acción, unos objetivos de desarrollo sostenible, una asociación mundial revitalizada para el desarrollo sostenible, u otras?;

No se trata de generar rutas u objetivos que respondan a cuestiones que desde hace 20 años se vienen advirtiendo, ni de generar una agenda verde, sino de compromisos reales que partan de una evaluación.

Respecto de la propuesta de Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, valoramos la iniciativa del Gobierno Colombiano, pero señalamos que los documentos aún no han tenido suficiente divulgación para ser una posición nacional. Ha habido escenarios de retroalimentación de la propuesta que no se han visto reflejados en cambios sustanciales.

La propuesta no parte de una evaluación de resultados o una línea de base construida con la participación de la sociedad civil. Los objetivos deben tener indicadores, que sean: medibles, verificables, adecuados, pertinentes, y elaborados con base en un enfoque de derechos humanos, entre otros.

Adicionalmente, estos objetivos se basan en una visión de desarrollo sostenible, que debe ser discutida en Río + 20.

c. ¿Qué opiniones existen sobre la implementación y sobre cómo reducir los desfases al respecto? ¿Cuáles son los agentes pertinentes cuya participación se contempla (gobiernos, grupos principales específicos, sistema de las Naciones Unidas, instituciones financieras internacionales, etc.)?;

Independientemente de la implementación de medidas, creemos que el esquema de participación de los grupos principales no da cuenta de todos los interesados. Por ejemplo, observamos que los grupos étnicos sólo están representados por indígenas, pero en algunos países hay otros grupos, como ocurre en Colombia con las comunidades afro- descendientes. Así mismo, existen otros grupos interesados que no se encuentran representados como los campesinos, en particular, las mujeres rurales.

d. ¿Qué mecanismos de cooperación específicos, arreglos de asociación u otros medios de implementación están previstos utilizar y cuál es el plazo pertinente para que se adopten las decisiones propuestas y se apliquen las medidas?

Para la implementación de las medidas que se adopten en Río + 20 se debe contar con mecanismos de veedurías ciudadanas, para hacerle seguimiento y control a las mismas. Así mismo, deben contener mecanismos que garanticen la participación de los actores de la sociedad civil en la toma de decisiones, particularmente, las mujeres rurales, los campesinos, afrodescendientes, jóvenes, y otros grupos interesados. También se debe contar con mecanismos de acceso a la información y acceso a la justicia en materia ambiental.

Elementos específicos:

a. Objetivo de la Conferencia: Asegurar la renovación del compromiso político de lograr el desarrollo sostenible, evaluando los progresos realizados hasta el momento y los vacíos existentes en la implementación de los resultados de las principales cumbres sobre el desarrollo sostenible, así como abordando los desafíos nuevos y emergentes. Entre las contribuciones podrían figurar posibles prioridades sectoriales (por ejemplo, la energía, la seguridad alimentaria y la agricultura sostenible, la transferencia de tecnología, el agua, los océanos, la urbanización sostenible, el consumo y la producción sostenibles, la preparación para los desastres naturales y la adaptación al cambio climático, la biodiversidad, etc.); asimismo, en Río+20 se podrán presentar y respaldar iniciativas sectoriales que contribuyan a integrar los tres pilares del desarrollo sostenible.

No hay un desarrollo metodológico, ni un esquema de evaluación. Las reuniones preparatorias tampoco han permitido este ejercicio, pese a la existencia de acuerdos previos sobre los cuales se puede llevar a cabo este proceso. Existen parámetros, pero no se contemplan herramientas para hacer una evaluación, generar compromisos, mecanismos de medición y acción.

b. Economía verde en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y de la erradicación de la pobreza: Opiniones sobre cómo puede la economía verde constituir un medio para lograr el desarrollo sostenible en sus tres dimensiones, así como la erradicación de la pobreza; cuál es su valor añadido potencial; experiencias hasta la fecha, que incluyan lo que ha funcionado y cómo aprovechar los buenos resultados; cuáles son los retos y oportunidades y cómo abordar estos retos y aprovechar las oportunidades; y posibles elementos de acuerdo para un documento final sobre una economía verde en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la erradicación de la pobreza.

La adopción del concepto de economía verde, por un lado, no puede desplazar la discusión de otros temas centrales y, por otra parte, no puede desconocer la discusión sobre el modelo de desarrollo.

La economía verde no tiene carácter distributivo y no hay una prevalencia de lo público; por el contrario, busca estimular a determinados actores económicos, pero no a todos los sectores sociales. No existe claridad sobre el cambio que implica este tipo de economía, ni cuál es el destino de la reinversión de las utilidades que ésta produciría.

Por otra parte, no es clara la necesidad que fundamenta la adopción de nuevos conceptos (economía verde), menos aún cuando se ha hecho poco por un desarrollo que permita superar la pobreza, redistribuir la riqueza y superar la crisis ambiental. Creemos que la adopción de un nuevo concepto no es una salida a la crisis ambiental, sino que se requiere un cambio de paradigma que haga de lo ambiental un tema central y se tomen decisiones frente a lo que se ha advertido hace más de dos décadas.

c. Marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible para el desarrollo sostenible Prioridades y propuestas para reforzar los distintos pilares del desarrollo sostenible, así como para reforzar la integración de los tres pilares en múltiples niveles — local, nacional, regional e internacional.

Se deben generar mecanismos de obligatorio cumplimiento e instancias internacionales con capacidad de acción, así como, mecanismos que aseguren la participación ciudadana, el acceso a la información y el acceso a la justicia en materia ambiental, de acuerdo con el Principio 10 de la Declaración de Río. Además, los mecanismos deben



contar con un marco sancionatorio en caso de incumplimiento.

Las reformas o ajustes necesarios en el marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible deben partir de una evaluación de los resultados de los organismos intergubernamentales existentes.

El marco institucional debe contemplar la creación de una veeduría internacional de la sociedad civil, que también sea acogida al interior de los Estados.

d. Cualquier propuesta para perfeccionar los dos temas. Cabe recordar que en la resolución 64/236 se describe la prioridad de la Conferencia: "La Conferencia se centrará, entre otros, en los siguientes temas, que serán examinados y perfeccionados en el proceso preparatorio: la economía verde en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la erradicación de la pobreza, y el marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible".

El concepto de desarrollo sostenible es discutible, pero si se mantiene en la agenda requiere de un sistema político, económico, financiero, tecnológico, administrativo, que permita una adecuada gestión ambiental. Adicionalmente, es imprescindible que la toma de decisiones involucre criterios ambientales, de planeación territorial y tome en cuenta la posición de las comunidades locales en el terreno.

Adicionalmente, se requiere un cambio de paradigma epistemológico, que haga de lo ambiental un tema central en la vida económica, política y social. Así como un fortalecimiento a la participación ciudadana, de la democracia y educación ambiental. Entre otros, se debe: reconocer el papel de las comunidades vinculadas al terreno en la conservación de la biodiversidad, en especial de las comunidades étnicas, los campesinos y las mujeres rurales; desarrollar políticas sobre el cambio climático de manera participativa; incluir medidas de prevención y atención a los impactos ambientales; reconocer la sabiduría y los saberes ancestrales de las comunidades en terreno; y garantizar la eliminación de la pobreza, entre otros.

Es necesario cambiar el rumbo. Río + 20 es una oportunidad para pensar diferente.

Organizaciones:

Centro de Estudios e Investigación en Salud Ambiental y Desarrollo (CEINSADE), Corporación ECOFONDO, Corporación Esfera Azul, Corporación Propuesta Ambiental, Corporación Viva la Ciudadanía, Instituto Latinoamericano para una Sociedad y un Derecho Alternativos (ILSA), Instituto para el Desarrollo Sostenible QUINAXI, Mesa de Incidencia Política de las Mujeres Rurales Colombianas.

## Irish Civil Society Response

Rio +20: Towards the Green Economy and Better Governance

Irish Civil Society Response

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### 1. Introduction

The first United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development or "Earth Summit", was held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The main outcomes of the landmark conference included seminal documents on Agenda 21, the Rio Declaration and the Statement of Forest Principles, as well as two legally binding conventions; the United Nations

Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention on Biodiversity. These documents have shaped and guided sustainable development policies and actions at international, regional, national and local levels in the intervening two decades. The Earth Summit highlighted environmental and development issues at an international level, emphasizing the importance of sustainability principles for social well-being and the economic systems they support.

There have been extensive efforts since 1992, at local, national, regional and international levels, to implement sustainable development. The UN Commission on Sustainable Development was set up in 1992 to oversee implementation of the Rio agreements. Agenda 21, the international plan of action for sustainable development, continues to provide long-term focus for balancing sustainability goals with economic and social development. The Aarhus Convention of 1998 also represented an important step for sustainable development within the UNECE in three main ways; public access to information about the environment, public participation in environmental decision-making, and widening the conditions for access to justice. The United Nations Millennium Summit in 2000 agreed on a set of Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), setting time-bound targets for addressing extreme poverty in line with the objectives of Agenda 21. Concrete steps to turn words into action were then agreed upon at the Johannesburg Summit, 2002, in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

At EU level the sustainable development process has been advanced through a suite of policies and actions following on from the adoption of the EU Sustainable Development Strategy in 2001 which was subsequently renewed in 2006. Comprehensive framework Directives and other legislative instruments on waste management, air, water and biodiversity have been put in place, which have been transposed into Irish law. We have also seen the introduction of a cap and trade system, the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and the setting of binding targets on greenhouse gas emissions.

Rio +20 presents an opportunity to revisit agreements and commitments made in 1992 and to consider how we will deliver on these, both collectively and individually. In order to inform Ireland's contribution to the Rio +20 preparatory process a public consultation was carried out in which all interested parties were invited to respond to a stakeholder consultation document (Appendix 1). These responses have been summarised to form this report and are referenced throughout the document (see Appendix 2).

## 2. Progress on sustainable development since the Earth Summit in 1992: Successes and Failures

In an Irish context, significant steps have been taken since the Earth Summit in Rio in 1992. Ireland has made considerable progress in environmental performance, developing environmental policies and adopting measures to promote an innovation- based, low carbon, green economy. The National Sustainable Development Strategy published in 1997 provided a comprehensive policy analysis of the issues to be addressed under Rio and outlined a series of ambitious objectives across all sectors. Since then, Ireland experienced a period of rapid economic growth, during which some progress was made towards decoupling environmental pressures from economic demands (OECD, 2009). We have seen a large expansion in Ireland's infrastructure in areas such as roads and public transport, comprehensive legislation in areas such as environmental licensing, waste management and water resource management and establishment of an independent Environmental Protection Agency, with wide responsibilities and strong powers. As a result, Ireland generally has good air and water quality and energy efficiency has improved (OECD, 2009).

Preparation is underway to publish a renewed National Sustainable Development Strategy (rNSDS), which aims to develop a framework that integrates sustainable development into key policy areas. The rNSDS will outline effective mechanisms for implementation and a concrete course of action to advance sustainable development in Ireland. Drawing on the model established by the EU Sustainable Development Strategy, the rNSDS will concentrate on gaps where limited progress has been made and which still present formidable challenges, not least among these being the need to decouple natural resource use and economic growth.

Progress has been made under Local Agenda 21, which facilitates sustainable development at a community level <sup>1,2</sup>. Sustainable Development: A strategy for Ireland was published in 1997, encouraged local authorities to drive Local Agenda 21 forward (DECLG, 2001). Some County and City Development Boards (CDBs) have made significant progress in their approach to sustainable development. For example, Waterford CDB has put a range of strategies into place, including a Climate Change Strategy, 2008-2012, an Economic Plan, 2010-2014 and the County Development Plan, 2001-2017 <sup>1</sup>. However, many communities remain unaware of Local Agenda 21 so more must be done to ensure that citizens have the knowledge and support they need to implement it in their communities <sup>1,2</sup>.

Ireland has not been successful in making progress in a number of areas, particularly with regard to clean energy <sup>1,2</sup>, green house gas (GHG) emissions <sup>1,2,5</sup> and biodiversity <sup>1,2,5</sup>. Progress in the area of clean energy has been limited and Ireland remains heavily dependent on imported fossil fuels for almost 90% of its energy needs <sup>1,2</sup> (Eurostat, 2011). This leaves the country exposed to international market price fluctuations (SEAI, 2009). Oil prices almost doubled between 2005 and 2010 and the IEA estimated that EU fuel imports increased by €70bn between 2009 and 2010. The Sustainable Energy Authority has been promoting the move away from fossil fuels and towards greater energy efficiency but more must be done to increase domestic energy sources and improve energy resilience in Ireland. Ireland has not only failed to halt increases in carbon emissions, but research demonstrates that greenhouse gas emissions for Ireland were 25% higher in 2007 than the 1990 baseline <sup>1,2,3</sup> (Eurostat, 2011). Current projections indicate that Ireland will only meet its Kyoto obligations as "a direct result of the current economic recession" (OECD, 2009) and is likely to miss annual obligations under the EU's 2020 target after 2015 <sup>2</sup> (EPA, 2011).

Ireland also failed to meet the 2010 target to halt biodiversity decline <sup>1,2,5</sup>. A number of native species have already been lost from the island and many more are in need of protection. Eight species of water beetle are regionally extinct and a further 13% are under threat (Foster et al., 2009). Byrne et al. (2009) reported that two species of non-marine mollusc are extinct, while 31% of remaining species are under threat. One mammal species has been lost and 4% are threatened (Marnell et al., 2009), one species of butterfly is extinct and 18% are threatened (Regan et al., 2010), 40% of fish and one of Ireland's three amphibian species are threatened (King et al., 2011). 16 species of bird have appeared on the red list of Birds of Conservation Concern, having shown rapid population declines in recent years.

A summary of specific successes and failures highlighted by respondents is outlined in Table 1.

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this Table 1\]](#)

## 3. Green Economy

### 3.1. What contributions can the current focus on green economy make to advancing sustainable development?

Against a backdrop of financial crisis, the current focus on the green economy may be an important tool in reaching economic stability and has the potential to significantly enhance sustainable development ambitions. Key drivers for the green economy include rising fossil fuel prices, pressure to hit targets for renewable energy and GHG emissions, green public procurement (GPP) and changing consumer preferences (High-Level Group on Green Enterprise, 2009). The Irish economy has, thus far, relied on the availability of cheap fossil fuels and the abundance of natural resources <sup>1</sup>. Despite the recession of 2008, gas prices almost doubled between 2005 and 2010 and Ireland's dependence on fuel imports have left the country exposed to market price fluctuations <sup>4</sup>. Finances are no longer available to continue importing increasingly expensive fuel <sup>1</sup> and energy price increases could lead to inflation, reduced competitiveness and increased unemployment <sup>4</sup>. Ireland's transition to a green economy requires that harmful concessions on coal, oil and gas be phased out <sup>2,4</sup> and greater investment be made into energy efficiency, renewable energy and transport technologies in order to improve energy security.

Ireland is under pressure to ensure that 16% of all energy comes from renewable sources by 2020 under Directive (2009/28/EC) (SEAI, 2010) and to reduce emissions by 20% of 1990 levels by 2020 (DECLG, 2007). Ireland is well placed to exploit wind and wave energy and a strong enterprise and research base is emerging which could help

Ireland meet renewable energy targets (High-Level Group on Green Enterprise, 2009). However, several hurdles have delayed the propagation of renewable energy in Ireland, including delays in planning and licensing approvals, delays in connecting to the grid and in 2010/2011 support was removed for Bioenergy in buildings<sup>1</sup>. Development of the green economy in Ireland must involve overcoming these hurdles and seizing the opportunity to take a lead in production and export of renewable energy<sup>1</sup>. By reducing dependence on carbon producing energy sources, Ireland will be in a better position to hit emissions targets.

Ireland has recognised its commitment to GPP and a National Action Plan on Green Public Procurement is currently in preparation<sup>2</sup>. GPP involves the inclusion of environmental, economic and social criteria in the public procurement process. This could promote sustainable development by encouraging public authorities to meet their needs for goods, services, works and utilities by seeking and choosing outcomes and solutions that have less environmental impact. GPP policy recognises that it is necessary to decouple economic growth from negative environmental impacts and takes account of the wealth of EU environmental policy and legislation put in place to protect biodiversity and ecosystem services (DECLG, 2011). Therefore, GPP has the potential to play an important role in driving the green economy forward<sup>2</sup>.

In recent years there has been a growing understanding of the value of the ecosystem services that nature provides (DECLG, 2008). This may explain increasing consumer demand for environmentally responsible goods and services (High-Level Group on Green Enterprise, 2009). The focus on the green economy has the potential to significantly enhance sustainable development ambitions in the areas of clean technology, resource efficiency, eco-design, secondary resource standards and innovation. Clean technology seeks to use environmentally friendly raw materials and processes for production of goods. Resource efficiency promotes efficient use of key raw materials, reduction, prevention and reuse of waste in manufacturing processes and service provision. Eco-design aims to make products and services more eco-friendly at the design stage by reducing or eliminating the use of dangerous chemicals, improving energy efficiency, increasing durability or re-use potential. Secondary resource standards would promote the safe use of secondary waste resources, thereby contributing to the conservation of primary resources. Innovation, both private and public is essential to drive the green economy forward<sup>2</sup>. However, there is still a long way to go in breaking the consumption cycle<sup>1</sup>. A coordinated, integrated effort to change consumers' expectations regarding products would give manufacturers the opportunity to make products and provide services that are more sustainable<sup>2</sup>.

The green economy alone does not guarantee sustainable development<sup>1,2,3</sup> and it is important that the focus on green economy does not detract attention from the broader concept of sustainable development<sup>3</sup>. A green economy is one which is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive<sup>2</sup>, criteria not currently supported by our current economic model<sup>1,2,3</sup>. We need an economy that can secure growth and development while improving human well-being, providing jobs, tackling poverty and inequality and preserving the natural capital<sup>1,3,4</sup>. Respecting environmental boundaries is not enough to achieve sustainable development. A commitment must also be made to promote social justice, support inclusion and participation in decision making processes and developing a clear set of principles and mechanisms for accountability<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>. A green economy must also address key social protection systems such as income security, health security, child benefits, unemployment benefits, nutrition, education and housing, in order to reduce social vulnerability and improve resilience<sup>4</sup>.

### 3.2. Can the green economy contribute towards Irish aid efforts in developing countries?

Ireland has a good track record in championing the eradication of poverty and hunger<sup>3</sup> and has committed to raising development aid to 0.7% of GDP by 2015<sup>3,5</sup>. The core issues affecting developing countries are food security<sup>2</sup>, climate change<sup>4</sup>, access to quality resources and insufficient knowledge on how to manage them sustainably<sup>3</sup>. As a priority action area for Irish Aid, discussions on the green economy must deal with the issue of agriculture and food security<sup>3</sup>. In this regard, Rio +20 must include steps which will prioritise the situation of small-holder farmers and the agroecological approaches they use which, with the right support, can ensure more sustainable farming, rural development and greater national food security<sup>3</sup>. The majority of people living in absolute poverty live on small farms. These small holder farmers are responsible for growing the majority of the world's food. Women play a critical role in food production and efforts to ensure sustainable development should take this into account. Emphasis should be placed on producing the right kind of food sustainably<sup>3</sup>.

The Irish Aid programme also focuses on climate change and the role of the agricultural sector in adaptation and mitigation<sup>3</sup>. The impacts of climate change will be felt disproportionately by developing countries, despite the fact that these countries contribute least to causing it<sup>5</sup>. The negative impacts of climate change have already been felt, reflected in decreasing agricultural production and lower crop yields, contributing to hunger in Africa and Southern Asia<sup>3</sup>. Ireland has a responsibility as a wealthy country to take a leading role in developing a genuinely green economy in order to set an example as a successful, low-carbon, developed country and to minimise Ireland's contribution to climate change<sup>2</sup>.

The green economy promotes reduction of consumption and waste production which may help reduce "ecological debt". This is the process whereby developed nations consume and produce more waste than our environment can replace and absorb, often leaving developing nations with the repercussions<sup>2</sup>. Developing countries suffer from a lack of quality resources and insufficient knowledge on how to manage them sustainably<sup>3</sup>. Access to energy has been identified as a poverty issue<sup>1</sup>, yet around 1.4bn people globally have no access to electricity<sup>3</sup>. Economic development in many countries is hindered by unreliable power and fuel supplies, despite the fact that these same countries have an abundance of renewable energy and huge potential for improving energy efficiency<sup>3</sup>. Ireland should continue to ensure the dissemination of new technologies<sup>3</sup>, allowing developing countries to "leapfrog" to a low carbon economy<sup>2</sup> and to benefit from Ireland's experience with renewable energy<sup>1,3</sup>.

## 4. Comments on Existing Proposals/Strategies

### 4.1. Green Economy Roadmap

The European Commission has proposed a Green Economy Roadmap as a framework of action guaranteeing commitment to sustainable development goals beyond Rio +20. The Roadmap will provide a range of specific international, regional and national actions, a timeframe for implementation, a set of indicators and targets. It will also provide mechanisms to monitor progress (EU Commission, 2011). The Green Economy Roadmap highlights Europe's commitment to a green economy and sustainable development and any documents outlining best practice would be welcome in informing and shaping national and local policies and responses to global issues<sup>1</sup>.

### 4.2. What impact can the EU 2020 Strategy and particularly the Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative have on advancing sustainable development in Ireland?

The EU 2020 Strategy aims to see Europe emerge from economic crisis by promoting development of a smart economy with sustainable and inclusive growth<sup>9</sup>. The Strategy has five headline targets:

- 75% of people aged 20-64 should be in employment
- 3% of EU GDP should go towards research and development
- Targets for renewable energy and emissions must be met
- Share of early school leavers should be under 10% and 40% of younger generation should have a tertiary level education

- 20 million less people should be at risk of poverty

In order to achieve these targets, the Commission proposed seven flagship initiatives, one of which is Resource Efficient Europe (European Commission, 2010). The Resource Efficient Europe Flagship Initiative emphasises that our economy and quality of life depend on natural resources. It provides a long-term framework for actions in a range of policy areas and promotes resource efficiency as a guiding principle for EU policies regarding energy, transport, climate change, industry, commodities, agriculture, fisheries, biodiversity and regional development (European Commission, 2010). The initiative is ambitious and Ireland is at a disadvantage at the outset as a result of the current economic climate and slow uptake on renewable energy<sup>1</sup>. However, energy is a key component of any economy and the Irish government should increase efforts to improve efficiency in energy consumption as a priority<sup>2</sup>.

One of the targets of the Resources Efficiency Flagship Initiative is to reduce energy imports from 16% to 5% by 2050. The initiative presents major economic opportunities to improve productivity, reduce costs and increase competitiveness, particularly with regards to renewable energy, and Ireland should benefit from the opportunities that arise<sup>1</sup>. Renewable energy use could increase energy security in Ireland, reduce emissions and associated financial penalties and give the country greater control over commodity prices<sup>1</sup>. The Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative could advance sustainable development by continuing to drive forward the agenda and outlining targets for all member states<sup>1</sup>.

## 5. Implementation

### 5.1 Views on Implementation and Closing the Implementation Gap

Despite the ambitious vision laid out by Rio 1992, progress in implementation and the institutional framework for implementation have proved disappointing<sup>3</sup>. Delays in implementation have been due to a combination of factors including an ineffective institutional framework<sup>2</sup>, an economic model that does not prioritise sustainability<sup>1,2,3</sup> and a lack of knowledge dissemination<sup>1,2</sup>.

Political will to fulfil commitments has waned since 1992 and the institutional framework for making real progress on sustainable development is inadequate<sup>2</sup>. This has led to unacceptable delays in transposing EU environmental directives into Irish law<sup>1</sup> and compliance and enforcement procedures are not sufficient<sup>2</sup>. Sustainable development encompasses a broad range of sectors, which leads to challenges with coordination, implementation and assigning responsibility. A reform of the institutional framework for sustainable development is required to close the implementation gap<sup>1</sup>. This framework should have a "bottom up" structure, starting with cooperation between County and City Development Boards and local authorities<sup>1,2,3</sup>. They need to implement action in all areas of sustainable development and fully embrace new initiatives that emerge<sup>1</sup>, coordinating local, national and international decisions<sup>1,2</sup>. At national level, governments must provide direction and resources to ensure that local authorities have the knowledge, ability and funding available to implement sustainable development<sup>1</sup>. Targets agreed at Rio +20 should form the basis of all policy decisions and should be incorporated into all national and regional plans<sup>1</sup>. At a global level, there must be cohesion and cooperation between global initiatives, such as MDGs, Climate Change and Sustainable Development, which often operate in isolation despite sharing common goals<sup>3</sup>. Sustainable development does not always feature strongly in the programmes and work of UN agencies<sup>3</sup>. A UN institution is required that has a powerful, integrated mandate to deal with sustainable development issues<sup>3,4</sup> which would fall under the UN Delivering as One initiative<sup>3</sup>.

Our current economic model is based on the over consumption of finite resources<sup>3</sup>. Steps to change this have often been designed using financial incentives or penalties so the reason behind the changes, decreasing resource depletion, is often lost<sup>1</sup>. It is essential to decouple economic progress from resource exploitation<sup>1,2</sup>. A common misconception is that environmental issues hinder growth<sup>17</sup> and current measures of wellbeing rely on GDP, so social and environmental factors are often overlooked<sup>1,2,3</sup>. The way that we measure growth and success must be reassessed<sup>3</sup> and more must be done to promote awareness of the benefits that a healthy environment contribute towards economic growth<sup>2</sup>. A new economic model should embrace all three pillars of sustainable development<sup>3,4</sup> and progress indicators must be redefined<sup>3</sup>. A possible solution would be the introduction of "satellite" national accounts, which consider factors not measured in the traditional economic model and recognise the value of natural resources<sup>3</sup>.

It is also evident from the current international economic crisis that global financial markets have become increasingly linked by speculative and opportunistic transactions. Speculative transactions account for a high proportion of all financial transactions but they are completely tax free<sup>3</sup>. Financial markets must be regulated to end speculation and taxation reformed to discourage potentially harmful activity in the real economy and financial sector<sup>3,4</sup>. Support is growing for the introduction of a progressive tax targeting those who profit from speculative transactions. The tax would not only assist monitoring of the financial risks being taken but would also generate revenue which could be used for national and international development. With a potential value of €50-100bn, the annual, global revenue could be enough eliminate the worst forms of material poverty worldwide. The European Commission has taken the initiative, proposing a Financial Transactions Tax within Europe. This represents an important step towards implementation<sup>3,4</sup>.

There needs to be a stronger commitment to ensuring understanding of sustainability and increased cooperation between communities and local government<sup>1</sup>. The public and the public authorities at all levels still need to be informed and educated about the real issues facing them<sup>2</sup>. Ireland's position as the only EU country yet to ratify the Aarhus Convention represents a significant obstacle to improving public access to information, decision-making and justice regarding the environment in Ireland<sup>2</sup>. Understanding of how sustainable development addresses issues of social justice and the environment empowers people and encourages them to act<sup>1</sup>. Although school programs have improved awareness of sustainability, a gap remains in education provision on environmental sustainability in the wider community<sup>1</sup>. Some local authorities set a positive example by promoting community-based initiatives, such as the All Ireland Pride of Place competition, awareness campaigns and EcoCert, which encourage businesses and citizens to take a more sustainable approach<sup>1</sup>. There are also a number of global movements focused on sustainability. Collaboration between governance and sustainability movements would bring about enormous progress as government directives would be more easily disseminated throughout the community<sup>1</sup>. Greater involvement of non-state actors and marginal groups will also be vital in closing the implementation gap<sup>1,2</sup>.

### 5.2. Mechanisms and Tools for Implementation

- Implementation of sustainable development strategies already in place<sup>1</sup>
- Adoption of policy framework that promotes a low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive society<sup>1</sup>
- Appointment of local Sustainability Development Officers with relevant qualifications and experience to educate others on issues related to sustainable development<sup>1</sup>. The role could also include coordination, direction and ensuring adoption of sustainability principles within the community<sup>1</sup>.
- Formation of a national forum involving agencies and bodies involved in environmental protection, a high level Environmental Governance Network involving key stakeholders<sup>2</sup>.

- Appointment of Ombudspersons at UN and National level to ensure that sustainable development concerns are considered in all policy decisions <sup>2,4</sup> .
- Workshops on sustainability run by County/City Development Boards providing training for all board partners, particularly those within the public sector <sup>1</sup> .
- New set of indicators for well being <sup>2,3</sup>
- Resources allocated specifically towards promoting sustainability at local authority level <sup>1</sup>
- More support for non governmental organisations which promote sustainability awareness and understanding amongst their peers <sup>1</sup> .
- Use of incentives to promote action. Presenting the potential economic gains associated with green economy will promote buy in from businesses <sup>1</sup> .
- Legally binding rules prioritising the goals and targets of Rio +20 and ensuring compliance <sup>1,2,3</sup> , accompanied by penalties for failure to comply which are enforceable and respected <sup>1</sup>

## 6. Expectations for Rio +20

### 6.1. Expected outcomes

Rio +20 provides an opportunity to renew focus on sustainable development. Civil Society in Ireland would like to see:

- A reiteration of commitment to the principles of sustainable development contained in the Rio Declaration, 1992 <sup>1,2,3</sup> , particularly:
  - o A commitment to provide knowledge and support for implementation of Local Agenda 21 <sup>1</sup>
  - o Reiteration of the importance of poverty eradication in achieving a sustainable society <sup>2,3</sup> and reaffirmation from all states that they will honour pledges to provide 0.7% GDP in Official Development Aid by 2015 <sup>2</sup>
  - o Renewed commitment to the 'polluter pays' principle <sup>2,3</sup>
  - o Reemphasis of the importance of employing the precautionary principle <sup>1,2,3</sup>
- A stronger commitment from all nations to ensure greater understanding of sustainability across all sectors of society, promoting communication and cooperation between communities and the government <sup>1,2,5</sup>
- A shift in focus from the current economic model to one which combines economic, social and environmental criteria as measures of growth and success <sup>1,2,3,4</sup>
- Establishment of institutional structures to facilitate this <sup>2</sup> • A international commitment on action to halt climate change and mitigate against it's adverse effects <sup>1,3</sup>
- Recognition in UN Law of biodiversity loss as an environmental and financial crisis on par with climate change <sup>2</sup>
- Targets set based on what needs to be achieved <sup>1</sup>
- A commitment from all nations to the implementation of actions rather than just agreement to goals <sup>1</sup>
- An enhanced governance framework to promote and monitor progress <sup>3,4</sup>

### 6.2. Outcome Document

The outcome document should deliver:

- A set of specific goals <sup>1,3,4</sup>
- A clear pathway of implementation <sup>1,4</sup>
- An agreed timeline for achieving targets <sup>1,3</sup>

Rio +20 presents an opportunity to revisit agreements and commitments made in 1992 and to consider how we will deliver on these, both collectively and individually. Governments need to make firm commitments on how to tackle emerging issues, promoting compliance and enforcement procedures. All nations must show the political will to fulfill the commitments made in 1992 in order to achieve sustainable development.

## 7. Stakeholder Seminar

The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government held a seminar on the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2011 as part of a wider consultation process. The seminar was open to the public and speakers represented environmental, social and local authority interests, from an EU and Irish perspective. The outcome from the stakeholder consultation to date was presented at the seminar and stakeholders were given a further opportunity to respond. Points raised from the following sectors:

### Local Authority

- Attention was drawn to the success of Local Agenda 21 in a number of counties in Ireland. However, a speaker from the environmental sector noted that many County and City Development Boards were not given sufficient terms of reference for implementing Local Agenda 21 and that Government support for inclusion of sustainability into their Terms of Reference is limited.
- The role of local authorities as key players in environmental and pollution control was emphasised.

### Environmental Sector

- Concern was raised over the lack of compliance with environmental law. It was suggested that a combination of low political will, low compliance and lack of enforcement could continue to hinder implementation. It was proposed that civil society be given more power to push compliance at a local level.

- It was suggested that Ireland could learn from other countries that have successfully introduced green public procurement.
- Another suggestion was that social media such as Twitter be used to keep people informed of events and programmes taking place at a local level.

#### Social/Development Sector

- Emphasis was placed on the limitations of current economic models and their failure to meet the needs of society. There was a reiteration of the need for growth and success to be measured in terms of social, environmental and economic variables, rather than depending on GDP. A suggested solution was the development of "satellite" accounts, which consider items not traditionally measured and recognise the value of natural resources.
- The importance of the role of women in food production in developing countries was highlighted. The point was raised that women are responsible for 60-80% of food production in developing countries, yet suffer huge inequalities in pay and access to primary and secondary education.

There was also general consensus that a key factor in progressing sustainable development would be the production of a new set of indicators for social well-being.

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#### Appendix 1

##### Questions posed in consultation document

1. What have been the main successes/failures in progressing sustainable development since the Earth Summit in 1992?
2. What contributions can the current focus on the green economy contribute to advancing sustainable development, particularly from an Irish perspective?
3. Can the green economy contribute towards Ireland's efforts in assisting developing countries and what priorities should we be addressing in this regard?
4. What impact can the EU 2020 strategy and, in particular, the Resource Efficiency Flagship Initiative have on advancing sustainable development in Ireland and what priorities should Ireland establish in implementing the initiative?
5. What are the comments, if any on existing proposals: e.g. a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership or others?
6. What are the views on implementation and how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Government, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.)
7. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?
8. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio +20, and what are the concrete proposals in the regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

## Appendix 2

### Stakeholder responses

Table 2: Submissions received in response to circulation of the public consultation document

[\[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to see this Table 2\]](#)

## Irish Doctors' Environmental Association (IDEA)

RIO + 20 submission by the Irish Doctors Environmental Association (IDEA):

Commitment to Sustainable Development:

Instead of acting like predators on the earth, the human species will act as stewards.

Time is running out.

The Earth is the complex, living system that sustains our species. Living systems can die. There are a variety of life-threatening symptoms that stem from the systemic pathology that is afflicting our planet and undermining its capacity to maintain the delicate balance, which sustains life as we know it. The symptoms are well known as they make up the multifaceted crisis due to unsustainable development that we are addressing in Rio+20. As in treating any medical emergency, all life threatening symptoms must be treated while the underlying cause is diagnosed and treated. At present in most international negotiations, only some symptoms are recognized (by some specialists) while Business as Usual is trying to deny any problems or looking for quick-fixes so it can carry on as usual. Yet, what has this old-world view and "business as usual" brought us? Look around our world. It has brought the break down of many systems, which have sustained us. It has brought conflict, poverty, terrorism, increasing cases of violent crime, climate change, and a rate of biodiversity loss that threatens mass extinction. Yet, we try to retain that old system and the perception that produced it while introducing or jiggling a few methods and technologies to find a quick fix. This is as helpful as shifting the furniture on a sinking ship.

If while treating the symptoms, we carry on allowing the systemic pathology to proliferate, the symptoms will continue to grow in both quantity and quality for they are only warning signs of an unabated underlying disease process. Here we offer a fundamental systemic diagnosis and treatment program as well as some recommendations for immediate symptomatic relief.

### SYSTEMIC DIAGNOSIS:

We are on the threshold of an evolutionary shift or change. As in all such cases, we, as a species, may make the necessary changes and evolve or continue business as usual into extinction. We know that our unsustainable development is a root problem but what is the source of our unsustainable development? Our perception of life: that we are fundamentally a mass of individuals usually collaborating in groups/nations to compete for whatever we can get from the earth, in whatever way we can get it to give us more comfort. The winners get the most and thrive and the losers get the least and can serve the winners in one form or another. This perception has worked for thousands of years but we are at a turning point in human history. Never before has our behaviour threatened our species with extinction.

It is our choice. We have all the knowledge, technology and energy required but do we have a system through which we can collaborate and direct all this to make the change? The required change is often referred to as a Paradigm Shift, which demands that we fundamentally change our thinking and perception so we can see beyond the mentality that we used to create these problems. The new paradigm that is dawning is based on the interdependence of all life as has been discovered over recent decades through our sciences. Throughout earth's history, at certain thresholds, the evolutionary process has demanded life/energy to rise to more united complexity or be recycled through extinction. Humanity is now facing a "supra-ordinate" problem that can only be solved through the collaboration and cooperation of all the participants (groups/nations). Unlike all previous problems facing humanity that could be solved by hierarchical group systems within a competitive framework of winners and losers, this one is a challenge that will either unite humanity to evolve from a mass of competing individuals, to work as one united complex system capable of overcoming the systemic threat or we will remain clinging to our separate competitive identities, unable to make the required evolutionary leap. Could this multi-faceted crisis that we are facing, be an evolutionary driver?

\*Recommendation:

The context for all decisions with global consequences must be taken in awareness of the impact of any decision on the health of the whole system. It becomes clear that we as a species will either be winners, evolving safely or losers, as the earth and atmosphere loses capacity for homeostasis (dynamic state of equilibrium) and can no longer support the very fine balance of conditions (i.e. temp. pH, etc) in which human life can thrive. An ecosystems approach to human health, recognizing the interdependence of our health with that of the planet's, is central to this crisis solution – NOT a fabricated system of economics.

### SOME HIGH PRIORITY SYMPTOMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

At Rio+20 we need clear concrete agreements that are legally binding together with a system to ensure implementation of them.

Most new technologies are more about business (profit for a few) rather than creating a better world. The Precautionary Principle, "Look before you leap" is the most basic principle of well-being & survival that most parents teach their children. It puts human health within the ecosystem context, in the fore.

We do not address all of the critical symptoms because it would make this submission too lengthy. However, as the symptoms are interdependent the sample of recommendations below could also help alleviate other critical symptoms such as the loss of biodiversity and water mismanagement.

#### Climate Change:

Human health is at the heart of the issue because it is health that will deteriorate with increasing natural disasters, decreasing air quality, rising water levels, the anticipated increase and shift in communicable and vector borne diseases as well as the obvious problems associated with drought, malnutrition/starvation, forced emigration, conflict over resources etc. Tackling climate change by significantly reducing green house gas emissions (as per scientific requirements) is part of a sustainable future and needs clear concrete legally binding laws that will be implemented by nation states. The current concept of a green economy is still driven by a consumerist lifestyle (old paradigm economy) rather than the precautionary principle (sustaining life).

\* Recommendation:

A green economy based on a new economic model, which would include environmental indicators, fully taking into account external costs.

Agreement to establish a world environmental court

Agreement on compliance and enforcement mechanisms, which will ensure effective environmental law.

Agreement on non-regression on environmental law, A global Aarhus convention and agreement on Principle 10. of the Rio Declaration

Health of humans and the ecosystems must be at the centre of a real green economy. Otherwise the new green economy may continue to prioritise profit-focused business. All mechanisms to lower green house gas emissions must be seen in full context of stewarding not ravaging Life.

Chemical Pollution:

Polluting Earth's water, air, soil/food and our bodies has resulted in an escalating proliferation of a vast array of debilitating chronic diseases, cancers and allergies, amid other problems. Ironically, this is also costing the national economies vast sums in lost employment and taxes, healthcare costs, pollution etc.

\* Recommendation:

The international framework on chemicals management is a first necessary step towards a legally binding agreement, which clearly establishes that by the 2020 deadline, chemicals will only be produced and used in ways that do not produce harmful effects on our health or environment.

Technology and the Precautionary Principle: in the Green Economy GM food crops and Hydrological Fracturing "fracking" (for oil/gas) are examples of technologies that give short term monetary gains to a few (the winners), and cause long-term problems/crises for humanity, biodiversity and planet (the losers). Fracking fractures the earth's geological layers, introducing and releasing both toxic chemicals and potent green house gases into the earth, water and atmosphere. This is a major assault on a faltering planet. Increasing numbers of people are suffering from symptoms and conditions, associated with the exposure to a cocktail of toxins to which we are increasingly exposed. These toxins, by-products of our consumer society, usually accumulate in bodies and in the ecosystem and interact with one another to give unpredicted results – the cocktail effect, which is usually more complex and toxic than when taken singly. Multi-systems illness is an umbrella category given to these conditions which are impacting not only on the individuals & their families lives but also on the greater socio-economic sphere, for the afflicted people can no longer function as healthy participants in life, and conventional medicine has been unable to help them because these conditions are relatively unknown and only recently started to proliferate. It is becoming increasingly apparent that these people may represent the "canaries in the coalmine".

Much recent research has identified Electro-Magnetic Frequencies (EMF) even at Extremely Low Frequencies (ELF) can add to the accumulating toxic burden on the immune system to which our bodies are exposed on daily basis. Like with many other new technologies, the Precautionary Principle was not followed and we have no idea how much this technology is impacting on our world and how to treat the problems it may create.

\*Recommendations:

Put Precautionary Principle at the fore of acceptance of all new technology into commercial capacity. Put an immediate ban to all proposed violent assaults on Nature such as "fracking". We could tick many boxes within the sustainable development/green economy with wind, hydro (tide/current) and solar, but if we start fracking or going down the route of GM food/agriculture, it would reduce those attempts to worse than meaningless. It demonstrates that we don't really understand or care about sustainable development; we are just playing business as usual with a green wash. Support the new field of Ecological Medicine in research and to train physicians so this growing number of patients can have medical treatment. Even with changes in our global system, the effect of the toxins will continue to burden immune systems for years to come.

Global Economy and Poverty

Poverty is the level of disempowerment that undermines the capacity of that/those person/s to sustain their health and well-being. It is not necessarily linked to money or the economy as such. Many peoples in the last century only discovered they were impoverished when they were told/educated that they were, because they didn't use enough cash. The current model of Economic Globalization is proving to make the rich fewer and richer and the poor, poorer with vastly increasing numbers. As well as increasing economic disparity, it is responsible for the vast majority of the ecological and social destruction in developing countries.

\*Recommendations:

Dissolve the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and World Trade Organisation and any other bodies that were created and work by the old defunct perception, which has caused these crises. Then create new ones that are products of the new paradigm/worldview based on interdependence and collaboration (i.e. equity, respect, etc)

These institutions represent the crumbling world view, and cannot help to solve our current crises for they are the major systems that prop up and drive "Business as Usual". We need totally different systems/bodies based on totally different perception, thinking, values, objectives etc.]

Food Production/Shortages

Our global economic system has been at the heart of this crisis not so much the food production, per se. Though after years of chemical biocides and misuse of soil, soil degradation and regeneration is certainly a looming issue. GM food crops are a solution made by and for the chemical companies that produce them. They will not feed the world or even increase yields sustainably over the long term, but will create enormous profits and power for a few who own the seeds, while unleashing unknown havoc on the Earth's natural food production capacity.

It is well known in the international community that around 40% of food produced is wasted. Our food production model needs to be reviewed because it is patently illogical to be exporting and importing the same products around the world using enormous amounts of fossil fuel while poisoning the earth and destroying biodiversity.

Seen through the lens of a different worldview, this food system model would be recognized as totally inappropriate.

Governance

Few of the politicians seem to understand what is happening and how little time we have to make the necessary changes, or else they are constrained within a system that is desperately trying to survive and will not allow the necessary changes to be made. They are part, and often products, of the crumbling systems and people with fresh insight and understanding from a different perspective are needed: Ones who do not make decisions in order to save or repair failing systems but who can boldly initiate the new shoots from a unified species perspective to push through the dying old growth, for life to flourish.

The current supra-ordinate problem requires both a sense of unity (we're all in this together) and everyone's collaboration and commitment in order to solve it. A sense of division, hierarchy and competition will not solve it. This is why it necessarily requires first and foremost a change in our modus operandi. The whole system has to expand its perception so it can evolve into a new holistic system that works in harmony with the forces of life instead of competing and conflicting with them. Civil society should play a major role for they hold a range of expertise and are not bound by political or popular demand. Though there is a movement to include them it is totally inadequate. They are



as yet disempowered to take any leading or pivotal role in critical negotiations. There are many people, NGO's, think tanks etc. around the world who are already organizing and educating groups of civil society/ communities about the way forward. We need to create an integrated interdependent global system based on the new paradigm values to lead us from break down to break through.

- Update our education systems to teach how to steward the earth, contribute and thrive within a collaborative world.
- Prioritise creating systems to include civil society's expertise and participation in solving the multi-faceted crises in a pivotal role.
- Create a world or international court for the environment that will ensure implementation of conventions and treaties etc.
- The rights of nature should be enshrined in every nation's constitution (Equator has just done this).

Strong International Environmental Governance is needed. This can be achieved by reforming and upgrading an environmental body such as: UNEP with new responsibilities and resources, proposals include:

- Upgrade from a programme to a specialized agency
- Strong programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production under UNEP
- Further strengthen the Trade and the Environment activities of UNEP
- Further strengthen civil society participation in UNEP, i.e. by applying the Aarhus Convention Guidelines on 'public participation in international environmental policy processes'
- Upgrade the mandate of Panel of Natural Resources (under UNEP), to govern better the use of natural resources and the fair distribution of those.

Time Frame: Two things are propelling the urgent and necessary changes:

- 1) The speed of break down of the present system, both on the human systems (economy, food production, politics/security...) and the planet's homeostatic (self-regulation) systems to maintain its equilibrium (climate/natural disasters, biodiversity loss...) .
- 2) The incredible speed of communication through internet/technology can act as a neural system for delivering messages through the human community/body. Used in conjunction with exchanging and interpreting knowledge to activate community mobilization at local levels, we could set up systems to change our impact on the earth much faster than anything humanity has previously done.

The old/Modern system should not be reconstituted or salvaged; it is rotten and is undermining our capacity to survive. What is at stake is the survival and health of the human species because the consequences of our current development model are undermining the ability for the Earth to sustain life as we know it. Therefore, an ecosystems approach to human health needs to be the central framework in the negotiations.

There is great reason for hope as people around the world are connecting to share information and ideas about what is working. Technology now allows for solutions to be communicated, improved or interpreted communally, within seconds around the world. Growing numbers are realizing what is at stake and are willing to make the changes, to be part of the solution. People are waking up, informing themselves because they want to help to make a better world.

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## ISEAL Alliance

Contribution of the ISEAL Alliance to outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development

Thematic Focus: "Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication"

Context

The ISEAL Alliance believes that by focusing on the theme of the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the Rio+20 Summit will provide an unprecedented opportunity for government, business and civil society leaders to affirm and renew their commitment to advance social and environmental justice.

As part of its contribution to Rio+20 Conference preparations, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (2011) in its report Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication defines the Green Economy as one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. UNEP (2011) notes that embracing a Green Economy paradigm will require the implementation of a comprehensive set of enabling conditions to support the transition towards a low carbon, resource-efficient and socially inclusive economic system. These enabling conditions consist of national regulations, policies, subsidies and incentives, international market and legal infrastructure, as well as trade and aid protocols. One particular set of incentives identified by UNEP relates to sustainability standards systems and the associated concepts - certification and eco-labelling.

There are many examples drawn from the agriculture, forestry, fisheries, manufacturing and tourism sectors where these incentives - sustainability standards - have served as effective catalysts for green growth. Furthermore, sustainability standards can no longer be considered 'niche' approaches. They cover over ten percent of global production in key commodities and sectors, such as wild-capture fisheries, tea, coffee and bananas. The 'demonstration effect' of pioneering initiatives – such as the Marine Stewardship Council, Fairtrade, UTZ Certified, the Rainforest Alliance / Sustainable Agriculture Network and the Forest Stewardship Council – has provided solid ground to expand the application of sustainability standards into new commodities and sectors such as soy and other food and biomass crops, cattle, mining, tourism, carbon, water and electronic waste. This positive demonstration effect is evidenced by the number of new standards systems that have emerged in recent years.

At the core of any standard system is the standard: a defined set of social, environmental, or economic criteria typically developed through multi-stakeholder processes. The standard is the foundation for green growth but it is only in its application by enterprises that the abstract criteria are translated into sustainable practices. This stage often requires significant investment in capacity building. Certification then provides a level of assurance to customers that products or services comply with the standard, thus harnessing the power of the market to deliver benefits to certified enterprises and to drive more sustainable development.

Sustainability standards have enabled the market for sustainable goods and services to expand through informing consumers of products and production processes. Sustainability standards have also played a strong market leadership role in driving best practice and supporting continuous improvement. Moreover the pivotal role that sustainability standards play in the field of public procurement and the greening of government expenditure is important to note.

While UNEP (2011) is supportive of sustainability standards to drive green growth, it has been observed that standards' ability to facilitate or hinder trade depends on how

they are set up and managed. For example, if the criteria associated with the scheme are not locally applicable or relevant, they can be deemed as trade restrictive. Similarly this can be the case if the verification procedures associated with a scheme are unnecessarily complex and discriminate against small and medium size enterprises.

For the ISEAL Alliance, these issues underscore the notion that sustainability standards are only able to make a positive contribution to green growth and sustainable development if they are credible and effective. The concept of credibility relates to:

- how a standard is set - for example following a process that is consistent with the World Trade Organization (WTO) disciplines of openness, transparency and due process;
- how standards compliance is verified - is the verification process impartial and independent and is the process fit for purpose; and
- whether the impact of a standard is assessed - is the effectiveness of the standards system in contributing to its stated sustainability goals assessed on a regular basis and is this learning integrated into the system, including improvement of the standard over time.

ISEAL has developed a number of consensus-based Codes of Good Practices that define credibility in these three spheres – standard setting, assurance and impact assessment. As such, these Codes can be considered international reference documents for what constitutes credible social and environmental standards.

With this as background, the ISEAL Alliance calls for the inclusion of a statement outlining a commitment to supporting the scaling up of credible sustainability standards as part of the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference, with the following text:

Governments, the business sector and civil society leaders all acknowledge the positive contribution that credible, effective multi-stakeholder sustainability standards can make to advance the implementation of the Green Economy concept in support of sustainable development. More specifically, the value of these market-based tools hinge on their ability to:

- provide a clear pathway for producers and manufacturers to improve sustainability practices;
- provide reliable benchmarks for supply chain buyers and consumers to make informed purchasing decisions; and
- streamline the financial due diligence process by signalling to institutional investors and lenders that good social and environmental practices are being upheld.

While sustainability standards have gained ground in recent years, in some cases representing more than ten percent of total production, they have not yet reached their full adoption potential. All governments participating in the Rio+20 Conference therefore commit to actively and comprehensively supporting the scaling up of credible sustainability standards for all commodities and sectors and in all parts of the world, especially in emerging and developing economies. They do this in line with their individual responsibilities, opportunities and constraints, duly recognising their role as actors in the public procurement sphere, facilitators of international trade, guardians of internal markets, decision makers on consumer information criteria and as initiators and supporters of international development and technical assistance.

Specific government actions that could support the scaling up of sustainability standards include:

- a) Practising credible sustainable public procurement through setting progressive targets across all product and service categories to ensure that a large, reliable market for sustainable products and services is able to evolve.
- b) Building consumer confidence in sustainability standards through:
  - collating and disseminating information on what constitutes credible sustainability standards. For example, only standards systems that follow WTO disciplines such as those that are in compliance with ISEAL's Standard-Setting Code can be considered credible and act as enablers of trade.
  - guiding corporate communication on sustainability claims and asking for measurable, verifiable and accurate information which can be substantiated by standards systems;
- c) Integrating sustainability standards in regulatory processes through setting legally binding rules for sustainable consumption. This should be enforced by requiring the use of credible standards to demonstrate these legal requirements have been met. An example of this approach is the European Union's Renewable Energy Directive (RED).
- d) Providing financial incentives for sustainably produced products or services through ensuring they receive favourable treatment by the State, such as direct subsidies, reduced tax rates, preferential tariff rates or by other means.
- e) Strengthening the implementation of sustainability standards systems by:
  - directly supporting company implementation, e.g. concessionary-rate loans for producers, support for small farmers through capacity building activities.
  - developing the supporting infrastructure for standards implementation by providing support structures and services with regards to accreditation and certification processes, registration as well as through building extension services to prepare producers to engage with sustainability standards.

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## Italian National Council of Economy and Labour (CNEL)

National Council of Economics and Labour

OBSERVATIONS AND PROPOSALS:

THE CNEL'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN RIO DE JANEIRO 2012 (RIO+ 20)

Assembly, 29 November 2011

### 1. BACKGROUND

1.1. On 24 December 2009 the General Assembly of the United Nations passed a resolution to hold a conference on sustainable development in 2012 (UN Conference on Sustainable Development -UNCSD). The UNCSD 2012 will be held in Rio de Janeiro, 40 years after the conference on the human environment held in Stockholm, 20 years after the conference on the environment and development in Rio de Janeiro (Environment and Development -UNCED) and 10 years after the world summit on sustainable development held in Johannesburg (World Summit on Sustainable Development -WSSD).

1.2. Based on the resolution of the General Assembly, the UNCSD 2012 will have three objectives, with the proceedings focussing on two topics in particular.

The objectives are:

-to guarantee a renewed political commitment to sustainable development; -to review the progress made to date, as well as the persistent delays in the enactment of the conclusions of the summits held on sustainable development; -to address the new challenges on the horizon.

The two specific topics are:

- a green economy within the context of sustainable development and the elimination of poverty;
- the institutional framework for sustainable development.

1.3. The CNEL, in light of the noteworthy contribution that the Rio summit can make to reinvigorating political determination and will, on both the global and regional levels, towards making further progress in the direction of more sustainable development, is using the present contribution to make proposals on a number of key issues that, in the opinion of the Council, are of particular importance to the success of the summit.

1.5. The CNEL welcomes the Resolution of the European Parliament and the Communication of the Commission, considering them important points of reference for a joint analysis by the various institutions of the EU, so as to arrive at a common position in preparation for the Rio+20 Conference. The CNEL is especially glad to see that the Communication of the Commission was presented jointly by the commissioners responsible for the environment and for development, making clear the connection that exists between the environment, sustainable development and aid to development.

1.6. In large part, the CNEL concurs with the opinion of the EESC on the Communication of the European Commission to the European Parliament, to the Council, to the European Economic and Social Committee and to the Committee of the Regions Rio+20: toward a green economy and improved governance.

1.7. Finally, the CNEL is confident that that all institutions and key participants in economic and social life shall work towards ensuring that the proceedings of the Rio + 20 summit serve as an incentive for reinforcing Italy's commitment to sustainable development.

## 2. OBSERVATIONS

2.1. The current situation. Although progress has been made over the last 20 years with regard to certain aspects of sustainable development, in many areas the situation has worsened. seen in absolute terms, poverty has increased: 2.6 billion people live on less than 2 euro a day;

1.5 billion workers, meaning roughly half the world total, do not have steady work. In 2010 the employment level was the highest since records have been kept;

the levels of carbon emissions in the atmosphere are continually on the rise, and climate change is having increasingly negative repercussions on living conditions in many regions of the world;

immigration is increasing on a global scale, placing additional pressure on the environment and on the security of supply flows;

based on current demographic trends, by 2050 the world's population will have reached 9 billion, making the above problems even more pressing.

2.2. New and emerging challenges. The growth of the world population, plus rising expectations in terms of standard of living and increased consumption of raw materials are beginning to place a strain on supplies of food, energy and other raw materials, leading to higher prices and serious social and political problems.

2.3. One of the most important new challenges that the world must face in the coming century is maintaining or reaching an adequate level of security in terms of food, energy and resources for everyone – both current and future generations -in a world whose population is on the rise and whose natural resources are limited. What is needed is qualitative economic growth able to contribute to eradicating poverty and social injustice while preserving natural resources for future generations. The key topics on which the 2012 world summit should concentrate its attention include the establishment of institutional structures able to meet these challenges.

2.4. Over the last three years the economic and financial crisis has been the central concern of political leaders and economic and financial bodies. Still, these pressing short-term problems should not deflect attention from the problems of the real world economy referred to above or from the impelling need to channel the activities of the world economy in the direction of increased sustainability, equity and greater respect for the environment. In and of itself, this transition should be a major source of new investments and new employment opportunities, in addition to ushering in increased levels of equity, cohesion, stability and resilience. In short, it could contribute to resolving the current economic difficulties.

2.5. A renewed political commitment. The 2012 Rio summit provides a valuable occasion for outlining this transformation and for determining the high-level political commitment that will be needed if this change is to become reality. It is of fundamental importance that the various heads of government address these problems, participating in the Conference in order to guarantee its success. Furthermore, given that the key issue is transforming the global economy, ministers of finance, the environment and economic development should also take part in the Conference.

2.6. Sustainable development is based on initiatives and on the participation of civil society, which, therefore, should also be involved in both the preparation for and the followup to the summit, as well as in the enactment of its conclusions. Forums for discussion should be created on both the national and international levels, in order to promote among the elements of civil society involved, as well as between civil society as a whole and political leaders, a dialogue on the topics of achieving the transition towards a green economy and sustainable development.

## 3. PROPOSALS

### 3.1. The green economy

3.1.1 A definition of the green economy. It is proposed that the summit arrive at a shared point of view on the definition and meaning of green economy, as well as on the reasons that make it an especially important objective for the entire world. To this end, the reflections and considerations being developed on the green economy by the UNEP (the United Nations Environmental Program) and within the OECD (the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development) constitute important points of reference.

3.1.2. Put concisely, the objective of the green economy is to render models of production and consumption more respectful of the natural resources they utilise, and specifically to reduce their dependence on fossil fuels. In practical terms, the intent of the green economy is to supply new tools capable of more effectively achieving the objective of sustainable development, resulting in an improved integration of these same tools within the framework of the other economic objectives pursued by governments and businesses.

3.1.3. The principles of the green economy. It is held that the RIO + 20 summit represents an excellent opportunity to establish a framework of principles capable of guiding the transition in the direction of a greener global economy. Such principles should be drawn from the underlying contents of the principles of Rio '92, of the Earth Charter, of the activities of the UNEP, the OECD and the ILO, as well as from other sources of note, so as to focus, though without taking the place of these existing principles, on those

values that prove to be of particular importance in terms of sustainable economic management. Such principles should explicitly include the internationalisation of external factors affecting the environment and social concerns, decreases in flows of natural resources, increased defence of ecosystems and the elimination of perverse subsidies, as well as the principles of equity, cooperation and shared but differentiated responsibilities.

3.1.4. In particular, a well-balanced framework of principles should ensure that the transition towards a green economy is managed in such a way as to prove advantageous for all the world's regions and not merely for a group of countries, such as those of the developed world.

3.1.5. Tools and measures. It is recommended that tools and political measures geared towards promoting sustainable development be shared: they could be grouped into five main categories:

- direct public spending geared towards sustaining the development and spread of greener technologies (for example, through R&D programs, subsidies for the start-up of new businesses and investment programs, programs of public tenders, direct consumer incentives etc.);
- tax measures designed to discourage activities damaging to the environment by ceasing to subsidise them or by taxing them;
- regulations meant to prevent or limit the less sustainable activities practiced by businesses or by other subjects, or that require the utilisation of greener methods or procedures;
- programs designed to inform, educate, supply with consulting and motivate businesses, workers, consumers etc. with respect to the challenges to be faced in terms of sustainability, as well as the contribution they can make to achieving the transition towards sustainability;
- shared tools for assessing the impact of anthropogenic activities on natural resources (the accounting of natural resources, the ecological footprint, "Factor 10" etc).

3.1.6. It is to be hoped that the RIO + 20 summit will provide a major occasion for formulating an overview of the progress made to date in terms of sustainable development throughout the world.

Even though measures of note have been introduced in many parts of the world, including Europe, over the last 20 years, the overall impact of such initiatives is not yet sufficient to contrast the persistent tendency to engage in non-sustainable development. Seeing that today, compared to 20 years ago, any of the dangers and problems tied to unsustainable development have become all the more menacing and urgent, the summit should consider how to revive global and regional efforts to enact the objectives of sustainability. To this end, the summit should specifically reflect on how to apply the different types of tools in a more rigorous fashion, and how to mobilise the public and private capital needed to carry out the transition in an equitable and balanced way throughout the world.

3.1.7. The obstacles. It is held that the lack of sufficient progress in terms of sustainable development can be traced to four general factors that the summit should, to the extent possible, examine in greater depth:

- the lack of consistent, reliable information of the impact of the different activities on the sustainability of the economy;
- the lack of confidence in the feasibility of the transition towards more sustainable models of production and consumption, as well as in the potentially positive impact of a similar transition on the wellbeing of individuals, on employment and on equity;
- the lack of confidence in the good faith of other countries and organisations, along with the fear that being the first to enact measures for sustainability can undermine the competitive position of whomever takes such action;
- the lack of commitment to sustainability on the part of those sectors of the public administration responsible for economic and financial operations, as well as from the managers of major companies and from the representatives of financial interests.

3.1.8. Assessment of the progress made towards a greener economy. One possibility proposed is to establish parameters to measure the progress made by businesses and by other organisations in the field of sustainability. In particular, methods should be drawn up to measure the different types of natural capital found in our territory, in our seas, in our atmosphere and in the biosystems that they sustain. Another necessary step would be to measure the negative or positive impact that the various economic activities can have on this capital.

3.1.9. The summit could establish international mechanisms, together with a timeline, in order to create a uniform set of procedures to be followed when countries draw up and publish the balance-sheets for their natural capital and when annual reports are issued on the impact of economic activities in terms of strengthening or weakening the natural capital, plus, in general terms, when the framework for achieving the shared objective of sustainable development is formulated.

3.1.10. It is also proposed that international processes and mechanisms be established in order to specify and analyse the way in which the different political tools and practices in the individual countries either contribute to progress towards stability or hinder it, so as to favour, over time, a greater convergence towards more sustainable economic policies throughout the world.

3.1.11. Even today, special attention is still focussed on the growth of the GDP alone as an index of development. Little or nothing is said about the consumption of natural resources and the promotion of equity. A more sustainable approach to policies of development calls for a wider-ranging vision that also considers the maximisation of wellbeing as a full-fledged goal for society. The summit should have as one of its specific objectives arriving at a commitment to establish a system for measuring the wellbeing of communities, in order to supplement the purely economic gauging of processes of development.

3.1.12. It would also be helpful if, in each country, information on the environment, on the progress made towards a greener economy and on other aspects of sustainable development were made more readily available, in order to facilitate more fully informed public discussion of the key issues. In Europe, the 1998 convention on access to information, on the participation of the public in decision-making processes and on access to the law with respect to environmental issues (the Aarhus Convention) has broadened and reinforced public rights to obtain access to information, at the same time promoting public participation and recourse to the law. Discussions are currently being held on the possibility of drawing up a similar convention in Latin America. The UNEP has formulated a more general framework that addresses a number of these considerations. The summit should encourage initiatives geared towards establishing similar conventions in all the regions of the world, within a global context.

3.1.13. Giving visibility to instances of success. There are countries, regions, cities, companies etc. in which noteworthy results have been achieved in the course of the transition towards sustainability. They have demonstrated that it is possible to reduce the negative environmental impact of the various economic activities while, at the same time, creating new opportunities for employment, thus improving overall wellbeing. More should be done to highlight the success stories recorded throughout the world, using them as examples capable of convincing others to follow the same path.

3.1.14. Reinforcement of international trust. Certain elements of the transition towards sustainability are starting to be shared. For example, technologies featuring low carbon emissions have become widespread in a series of key sectors, and they will probably serve as one of the main driving forces behind future economic growth, improvements in wellbeing and the creation of jobs. It would be helpful if the summit were to provide further impetus to this transition, in order to increase the flow of resources and investments

earmarked for the green technologies of the future, extending the scope of the transition to attract adequate investment flows for the sectors most often neglected, or that have registered less impressive results, such as the protection of the biosphere and the marine environment.

3.1.15. Turning the tax base greener. The most important challenge facing the 2012 Rio summit will be how to reach a more practically effective, far-reaching global agreement on mobilising public and private resources allocated for the development of skills and knowhow, for transfers of technology and for programs of sustainable investment to aid the less developed countries, as well as countries currently experiencing development, to keep pace with the transition towards sustainability, but in an equitable manner. In order to arrive at a solution to this problem, it is proposed that the summit give greater impetus to national and international efforts aimed at making the tax base greener. Indeed, it is held that the time has come to launch an initiative in favour of a tax on financial transactions, through an agreement reached on a global level, with the revenues to be used to finance investments in the field of sustainable development. We hold this to be a point of paramount importance, seeing that the capacity to make the transition towards sustainability can vary significantly from one country to another in terms of natural, economic and human resources.

3.1.16. Investments in research and development activities. The competent bodies within the United Nations should be assigned to identify sectors of research and development on technologies and tools favouring a green economy that could benefit from a move to combine such efforts through international cooperation. It is important that the new, greener technologies be rapidly implemented throughout the world. The responsible bodies of the UN should specifically identify any barriers to the rapid transfer of such technologies, determining ways in which they can be overcome.

3.1.17. Programs of public tenders can constitute an effective tool for moving manufacturers in the direction of greener products and services. Europe already has experience in holding "green" public tenders in compliance with the principles of free trade and within a European framework. The competent bodies of the UN could be assigned the specific task of promoting successful practices in this field throughout the world.

3.1.18. Investment flows. A new global understanding. According to widely accredited estimates, over the next 40 years the global investment needed to achieve the transition to a low-carbon-emissions economy in the energy sector alone shall be on the order of trillions of euro. And other elements of the transition to sustainability will also require massive sums. The ability to achieve this transition varies from one country to another in terms of natural, economic and human resources. One of the most important challenges facing the Rio 2012 summit will be finding a way to arrive at a more practically effective, farther-reaching global understanding to mobilise public and private resources for the development of capabilities, transfers of technology and programs of sustainable investment meant to aid the less developed countries, as well as countries currently in the development stages, so that they can keep pace with the transition towards sustainability, but in equitable fashion. The responsible bodies of the UN should be assigned the task of monitoring the progress made in terms of financial commitments and other efforts undertaken to assist developing countries in making the transition to sustainability.

3.1.19. Involvement of economic and financial leaders. Earlier discussions on the topic of sustainable development were essentially prepared by ministers of the environment and their departments, which inevitably played the dominant role. This phase provide to be of use when it came to identifying and assessing the problems. But now that the world has moved on to taking more practical action in the field of sustainability, implementing important measures involving taxes and industrial policy and redirecting major flows of financing and investment, it is proposed that economic and financial departments take on a more leading role. The summit should stimulate the political will and commitment needed to make sustainable development a priority item on the agendas of ministers of economics, finance and industry, in addition to establishing mechanisms capable of transforming this commitment into effective action extending over a long-term time frame, both nationally and internationally.

3.2. The institutional framework.

3.2.1. International governance. For the last 19 years responsibility for international monitoring of the progress made throughout the world in terms of sustainable development was held by the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). Nevertheless, national participation in the activities of the CSD is handled primarily by the ministries and departments of the environment, which do not possess the authority, either individually or collectively, to take effective measures in the fields of economics or finance, or in other sectors falling outside the scope of their responsibilities, and this despite the crucial importance of such measures for the progress of sustainable development.

3.2.2. It is held that the summit can remedy this problem by establishing a more effective mechanism within the UN system, meaning one that brings together the ministries and departments of economics, industry and labour (plus other ministries, if necessary), in order to jointly formulate global policies and programs of action involving sustainability. The above mechanism could take the form of a council on sustainable development that supplements and reinforces the activities currently carried out separately by Ecosoc and by the CSD of the UN. These supplementary activities could also be supported by a committee organised to ensure coordination of all the UN agencies that handle issues of sustainable development, including the IMF, the WTO, the WHO, Unesco etc. In addition, the UNEP should be reinforced, allowing it to make a more incisive contribution within the framework of all these processes.

3.2.3. Such a council should have as its members all the countries of the world, represented by their highest-placed political leaders. The Council should give priority to global initiatives involving all aspects of sustainable development, promoting the transition towards a greener economy while initiating activities that regard new and increasingly important issues such as food and energy security.

3.2.4. This new council should establish close ties with the World Bank and with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which would be assigned a new mission, namely that of making the promotion of sustainable development a central focus of their efforts.

3.2.5. The United Nations program for the environment (UNEP) and its development program (UNDP) should be reinforced, so that together they can make a more incisive contribution to the environmental aspect of sustainable development, as well as to development per se.

3.2.6. National governance. New vigour should be instilled in the national mechanisms designed to promote sustainable development. The primary responsibility for promoting sustainable development should be clearly placed with the government and with all the ministries most directly involved. Steps must be taken, in particular, to revive and update national strategies for sustainable development, ensuring the full involvement and support of businesses, workers and all the different sectors of civil society. At the same time, advisory bodies should be established, such as the national councils for sustainable development, and give adequate resources to make a full-fledged contribution to the introduction of new ideas, as well as to efforts to maintain the pressure for further progress.

3.2.7. Regional and local governance. Within the context of progress towards sustainable development, regional and local government bodies hold a number of key responsibilities, as shown by the many excellent examples of the results such bodies have achieved throughout the world. Nevertheless, to date the progress made has not been uniform. The summit could contribute to more widespread progress by highlighting the best results, as well as by encouraging national authorities to set objectives for further progress by their respective regional and local government bodies and to support them in fulfilling such commitments.

3.2.8. Businesses. Over the last 20 years, businesses have made noteworthy improvements, increasingly moving in the direction of sustainability. Still, progress in this sense has been uneven. It is held that the moment has arrived to encourage, based on the best examples, improved practices in terms of sustainability. The summit could serve as a useful occasion for initiating discussion and reflection on a similar effort.

3.2.9. Employment. It is held that the ILO's "Decent Work" principles and objectives should be made a full and integral part of the commitments of the UN conference. This is the main path to be taken in terms of guaranteeing fairness in the course of the transition towards equitable, sustainable development both in developed countries and in

those where development is currently underway or has been delayed. Of particular importance is the need to support programs of education and training, especially for young people, and in all countries; it is held that the promotion of new skills and know-how will contribute to creating new jobs on the global labour market, generating positive social repercussions worldwide.

### 3.3. Objectives in key sectors

3.3.1. It is proposed that the summit assess the ways in which the green economy concept will influence the primary economic sectors. Steps should be taken in each sector to encourage a more efficient use of energy, as well as of all other natural resources, so as to reduce the impact of pollution and of the production of waste, in addition to which greater attention should be focussed on the environment and on biodiversity. In the case of the developing countries, the current projects revolve around the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG). It is recommended that, on the occasion of the revision of these goals in 2015, new development objectives be set, with greater emphasis placed on objectives of sustainable development. To this end, the Rio + 20 summit could issue a mandate providing guidelines for the revision of the MDG.

3.3.2. Energy. Turning the energy sector green constitutes the single most important challenge of the overall push towards a green economy. In today's world, the production and consumption of energy practically underlie all economic activities carried out worldwide. According to the 2010 report of the IEA (International Energy Agency), the world energy outlook for 2035 is characterised by an increase in the demand for energy, together with an essentially unchanged production mix. Basic access to energy remains a pressing need in some of the world's poorer regions. Meanwhile traditional fossil fuels (especially oil) are becoming increasingly rare, in addition to proving more difficult and costly to procure. What is more, emissions from the combustion of fossil fuels are the primary cause of the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, as well as the ominous changes in the climate, in the levels of the sea etc., the effects of which are already starting to be seen.

3.3.3. The ambitious objectives for reducing greenhouse gases make necessary an attentive assessment of the tools available for limiting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to the greatest extent possible, while guaranteeing, at one and the same time, minimum cost expenditures and a maximum level of safeguards for the competitiveness of industry. In identifying such tools, mention can be made of, from among other options, the production of energy from renewable sources and energy efficiency, with the synergy between the two being of fundamental importance when it comes to achieving the objectives with higher levels of flexibility and lower costs for each country system. As part of this effort, the European Commission has already established a new working plan (the Low Economy Roadmap) for achieving an 80% reduction in carbon reductions by 2050, as compared to 1990 levels. Leading the shift on the planetary level towards a low-carbon emissions economy should represent the main objective in efforts against climate change.

3.3.4. Discussions regarding the objectives and the timeline for the transition to a more ecological economy have already been initiated in any forums, in particular within the framework of the UN convention on climate change. As part of a global understanding, it would be helpful if the summit forecast the level of investment that will necessary over the next 40 years in the less developed countries and in small, relatively isolated states in order to provide them with adequate access to sources of clean energy while establishing suitable international mechanisms capable of contributing to generating the necessary funds and to monitoring the progress made.

3.3.5. Transportation. Reducing dependency on fossil fuels and promoting an efficient use of resources constitute the primary challenge with regard to sustainability in the transportation sector as well. To meet this challenge, it will be necessary to:

- reduce or limit increases in the demand for transportation through improved planning of the constructed environment;
- promote collective modes of public transportation rather than individual modes of transport;
- increase the energy efficiency of all modes of transport;
- abandon fuels with higher levels of carbon in favour of fuels with zero or low carbon emissions, such as green electric energy or bio-fuels produced in accordance with the tenets of sustainability;
- further improve existing agreements on the disposal of vehicles and other transportation materials at the end of their life cycle.

3.3.6. The constructed environment. Urban environments vary significantly throughout the world, mirroring specific climatic, physical, social and economic conditions, as well as the different historical backgrounds. Still, they all face a number of common underlying challenges tied to the need to achieve greater sustainability. For example, a decidedly higher level of efficiency must be attained in the use of energy to heat or cool all the types of buildings, as well as in the use of other materials and resources. Steps should be taken to promote forms of transportation that are greener and less damaging to the environment everywhere, and efforts must be made to improve the management and conservation of water resources worldwide. Improvements should also be made in the management of waste flows, with emphasis placed on reducing waste production and supporting reuse and recycling. Another priority objective in urbanised areas, and one whose pursuit can no longer be put off, is the objective of improving the quality of the air: this constitutes a determining factor (as reported by the WHO) not only in the health of citizens, but also in the rising levels of healthcare spending. All the above considerations call for renewed attention, in light of the ongoing growth of the urban population, with a further result of the situation being a powerful impetus towards the innovation of processes and products.

3.3.7. Agriculture and the rural environment. It is held that, from the perspective of the green economy, thoroughgoing changes must occur in agricultural practices in many parts of the world. In numerous countries government intervention is essentially geared towards safeguarding the income of farmers or limiting the prices of basic foodstuffs or meeting both goals. While these are fundamental concerns, they should be supplemented with equal attention for the roles played by the agricultural and rural worlds in guaranteeing food security, conserving the natural capital of the land and its resources of biodiversity and defending food security against the threat of hydrogeological disruptions and flooding, together with their contributions to energy policies, which are not of secondary importance either. A further concern is the development of more virtuous policies for the use of farmland exposed to continuous erosion on account of invasive urbanisation.

3.3.8. Another point to be stressed is that deforestation and the deterioration of forestry resources lead to environmental and social damage that proves difficult to reverse, such as prolonged alterations in the balance of water tables, the onset of steppe-like terrain or desertification, climate changes and a loss of biodiversity, as well as rural poverty and conflicts over land and access to resources, rights and benefits, the overall economic cost of which proves to be far greater than the cost of eventual preventive and corrective efforts; it is held that the Rio+20 Summit should set itself the objective of ensuring participatory governance in the forestry sector, together with an equitable and fair distribution of benefits, plus the conservation and sustainable use of forests worldwide.

3.3.9. The CNEL holds that the key to sustainable agriculture lies in food production that is quantitatively sufficient, qualitatively excellent and regionally diversified, being implemented throughout the territory, in compliance with respect for nature and in such a way as to safeguard and defend the rural environment, preserve the differentiation and distinctive quality of production activities and promote both cultural landscapes rich in a wide variety of different species and rural areas.

3.3.10. Effective measures should be taken to improve the operations of agricultural markets while rendering them more transparent. Unacceptable fluctuations and increases in the prices of food products should be contrasted. The use of renewable raw materials for the production of energy cannot be promoted at the expense of the procurement of food supplies worldwide. Secure supplies of food should be guaranteed by establishing reserves on a regional basis. There should also be a push to make increased use of

the residual biomass generated by agricultural activities and food production.

3.3.11. Steps must be taken to guarantee workers' rights in the agricultural sector, through application of the existing ILO conventions. The active participation of civil society in projects of regional and local sustainability is indispensable and, to this end, particular emphasis should be placed on the role of women in developing countries. 3.3.12. The FAO and the UNEP could be entrusted with the task of jointly examining the sustainability of current agricultural practices, and of the management of the land, in each country, further analysing possible options for reforming these sectors, while also looking at the regulations and incentives under which they are currently governed, all for the purpose of promoting a greener rural sector.

3.3.13. The marine environment. In the same way as we discuss the green economy, we can also speak of a Blue Economy with regard to marine resources. Here too increase attention and efforts must be forthcoming from the international community. The marine environment is currently subject to growing pressure on account of pollution and excessive exploitation of marine resources, which, in certain limits, has reached the danger level. It balances, which not only ensures flows of food resources, but also serves as one of the most potent systems of climate regulation, could be threatened by policies of unwise use. The summit should make it obligatory that a new international procedure be established to reinforce and coordinate the existing mechanisms for safeguarding the marine environment. The summit should also assign to the responsible bodies of the UN the task of implementing a new international procedure designed to strengthen and coordinate existing mechanisms in the field of defence of the marine environment, in addition to finding a more effective approach to preserving stocks of fish and other marine resources than that taken under current rules and regulations.

3.3.14. Biodiversity. The safeguarding of biodiversity should be viewed as one of the primary guarantees of survival. We ask that the Conference reiterate this principle, in light of what we hold to be an excessive tendency to underestimate the loss of living species that occurs on a daily basis. This issue undoubtedly entails an ethical problem that cannot be ignored: namely that of the relationship between mankind and nature. But even when biodiversity is considered in purely economic terms, it appears as an extraordinary resource for policies of sustainable development. And this is true not only on account of the "services" that biodiversity provides (an example being the critical importance of the pollination carried out by the very insects continually threatened with products introduced into the air), but also with regard to extremely important economic sectors, such as tourism and leisure activities.

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## Jacob Soetendorp Institute for Human Values

Jacob Soetendorp Institute for Human Values

Submission to the Compilation Document in preparation of the Zero Draft Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The Jacob Soetendorp Institute for Human Values is building bridges between diverse cultures, religions, and generations. It helps to coordinate the international Earth Charter Task Force on Religion, Spirituality, and Ethics and brings together leaders and teachers of the world's religious and spiritual traditions to express our concern for Earth, our common home.

With the help of an interreligious steering committee we have crafted a statement which calls on our various traditions to work together for a just, sustainable and peaceful future, enlists commitments of the faith communities to become agents of change in the transition to sustainable development and highlights some basic expectations of the outcomes of the Rio + 20 conference.

Three key recommendations are:

- Create a green economy that ensures social justice and equity, protects the ecological balance and creates economic sufficiency by internalizing social and environmental costs into the economic bottom line.
- Create structures for global governance with a global trusteeship mandate for Earth's common goods such as fresh water, healthy soil, clean air, the oceans, the atmosphere and the diversity of life that are essential conditions for human life and well-being which cannot be sensibly privately owned and traded on markets.
- Affirm a framework of strong sustainability aimed at securing Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations, such as the Earth Charter, as a guide to development policy and practice. By the end of the year, we will further refine the statement in a process of interreligious consultation that aims to empower the world's spiritual and religious communities to redouble their efforts of acting as forces of good by weighing in on the Rio + 20 preparation and further international processes such as UNCSD and the realization of the Millennium Development Goals.

Please find below the interreligious statement in its version of 31 October, 2011:

TOWARDS RIO + 20 AND BEYOND - A TURNING POINT IN EARTH HISTORY

Speaking truth to power

As leaders and teachers of the world's religious and spiritual traditions, we express our concern for Earth, our common home. We applaud the United Nations' initiative to gather the international community in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012 for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. We seek to contribute to a renewed political commitment to sustainable development and to the assessment of progress made since the historic Earth Summit in Rio in 1992.

While some progress has been made since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, with sadness we recognize that the interconnected problems of development, equity and ecology have become more severe over the past twenty years. We painfully realize that our credibility as bearers of the image of the Divine is at stake in a world where we allow so many to live in misery, in a habitat devastated by the pursuit of short-term self interest.

The ideals of a shared responsibility for the well-being of the human family and the greater community of life have been expressed passionately in the Earth Charter, the Johannesburg Declaration, and in many other commitments since the Rio Earth Summit. What has prevented us from realizing these commitments?

Adherents of spiritual traditions should be the vanguard of speaking truth to power. We have to take part of the blame, as we have allowed ourselves to become fragmented. We acknowledge that we have failed to live as compassionately as we could have, and that some have created human misery in the name of religion. Yet we believe in the power of repentance, and seek to counter fear with hope. We cannot change the past, but from the honest acknowledgement of our mistakes, we can draw the strength and insight to change the future for the better. Our soul-searching compels us to enter the conference rooms in Rio not by preaching, but by leading through example.

The missing element – a spirit of trust and collaboration

All negotiations will fail as long as there is no trust, no respect and no hope. In our different traditions and cultures there exist similar parables that urge us to express empathy on a global scale. Humanity is one body. When one part of the body aches, the other parts feel the pain.

For breaking the threshold in the international negotiations we need to rebuild trust between governments of the North and the South, East and West, between NGOs and the business sector, and different schools of thought. When we are able to help each other transcend the prison of self interest, everything will be possible. We should not have to fear anymore the presumed hidden agendas of the others but rather be open to see in each others' eyes the manifestation of the image of the source of all being. This is the spirit which we hope to see at the Rio + 20 Conference.

Reorienting our economic bottom line towards full human development

At the heart of the great diversity of our spiritual teachings, there is a common theme: They teach that, in this world of death and suffering, ignorance, fear and desire – through right understanding and practice – an individual can connect to the deeper, ultimate, radiant and caring source of all that is, and create a way of living that assists all in finding a fulfilling and enduring life.

To make development truly sustainable, our economic, scientific and technological accomplishments should assist the processes of individual, psychological and spiritual development. We must reorient our economic bottom line to support this full human development if we wish to live in a flourishing Earth community.

Our commitments to accelerate the Great Transition towards sustainability, equity and well-being

We, who represent such a magnificent diversity of religious and spiritual expressions, commit to the following:

We commit to transcend traditional boundaries and speak in one unprecedented unified voice.

We repent where our traditions and organizations have promoted violence and injustice towards others, and have supported the destruction of the environment.

We embrace with joy the blessed opportunity to forge a global partnership to truly care for Earth and one another.

We recognize that the principle of compassion lies at the heart of all religious, spiritual, and ethical traditions, calling us always to treat others as we wish to be treated ourselves.

We commit to fully engage in the paradigm shift towards universal responsibility and global empathy with all our brothers and sisters, and the whole community of life on Earth. Manifestations of this global empathy such as the Earth Charter, the Charter for Compassion, and the Uppsala Interfaith Climate Manifesto will guide our way towards strengthened interfaith collaboration for creating a more just, peaceful, and sustainable future.

We commit to tread more lightly on Earth and regard it as our sacred duty to lead through example and demonstrate sustainable living in our religious and spiritual communities. In this, we draw strength, encouragement and inspiration from the many good practices that are already being applied by religious communities around the world.

We commit to educate ourselves to work effectively in development policy arenas, understanding the critical changes that need to be made in our economic and governance structures to create a flourishing future for all.

We commit to redouble our efforts of serving as forces for good, by weighing in on the major international processes including Rio + 20, the UN Decade on Education for Sustainable Development and the realisation of the Millennium Development Goals.

We speak out for recognizing the importance of the global ethical and spiritual consciousness awakening in civil society around the world for advancing the transition to sustainable development. In fact, we consider this global ethical consciousness as the foundation of the other three pillars of a sustainable way of life, because it involves the internalization of the values of sustainable human development; it is a source of inspiration and motivation for action, as well as an essential guide regarding the path to genuine sustainability.

This elevated intention of the world's spiritual and religious leaders to awaken a global ethical and spiritual consciousness in civil society is bound to have a vibrant impact on others. Inspired by the values and commitments of this community of leaders, it is our hope that the world community will find the courage and strength to fully engage in elevated action and shift the old paradigm, taking us beyond national self-interest.

Our appeals to the Rio + 20 Conference

We appeal to the representatives of governments and international institutions to likewise transcend national boundaries and take measures which seem to contravene national self interest but are necessary for preserving the community of life.

We applaud your courageous steps towards unified action at the beginning of the third Millennium by adopting the Millennium Development Goals. We urge you to honour your commitment to realize these goals by 2015, and adopt goals that go further by 2030, which should include the goal to completely eradicate poverty by that date.

We urge the representatives of all governments to:

- Show courageous leadership in addressing the major global challenges that threaten the very survival of humanity on this planet.
- Create a green economy that ensures social justice and equity, protects the ecological balance and creates economic sufficiency by internalizing social and environmental costs into the economic bottom line.
- Create structures for global governance with a global trusteeship mandate for Earth's common goods such as fresh water, healthy soil, clean air, the oceans, the atmosphere and the diversity of life that are essential conditions for human life and well-being which cannot be sensibly privately owned and traded on markets.
- Affirm a framework of strong sustainability aimed at securing Earth's bounty and beauty for present and future generations, such as the Earth Charter, as a guide to development policy and practice.
- Acknowledge the importance of the spiritual dimension of sustainability – that when basic needs have been met, human development is primarily about being more, not having more.

A solemn moment of existential global decision making

Our religious and spiritual traditions command us not only to feed the hungry, but to give of our own bread. This is not a deed of charity but of justice. We therefore call upon each citizen of the world community, especially within the rich countries and communities, to pledge each year an extra global empathy share of 0.1 % of one's income to raise the necessary funds to alleviate abject misery, to realize the Millennium Development Goals, and to respond to urgent humanitarian crises such as the current famine in the horn of Africa.



We hope that in time we may form out of our midst a Council of Conscience which speaks with moral authority, provides guidance on the urgent global challenges humanity is facing and issues alerts about perilous trends and hidden conflicts that escape the attention of the media and public awareness.

This is a solemn moment of existential global decision making. The Rio + 20 Conference provides a historic opportunity to lead the world into a more sustainable future. We do not have another twenty years to lose. To move forward in our best interests and even more in the interests of those yet to be born, we must change our course of negotiation and realize that only together can we forge inclusive solutions.

Humble in the recognition that we are but dust and ashes, we are conscious that the consequences of our decisions and actions will be felt by many generations to come. We turn to the Source of All Blessings for strength and courage. May our children, and our children's children not be disappointed with our actions, may we be able to make them proud.

Submitted by

Rabbi Awraham Soetendorp, President and Founder, Jacob Soetendorp Institute for Human Values

His Holiness Mahamandaleshwar Paramhans Swami Maheshwarananda, Founder, Sri Swami Madhavananda World Peace Council

Dadi Janki, Administrative Head, Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University

Ven. Chung Ok Lee, Head Minister, Won Buddhism of Manhattan

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## Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES)

Input to the Compilation Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society

November 1, 2011

Japan Center for a Sustainable Environment and Society (JACSES) is an NGO dedicated to achieve sustainable development and social justice. JACSES was established in June 1993. The establishment of JACSES was led by the idea of an independent NGO/think-tank, which was brought up by Japan's delegates at the 1992 Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

JACSES has been broadly engaged with general public and experts in research, policy advocacy and awareness-raising. Currently, JACSES' activities are centered around Earth Summit Follow-up Project, Sustainable Development and Aid Program, Green Tax Reform Program, Ecological SPACE (Sustainable Production and Consumption) Project, Climate Change Program, etc.

### 1. Introduction

At the time of Rio-Summit in 1992, the expectation toward "Peace Dividend (reallocation of military expenditures in order to eradicate poverty and solve environmental problems)" was raised. We would like to remind people of the "Peace Dividend" concept, reconsider the situation of world financial crisis, and reform the international policies and frameworks toward realization of peaceful, sustainable and equitable society.

### 2. Proposals for Outcome of Rio+20

JACSES suggests the following political commitments to be adopted as the outcome of Rio +20.

#### 2-1. Proposals on Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

- a) Enhancing financial mechanisms which directly reach poor people and vulnerable people affected by environmental degradations.
- b) Creating new financial resources for sustainable development through measures including prevention of political corruption, reduction of military expenditure, and imposition of financial transaction tax.
- c) Establishing/Improving environmental and social standards, environmental management systems and evaluation systems of international financial institutions, national governments (including the emerging countries), private financial institutions and infrastructure funds in order to improve the quality of development assistance and finance.
- d) Establishing international mechanisms which provide incentives to individuals/entities that develop and/or disseminate appropriate technologies to contribute to sustainable development (e.g. highest energy-efficient technology and renewable energy technology).
- e) Reforming tax systems and fiscal policies which provide incentives to the individuals/entities contributing to sustainable development and social justice, while impose burdens to unsustainable consumption and production patterns.
- f) Promoting greater use of renewable energy except for large-scale hydroelectric generation, and starting international discussion process regarding phase-out of nuclear power.
- g) Introducing standards and indicators on environmental capacity concept including north-south and inter-generational equity.

#### 2-2. Proposals on Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

- a) Enhancing transparency and building appropriate evaluation systems of international institutions.
- b) Strengthening the International Court of Justice and International Labor Organization.
- c) Strengthening mechanisms of environmental and social consideration in international trade and investment rules (WTO agreements, FTA etc.).

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## Japan Civil Network for the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development Rio+20

November 1, 2011 Stakeholder Type: Major Group (NGO) Japan Civil Network for the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 3.11 Working Group

Contact Person: Makiko Imai [bd.seimei@gmail.com](mailto:bd.seimei@gmail.com)

### Key Message:

Convention of the Biological Diversity was opened for signature at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), Rio Conference in 1992. It now has 193 Parties and is regarded as the most important convention of the world. Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (Aichi Biodiversity Targets) was adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of Parties on Convention of Biodiversity (CBD-COP10) and the United Nations General Assembly declared 2011-2020 the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (Resolution 65/161). Biodiversity is the basis of Society, Economy, and Culture. Without it, humanity cannot survive. Biodiversity and its concept "Living in Harmony with Nature" shall be regarded as a basis of all the discussion in the United Nations. We must all agree to build the society which values biodiversity and respects life. Outcome of RIO+20 shall well represent such important points; both in discussion of Green Economy and the Institutional Framework.

### Gap and Recommendation:

- Importance of biodiversity is still not well recognized even among the policy makers. With The UN Decade on Biodiversity, the United Nations should make every effort to improve this situation. World need philosophy, which calls for respect for life. Biodiversity can be it.
- Government vertical administrative structure has been a major obstructs. Every effect shall be taken in order to solve the problem.
- It is regretted that government with great influence, such as the United States of America, is not signed to the important conventions. Such issue shall be clearly addressed as world needs stronger political commitment.
- While the focus on low-carbon development and resource efficiency is important, we must not forget that respect for biodiversity is crucial for green economy. Inter-relationship between United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) shall be closely observed.
- While Sustainable Development is the issue for all of us, it is regretted that policymaking discussion is often highly technical and majority of the people are hard to participate. Resilient society shall be matured through the continuous dialogue with various stakeholders with different background, knowledge and skills. Every effort shall be made to encourage participation of the people who rely their lives heavily on natural resources and biodiversity. Voices of vulnerable groups, local community and small farmers, mother and children, youth shall be better respected.

One learning from 3.11 Earthquake and Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster is that nature is not controllable. We must have awe and respect for the nature and admit the limitation of scientific knowledge. It is agenda of our generations to review the existing development policy and take significant step for denuclearization.

Reference: Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; Aichi Biodiversity Targets

The Vision: By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.

The Mission: Take Effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet's variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication. To ensure this, pressures on biodiversity are reduced, ecosystem are restored, biological resources are sustainably used and benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources are shared in a fair and equitable manner; adequate financial resources are provided, capacities are enhanced, biodiversity issues and values mainstreamed, appropriate policies are effectively implemented, and decision-making is based on sound science and the precautionary approach.

Strategic Goal A: Address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss by mainstreaming biodiversity across government and society

Target 1 By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

Target 2 By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.

Target 3 By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.

Target 4 By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.

Strategic Goal B: Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use

Target 5 By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.

Target 6 By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.

Target 7 By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.

Target 8 By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.

Target 9 By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.

Target 10 By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.

Strategic Goal C: To improve the status of biodiversity by safeguarding ecosystems, species and genetic diversity

Target 11 By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.

Target 12 By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.

Target 13 By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.

Strategic Goal D: Enhance the benefits to all from biodiversity and ecosystem services

Target 14 By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.

Target 15 By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.

Target 16 By 2015, the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization is in force and operational, consistent with national legislation.

Strategic Goal E: Enhance implementation through participatory planning, knowledge management and capacity building

Target 17 By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.

Target 18 By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.

Target 19 By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.

Target 20 By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.

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## Japan Women's Watch (JAWW)

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

The JAWW (Japan Women's Watch) is a Japanese women's network to enhance the empowerment of women and contribute to the world women's movement. It works for the implementation of the BPFA (Beijing Platform for Action) and other UN outcomes in close collaboration with APWW (Asia Pacific Women's Watch).

Responding to the 3.11 Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima, JAWW received contributions from global women's networks and distributed them among women's groups which have been supporting affected people. JAWW also has been advocating for institutionalization of women's participation in decision making process in the reconstruction process.

In the process of UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012, so-called Rio+20, representing women major group, JAWW joined the Japanese National Preparatory Committee for Rio +20 which consists of multi-stakeholders and produced an input to the compilation document. JAWW also actively participated in the the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Committee Meeting for the Earth Summit 2012 on 19-20 October 2011 held in Seoul, Republic of Korea and worked as a member of women's caucus.

Representing women's network in Japan, the JAWW submits the following inputs for the compilation of the outcome document for Rio+20.

#### **a. The expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 and the concrete proposals, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document**

Despite the 20 years' efforts worldwide since Rio, little progress has been achieved in terms of mainstreaming gender equality in sustainable development. Recalling the Agenda 21 and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, both governmental and non-governmental organizations should re-affirm the women's empowerment and gender equality are a core principle of sustainable development in the Outcome Document of the Rio

+20.

Considering the inequality between genders that remains in various spheres of the society, especially economic situation and the participation in decision- making, governments should clearly express their commitments with concrete measures, including positive actions and cross compliances, to rectify the situation.

Based on the heartbreaking and disastrous experiences in Fukushima at the

3.11 Great East Japan Earthquakes and its long term damages on human beings, society and economy, JAWW strongly proposes that the energy policy should depart from dependency on nuclear energy and up-scale funding to renewable energy. The process of shifting to renewable energy should be transparent and participatory, so that women and other vulnerable people can participate in the decision-making process as equal to men. Women should be regarded as a producer of energy but not merely a consumer and should be guaranteed to have equal opportunities to acquire new technologies and various benefits.

Gender disaggregated data is the basis of promoting gender equality in sustainable development. More resources should be allocated for the collection, analysis and disclosure of gender disaggregated data in relation to sustainable development.

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

The green economy should be defined as the one that enables gender justice and long term social and wellbeing of present and future generations, especially marginalized groups, including women in poverty. The goals and monitoring tools of the green economy should include indicators to measure the achievement of gender justice.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

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### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

Based on its experience of advocacy to connect gender equality in the sustainable development, JAWW proposes to institutionalize that the organization/section in charge of gender equality should be a part of organization/section in charge of sustainable development. In Japan, as a result of the advocacy by women's network, the Japan's Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction which is based on the Basic Act on Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction (Law No. 76, 2011) clearly states that gender equality and women's participation in decision- making are the basic principle in the reconstruction process and the section/person in charge should be included in the headquarters for reconstruction at national and local levels. This must be a good example how to connect both.

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

### INPUTS FOR COMPILATION DOCUMENT

by JAWW (Japan Women's Watch)

The JAWW (Japan Women's Watch) is a Japanese women's network to enhance the empowerment of women and contribute to the world women's movement. It works for the implementation of the BPFA (Beijing Platform for Action) and other UN outcomes in close collaboration with APWW (Asia Pacific Women's Watch).

Responding to the 3.11 Great East Japan Earthquake and the subsequent nuclear power plant accident in Fukushima, JAWW received contributions from global women's networks and distributed them among women's groups which have been supporting affected people. JAWW also has been advocating for institutionalization of women's participation in decision making process in the reconstruction process.

In the process of UN Conference on Sustainable Development 2012, so-called Rio+20, representing women major group, JAWW joined the Japanese National Preparatory Committee for Rio +20 which consists of multi-stakeholders and produced an input to the compilation document. JAWW also actively participated in the the Asia-Pacific Regional Preparatory Committee Meeting for the Earth Summit 2012 on 19-20 October 2011 held in Seoul, Republic of Korea and worked as a member of women's caucus.

Representing women's network in Japan, the JAWW submits the following inputs for the compilation of the outcome document for Rio+20.

*a. The expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 and the concrete proposals, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document*

Despite the 20 years' efforts worldwide since Rio, little progress has been achieved in terms of mainstreaming gender equality in sustainable development. Recalling the Agenda 21 and Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, both governmental and non-governmental organizations should re-affirm the women's empowerment and gender equality are a core principle of sustainable development in the Outcome Document of the Rio

+20.

Considering the inequality between genders that remains in various spheres of the society, especially economic situation and the participation in decision- making, governments should clearly express their commitments with concrete measures, including positive actions and cross compliances, to rectify the situation.

Based on the heartbreaking and disastrous experiences in Fukushima at the

3.11 Great East Japan Earthquakes and its long term damages on human beings, society and economy, JAWW strongly proposes that the energy policy should depart from dependency on nuclear energy and up-scale funding to renewable energy. The process of shifting to renewable energy should be transparent and participatory, so that women and other vulnerable people can participate in the decision-making process as equal to men. Women should be regarded as a producer of energy but not merely a consumer and should be guaranteed to have equal opportunities to acquire new technologies and various benefits.

Gender disaggregated data is the basis of promoting gender equality in sustainable development. More resources should be allocated for the collection, analysis and disclosure of gender disaggregated data in relation to sustainable development.

b. *Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication:*

The green economy should be defined as the one that enables gender justice and long term social and wellbeing of present and future generations, especially marginalized groups, including women in poverty. The goals and monitoring tools of the green economy should include indicators to measure the achievement of gender justice.

c. *Institutional framework for sustainable development:*

Based on its experience of advocacy to connect gender equality in the sustainable development, JAWW proposes to institutionalize that the organization/section in charge of gender equality should be a part of organization/section in charge of sustainable development. In Japan, as a result of the advocacy by women's network, the Japan's Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction which is based on the Basic Act on Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction (Law No. 76, 2011) clearly states that gender equality and women's participation in decision-making are the basic principle in the reconstruction process and the section/person in charge should be included in the headquarters for reconstruction at national and local levels. This must be a good example how to connect both.

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31 October 2011

## Japanese Stakeholders for the Promotion of Sustainable Development

The Japanese National Preparatory Committee for Rio +20 and its Activities Given UN Resolution 64/236, the Japanese National Preparatory Committee for Rio +20 was established on Wednesday, July 13, 2011 as a voluntary gathering of a wide range of stakeholders with an interest in Rio +20, including the 9 major groups mentioned in Agenda 21, in order to promote dialogue for Rio +20 between stakeholders in Japan. The co-Chairs of the Japanese National Preparatory Committee for Rio +20 were selected at its first meeting on July 13, 2011. The Japanese National Preparatory Committee for Rio +20 hosted workshops with the purpose of sharing information and exchanging views on the issues of Rio +20 to reflect a wide range of Japanese stakeholders' input in the preparation of the zero draft of the Rio+20 outcome document. The opinions and recommendations of the Japanese National Preparatory Committee for Rio +20 are summarized below in this proposal.

Key Messages from Japanese Stakeholders Expecting Political Commitments to Develop a Sustainable International Society for the 21st Century Our Lessons learned from Experiences from the Great East Japan Earthquake, Tsunami, and the subsequent Nuclear Power Plant Accident

The global environment has, despite great efforts, deteriorated in the 20 years since the Rio Summit was held, while the global economy and most regional economies are floundering. We believe that now is the time to take action in cooperation with the peoples of the world so that future generations are not exposed to significant environmental risks or ecological crises and can live a comfortable and healthy life.

Amidst this backdrop, people live in Japan experienced the unprecedented Great East Japan Earthquake, tsunami and subsequent nuclear power accident in March 2011. During the reconstruction process, Japan is striving to build a resilient society that is considerate of the local environment, economy, society and cultural values. Japan has also received massive amounts of assistance for its reconstruction effort from countries around the world. We sincerely appreciate this international assistance. Based on the lessons learned during the reconstruction process in the wake of the Great East Japan Earthquake we, Japanese multi-stakeholders convey the following message for Rio +20. All countries that use nuclear power as well as international society must learn from this accident and take fundamental measures to strengthen nuclear power safety. Reviews concerning the future

direction of nuclear power and shifts to renewable energy policy should be held with participation from a wide range of domestic and international actors. In addition, radioactive contamination spread from the nuclear power accident has polluted foodstuff, water, the ocean and soil, threatened economic activities and the sound daily life of the people, and has forced local residents to evacuate their homes. This experience has taught us that 21st century society must be firmly grounded in systems that ensure environmental conservation and ecosystem services, which form critical infrastructure that is at the very heart of human survival.

The spirit of transnational and trans-regional *kyoujyo* (mutual assistance) illustrated in the wake of the earthquake and tsunami represents the exact stance required to build a sustainable society. Japan would like to provide as reference to the discussions on sustainable development in Rio +20 the example of *green reconstruction*<sup>1</sup> in which the sustainable use of natural capital<sup>2</sup> has been used as part of the earthquake reconstruction effort that is seeking to quickly restore the core industries of the disaster-affected areas, including agriculture, forestry and fisheries, while balancing biodiversity conservation with development, based on the traditions and culture of these local areas. Japan retains energy saving, environmentally sound and recycling technologies that are among the best in the world today and also has a track record of social systems such as the energy efficiency top-runner approach and the pledge and review system. There is also the fact that Japanese earthquake-resistant technologies, safety management systems, and disaster prevention measures also functioned during the Great East Japan Earthquake, as evidenced by Shinkansen bullet trains stopping safely as well as earthquake resistance technologies and safety management practices in high-rise buildings living up to their potential. We would like to further improve Japanese world-leading technologies and supporting social systems, further deepen understanding, diffusion and capacity building both in Japan and internationally, and, by doing so, make contributions to the development of a sustainable world.

We Japanese Stakeholders Expect the Following Political Commitments to be Adopted as the Outcome of Rio +20

1) Add culture as the fourth pillar of sustainable development and promote multi-layered initiatives: In order to develop a sustainable global community in the 21st century, we must attain a uniform sustainability based on multifaceted and multilayered relationships as well as add culture to the other pillars of the environment, economy and society. We need to learn from the wisdom and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and history rooted in local communities and the countries, such as, for example, actions embodied by the Japanese term *mottainai* or the spirit of the indigenous Ainu people that deeply reveres nature, as well as value cultural diversity and work together with the many different stakeholders that make up the global community while respecting one another. The promotion of above-mentioned multilayered initiatives is essential for sustainable development.

2) Promote sustainable development under social justice and steadfast principles: The principles that should be shared by all peoples and countries of the world are essential to the realization of a sustainable society. Specifically, these principles include respect for human rights as set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the achievement of social justice across generations, genders and regions, control of the law, the disclosure of public information to the public, promotion of participation of women, children, youth and other socially vulnerable groups in the policy making processes, the assurance of transparency in policy formulation, implementation, oversight and evaluation, the decentralization of power and local sovereignty, the polluter-pays principle and the beneficiaries-pay principle, the establishment of decision-making rules based on scientific knowledge incorporating precautionary principles, and in particular the need for thorough, multifaceted screening of existing and new technologies.

3) Stabilize the economic infrastructure needed for sustainable development as soon as possible: In order to achieve sustainable development globally and eradicate poverty, we need to build a sound economy within the capacity of the current / future global environment, as well as make the transition from currently battered global economy to a new stable growth path as soon as possible. To that end, it is essential to rectify the skewed international distribution of capital, resolve, in particular, domestic fiscal deficits and balance of international balance of payments , as well as internationally regulate speculative money that has brought about disorder in international financial markets and unjustly inflated the international price of crude oil and mineral resources, which are the cornerstones of economic and industrial activities, as well as foodstuff essential to the daily life of humankind.

4) Develop a system internationally to conserve the natural environment and utilize natural capital in a sustainable manner: The globalization-driven competition for/exploitation of resources such as fossil fuels, mineral resources, fishery resources, water resources and forest resources has, depending on the region, amplified diplomatic tension between countries as well as the threat of armed conflict. In addition, the deterioration of natural capital is progressing due to the climate change and loss of biodiversity. In aiming to conserve the natural environment and utilize natural capital in a sustainable manner, biodiversity conservation on a worldwide scale (specifically, the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets), respect for the decision-making process of local communities, a major shift to lifestyles of sustainable consumption, and the establishment of sustainable production structures that make the production of environmentally and economically balanced products and services mainstream are desirable. In addition, with regard to the utilization of natural capital, there is also a proposal to use natural capital<sup>3</sup> based on the <sup>10</sup>gUser Recovery Principle<sup>10</sup> and we expect that discussions surrounding this proposal will be broadened.

5) Build a system in recognition of diverse values where all people can equally participate and collaborate: Together with reviewing and exploring a possibility to expand the major groups of Agenda 21, it will be important for all major groups and other stakeholders, while avoiding a dichotomy in each country and international society, to reaffirm their individual roles for sustainable development and transfer this reaffirmation into action based on deeper awareness of diverse values and perspectives achieved through multi-stakeholder dialogue. Governments must also recognize this importance and quickly push forward with building an environment to strengthen multi-stakeholder-led international collaboration and cooperation frameworks. These same efforts are required at the intergovernmental level as well.

We Japanese Stakeholders Recommend the Following Policy Measures to Build a Sustainable Global Community

We Japanese Stakeholders recommend the following policy measures for all countries to implement for achieving the aforementioned domestic and international policy targets on a global scale.

i) New energy vision required for the 21st century and the mechanisms to guarantee this vision

(a) Enhance energy and resource efficiency, encourage R&D on technologies for renewable energies, such as biomass, geothermal, small hydroelectric, (expand) existing hydroelectric, photovoltaic (sunlight), concentrated solar heat, and wind power; maximize use and utilization of renewable resources; and, implement the necessary policies (subsidies, tax benefits, consortiums, international collaboration, etc).

(b) Promote international policy initiatives to disseminate the best available technologies and best practices throughout the world.

(c) Enhance nuclear power safety based on international standards, including reviews of the appropriate timing for decommissioning reactors, and ensure the proper disposal of nuclear waste. In addition, there are different opinions on the future of nuclear power, calling for a quick and planned exit or leaving nuclear power open as an option.

ii) Promotion of low-carbon and sound material-cycle and biodiversity considering city and urban planning based on the unique characteristics and initiatives of local communities

(d) Promote related local government measures (land use, construction, transportation, energy, etc.) to create the above city.

(e) Use IT and advanced technologies that have a minimal impact on the environment.

(f) Build a sound material-cycle urban society through the advanced use of resources.

(g) Promote local production for local consumption. Encourage cooperation between producing and consuming areas of food, water and energy producing areas and consuming areas, as well as support intercity cooperation both domestically and internationally to promote technology transfers.

(h) Develop partnerships with the national government to undertake above-mentioned policy measures ((d)-(g))

iii) Mechanisms to ensure employment and economic stability aimed at establishing a stable economic infrastructure

(i) Increase the number of jobs that contribute to the environment and biodiversity (green jobs) and implement job-creation measures in conjunction with the shift in industrial structure (just transition).

(j) Build mechanisms for increasing the employment of men and women, especially young people at small and medium-sized businesses, social enterprises, and in underdeveloped regions.

(k) Promote measures to address the future rapid transition to an aging society in developed countries and most countries in Asia (tax and financial benefits for increasing the employment of senior citizens, etc.).

iv) Promotion of the UN Decade on Biodiversity, attainment of mainstream biodiversity and revitalization of agricultural, fishing, and mountain villages

(l) Share good practices from around the world in terms of conserving and recovering ecosystems, using biological resources in a sustainable manner, the fair and equal distribution of benefits resulting from the use of genetic resources, providing appropriate monetary resources and encouraging capacity building.

(m) Implement appropriate policies effectively and make biodiversity mainstream through policy linkages based on biodiversity and the dissemination of the meaning and value of biodiversity as well as take a precautionary approach to decision making.

(n) Help agricultural, fishing, and mountain villages facing economic difficulties to recover and appropriately manage their natural resources of agricultural, fishing, and mountain villages.

- (o) Promote the multifaceted use, appropriate control and sustainable management of forests.
- v) Continual implementation of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development and establishment of mechanisms that encourage active and responsible actions by consumers
- (p) Develop human resources through the promotion of school education, social education, and training in business companies based on the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (Decade of ESD) and formulate a concrete action plan to be implemented after the Decade of ESD.
- (q) Promote civic education for consumers to encourage responsible and active actions that lead to a shift in industrial structure as well as develop information to support this. Develop mechanisms to prevent greenwash, such as receiving evaluations from third-parties.
- vi) Develop and implement tools such as indicators that support new approaches to sustainable development
- (r)
- (p) Evaluate the contributions of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and compile a roadmap to achieve an international consensus/realization of development targets and indicators for 2015.
- (s) Develop indicators to measure the quality of life and social justice as a substitute for conventional GDP growth indicators.
- (t) Establish sustainability indicators that include natural capital stock, resource productivity and reproduction speed.
- (u) Promote a mainstream shift to a low-carbon industrial structure where the production of services, products, environmentally sound technologies, and zero waste contribute to the conservation and recovery of the natural environment. Support technological innovation such as the wider application of IT to achieve this.
- (v) Develop regions based on local production for local consumption, and help maintain and innovate traditional cultures and arts. vii) Implement innovative financial mechanisms that provide the necessary funding to those in need
- (w) Offer tax incentives and preferential treatment in financial services to small and medium-sized businesses and regions with delayed development.
- (x) Give priority to the distribution of investment capital that contributes directly or indirectly to poverty reduction and sustainable development.
- (y) Secure funding for sustainable development through greening of finance.
- viii) Disseminate environmentally sound technologies and products throughout the world
- (z) Promote the mutual transfer of appropriate environmentally sound technologies (based upon the consent of local communities).
- (aa) Incorporate environmentally sound production technologies, products and services into the social system of countries (use of eco point and top-runner programs).

#### Progress since the Rio Earth Summit and Remaining Challenges

20 years have passed since the first Rio Earth Summit. Since then, the Cold War ended, the world entered the 21st century, emerging economics countries have risen to the forefront, and globalization has progressed. As a result, the structure of the world system has undergone significant change. Following the 1992 Earth Summit, the intensification of globalization and global market competition in world trade, foreign direct investment and the capital markets has accelerated the movement of people, goods, capital and information as well as had both positive and negative effects on a worldwide scale. The result of globalization has been robust economic growth, yet in developed country and developing country alike the number of hungry is increasing sharply due to a rise in the unemployed, in particular the rise in the unemployment rate among youth, and soaring food prices. In the two decades since the first Rio Earth Summit, the East Asia and

Pacific Regions have drastically increased income levels and significantly improved education, water and sanitation thanks to direct investments from foreign countries and an increase in exports. On the other hand, however, income and regional disparities within each of these countries have grown more serious, while mainly Africa and least developed countries have been left behind from the globalization of the world economy due to poverty, low levels of social development and the lack of infrastructure development.

Furthermore, the world faces serious challenges on a worldwide scale never seen before that include the deterioration and loss of biodiversity on a worldwide scale, a squeeze on energy and natural resources as well as the degradation of the environment, each in conjunction with the rapid urbanization and economic growth taking place around the world, climate change and the increase in greenhouse gas emissions. The Rio Declaration, Johannesburg Declaration and action plans have been announced in order to address these global issues, but the progress of each has been significantly delayed. On the other hand, the MDGs have been established, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention on Biological Diversity enforced, and the frameworks of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification Particularly in Africa, United Nations Forum on Forests and the WSSD Type II partnership model set up. Initiatives such as the Decade of ESD and the UN Decade on Biodiversity have also been launched, illustrating that perspectives on social development have grown more emphasized compared to 20 years ago. Yet, sufficient monitoring and evaluations are not taking place today. Therefore, international and domestic monitoring and evaluation systems need to be strengthened going forward.

- (a) International economy: Globalization has resulted in a structure where the economic crisis of one country can rapidly lead to a world economic crisis. The global financial crisis that 7 reverberated around the world following the Lehman Shock in 2008 showed that the results of efforts toward sustainable development made by all countries are greatly impacted by external factors. Furthermore, turmoil in financial markets is negatively affecting the real economy.
- (b) Poverty: According to the UN MDG Report 2011, the global poverty rate is expected to decline to under 15% by the year 2015, which achieve the MDG target of 23%. Although significant improvements were seen in East Asia and Latin America, more than half of the population in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa remain stuck in poverty. Specifically, the impacts from soaring food and energy prices as well as climate change has caused the living situation of people live in poverty to become even more grave.
- (c) Health Care: Improvements in the health of the poorest children have lagged behind in particular. According to a UN MDG Report, nearly one quarter of all children in developing countries were underweight in 2009, with the condition of the poorest children the most serious. Children from the poorest households in developing countries are more than two times as likely as children from the most affluent households to die before their fifth birthday
- (d) Sustainable Consumption and Production: Visible advancements have been seen in sustainable consumption and production in developed countries thanks to the development of 3R-related legal systems in Japan and Europe, the development of designs for the environment (DfE), designs for recycling (DfR) and recycling-related technologies as well as awareness-raising activities. In particular, consumer activities geared toward resource saving and environmental conservation perspectives are

steadily growing, having been fostered through consumer education, such as providing and illuminating correct information concerning the effects (merits and demerits) consumer activities have on environmental and urban issues. In contrast, in developing countries production and consumption has increased sharply on the back of economic growth, which has caused huge amounts of waste and resulted in the greater consumption of resources.

(e) Climate Change: A certain degree of progress was made with technology transfers to developing countries and the requirement of greenhouse reductions by developed countries after the Kyoto Protocol came into effect. Despite the establishment of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at the Rio Earth Summit based on the awareness of the need to urgently take measures against climate change, however, negotiations and efforts under the Kyoto Protocol and the Convention have lagged. Other issues have arisen such as the United States refusal to ratify the Kyoto Protocol, even though it is the world's second largest emitter of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from energy use, or the sharp increase in greenhouse gas emissions from the economic development of emerging countries such as China, the world's largest emitter. With demand heightening for the promotion of worldwide efforts, a new framework must be built based on emerging issues. Climate changes have also progressed around the world, with countermeasures fast becoming an urgent issue. 8

(f) Biodiversity: The Convention on Biological Diversity has grown to 193 members, while the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety has been developed (Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety were adopted in October 2010) and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets concerning biodiversity conservation have been agreed upon. Japan, in particular as Chair of the Convention on Biological Diversity by next COP, retains the responsibility to promote efforts itself. However, global assessments, such as the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the Global Biodiversity Outlook indicate that the situation surrounding biodiversity is still deteriorating.

(g) Water and Sanitation: Global water problems have grown more serious after the start of the 21st century due to climate change, urbanization, population increases and the deforestation and forest degradation that help cultivate water resources. Massive droughts, declining groundwater levels, lake pollution and water sanitation are causing human suffering. The world's population has grown by 3.7 times over the past 100 years, but water demand has grown by some 7 times over this same period. Water and sanitation are the basic human right of all people and represent basic infrastructure for gender equality, education and preventing epidemics, yet there are many countries in Africa, the Middle East and Asia where the outlook indicates difficulty in attaining the MDGs.

(h) Forests: Forest issues vary from one country to another, while individuals are less aware of the mutual relationships involving these issues. We welcome the efforts of countries and international organizations at all levels, as well as international initiatives for promoting sustainable forest management based on the non-legally binding instrument on all types forests (NLBI) and the Multi-Year Program of Work (MYPOW) passed at the UN General Assembly in January 2008. However, we are deeply alarmed by the continuing loss of 13 million hectares of forests with multi-functionality per year due to land-use change, forest fires, natural disasters, and illegal logging. Based on awareness that forest deforestation and forest degradation are closely related to global issues in the three Rio Conventions, the efforts of the international society are required to reverse this trend.

(i) Hazardous Chemical Substances and Hazardous Wastes: Regulations on the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic devices have been tightened over the past several years, as progress has been made in reducing the use of hazardous substances in these devices. However, developing countries have yet to create a legal framework and governing structure for recycling, and reports have been made about health hazards occurring as a result of improper recycling practices. Many developing countries have achieved rapid economic growth without sufficiently developing monitoring systems for the processing of hazardous waste, with this disposal fast becoming an issue in these countries. Furthermore, Japan's recent nuclear power accident has brought the issues surrounding the final treatment and disposal of spent nuclear fuel into the spotlight.

(j) Energy: The expansion of rural electrification and decentralized energy systems incorporated into the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation remain as before as issues. While advancements have been made in the use of renewable energy in certain developed countries and developing countries, most countries continue to face challenges in increasing their use. In addition, many issues remain that need to be examined in order to promote the greater use of renewable energy, including the proper speed of this promotion as well as the scale of costs and approaches to defraying these costs, while also anticipating use will be expanded over the long term. In addition, with regard to the assessment of nuclear power, which had been seen as a prized energy source due to increasing energy consumption, the exhaustion of fossil fuels and climate change, opinions will largely differ among stakeholders regarding future approaches concerning its use.

(k) Women and Gender: Women's employment opportunities remain limited, a large income disparity by gender remains, and women are the majority of the poor both in developing and developed countries and it continues to be a major issue. In addition, gender equality has not achieved in terms of education and capacity building and, especially, participation in decision making.

(l) Children and Youth Education: The fact that the enrolment rate for primary education, one of the MDG targets, increased significantly shows that MDG targets are attainable where there is a strong political will and funding arrangements are available. On the other hand, however, we need to note that 76 million children do not enjoy primary education. Under the Decade of ESD, there was a rise in the number of countries that had begun to incorporate ESD into their national education policies and curricula especially for primary and secondary education, as well as sustainable development and environmental strategies. Yet there are still many countries where specific ESD policies or strategies are not in place and dissemination of ESD is an issue. On the other hand, actors do exist that fulfill the function of education and raising awareness- in a variety of forms outside formal education, but analysis and assessment of these actors remains inadequate. We must reaffirm the importance of adult and lifelong education, and take comprehensive actions to improve linkages and cooperation among ESD, school education, and social education.

(m) Rights of Indigenous Peoples: The rights of indigenous peoples were greatly furthered at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. This was illustrated, for example, by the fact that the Convention on Biological Diversity clearly specified Indigenous and Local Communities (ILCs). At the UN General Assembly in 2007, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) was historically adopted, and it clearly stipulated that the inherent fundamental freedom and human rights of indigenous peoples shall be respected on the basis of international law. In Japan, the House of Representatives and House of Councilors in 2008 recognized the Ainu people as an indigenous people in Japan. A report issued in 2011 by the Experts Committee on Approaches to Ainu Policy, which was set up by the Japanese government in 2009, stated, "Future Ainu policy should be developed based on the recognition that the Ainu people are an indigenous people and that the government bears a deep responsibility to promote their culture, and grounded in the Constitution of Japan, the supreme law of the nation, and the meaning of the UN DRIP as a general guideline for policy approaches to indigenous peoples."

(n) Measures against Natural Disasters: The UN International Strategy on Disaster Reduction was established to carry on the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction from the 1990s, while the UN World Conference on Disaster Reduction adopted the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) 2005 to 2015 and the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was set up to effectively and efficiently promote the HFA. This indicates that a framework has been built for international cooperation in the face of natural disasters. On the other hand, as illustrated in the Global Review of Disaster Reduction Initiatives 2011, we have once again recognized that we must build an agile and strong society that can respond to natural disasters in order to cope with emerging vulnerabilities derived from the complexity of technologies and mutual dependence found in today's society, such as the complex disaster of earthquake, tsunami and subsequent nuclear power accident that occurred as a result of the Great East Japan Earthquake.

(o) Funding Sources and Funding Mechanisms: Excluding certain countries in Europe, other countries around the world will likely be unable to achieve the target of ODA totalling 0.7% of GNI by the year 2015. At the Gleneagles Summit, Japan promised to increase its ODA spending between 2005 and 2009 by 10 billion dollars compared to



2004 levels, but its poor economy, stringent budgetary restrictions, large repayments of ODA loans from some debtor countries, and a lack of political will has meant that its current ODA spending has fallen 3.6 billion dollars below the pledged amount.

(p) Employment and Labour: The global financial crisis that begun in 2008 has provided a widespread impact on vulnerable areas such as youth, the elderly, and minority groups, depriving them of many employment opportunities. It is absolutely necessary to create stable, quality jobs to fundamentally improve the global jobs crisis. In June 2009, the International Labor Conference adopted the ["Global Jobs Pact"](#). The deteriorating quality in employment must be revitalized while also seeking the formation of new global governance, amplifying both multilayered and enterprising job policies as well as social safety nets, and surveying the expansion of what is considered ["Decent Work"](#) (the availability of employment in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity).

Furthermore, in addition to the specific issues listed above, existing conventions are not being challenged. In fact, dilemmas found within the agenda itself are also becoming predominant. For example, the bio-fuel promotion policy put forth by Europe and the United States as a greenhouse gas reduction policy triggered an inflow of speculative money, which had lost its bearings following the Lehman Shock, into the futures market. This incited a worldwide price increase for food and as a result placed pressure on the lives of the poor. In order to offer global solutions, Japan has also moved forward with various initiatives. The Japanese government proposed the ["United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development"](#) at Rio+10 in 2002, illustrating the notion of providing security for human beings<sup>4</sup> that it recognized to be necessary during the 1997 Asian Financial Crisis. Japan contributed funding, technologies and human resources for the development of Asian countries.. This resulted in a measure of legitimacy from other countries. On the other hand, because of the recent economic downturn and a lack of political will, Japan has yet to achieve the internationally agreed goal of allocating 0.7% of GNI to ODA spending.

## 1.2

### Emerging issues

#### 1.2.1 Emerging issues of the World

We are under pressure to address emerging issues as well. Particularly important issues include energy, food security (the stable supply of food, the issue of genetically modified food), responses to natural disasters, sustainable urban development, and the advancement of aging societies and depopulation.

(a) Increase in Global Energy Demands: With energy demands rising globally and the progress of climate change due to greenhouse gas emissions, we need to implement a shift in an energy supply system that is overly dependent on fossil fuels.

(b) Water and Food Security<sup>5</sup>:Stable Supply of Water and Food<sup>6</sup>:The increase in drought occurrences around the world is a further indication of the effects of climate change. As speculative money is causing a chain reaction that affects food prices on a worldwide scale, there is growing apprehension conflict occurring between countries over food. Humankind is faced with the issue of ensuring food security throughout the world. Water is an invaluable, fundamental right for the existence of humanity and it is the most basic element for the infrastructure needed for the sustainable development of society. Many countries which are experiencing conflict and destabilization over water should resolve these issues with regional security as their top priority. While areas where food is supplied and where food is consumed undergo globalization and the escalation of food prices by areas plagued by drought have a pervasive effect on the entire globe, not only do water conflicts that arise between areas become an issue, but global security is becoming an issue as well in what is turning into a competitive scramble between countries over food. Water and food security is becoming an even more difficult issue to face as droughts and the degradation of groundwater levels occurs around the world due to excessive water intake caused by climate change, mass consumption, urbanization and population expansion.

(c) Response to the Large Number of Natural Disasters: Not only the Great East Japan Earthquake but a rash of natural disasters are occurring around world. There is apprehension that such devastation is spreading due to the impact of climate change. Developed countries are at the forefront of amassing countermeasures against natural disasters, and it is important to disseminate and share this knowledge with the rest of the world.

(d) Concentration of Populations in Cities and Growing Demands for Urban Infrastructure: At present, urban populations have already risen to over half of the global population and by 2050 this will rise to 70%. Urban areas are consuming 67% of the world's energy and by 2030 this will increase to as high as 74%. In developing and emerging countries, urban construction is progressing at fast pace, producing one megacity after another. However, architectural structures and urban infrastructure being built today will sequester carbon dioxide emissions and energy consumption over the next several decades. A huge amount of urban construction and low carbon demands will drive a green economy forward and lead to the expansion of green jobs.

(e) Furthering the Needs of New, Sustainable Urban Development: Rural populations moving into urban areas and the growth of populations in cities are increasing at a rapid pace. The emission of greenhouse gas is increasing as urban development and economic activities become more widespread. Therefore, we need urban redevelopment and development programs that are more compact and have less energy consumption. In cities, residences, transportation, and energy supplementation are transforming into more sustainable models. There needs to be a global push for sustainable cities to present how urban development can exist in balance with nature.

(f) The Progression of Depopulation and Aging Society: Considering the long-term, aging societies, such as Japan is facing, could gradually become global issues as well. As populations increase, the world will move toward an aging society and we must anticipate new ways to respond. Young people will most likely be the ones to move into cities as described above, so it is conceivable that aging societies will spread in agricultural and mountain regions throughout the world.

(g) Constraints due to the Rapid Deterioration and Depletion of Natural Capital: Humanity is ushering in the depletion and degradation of natural capital in exchange for the rapid accumulation of industrial and financial capital. As a result, the rarity of these forms of capital has flip-flopped comparatively, especially in recent years with developed and emerging 13 countries at the heart of a sharp rise in global consumption, wherein the amount of available natural capital per capita is decreasing while being surpassed by the increasing pace of consumption.

At this current development pattern, we fear that the world population will no longer be able to support itself by the time it reaches 9 billion. Consequently, we face the urgent task of raising collective awareness among all people based on the need that we discover the extent of the constraints we must subject ourselves to due to the depletion and degradation of our natural capital, as well as the nature of the content, speed, and scale of changes we must make to our development pattern.

With international society entering the 21st century in this manner, we need to address prompt resolutions for such deep global issues. We are attempting to resolve these various issues by pushing ["sustainable development"](#) forward, but in order to do so we need to consider how ["development"](#) became ["unsustainable"](#). More specifically, the major premise for measures going forward must answer our own questions in a calm and humble manner to both discover the cause for the rise of ["gover-development"](#) and ["gmal-development"](#) and to formulate appropriate countermeasures. In order to construct a sustainable society, we must be compelled to prepare the world stage to face new emerging issues that have not been foreseen during the Rio Earth Summit.

#### 1.2.1 Issues for a the Developed Country of Japan and the Great East Japan Earthquake

##### Issues for the Developed Country of Japan

Japan is as a forerunner of emerging issues facing such as an aging society and newly emerging problems with the environment and energy, many of which are new issues that other countries have yet to experience. While Japan is working to resolve these issues, it is also under pressure to formulate a long-term vision to reach a future ideal of sustainable development to form a sustainable society.

## The Great East Japan Earthquake

The Great East Japan Earthquake that occurred on March 11, 2011 once again called into question what constitutes a sustainable society. On March 11, 2011, Japan experienced one of the world's worst natural disasters: a 9.0 magnitude earthquake noted as the fourth largest earthquake recorded in the world's history; a 40.5m high tsunami which is the tallest ever recorded in Japanese history. We did not expect such big scale of the tsunami therefore roughly 20,000 people either died or went missing in the wake of the giant wave, extensive environmental and social damage was incurred from the diffusion of nuclear substances in the environment by a nuclear power plant accident, which was later determined to be a level 7 on the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES). Even now, many afflicted people have little choice but to reside in temporary housing and the reconstruction process following the Great East Japan Earthquake is becoming a considerable challenge for the nation. Experiencing the nuclear power accident has led us to question the overconfidence Japanese society had felt toward our mass consumption of energy, our lifestyles, and our technologies.

On the other hand, we must also recognize the fact that, during the Great East Japan Earthquake, the bullet trains performed perfect emergency stops to prevent large accidents, most of the high-rise buildings remained standing, and Japan's earthquake countermeasure not all but many technologies proved effective.

Currently in Japan, people from all over the country are acting warm-heartedly, without looting or rioting, to support the nation in an effort to recover from the earthquake disaster. Amid this, many good practices have emerged thanks to the cooperative efforts of various stakeholders. Local governments and communities, as well as businesses, industries, farmers, labor unions, and cooperatives are making a spirited effort toward reconstruction. NGOs have taken up the role of coordinating by gathering the detailed needs on-site. Youth and children from around the world are working together as volunteers through the NGOs to support reconstruction. Companies and industries are contributing support and making various efforts to restore production activities and the livelihood of their employees as swiftly as possible. Labor unions have been working together on disaster countermeasures, utilizing scale merits to commence rescue and support activities in the disaster area. For example, after the earthquake struck, associations immediately established disaster response headquarters, dispatched advance teams to the disaster areas, collaborated with relevant local associations, secured means of transportation and coordinated local activity centers and shelters. In addition, they administered requests for relief supplies, emergency assistance, and rescue support donations from government bodies, political parties and business federations. Also, a great deal of local governments suffered damage and were unable to offer public services.

However, rehabilitation commenced with the unstinting support offered by several other local governments within Japan. Many local governments are endeavoring to conduct reconstruction with the local government as its nucleus while also performing revisions of their damage reconstruction strategy to plan for safe urban development that will ensure that such casualties and property damage never occurs again. In the reconstruction process, we started a lot of activities for sustainable development.

The Basic Act on Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction (Law No. 76, 2011) and the Basic Guidelines for Reconstruction clearly state the participation of women, elderly, children, and people with disabilities in decision-making process as a basic principle for reconstruction. This enables the needs of vulnerable people to be met.

Following the nuclear power accident, Japan is facing a paradigm shift regarding energy. Every single citizen has taken the opportunity to consider anew the importance of the energy problem. Even while opinions are split among stakeholders over whether or not to exit nuclear energy, the general consensus when looking long-term to promote the use of renewable energy with consideration of burden on industries and the people. It should also be noted that Japan could address scarcity of electricity supply in the summer of 2011 by corporate efforts and energy saving actions of citizens. Electricity crisis changed the lifestyles of the people. As addressing the crisis of the disaster and the nuclear power accident, we are taking vital steps for sustainable development as a way to reduce the environmental load by promoting the use of renewable energy and energy conservation.

It appears that these experiences for Japan can contribute strongly to the discussion on sustainable development at Rio +20. Several issues have been brought into sharp relief which may serve as a point of reference for the Rio+20 debate on sustainable development, such as reconstruction in the wake of an unprecedented natural disaster, efforts to build anew where so much had been lost, and handling of radioactive contamination from the nuclear accident.

## 2 Proposal for the Outcome of Rio+20

### 2.1 Expectations of Rio+20

We believe that many concerned stakeholders in Japan wish to take the opportunity at the Rio+20 to revise the approach for sustainable development, such as the necessity of adding a cultural pillar to existing economic, social, and environmental aspects. It is necessary to review our approach in sustainable development as we keep in mind these changing times. It is especially important to be aware of multiple points of view without becoming too wrapped up in any specific set of values as we progress with sustainable development by recognizing the difference in values and worldviews of stakeholders involved in the Rio+20 while formulating an ideal model for a sustainable society that may vary in accordance with different locations. The following points listed are of particular importance for the basic approach Japanese stakeholders have in mind for sustainable development:

- (a) Implement of multi-stakeholder dialogue: Governments should proactively participate in discussions to make the most of this opportunity to work with each stakeholder and give weight to a multi-stakeholder dialogue on both an international and domestic level. The Internet and mailing lists, etc. should be put to practical use in the dialogue in consideration of the silent majority.
- (b) Respect the views of those whose voices are not loudly echoed within society: An institutional framework for sustainable development must be established through peer study with each stakeholder and by attaining the social participation of citizens. In this regard, we must respect the views of stakeholders whose voices are not weighted within society, such as women, children, minorities, individuals with disabilities, and indigenous peoples.
- (c) Gender equality: The realization of social justice, including gender equality, must be reaffirmed as a core principle of a sustainable society. The importance of integrating gender perspectives in sustainable development should be clearly addressed in the outcome document of Rio+20. In this regard, equal participation of women in decision-making is vital for sustainable development, so positive actions should be taken to promote it. Gender equality should be ensured when shifting toward renewable and sustainable natural energy use, and the benefits of sustainable energy use should be guaranteed equally between women and men.
- (d) Global creation that reflects children and youth: The most irreplaceable and precious aspiration for the human race is that we create a peaceful global society where we live together by resolving our issues and sharing a declaration that moves toward mutual knowledge and values. It is future generations who must implement the declarations and promises we make. We need to reflect the views of children and youth in a more positive way and be aware that the issues we are addressing will have a deep impact on the youth of today and the generations that follow.
- (e) Respect the values and perspectives of indigenous peoples: As we consider development and the future of the environment, we need to place greater importance than we have in the past on the values held by indigenous peoples, such as the Ainu. Those involved in sustainable development must acknowledge that this grim disparity of a priori

(bias) exists in people's world views and values. In particular, it is vital that we maintain a sense of fairness and balance so that we will not be over-reliant on the view that sets modern science and market economy above all else. In the time between the UNCED in 1992 and today's Rio+20, the United Nations adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007 to strengthen the respect to traditional knowledge and customs<sup>6</sup>. The countries of the world must respect this declaration of the rights of indigenous peoples in this context.

(f) Support the empowerment of local government: There is a necessity to encourage international society to support local governments (institutional back-up) as a way to recognize that the single most vital role for the government is to aspire to shape resilient, low-carbon cities, provide for the conservation of biodiversity, and sustainably develop agricultural and mountain regions for the betterment of society. Stakeholders form accords as they develop a full understanding of overwhelming environmental problems. Advance efforts made by cities and governments push for international agreements as they heighten awareness about green economies and low-carbon societies. In order for the advanced practices of local government to take part internationally, we hope for the foundation of a system that can draw in international support for local government through international society's financial assistance for developing countries.

(g) Reaffirm the significance of a strong international convention to fully realize the proper care and value of forests: 1.6 billion people, nearly a quarter of the world's population, rely on forests. Just as in the Ainu proverb that "nothing falls from heaven that does not have its place," the Ainu people of Japan embrace the idea of showing gratitude and respect toward the intrinsic value of all things for their physicality and attributes, including animals, plants and objects. Forests for life, livelihoods, work, and a secure income. With diverse functionality, forests play a key role in handling complex and interlinked global issues in regards to economic and social development, poverty reduction, environmental sustainability, food security and agriculture, energy, water, adaption and mitigation to climate change, the combat against desertification and soil degradation, biodiversity conservation, river basin conservation, and disaster mitigation. In light of this, we must strengthen systems that handle problems affecting forests globally while coordinating with international authorities and a process involving the three Rio Conventions. We must take advantage of the forests' ability to absorb and accumulate carbon dioxide by promoting sustainable operations, adequate forest management and measures against illegal logging, and measures against deforestation and forest degradation in developing countries. Furthermore, there needs to be systems and mechanisms to improve each individual's recognition that forest problems differ in each country and that we require a mutually coordinated effort to address such problems.

(h) Ensure equal responsibilities and status of all partners: As the world grows ever more diverse, we cannot solve environmental problems if we consider them based on a dichotomy such as north-south problems or between developed and developing countries. If we insist on our opinions from the viewpoint of dichotomy, it will generate alienation with differing viewpoints at a personal level and we will be beleaguered by opposition. To achieve sustainable development, it is important that for stakeholders to understand have an in-depth understanding and care respect each other. It is also needed required to establish rules and environments in which sincere and faithful attitudes are valued.

(i) Establish the resolution of environmental problems as a top priority political issue: At the Rio+20, we need to summarize our progress in sustainable development made in Rio and, subsequently, Johannesburg as well. We must confirm what policies exist for the world and countries, and the status of their implementation. We must also confirm that heads of state around the globe are making the resolution of environmental problems a top priority political issue.

(j) Reaffirm the role of education: We must set aside the sectionalism among departments and each stakeholder to increase synergies in different areas by restructuring the organizational, institutional, and financial framework that moves across various plans and practices related to Capacity Building for Sustainable Development. (For example, ESD, Education for All (EFA), the MDGs, Communication, Education, and Public Awareness (CEPA) activities in various environmental conventions as well as adult education and lifelong learning.) To make these actions more effective, we must reaffirm the importance of the role education will play towards sustainable development and strengthen synergies of these actions.

(k) Ensure food security through sustainable agriculture: It is important to establish a food manufacturing system that is focused on biodiversity as well as traditional agriculture and 18 fishing methods that relate to the climates of countries around the world for the sake of food security through sustainable agriculture.

(l) Governance and management of natural capital: The inclusion of the governance and management of natural capital in economic propositions is indispensable for the sake of sustainable development. Effective governance must not only be done through government authority but also through the participation and cooperation from a wide spectrum of multi-tiered stakeholders. The people who are the most cooperative and effective in managing natural capital are the ones who are directly affected by the blessings and disasters that come along with the unique qualities and diverse land and climate of their local environment. Therefore, it is vital that we shift policy maneuvers so that communities have a form of autonomy to help oversee national land.

Many stakeholders in Japan think we should re-commit to past declarations in the Rio+20. For example, the Johannesburg Summit contained the assertion that, "We resolve to swiftly increase access to the basic requirements of clean water, sanitation, adequate housing, energy, healthcare, food security, and the conservation of biodiversity. At the same time, all of us shall work together to consider how to acquire access to financial resources, net profit from market liberalization, ensure capacity building, utilize new technologies to bring about development, and secure methods of technical transfer, human resource development, education, and training for the sake of doing away with underdevelopment for good." The topic of human resource development in particular upheld the proposal from Japan for the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development that commenced in 2005. Japanese stakeholders offered a proposal to reaffirm the importance of addressing water issues globally, the direction of food rights for independent countries, including developing countries, as extended by the United Nations General Assembly's Resolution on the

Right to Food, the FAO World Food Summit, and the World Food Security Committee, and the necessity of education, human resource development, and technology transfers.

The nuclear power accident that occurred in Japan is a profound problem that has created a significant catalyst to consider a conversion into a society of sustainable energy. Even within Japan, the topic of denuclearization is subject to a wide range of opinions, such as those who wish to exit nuclear power as soon as possible and those who see no other alternative in our current condition but to be dependent on nuclear power. It is necessary to prepare various data in order for the entire world to reassess all of the risks involved in the development and use of nuclear power. The standards of fairness in competition with other power sources must be brought to light, as well. There is also the view that we should prudently consider an option of promoting locally distributed energy-usage systems, which would entail restructuring of the energy market, rulemaking for structured coalitions, and a review of relevant legal systems. There needs to be a rational and multilateral discussion on the existence of an energy shift, which ensures transparency and the sufficient disclosure of information that is based on fact and logic. Each country should create a mid- to long-term vision that, at its heart, would further the pursuit to streamline renewable energy, energy conservation, and thermal power.

Safety should be heightened at nuclear power plants throughout the world by sharing information globally following reviews of safety standards based on a thorough determination of the cause of Japan's nuclear power accident. We obtained (or may one day learned) expertise and experience about the issues through nuclear power plant countermeasures, such as health care and decontamination, as well as short- and long-term measures following the core meltdown and the radiation leaks that occurred simultaneously. It is notable that we can improve nuclear power management worldwide using the knowledge obtained as assets to be shared globally. Japan wishes to be strongly involved in participating in joint international study initiatives and networks.

It has been pointed out how important it is to tie the Rio+20 and the post-2015 targets of MDGs together. Looking back on the past 20 years, it is notable how the development objectives of the MDGs reflect an adequate grasp of the progress made and the issues that remain. It is also notable how this, along with action plans and

necessary long-term visions, can work as an appropriate marker of progress while reviewing the post-2015 target of the MDGs.

It is important to have a renewed commitment for full collaboration with all affiliated countries aimed at accomplishing the goals of the three Rio Conventions crafted at the Earth Summit (the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the International Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification Particularly in Africa). It is agreed upon that the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular, must reach the Aichi Biodiversity Targets within twenty years, which shall be the year 2020. In addition, the United Nations General Assembly resolved to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and marked the remaining ten years (2011-2020) as the U N Decade on Biodiversity. It is important that the magnitude of this be noted once more during discussions at the Rio+20.

## 2.2 Concrete Proposal for Rio+20

Many Japanese stakeholders consider that a common understanding of sustainable development should be included anew in the Rio+20 outcome document, and its essence is stated in the key message at the top of this document. Now, we are required to have a long-term vision of sustainable development and to take concrete actions in accordance with that vision. The proposals from Japanese stakeholders are as follows:

a) Proposal for energy: Energy policies are very important for stable economic growth both domestic and overseas, as well as in solving global environmental problems such as climate change. However, it is essential to implement urgent and ambitious measures both for the current and future generations, because it takes quite a long period of time before the effect of implementation can be felt.<sup>7</sup> It is expected that each country will set a long-term renewable energy target (e.g. by 2030), and start initiatives and make recommendations to introduce relevant policies and measures to reach their target. Regarding energy supplies, it is necessary to reconsider the total balance of supply and demand, shifting from a policy debate with a supply-side bias to the activation of a policy debate on energy saving at the demand-side (e.g. households and small businesses). In addition, for developing countries where future demand is expected to increase, building a platform for “thinking together” is needed, by providing a mechanism for efficient transfer of technologies and know-how for renewable energy.

b) Proposal for poverty measures: Realize the security of human rights and empowerment of the poor and vulnerable group of people. In addition, it is necessary to ensure the participation of the citizens of developing countries, especially the poorest, in policy formation, along with the formation of public opinion that supports the idea. By directly approaching poor and vulnerable people, we will form public opinion that supports the implementation of policy that reflects the needs of citizens in developing countries. We should view green economy as “a system that exists by capturing social issues such as poverty alleviation and human rights protection” and build a process to achieve coexistence, symbiosis, and social justice.

c) Proposal for water and sanitation: The water problem is rooted in various factors specific in each region, and to solve this problem, an approach must be selected that is not universal and rational, but delicate and sustainable, appreciating the culture of a particular area. In particular, there is high expectation for local governments in Japan to contribute to developing countries. Difficult problems that developing countries face are the improvement of water and sewage infrastructure, and its operation and maintenance management. In many countries, the central or local government is responsible for the improvement of water infrastructure, its operation and maintenance management, and struggle with the collection of water rates and water leakage problems. The resolution of these water problems requires a maintenance management for the water system as a whole, rather than the latest technologies. Japanese local governments are in the perfect position to respond to this request due to their long term expertise experience in the improvement of water infrastructure and its maintenance and operation. Local government in Japan began the way to the new business of the improvement of water infrastructure and its maintenance and operation in developing countries. Long lasting international contribution is neither mere volunteering nor profit-seeking principle. It is realized over a business with a reasonable profit. Japanese local governments will be the first in the world to carry out this important mission in developing countries, which will have public spirit and be a long run water business.

d) Proposal for air quality conservation/climate change: Promise to reach an agreement of a legally binding framework toward the prevention of climate change; after not having realized the agreement in Copenhagen, progress is currently being made on new framework for 2013 and beyond. In the UNFCCC process, we should promise to reach an agreement for fair, ambitious and binding framework, and support the acceleration of UNFCCC negotiation. The sustainability of life on earth is unable to be ensured unless international effort proceeds based on the latest scientific findings and the establishment of an international agreement to climate change measures. Specifically, whether it is developed or developing country, the agreement needs to be reached on the enforcement and a legally binding framework should be adopted as soon as possible for the following points: the responsibility of each country and its significant reduction dependent on each national capacity, financial support, adaptation measures, technology transfer, capacity-building, measures against deforestation and forest degradation for vulnerable developing countries. Sufficient consideration should take place for resilience against serious damages, which could be caused by the extreme climate events associated with climate change that is anticipated to become more serious in the future. In order to achieve this, the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD), which encourages the construction of these societies, is essential. Disclosure of the weather data of each country, which is in progress by the WMO, is also hoped to contribute to the improvement of the predictability of disasters.

e) Proposal for the conservation of biodiversity/environment conservation farming and fishery: Towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the UN Decade on Biodiversity will be actively promoted with the cooperation of the United Nations, international governments and relevant stakeholders. In addition, policy guidance should be made to demonstrate again the characteristic of living with nature traditionally found in the primary industry sector in Japan (environmental conservation agriculture, forestry and fishery); and a new mechanism should be created for agriculturalists, forestry and fishermen who make an effort to follow this direction, as well as their areas, are rewarded through a direct payment system and support from urban residents.

f) Proposal for the promotion of agriculture<sup>8</sup>, forestry, and fishery village areas: To promote agriculture forestry, and fishery villages that are stagnating economically, policies that attract human and financial support from urban residents should be developed, creating a revival strategy based on local initiatives using regional natural resources and learning from successful good practices inside and outside the country. The most typical green economy gives meticulous care to the original rich natural resources of the agriculture, forestry and fishery villages using labor-intensive methods, makes production activities economically sustainable, and generates 22 employment. Now, as the depletion of stock resources is becoming a reality, a system design that fundamentally changes the preceded “development strategy” is required.

g) Proposal for strengthening nuclear power safety: Japan aims to share the issues revealed by the accident of the nuclear power plant in Japan with international community as much as possible and prevent further accidents by exchanging information on nuclear power accidents, the risk of radioactive contamination, emergency measures, and permanent measures on a global scale. Simultaneously, there is a need for contributing to the reinforcement of the safety of nuclear power in every country, carrying out the improvement of international cooperation system in case an accident occurs. It is necessary to review and revise the international safety standard based on international scientific research on the adverse effects of radioactivity on human bodies, animals and plants as well as monitoring functions.

h) Proposal for achieving gender equality and participation of women: Participation of women in decision-making is essential to respond to the diverse needs. In this context, it is important to provide concrete measures to increase in the participation of women in decision-making, such as, by setting numerical targets with time frame, incentives, quota systems and cross-compliance. Providing opportunities for capacity building of women is also important to achieve gender equality.

i) Proposal for indigenous peoples: The advancement of the rights of indigenous peoples should be the interest of Rio+20. The rights that must be assured include preservation and promotion of the Ainu people including the Ainu language, Ainu culture and religious rights, land right and rights to resources, the rights to education and information, economic and social rights, rights to participation, and the rights to self-determination. These efforts are the responsibility of the Japanese government and these

views must be reconfirmed at Rio+20.

j) Proposal for children and youth: For the implementation of Rio Declaration, it is essential to realize a global society where everyone is able to receive education as a fundamental human right.

Aim to achieve the goal through educational activities for people in every life stage, such as school education, social education, and lifelong learning. It is necessary to promote the above mentioned education in formal, non-formal and informal education through collaborative partnerships between public agencies and NGOs. It is also necessary to significantly increase opportunities for children and youth to express their views and findings in national and local policy making as well as at international conferences. An example of how a child can learn ESD is that recognizing the linkage between local and global issues, a child will carry out such actions that embody the idea of thinking globally and acting locally. Provision of sufficient funds to education sector is also quite important in development countries.

k) Proposal for local governments: It has been revealed that active measures by local governments to reduce the environmental impact in cities where population and industries 23 concentrate have brought significant effects; therefore, local governments have an important role to play. However, the need for local governments<sup>24</sup> to address global environmental issues is not yet fully understood. It is important that the international societies clearly requests local governments, such as large cities, to work towards resolving global environmental issues on the basis of outcome document emerging from the Rio+20, in order to encourage more local governments to participate actively.

l) Proposal on employment and Trade unions: Establishing the limit of social protection worldwide. It is necessary to clarify the solution to challenges such as abolishing child labor, securing gender equality in the employment opportunities, securing minimum wages, and the minimum standard in the creation of green job, particularly in developing countries. <sup>25</sup>Green Job Strategy<sup>26</sup> is a long-term strategy that aims to increase green and decent jobs by at least 50% by 2015, to progress both countermeasures against climate change issues and the structural change in employment and working conditions simultaneously, and link these to realize a low-carbon society. This strategy should be further promoted and developed, and an international agreement is expected to be formed that shares its challenges and realization. Implementation of education and training as well as assistance in housing and living condition for workers, and maintaining and generating <sup>27</sup>Decent,<sup>28</sup> <sup>29</sup>green<sup>30</sup> and <sup>31</sup>sustainable<sup>32</sup> employment, and mediating to find reemployment opportunities are needed. Through these employment measures and an official multi-stakeholder meeting, <sup>33</sup>Just Transition<sup>34</sup> that promotes climate change measures and employment measure simultaneously is needed, and it is expected that an international agreement regarding the sharing and realization of the challenge be formed. It is necessary to set and implement the minimum standards of green jobs to solve the problems of child labor and, gender equity, and to guarantee minimum wages, especially in developing countries.

m) Proposal for funding sources and mechanism: In the situation where financial deterioration is globally worsening, a mechanism for more effective use of private funds should be considered through public-private partnership projects. Also, further promotion of SRI at financial institutions is required for a smooth supply of private funds. As a motivation for this, the progress of the <sup>35</sup>greening of finance<sup>36</sup> is desired, under the United Nations Environment Program Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) rooted in the principles established or under development, and with penetration of the decision making process based on ESG (environment, society, governance) issues under the financial institutions including insurance. Also, a solid framework for more specific monitoring should be created in relation to the target of contributing 0.7% of GNI to the ODA to secure funding to achieve the MDGs. For example, a measure to be considered includes one by which each country is obliged to create a roadmap for achieving its target. In addition, some stakeholders in Japan consider that a <sup>37</sup>next generation tax<sup>38</sup> and <sup>39</sup>international solidarity levy<sup>40</sup> should be implemented as a budgeted measure that enables a variety of projects related to sustainable development. However, while tax can be a powerful tool for securing financial resources, concrete consideration has to be carried out upon the understanding and agreement of citizens of every level, clarifying the purpose and its use, and through a wide range of discussions.

n) Proposal for the improvement of support and development effectiveness: When conducting development, effort should be made to achieve the improvement of the development impact and the effectiveness of aid (as well as the realization of social justice). Government of each country will follow Paris Declaration, Accra Agenda for Action, and in addition of which they should also comply with the agreement that will be established at the High-Level Forum in Busan in December 2011. NGO should make the Istanbul principle (Open Forum CSO Development Effectiveness), which is for enhancing the impact of development, as their standard rules, and strengthen an effort to improve accountability in each group. Moreover, it is also important to involve new actors such as the emerging donors and private sector in discussions to improve the development impact and effectiveness of aid.

o) Proposal for strengthening the environmentally sound technology transfer, cooperation and the ability to handle: When considering resource constraints and environmental constraints, it is desirable that various social problems such as poverty and natural disasters faced by developing countries will be overcome, as in the future the economy of many developing countries will grow on development trajectories led by China. On the other hand, earth resource constraints and energy supply constraints will prevent such development. It is the technology to achieve the maximum wealth and social infrastructure with minimum resource consumption that will solve this dilemma. Japanese companies and industries have gained a wide range of technologies such as resources-saving technologies, energy-saving technologies, environmental protection technologies, and also the fundamental technologies for recycling economy through various recycling technologies, in the process of development in the past, overcoming a number of social and environmental constraints including the oil crisis, the recession caused by strong yen, and pollution problems. It is important to improve the sustainability of the earth as a whole, implementing the earth<sup>41</sup>s resources, energy saving and environmental protection through the diffusion of such technologies to the world and used for economic development of developing countries. Japanese environmentally sound technologies, which are at the global high level, should be transferred while maintaining a win-win relationship with developing countries.<sup>9</sup> For a smooth implementation of this transfer, security of intellectual property is crucial.

p) Proposal for the promotion of education, public awareness and training: Along with the strong promotion of the Decade of ESD (Education for Sustainable Development), it is necessary to create a mechanism that continue to promote ESD worldwide after the end of the Decade of ESD in 2014. Specifically, it is necessary to formulate the International Action Plan and funding arrangements for implementation, create a mechanism to share information and experiences regarding ESD, undertake capacity building activities for local residents with ownership awareness for their local community, train and support training for local coordinators who promote various cooperation/collaboration among stakeholders working on to building a sustainable society in the area. Such activities need to be carried out through all levels of education and training including school education and social education. Action plans should include <sup>42</sup>green economy education program<sup>43</sup> and <sup>44</sup>lifelong learning program<sup>45</sup> for sustainable development<sup>46</sup>, capacity building activities to ensure implementation of the UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples adopted at the UN General Assembly in 2007. Actions should be designed to enhance synergy effect with communication, education, public awareness (CEPA) in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification.

q) Proposal for statistical data for decision-making and information collection: The information needed to enhance the participation of women, youth and other vulnerable groups in decision-making for sustainable development is insufficient. This also hampers identifying the issues underlying sustainable development. So, it is important to collect data that is disaggregated by gender, generation, and other important criteria, and provide it in an accessible manner internationally through the Internet and other media.

r) Proposal to establish a decentralized society: The need for a decentralized and resilient society has been suggested to deal with natural disaster and to adapt to climate change. In this process, to pursue a green economy plays an important role, and for the promotion of building such society, institutional framework for sustainable development is essential. Japanese stakeholders suggested that the concept of these societies should be described anew in the Declaration.

s) Proposal for conservation of natural resources and sustainable usage: For natural capital with a characteristic of shared material to be used sustainably beyond generations, NGOs suggested to establish the <sup>47</sup>User Recovery Principle<sup>48</sup>, which is centered around the idea that <sup>49</sup>users of natural capital are responsible for restoring

its original state and its cost in cases where it was used beyond the sustainable pace<sup>1016</sup>, and the involved countries should seek an agreement on the direction of institutionalizing it.

t) Proposal on forest: Forest has the effect of carbon dioxide absorption and storage, and this function should be utilized. Also, appropriate forest management and sustainable management should be promoted. Conduct continuous discussion towards a framework with robust legal binding force that leads to the recognition of the importance of forests and a realization of 26 appropriate forest management. In addition, constructing a network and platform at the international citizen level will promote the exchange of human and information, improve the awareness of issues with forests, and generate a need to change behaviors.

## 2.3 Suggestions on the United Nations' existing proposals

With regard to the green economy road map, it is important that the sustainable use of natural resources and the realization of social justice are shared in the concept of the premise of a green economy.

As there are a variety of existing objectives and goals at the UN level, it is necessary to ensure the consistency of them. Considering the indicators to show <sup>1017</sup>development, we aim to establish versatile indicators that could become the foundation of the effort by the international community, based on the accumulation from various attempts for sustainability indicators and environment assessment methods. Fundamentally, further consideration among the international community will be encouraged, aggregating the green economy indicators being examined by Satellite System for

Integrated Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA), OECD and UNEP. As part of such framework for sustainability indicators, we will introduce the concept of regeneration speed and incorporate it as part of the evaluation method of natural capital of the indicators discussed here, in addition to the amount of natural capital stock and resource productivity.

It would be meaningless to establish the indicators unless every individual becomes aware of sustainability. For this purpose, the role of ESD is important. Along with an easy to understand presentation, it is necessary to recognize the limitation of numerical targets.

## 2.4

### Suggestion on the ways to close the implementation gap

Rights-based approach for poverty alleviation: In reference to Agenda 21 Action Plan and the MDGs, the progress of poverty issues has been particularly delayed. It should be understood that it is not just a problem of low income, but a problem of deprivation of social and political rights, and all the stakeholders need to play a role in guaranteeing the rights of vulnerable groups of people. Namely, further focus on the rights-based approach for poverty alleviation is crucial. Rights in this context include the rights of indigenous peoples, their own original rights stipulated in <sup>1018</sup>the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>1019</sup>, and the fulfillment of the rights must be promoted.

Promotion of civil participation: In order to fill the gap, not only the government effort but also civil participation is needed. The private sector should be recognized as an important actor that provides solutions. As the negotiation process between countries have come close to the limit, Japanese stakeholders view that the role of the private sector in the process should be clarified upon the understanding of the importance of the private sector.

Promotion of the participation of local governments: Whilst local governments possess great potential with regard to the promotion of low-carbon cities and green economy, the understanding and policy making ability between developed and developing countries is not sufficient. In calling to local government for participation in the construction of low-carbon cities from international community, we will be able to promote it and activate the green economy. Effective participation in the construction of cities by local governments can enhance the ability to provide basic public services for the urban poor in developing countries and contribute to the improvement of their living condition. For this policy support and human resources development, cooperation between local governments is most effective. International organizations should develop programs for international cooperation between cities and support them.

Ensuring financial discipline: Fiscal deficits in both developed and developing countries have been increasing year by year, and in the present condition the financial gap has been filled by issuing deficit-covering national bonds. As imposing a financial burden to the next generation will lead to injustice between generations, it is necessary to ensure financial discipline that includes taxation as a policy to fill the gap. For example, the idea of utilizing tax to secure funding for the next generation has been shown.

Voluntary approach: Japanese companies as well as Japanese industry have had the principle of <sup>1020</sup>good cooperate citizen<sup>1021</sup> and implemented the environmental voluntary action plan with the mutual understanding and cooperation with the government administration and stakeholders from different fields, recognizing that effort towards environmental issues is an essential requirement for one's own presence and activities. As the country's unique initiatives, so far Japan has accumulated significant achievement in waste management, creating a recycling-oriented society, and climate change measures.

Incentives: In planning for sustainable development, there are some opinions that consider not only regulatory approaches but also an approach that encourages effort, such as putting a price on carbon, is also important. A typical example of this is the introduction of an economic approach that utilizes market mechanisms. However, there are also views that in Japan with superior environmentally sound technologies, this approach does not work, and it might make a negative contribution to solving global problems due, for example, to a loss of financial resources caused by further development of the latest technologies. In the introduction of the economic approach, we should consider its purpose to be fulfilled and the way we take the burden, and necessarily gain the understanding and agreement of citizens of every level.

It is also important to take an approach that encourages efforts. For example, Japanese stakeholders proposed the following: low-carbon society priority measures for research development for building a recycling society, a review of the regulation of used products to achieve a recycling society, donations that will be implemented to attain the sustainable development of society, activities for social contributions, and priority measures for investment in taxation. 28

## 2.5 Suggestion on specific cooperation mechanism, partnership arrangement, and implementation tools

Financial scheme for the resolution of water issues: In order to solve the problem of the water sector, it is necessary to establish a financial scheme that supports international contributions from private companies in the water sector and promotes the management of water and sewerage services in cooperation with private companies and local governments. Continuous human resources and technological support for the field of operation and management, promotion of small-scale projects such as sector loan projects, and flexible and enterprising suggestions with political initiatives, which are beyond the sector borderlines, are required. In addition, as the experiences of other countries show, problems have occurred because of the privatization of water services, and thus, securing water should be considered a fundamental human right.

The launch of dialogue mechanisms and organizations for promoting the UN Decade on Biodiversity and resolving the issues of biodiversity: To achieve the <sup>1022</sup>Aichi Biodiversity Targets<sup>1023</sup>, it is necessary to create a mechanism to strengthen dialogue between the sectors, which has not been sufficient so far. Solutions to the challenges related to the vertically divided administration in each country are needed. Each country should investigate the root causes of biodiversity loss, make efforts to solve them, and should have organizations that hold a clear mission to reflect the outcome in policies.

Introduction of a mechanism for promoting responsible voluntary behaviors of consumers: For the resolution of global issues, the role of consumers is important and it is necessary to promote civil education for consumers to encourage their responsible and voluntary behaviors. Furthermore, it is vital to raise each other's awareness by environment communication represented under the label of the environment. In order to make consumers interested and influence their daily choice of goods and services, the development of environmental labels, promotion of environment communication and the implementation of environmental education are needed.

Promotion of cooperation between programs for youth: For the development of children and youth, a collaborative relationship among youth programs currently promoted by governments, companies or schools and the programs voluntarily run by youth should be established. Specifically, holding a large-scale international conference dealing with comprehensive information and the internet database covering all the programs for youth is vital. While the United Nations takes a lead, governments and global companies will be expected to contribute to provide the necessary resources for these as their social responsibility.

Regional centres of expertise on ESD (RCEs): For sustainable development, it is important to have human resources development utilizing various types of educational opportunities such as school education, social education, and corporate training at the local community level. In order to achieve this, mechanisms by which a variety of stakeholders in local communities are able to have more opportunities for collaboration are needed. Such mechanisms will include ones for identification and training of local ESD coordinators, and local knowledge base (RCEs) to promote ESD.

Review of the WSSD type 2 partnerships: Requesting a review and report regarding the result and progress of the Type 2 partnership launched at WSSD, as well as considering the role that has been played by the partnership in sustainable development and its future situation, is necessary.

## 2.6

Roles of stakeholders in the promotion of sustainable development (including greening the economy)

Nine major groups were recognized at the Earth Summit in 1992, but its review is a major premise. For example, the groups that play a significant role in sustainable development such as consumers, cooperatives, and education sector should be included. On that basis, it is important that each stakeholder confirms the following roles.

Roles of women: Establish women as active promoters of green economy and promote gender equality through a green economy.

Role of children and youth: The realization of a sustainable society is an important issue with which the future generations are the concerned party, and therefore, it is essential to have their understanding, cooperation and involvement. In addition to the existing initiatives such as ESD, the capacity building activities of children and youth should be undertaken through all possible means of education/training. The practices of children and youth for their society should be strengthened and we should create a world where the voice of children and youth are better reflected in their societies. To achieve this, support from not only children and youth groups but all the stakeholders is needed.

Role of NGOs: The characteristics of NGOs are to act flexibly and sensitively in a diverse society. For example, in the recovery from the earthquake, NGOs in the affected areas as disaster volunteers made huge contributions in the area where the government did not reach. NGOs also carry out specialized activities for policy recommendation to attempt the economic transformation of existing social system. These NGOs play an important role in policy formation. NGOs play a surveillance role against the actions of government administration and companies that bring the voice of citizens to the decision-making authority (policy recommendations). Moreover, NGOs have a function as a flexible platform for individuals and various stakeholders to form partnerships and for citizens to start voluntary participation in activities.

Role of local governments: Local governments have the capacity to advance low-carbon and facilitate a green economy using their authority in the field of urban development, transportation, water and sewage services, waste disposal, education, conservation and utilization of natural resources. Local governments are able to facilitate low-carbon business as a leader in public facilities construction, infrastructure maintenance and public transport management, which could be a major project. They can also promote the improvement of energy-saving functions in buildings in 30 the entire local community, including the private sector and the restriction of GHG emission from economic and industrial activities, with a system that uses a regulatory authority and market mechanisms. In addition, as the government closest to local businesses and consumers, local governments can provide detailed guidance and advice on energy consumption, and are capable of facilitating energy measures for the demand-side thoroughly.

Role of trade union: Green job initiative, which was proposed by the ILO in June 2007 with a response to climate change, sustainable society and good quality job creation as its aim, was introduced in the joint report by ITUC, ILO, UNEP and IOE called "Green jobs" in which it is anticipated to create 20 million new jobs in renewable energy sector by 2030. In order to implement

"Just Transition" that creates "Decent Work" confirmed in the Cancun Agreement, the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (RENGO), the national center of the trade union, along with ITUC of which the RENGO is a member, should work in cooperation with civil society to encourage democratic social dialogues that propose the way we should deal with the elements which may negatively influence issues such as employment, gender, wages, working conditions, Occupational safety and Health and conduct a follow-up. In view of these needs, the Japanese Trade Union Confederation confirmed at the 59th Central Committee (December 2010) "Toward a secure society build around work as its core theme" that showed a image of society and vision to be pursued. Along with the necessity of the environmental conservation of the earth and the "creation of green jobs," which are the prerequisite for sustainability, "Decent Work," "just distribution of resources," and "detente and achievement of peace between countries," fulfilling the core labor standards are indicated as neckwear in any country. In addition, in August 2011, "Guidelines on Responsible Investment of

Worker's Capital" was adopted and workers (union members) were requested that they act to contribute to the social formation of a fair and sustainable society, by implementing a responsible investment that encourages socially responsible cooperative action and financial transactions with the contributed funds of workers or funds that workers contributed to.

Role of cooperatives: Cooperatives are autonomous organizations that sign up voluntarily to fulfill common economic, social and cultural needs and desires through a business body that is member-funded, co-owned and democratically controlled. Cooperatives have a function that stabilize life and activate communities, and by being rooted in society and encouraging mutual assistance, they play a role in encouraging a sustainable society.

Role of companies and industries: Japanese corporations and industry consider the role of Japanese industry should be to apply Japanese superior technologies to the economic development of developing countries and support sustainable development with a minimum consumption of resources and environmental impact. In addition, as the procurement power of the world, greening the supply chain (such as the promotion of environmentally friendly procurement and production) will be advanced actively. In other words, "green purchasing," which is an environmentally sound procurement of materials, including carbon footprint and ecological footprint can be promoted.

Role of scientific technology communities: In the process of each stakeholder's participation in sustainable development, it is important that each of them receives correct information. The scientists are required to play the role that conducts monitoring on the current environmental situation, predicting the future based on the monitoring data, and presenting measures based on the prediction. It is also the role of scientists that they explain such information to the public in an easy to understand manner. Japan in particular is able to contribute to the development of a circumstance for developing countries to work voluntarily on sustainable development, by providing basic scientific data on global environmental issues such as geographic information, greenhouse gas effect, and the situation of biodiversity.

Role of educators: For human resources development, the role of educators is extremely important. Higher education institutions such as universities are required to promote ESD for students who are expected to compose of the critical mass of the future society by reorienting their educational curricula. They are also requested to train teachers who understand ESD, and as experts provide advice and other support for local community activities to build a sustainable society. Regarding primary and secondary education, the perspectives of the ESD should be integrated into all the curricula from kindergartens to high schools. It is also necessary to strengthen communication and collaboration among different grades and different levels of schools, and to look for collaboration with local stakeholders. Furthermore, not only teachers but also curators at museums, libraries and town halls as well as interpreters at natural parks are expected to play an active role in promoting ESD in local communities.

Role of the media: In promoting sustainable development, it is important to encourage the reform awareness of citizens and companies on which the media has the biggest influence. Defining the media as an important stakeholder and clarifying its role is crucial. In addition, not only the one-way communication as was in the previous model, but mutual communication such as social media that promotes a participatory society is important.

Role of individuals: The role of individuals is also important. Every organization in the world is formed by individuals and often an individual belongs to multiple major groups. Individuals are required to have awareness as a consumer in compliance with purchasing for a sustainable green economy, choice of time, and choice of policies. Although individuals have certain roles at work, in private and in community, the key to all the changes is the individual's action based on firm awareness that they as an individual have the final responsibility.

## 2.7

### Shifting lifestyle to achieve sustainable development

Traditionally Japanese people have been committed to the efficient use of resources, following the idea of *mottainai*, which is roughly equivalent to the English expression, "What a waste!"

To overcome the power crisis in Japan after the earthquake, great cooperation has come from companies that have made energy and peak power saving efforts, in addition to coping through a shift in lifestyle. The lifestyle changes like Japan experienced through cutting lights and actions such as changing clothes to better adapt to weather conditions are important elements in achieving sustainable development.

There must be a catalyst that encourages us to change our lifestyles. For example, the development of environmental initiatives locally and nationally that encourage changes in household and individual lifestyles to save resources, save energy, and implement low-carbon models is being considered (e.g. improved eco-point system, introducing and popularizing an eco-community currency, labeling of agricultural/forestry/fishery products and household appliances, the idea of local production for local consumption, developing road infrastructure for the efficient use of vehicles, compiling and sharing of all relevant road transport statistic data for this purpose, promoting public transport usage, and maintaining a transportation and mobility environment that minimizes social costs).

In the transformation of lifestyle, the role education plays is also important. It is desirable to strengthen educational activities currently promoted under the Decade of ESD, such as school education, social education, training in business companies and institutions, education for citizens, regional centres of expertise on ESD (RCEs), activities of ESD or ESS (education for sustainable society) in each local society.

If the significance of a green economy becomes clear to individuals, it will lead to actions. With the awareness that the final responsibility of sustainable development lies in individuals, it is important to link this to a life style change.

## 3. Opinions on Specific Themes

### 3.1

#### Proposals on the Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Eradication of Poverty

##### 3.1.1 Priority Areas and Procedures for Greening of the Economy

Japanese stakeholders recognize the green economy as important in moving forward with sustainable development. The following reasons were cited for the necessity of discussing the green economy:

- As economic activities underlie environmental problems, it is necessary to discuss fundamental problems;
- Biodiversity and natural capital that support economic activities are significantly deteriorating at present. We need an economic mechanism that reflects the cost of the deterioration of natural capital and risk to people, including future generations; and
- Under constraints on resources and climate change, we need an economy that is well aware of these constraints. We regard a low carbon strategy through the development of technologies for efficient utilization of resources and green innovation in infrastructures, including roads and buildings, as an area we should address on a priority basis. It is also essential to proceed with efforts in areas conducive to the promotion of energy saving. (Examples: Development, improvement and diffusion of energy-saving, low-carbon technologies, development and diffusion of long-life materials and products, shift to energy-saving, low-carbon industrial structure and utilization of renewable and natural energy, etc.) It is also desirable to promote the utilization of sustainable ecosystem services based on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Nagoya Protocol adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biodiversity (CBD-COP10) held in 2010. The greening of finance and agriculture, forestry and fisheries is also an important issue.

Various ideas have been proposed as necessary efforts and procedures for the promotion of the green economy:

- Stability of governance of each country is important in facilitating the green economy, and it is necessary to have a mechanism to promote democratic systems, laws and regulations, free trade and investment;
- Governance of global multinational corporations and financial systems is also important, and initiatives such as ISO26000 should be further promoted;
- Citizens lack the awareness and knowledge of the green economy, and it is necessary to get them across through school education and civil society;
- Consumption styles not to break down the balance of natural capital should be established;
- Since it is important for each individual to make purchase decisions on the basis of information on the environment, etc., information for such decision-making should be provided; f) Legal system development, administrative system improvement, information disclosure, participation of all stakeholders and third-party monitoring bodies should be ensured; and
- Efforts should be promoted while monitoring progress with the use of appropriate indicators. It is necessary to position the perspective of Communication, Education and



Public Awareness (CEPA) as the basis of efforts toward the green economy the international community will make with the holding of Rio+20 as motivation and to encourage the synergy effect between CEPA activities to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets under the Convention on Biodiversity and promote the U.N.

Decade on Biodiversity and each country's obligations concerning the public awareness, education and training concerning the Framework Convention on Climate Change and the U.N. Convention to

Combat Desertification, etc.

### 3.1.2

#### Measures Necessary in Each Area to Promote the Greening of the Economy

To use natural capital having the nature of common property across generations in a sustainable way, it is recommended to start in-depth discussion on the User Recovery Principle centering on the idea of the user of natural capital being responsible for restoring the original state and paying the cost when natural capital is used beyond a sustainable pace, and considering the direction of institutionalizing that principle in the countries concerned. 34

Given the limits on the environmental capacity of the earth, sustainable development and growth requires the realization of economic growth and creation of employment. In addition, in the present capital market, stabilization of the financial markets is an important factor. In order to promote the green economy, financial instability that could hamper corporate activities poses a major impediment and causes a setback in the driving power. Regulations on excessively speculative investment and regulations to break wild fluctuations would be required.

As a prerequisite for the greening of the economy, it is necessary to consider natural capital in terms of the real economy. The World Bank's ongoing initiative to incorporate ecosystem services into national economic accounting provides a useful reference.

It has been demonstrated that tools to promote the greening of the economy are diverse. They are broadly divided into regulations and incentives, management tools and voluntary efforts, and the following tools are considered effective:

- (a) Regulations: Introduction of the feed-in tariff and other systems for the promotion of renewable energy, utilization of tax systems that reflect costs imposed on others, including future generations, and risks such as the environmental tax and international solidarity levy, and tougher environmental regulations, etc.
- (b) Incentives: Expansion of preferential tax, financial and fiscal treatment of and commendation systems for business corporations and organizations, etc. that promote the development and diffusion of environment-friendly technologies and products, evaluation and announcement, etc. of efforts by business corporations, appropriate application of accounting standards.
- (c) Utilization of international standards and guidelines: Utilization of international standards as tools for realizing the green economy is also effective. It is important to position ISO26000 issued in November 2010 as a tool to give shape to the green economy in organizational management and promote it at an international level.
- (d) Voluntary efforts (Pledge and review): Voluntary efforts to promote the green economy are important as is the formation of systems to support them.

The role of consumers is important in promoting the green economy, and to that end, communication between producers and consumers are also important. As an effective tool, it is important to review inadequate points in the existing environmental labeling and improve it globally.

International institutions and national governments, as an informational environment for promoting the conservation and sustainable utilization of natural capital, jointly build an international database on available natural capital, etc., in regions of the world and establish the system for monitoring, evaluation and verification of the status of its utilization.

In order to promote product design under constraints on resources, launched the Finite Design 35

Initiative to Support a Sustainable Society with the participation of research institutes, product designers, business corporations, traditional craftsmen and consumers, etc., of various countries for such efforts as (1) closer cooperation among institutions concerned with finite design research; (2) development of common product protocols conducive to finite design (develop and share common product protocols concerning processes and parts that serve as the pivots of recycling and reuse); (3) diffusion of the top-runner format; and (4) visualization of the degree of sustainability of natural capital utilization (visualize the degree of sustainability of natural capital utilization by quantitatively showing the amount of natural capital required for the manufacture of goods and services consumers make use of in their everyday life and the waiting time for their recycling).

In order to develop the capital market to support the green economy, urge institutional investors around the world to embrace the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) and ask them to enhance the transparency of their investment behaviors. Furthermore, business corporations compile corporate reports that integrate financial as well as sustainability issues, and governments and exchanges institutionalize such reports.

Since the green economy based on gender disparity cannot be regarded as sustainable development, strive to promote the green economy on the basis of institutional and organizational cooperation between divisions that promote the green economy and divisions that promote gender equality.

### 3.1.3

#### Efforts Necessary to Ensure Economic Growth and Poverty Eradication through the Greening of the Economy

Promotion of the green economy means a shift in the direction of growth toward economic growth that breaks out of the resources-depleting growth to date and confirms to the environmental capacity of the earth. Low-carbon and sustainable utilization of resources will become possible, together with economic growth, employment creation and food security, through promotion of new environmentally sound technology development and reconstruction of labor-intensive and sustainable domestic industries. It is also essential for the business community to provide manufacturing and services friendly to the environment and human rights throughout the supply chain. In every effort, it is necessary to develop institutional frameworks that facilitate the poorest segment of the population, particularly poor women in developing countries, to benefit from the green economy. Development of environmentally sound technology, in particular the progress in small-scale power generation technologies based on renewable resources, contribute to the provision of cheap energy to poor people in rural areas. Development of sustainable and responsible agricultural, forestry and fisheries industries is highly likely to similarly contribute to ensuring employment and food for poor people in rural areas who have high dependence on natural resources.

Sustainable base of the pyramid (BOP) business is in the spotlight to eradicate poverty from the 36 perspective that supporting people living in poverty in their employment, business launching and livelihood and thereby enhancing their purchasing power should help their economic growth as well as business expansion.

It is necessary to help raise the awareness about examples of best practices and develop frameworks of support for BOP business in consultation with stakeholders involved.

## 3.1.4

## Values the Greening of the Economy Brings

The greening of the economy should contribute to the realization of low-carbon and sustainable utilization of resources, along with economic growth, employment creation and food security, and should at the same time be conducive to eradication of poverty. Promotion of the green economy should contribute to correcting the existing structural disparity, rather than fixating such disparity. In particular, the aspect of employment creation is highly important. Various countries have set respective employment targets related to the green economy, and Japanese New Growth Strategy calls for employment creation to the tune of 1.4 million jobs. Gender equality should be emphasized in the creation of employment.

As the green economy can also nurture sustainable domestic industries and promote the development of alternative resources and alternative energy, it can be expected to enhance the capacity to adapt to surges in prices of food, resources and energy the international community is now confronted with by reducing the dependence on overseas sources of supply.

The greening of the economy also allows the non-economic value to be recognized anew. In addition to the richness of natural capital and selfless cooperation among community members that cannot be measured by the economic value, the cost and risk, etc., imposed upon others, including future generations, in a hard-to-see manner comes under consideration.

The greening of the economy prompts changes in people's values and individual choices and also encourages people to seek sustainable lifestyles.

## 3.1.5

## What Are Appropriate Indicators to Make the Richness of Life and Mind and the Costs and Risks Hitherto Unconsidered Visible?

In order to make the richness of life and mind and the costs and risks that have not been considered previously visible, new indicators are necessary in addition to the existing indicators such as the efficiency of resources and energy and carbon dioxide emissions. In particular, it is considered extremely important to reflect the economic value of ecosystem services, such as green accounting, in the national accounting system to recognize the negative impact of development on the natural environment. Concerning natural capital in particular, it is important to introduce the idea of the speed of regeneration and incorporate it into the method of evaluating natural capital, in addition to its stocks and resource productivity.

Along with physical and objective social evaluation indicators, subjective indicators such as the satisfaction of people as key players in life are necessary. However, it has been argued that the richness of life cannot be measured by a uniform indicator as it depends largely on the values of people. The indicators should include one that measures the achievement of gender equality through the green economy.

## 3.2

## Proposals on the Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Development

## 3.2.1

Problems in the International and Domestic Organizational and Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Development and Ways to Improve Them Differences in emerging issues and the existing policies have made the U.N. system outdated, and the Rio+20 should serve as an opportunity to allow for discussions on the institutional frameworks that should be enhanced.

The institutional frameworks for sustainable development require an institutional design that reflects the changes of the times, and the following three points are important as the basic points of view. The first is the importance of multilevel governance. Sustainable development needs to be addressed not only by the United Nations alone but also at all of the multilateral, regional, national, local and RCE levels. The second is the importance of the participation by multi-stakeholders. Sustainable development cannot be left to governments alone. It is also necessary for various other stakeholders to participate in the process and decision-making. The third is the recognition that we cannot rely on the United Nations to solve all problems.

As for institutional reform, it is necessary to clarify the goals of the reform plan, vision and time axis. We cannot expect to develop an effective institutional design unless we address the whole spectrum of problems, including institutions, instead of dealing only with institutions.

There also is an urgent necessity to build international governance concerning water, food, energy, resources and radioactive contamination. For agricultural operators in particular, food self-sufficiency is most important for security as well, and therefore the vision and system on which the primary industry can be established are of importance. Food and water are fundamental to human beings, and priority should be given to the building of the system that can safeguard the bare-minimum livelihood.

The five options presented by the U.N. Environment Program (UNEP) indicate only the broad direction and are not necessarily adequately specific proposals, making the comparative evaluation of the options fundamentally difficult. What is necessary at the present stage is to give more concrete shape to the five options. For example, there could be a variety of ways to strengthen the UNEP, the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD). Since the five options are all related to reform of the U.N. organizational structure, it is likely to take considerable time to implement them and their effects emerge only over the medium and long term. U.N. reform can be expected to be effective only when it is carried out in tandem with appropriate measures taken not only by national governments and international organizations but also at multi levels involving regions, states, localities and all other stakeholders. Theoretically, the five options are not mutually exclusive. For example, the establishment of the World Environmental Organization (WEO), one of the options, and reform at ECOSOC and the CDS can be supported at the same time. Also, post-reform ECOSOC can be converted into an umbrella organization for sustainable development, for instance, into the Sustainable Development Council (SDC) as already discussed. The functional strengthening of the UNEP can include the conversion of the UNEP into the WEO in the future. Criteria for evaluation of the specific options should not be limited to the facilitation of sustainable development but also give importance to efficiency. It is also necessary to take the political feasibility into account.

Regarding the strengthening or turning into a specialized agency of the UNEP, there were opinions that it would be wrong to believe that turning the UNEP into a specialized agency would solve everything and reform of the UNEP should focus on making existing programs, for example, economic and social development policy, chiefly environment-oriented and the enhancement of environmental assessment and public awareness-related activities, leaving capacity-building to other more suitable organizations, while others argued that the strengthening of the UNEP should take precedence or that the functions of the WEO should be clarified.

## 3.2.2

## Specific Proposals Concerning the International and Domestic Organizational and Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Development

Promotion of environmental policy integration (EPI) for sustainability: In order to enhance the synergy effects between environmental and development policies and their

implementation, further efforts should be exerted at national levels. Environmental policy integration (EPI) for sustainability is one of effective methods. This represents a deliberate attempt to give precedence to environmental conservation before exchange conditions arise between environmental, economic and social goals. In particular, what is needed is a system based on the principle of complementarity where the policy integration by local governments that can present specific proposals on problems for which policies should be integrated is welcomed and respected.

Adjustments between conventions: Systems are segmented under many multilateral conventions, etc., and adjustments between them are insufficient. Most environment-related conventions are regional conventions that have different memberships, and it is deemed difficult to make adjustments between them. As for global conventions (such as the Chemicals Convention, the Convention on

Biodiversity and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna), cooperation among their respective Secretariats is proceeding, and such an approach is more realistic.

Strengthening of the partnership between the United Nations and Bretton Woods and other 39 institutions: U.N. agencies need to strengthen the partnership with international institutions that are promoting international cooperation for sustainable development.

Strengthening of the monitoring function: It is necessary to strengthen the check and balance function by citizens regarding sustainable development. As for radioactive contamination, it is necessary to strengthen specialized international institutes, including NGOs, with the functions of monitoring internal exposure and other health damage from radioactive contamination and the environment and presenting recommendations.

Promotion of the bottom-up approach: What is being fundamentally questioned in the institutional frameworks is the leadership. Instead of placing expectations on the leadership provided by a specific country, what could be considered is the direction of enhancing the status of governance by people who can offer effective solutions to problems through, among others, the bottom-up approach (at the levels of local governments, NGOs, business corporations and industries, and regions).

Building of the multilevel governance: Global standards are being developed by the clout of multi-stakeholders, rather than under decisions by the heads of state or intergovernmental agencies (Example: ISO16000). Multilevel governance that can cover the whole range of areas is important.

Building of a system that encourages corporate reform: It is necessary to build a mechanism that can promote responsible investment by business corporations. Systems that promote corporate social responsibility (CSR), such as environmental accounting, etc., are important, and the U.N. Global Compact can be commended as the first step.

Strengthening of compliance and enforcement of laws: Laws and regulations reflecting unique conditions of respective countries are one of very important tools to put policies related to the environment and development into action. Without effective compliance and enforcement of these laws and regulations, policy measures designed for human health and sustainable development would be doomed to failure. It is important to continuously strengthen compliance and enforcement of relevant laws in regions, states and local governments through the sharing of developed countries' best practices by developing countries, etc. To that end, the capacity building for law enforcement by developing countries and international support are essential.

Building of a funding mechanism for ensuring sustainable development: In order to enhance the effectiveness of institutions involved in sustainable development, ensuring the additional financing and effective utilization of existing funds is of great importance. National governments need to beat their brains and build a funding mechanism for ensuring sustainable development.

Enhancement of private-sector participation: As we cannot hope for much increase in contributions to the United Nations, it is important to incorporate business corporations into the framework in order to make good use of private-sector funds for sustainable development, for example, to extract funds from global corporations. It is also necessary to further transmit specific environmental activities (best practices) of business corporations globally. While there already exist mechanisms to appropriately monitor and keep close tabs on activities of global corporations in some areas (for example, the Bank for International Settlements), such mechanisms are necessary in all areas related to sustainable development.

Building the governance structure with stronger local autonomy in mind: With the clear recognition that local governments (big cities, in particular) are major players in climate policy measures and that local governments rich in natural resources are major players in biodiversity policies, the governance structure that reflects these facts must be built up. It is necessary to urge local governments for proactive actions and establish the new function of supporting and facilitating international cooperation between local governments. We should consider how to position international networks of local governments and big cities, such as the ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) and the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group (C40), and we should also allow local governments' access to environmental and climate funding programs of the World Bank, regional development banks, the Global Environmental Facility (GEF), Climate Investment Funds (CIF) and the Green Climate Fund (GCF), and programs for utilization of know-how of advanced local governments, in order to support international cooperation between local governments.

Integration with policies to promote gender equality: As gender equality and empowerment of women are essential to promote sustainable development, it is necessary to promote institutional mechanism to enhance collaboration among the organizations and divisions that are responsible for gender equality and sustainable development.

Establishment of a new global convention: As a specific proposal, we should consider the establishment of a regional or global convention that put into action the ideas in line with Principles 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development and the ensuing Aarhus Convention developed by the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE). It would give legal authority access to information by citizens and citizen groups, and promote accountability and dialogue with stakeholders by effectively realizing multilevel governance.

Promotion of forecast science for enhancing responsiveness to variability: In order to enhance responsiveness to variability and reduce the uncertainty concerning social systems in the dynamically changing global environment, proactively promote the Global Forecast Service. The accurate understanding about regional impacts of such fundamental problems as climate change, biodiversity and water can lead us to government policy planning and better disaster prevention particularly in developing countries. That scientific information on the earth is offered in an easy-to-understand and open manner and provides multi-stakeholders with the real beginning of key solutions to global environmental issues. This will be made possible with the networks of Japanese universities and research institutions taking the initiative and business corporations offering technologies. It is also important to establish places for sharing scientific knowledge about disasters (including health hazards) and exchanging views.

## Joint Action and Learning Initiative for National and Global Responsibilities for Health (JALI)

Joint Action and Learning Initiative on National and Global Responsibilities for Health (JALI): Submission on Rio+20 Outcome Document

The Joint Action and Learning Initiative for National and Global Responsibilities for Health (JALI) is a global network of civil society and academics working towards a post-Millennium Development Goals global health agreement grounded in the human right to health. In particular, we are exploring the potential for a new treaty, a Framework Convention on Global Health. It has the potential to close unconscionable global health inequities and serve as a platform for linking, progressing, and creating greater accountability on a broad spectrum of issues, including climate change and nutrition, vital to protecting and improving the public's health.

We encourage the Rio+20 Outcome Document to recognize the inextricable connection between health and sustainable development, and to support the development of a rights-based Framework Convention on Global Health, as described below.

#### Connections between health and sustainable development

The links between human health and sustainable development are manifold, with great synergy between the two. Concerns central to sustainable development, such as climate change and agriculture, have tremendous health implications. An effective response to climate change and food security will save lives and improve health. These responses must themselves take conscious steps to protect health, such as through climate change adaptation strategies. Air and water pollution harm both the environment and human health; indoor and outdoor air pollution contribute to more than 3 million deaths annually. The most authoritative interpretation of the right to health recognizes a healthy environment among the underlying determinants of health.

Another link between health and sustainable environment is through the imperative to preserve biodiversity. The richness of life on this planet – planets, animals, and micro-organisms, both land and marine life – is also the source of a large portion of medicines. Destroying habitats and species means destroying potential sources of new medicines. Similarly, biodiversity is the source of genes being used in bioengineering to make crops such as rice and maize more nutritious and resilient, protecting and promoting human health. A loss of biodiversity may degrade the nutritional quality of local diets. Furthermore, ecosystem services are critical to clean air and water and fertile soil, among other contributions to better health.

The connection between health and the environment extends to the importance of universally available quality health services. One of the greatest challenges to sustainable development is population growth. Enabling all people to access quality reproductive health services, while improving children's health (which also requires improving the health of mothers) so that parents can be confident that their children will survive into adulthood will enable families to have fewer children, thus slowing population growth. Furthermore, ill health – a major cause of impoverishment directly and through health-related spending, and of reduced economic growth – is a significant impediment to development and poverty reduction, and to the resilient societies that are best positioned to develop sustainably.

Meanwhile, one of the most important modalities for securing adequate financing for health, a just, equitable tax system, is also a source of income that can fund the many forms of investment required for sustainable development. And in ways such as those described above, improved health services that a just tax system can help secure will also contribute to sustainable development.

In short, one of the fundamental building blocks of sustainable development is human health. And any overarching effort to improve human health must include steps to improve the health of the planet.

#### A Framework Convention on Global Health

A Framework Convention on Global Health (FCGH) could be just such a comprehensive endeavor to improve human health. It could be the basis of the post-2015, post-MDG global health framework. It would aim to close today's gross health inequities, both among and within countries; ensure universal coverage; create accountability among governments and other global health actors; create and catalyze more inclusive, participatory local, national, and global health processes; achieve adequate funding, and; improve coordination and collaboration based on inclusive country ownership. The treaty would enable health to take its rightful position of priority in other legal regimes that affect health, such as trade and investment.

The FCGH could institutionalize the norms, structures, and processes – the global governance – required to realize the potential of these initiatives and to enable all people to enjoy the right to health. For instance, it could:

- include ambitious yet achievable global targets, with processes to adapt them to local circumstances and ensure national and community ownership;
- require comprehensive public health strategies addressing both health services and social determinants of health;
- move towards clarifying what are the "key" health services that universal coverage should encompass and all people should enjoy, while still enabling adaptation to local circumstances and priorities;
- develop a financing framework with clear funding benchmarks for governments' domestic health spending and for international health funding commitments, including non-health sectors central to the underlying determinants of health;
- establish targets on and develop mechanisms to dramatically reduce domestic health inequities and ensure the accountability of health services to the communities they serve;
- support civil society and community participation in planning, implementation, and evaluation of local, national, and international partner-supported health plans, policies, and programs;
- establish commitments and monitoring mechanisms to ensure that health plans, policies, and programs emphasize the health needs of traditionally discriminated against and underserved populations, including women, people who are poor, and marginalized groups; and
- offer specific measures that countries should take in trade, environment, finance, and other realms to protect and promote health, including mechanisms to evaluate the adoption and effective implementation of these measures.

States can take immediate steps to achieve an FCGH, such as by:

- lending support to civil society, governmental, and other efforts to develop the targets and indicators, rights and responsibilities, and other aspects of the framework, including innovative incentives and sanctions to promote compliance; and
- supporting consultations on the FCGH, including and especially among disadvantaged populations and communities who stand to be most impacted by the treaty.

States could work with civil society and international institutions such as the World Health Organization and UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to take steps now to advance the goals of and lay the groundwork for successfully implementing an FCGH, including:

- supporting and sharing information on initiatives to educate communities on health and human rights;
- supporting and sharing information on community accountability mechanisms, such as village health committees and community scorecards; and
- developing indicators and disaggregating data in order to develop and monitor policies to better secure the health needs of marginalized populations.

The UN Secretary-General has endorsed an FCGH, aptly placing it in the context of human rights: "Let the AIDS response be a beacon of global solidarity for health as a

human right and set the stage for a future United Nations framework convention on global health." By also endorsing and calling for an FCGH through its Outcome Document, Rio+20 has the potential to help ensure that an FCGH will give due weight to climate change, food security, and other health issues most directly linked to sustainable development. And an endorsement will build momentum towards achieving a global health agreement that has the potential to transform the global health landscape and serve as a major step towards securing for everyone the human right to health.

Momentum is growing to holistically address health – ensuring universal coverage of equitable, quality health systems and of fundamental human needs such as clean water, sanitation, and nutritious food, while prioritizing the determinants of health and the needs of the world's least healthy and most marginalized people. The Rio Political Declaration on Social Determinants of Health has reaffirmed and deepened a global commitment to an inclusive approach to health. As improving global health will powerfully contribute to sustainable development and closing global inequities, the Rio+20 Outcome Document should also advance a holistic approach to health, including by supporting an FCGH. The time has come for a Framework Convention on Global Health that would extend, elevate, and realize global commitments to human rights, health equity, and health for all.

## Kehitysyhteistyön palvelukeskus Keva ry

Finnish NGOs' Contribution to Rio+20 Bureau Compilation Document

Nearly twenty years have passed since the 1992 Earth Summit, yet development in North and South remains dangerously unsustainable. Extreme poverty, climate change, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and rising resource use, among other ills, demonstrate the lack of political leadership and inefficient implementation of international agreements on sustainable development. Finnish NGOs<sup>1</sup> demand a change: social and environmental development goals need to be understood as being more important than economic goals. Thus, we recommend the following to be included in the conference declaration.

### 1. Assessing remaining gaps

Despite the promises made, the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development are not in balance. In order to find a coherent and balanced way to combine the dimensions of sustainable development and to support the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, Rio+20 needs to adopt a rights based approach to sustainable development.

For instance, conventions on biological diversity and climate change have not been properly implemented, and stagnation of multilateral cooperation prevails. Therefore, it is crucial to agree on the timetable and concrete measures to accelerate implementation of international agreements on sustainable development. Governments must also agree to elaborate national and local action plans that substantially improve governance of sustainable development objectives.

#### Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Climate change increases vulnerability and poverty, and makes challenges related to natural resources, food security and water shortages even more urgent. Eventually, it threatens our very existence. As the first step, developed countries need to acknowledge promptly their responsibility of the climate crisis, to take concrete actions towards emissions reductions, and to commit urgently to providing the required support for climate action in developing countries. In Rio+20, governments must raise their ambition regarding increased emissions reduction targets and financial commitments, equitable effort sharing, and robust implementation. Recommendations

- Assess 20 years of progress since the Earth Summit in 1992, take stock of existing greenhouse gas reduction commitments and adaptation efforts, and raise the ambition in the light of the current climate science that shows that more emission cuts are needed than previously estimated.
- Respect the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR).
- Ensure the flow of substantial, predictable and sufficient climate finance beyond 2012. Climate finance must be additional to the commitments to raise development aid to 0.7 percent of GDP by 2015.

implementation.

- Commit to set up low carbon action plans (industrialised countries zero carbon action plans) until 2050 (milestones for 2020, 2030, and 2040) as a key tool.

#### Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Ambition regarding biodiversity protection should be raised and concrete measures taken to make sure that the commitments made under the framework of CBD will be achieved. Governments should promptly acknowledge their responsibility for and capability to deal with the crisis of biodiversity, and urgently commit to providing the required support for biodiversity protection in developing countries. The wave of mass extinction should be stopped by 2020.

#### Recommendations

- Recommit to obligations agreed to in the Strategic Plan for biodiversity 2011–2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets agreed at the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010. Sign and ratify Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing.
- Raise ambition regarding the targets of the Convention on Biological Diversity and their realization by respecting the principles of common but differentiated responsibilities and the precautionary principle.
- Recommit to respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples as proclaimed in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

### 2. Sectoral priorities

All human beings and nations should be guaranteed equitable access to and equitable distribution of energy, food and clean water. Also sustainable forest and marine resources management and support for sexual and reproductive health and rights play an important role in a move towards a more sustainable development. Human rights should be taken as the basis for sustainable development.

#### Energy

About 1.4 billion people globally live without access to electricity and 2.5 billion people cook on open wood, dung or charcoal fires. Energy access and development go hand in hand: it is highly unlikely that any of the MDGs will be achieved without access to modern energy services. Many developing countries have an abundance of renewable energy sources and have huge scope for improving energy efficiency. In short, they can be supported in leapfrogging fossil fuel-based economies towards low-carbon

sustainable energy. Global energy consumption must decrease heavily. Developed countries must acknowledge their ecological debt and stop adding to it. Decarbonizing the economy by 2050 will require a transformation to a less-consuming lifestyle, a reduction in energy use, the neutralization of carbon emissions from fossil fuels and a shift to renewable sources of energy that do not add to the atmospheric accumulation of carbon dioxide. Providing rural areas with decentralized grid systems powered by energy from solar, biomass or small scale hydro might not attract private investments. Nevertheless, such projects must be core business of a partnership aiming at energy access for all. Hence, while supporting joint public-private investments to a certain degree and for certain countries, this financial model will have to be supplemented with a grant-based system.

#### Recommendations

- Commit to removing barriers to renewable energy and energy efficiency investments, including subsidies to fossil fuels.
- Rio should deliver the urgent phase-out of counter-productive subsidies, for example fossil fuel producer subsidies or subsidies to unsustainable fishing or agricultural practice.
- As 2012 is the UN year of access to sustainable energy, agreeing new energy goals to expand the energy access of the poorest, shift to renewables, and increase in energy efficiency must be a priority for Rio+20.
- The target should be set by the United Nations of, by 2030, everybody having universal access to clean, reliable, effective and affordable energy services for cooking and heating, lighting, communications and productive uses.
- Commit to a 'leapfrog fund' to finance access to sustainable energy initiatives.

**[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to read the full submission]**

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## La Prévention Routière Internationale (PRI)

Eemnes – The Netherlands, 1 November 2011

### Safer Roads @ Rio+20

La Prévention Routière Internationale PRI is a worldwide umbrella for road safety. Our core business is: education, communication, information, capacity building and advocacy.

PRI is focused at the prevention of road crash victims.

Main priorities: Young People and Developing Countries.

PRI is member of the United Road Safety Collaboration (UNRSC) is determined to contribute to the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020.

Considering that:

1,3 million road crash victims and 50 million serious injuries per year.

Statistics are tip of the iceberg. Foremost road safety is about emotions and grief of persons who lost a beloved one in traffic or who got handicapped for life.

The yearly economic and societal costs of road safety amount to billions.

Traffic has an big impact on environment.

Safer Roads should by part of Sustainable Development. Traffic (safety) measures could walk hand in hand.

Therefore:

Public Transport and Bicycling and Walking should be promoted. Less cars will prevent road crash victims, will diminish CO2 emission and will use less space. Besides walking and cycling contribute to the health positively.

Lower driving speeds will prevent crashes and (fatal) injuries, will diminish CO2 emission.

These priorities have a positive impact on the prevention of road traffic crash victims, on sustainable development and on the quality of life.

- [Annual Report](#)

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## La Sociedad Civil Cubana

Documento de las organizaciones de la sociedad civil cubana e internacionales con sede en Cuba hacia RIO+20

Introducción:

En junio del 2012 se cumplirán 20 años de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo, celebrada en Rio de Janeiro en 1992. La mayor parte de los acuerdos y los retos que se reconocieron en ese momento histórico esperan aún respuesta y entre ellos resulta crucial el riesgo de extinción de la especie humana, explicitado en el discurso del Comandante en Jefe Fidel Castro Ruz en dicha Cumbre, "... debido a la destrucción sistemática de sus condiciones naturales de vida..."

Hoy más que nunca, la humanidad requiere de soluciones inmediatas a problemas tan cruciales como los que colocan en peligro su propia supervivencia. Los avances observados en temas ambientales en las últimas dos décadas son insignificantes si se toma en cuenta el nivel de deterioro real provocado por el actual modelo de consumo y la lógica del sistema capitalista patriarcal y depredador, como sucede en los casos del petróleo y los combustibles fósiles.

1. Las organizaciones de la sociedad civil cubana e internacionales con sede en Cuba, reunidas en la Asociación Cubana de Naciones Unidas ratifican la vigencia del paradigma del Desarrollo Sostenible y sus principios. Aun se mantienen vigentes y por cumplir la "Declaración de Río sobre Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo", la "Agenda 21", La "Declaración del Milenio" y los "Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio", el "Plan de Implementación de Johannesburgo", el "Programa de Acción de Barbados para el Desarrollo Sostenible de los Pequeños Estados Insulares en Desarrollo" y la "Declaración de Naciones Unidas sobre Derechos de los Pueblos Indígenas".
2. Naciones Unidas tiene el compromiso de presentar una evaluación general del estado de cumplimiento de las metas previstas en la "Agenda 21", los "Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio" y el "Plan de Acción de Johannesburgo", tal como reconoce en su párrafo 20 inciso C la Resolución de la AGNU (A/RES/64/236).
3. Las organizaciones firmantes de este documento, preocupadas por la actual devastación del planeta; la situación que vive hoy la humanidad; la falta de compromisos de algunos países industrializados y la actual posición de las Naciones Unidas ante ellos, hacemos énfasis en que se considere que:
4. La Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Desarrollo Sostenible debe evaluar de forma objetiva el avance del deterioro ambiental y consolidar un plan de acción para la implementación de los acuerdos aún no cumplidos, la detención y reversión de dicho deterioro, así como garantizar que las discusiones en torno a todos los temas sean totalmente inclusivas.
5. Debe reiterarse que las discusiones en relación con los temas centrales de la Cumbre de Río+20, "Economía Verde en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la erradicación de la pobreza" y el "Marco Institucional para el desarrollo sostenible", no tendrán repercusión alguna si no se realiza una evaluación profunda de los logros y dificultades presentados en los pasados 20 años, teniendo en cuenta los enfoques que desde los países del Sur se tienen sobre Desarrollo Sostenible.

Sobre economía verde en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la erradicación de la pobreza consideramos que:

6. La "Economía Verde" es un concepto controversial e insuficiente, se encuentra en construcción y carece de enfoques multisectoriales y multidimensionales, pero existe la posibilidad de que acciones económicas sustentables resulten instrumentos útiles en la implementación de una "Economía Ecológica". Por tanto la "Economía Verde" debe descansar sobre tres principios: las demandas del medio ambiente, las demandas del desarrollo (tanto en su dimensión económica como social) y el principio de equidad. Los enfoques relacionados con este debate internacional no deben sustituir al paradigma del desarrollo sostenible, como objetivo fundamental de la conferencia de Río 1992 y cuyos preceptos y principios con los años han mantenido igual o mayor vigencia.
7. Urge que Naciones Unidas implemente y de seguimiento a mecanismos concretos y efectivos para erradicar la pobreza, la exclusión, las inequidades, las desigualdades y todas las formas de discriminación y violencia. Parte indisoluble de esa lucha son la educación universal y gratuita, la alimentación adecuada para alcanzar una salud plena, el derecho al trabajo, remunerado según sus resultados, y otras conquistas de la humanidad a lo largo de la historia, basadas en la proscripción de las guerras y otros actos de agresión, así como en el respeto irrestricto a la soberanía de los estados y el cese de otras formas encubiertas de dominación que deben ser eliminadas de la tierra, con el objetivo de lograr una vida mejor para sus ya más de 7 mil millones de habitantes.
8. Debe mantenerse la plena vigencia del principio 7 de la "Declaración de Río", donde se establecen las "responsabilidades comunes pero diferenciadas" para los Estados y los mecanismos de financiamiento y transferencia de tecnologías en condiciones preferenciales para los países en desarrollo. Dichos mecanismos formarían parte de la compensación que los países industrializados "deben" a aquéllos al aplicarse el principio antes mencionado.
9. La economía debe resultar un instrumento en el logro de un Desarrollo Sostenible y no un fin en sí misma, así como que la erradicación de la pobreza implique también un cambio en los patrones de producción, distribución y consumo a nivel global, incluyendo los hábitos y estilos de vida derrochadores y dispendiosos.
10. Destacamos la necesidad de construir una economía ecológica que implique la transferencia gratuita de tecnología entre todos los países, particularmente aquellas capaces de transformar las matrices energéticas mediante el aprovechamiento eficiente de las fuentes renovables, incorporando también las provenientes de los saberes tradicionales y ancestrales de los pueblos originarios.
11. Los Estados son responsables de gestionar, garantizar el acceso y beneficio de los servicios ambientales a sus poblaciones, así como la creación de capacidades para la erradicación de la pobreza. Deben oponerse asimismo a todo tipo de mercantilización y comercialización de la naturaleza y a todas las formas de comercio de carbono.

Sobre el Marco Institucional para el Desarrollo Sostenible consideramos que:

12. A pesar de las dificultades existentes durante estas dos décadas, algo se ha avanzado en términos del Marco Institucional, reconocemos que durante estos años se han realizado esfuerzos como los procesos GEO que contribuyen a una mayor y mejor comprensión de los problemas regionales que nos afectan.
13. Resulta imprescindible para lograr un "Marco Institucional" adecuado, considerar la participación social, no sólo en el manejo y gestión del medio ambiente y la energía, sino también en la toma de decisiones al respecto, visto ello desde la perspectiva de las culturas tradicionales, el respeto a las mismas y el reconocimiento a su eficacia, ponderándose los niveles de desarrollo comunitarios y locales, así como su representación en los organismos multilaterales
14. El fortalecimiento de agencias de Naciones Unidas como el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente y de la Comisión sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible, permitirá facilitar la cooperación internacional efectiva en este ámbito, al respecto es necesario implementar el Plan Estratégico Intergubernamental de apoyo tecnológico y creación de capacidades (Plan de Bali) para lograr una estrategia coherente y válida.

Ciframos nuestras esperanzas en que de esta Cumbre salgan compromisos efectivos y tangibles que garanticen la preservación del medio ambiente a escala global y el uso sostenible de los recursos naturales, en un marco de justicia y equidad social a favor de la supervivencia y el bienestar de la humanidad.

La Habana, 26 de octubre del 2011

ORGANIZACIONES de la sociedad civil cubana que trabajaron en esta contribución

1. Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas (ACNU)\*
2. Asociación Cubana de Técnicos Agrícolas y Forestales (ACTAF)
3. Asociación Nacional de Economistas y Contadores de Cuba

(ANEC)\*

4. Asociación Cubana de Producción Animal (ACPA)

5. Centro Memorial Dr. M. Luther King Jr.

6. Central de Trabajadores de Cuba (CTC)

7. Centro de Estudios sobre la Juventud (CESJ)\*

8. Centro de Información y Estudios para las Relaciones

Interamericanas (CIERI)

9. Federación de Mujeres Cubanas (FMC)\*

10. Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez de la Naturaleza y el Hombre

(FANJ)

11. Movimiento Cubano por la Paz y la Soberanía de los Pueblos

(MOPAZ)\*

12. Organización de Solidaridad de los Pueblos de África, Asia y

América Latina (OSPAAAL).\*

13. Sociedad Cubana para la Promoción de las Fuentes Renovables de

Energía y el Respeto al Medio Ambiente (CUBASOLAR)

14. Sociedad Económica de Amigos del País de La Habana (SEAP)

15. Sociedad Pro-Naturaleza

16. Unión Nacional de Juristas de Cuba (UNJC)\*

17. Unión de Jóvenes Comunistas

18. Unión Nacional de Arquitectos e Ingenieros de la Construcción de

Cuba (UNAICC)

19. Organización Continental Latinoamericana de Estudiantes \*

20. Federación Estudiantil Universitaria

21. Organización de Pioneros José Martí

22. Federación de Estudiantes de la Enseñanza Media

23. Brigadas Técnicas Juveniles

\*ONGs con estatuto consultivo ante el Consejo Económico y Social (ECOSOC)

de las Naciones Unidas

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## La Vida en Bici

----- GREEN ECONOMY RIDES A BIKE

Contribution by Mati Kalwill for the compilation of the Zero Document

United Nations Conference On Sustainable Development RIO+20

Buenos Aires, Argentina - October 2011

**Please open the original submission to see this image**

### Summary

We are sending this document to be considered for the section of the Zero Draft which will refer to sustainable mobility and specifically urban cycling as a feature of urban viability as we discussed at the conference. This contribution has two objectives:

(1) Support the great potential of bicycles in the road towards a Green Economy, which we base on the strong relations between: the three pillars of Sustainable Development; the Indicators for a Green Economy as proposed by the United Nations in the working definition of this concept; and three fundamental values of urban cycling, as proposed by La Vida en Bici, the organization that created and promotes this contribution.

(2) Delineate a proposal of specific action oriented to the Institutional Framework for the Sustainable Development in relation to Sustainable Mobility, especially as it refers to the promotion of the bicycle as a preferent form of transportation in cities around the world.



## 1. Perspective on Urban Cycling on the road to Green Economy

We ask you to take into consideration that through promoting the bicycle as the preferred mode of transportation in cities around the world, the effort to create Green Economy is supported. We base this vision on the fact that Urban Cycling entails at least three fundamental values related directly to the pillars of Sustainable Development according to the definition created by the United

Nations; and the indicators proposed by United Nations for the construction of a

Green Economy.

We will elaborate on these concepts next so that the relationship between the three are clearly stated:

1)

Sustainable development pillar: Environmental protection.

Indicator of green economy: Environmental indicators.

Value of urban cycling associated with this pillar and indicator: The bicycle is a form of transportation of low environmental impact that offers an everyday, accessible way of reducing people's ecological footprint.

2)

Sustainable development pillar: Economic Development.

Indicator of green economy: Economic Indicators.

Value of urban cycling associated with this pillar and indicator: Has to do with transportation that can be accessed in an egalitarian way, the bicycle is an instrument that promotes equality and social inclusion.

3)

Sustainable development pillar: Social Development

Indicator of green economy: Indicators of progress and wellbeing

Value of urban cycling associated with this pillar and indicator: The bicycle increases people's quality of life, better their physical fitness, reduces the risk of fatal accidents in the public space, and increases the health and general happiness of citizens.

## 2. Proposal to promote urban cycling from the Institutional Framework for

### Sustainable Development through an international treaty

Given the ample relationship between green economy, sustainable development, and urban cycling, we propose that through the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development that will be discussed at the conference, an **International Treaty to promote the bicycle as preferred form of transportation in cities around the world** is considered. Kind greetings,

Matias Kalwill

Director of La vida en bici

[www.lavidaenbici.com](http://www.lavidaenbici.com)

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## Latin American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and their Families (RIADIS) and the Global Partnership for Disability and Development (GPDD)

### Joint Submission by the Latin American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations of Persons with Disabilities and their Families (RIADIS) and the Global Partnership for Disability and Development (GPDD)

*Note: RIADIS is a network formed by disabled persons' organizations from 18 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. RIADIS' main goal is to promote actions that will result in full respect of human rights, non-discrimination and inclusive development, focused in a sustained improvement of the quality of living conditions of persons with disabilities and their families. GPDD is an unprecedented alliance of more than 70 international and regional Disabled Persons's Organizations (DPOs), government ministries, bilateral and multilateral donors, United Nations (UN) agencies, NGOs, national and international development organizations, and other organizations, committed to promoting economic and social inclusion of persons with disabilities in middle and low-income countries.*

### General Comments: Why to mainstream Disability in Rio + 20 Outcome

**Inclusive development must integrate all the sustainable development strategies:** A fair and just development comprehends equity, equality of opportunities, and

protection of vulnerable groups. "Progress tends to bypass those who are lowest on the economic ladder or are otherwise disadvantaged because of their sex, age, disability or ethnicity".<sup>1</sup> Development can be inclusive – and reduce poverty – only if all groups of persons contribute to creating opportunities, share the benefits of development and participate in decision-making.<sup>2</sup> Also, to keep global growth sustainable means a stronger focus on inclusion.<sup>3</sup>

**Disability and poverty are intrinsically linked:** More than a billion persons are estimated to live with some form of disability, or about 15% of the world's population. Disability disproportionately affects vulnerable populations. There is a higher disability prevalence in lower-income countries than in higher-income countries. Persons from the poorest wealth quintile, women, and older persons have a higher prevalence of disability. Persons who have a low income, are out of work, or have low educational qualifications are at an increased risk of disability.<sup>4</sup> Disability issues should be an integral part of collective efforts and a concrete step to reducing the risk and impact of poverty in any country.

**As a Human Rights Issue, Disability is relevant to Sustainable Development:** More than 100 countries are legally bound to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) which sets out with great clarity the obligations on States to promote, protect and ensure those rights. Particularly, its Preamble notes that despite "various instruments and undertakings" persons with disabilities continue to face human rights violations and barriers to their full inclusion and participation as equal members of society, and that the majority of disabled persons live in "conditions of poverty."<sup>5</sup> It also anticipates that promoting the full participation of persons with disabilities "will result in (...) significant advances in the human, social and economic development of society and the eradication of poverty," and

1 UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, July 2011 <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/> MDG2011\_PRa\_EN.pdf

2 UNDP. Inclusive Development. <http://www.undp.org/poverty/>

focus\_inclusive\_development.shtml

3 Sri Mulyani Indrawati, <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90778/98506/7350373.html>

4 WHO World Report on Disability 2011

5 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, preambular para. (k) and (t)

highlights the "importance of mainstreaming disability issues as an integral part of relevant strategies of sustainable development."<sup>6</sup>

**All MDGs are relevant to persons with disabilities and persons with disabilities must be included in all MDG efforts:** Although persons with disabilities are not included in any of the MDGs' Goals, Targets or Indicators, recognition of the need for inclusion in the MDGs is reflected in recent General Assembly Resolutions.<sup>7</sup> In addition to representing a key target group under Millennium Development Goal 1 ("Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger"), persons with disabilities are also key targets when considering each of the other Goals.<sup>8</sup>

**Disability is relevant to Gender Equity:** Women have a higher prevalence of disability.<sup>9</sup> Women with disabilities experience gender discrimination as well as disabling barriers.<sup>10</sup> Women with disabilities comprise three quarters of all disabled persons in low and middle-income countries. 65-70% of women with disabilities in low and middle-income countries live in rural areas.<sup>11</sup> Women in general are more likely than men to become disabled because of poorer working conditions, poor access to quality healthcare, and gender-based violence.<sup>12</sup> Only around 19% of women with disabilities are in the global workforce.<sup>13</sup>

Because of increased risk of gender-based violence and lack of access to reproductive health care services, women with disabilities face unique challenges in preventing HIV infection. They experience significantly lower rates of primary school completion and fewer mean years of education than men with

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6 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, preambular para (m)

7 A/RES/65/186 Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities towards 2015 and beyond;

A/RES/64/131 Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for Persons with Disabilities; A/RES/63/150 Realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities through the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

A/RES/62/127. Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities; A/RES/60/131 Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities;

A/RES/58/132 Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons:

towards a society for all in the twenty-first century

8 E/CN.5/2008/6 Mainstreaming Disability in the Development Agenda

9 World Report on Disability

10 Ibidem

11 USAID. Women with Disabilities. [http://www.usaid.gov/our\\_work/cross-cutting\\_programs/](http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/cross-cutting_programs/)

wid/gender/wwd\_statistics.html

12 ILO Ability Asia <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/ability/>

wwdtext\_01.htm

13 World Report on Disability

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disabilities and women without disability<sup>14</sup>. Mortality rates amongst girls with disabilities are much higher than for boys with disabilities.<sup>15</sup>

**Disability Issues related to Green Economy**

• **Persons with disabilities lack access to water more often than their non-disabled peers:** In developing countries, persons with disabilities have to travel long distances to get water. Information about water distribution, points of water distribution and water access, water pump design, and water containers are not accessible. In addition, for many, there is a lack of social networks or assistance where needed. Prevention messages on water safety are not accessible. Disproportionately expensive water has a serious impact on persons with disabilities living in extreme poverty.<sup>16</sup>

• **Persons with disabilities are among the most affected by climate change and natural disasters:** Individuals with disabilities are disproportionately affected in disaster, emergency, and conflict situations due to inaccessible evacuation, response and recovery efforts. Common experience reveals that persons with disabilities are more likely to be left behind or abandoned during evacuation in disasters due to a lack of preparation and planning, as well as inaccessible facilities and services and transportation systems. Most shelters and refugee camps are not accessible and persons with disabilities are many times even turned away from shelters and refugees camps. Disruption to physical, social, economic, and environmental networks and support systems affect persons with disabilities much more than the general population. There is also a potential for discrimination on the basis of disability when resources are scarce. Furthermore, the needs of persons with disabilities continue to be excluded over the more long-term recovery and reconstruction efforts.<sup>17</sup>

• **Decent Work includes considerations to disability:** Decent work is a clearly defined universal and indivisible objective, based on fundamental values and principles. While, in operational terms, it is an evolving target, changing to reflect varied national and local situations and taking due consideration of different levels of development and national capacity, its integrated and balanced nature cannot be compromised. Such an integrated approach must include policies, strategies, programmes and activities must target specific disadvantaged or marginalized groups, such as persons with disabilities.<sup>18</sup>

• **Equal Transportation and livable buildings and cities require universal design and access for all:** An accessible environment, while particularly relevant for persons with disabilities, has benefits for a broader range of persons, including children, pregnant women and older persons. Access to public accommodations – buildings and roads – is beneficial for participation in civic life and essential for education, health care, and labour market participation. Transportation provides independent access to employment, education, and health care facilities, and to social and recreational activities. Without accessible transportation, persons with disabilities are more likely

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14 Ibidem

15 World Bank. Disability & Development. Women with Disabilities. <http://go.worldbank.org/O14DRFLK90>

16 International Disability Alliance. Item 3 Clustered interactive dialogue with the independent experts on water and sanitation, and extreme poverty. 14 September 2010

17 UN Disability <http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1546>

18 ILO, Toolkit for Mainstreaming Employment and Decent Work, 2007

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to be excluded from services and social contact. A lack of accessible communication and information affects the life of many disabled persons.<sup>19</sup>

#### Disability and the institutional framework for Sustainable Development

• **Good Governance requires the participation of persons with disabilities:** Often persons with disabilities are excluded from decision-making in matters directly affecting their lives.<sup>20</sup> There is a need to consult persons with disabilities and their organizations on their concerns more closely in making sustainable development more inclusive.

• **Rio + 20 processes and products must be accessible to All:** Websites should be rendered accessible, caption should be widely provided and reports in alternative communication formats should be available

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19 World Report on Disability

20 Ibidem

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## Law School of Getulio Vargas Foundation – FGV Direito Rio

### NORMATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RIO + 20

The recommendations in this document are the result of preparatory meetings and online public consultations conducted and organized by the Research Program on Law and the Environment - (PDMA) at Getulio Vargas Foundation School of Law in Rio de Janeiro (FGV DIREITO RIO). These initiatives include: the Rio+20 International Preparatory Meeting, held on 24 and 25

June 2011. This preparatory meeting was entitled: "Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development: Governance of Public and Private Stakeholders", and resulted in a book compiled by Carina Costa de Oliveira and Rômulo S. R. Sampaio. Two other initiatives included: the Online Forum for Sustainability regarding Rio+20 (<http://riomais20.direitorio.fgv.br/>), which received contributions from around the world debating issues relating to governance and green economy divided in 70 topics. Lastly, it is worth mentioning PDMA's participation in The Access Initiative - a network of nongovernmental organizations that works with the implementation of Principle 10 of Agenda 21 designed to address the issues of access to information and public participation.

Several partnerships were crucial to organizing those initiatives and continue to be important as we get closer to the official debates during the Rio+20. The organizations participating with PDMA in these endeavors are: *Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement*, *Pace University* and Brazilian American Institute for Law and the Environmental (BAILE), the *The Access Initiative*, Núcleo de Estudos e Pesquisas do Senado Federal Consultoria do Senado, Escola da Magistratura do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Academia Paranaense de Direito Ambiental, Ministério Público da União, PUC-Goiás, Universidade Católica de Brasília, Uniceub, Universidade Federal do Pará, IEDC - Instituto Estudos Direito e Cidadania, Mackenzie-SP, Prefeitura do Rio, CEDA, NKF Advogados, Tribuna Animal, CEDAM, FEMPERJ, PUC-São Paulo, IBRADA, and Universidade Estadual do Amazonas. In addition, professors, researchers, and professionals, who are not part of the above mentioned institutions above mentioned, participated in the development of the set of proposals. They are all cited at the end of this document.

Some recommendations are made on the general topics of the conference based on the following major subjects: 1) Definitions, 2) Sustainable Trade and Investments, 3) National and International Governance, 4) National Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, 5) International Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development. In each topic recommendations are divided in of national and international scope.

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## GREEN ECONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION

### 1) Definitions

#### a) Important aspects for Green Economy concept

- 1) The need for internalization of social and environmental negative externalities. Policies promoting internalization of negative externalities include, but are not limited to, building reliable methodologies for natural resources valuation and working with tax incentives to encourage sustainable practices (PDMA).
- 2) Defining social goals and creating objective criteria to achieve them within the context of a "green economy". These goals include: job expansion, consumption decline, promoting more sustainable and housing guarantees. Relevant policies would promote sustainable public expenditure, enable green regulation and encourage public investment in priority areas (PDMA).
- 3) In relation to green economy, it is observed that the more this analysis is divided into sectors, the easier policies that could encourage the construction of "green" perspective can be identified. Each specific area, such as construction, tourism, biodiversity, energy, cities, enjoys its own set of peculiarities. The concept of green economy could be taken from the sustainable progress of each economic sector (PDMA).

4) "There should be an environmental concern on the macroeconomic policy design. The decisions related to interest rate, trade balance and the adjustments to be made in the trade balance are used to induce the production / import / export of certain products. Each of these products contributes differently to maintain an ecologically balanced environment. So we must be concerned with the regulation of microeconomic aspects such as the internalization of externalities through tax incentives or parafiscal taxes, but also, and perhaps with even greater force, we should be concerned with the macroeconomic aspects of regulation as the establishment of mandatory parameters that prevent the adoption of macroeconomic policies potentially harmful to the environment "(Arivaldo de Souza).

**b) Important aspects for sustainable development concept**

1) Identifying general criteria for sustainability from a definition given by each country. Each country can send to the UN Secretariat for the Rio+20 its definition of sustainable development. This proposal stems from disparities between economic, social and environmental development of each state. Each one must identify how it can contribute to the present and the future of those from the following generations.

2) Opinion on the relevance of the concept of each State:

"A concept is an abstraction that is used to intellectualize a complex issue. Thus, it is possible to explain the complexity of reality that becomes more accessible. However, the risk that comes with the use of a concept is the simplifying and trivializing of it. It can be regarded as the perfect mirror of reality. It is a methodological and scientific error. Many times the same happens to the concept of sustainable development. People who work on this issue want to universalize and standardize the concept. As a result, they destroy the content of sustainable development. The principles of sustainable development must be implemented by each state. Each State has its own

level of development, its economies and its society. Therefore, they are different and have neither the same goals, nor the same means to accomplish their goals. Environmental considerations, for instance, do not have the same value in

each state. In this sense, what is sustainable development for a State is not necessarily the same thing to another State. So in this sense, it is not useful to have a single definition of the concept of sustainable development. In practice, every State knows its needs within its development. Thus, it can decide its policies according to its reality. Finally, it is useful to emphasize a last point. The final receptors of development and sustainable development theories – humans - are sometimes forgotten and neglected by those working on these issues. Their realities are so complex, so different that it is difficult to understand how a theory of sustainable development can be created without some practical studies. Moreover, these theories are often built in offices, in few hours. This is one reason why sustainable development has little practical effect "(Nitish Monebhurrun).

3) Opinion on the debate:

"Ultimately, Planet Earth is bearing the benefits or the burden of how effective a theory of sustainable development is built". The Planet's environment must be balanced in order to provide for a harmonized relationship between humans and other creatures that, combined, form the biota. That is the question of sustainable development. Furthermore, sustainable development is a political concept which aims to establish the grounds for dialogue between different stakeholders. The answer for sustainable development is "Shall we all talk? What are the terms? The question that may be asked is what are the parameters to developing each political entity and what are the parameters of sustainability?" (Arivaldo de Souza).

**2) Investments and Sustainable Trade**

**a) Forests**

**International Recommendations**

1) Adopting a treaty dealing with forests (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

2) Increasing the input of financial resources in order to provide for the recognition and payments for environmental services, using the Global Environmental Facility as a model. (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

3) Strengthening and harmonizing existing environmental certifications (José Antônio Tietzzman Silva).

4) Including recommendations for environmental damage under the Human Rights Council and UN Councils or Commissions of the Regional System of Protection of Human Rights (José Antônio Tietzzman Silva).

**National Recommendations**

1) Implementing monitoring mechanisms and instruments through voluntary and coercive measures. (Fernando Meneguín).

2) Implementing policies and measures to combat deforestation (Fernando Meneguín).

3) Implementing state incentives for environmental preservation, and opening up the process for public and private participation (Fernando Meneguín).

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**REDD:**

4) Use annual fluctuations in the opportunity costs in forested areas, rather than carbon stocks (Virgílio Gibbon).

5) Unifying the credit registries of all the states into a single registry office to avoid double valuations of credits on the national level (Virgílio Gibbon).

6) The need to incorporate the concept of opportunity cost in the search for solutions to the issue of native forests deforestation (Virgílio Gibbon).

7) Establishing a REDD+ regime demands that the rights and duties are clear not only in national but also in international levels (PDMA).

8) Local participation and transparent processes of defining access to benefits and allocation of

REDD+ resources are crucial for guaranteeing effective governance (PDMA).

#### **b) Renewable energy**

##### **International Recommendations**

1) Specifically, a framework convention on renewable energy could include:

a) Establishing a renewable energy list classified according to economic criteria (cost of production, levels of energy demand, the necessary resources for its production, levels of importation, exportation, capacity to create jobs, etc) and environmental (rate of substitution of fossil fuels, environmental impact, carbon balance of the production process, etc.) (Meryem Deffairi).

b) Establishing a binding target, "a minimum" of renewable energy in 10 years for developed countries and in 15 or 20 years for developing countries (obligation of result, leaving the states free of the means used to achieve this) and finally integrate the planning requirements for each state. (Meryem Deffairi).

c) Providing a mechanism for financial sanctions applicable in 10 years, and every five years, depending on the level of renewable energy in each state, by paying a fine to an independent international institution responsible for "re-injection" of funds in development projects of technology for renewable energy production. (Meryem Deffairi).

2) Instead of discussing a new institutional framework, we should question the function and capacity of action undertaken by the International Agency for Renewable Energy established in January 2009 (IRENA <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>) (Priscila Pereira de Andrade).

##### **National Recommendations**

1) States should be Memberships in the International Agency for Renewable Energy established in January 2009 (IRENA - <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>) (Priscila Pereira de Andrade).

2) Regulating ethanol in Brazil - implement the Regulation on Conformity Assessment for Ethanol Fuel, signed by Brazil, the purpose of which is to define criteria for evaluating the intrinsic properties of ethanol, considering established technical standards, and assessing social and environmental requirements applicable to the production process, based on labor and environmental laws in Brazil and abroad (PDMA).

3) Adopting government policies to encourage transition from energy sources based on fossil fuels to renewable energies (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

4) Implementing, through local government, legislation and regulations that promote the use of renewable energy (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

5) Giving preferences in the process of granting intellectual property rights to renewable energies that would favor developing countries (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

6) Facilitating the acquisition of patents, given the need for investment in renewable energies precipitated by recent weather events (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

7) Reducing tariffs and establish subsidies in order to implement technologies used to produce renewable energies as well as to reduce their cost and increase production (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

8) Promoting public policies aimed at reducing consumption in order to reduce consumer power demand (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

#### **c) Biodiversity and compensation mechanisms**

##### **International Recommendations**

1) Producing a judicially manageable definition of biodiversity and give it legal standing in the international arena (Jessica Makowiak).

2) Creating international compensation mechanisms for loss of biodiversity and their criteria

(Jessica Makowiak).

3) Bolstering the notion of compensation with recognized principles of international and environmental law (the precautionary principle, "polluter-pays" principle). Such relief or compensation may also be injunctive (Jessica Makowiak).

4) Ranking priorities in order of the intensity of the threat to biodiversity, the possibility of preventing losses, and of compensation. (Jessica Makowiak).

5) Limiting compensation actions where projects do not cause major or irreversible reduction of biodiversity (Jessica Makowiak).

6) Defining, classifying and prioritizing compensation arrangements in the context of biodiversity (Jessica Makowiak).

7) Providing in the texts of such laws or agreements means of compensation and provisions for monitoring, surveillance and control (Jessica Makowiak).

8) Imposing sanctions for instances of noncompliance with measures for monitoring and their effects (Jessica Makowiak).

9) Accessing compensation practices at the institutional level (which actors are appointed to decide, implement and monitor compensation measures) (Jessica Makowiak).

10) Identifying means of channeling economic resources allocated to biodiversity conservation towards biodiversity-rich developing states (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

#### **d) Green Private Contracts**

##### **International Recommendations**

1) Promoting the inclusion of social-environmental clauses and prohibit "stabilization" clauses in order to enable the adoption of standards in the area of private law for human and environmental rights ratified after the signing of agreements (Sílvia Pinheiro).

**e) Technology Transfers**

**International Recommendations**

- 1) Promoting funding mechanisms for the acquisition of clean technology in developing countries (Renata Calsing, Maria Marinho and Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).
- 2) Establishing a fund that allows the purchase of clean technologies considered relevant to environmental protection (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).
- 3) Recognizing the need to stimulate the creation of collaborative platforms for clean technology licenses (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).
- 4) Promoting discussion on the adaptability of a mandatory license allowing access to clean technologies and discuss other mechanisms of transfer (if the invention improves upon existing technology or reduces production costs, the company holding the license will exercise its exclusive right in order to differentiate itself in the market. Therefore, the incentive to transfer technology through licensing will only be effective if states establish mechanisms to compensate the private sector holder or co-holder of protected technologies that impact environmental protection) (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).

**f) National and international trade systems**

- 1) Investing U.S. bonds certificates that comprise the international reserves of

BRICS members (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) in funds managed by the shareholders (Virgílio Gibbon).

- 2) Developing rules for the Investment Fund regarding the possibility of issuing a "Green Currency" up to value of its assets. The Green Money shall only be applied to actions or funding of sustainable projects of countries that agree to be beneficiaries of the Fund (Virgílio Gibbon).
- 3) Accede to a Shareholders Agreement that accords the Green Currency the same treatment given to the U.S. dollar today. In other words, it is computed as international reserve and gives rise to the issuance of corresponding domestic currency (Virgílio Gibbon).
- 4) Adopting social and environmental indicators on the stock market. Examples: Domini 400

Social Index (DSI), Dow Jones Sustainable Index (PDMA).

**g) Sustainable Production**

- 1) Creating a coordinated consumer products policy based on the evaluation of the environmental impact of products throughout their life cycle. Fostering discussion between the public and private sectors on the subject of producing more effective measures and lowering costs (PDMA).
- 2) Promoting the idea of corporate social responsibility throughout the entire production cycle, including: local communities, paid employees, shareholders, business partners, suppliers, consumers, and public authorities (PDMA).
- 3) Sustainable financing - direct funding for specific areas: such funding would benefit some communities or disadvantaged municipalities by granting loans through local development banks in deposits, with rates equal to or below the market price (PDMA).

**h) Sustainable Consumption**

- 1) Responsibility of individuals and companies for their sustainable consumption (PDMA).
- 2) Consumer protection against misleading advertising by companies through notices that detail environmental protection or certifications related to Corporate Social Responsibility in their Codes of Conduct (PDMA).
- 3) Creation of a website specializing in the exchange of information and tips on environmentally friendly products and companies (NKLF Lawyers Association).

**i) Sustainable Construction**

**International Recommendations**

- 1) Adopting of a statement of principles for sustainable construction at the Rio +20 Conference  
(Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

**National recommendations**

- 1) Creating financial incentives (benefits and tax exemptions) for sustainable products and technologies to be used in construction (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).
- 2) Creating a government website for the commercialization of sustainable technologies and products (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

**j) Exploitation of Genetic Resources**

**International Recommendations**

- 1) Ratification of the Nagoya Protocol and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Protocol, ensuring the implementation of the ABS regime and the liability regime for damages in the case of transnational movement of GMOs (Solange Telles da Silva and Tarin Frota Mont'Alverne).
- 2) The Right to access information on biotechnology and nanotechnology (Solange Telles da Silva).
- 3) Requirements for independent studies on the risks and adverse effects on human health and the environment before genetically modified organisms are made available for human and animal consumption (Solange Telles da Silva).

4) Requirements for monitoring after such GMOs are made available on the market and for the publication of these studies (Solange Telles da Silva).

#### **National recommendations**

1) It is important that countries have the legal tools necessary to access these resources effectively and benefit from sharing in a fair and equitable manner, especially after the adoption of the Protocol of Nagoya (Tarin Frota Mont'Alverne).

### **3) Green Economy in the Sustainable Development context: Governance and**

#### **Institutional Framework a) State Liability**

##### **International Recommendations**

- 1) All Signatories shall promote sustainable management, especially within the government administration (Maria Augusta Ferreira).
- 2) Sustainable management means one that is conducted with transparency, accountability, and in an ethical manner, with public participation and respect for the concerns of interested parties (stakeholders – employees, customers, suppliers, society, and government), human rights, and the environment (Maria Augusta Ferreira).
- 3) Respect for the environment in public administration is founded on the following pillars: environmental education, sensible use of resources, proper disposal of waste, sustainable public procurement, and a healthy work environment (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

##### **National Recommendations**

1) The environmental responsibility of federal, state and local entities includes, beyond liability for damages, a responsibility to prevent damages by reducing the environmental impact of state activities, though the adoption of sustainable management practices (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

#### **b) Companies Liability**

##### **International Recommendations**

- 1) Creating guidelines that impose strict liability on companies for environmental damages caused by those companies, with joint and several liability between both parent companies and their subsidiaries (Carole Peychaud).
- 2) Having an Agreement on "Rights and responsibilities of market players" with guidelines such as: (PDMA)
  - a) Minimum criteria, which would constitute the basis for the Code of Conduct for Companies (obligations and their subjects must be precise and clear) (PDMA).
  - b) Creating an obligation to produce annual statements that consider environmental and social criteria; (PDMA).
  - c) Promoting imperatives for voluntary certifications obtained according to the standards of ISO, for example (PDMA).
- 3) Environmental conventions containing provisions for conflict of laws and jurisdictional conflicts, giving preference to the laws and courts that could best grant relief. Examples of rules (PDMA):

##### **a) Conflict of laws:**

1) In the case of compensation for environmental damage, the rule most favorable to the victim and to environmental protection should be applied; 2) if there exists environmental insurance, the law on the rights of the insured should be applied, 3) in case of environmental damage, the law of the jurisdiction of the parent company may be applied if it has control over the activities of its subsidiary.

##### **b) Conflict of jurisdictions: (PDMA)**

- 1) The victims of environmental damage may choose the court most expedient for the granting of relief, for example: based on the proximity of the evidence;
- 2) If the parent company has control over the activities of its subsidiary, the jurisdiction of the parent company will be competent to hear the case;
- 3) A multinational corporation may be sued in the court of the domicile of the defendant. If the defendant is a corporation, the domicile of the defendant may be found in any of three places: a) where the company has been incorporated, b) the location of its headquarters, or c) its principal place of business.

#### **Specific Recommendations for International Law of Investments**

- 1) The integration of clear environment protection provisions in international investment agreements: the future investment agreements or the renegotiation of existing agreements should include specific provisions on environment protection. These provisions can consider (Nitish Monebhurrn):
  - (i) **The definition of an investment activity:** The activities of those companies which are constituted without knowledge of domestic environmental laws should not be qualified as an investment and therefore should not benefit from the protection of the investment agreement. The international investment agreement provision on the definition of the investment must underscore this point. The agreement must state that the investor has a duty to check, examine and understand the legal framework of the host state, especially the one applicable to the environment, so that it shall start and conduct its activity accordingly.
  - (ii) **The definition of the environment:** Environment is not an abstraction and in the vein of the previous proposition, some details must be available to define or to identify what is to be understood by environment. It might be a complex task to give an exhaustive definition but it is not impossible to give a list of indicators. These indicators may vary from one state to another.
  - (iii) **Affirming the right of states to regulate according to their environmental concerns:** compensation is usually provided in case of exploitation. For example, expropriation with environmental motives should have a specific status and the compensation for this kind of expropriation should be designed to give legitimacy to the



objective of environment protection.

(iv) **The legitimate expectations of States:** The agreement must declare that States have a legitimate expectation that private companies investing on its territory will always act in good faith in order to collaborate with them, whenever

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environmental goals are concerned. Therefore, private companies have a duty to act accordingly and must not frustrate these expectations.

2) The integration of clear rules of conflict in international investment agreements: *emphasizing the prevalence of environment protection norms over investment protection norms* (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) **The principle:** Whenever there is a potential conflict between the investor's or the investment's protection and the environment protection, the investment agreements must present clear rules of conflict. The investment agreement can assert that whenever an investment protection provision is in conflict with an environmental norm, the latter shall prevail over the former. As environment protection is a unanimous goal which is fundamental, it must be a priority.

3) Promoting the use of the systemic integration principle (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) The principle: Hereby, agreements should declare that international investment law is not isolated from the rest of international law and that the interpretation of an international investment treaty does not exclude references to other non-investment norms, like environmental norms. This is in agreement with article 31(1)(c) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Hence, environmental norms can be integrated in international investment dispute settlements. They can be invoked by states and will have to be taken into consideration by arbitral tribunals.

#### **National Recommendations**

1) Implementing and publicizing the system of National Contact Points in the OECD so that companies can be questioned about their actions by society (PDMA).

2) Controlling the private activities through: 1) creation of precise sustainability criteria which companies should present; 2) mandatory presentation of these criteria, and

3) Government oversight of the information published. These criteria may be based on the GRI (PDMA).

#### **c) Financial Institutions Liability**

1) Organizations, whether public or private, national or international, which finance or support activities or projects which pollute the environment or may potentially pollute the environment shall require the submission of all documents relating to the environmental licensing of the project financed by them and issued by responsible controlling agencies, under penalty of becoming jointly liable for any effects arising from the violation of this Act or its regulations (Bruna Acerbi).

2) In addition, an environmental cost-benefit analysis must be taken into consideration, defining the aims of a project and identifying its impacts, defining them according to their relevance and measurement in physical units, as well as appraising them in monetary terms. (Luiz Borges)

3) Experience from a Brazilian financial institution on incorporating socio-environmental criteria into institutional and management policies of credit allocation: "Itaú Unibanco has a Socio- Environmental Risk Policy which sets out the internal guidelines for the identification of socio-

environmental risks of the projects<sup>1</sup> to be financed. Consequently, Itaú Unibanco has a specialized multidisciplinary team, which (i) accesses the socio- environmental conformity of the project and that of the potential corporate client,

(ii) issues an opinion which is taken into account in the credit approval process, and (iii), as the case maybe, monitors the projects and respective clients. To check socio-environmental conformity, this team: a) verifies if the potential corporate client is involved in activities related to forced labor, child labor and prostitution. Should such activities come to light, the request for credit will be turned down; b) verifies if the potential client operates in sectors which have a significant socio-environmental impact, such as<sup>2</sup>: (i) extraction and production of wood, firewood and charcoal from native forest areas; (ii) mining and industrialization of asbestos; (iii) fisheries; or (iv) production and sale of firearms, munitions and explosives. In these cases, Itaú Unibanco conducts specific investigations in accordance with the activity involved: i) investigates the potential customer's socio-environmental management and the existence of any legal or administrative actions or news items which might cast the client in an unfavorable light; ii) solicits socio-environmental documentation with respect to the potential client and the project itself, among which, the environmental license; iii) undertakes technical visits, as required; and (iv) requests a technical analysis of the project where necessary. Once the financing is approved, the contract is drawn up to include environmental clauses allowing Itaú Unibanco to suspend with immediate effect the liberation of funds and to require early repayment of the operation in the event of the financed entity's non-compliance with the socio-environmental legislation and regulations. There are also specific contractual provisions for such cases, among others, genetically modified organisms (GMO) research, compliance with legal forest reserve norms, permanent preservation areas and lands declared as pertaining to indigenous peoples' reservations. Where a transaction is collateralized with real estate, Itaú Unibanco checks as to whether the property given in guarantee carries any environmental liabilities through an examination to be performed by an appropriate expert" (Itaú Unibanco).

#### **d) The liability of non-governmental organizations**

1) Consolidate Chapter 27 of Agenda 21, in particular: "27.1. (...)The credibility of non- governmental organizations lies in the responsible and constructive role they play in society. Formal and informal organizations, as well as popular movements, should be recognized as partners in the implementation of the Agenda 21. The nature of the independent role played by non-governmental organizations within a society calls for real participation (...); 27.5. Society, Governments and international bodies should develop mechanisms that allow non-governmental organizations to play their partnership role in a responsible manner and effectively in the process of environmentally sound and sustainable development. 27.6. In order to strengthen the role of non-governmental organizations as social partners, the United Nations System and Governments should begin a process of reviewing formal procedures and mechanisms for the involvement of these organizations at all levels from policy-making and decision-making to implementation, in consultation with non-governmental organizations (Erico Mabellini).

1 Projects: construction, implementation or expansion of production units or infrastructure.

2 Mentioned sectors are examples. Periodic evaluations are made to ascertain the inclusion of new sectors.

**e) Information Access and Public Participation**

**International Recommendations**

- 1) It is necessary to define the meaning of the right of access to information at both the international and national levels (PDMA).
- 2) Signing a Regional Convention in Latin America in order that the principle of information access may be implemented, under the control of an institution, such as ECLAC (The TAI Network).
- 3) Ratifying of the Aarhus Convention (PDMA).
- 4) Establishing the right to access information on biotechnology and nanotechnology as well as nuclear and other advanced technologies (Solange Telles da Silva).

**National Recommendations**

- 1) Establishing publication deadlines for all documents related to environmental decisions (PDMA).
- 2) Imposing financial penalties in the case of noncompliance with publication deadlines (PDMA).
- 3) Ratifying of the Aarhus Convention (PDMA).
- 4) Signing a Regional Convention in Latin America to be implemented the access to information in the region under control of a regional institution (PDMA).
- 5) Establishing a fully detailed decree of often imprecise terms, with some examples of articles (PDMA):
  - a) Public audiences may be conducted, for instance, by sector, population or community, in order not to allow domination of the audience by people who have greater chance to express themselves (Colin Crawford).
  - b) Requiring effective mechanisms of access to all relevant documents to public audiences by population and interested communities, as well as access to versions with comprehensible language of details of the proposed projects (PDMA).
  - c) Providing training courses for community leaders and mediation techniques in order to qualify the ones who need to access the public audience procedures (PDMA).
  - d) Requiring public participation from the beginning of the procedure or process that will affect a specific community (PDMA).
- 6) Requiring the preparation of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) linked to the Preliminary Study Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (PDMA).

- 7) Environmental documents shall be available on the Internet (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

**f) Oversight and Accountability**

- 1) Implementation of the monitoring system such as the GRI in the States (PDMA).
- 2) Controlling of information provided by the companies in their annual reports by the state through a government agency (PDMA).
- 3) Disclosure of corporate balance sheets on the Internet (with compatible data set by States) (PDMA).
- 4) Rule on the requirement of social balance, with the prediction of environmental and social aspects (PDMA).
- 5) Issuing a decree stipulating the criteria that should be in the company's annual social report in order to make that information comparable (PDMA).

**g) Green Public Procurement**

**International Recommendations**

- 1) Writing more specific guidelines on the green bidding topic at Rio +20 (Teresa Villac P Barki).
- 2) Strengthening of the sustainable Public Procurement in the MERCOSUL (Teresa Villac P Barki).

**National Recommendations**

- 1) Insertion of sustainable hiring in the planning activities of public entities (Teresa Villac P Barki).

**h) Water: The Creation of Protected Areas on the High Seas**

- 1) In order to achieve sustainable development, States should create marine protected areas (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).
- 2) Marine Protected Areas should be considered as areas of full protection, essential for the conservation of biodiversity and for the maintenance of essential ecological marine processes (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).
- 3) Any activity affecting or potentially affecting the ecological balance and biodiversity conservation in marine protected areas should be considered prohibited in respect of

the right to an ecologically balanced environment for the present and future generations (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

4) Marine Protected Areas should ensure the protection of biodiversity and the quality of marine waters, to avoid acidification and death of organisms for biotic and abiotic necessary to capture carbon from the atmosphere, responsible for mitigating global warming and climate changes (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

5) Marine Protected Areas should ensure the preservation of natural fisheries resources, required for food security of present and future generations (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

***j) Water: The Management of Aquifers Located under the Territories of Several***

***Countries***

1) Reduce asymmetric information (specific case of Guarani Aquifer) (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

2) Increase regional and local engagement (awareness, capacity-building and traditional knowledge) (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

3) Harmonization of national legislation (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

4) Regulatory structures (environmental services) (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

***j) Taxation as a Means of Environmental Management***

**International Recommendations**

1) Establish a limit (cap) for each country of carbon emissions. The initial cap will be the result of the average carbon emissions over the past three to five years. A transition rule might be created (more lenient rule) for developing countries and LDCs (Least Developed Countries – according to WTO classification) - so that these countries are not disadvantaged because of their low level of current development, and so they can still develop despite the targets for carbon reduction (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

2) The carbon emitted in each country shall be taxed in order to encourage companies to use resources in developing new technologies for clean energy production. The tax rates should be the same in each country (we suggest the establishment of a maximum rate and minimum rate), so that they are not created "carbon tax havens" (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

3) Establishing maximum and minimum rates that will also prevent the adoption of tariff adjustments on products importation (Border Tax Adjustments "BTA") (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

4) Creating a treaty that establishes a origin for the carbon emitted as a result of international activities (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

5) Creating a new international body with police power in order to monitor and eventually penalize those who do not comply to the limits imposed by the treaty (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

**National Recommendations**

1) Green tax:

a) Establishing a less onerous form for the final consumer, for fuel tax, so as to encourage the consumption of cleaner fuels (such as biodiesel and alcohol) in order to reduce the consumption of high carbon concentration fuels, which are more pollutant, such as diesel and coal burning (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

b) Establishing a green contribution (purposing the creation of a fund to combat climate change and reduce the harmful effects of global warming) on fuel. The contribution would be progressive, more burdensome to diesel fuel and less to biodiesel, for example (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

c) The funds raised with the contribution should be used in development of green Brazilian technology for the production of electric cars, development of new forms of biodiesel (for instance, it is possible to transform peel potatoes and other vegetables into fuel) and even for the promotion of "green" initiatives such as increased efficiency in the recycling project, replanting of forests (which are also internationally known as "carbon sinks" as we consume and re-absorb carbon from the atmosphere), construction of bike lanes to encourage bicycle use by local people, etc (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

***k) The Non-Regression Principle in Environmental Law***

**International Recommendations**

1) Integration of the principles of non-regression of the human rights area into environmental law

(Michel Prieur).

2) In order to preserve the sustainable development and ensure the necessary protection of the environment, states may not take legislative, administrative or judicial measures importing an unlawful reduction of their protection levels granting by laws that protect the environment except in public interest prevalent case (Maria Morelli).

3) If states adopt a legislative, administrative or judicial measure which reduces levels of environmental protection in force, they shall justify the reasonableness and proportionality of the measure (Maria Morelli).

**National Recommendations**

1) The environmental goals should be achieved in a gradual manner, through provisional and final targets, on the basis of a state planning that facilitates the implementation of activities related to these goals (Maria Morelli).

2) Efforts to ensure environment protection and conservation cannot decrease. So in this sense, it is forbidden to adopt legislative, administrative or judicial measures that illegitimately reduce

levels of environmental protection legislation, except in case of public interest, which must prevail (Maria Morelli).

**l) The definition** and criteria for local sustainability

#### **National recommendations**

1) Definition and promotion of sustainability indicators that can be used for the formulation of local environmental policies. Indicators should reconcile the protection and preservation of goods, services and environmental and cultural resources with economic and social development needs (PDMA).

**m) Policies and standards for the protection of animals**

1) Review: As founder and director of an NGO for the animal and environment, I would like to emphasize, that the animal protection associations also have great value to the conservation of the natural environment, which is "habitat" of wild animals from all over the world. The claims of the Animal Rights Movement will allow the Rio + 20 Conference to transcend the anthropocentric world view, by citing that not only humans, but also many non-human life forms that inhabit this planet with us, as the non-human animals are subjects of rights. Another important role of the third sector aimed at the protection of animals is the constituted authorities to help in the fight against wildlife trafficking, criminal activity that destroys the environment in a completely unsustainable and unacceptable way, in all respects (Erico Mabellini).

#### **4) Green Economy on Sustainable Development context: eradication of poverty**

**a) Regularization**

1) Establishing property rights in forested areas and biomes in order to prevent illegal deforestation. (Fernando Meneguín).

2) The concession of rights to public lands to ensure better monitoring of national resources and to facilitate land regularization (Fernando Meneguín).

3) Imposing limits on land use; the concession of land rights, which are not absolute, but provide benefits to the title holder and to the state though terms and restrictions on the use of the land (Fernando Meneguín).

4) Establishing an effective policy and a coordinated regional planning (Jose Heder Benatti).

a) The State must be proactive and coordinate the process of regional planning for public policies that are effective, because the lack of a public goods allocation policy may leave space for the a chaotic land occupation of public areas, through land invasion and deforestation, which often happens when there is no such policy.

b) So in this sense, it is necessary to establish a regional planning policy to include: land regularization; environmental licensing of rural properties; obedience to the social function of ownership; control, enforcement and economic instruments

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capable of stimulating the sustainable management of natural resources, especially forests.

i) For example, the economic or tax incentives can stimulate private

spending in certain areas, discourage bad behavior, and correct the market trends that can encourage actions against nature conservation and the natural resources protection.

5) Land regularization in order to ensure control and define property rights, allowing the public power to know who is occupying land and how they are being used (Jose Heder Benatti).

a) Firstly, to overcome the current land chaos, land ownership must be determined - who is the owner of the land, public or private sector? If public, which federative entity?

b) Official recognition of the different existing forms of occupation should allow the state and society to have the control over the use of land and other natural resources. Therefore, the regularization will be positive and not negative, since it prioritizes family occupation.

c) Another positive effect of land regularization policy is the fight against illegal occupation of public lands.

6) There are several necessary steps to implement a land use (José Heder Benatti):

d) To overcome the limited management capacity of agencies responsible for planning land, whether in its technical or staff.

e) Understand that the consolidation of rural property, respecting the social and environmental assumptions, represents an important step towards the strengthening of citizenship and environmental protection.

7) The process of regularization of land occupation should (José Heder Benatti):

f) Be accompanied by a survey and a descriptive, georeferenced memorandum. The financial costs for its preparation should be the responsibility of recipient of legitimacy, with exception of the processes of regularization of small properties.

g) Include in the title deeds issued by the land agency clauses requiring the beneficiary to maintain, conserve and, if appropriate, restore the permanent preservation areas and legal reserves.

8) Other necessary and complementary actions to the regularization (Jose Heder Benatti). h) Scanning of land acquis.

i) Modernization of access to registry information of rural land in order to increase the effectiveness of the real estate property registration processes records and ensure that information can be obtained quickly and from a distance by public authorities relating to questions of federal land.

**b) Environmental Education**

#### **International Recommendations**

1) Making investment in education a priority in developing countries and underdeveloped countries, since the lack of education contributes to unemployment which results in crime and poverty. In addition, ensure that education serves as a tool for public awareness of the current problems in the world, such as politics, health and environmental preservation. The unequal distribution of wealth is also a consequence of poor education (Patricia Pellanda).

#### **National Recommendations**

- 1) Environmental education, at all levels, is everyone's responsibility because it contributes to the reduction of social inequalities. The principle of transversality should be followed in schools (Maria Collares).
- 2) Government should be able to train teachers to teach environmental education at all levels of government and to monitor the effectiveness of the method adopted (Maria Collares).
- 3) Information on Environmental education requires transparency to public in order to contribute to the protection of natural resources, the public health and to the poverty eradication (Maria Collares).
- 4) Environmental education propels sustainable development. It should be compulsory in schools, social, professional and public activities (Maria Collares).
- 5) The inclusion of Environmental Law as a mandatory subject in law schools in order to contribute to educate professionals to apply effectively environmental legislation in all activities (Maria Collares).

#### **c) The fundamental right to land and food3**

##### **International Recommendations**

- 1) Regarding the right to food, the focus of debates is on hunger eradication of people. This problem cannot be based on instruments that aim at increasing food production in the world, but on appropriate means to combat social inequalities and unequal distribution of wealth (Patricia Pellanda).
- 2) Cooperation and mobilization of all countries is necessary to fight against poverty and social exclusion. It is necessary to decentralize poverty policies in order to enforce cooperation, based on the premise that resources should be made available by the richest countries for the poorest countries (Alexceia Ferreira).
- 3) Encouraging the application of a "Solidarity Economy", warning private sector that their donations and supportive attitudes may contribute to the results of the company itself (Patricia Pellanda).

##### **National Recommendations**

- 4) Guarantee of land and territories granted to indigenous people and traditional communities as a collective right, transcending the idea of merely individual property (Patricia Pellanda).
  - 5) Prevent State's domestic law equating indigenous lands to family farms. On this perspective it is important to achieve an international commitment and recognition of specific features of indigenous people and their cultural practices. This measure will prevent the high development
- 3 Recommendations presented in this topic were defined by Alexceia Ferreira, Antonio Araujo, Felipe Iubel Belao, Fernando Cesar Pellanda, Herik Chaves, João Renato Lima Paulon, Juliana Correa Tuji, Liana Amin Lima da Silva and Patricia Précoma Pellanda.

of agribusiness lands and other explorations that have been occurring frequently on these populations' lands (Patricia Pellanda).

- 3) The commitment of States to reduce/eliminate corruption in politics. In addition to this, States shall punish those who: divert funds, individually enrich and "forget" their real function towards government and social obligations. Corruption can be reduced by strengthening social bases and basic education (Patricia Pellanda).
- 4) Public awareness that many problems can be solved in the short term through measures introduced by them and taken by the population itself, independent from the government. Problems such as hunger and environmental devastation belong to everyone. In long term, the eradication of poverty can be solved through an alliance between civil society and government. Since it is a problem that concerns everybody, it is the essential to engage various sectors of society (Patricia Pellanda).
- 5) Besides sufficient quantity of food to fulfill basic human needs, the quality of food and water should be prioritized, in order to achieve international food security intended. Quantitatively and qualitatively appropriate nutrition result in positive consequences for the health sector such as diseases reduction, especially those arising from the use and the consumption of pesticides and new technologies (transgenic) (Patricia Pellanda).

#### **d) Definition and Criteria for a Sustainable City**

##### **National Recommendations**

- 1) Definition and promotion of sustainability indicators that may be used for the development of local environmental policies. These indicators must reconcile the protection and the preservation of goods, services, environmental and cultural resources with the needs of economic and social development (PDMA).

#### **e) The rights of indigenous people and of traditional communities**

##### **International Recommendations**

- 1) A Protocol is necessary to precise definitions, obligations and rights of indigenous people and traditional communities with provisions such as (PDMA):
  - a) Prior, free and informed consent in relation to any activity held in indigenous areas;
  - b) Participation in the implementation of projects that can affect their lives;
  - c) Protection and guarantee to land access, natural resources and to benefits derived from their use;
  - d) Recognition of traditional knowledge of indigenous people and protection of people relocating to other territories;

e) Monitoring mechanism should be created at the international and national levels to ensure transparency and effectiveness of these rights.

2) Indigenous people may be impacted from the consequences of global climate change. It is

necessary to ensure that such impacts are mitigated and that training and adaptation to climate change are rights of these peoples (PDMA).

3) Indigenous people have a crucial role in the conservation of environmental resources. This role should be recognized for compensation for environmental services and distribution of REDD benefits (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) (PDMA).

#### **National Recommendations**

1) Better access to information and participation of indigenous people in the implementation and development of projects that affect them directly or indirectly (PDMA).

2) Recognition of land and territories granted to indigenous people and traditional communities as a collective right, transcending the idea of merely individual property (Patricia Pellanda).

3) More precise definitions of terms such as traditional communities (Colin Crawford).

#### **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.**

##### **5) National Institutional Framework**

###### ***a) Legal and Procedural instruments***

###### **International Recommendations: procedural instruments**

1) Acceptance of civil society participation through representative entities such as *amicus curiae*

in international environmental dispute settlement (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

2) Establishing a right to sue, the lack of implementation of environmental treaties in national tribunals (Gérard Monédaire).

3) Creation of Regional Integrations, provided with a distinct legal personality from the Member States, competent to sign Environmental Treaties (Gérard Monédaire).

4) Right of petition, so that the society can intervene in the Legislative Assemblies or Commissions (Gérard Monédaire).

5) Imposition of financial sanctions to disobedience or incomplete compliance with Tribunals decisions or laws concerning environment (Gérard Monédaire).

6) Reversal of the burden of the proofs in environmental disputes (Carole Peychaud).

###### **International Recommendations: legal instruments**

1) A treaty on the reparation of environmental transnational damage affecting citizens of other countries (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

###### **National Recommendations: procedural instruments**

1) Disclosure of condemnation of environmental damage with destination of these values to international public funds. Publicity of the application of these values to environmental protection (Larissa Pochmann Clare da Silva)

###### ***b) Analytical methods to measure the effectiveness of law enforcement***

###### **International Recommendations**

1) The Secretariats of the Conventions must require States to designate national institutions to be National Points of Contact responsible for identifying the implementation of environmental treaties (PDMA).

2) The priority must not be the creation of new laws and treaties, but the political and legal commitment to the implementation of existing standards (Patricia Pellanda).

###### **National Recommendations**

1) Application of environmental quality standards such as agricultural pesticides eradication that have occurred in Europe (Solange Teles).

2) Creation of legal environmental sustainability indicators of environmental governance (Solange Teles).

##### **6) International Institutional Framework**

###### ***a) Existing Institutions***

###### **International Recommendations**

1) Creating a new international agency within the United Nations to discuss sustainable development, which would incorporate the UNEP and the committee within the ECOSOC responsible for sustainable development (PDMA).

2) Creating a committee inside this new body that would represent international NGO's selected according to their performances (PDMA).

- 3) Focus on UNEP (PDMA).
- 4) The transformation of the UN Economic and Social Council to the Economic, Social, and Environmental Council (PDMA).
- 5) Reforming of the Commission on Sustainable Development in the General Assembly (PDMA).

***b) The Necessity of new institutions: the World Environmental Court***

**International Recommendations**

Considering the International Court of Justice (ICJ) importance in the international community - we propose the reform of the ICJ or the foundation of a World Environment Court, based on the following proposals (Rafael Prado):

- 1) Increase flexibility of the ICJ Environmental Chamber, and encourage the use of principle of the public participation principle and the access of stakeholders to justice (not just government but also civil society). The public participation principle is fundamental principle in International Environmental Law and was recognized by the ICJ Judgment in the same case of the Pulp Mills on the Uruguay River (Rafael Prado).
- 2) ICJ shall demonstrate its wide jurisdiction over environmental matters involving Member States, not by modifying its Statute inserted in the UN Charter, but materializing the public participation principle and access to information and to justice, in case of environmental issues that directly affect national populations of litigants countries (Rafael Prado).

***c) The necessity of new Institutions: World Environmental Organization***

**International Recommendations**

- 1) Environmental conventions Secretariats, as technical instances of conventions, would be specialized organs in the new International Organization (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).
- 2) There would be a Settlement Body, according to the model of WTO, which would also be a consulting and arbitration body on violations of International Environmental Law. This body would also be composed of a Commission with competencies similar to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).
- 3) Three would be the new organization sources of income: the quota-share from the participant countries, major financial penalties for environmental damage, and fees obtained from carbon credits certification and environmental economics in general (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

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Nome do arquivo: Rio + 20 - recommendations PDMA and others

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Título: Apresentação MBA em Direito da Economia e da

Empresa

Assunto:

Autor: FGV DIREITO RIO Palavras-chave:

Comentários:

Data de criação: 31/10/2011 18:16:00

Número de alterações: 2

Última gravação: 31/10/2011 18:16:00

Salvo por: carina.oliveira Tempo total de edição: 1 Minuto Última impressão: 31/10/2011 18:16:00

Como a última impressão

Número de páginas: 27

Número de palavras: 10.036 (aprox.) Número de caracteres: 54.196 (aprox.)

## Major Group for Children and Youth

Major Group for Children and Youth Contribution to the Outcome Document of Rio+20

This is the contribution of the Major Group for Children and Youth, incorporating the perspectives of young people from all regions. It specifies our goals and priorities for concrete action and change.

The world faces significant challenges that can only be tackled by global cooperation. Rio+20 offers a unique opportunity to make a new programmes for genuinely sustainable development globally, nationally and locally. Our hope for Rio+20 is that there is significant participation by heads of state in the negotiations to ensure commitments are taken more seriously, and that governments are held accountable for agreements that are not implemented. Finally, we call for the adoption of a UN General Assembly resolution to strengthen the agreements reached at Rio+20.

### 1. OBJECTIVES

#### A. RENEWED POLITICAL COMMITMENT

We call for:

- A holistic commitment to mainstreaming and implementing Agenda 21 and the Rio declaration, while taking it further by including new and emerging issues. All relevant international organisations and national legislatures, with the involvement of civil society, should adopt formal mechanisms to ensure that economic and sustainable development discussions are not held in isolation. These mechanisms should have the authority to act as a check-and-balance on the formulation and implementation of policy.
- Implementation of all agreed upon commitments from the previous CSD cycles by member states, including incorporating them into their National Sustainable Development Strategies. This can be supported by incorporation into the programmes of international financial economic institutions, namely the IMF and the World Bank Group, as well as the WTO. International institutions can take the lead in ensuring that policy recommendations are followed through.
- Securing of resources for development and implementation of Action Plans. There is a need for thorough and transparent evaluation of budgets, governance of the allocation of funds, donor coordination, collaboration between existing initiatives and use of funds. We call for the establishment of a dedicated instrument for financing and implementing Sustainable Development outside of the World Bank Group, which implements decisions in general, and specific decisions on sustainable development as decided by various forums ranging from the UN-CSD, the UNFCCC, the CBD, the CCD, UNEP, etc., or in terms of transitioning to the Green Economy (in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication), or within specific sectors (e.g. energy, agriculture). This instrument should be governed with a fair geographic representation, which reflects both funding partners and recipients, next to the full inclusion of non-state actors in its governance.
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with sufficient ambition to meet environmental and social challenges. As the UN General Assembly office, under the guidance of the UN Secretary General, is currently considering the post-Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) framework, the process leading towards the adoption of the SDGs must be streamlined with this follow-up of the MDGs. In his recent report, the UN Secretary General indeed named Rio+20 as an important international event that could contribute to the post-2015 framework. This new SDGs framework should consider in particular the links between poverty, gender inequality, climate change, biological diversity, human rights, ending violence and inequity. Finally, a strong implementation framework and related institutional elements should be developed in order to guarantee the review of the implementation and the compliance of each state.

#### B. PROGRESS AND IMPLEMENTATION GAPS

We call for:

- Dynamic policies that take into account the diverse economic, environmental and social contexts in which they operate in different member states. This must be captured in the introduction, implementation, monitoring and evaluation stages of the policy design. Adverse impacts of "one-size-fits-all" policies such as structural adjustment must also be addressed.
- The adoption of a 10 Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production by 2013 and ensuring its integration into policies and law by 2015.
- Member states should establish evaluation and monitoring mechanisms that will obtain specific feedback and data to determine the effectiveness of policy implementation pertaining to the agreements made at the Sustainable Development Summits, addressing and correcting implementation gaps and providing accountability for both member states and civil society. This should include an integrated regional reporting system between economic, social, environmental and other aspects of Sustainable Development that has clear indicators, and milestones to monitor implementation and to build accountability and ownership of the solutions.
- Addressing the impact of armed conflict on local communities and the environment, with special consideration for related conditions that pose severe threats to children and youth, such as: disruption of basic services, endemic disease, intolerance, terrorism, and environmental hazards and degradation (e.g., landmines and medical waste). Additionally, strengthen international, national, and local partnerships to engage local stakeholders in support of environmental assessments and integrated financial mechanisms; and post-conflict reconstruction, capacity building, victim assistance, and risk education.



### C. NEW AND EMERGING CHALLENGES

Policies designed to tackle short-term economic crises must not reinforce and prolong unsustainable practices of consumption and production. The current economic crisis can be an opportunity to reflect on systemic ecological, economic and social problems, to pre-empt new and emerging challenges and develop long-term strategies to prevent future climate, energy, food and water crises.

It is important that economic, social and human rights institutions are strengthened and that the environment perspective is integrated into their work. In addition, at the UN level, interagency and inter program networks should be established in order to facilitate communication and coordination among different UN actors in order to have an integrated approach and effective international governance on Sustainable Development. Though the goals of economic and social development and environmental sustainability can be in conflict at times, there is a need for them to co-exist to secure a sustainable future. This should lead to:

- Redefined enforcement of sustainable development agreements
- The coordination of multilateral economic, human rights and environmental agreements
- Access to justice
- Donor coordination for efficient and appropriate use of funds
- More effective monitoring and evaluation of implementation gaps, assessment of progress and evaluation of emerging challenges.

Radical changes in the geopolitical world amplify the challenge of providing water, energy and food to a growing population, particularly in developing countries, where children and youth are the most affected by precarious living conditions. Given that the previous Earth Summit successfully elevated the status of sustainable development goals, global leaders must incorporate the water, food and energy security nexus into Rio+20 discussions, so that its importance as a sustainability concept is also validated. This is essential to promote and deliver comprehensive frameworks at a local and regional level that account for the intricacies of an interconnected world.

### 2. GREEN ECONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION

We consider a Green Economy to be egalitarian, low-resource economic and social systems that cultivate societal and cultural wellbeing and thriving and resilient natural ecosystems. A Green Economy fully integrates key principles of the Rio Declaration: intergenerational and international equity, and pays special attention to the inclusion of youth and children as the building blocks of a sustainable future. The transition to the Green Economy will require an improved notion of wellbeing, measured with indicators beyond just GDP, that fully take into account the limits of our common planetary and social boundaries.

We call for:

- Youth unemployment to be reduced through the creation of green jobs with a living wage and the stronger consideration of the impact of employment policy on youth. Governments should promote young people's role in the workforce by providing them with the appropriate skills and knowledge to improve their employability. Possible initiatives could include locally appropriate job-training in the context of sustainable development, start-up capital for young entrepreneurs and apprenticeship programmes.
- Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) must equip the next generation of youth with skills, training and capacity to help create the Green Economy. ESD should be structurally integrated into the national sub-national curricula and made accessible to all, taking into account local communities' needs. Priority should be given specifically to drastic improvements in teacher training for ESD and recognition and support for alternative forms of education, non-formal learning, online resources and peer education.
- The creation of a "Global Technology Sharing Facility", which would enhance sharing, enable prior assessments and provide monitoring of technology on the global scale. Alternatives to market-based intellectual property rights have to be developed and new digital information infrastructures could foster the rapid circulation of knowledge and technologies worldwide, based on the notions of fair access and mutual benefit sharing. We must also protect and nurture traditional, local and Indigenous knowledge and recognise their value as alternative technologies. Public and private stakeholders must collaborate internationally and strive to incorporate cradle to cradle design into new and existing technological and product lifecycles.
- An integrated approach to the conservation of species and ecosystems, particularly threatened species and ecosystems. Compliance with international conventions, and agreed international standards for the recording of natural resources and periodic assessment by independent authorities, in collaboration with all stakeholders. These efforts are crucial to ensuring that consumption of natural resources is below regeneration rates. Natural resource impact labelling should be mandatory for every industrial product.
- Strong legislative and executive actions by governments to promote the sustainable development of our Blue Economy, avoid depletion of finite water resources and achieve long term food security for fisheries-dependent communities. Actions should include the establishment of a global network of marine protected areas and "no-take zones", including a moratorium on mineral exploration in the Arctic and proper mechanisms for conflict resolution over aquatic resources, with special emphasis on water. Conflict over future water availability and allocation decisions, under likely global pressures like climate change, must be recognised and addresses as a serious global threat to long-term peace and security.
- A 'low-carbon' future that promotes renewable energy and energy efficiency. Specific, measurable, attainable, results-oriented and time bound (SMART) targets should be devised for the development, accessibility and efficient use of clean energy, and demand reduction and energy conservation. This should involve unprecedented funding and technical support for the development of low carbon, renewable infrastructure.
- An urgent start to the transition towards a green, fair and people-centered agriculture that promotes a sustainable food system producing sufficient, healthy and balanced food for all and maintaining and/or enhancing ecosystems, biodiversity and natural resources. Investments in rural areas should be increased to assure decent incomes and living conditions while creating job opportunities for rural communities, especially including youth. Governments must protect the rights of those working and subsisting off the land and aim towards collective, decentralised ownership for sustainable, resilient and productive ecosystem management. Traditional farming and indigenous knowledge, past and present, offer a wealth of potential solutions and should be recognised as such. It is our hope that an outcome of Rio+20 might be a revitalisation of vital knowledge sharing mechanisms in agriculture.
- Strengthening the capacity of national healthcare systems with an emphasis on universal and comprehensive Primary Health Care. This should include universal access to family planning services for women and girls, because this already proves to be an in-demand, cost effective method of increasing communities' resilience to climate change impacts, whilst meeting the health and development needs of people around the world. Women and girls should receive education and easy access to comprehensive health services and supplies.
- The integration of sustainability into all tourism-policies and management practices through the creation of a 'Green Economy Roadmap' aiming at the active participation of local populations in developing sustainable tourism. Development institutions should work collaboratively with the tourism industry to foster increased potential for local hiring and sourcing and significant opportunities in tourism oriented toward local culture and the natural environment.

- The promotion of holistic and long-term sustainable city planning based on master planning that takes in account population growth, natural resource utilisation, ecosystem preservation, public space accessibility, building design, efficient transport and waste management. Sustainable architecture should strive to improve living conditions, reduce vulnerability and diminish exposure to hazardous materials. This could be made possible through financial incentives and mandatory technical standards for new developments.
  - The removal of harmful subsidies that result in unsustainable practices and threaten development. These include agriculture, fossil fuel and fishery subsidies. If such vast sums of money were being directed toward sustainable development, we would be great strides further on the path to realising the kind of world we want to see. 3.
- INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#### A. Balanced participation of all stakeholders

- Ombudspersons for Future Generations

Rio+20 should secure collective commitment for the establishment, at the national level, of Ombudspersons for Future Generations. These independent institutions, working from the heart of government, should be mandated to provide an assessment of the long-term impacts of public policies and legislative proposals. They should also respond to citizen petition, investigating claims of environmental crimes and offences and engaging in either conciliation or litigation.

Furthermore, we call for the establishment of an independent Office of the UN High Commissioner for Future Generations. Similar to the national level Ombudspersons, the High Commissioner would seek and analyse system faults on the global level, i.e. situations where even the normal, regular flow of activities results in significant jeopardy of the interests of future generations. This office would have both an agenda-setting and advisory role with regard to the long-term environmental and social coherence and impacts of UN agencies, policies and programmes and other multilateral treaties. It would function in close cooperation with civil society. This office would also support the capacity of developing countries to establish effective mechanisms of intergenerational accountability and provide a forum for the exchange of best practices in relation to the establishment of national Ombudspersons for Future Generations.

- Participation of stakeholders

We call on governments to seize the opportunity offered by the Rio+20 process in order to re-engineer participation within Sustainable Development and to elevate this as a cross-cutting issue in the whole SD-governance.

- Government needs in Rio to either adopt one global or several regional conventions based on principle 10 of the Rio 1992 Declaration and including a compliance mechanism, on the model of the Aarhus Convention.
- At the international level, civil society participation should be evaluated and elevated at all relevant political forums, including financial institutions. Such participation should include the representation of a minimum of 2 non-voting representatives of civil society in the respective bureau.
- All states should urgently implement the Agenda 21 recommendation of establishing national sustainable development councils. Where such Councils already exist, they should be strengthened and provided with adequate resources, political leverage and support by exchanging best-practices. These councils should by default try to mirror all Agenda 21 Major Groups.

#### B. Ensuring progress towards global sustainability

While key legal principles have already been recognised at Stockholm and Rio Conferences, compliance with these principles has been critically lacking, thus requiring the urgent establishment of new accountability mechanisms.

- World Environmental Court

We call for the establishment of a World Environmental Court to take decisions related to the non-respect of national obligations under international environmental law. This court will provide a forum for individuals and communities to hold states party to international environmental agreements legally accountable for their commitments. Procedures for individuals and communities to file a complaint to the Court should be based on those of existing Human Rights courts such as the European Court of Human Rights.

- Creating a new momentum for the implementation of the precautionary principle

Rio+20 presents a unique opportunity to develop institutional arrangements necessary for the full and effective implementation of the precautionary principle. We call for the legal recognition of the fact that industrial production and commercialisation of new substances and technologies should not be authorised in the presence of a reasonable doubt regarding their potential to harm our environment or the natural capital left to our children. In the case of practices and activities creating short-term risks for ecosystems and communities, a proper insurance mechanism should obligate those taking the risks to be in the capacity to fully repair any damages intentionally or accidentally resulting from their actions.

#### C. Ensuring knowledge-based decision making

- Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Development (IPSD)

Given the growing fragmentation of knowledge, we call for the establishment of an Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Development that functions as an umbrella organization which should design a sustainable development research agenda for the 21st century that reviews relevant scientific knowledge (including not only natural sciences but also social sciences such as economics). Scientific evidence should contribute to knowledge-based policy making and policy monitoring. The Panel should also be mandated to provide an assessment of ecological boundaries.

#### D. Creating a set of global institutions for sustainability

Delivering political coordination and momentum

- UN Council on Sustainable Development

We call for the immediate establishment of a Council on Sustainable Development as a subsidiary to the UN General Assembly, with the authority to adopt legally binding decisions. This Council would seek integration of all composing elements of Sustainable Development, at a higher political level than is currently the case within the existing UN bodies dealing with the matter. It should also be mandated to coordinate the work on Sustainable Development of both the Bretton Woods and UN institutions in a coherent manner. Finally, this institution should enshrine Civil Society participation within its design, upgrading the existing CSD practices amongst others, including representatives of Major Groups within its governance (Bureau).

- Stewardship for Global Commons

We also call for the immediate establishment of a transparent and participatory trusteeship for the transitional governance of the global commons until they are adequately governed by legally binding rules, based on a sense of shared responsibility and the principles of subsidiarity and intergenerational equity. This process should lead by 2015 to the establishment of a permanent, legally-binding Global Commons Trust that cooperatively and responsibly develops, manages, maintains and equitably shares in the usage and benefits coming from resources that are held in common by the community at large. Whilst sympathetic to the vulnerable, there must be a local-global framework and participatory processes to address the issue of free riders.

#### Ensuring implementation

- Upgrade UNEP into a new UN Environmental Organisation with status as a specialised UN agency with the capacity to deliver

We call for an upgrade of both mandate and status of the current UNEP in order to enable this organisation to supervise all environmental sustainability initiatives within the UN. This new, specialised agency will provide an accountability mechanism for policy makers and national ministries and should coordinate all UN programs, agencies and affiliates who are working on initiatives related to or having an impact on environmental sustainability. The international community must ensure that it possesses the adequate means to successfully implement its mission.

The long-term review process for the improvement of Sustainable Development Governance at the UN level should assess the pros and cons of other institutional frameworks, such as the creation of an all-encompassing World Organisation for Sustainable Development.

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## Marine Conservation Institute

Marine Conservation Institute is pleased to be able to submit these recommendations to you and your office for consideration regarding Rio+20 preparations. We are a registered non-profit organization with

consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

We welcome the preparations and discussions to date for Rio+20 and would like to highlight four main

areas where we feel valuable global progress could continue to be made at the Conference:

1. The expansion of the scope of the Green Economy initiative to more fully integrate maritime activities — the so-called *Blue Economy*;
2. The recognition of the need for an overarching global mechanism to protect biodiversity in the marine areas beyond national jurisdiction (hereafter referred to as the "high seas");
3. Agreement to codify the precautionary approach through required impact assessments *before* human activities are authorized to proceed on the high seas, including fisheries;
4. A phasing out of the most harmful form of fishing in the high seas, bottom trawling, by 2015 — the target date for sustainable fisheries set by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development.

On the following pages, these recommendations are further explained. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeff Ardron, Director High Seas

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### Recommendations

The first recommendation concerns articulating a Blue Economy, reflecting the principles of the Green Economy developed by the UN Environment Programme, amongst others. As such, it is overarching and hence encompasses the three other recommendations that follow it. The next three recommendations are central to how ecological sustainability could be operationalized in the Global Ocean. Fisheries in particular are considered, due to the overwhelming impact they have on the marine environment — one larger than all other human activities combined.

With regard to protecting biodiversity and fisheries reform, the slowness of progress can be traced to a lack of a global governing authority by which to enforce compliance (Recommendation 2, below). The precautionary approach must be better applied in existing institutional programs and measures, through the requirement of meaningful impact assessments before human activities including existing fisheries are allowed to continue or proceed (Recommendation 3, below).<sup>1</sup> Finally, as a first step, the most harmful human activity in the ocean — bottom trawling — should be phased out by 2015, which matches the deadline agreed to in Johannesburg for sustainable fisheries (Recommendation 4, below).

#### 1. The Blue Economy

***A Blue Economy includes economic fair play by maritime industries and ecological sustainability in the marine environment.***

The Global Ocean ties together all continents and nations. It is well-known that most of our planet is ocean, but less appreciated is that this grand ecosystem affects planetary cycles, such as oxygen production and climate regulation, and hence our everyday health and safety. We applaud the steps taken by UNEP to further our thinking on the Green Economy and support the positions of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and others to better integrate maritime activities and the marine environment into this flagship concept — the so-called *Blue Economy*.

The Blue Economy is a sustainable framework for human maritime activities, extending forward several generations into a future that will be very different from what we currently know — a world of heightened sea levels, changed climate patterns and marine biological distributions, and likely human displacements as low lying island nations contend with sea level rise. In such a world, human activities will be much more carefully scrutinized according to their long-term ecological and carbon footprints, especially along our shorelines and on our islands — the birthplace of the Blue Economy.

Drawing upon a tradition of respect and attentiveness, traditional maritime peoples can provide a leadership role in shaping the Blue Economy, re-connecting human activities to the marine environment, a link that in recent years has often been disregarded. Ultimately, the principles of the Blue Economy apply to all places, land and sea. For SIDS, the cause-effect connections of daily decisions

1 This is reflected in UN General Assembly resolutions concerning bottom fisheries: 61/105 (2006) and 64/72 (2009).

are real and obvious, but these may not be so apparent to distant water fishing nations, thousands of miles away. The Blue Economy vision of maritime nations, including SIDS, should be seen as an affirmation of the general principles of the Green Economy, with clear feedback loops and opportunities for adaptive, innovative approaches in the marine environment.

In climate change and depleted fisheries, crises are already upon us, and much engineering and development will be necessary; however, this cannot be the same ill-conceived expansion that has taken away our natural buffers and natural capital, leaving us with coastal erosion, depleted fish stocks, and debts to pay. Rather, it calls for a far more thoughtful approach, directing funds and incentives towards actions that will right the balance, while removing support and perverse subsidies for activities that cause us long-term harm. The Blue Economy recognizes it is one ocean, one world.

Although different jurisdictional considerations will apply, the Blue Economy encompasses the global oceans, including the almost two thirds that lie beyond national jurisdictions.

The Blue Economy can be realized in a variety of ways. Regardless of the approach, however, it will involve marrying good economic practices (“fair play”) with ecologically sustainable development.

**Economic fair play** is characterized by transparency, accountability, good governance, and a level playing field.

**Ecologically sustainable development** embraces the ecosystem approach, providing for healthy oceans and healthy maritime communities.

#### ***Economic fair play***

Maritime nations, particularly developing nations, have learned through hard experience the importance of fair economic practices within and outside of their maritime jurisdictions. A Blue Economy should encourage local development to service local resources, as well as fair global trade practices. Fair play includes:

- i. **Transparency:** disclosure of information related to maritime activities and exploitation;
- ii. **Accountability:** the linking of decisions to responsible authorities, with a procedure allowing for correction of behaviors;
- iii. **Good governance:** the existence of responsive institutions producing regulations appropriate for evolving circumstances, with the ability to monitor and enforce compliance;
- iv. **Level playing field:** ensuring that maritime players play by the same rules, and that perverse economic subsidies are removed.

#### ***Ecologically sustainable development: operationalizing the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21***

Ecologically sustainable development is the second component of the Blue Economy, equally important as good business practices.

Ecologically sustainable development has already been clearly articulated in many documents and resolutions, most of them stemming from the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 developed in Rio de Janeiro almost 20 years ago.

Providing for healthy oceans and healthy maritime communities requires an ecosystem approach, taking into consideration the bigger picture and longer timeframes. Too often, coastal and marine development has been driven by short-term gains. With climate change, ocean acidification, and sea level rise now broadly accepted as an inevitable concerns of our future, our thinking will have to become more far-sighted, taking better account of this changing world. Decisions that are robust to uncertainty should be given preference over those that rely on everything going according to plan. Uncertainty planning is not new, and has been widely practised already in such diverse fields as aviation, medicine, and military operations. However, in environmental and resource management, uncertainty is regularly disregarded, overshooting the bounds of sustainability, passing on the liability to future generations. We are now one of those “future generations.”

## **2. An overarching global mechanism to protect biodiversity in the marine areas beyond national jurisdiction (the “high seas”)**

***Covering almost half of our planet’s surface, the high seas require an integrated mechanism, through international laws, agreements, and institutional arrangements, to protect its vast wealth of biodiversity.***

As recognized at the 2011 meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, there is a need to address issues not currently articulated or fully implemented under the UN Convention for the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). We hope that Rio+20 could catalyze a high level commitment to address these gaps, including *inter alia*:

- i. Agreeing on the need for governance reforms that fulfill States’ commitments under UNCLOS for the effective conservation and protection of the marine environment and marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction;
- ii. Establishing a mechanism for the establishment and management of a fully comprehensive, effectively managed and globally representative system of high seas marine protected areas (MPAs) including no-take reserves;
- iii. Establishing a mechanism for the fair access and sharing of benefits derived from biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Regarding the second point, calls and agreements for MPAs are numerous, and include the Convention on Biological Diversity amongst others, but again the issue is

implementation. Recent research coming out of Australia demonstrates that the management of large no-take reserves is much less expensive than attempting to manage several smaller places with a variety of management conditions.<sup>2</sup> The Blue Economy is also a cost effective economy.

2 Ban, N, Adams, V, Pressey, R, Hicks, J. 2011. Promise and problems for estimating management costs of marine protected areas. *Conservation Letters*: 00, 1-12 (website pre-publication)

### 3. Require impact assessments before human activities are authorized to proceed on the high seas

***The precautionary approach is now seen as part of customary international law and should be formally applied, including the requirement for prior impact assessments, in the programs and measures of international maritime authorities.***

The original Rio Summit is perhaps best known for its articulation and support of the precautionary approach (Rio Declaration, Principle 15). What is less known is that in Agenda 21, language about taking precautionary measures is mostly found in Chapter 17 (Protection of the Oceans), where it can be found in six different articles, including the sub-section quoted below. This is more than in any other chapter of Agenda 21, including chapter 35 (Strengthening the scientific basis for sustainable management). Indeed, even 20 years ago, the precautionary approach was driven by marine considerations.

Since that historic affirmation, the precautionary approach has been recently recognized as part of customary international law by the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) in its advisory opinion released 1 February 2011<sup>3</sup>. On the one hand, this recognition is a great step forward for maritime law; but on the other it still leaves the question of implementation unanswered.

Twenty years ago, Agenda 21 already recognized most of the issues facing maritime nations.<sup>4</sup> The value of environmental impact assessments was recognized under Rio Declaration Principle 17. Although monitoring the state of the environment is mentioned throughout Agenda 21, only the *marine* chapter, Chapter 17, deals with prior impact assessments. However, this forward-looking vision still awaits implementation on the water.

3 135. The Chamber observes that the precautionary approach has been incorporated into a growing number of international treaties and other instruments, many of which reflect the formulation of Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration. In the view of the Chamber, this has initiated a trend towards making this approach part of customary international law. [...]

4 For example, Agenda 21;17.97: There are many uncertainties about climate change and particularly about sealevel rise. Small increases in sealevel have the potential of causing significant damage to small islands and low-lying coasts. Response strategies should be based on sound data. A long-term cooperative research commitment is needed to provide the data required for global climate models and to reduce uncertainty. Meanwhile, precautionary measures should be undertaken to diminish the risks and effects, particularly on small islands and on low-lying and coastal areas of the world.

### 4. Phase out the most harmful form of fishing, bottom trawling, by 2015

***It is now widely recognized that bottom trawling is the most harmful of legal fishing methods. Other harmful methods like dynamite fishing and drift nets have already been made illegal, but bottom trawling persists.***

Marine Conservation Institute has long championed protection of the high seas, having organized the first international workshop on the environmental effects of bottom trawling in 1996.<sup>5</sup> Two years later, our President Elliott Norse co-authored the seminal paper on the topic.<sup>6</sup> Our work continues to demonstrate bottom trawling's ecological and economic unsustainability; in short, there is no good reason for this harmful activity to continue.<sup>7</sup> We are members of the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition (DSCC) and support its call for a phase-out of bottom trawling by 2015.

Bottom trawling involves dragging trawl nets with heavy steel plates ("doors") and rollers across the ocean floor, crushing coral, sponges other bottom (benthic) structures and life forms as they go. Deep-sea species in general are slow growing and slow to reproduce, meaning that fishing in the deep sea is, with very few exceptions, unsustainable in terms of targeted species, as well as bycatch species such as deep-sea sharks. The deep-sea corals, some of which are thousands of years old, are easily damaged and can take many decades or even centuries to recover.

In addition to the damage caused, deep-sea fishing on the high seas is neither economically significant nor substantial in terms of global fisheries catch production. In 2008, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (UN FAO) published a report that estimated the high seas bottom fishing fleet in 2006 was no more than a few hundred vessels, catching some 250,000 tonnes of fish. This catch was valued at approximately 450 million US dollars, representing a mere 0.3% of the marine capture

fisheries worldwide.

The 2002 World Summit on Sustainability resolved to, "*on an urgent basis and where possible by 2015, maintain or restore depleted fish stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield.*" Part of meeting that commitment will mean phasing out the most ecologically damaging human activity in the high seas — bottom trawling — by the target date, 2015.

5 [http://www.mcbi.org/what/trawl\\_workshop.htm](http://www.mcbi.org/what/trawl_workshop.htm)

6 Watling & Norse 1998. Disturbance of the seabed by mobile fishing gear: a comparison to forest clear-cutting. *Conservation Biology*.

7 Norse et al. 2011. Sustainability of Deep-sea Fisheries. *Marine Policy*.

## Marine Sciences For Society

### Input For Compilation Document from the Working Group

#### "Coastal Zones: 21st Century Challenges" Context of the Document

This document represents the inputs provided by the authors in order to participate in the construction of the "focused political document" for the Rio+20 outcomes. As part of the effort to construct and

achieve the Rio+20 goals, the authors' points of view are comprised of contributions from members of the following major groups: the Scientific and Technological Community, and NGO's Concerning the

Sectoral Priority of Coastal Zones.

Coastal zones are the most productive regions in the world, both biologically and economically, but they are also the most populated. They face a harsh future due to greater challenges stemming from hunger, wars, and health related issues threatening populations and countries' economies. These challenges constitute the core of this document. Will nations work together to save these zones that buffer our world? They must be included in the next ten-year agenda before it is too late.

Following the recommendations provided by the "co-chairs' guidance note," this document has been redacted in the form of focused inputs. The material the authors submitted was coded, synthesized, and condensed to create this document. While this document communicates the most significant concerns of the authors as a group, it is not a consensus document. This document enables us: (i) to establish our inputs to the Compilation Document by November 1st, (ii) to propose adapted material to the Rio+20 delegations from various governments through each country's correspondent, and (iii) to publish an extended reference document concerning the sectoral priority of Coastal Zones from the perspective of 21st Century Challenges.

**115 authors from the working group "Coastal Zones: 21st Century Challenges" actively participated in the creation of this "Inputs for Compilation Document." They are from 30 countries, and the following Institutions, Universities, Research Centers, and NGO's:**

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#### Introduction

20 years have passed since the Rio Earth Summit in 1992. 20 years of efforts to better understand, inform, and improve the relationships between our societies and our planet's coastal zones. These efforts have crystallized into tangible outcomes in the form of improvements in environmental culture and international agreements upheld by over 100 national and transnational coastal zone plans, protocols, and conventions.

While moving forward with these national and international efforts, we realize that the balance between development and stewardship is still broken, and many more efforts are needed to create a harmonious relationship between the use of knowledge in society and our planet's coastal zones. Through the active participation of 115 researchers from 30 countries, the following baseline document has been constructed to highlight the perspectives of academia regarding "Coastal Zones:

21st Century Challenges." Please consider it our input for the RIO+20 compilation document.

#### (i) Input For Compilation Document

The majority of our planet's population is concentrated in coastal zones, narrow spaces that amplify the most urgent and emerging questions of sustainability and development. In coastal zones, we clearly see the fragility of the three elements that constitute sustainability: world population growth, economic tenuity, and the increase of environmental degradation. Coastal zones are key in illustrating **(a)** the challenges our societies face and **(b)** the potential solutions, priorities, and views regarding the implementation of practices and policies that build upon previous successes. These two points structure the document.

#### (a) The Challenges That Our Societies Face

Any initiative to truly help society progress sustainably must integrate the limits of the planet and be co-constructed with the affected communities. The consensus is that the challenges we face in coastal zones are mostly anthropogenic or amplified by human activities that clearly transgress ethical limits.

Due to human development on the shoreline and in river basins, along with off-shore industrial non- sustainable activities, our challenges are:

**Red Flag Challenges Impacting Lives of Coastal Zone Residents:**

- Malnutrition, hunger, freshwater availability
- Wars and other violent conflicts
- Lack of education
- Climate change and its consequences
- Over-exploitation of marine living resources
- Toxins in fish and shellfish, and pathogens such as cholera and hepatitis, are threats to human health
- Population growth
- Global economic crises

**Challenges in Policy:**

- Harmonize the interests of coastal environment users, including local community members, coastal municipalities, regional and/or inter-municipal planning, national, transnational, and international stakeholders, through the continuous improvement of economic-legislative instruments and the elaboration and implementation of coordinated strategies for the use of natural, social, cultural, and institutional resources
- Rethink economic growth and the flows of energy and materials
- Preserve 100% of the areas where the indigenous peoples of the coasts remain, including the Saami, Chukchi, Siberian Yupiaq and many others
- Integrate research and education into the decision making process
- Make information readily and easily accessible to facilitate informed decision-making
- Protect natural and cultural resources at all levels: local, regional, national, and international, while keeping coastal communities safe
- Monitor and control the coastal and littoral maritime traffic, industrial activity, and the related hazards of oil pollution, chemical transport, collision, GIS reduction, and technical failures
- Introduce policies that: make change trends mandatory, protect existing coastal habitats and ecological functions, recover the fishing stocks, and prevent illegal and habitat-destructive fishing
- Prevent over-population in developing regions and minimize damage in already over- populated areas
- Balance urban growth by using space more efficiently
- Plan sustainable spatial allocation and management for fisheries and aquaculture
- Plan sustainable spatial allocation and management for energy production and supply

**Challenges from Pollution and Climate Change:**

- Oceanic temperature warming and change in alkalinity
- Decreasing oxygen levels leading to dead zones, species extirpation, and noxious gas emissions
- Seawater intrusion in coastal aquifers
- Coastal and sea pollution caused by wastewaters and solid wastes that have been treated ineffectively or not at all
- Pollution by toxic waste, metals, nutrients, contaminants
- Floods, erosion, and rising sea-levels
- Illegal or little regulated extraction of natural resources to fill increasing demand
- Amplified vulnerability of coastal populations, particularly the economically disadvantaged
- Loss of habitat and loss of biodiversity
- Irreversible ecological destruction
- Toxic blooms due to pollution
- Coral reef bleaching
- Introduction of invasive species

- New diseases among organisms
- Dispel the assumption that the coast is "safe"

**Challenges in Research:**

- Generate an information baseline of coastal ecological and social processes that researchers can measure against
- Take into account the social and human dimensions of uncertainty
- Study in greater depth the interconnectedness of natural systems to better understand how to sustain coastal and oceanic health
- Conduct research in support of management on multiple spatial and temporal scales
- Develop and establish an integrated oceans monitoring network, and create inter- operable open-access databases that can provide reliable data on a user community's defined goal(s)
- Interdisciplinary approaches to solve any challenge
- Integrate all stakeholders in the research process
- Develop innovative techniques for the restoration of ecosystem functions
- Evaluate the success of the integrated coastal management political processes and practices on a local to global basis
- Identify and quantify the human-induced stressors acting on coastal ecosystems and populations

**(b) Potential Solutions, Priorities, and Views Regarding the Implementation of**

**Practices and Policies that Build Upon Successes**

**Economy and Development Models:**

- The model of development based on infinite economic growth needs to be questioned: To what degree do activities on coastal areas facilitate general development and what manner of development is currently needed?

Can development be based on sustainability and how can the socio-economic structure respond to international competitiveness?

- A trade-off between the economy and the environment exists; destructive industries have to be challenged and held accountable for their social and environmental consequences
- G20 announced the preparation of a charter on "sustainable economics," we must make explicit *how* such a charter should be implemented from a global governance perspective

**Governance, global/local articulation:**

- The efforts cannot only come from local governments and communities the challenges are global in nature
- UN Ocean should be supplemented by other trans-governmental and non- governmental networks as additional forms of governance
- Intergovernmental Panel on Maritime Basins (IPMB) should contribute to providing governance systems with common and reliable information and promote coherent responses from these systems
- Build strong connections between transboundary maritime basins related to large marine ecosystems and maritime regions of the world
- Apply a deliberative approach that concertates on managing emerging challenges and linking all spatial and temporal scales

**Collaborative Policy Making:**

- The instruments for the implementation of integrated coastal zone management are: an integrated approach to coastal land and marine spatial planning, cross-sectoral and multiregional agreements, public participation, effective cross-border consultation system, monitoring and assessment of socio-economical and ecological changes and trends, comprehensive analysis of sustainable development indicators, financial and legal mechanisms for ICZM implementation, and connected and collaborative decision-making between all administrative levels from global to local
- Move from the theoretical framework into realizing the necessary actions
- Improve the articulation between ICZM and adaptation measures
- Integrate local and traditional knowledge with policy making
- Learn from international experience and practices in integrated coastal management, and adjust lessons to other contexts
- Evaluate the success of the integrated coastal management political processes and practices on a global basis
- Participation of coastal communities is vital, not only to vindicate the legitimacy of strategies, but also to provide them with the opportunity to express their doubts, to rebuild their trust, to learn how to live in a changing environment, and to manage social conflict
- Create respectful partnerships with traditional societies on Earth, as they can provide crucial observations and knowledge regarding emerging challenges
- Make decisions that are compatible with the core values of affected coastal communities and coast-dependent peoples



- Increase interdisciplinary training and cross-collaborations among tertiary programs and teams
- Natural science data must be combined with social science understandings of the places where regulations are to be implemented
- Natural scientists, engineers, economists, lawyers, and social scientists must recognize their responsibility and role in the process and collaborate with each other to achieve common goals

#### **Legislation and Regulation:**

- Define coastal zones in both spatial and temporal dimensions, since coastal dynamics cast some legal uncertainty on how coastal zones are determined
- Improve and reinforce legal frameworks controlling coastal activities
- Make good practices mandatory for stakeholders; hold elected politicians accountable for their promises
- Coordinate states and various sectors

#### **Information, Education, and Awareness:**

- Improve the competence of and resources for local and regional coastal zone authorities
- Knowledge must be shared, promoted, and used in order to a) aid society in developing a critical approach, b) exercise pressure on policy makers, and c) develop realistic, sustainable, and feasible policies
- Promote public awareness of the socio-ecological values of the coastal resources and ecosystems

#### **Research:**

- Encourage the scientific development of new sustainable, useful technologies
- Improve treatment plant performance; increase general use of new biodegradable materials
- Long-term studies that identify past and present evolutionary trends of the coast
- Intelligent and sustainable use of marine resources to enable the development of new, sustainable medical and pharmaceutical products
- Develop and establish integrated monitoring networks and coherent forecasting systems that provide coastal managers and policymakers with critical coastal state indicators in order to ensure the safety of coastal communities while assuring the preservation of the natural coastal dynamics
- Bring together competence and synergy to develop an ecological sustainable aquaculture in order to protect the biodiversity and environment in the ocean, as well as provide a safe and sustainable source for human food
- Combine infrastructures like offshore wind energy facilities and aquaculture installations

#### **Conclusion**

A general comment to conclude our document is this: the challenges we face in coastal zones are mostly anthropogenic or amplified by human activities that clearly transgress reasonable limits. We insist on the fact that any initiative to truly help society progress sustainably must integrate the limits of the planet and be co-constructed with the affected communities.

#### **Reminder**

This document represents the inputs provided by the authors in order to participate in the construction of the "focused political document" for the Rio+20 outcomes. As part of the effort to construct and achieve the Rio+20 goals, the authors' points of view are comprised of contributions from members of the following major groups: the Scientific and Technological Community, and NGO's Concerning the Sectoral Priority of Coastal Zones.

Following the recommendations provided by the "co-chairs' guidance note," this document has been redacted in the form of focused inputs. The material the authors submitted was coded, synthesized, and condensed to create this document. While this document communicates the most significant concerns of the authors as a group, it is not a consensus document. This document enables us: (i) to establish our inputs to the Compilation Document by November 1st, (ii) to propose adapted material to the Rio+20 delegations from various governments through each country's correspondent, and (iii) to publish an extended reference document concerning the sectoral priority of Coastal Zones from the perspective of 21st Century Challenges.

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*where you can find details about the members of the consortium and the country correspondents.*

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*Making God's love visible*

## Institutional Framework

### Anthropological and Moral Considerations:

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It can be said that the most important discoveries of the modern period are the discovery of evolution and the realization that the human species and human culture are part of evolutionary development; part of the interrelated and interconnected Earth system.

Humanity can trace its origins fairly well through its early emergence to its development as Homo Sapiens-Sapiens, morally characterized by individuals' assuming responsibility for their own actions. The present period would seem to be bringing forth a new evolutionary moment within the human species; the development of the Universal Human. This stage is morally characterized by assuming personal responsibility for the well-being of Earth. It is accompanied by knowledge of the influence of human behavior on Earth and its life-support systems. It is conscious of responsibility to future generations of life. The Universal Human has universal responsibilities!

Currently, the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, as an institutional structure, does not correspond to the above way of understanding human emergence and contemporary development. Consequently, the structure is hindered in facilitating the goal for which it was created: Sustainability.

### New Institutional Structure:

Therefore, Maryknoll supports creating a Sustainability Council that would be responsible to the General Assembly. The sustainability of the Earth Community of Life should be given the highest priority by the United Nations.

It is to be expected that Member States may initially oppose this move as the development of global conscience is uneven; many members are most deeply concerned for their Nation States. Nevertheless, the Earth Summit affords an opportunity for framing thinking and acting that will have long term effects on the fulfillment of the main objective of the United Nations, establishing peace and human security throughout the world. This can only be accomplished on a foundation of sustainability. In addition, the creation of a new and updated physical structure at United Nations Headquarters in New York should be aligned with new and updated organizational structures that facilitate the achievement of the United Nations' high objectives.

The recommended structure would accomplish three important tasks over time:

It would ensure that all people have a voice in the work of securing a viable future for the human family - rooted in vigorous life-support systems.

It would function as an important element of global governance that would lessen the negative environmental, social and economic impacts of large corporations that are not adequately accountable to government structures and may actually control government policy through powerful lobbying mechanisms.

It would pave the way for the next major work of the United Nations in the broadening of Human Rights to include Earth Rights.

The role of Civil Society should be enhanced beyond the currently established Major Groups so that it is inclusive of the range of Society's expertise, cultural arrangements and spiritual depth and insight.

While the Sustainability Council would find its main functionality through just social, environmental and economic development, it would act with overarching vigilance for well-being in all United Nations endeavors, building on past achievements even while its direction is cast firmly toward the future.

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## Mesoamerican Society for Conservation and Biology (MSBC)

### Key findings and recommendations from the regional report for Mesoamerica on sustainable mountains and development

Mesoamerica extends from the Tehuantepec Isthmus in Mexico, including all Central American countries (Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama) and the states of Southern Mexico (Campeche, Yucatan, Quintana Roo, Chiapas, Tabasco and Oaxaca), to the Darien Gap, with a total of 862,468 km<sup>2</sup>. Altogether, Mesoamerican mountains sum up 217,733 km<sup>2</sup> or 25.2% of the entire region. Mesoamerican boasts a remarkable 12% of the world's biodiversity for only about 2% of Earth's terrestrial extension.

A total of 86 indigenous ethnic groups occupy 118,136 km<sup>2</sup> or 54.2% of mountain territories in Mesoamerica. The greatest global threat to mountains and sustainable development in the region is climate change; other direct threats are mining industry, hydro-electric dams, urban sprawl to mountainous areas, deforestation and soil erosion.

Since Rio 1992, Mesoamerica finds itself immersed in a new and more complex international situation without having achieved, in recent years, rapid advances in human development and regional integration. This panorama poses strategic challenges that will not only require innovative and bold regional and national responses, but also major improvements in the collective capacity to implement them. Altogether, forests, state protected areas, biological corridors and indigenous territories cover 72.6% of mountains in Mesoamerica. Mountains clearly represent the region's opportunity to strengthen conservation and sustainable development initiatives, in opposition to the more densely populated and industrially developed lowlands. In this regard, the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC) is the region's best opportunity to implement sustainable mountain development, if the Central American Integration System and its Central American Development Commission (SICA-CCAD) are allowed to work properly with a strong backing from the countries in the region. Connectivity conservation and management best practices should be replicated and adapted in the region, fostering the institutionalization of the regional initiative but expressed in local manifestations through alliances between governments and the civil society. Currently, the MBC covers only 36,208 km<sup>2</sup> or 16.61% of the mountainous regions of Mesoamerica, with room for increasing connectivity.

The design of connectivity landscapes in mountains should be further conducted in order to fill conservation gaps, complete the regional network of protected areas, and in order to better plan land-use, connect mountainous areas at the regional and continental scale with more densely populated lowlands, providing a readily link that may enhance the appreciation for mountains in the regional psyche, and allow for the mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

## Metadesigners Open Network

**Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, 2012**

### Proposal from the Metadesigners Open Network

Submitted by John Wood Emeritus Professor of Design Goldsmiths, University of London New Cross,

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**KEYWORDS:** design thinking, metadesign, synergy-of-synergies, diversity-of-diversities, paradigm change, top-down plus bottom-up

*a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?*

**OVERVIEW:** We need more comprehensive, 'joined-up' ways to feed, cloth, shelter, assemble, and communicate. This amounts to a paradigm change, which requires radical innovation, both at a conceptual and at a pragmatic level. So far, top-down methods have failed to achieve this within a liberal,

democratic context. This proposal therefore calls upon world leaders to ask 'design thinkers' to help them change social paradigms that sustain our collective habits of behaviour. This approach would require support with the continuing development of a more high-level, self-reflexive, comprehensive, inclusive and integrated mode of design that it refers to as 'metadesign'. Design thinking is important, because designers are trained to attract behavioural change in direct, imaginative ways, via products, services and images. Working in metadesign teams, designers, and other experts, would apply their skills to the location and cultivation of synergies on many levels. Ultimately, this would achieve a global synergy-of- synergies.

**OUTCOMES:** We would define the primary, systemic outcome of Rio+20 as A GLOBAL PARADIGM CHANGE THAT SEEDS MORE ECOLOGICAL BEHAVIOUR. The pace, and precise means, by which this transition takes place would need to be declared as the shared responsibility of everyone on the planet, rather than the exclusive task of governments, corporations and NGOs, etc.

**CONCRETE PROPOSAL:** The cultivation of synergy would be a key principal objective for Rio+20. Synergy is an affirmative, under-explored factor that transcends the current, parsimonious, lose-win, obsolescent paradigm of 'sustainability'. The ultimate aim of Rio+20 would be the co-creation of a global 'SYNERGY-OF- SYNERGIES'. An introductory definition of synergy is that it is the free, unforeseen abundance that

emerges from a judicious combination of EXISTING RESOURCE ENTITIES (e.g. materials, actions, ideas and/or problems). Primary synergies can also be synergized with other entities (including synergies) to create secondary or subsequent orders of synergy. As the origin of synergy is always 'difference', Rio+20 would publish a practical framework in which a 'DIVERSITY-OF-DIVERSITIES' (e.g. political / cultural / biological / ecological / monetary) could be locally identified, managed or created. These would become the basis for new, more complex and integrated, modes of entrepreneurial (and entredonneurial) prosperity.

**DOCUMENT STRUCTURE:** This would be launched as a call for the radical, collective re-definition of FUTURE PROSPERITY, and other key aspirational, desirable values that currently drive the economy. It would *not* be framed within a target-led agenda for reducing carbon, or pollution, etc.,. In effect, it will ask citizens everywhere '*HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE?*' [our experiments have shown that, if asked in a neutral way, almost everyone has surprisingly modest and inclusive needs]. The full proposal would offer some generic definitions of synergy and would invite local communities, where politically feasible, to re-

create, adapte, refine and/or approve them for developing their own charters [similar to the Transition Towns model].

*b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?*

**CRITIQUE OF EXISTING APPROACHES:** There are many reasons why previous, and current, attempts to achieve biodiversity, greenhouse gas reductions, etc. are failing. One is that democratic governments and international bodies continue to use measures that are the least effective (c.f. Meadows, 1999), such as setting targets, agreeing timelines, directing appropriate fiscal measures, devising sanctions and penalties. These are indirect measures that have inauspicious or counter-productive feedback loops. In general, they are too bureaucratic to inspire a behaviour change in those whose immediate task is to make the policies work. In short, they do not easily change hearts and minds in the long term. They need augmenting with a more radical, subtle approach that transcends the existing mindset. This must be conducted using thinking that is commensurate or attractive to the new paradigm, not with the existing paradigm. Other reasons addressed in this proposal relate to the language of 'sustainability' that is part of this old paradigm.

*c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);*

**IMPLEMENTATION:** Metadesign teams (recruited from the specialist design professions and from transdisciplinary design agencies such as IDEO, in consultation with their professional guilds and academies) would be commissioned to assist governments. These changes would serve to refresh and reframe the perceived PURPOSE of business and education in ways that would eventually reform existing fiscal and legislative approaches. They would need to work in harmony with the newly agreed definition of prosperity. Paradigms cannot easily be changed exclusively via top-down methods because they are sustained by assumptions, beliefs, and habits that are part of a complex web of economic, cultural, aesthetic, psychological and other forces that reinforce one other. This requires the SYNERGIZING OF TOP- DOWN AND BOTTOM-UP INITIATIVES. While designers have the potential for this challenge, they would need to work alongside imaginative managers to cope with the scale and complexity of the task. What we know as 'design' emerged in the 19th century as a set of specialist skills and practices. Since 2005, with research funding from AHRC and EPSRC we began to orchestrate these practices as a unified METADESIGN framework. Loosely speaking, metadesign is a team-based, self-defining superset of existing specialisms of design, management etc. that looks for opportunities to create a synergy-of-synergies.

*d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed*

*decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?*

**MECHANISMS FOR ACTION:** Instead of designing discrete products, brands, or services, metadesigners would be commissioned to orchestrate 'top-down' and 'bottom-up' initiatives. They would broker effective, non-fiscal solutions for communities and their governments. Some work can be achieved in a top-down level by devising frameworks for CIRCULAR SERVICE-BASED ECONOMIES, perhaps with the help of organizations, such as 'Cradle-to-Cradle', Twitter, Facebook, etc. However, it is also vitally important TO LANGUAGE NEW OPPORTUNITIES. This entails intervening creatively at the level of language, by

circulating newly coined concepts; words and images (e.g. via Wikipedia, Wikimedia, Oxford dictionaries etc.) co-designed and disseminated also via bottom-up organizations, such as 'Transition Towns', Local Currencies initiatives, or Permaculture groups. They would also work in holarchic teams that we train to find, invent or cultivate synergies. These teams would include radical thinkers and experts from anthropology, social media etc., They would be put together with creative thinkers from advertising agencies, mathematics, bio-semiotics, science, economics, philosophy and design.

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## METIS Global Awareness Network

Among the few entities in the world involved in climate change crisis struggle providing strategic support to all three pillars of Sustainability: **Education, law & policy formation & climate movement**

*Earth Summit 2012 Rio+20, Earth's last chance*

*"This is the story of Rhysling, the Blind Singer of the Spaceways - but not the official version. You sang his verses at school:*

***'We pray for one last landing; On the globe that gave us birth; Let us rest our eyes on the fleecy skies; And the cool, green hills of Earth'***

*Or perhaps you sang in French, or German. Or it might have been Esperanto - while Terra's rainbow banner rippled over your head.*

*The language has been of no great importance, provided that it has been a language of the Earth...*

*"The Green Hills of Earth" by Robert Heinlein*

Low expectations are often a self-fulfilling prophecy. High expectations, on the other hand, will inevitably lead to disappointment. Thus **Metis Global Awareness Network** contributes with no expectations but **intense effort & concrete proposals** for a positive outcome of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development at Rio de Janeiro, 4-6 June 2012, or Rio+20, or **Earth Summit, last chance** in the world to tackle with **climate change, sustainable development** and **Institutional framework**. One would anxiously wait to see the acceptance of what Humanity would get in return.

## INTRODUCTION

Half a century of uncontrolled financial & population growth has caused unequivocal anthropogenic character climate change. The planet needs at least 50 years to recover to normal if no more negative factors make the situation worse. Earth Summit's agreement has thus to include, among others:

1. **Institutional framework** based on, at least, three principles.
2. **Time scarcity unanimous consensus** based on scientific data defining **time frame** for re-engineering.
3. **Global Social Contract** on a Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication with **SHORT** term, midterm & long term sustainable development scenarios. Minimum prerequisite: Ensure the **Short term** scenario implementation focusing on time scarcity.
4. **Population growth voluntary control** enhanced by strong **concrete incentives**.
5. **Sustainable urbanization** in a framework of new green cities.
6. **Global Awareness campaign** to motivate the general audience towards sustainability.

## FOCUSED POINTS

1. A 'ready-to-operate' **Institutional framework for sustainable development** based on...
  - a. the realistic principle... **Global problems require global solutions;**
  - b. the down to... earth one: **All six parameters (people, time, planet, money, ideas & material reality) have to be taken - at last, into documented consideration;**
  - c. and the last but not least cynical one... **What governments and mostly markets have to realize is that there is as much money to be made out of the wreckage of a civilization as from the up-building of one.**

## 2. Time scarcity

**How much time is left?** 'Left' for what? 'How much time is left for ongoing destruction-as-usual?' 'For the end of the world?' 'How much time to 'green economy'? 'How much time to 'sustainable development'? 'How much time to reach earth tipping points or non irreversible situations?' 'How much time to return to 'normal' -not 'new' normal (e.g. 1950 planet status)? Speaking of climate change three crucial variants are to be examined: **Planet Earth, human race, human civilization 'as-we-know-it'**. To shortly answer: Time left for **Planet Earth** is about 4 billion years. Time left for **human race to go extinct** is about 2-3.000 years. Time left for **human civilization to cease to exist** is about, no more-no less than 30-50 y-e-a-r-s. What about 80 or 100 for everybody to agree? OK!!!

**Metis Global Awareness Network** [Accredited Observer](#) to the

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Crucial **psychological / mental barrier** concerning climate change is average **human lifespan**. Every negative prediction **below** this number is confronted by **suspiciousness and denial**; all negative predictions **beyond** this number are faced by **indifference** or **SEP**. *"It would be an enormous relief if the recent attacks on the science of global warming actually indicated that we do not face an unimaginable calamity requiring large-scale, preventive measures to protect human civilization as we know it."* Al Gore, 2/27/10

3. A **Global Social Contract** on a Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and poverty eradication with **SHORT term, midterm and long term** sustainable development scenarios. Contract's sine-qua-non prerequisites should be: **a. Time scarcity. b. Negative stances' neutralization** by creating **win-win situations** (who doesn't want a solution & why - what is needed to agree). **c. Population growth control** (how-to-do it incentives). **d. Food and fuel prices control** (how-to-do rules). **e. Short term** sustainability scenario (what-to-do). Agreement's implementation degree will prove - or NOT, Humanity's maturity level directly linked to salvation probability. [Global Public Policy Networks](#) could be very effective **specific cooperation mechanisms** for implementation of agreed goals. A '**new**' actor in the stage of world affairs. A **non-state entity** in that they are not states, and **not necessarily incorporated in the legal sense**, they may take on an international role, even without the formal status of an international or multilateral organization/institution. These networks are comprised by **various actors** from **civil society, governments, government agencies, industry, industry groups, and perhaps multilateral organizations/institutions**. Their activities cover the range of steps in the policy process, beyond to policy proposals or lobbying, **including agenda setting, policy formulation, negotiation, rule making, coordination, implementation, and evaluation**. Their expertise can often play an important role in global debates and norm establishment. [Beyond Multilateralism: Global Public Policy Networks, The role of Global Public Policy Networks in supporting global Institutions.](#)

**Global Social Contract** (GSC) relevant actors are considered to be ALL; (official) social stakeholders and (unofficial) dominant players. What is expected by each part according to expertise and capabilities:

**UN SYSTEM:** credibility; the GSC under the auspices of UN.

**WESTERN WORLD & BRICS LEADERSHIP:** compromise on sustainable development goals and commitments;

**NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS:** agree to share a percentage of local responsibilities with global entities; generate policies for a non- taxable percentage on annual companies budget once spent for sustainable development investments and substantial Corporate Social Responsibility programs.



**IFF:** develop feasible global plans; locate and re-allocate resources.

**SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS:** provide maximum possible **RELIABLE** data; make practical steps to integrate major scientific achievements of 20th c. into development plans - it's about time; [IPCC Fourth Assessment Report](#) has been a very good start mainly on global warming unequivocal anthropogenic nature. However many issues have remained open to documentation due to their unprecedented global size e.g. sea levels rise, etc. Ambiguity on these issues opens the way to skeptics & denials' speculative strategy.

**OLD & NEW RELIGIONS:** cooperate for the common interest.

**CIVIL SOCIETY:** more concrete proposals; green voluntary activity to turn into Third Sector business activity.

**TRADITIONAL MEDIA, SOCIAL NETWORKING and ADVERTISING COMPANIES:** 'spread the word' with no ambiguity policies. **WEB, PROGRAMMERS, and TELECOMMUNICATIONS BIG PLAYERS:** offer the open big field & hi-tech networking. **INTELLECTUALS & ARTISTS, SHOW BIZ, SPORT and LIFESTYLE** personalities: active social participation.

**TRADITIONAL** (EU, USA) and **NEW** (BRICS) **GEOPOLITICAL FORMATIONS, LOCAL GOVERNMENTS** & (political, financial, etc) **INTER- NATIONAL ENTITIES** to develop investment programs enhanced by strong incentives to support coal, oil and nuclear industries to turn to renewable energy production in order to give an end to this unprecedented **BALANCE OF FEAR AND INEFFECTIVENESS** GAME amongst bureaucracy, greedy financial market and governments. There are all kinds of incentives; they only need reallocation. [Investment Incentives](#), [INVESTMENT INCENTIVES Malaysia's Perspective](#), [International Monetary Fund](#);

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**TRADITIONAL and MODERN energy producers** - and the **rest of the MARKET** - based on the principle 'yesterday's competitor is tomorrow's ally', agree on emerging market shares and play an institutional role in the global game to **SAVE THE CLIENT**.

**Emerging SUSTAINABLE FREE MARKET** has to accept support to traditional energy demanding in return its own vital space and support by incentives.

**GENERAL PUBLIC:** responsible demand from all the above parties to implement each one's agreed contribution.

#### 4. Global Population growth voluntary control enhanced by strong concrete incentives.

The biggest issue confronting the planet is the collective demand we put upon it. And the difference in impact between population growth in Third World countries, which are poor, against that in the Western world, where it consumes and wastes so much more is enormous. Anyway the global rate of human population growth peaked around 1963, but the number of people living on Earth - and sharing finite resources like water and food - has grown by more than two-thirds since then, topping out at 7 billion today. This has definitely to stop. It has to be done, firstly, **voluntarily**; second, its promotion has to be done offering various **strong incentives** in content and form considering the issue strong cultural features. However, **IT HAS TO BE A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THE DEAL**, otherwise all other policies will **INEVITABLY** fail.

#### 5. Sustainable urbanization

Traditional cities about to exponentially grow with no control consist one of the most crucial pollution factors. There is **NO** way to sustainable urbanization concerning contemporary cities, the same way an old car cannot become new. Unique sustainable solution is **NEW GREEN CITIES BUILDING FROM SCRATCH** in a near-by location. Positive side effects: **ECONOMIES OF SCALE**; Revitalization of construction field, still among the core elements of development; Unemployment decrease; Integration of tele-working in the new building design. A return-to-homeland program supported by strong incentives for old cities residents.

#### 6. Global Awareness campaign

**Humanity has to believe in what experts already know.**

A Global Awareness campaign, based on **'win-win' criteria amongst ALL**, official and unofficial social, stakeholders and dominant players, to be launched on core terms like 'Sustainable development & Employment - [Sustainability Science](#)', 'Climate change crisis

- [Climate Change Science](#)', 'Green Economy', 'Population Growth', 'Civilization-as-usual continuity', 'Production & consumption voluntary simplicity' etc. Its implementation will be the result of ALL parts' cooperation each one offering according to expertise and capabilities':

**UN SYSTEM:** credibility.

**NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS:** loose regulation and 'green light'. **INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL & SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS:** reliable data. **RELIGIONS:** genuine blessings.

**CIVIL SOCIETY:** proposals & good-will; accreditation: 'green dexterities' to become an additional vocational asset like 'IT dexterities'.

**TRADITIONAL MEDIA, SOCIAL NETWORKING and ADVERTISING COMPANIES:** public opinion support expertise and free 'air time' /

space based on a well balanced percentage of paid and CSR adds.

**WEB, PROGRAMMERS, and TELECOMMUNICATIONS BIG PLAYERS:** offer infrastructure; tolerance.

**INTELLECTUALS & ARTISTS, SHOW BIZ, SPORT and LIFESTYLE** personalities: engagement to become Sustainability Ambassadors etc.

**TRADITIONAL fossil fuel and MODERN energy producers** - and the **rest of the MARKET:** funding campaign via CSR initiatives and supporting with incentives, within the framework of an agreement among themselves and governments on each one contribution concerning clean energy production share.

**GENERAL PUBLIC:** further dissemination of content, based on informed consent.

**DENIALS / SKEPTICS' ACTIVITY WITH NO RELEVANT STRONG DOCUMENTATION** has to be included in the campaign on how similar activities are to be confronted on international legal scale officially. **Skeptics do represent a picturesque situation NO MORE.** They represent a **t-h-r-e-a-t**, 1. International community has to develop a new



strategy against the phenomenon as a whole. Public administration, governments, and international entities have to be persuaded to deal with it in the most formal way. Contemporary climate change denial/skepticism with no scientific documentation has many common points with '**spreading false news during war**'. Relevant actions to influence population morale are characterized as '**high treason**'. '**Crimes against Science & Humanity**' is another relevant area since such an activity is against the planet and Humanity living on it. There must be a campaign to the highest level and legal steps have to be taken **to pass an international law against it**. In case one could prove two entities or individuals had previous communication and agreement of relevant actions (news circulation, publications, declarations, etc) '**conspiracy**' is another legal domain; Last but not least, violation and/or **undermining of constitutional environmental rights** is the overall legal umbrella.

#### Global Awareness campaign primary targets:

- o **Public awareness on core terms**, e.g. 'Sustainable development & Employment - [Sustainability Science](#)', 'Climate change crisis - [Climate Change Science](#)', 'Green Economy', 'Population Growth', 'Civilization-as-usual continuity', 'Production & consumption voluntary simplicity' etc.
- o **Population growth control** incentives.
- o **Warning on legal Denial confrontation**.

#### Global Awareness campaign secondary targets:

- o **Environmental Education** from student-oriented item to turn to Lifelong Learning initiative.
- o **Sustainability Intensive Training** for the Market (from multinational corporations' CEOs to producers and from new businessmen to consumers) to become an introductory module to all training items.
- o **Public access to information clearing houses** development on international / regional / national / local / personal scale.
- o **Public active / creative participation** on international / regional / national / local / personal level.
- o **International cooperation** infrastructure based on win-win flexible frameworks, e.g. Global Public Policy Networks.

**Please note:** Hyperlinks guide to indicative web sites, not the 'best' or more 'reliable' ones.

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• **Storyteller of the Future** • [STATE OF THE WORLD FORUM](#) International Coordinating Council former member • [Global Climate Change Crisis & Sustainability Panorama](#) [www.frogboiled.org](#) Public Awareness Platform • [Plastira Lake Environmental Awareness Center](#) • • [Metis what we are, we do, we search for](#) • • PO box 273, Metaxochori Larissas PC

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*"Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For indeed that's all who ever have"* - [Margaret Mead](#)

*Real achievement comes from racing ahead when no one else sees a path -and holding back when the rush isn't going where you want to go*

[Storyteller of the Future](#) (copying Seth Godin)

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## Millennium Consumption Goals Initiative (MCGI)

PROPOSAL ON MILLENNIUM CONSUMPTION GOALS (MCGs):

INPUT TO THE RIO+20 COMPILATION DOCUMENT

submitted by

THE MILLENNIUM CONSUMPTION GOALS INITIATIVE (MCGI) AND SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Chapeau/Summary of proposal

Establish a set of Millennium Consumption Goals for the period 2012-2020 and for subsequent decades, complementing the Millennium Development Goals, and helping to ensure that the basic needs of the poor are met, preserve and strengthen earth's natural resource base on which human society depends, and enhance global prosperity, while ensuring a good quality of life and well being for everyone by 2020, improving intra- and inter-generational equity, and accelerating the shift to more sustainable consumption and production as an essential step towards the ultimate goal of sustainable development.

Background to Millennium Consumption Goals (MCGs)

The Millennium Consumption Goals (MCGs) generally support the major objectives and themes of Rio+20: Securing Political Commitment, Assessing Progress, New and Emerging Challenges, Green Economy, and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development. In particular, they will:

- a. help to secure not only political but also wider multi-stakeholder commitment to the ultimate goal of sustainable development;
- b. facilitate the assessment of progress towards existing international agreements (especially environmental commitments);
- c. address the emerging challenges of unsustainable consumption and resource shortages (including climate change);
- d. become an important tool to achieve the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and
- e. be a key element of the new governance framework for sustainable development.

The MCG idea was proposed in January 2011 in New York by Prof. Mohan Munasinghe, during the inter-sessional preparations for Rio+20 - the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Brazil. It has received worldwide support since then. It is linked to Agenda 21, which stressed the need for “changing unsustainable consumption and production”, and to the component on sustainable consumption and production within the 10 Year Framework of Programs mandated by the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg.

Millennium Consumption Goals are needed urgently because unsustainable patterns of consumption, production and resource exploitation have led to multiple problems threatening the future of humanity – like poverty, unequal consumption, resource scarcities, conflict and climate change. The global economy driven by consumption already uses natural resources equivalent to 1.5 planets earth. The 1.4 billion people in the richest 20th percentile of the world’s population consume over 80% of global output – 60 times more than those in the poorest 20th percentile. Meanwhile the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) seek to raise consumption levels of over 2 billion poor people. Clearly, the consumption of the rich is not only unsustainable, but also “crowding out” the prospects of the poor. A business-as-usual attitude that ignores the problem will exacerbate conflict and increase the risk of global unrest. Instead of viewing the affluent as a problem, the novel concept of MCGs will persuade them to contribute to the solution without having to reduce their quality of life – thereby yielding a more positive result. The MCG approach offers the hope of a more manageable future rather than an unpredictable and potentially disastrous outcome.

## 2. MCG CORE PROPOSAL

### Basic MCGs

The long term objective of the MCGs is to achieve sustainable development, by:

- a. making consumption and production more sustainable in economic, environment and social terms;
- b. improving overall well being;
- c. reducing the burden on natural resources;
- d. freeing up resources to alleviate poverty; and
- e. ensuring intra- and inter-generational equity.

MCGs seek primarily to provide consumption targets designed to motivate the world’s rich to consume more sustainably. MCGs for the affluent would be designed to complement the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which seek to empower the world’s poor.

The MCGs should begin by addressing under-consumption of the poor:

1. Meet basic human needs (food, water, energy, shelter, health, education, etc.)

Addressing unsustainable consumption of the rich, the following well studied, resource-related MCGs would target:

2. GHG emissions reduction
3. Energy use (conservation, fossil fuels, renewable energy, transport, buildings, urban, etc.)
4. Water use (conservation, quality, re-use, etc.)
5. Land and biomass use (urban habitats, rural land, buildings, forests, protected areas, agro-ecol. balance, biodiversity, etc.)
6. Ores, metals and industrial minerals
7. Construction materials and minerals
8. Pollution and waste (air and water effluents, solid waste, toxic waste and chemicals, etc.)

MCGs would aim to increase human and ecological well-being by bringing about less material-intensive lifestyles, and improved livelihoods including reduced working hours and better working conditions. Focus areas might include:

1. Food and agriculture
2. Health and obesity (diet, smoking, exercise, etc.)
3. Transportation, housing and habitats
4. Recreation and leisure

Other MCGs could target:

1. Economic-financial systems (progressive taxation, banking reform, measures of well being, etc.)
2. Military expenditures

### Additional Path to Sustainability

The MCGs provide an effective additional path towards global sustainability, for the following reasons:

- MCGs would apply everywhere, so the idea cuts across developed and developing country boundaries, thus reducing the potential for deadlock due to national and regional self-interest.

- Since the rich account for over 80% of consumption and pollution, shifts in their consumption can effectively reduce the environmental burden and free up resources to raise poorer peoples’ living standards. While doing so, the affluent could also maintain or improve their quality of life, starting with existing technologies and methods.

- MCGs lead to an inclusive, multilevel strategy, which combines both bottom up and top down approaches. They seek to influence the behaviour of affluent people at individual, community, city, enterprise, regional, and country levels. This complements the more conventional approaches that rely on top-down, large scale actions (by UN, central government, etc.). The MCG concept is both fractal and subsidiary, because the basic idea remains unchanged (like a snowflake) at finer levels of detail, and effective

implementation is possible from the global/government to local/individual levels.

- MCGs have the potential for quicker results, by energizing civil society and business to ~~act now~~<sup>act</sup>. This could shift the behaviour of many high-consumption households and businesses, without relying only on central government policies and long-term investments. Furthermore, rich individuals could be motivated to act more effectively in their own enlightened self-interest, since they are better educated, have more influence and enjoy better access to resources.

- MCGs will empower the middle tier of decision makers (eg., Mayors of cities, leaders of community organisations, and CEOs of companies), and enable them to act more decisively and quickly <sup>V</sup> for example, to establish voluntary MCGs and implement them. They are more effective, in touch with ordinary people and form the critical bridge between the general public and national/global leaders.

- MCG-MDG <sup>twinning</sup> is possible, by directly linking an MCG activity in a rich community/country with an MDG activity in a poor community/country <sup>V</sup> some cities have already launched such activities.

- MCGs could mobilise, empower and link sustainable consumers and producers (including associated global supply chains) into a virtuous cycle. The same advertising that now promotes over-consumption and waste could be used to encourage more sustainable consumption. Over a period of time, social values and habits could be changed to favour more sustainable behaviour (like the gradual change in attitudes towards smoking). More ethical and moral behaviour that is socially responsible would be encouraged, especially among the young.

- MCGs will empower the person to define meaningful consumption rather than permitting meaningless consumption to define the person.

### 3. TARGET GROUPS

To move this idea forward, the Millennium Consumption Goals Initiative (MCGI) was launched at the UN by a broad coalition of stakeholders called the MCG Network. It is action-oriented, multi-level, pluralistic and trans-national. The MCGI is targeting the UNCSD 2012 conference to establish an international mandate for the proposal.

The MCGI seeks to encourage consumers and producers (especially the more affluent) to behave more sustainably without lowering their quality of life. This is a broad-based initiative, and there will be a role for all stakeholders, including the UN system, civil society, business, government, international financial institutions, and the academic/research community. The MCG Network is engaging with civil society through all major groups. The MCGI feels that by acting together now on the MCGs, we will make the planet a better and safer place for our children and grandchildren.

### 4. ACTION PLAN AND POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

The MCGs are intended to be an important practical tool within an overall strategy for sustainable development, which would supplement broader, ongoing initiatives in the areas of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) and the green economy (GE).

There is broad initial consensus supporting the MCG concept, but stakeholder consultations and robust dialogue is needed to move this idea forward sensibly and systematically. This process has already been launched through the MCGI and its partners. Ongoing and planned research provides a basis for already setting preliminary targets and policies. There are also many existing examples of best practice that enable us to act now. We hope that the deliberations at Rio+20 will resolve any remaining issues, build the consensus and provide the first mandate to establish MCGs for an initial period 2012-2020, with more to follow in subsequent decades. Suggestions for further discussion are given in Annex 2.

Parallel approaches: top-down and bottom-up

The MCGs will be a set of benchmarks to which the more affluent could aspire, while improving their own well being and helping to ensure the basic needs of the poor. These targets would encourage a combination of voluntary actions by rich consumers, supported by enabling government policies that will help to achieve more sustainable consumption and production. The proposed strategy is inclusive and multi-track. A top down effort at the international level seeks to move the MCG forward on the UN agenda, including creating a mandate, setting benchmarks at the global level, and establishing an enabling governance and implementation framework. Rio+20 is a key event in this process, and a robust and constructive discussion followed by a broad statement of support from delegates at Rio+20 is sought. The MCGs would then become an UN initiative, with clear global targets in designated areas.

While progress is being made at the UN/international level, the MCGI will encourage and work with many who prefer not to wait for broad multilateral, and are acting NOW. This bottom-up approach involves pioneering individuals, communities, organisations, firms, cities, regions and nations, who are willing to set up their own specific voluntary MCGs, monitor and implement them, and report progress. In particular, decision makers at the level of cities and companies are more willing to commit to voluntary MCGs than national leaders, and better able to achieve their targets .

Voluntary MCGs could be pursued by the willing, at whatever level they choose, and focusing on the goals they prefer. A sensible commitment is all that is required to make a start.

#### Activities

Activities that contribute to the MCGs include various sectoral interventions involving a range of actors, from local to global, and are essential at every level, especially at the city, community, local, company and organisational levels. Enabling actions will be necessary at national and international levels, taking full account of regional and subregional conditions to support a locally driven and country-specific approach.

Generally, the programmes should be designed to:

- Use the principle of subsidiarity to delegate authority, accountability and resources to the most appropriate level, and empower cities, communities, local groups, firms and organisations to ensure that the programme will be implemented at all levels;
- Develop immediate measures to encourage and support those groups who wish to establish and implement voluntary MCGs;
- Contain a long-term strategy aimed at establishing the best possible conditions to meet the basic human needs of the poor, and eliminate poverty and reduce inequalities, with special emphasis on the most disadvantaged groups - in particular, women, children, youth and refugees.
- Link with and complement the MDGs, wherever appropriate.
- Empower poor groups and communities to meet their basic human needs, and empower affluent groups and communities to establish and achieve MCGs.
- Give priority to key national and sub-national capacity-building efforts for implementation of the above activities, focusing at the city and local community level and firm level, in order to support a community-driven approach to MCGs and to establish and strengthen mechanisms to allow sharing of experience and knowledge.

(g) Effectively deploy a range of known economic and non-economic policy tools, and explore the use of new instruments to encourage more sustainable consumption and production.

#### Role of Government

Governments (at all levels) should provide an enabling framework of policies and measures to assist appropriate international, non-governmental and local community organizations, cities and businesses to establish and implement appropriate MCGs.

Governments should improve the collection of information on target groups and target areas in order to facilitate the design of focused MCG programmes and activities, consistent with national sustainable development objectives, target-group needs and aspirations. Follow up and monitoring implementation will be a major responsibility of governments, to ensure that commitments and agreed targets made by specific actors are indeed achieved.

In addition, governments should be encouraged to develop policy objectives and instruments to achieve sustainability goals relating to their own activities (eg., sustainable procurement, reduction of military spending, and greening all relevant operations).

#### International and regional cooperation and coordination

The UN system, through its relevant organs, organizations and bodies, in cooperation with Member States and with international financial institutions, appropriate international and non-governmental organizations and the business community, should make the MCGs a major priority and should:

- (a) Assist Governments, when requested, in the formulation and implementation of national action programmes on MCGs;
- (b) Promote technical cooperation among developing countries for MCG activities;
- (c) Strengthen existing structures in the United Nations system for coordination of action relating to MCGs, including the establishment of a focal point for information exchange and the development, formulation and implementation of replicable programmes and projects on MCGs;
- (d) In the follow-up of the implementation of emerging Rio+20 agreements, give high priority to the review of the progress made on MCGs and sustainable consumption and production;

#### Financing and cost evaluation

A mechanism should be set up to estimate costs of setting up, promoting and administering the MCGs, and for raising the necessary funds. Costs and financial terms, including any that are non-concessional, will depend upon, inter alia, the specific strategies and programmes Governments and other stakeholders decide upon for implementation.

#### ANNEX 1. LIST OF PERSONS/ORGANISATIONS SUPPORTING THIS SUBMISSION

1. Mohan Munasinghe, Chairman, Munasinghe Institute for Development (MIND), Colombo, Sri Lanka. <http://www.mindlanka.org/>; and Professor of Sustainable Development, SCI, Univ. of Manchester, UK .
2. Uchita De Zoysa, Executive Director, Centre for Environment and Development, Colombo, Sri Lanka. <http://centreforenvironmentdevelopment.blogspot.com/>
3. Philip Vergragt, Research Professor, George Perkins Marsh Institute, Clark University Worcester MA USA; and Senior Associate, Tellus Institute, Boston, MA, USA. <http://www.tellus.org/index.php>.
4. Andrew Crone, President/CEO, Trailhead Perspectives, Whitewater, WI, USA, <http://www.trailheadperspectives.org/>
5. Sylvia Lorek, Chair, Sustainable Europe Research Institute Germany, Cologne, [www.seri.de](http://www.seri.de)
6. Jeffrey Barber, Executive Director, Integrative Strategies Forum (ISF), MD, USA, [www.isforum.org](http://www.isforum.org)
7. Leida Rijnhout, Executive Director, ANPED - Northern Alliance for Sustainability, Brussels, Belgium. [www.anped.org](http://www.anped.org)
8. Luis Carlos Silveira, Director, Vale Sustainable Development Institute, Belem, Brazil, <http://www.vale.com/en-us/sustentabilidade/instituto-tecnologico-vale/pages/default.aspx>
9. Janis Brizga, Chair of the Board, Green Liberty, Latvia, Riga, [www.zb-zeme.lv](http://www.zb-zeme.lv)
10. Thomas Brose, Director, Climate Alliance, Frankfurt, Germany, [www.climatealliance.org](http://www.climatealliance.org)
11. Faiz Shah, Head, Development Management, Asian Institute of Technology, Pathumthani, Thailand, [www.ait.ac.th](http://www.ait.ac.th)
12. Fatima Rodrigo, UN Representative, International Presentation Association of the Sisters of the Presentation, <http://internationalpresentationassociation.org/>
13. James Gustave Speth, Former Administrator-United Nations Development Programme/Professor of Law-Vermont Law School, USA.
14. Allen L. White, Vice President and Senior Fellow, Tellus Institute, USA, [www.tellus.org](http://www.tellus.org).
15. Bjarne Pedersen, Global Director, Partnerships and Organisational Empowerment, Consumers International, United Kingdom, [www.consumersinternational.org](http://www.consumersinternational.org).
16. Sena Alouka, Jeunes Volontaires pour l'Environnement,Togo, [www.ong-jve.org](http://www.ong-jve.org).
17. Helen A. Ojario, Congregation of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, NY, USA, [www.carmelitengo.org](http://www.carmelitengo.org)
18. Richard Clugston, Executive Director, Earth Charter US, [www.earthcharterus.org](http://www.earthcharterus.org).
19. Victoria Wyszynski Thoresen, Director, Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living ([www.perlprojects.org](http://www.perlprojects.org) ),and Associate Professor of Education, Hedmark University College, Norway.
20. Celine Paramunda, Medical Mission Sisters, Philadelphia, PA, USA, [www.mms-un.org](http://www.mms-un.org).
21. Felix Dodds, Executive Director, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future, UK, [www.stakeholderforum.org](http://www.stakeholderforum.org).

22. Caroljean Willie, UN Representative, Sisters of Charity Federation, NY, USA, <http://sisters-of-charity-federation.org/>
23. Sue Riddlestone, CEO, BioRegional Development Group, UK, [www.bioregional.com](http://www.bioregional.com).
24. Kassem El-Saddik, Vice President, Development Sans Frontieres (DSF), Lebanon, [kelsaddik@gmail.com](mailto:kelsaddik@gmail.com)
25. Winifred Doherty, UN Representative, Good Shepherd International Justice Peace Office, NY, USA.
26. Ashwani Vasishth, Associate Professor of Environmental Planning / Director, Sustainability Studies Program, Ramapo College of New Jersey, USA, <http://phobos.ramapo.edu>.
27. Jean Stoner, UN Representative, Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, NY, USA, <http://sndatun.wordpress.com>

## ANNEX 2. POINTS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

- a. Are the candidate areas for MCGs given above broad enough, or should the initial MCGs be limited to a few key areas (say 8-10 MCG like the 8 MDG)?

Perhaps it would be wise to identify MCGs related to the seven "priority areas" identified for Rio+20 aside from the three main themes.

- b. How do we identify the primary target groups? The poor whose basic needs are to be met, may be identified through existing poverty programmes. The rich could be the world's top 20 percentile of income earners in the world (both developing and developed countries), or should the MCGs use another criterion (like wealth)?

- c. Recent work (eg., International Resources Group) provides sufficient data to identify preliminary targets for sustainable use of key resources and environmental media at the global level. How can we facilitate scalability, by building in sufficient flexibility into the definition of MCGs, so that they can be adapted and harmonized to fairly reflect characteristics at lower levels (e.g., country, province, city, community, organisation, family, individual)?

- d. How can we set up an effective governance mechanism to measure, report, monitor and implement the MCGs? We could draw on the past experience of UN programmes, including the MDGs. Specific questions include:

- finding the right balance between bottom up (voluntary actions and behaviour change encouraged by social pressures) and top down (govt. policies and mandatory measures to change consumption habits)

- achieving better coordination among stakeholders, including consumers, producers and govt. Linking up with the MDGs to raise poor people's consumption along more sustainable paths

Some long term considerations also need to be explored, although they need not be resolved immediately to implement the MCGs. Key questions include:

- How do we improve the measurement and reporting of well-being, since current measures like GDP imply that more material consumption is better. We need to develop and popularize measures that encourage sustainable development (e.g., include environmental and social externality costs).

- What the other indicator or target-linked projects are being proposed at Rio+20? Are there any ties or synergies possible with these efforts?

- What information and measures are needed to shift values, public opinion and behaviour in the direction of sustainable consumption and production in the long run (e.g., like attitude changes re. smoking during past decades). Such information and measures should be reliable, understandable, convincing and meaningful and speak to the needs and interests of the particular audiences they are targeting, delivered through trusted channels by trusted and credible knowledge brokers.

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## Mont-Blanc Meeting association

Five projects and 20 proposals to change the model with RIO+20

Extract from the orientation document of the fifth edition of the Mont Blanc Meetings

The International Forum for Social Economy, known as the Mont Blanc Meetings developed an orientation document, the final version of which will be sent to all the Heads of State taking part in the Rio 2012 summit on sustainable development. Then it will be distributed internationally so as to contribute to the positioning of the Social Economy as a major, vital player in the changes underway in globalisation.

The purpose of the various families of the social and solidarity economy (SSE) go well beyond the economic field. Since its origins, it has strived for a fairer, more democratic, more ecological society with more solidarity.

It cannot be separated from its economic purpose (associating for entrepreneurship), from its social purpose (justice and democracy), and therefore it is not possible to reduce its role, its weight and its contribution to economic indicators of wealth alone, to the number of companies it has created and to the number of jobs created (more than 10 % of world GDP). In short, its economic weight is far from sufficing to define it. The SSE is a stakeholder in the construction of a credible alternative to the dominant economy, on the condition that there is not an underestimation of its social and ecological role and the impact of its project, its ethic, its governance, its achievements and its influence on other players in the economic world (public enterprises or enterprises in the market sector).

Without changing the dominant economic model, it can contribute to going beyond it and influence the economy as a whole by showing through its practices, values and policies, its ability to handle the challenges of sustainable development, i.e. economically viable, socially equitable and ecologically sustainable development.

However, it must invest the field of political representation, by federating it solidly on both the national and the international fronts. To do this, our organisation proposes contributions which are addressed to public authorities and international institutions, contributions which are inspired by the best practices of the international experience of the SSE around five projects translating in operational terms ways of getting out of the crisis:

- democratising the economy and regulating finance;
- promoting shared governance;
- providing new social choices;

- Better feeding the planet and redeploying the

b environment;

- Changing the direction of globalisation to make

c it more human.

Finally, we conclude on the common theme of these proposals: create movement with a federative political action in alliance with other organisations and institutions.

First project: democratising the economy and encouraging territorialisation

- We want to encourage, by all means necessary, the development of a vast non-capitalist sector of SSE enterprises operating democratically on the challenges of the global crisis that we are going through. We believe that an essential precondition of this development is the universal affirmation of the plurality of forms of entrepreneurship through the recognition in law of the statutes of co-operatives, mutuals, associations and foundations.

- We are concentrating on developing quality employment in the context of an economy serving well-being in a fair world.

- We support the taking or the taking back control of common goods (water, land, natural resources...) by communities and States, in particular through the development of co-operatives, mutuals and associations. And at the same time, therefore, forms of ownership both private and collective, ensuring sustainability for enterprises and organisations (co-operatives, associations, mutuals) and access to goods and services (free seed, open software, etc...).

- We invite public authorities to support with greater force the biodiversity of the economy, collective entrepreneurship and sustainable and solidarity territories development, through policies and legislation which are relevant. We need to strengthen, on the basis of common objectives, links between the SSE, the State and local authorities, by forging close local and national partnerships, using the local footholds that co-operatives, mutuals, associations and foundations have, to help young people access jobs or support the development of responses suited to new needs.

- We want to develop a finance system for the SSE, or favourable to it, to support the development of new collective enterprises (workers' funds, orientation of SSE investment towards the SSE thanks to social, environmental and governance criteria, public and international support programmes for collective enterprises starting up, SSE financing institutes...) and we share with others the principle of strong regulation of finance. We are inciting co-operative and mutualist banks and alternative banks to provide local support to business, solidarity-based environmental initiatives in the SSE and create common tools to finance it.

The Mont-Blanc Meetings Vth Edition 2011 continental and international SSE projects. We are also calling on Governments and major international banks to set up partnerships with them with this aim.

- We particularly draw the attention of Governments to the fact that their choices in strategic and/or sensitive areas are not reduced to a bipolar choice (privatisation v. nationalisation); the SSE is a third way.

**[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to read the full submission]**

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## Mountain Agenda, University of Bern, Switzerland

Submission to the Rio 2012 Secretariat for the Compilation Document

Theme: Sustainable Mountain Development with a focus on green economy and institutions

by Thomas Kohler, Associate Director, Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern, Switzerland

This submission is organized as follows:

-numbering of paras refers to the guidance note

-paras pertaining to 3a), 1 and 2 refer to Sustainable Development in general.

-All other paragraphs refer to Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions.

pertaining to 3a: Expectations for the outcome of Rio 2012

1. We expect bold decisions, resulting in quantifiable outcomes, which are the result of specific action based on a short catalogue of common principles of Sustainable Development (SD). The outcomes of action must be monitorable in 5 year intervals.

2. While based on common principles, SD takes place in concrete contexts. We mention 3 such contexts, which we expect to be addressed specifically in the outcome documents, and which could help structure these documents: (1) sectoral issues such as those presented for example in the UNEP report on Green Economy; (2) the largely different circumstances of industrialised countries, countries in transition, and developing countries; and (3) the specific constellations of regional contexts, which strongly limit global blueprints for achieving SD.

3. Specifically, we expect that the mountain regions of the world will be addressed as a key regional context. Without sustainable development in mountains, sustainable development at the global level cannot be achieved:

With about 25% of land surface of the earth and 12% of global population,

- Mountains provide freshwater to over half of humankind, including megacities and conurbations on all continents; drylands of the world depend to over 80% on freshwater from mountains. Global Sustainable Development is a fallacy without a safe supply of water from mountain regions.

- Mountains harbour over 50% of all biodiversity hotspots of the world. As centres agro-biodiversity, they harbour the genetic pool of key global food crops such as wheat, maize, and potatoes. A world striving for higher food security must not lose this capital.
- Mountains are important for recreation and tourism in an increasingly urbanised world. Tourism is among the fastest growing industries at a global level, and mountains have a significant share in this growth on all continents. The Alps as the second most important tourism region in the world after the Mediterranean Basin lead the way. They show the crucial role of tourism for local employment and income generation without sidelining environmental concerns.
- however, mountains are hazard-prone environments. They are more exposed to risks than other environments. Poverty rates in mountain regions are significantly higher than on global average. Property rights are often not assured, especially in common property regimes and for indigenous communities. Both are widespread in mountain regions. These problems must be tackled more rigorously than in the past.

#### Pertaining to 3.b - d. Implementation, actors, mechanisms

- Green economy roadmap: Mountains have a high potential for greening the economy at all levels, which should be reflected on the outcome documents. Keyword include green energy, especially hydropower; biodiversity and agrobiodiversity (see below), and hazard prevention. - Sustainable development goals: within a global frame of SD principles, specific goals and monitorable indicators need to be defined for mountain areas as a specific context for SD. Efforts to this end have been made by Andean countries already. They deserve support.
- Views on implementation: Actor inclusiveness: In mountain regions, the 3 pillars of SD are strongly interconnected. Therefore, concepts for SD transcend sectoral approaches while based on sound sectoral knowhow of key stakeholders including authorities, local communities, external development agencies, research institutions, and the private sector. Appropriate forms such as local and regional bodies must be established for negotiating sustainable development outcomes for mountain regions. Donor and funding agencies, bilateral and international, as well as governments need to help establish and fund such bodies. Actor ownership: Regional and country ownership of SD processes and visions are key. Lessons how to achieve this can be learnt from the Poverty Reduction Strategy process.
- Specific cooperation mechanisms: The World Mountain Forum, a novel initiative based on public-private partnership, has a potential to channel substantial expertise and funds into mountain development, and to create new linkage between mountain and lowland populations. The Forum could be officially launched at the Rio 2012 Conference.

#### Pertaining to 4.a. Objectives of the conference

- Gaps. Watershed management. Following Chapter 13 of Agenda 21 from the Rio 1992 Earth Summit, important inroads have been made in watershed management, with a focus on mountain areas and highland-lowland contexts. Approaches have become more participatory and transsectoral. However, important gaps remain relating to area coverage. Given the world's need for freshwater, efforts in watershed management in mountain regions must be stepped up in the coming decade. FAO with its global watershed programme should lead the way in sharing experience with actors engaged in this domain.
- Gaps. Generating and strengthening knowledge. Chapter 13 also stressed the need for improving the knowledge on mountain regions. Progress has been made since 1992, but important gaps remain relating to patterns of climate change and their impact on water resources and hazards; and relating to the effects of economic globalisation on mountain populations and land management.
- New challenges and opportunities: Sustainable development in mountain areas faces a series of new challenges. These are climate change; the effects of globalisation including labour migration, irresponsible exploitation of resources such as minerals, timber, and water for large scale hydropower, and loss of cultural identity due to the dominance of western urban values, transmitted to the most remote mountain places by mass media, standardised formal education, and tourism. The challenge is not to prevent these processes from happening, but to turn them into opportunities via appropriate national policy frames.

#### Pertaining to 4.b. Green economy for poverty alleviation and SD

- Green energy: There is a huge untapped potential in mountain areas for hydropower development especially in developing countries, which presents an opportunity for green energy supply in support of a greener economy beyond mountain areas. Small hydropower in mountain areas has been particularly successful in providing affordable energy, creating local jobs, increasing wellbeing and reducing poverty, while very substantially reducing carbon loads without disrupting effects on local ecosystems. Efforts should be targeted to double small hydropower generation within the next 5-7 years especially in mountain regions of developing countries. GEF with UNIDO and ICSHP are called upon to take the lead to achieve this target.
- Large hydropower development has a huge potential to green the global economy much beyond mountain areas. Sadly, experience shows that it can only be promoted if global environmental and social standards such as those established by the World Commission on Dams are fully met, especially relating to fair compensation of mountain communities.
- Other investment in greening the energy sector in mountains should be promoted depending on local conditions. This refers to solar power, wind power, and energy from biogas. More efficient stoves are a cheap, low-tech, accepted and easily upscalable option for reducing carbon emissions by half, reducing women's drudgery, creating a healthier homes, and saving wood and dung, the most important sources of energy in the mountain areas of developing countries.
- Payment for Environmental Services (PES): important as they may be as incentives, more must be learnt from experience made. The compensation must be large enough to generate interest upstream for service provision – a challenge in densely populated mountain regions with many providers. Other unsolved issues concern the exclusion of poor land users, landless poor, valuation of services, and monitoring the effects of PES on quality and quantity of the services they are expected to provide.
- Mountain farming is green owing to low external inputs. Due to topography, it is small-scale, family based, labour-intensive, and multifunctional. It supports agrobiodiversity, hazard prevention and creates amenity by providing diversified landscapes. These are all traits that pertain to a green economy. Support for mountain farming should thus be stepped up. Finding markets for quality mountain products is a proven way of increasing mountain farm incomes and create value chains that benefit mountains and lowland areas. Such programmes need more support in future.

#### Pertaining to 4.c. Institutional framework

- Local institutions are crucial for SD and for resource management in mountain areas; no one individual will manage alone in these demanding and harsh environments. In order to ensure sustainable resource use in mountain areas, local institutions need to be acknowledged and strengthened. Local property rights need to be clear and secure, especially relating to common property regimes and to indigenous communities – both are widespread in mountain areas.
- Capacity development including research and outreach is important in order to address the specific challenges for sustainable development as they are presented by mountain environments. Local experience is particularly important; care must be taken to include community knowledge as well as globalised knowledge provided by outside experts. Capacity development should include local-on-the job, vocational, to technical and academic levels.

- Regional centres of competence in training, research and outreach have shown their value for sustainable mountain development and for advocating the case of mountains in national, regional and global arenas. Support for regional centres of competence in mountains, whether established or in the making, must be increased. As a rule, donor programmes should invest a minimum of 20% of the project funds into such institutions. However, the establishment and maintenance of such a centre is a long-term task. Core funding has to come from non-time bound funding bodies such as governments or foundations.

## Mountain Forests for Sustainability

### Mountain Forests for long-term Sustainability

Critical imbalances in Earth's hydrological cycle and 'Climate Change' are presently threatening all of life on Earth. It is therefore imperative that this situation is more broadly understood and that work towards remedying it is implemented. Many eminent people have gathered together in influential environmental assemblies to address these global difficulties.

"Healthy mountain ecosystems are the foundation of healthy people, both in the mountains above and in the plains below. To save civilization, there is no greater urgency today than to regenerate and conserve our mountains. "Their role in regulating our climate and water systems is fundamental to the sustenance of our life on this planet." (Dr Ashok Khosla, Lucerne World Mountain Conference 11/10/11) It would seem from their common consensus that the way to potentially mitigate and solve these problems rests with implementing sustainable development programs. When considering sustainable development and the survival of life on Earth, the health and balance of the global fresh water system is the most important issues that needs to be addressed and raised to a level of paramount importance. When considering Earth's fresh water system, it is vital to think about Mountain Regions.

"Mountains are the primary sources for the Earth's supply of fresh water. They provide critical storage of fresh water, stored in the form of ice and snow and in lakes, wetlands and reservoirs. This water is later released, providing critical flows to rivers and streams. Such valuable storage of fresh water is vital for all life on Earth.

All of the world's rivers originate in the Mountains and flow to the oceans, sustaining the life of all beings, in all ways of life here on Earth." (United Nations, Agenda 21, 1992)

If we consider the Earth as our home in a similar way to which we might consider a great house with many floors and rooms, it is easy to understand the dangers, which threaten the whole house, should the roof become destabilized? In this manner we could consider all land above 3,000 feet as the roof and all below as the body of the house. 'The Roof of the World' is comprised of all of Earth's mountain regions. However some areas form the top of 'The Roof of the World'. One of these areas is the Andes another is known as the Himalayan Hindu Kush. The Hindu Kush region covers an area of more than 4.3 million square kilometers. It spans large areas of Tibet and China, along with areas in Bhutan, Nepal, India, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. This region stores more snow, ice and permafrost than anywhere else on Earth outside the Polar Regions.

Due to this it is now being known as 'The Third Pole'. Scientific evidence shows that the Tibet Plateau, the main body of the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, is the "starter" and "regulating area" of Climate Change in the Northern Hemisphere, playing an important role in conserving water resources and controlling the Climate (Zhang Yongze, Director of the Environmental Protection Bureau of Tibet Autonomous Region). Glaciers form the water towers of Earth. Over the last century, mountain glaciers worldwide have, on average, been seriously decreasing in length and volume. Glaciers worldwide have been retreating so rapidly that they may completely disappear soon (Chadwick, 2007).

"In the past half-century, 82% of the Tibetan plateau's glaciers have retreated. In the past decade, 10% of its permafrost has degraded. As the changes continue, or even accelerate, their effects will resonate far beyond the isolated plateau, changing the water supply for billions of people and altering the atmospheric circulation over half the planet." (Qui, Nature, 2008)

Considering this, the health of 'The Roof of the World' seriously needs immediate attention and the detrimental affects of hydro-dams on the environment in these regions should also be reconsidered. Along with all life on Earth, hydro dams are dependent upon healthy glacial flow. With melting glaciers they are not so reliable now, as when first conceived. Given the quantity of high quality free solar energy in mountain regions it would be beneficial to replace hydro-dam electrical projects with solar power projects.

"The U.N expresses its deep concern at the number and scale of disasters and their increasing impact within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in mountain regions." (United Nations, 2006)

In mountain regions high altitude forests, through the action of precipitation and transpiration play a major role in the creation of snow (Bandyopadhyay, J. 1995). Precipitation is the process by which water molecules (H<sub>2</sub>O) form rain and snow. This occurs in relation to a combination of different factors, particularly when certain plants and trees are present. Deciduous trees such as oak release large amounts of a powerful hydrocarbon, known as isoprene into the atmosphere. Isoprene breaks down into a compound called dihydroxypoxide. This is very reactive and forms multitudes of bio- aerosols. These act like a vacuum cleaner of the atmosphere and are an essential factor in cloud formation (F. Paulot, J. D. Crounse, 'Unexpected epoxide formation in the gas- phase photooxidation of isoprene', Science 325(2009). It is interesting that the oak species is one of the main indigenous plants of the Himalayas. However it has been massively depleted due to its commercial value. Another factor in precipitation is known as ice nucleation, whereby bacteria produced by plants are blown into the atmosphere. These form the nuclei seeds around which ice crystals form. Snow and most rain begins with the formation of ice in clouds (C.E. Morris, D.G. Georga Kopoulos, D.C. Sands).

The stability of Earth's rivers and water tables depends upon maintaining the integrity of watersheds. These, in turn, depend upon the healthy biodiversity of the high altitude forests. It has been recognized that the protective function of stable forest cover is vital for safeguarding them. It has been said that only 25% of the Earth's indigenous mountain forests are still intact (Maggio, Gregory F. and Owen J. Lynch. 1996). This implies that 75% is missing.

"Despite all of the great benefits that mountain forests provide they have been disappearing at a startling rate in the last decade." (Bishkek, Global Mountain Summit, 2002)

These forests are the natural mechanism, which would normally be involved in making the mountain snows and replenishing the glaciers. These snows also act like a mirror reflecting solar radiation. As they melt, the mirror thins and more solar rays penetrate through to the Earth. When this ice melts, it increases the quantity of water vapor in the atmosphere. Water vapor (H<sub>2</sub>O) is a very powerful greenhouse gas, which normally stays in the atmosphere for no more than nine days. However if it is not brought to Earth through precipitation, it rises into the upper atmosphere and increases the problems of the greenhouse effect (Santer 2007).

This is a pivotal global problem that affects and threatens all life on Earth, along with all economies. Therefore it needs to be addressed and remedied without further delay.

To stop this problem from escalating, certain indigenous, high precipitating, fast growing plants should be planted, throughout mountain regions imminently. Trees like oak, which are slow growing and fragile when young, need the support of numerous other plants to be able to take root and survive; especially in seriously eroded mountain areas. Encouraging, supporting and spreading biodiversity is crucial.

Earth's hydrological system, unlike coal, uranium and oil, is a fast regenerating system. Given the right ingredients, of mixed indigenous mountain forest, it can be rebalanced and maintained.

From our research it appears to be both essential and plausible to reforest approximately 25% of Earths mountain regions within the next thirty years; so enabling natural ecological systems to re-balance themselves. The nature of Earth is an interconnected system. If we can view it from this perspective we have more chances of working in harmony with it and of solving problems related to it and ourselves.

Due to rapidly deteriorating environmental conditions along with the growing fragility of mountain regions, it is urgent that an interconnected method is applied. This should be coupled with the protection and regeneration of indigenous mountain forests along with a ban on mountain region deforestation by all U.N countries. Other countries could be encouraged with financial incentives to do likewise. Co-operation between world governments and groups is essential to enable the effectiveness of an endeavor of this



magnitude. The involvement of mountain communities is absolutely fundamental. Therefore any methods used need to fit with their requirements and traditions.

Considering this, we have looked at how these communities traditionally preserved their environments through cultural and religious practices.

One of these ways that has proven to be particularly effective is that of designating specific areas as Sacred Groves. Traditionally these groves were created and protected by local communities. They are forested sites where religious, cultural and educational activities take place. Well-preserved Groves are storehouses of valuable biodiversity. Many of the plant species found in them have great medicinal, economic and land restorative value and would otherwise be extinct.

"Sacred groves can benefit local agriculture by preserving a habitat for birds that control insect outbreaks in adjacent crop fields and may also serve as seed banks for locally adapted crop varieties and medicinal plants. Even small groves can be surprisingly effective in conserving biodiversity" (Warren and Pinkston 1998) "A scientific understanding of the sacred groves would be significantly important for designing strategies for the rehabilitation of degraded landscapes, involving local people's participation." (Gadgil and Berkes, 1991)

It is a method, which is still in use and accepted by traditional mountain communities and could potentially be adopted by many other communities. This would involve the creation of new sacred groves and the preservation and restoration of existing ones. If preferred some could be designated as Peace Parks. It could conceivably be done through the making of many small groves throughout large rugged regions. Green corridors/belts could be the means by which these are linked and through which biodiversity is able to spread and establish itself fast. In these corridors useful medicinal plants and vegetation could be planted for both local immediate needs and cottage industry. Because it is a method, which has proven successful and which is interrelated with both the ancient and present day traditions of indigenous communities, it could spread fast and easily, without the normal resistance that many conservational efforts so often come up against. Using a combination of methods ranging from traditional knowledge, companion planting and permaculture techniques, the establishing of high altitude indigenous forests fast is still possible. Local communities could be organized into collectives using co- operative methods for managing and maintaining these groves and green belts/corridors. These methods could increase employment and economies within mountain regions. It has already been agreed by world governments that:

"High levels of funding, investment and greater support are required in mountain areas. This is essential for the survival of both highland and lowland communities." (U.N General Assembly, 29 September 2005).

Payment for Environmental Services schemes could be used to support mountainous countries and communities to establish and protect indigenous mountain forests using the proposed methods. Over time many related and interrelated projects could be designed which promote and support green economies. Various education programs could be implemented teaching and linking communities both locally and globally.

Active Remedy Ltd. has researched and presented these ideas as a way to help mitigate environmental disasters and their resulting calamities, along with offering it as a global model for environmental restoration and conservation. They are intended to help in achieving long-term environmental sustainability as outlined in the 'Millennium Development Goals'.

"Where there are threats of serious or irreversible damage; lack of full scientific certainty shall not be used as a reason for postponing cost-effective measures to prevent environmental degradation." (UNCED, 1992 Principle 15)

This could be a way whereby many seemingly unrelated groups and individuals could join together and support a common global program for the benefit of their projects and the greater good of the whole.

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## Mountain Partnership

Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the demand for goods and services from mountains has grown considerably. Moreover, the ability of mountain systems to provide essential goods and services for all of humanity is increasingly under threat from climate change, globalization, a chronic lack of investment and ongoing land degradation. Mountain Partnership members recognize that despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development of mountain regions, national and international development agendas still treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments. As a result, poverty rates are higher than in non-mountain areas.

In the context of a Green Economy, new opportunities for investments by the private sector are emerging in mountain regions, especially in renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, and ecosystem goods and services. However, innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to trigger governance models and decision support systems aiming at both the integration of the social, ecological and economic capital at all scales in mountain regions, as well as the actual mainstreaming of mountains into overall national development and conservation processes.

Enhancing the global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit poor mountain communities and indirectly humanity as a whole. Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, as well as low carbon technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

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## Mountain Partnership Secretariat

### Inputs for the Compilation document

#### By The Mountain Partnership Secretariat (MPS)

#### Background

Over the last almost 10 years, the Mountain Partnership has been able to successfully promote sustainable development in mountain regions worldwide, as a multi-stakeholder mechanism involving an increasing number of members from around the globe. It is recognized as the only global instrument representing the mountain community and mountain issues in international processes and acting as a platform for advocacy for sustainable mountain development, knowledge exchange and improving local capacity.

The Mountain Partnership is a UN type two initiative, launched at the World Summit for Sustainable Development in 2002. It is an action oriented voluntary alliance of partners dedicated to improving the lives of mountain people and protecting mountain environments around the world. Presently, 50 countries, 16 intergovernmental organizations and 114 major groups (e.g. civil society, NGOs and the private sector) are members. Work is carried out

with a wide range of partners, in particular with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion (CONDESAN), the University of Central Asia (UCA), the Mountain Research Initiative (MRI), the Centre for Development and Environment (CDE). The Mountain Partnership receives financial support from the Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC),

the Italian Cooperation, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Bank. =

The main activities of the Mountain Partnership include:

- *Advocacy for sustainable mountain development* at the highest policy level, in particular the three UN Conventions – climate change, desertification and biodiversity, as well as the UN Commission on Sustainable Development, including the Rio +20 process and beyond;
- *Knowledge sharing with and among mountain communities*. The Mountain Partnership taps the wealth and diversity of resources, information, knowledge, and expertise to support positive change in mountain areas.
- *Strengthening the capacity of local actors*

The Mountain Partnership complements, supports and strengthens on-going initiatives in sustainable mountain development. The Mountain Partnership also functions as a broker for joint initiatives; facilitating contact between countries and institutions in view of joint

activities and creating conditions for cooperation and resource mobilization at the national, regional and global level. The strategic areas of work include adaptation to climate change, water, biodiversity, green economy, food security, indigenous people, agriculture, migration, gender and forests, in mountain regions.

#### **Expected outcome of Rio+20: Mountains for the World**

The outcome of Rio+20 should include provisions to strengthen the current partnerships that have demonstrated their advocacy role for sustainable development in their respective areas of work.

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Mountain Partnership members recognize that despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development of mountain regions, national and international development agendas still treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments. As a result, poverty rates are higher than in non-mountain areas.

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Enhancing the global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit poor mountain communities and indirectly humanity as a whole. Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, as well as low carbon technologies, should

have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration.

In order to protect future water supplies, reduce poverty in mountain populations and unlock the economic potential of mountains, the Mountain Partnership strongly advocates the following actions, presented at the closure of the World Mountain Conference held in Lucerne, Switzerland in October 2011:

- 1) Adapt and develop mountain governance that takes into account the unique characteristics of mountains in order to overcome poverty, food insecurity, and social exclusion.
- 2) Facilitate mountain communities to gain fair access to resources and share benefits of their use equitably.
- 3) Involve mountain people in decision making processes that concern their livelihood, economy, environment, and culture.
- 4) Strengthen and develop national, regional and global institutions that address highland- lowland interactions and transboundary cooperation, support capacity building, generation and dissemination of knowledge, technical expertise and innovation for sustainable mountain development.
- 5) Provide enabling conditions and incentives for investment by the private sector in sustainable development in mountain areas and include appropriate funding in national budgets in order to enhance wellbeing and reduce disparities.
- 6) Recognize the vulnerability of mountain ecosystems within the three Rio conventions and adopt action plans for each related to sustainable development.
- 7) Make best use of all new and existing funding mechanisms such as the Global

Environment Facility.

To achieve these ends strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

In order to be in a better position to respond to increasing expectations from MP members and other mountain partners in support to sustainable mountain development, the outcome of Rio+20, building on Agenda 21, Chapter 13, might consider elevating that status of the Mountain Partnership from a type two initiative to a stronger type of instrument within the UN structure. Considerations around this opportunity shall be discussed within the framework of the Partnerships Programme of the UN.

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## **Mountain Research Initiative**

Inputs for the Rio +20 Compilation Document with particular focus on Sustainable Mountain Development

Prepared by

Dr. Gregory Greenwood, Director Mountain Research Initiative Institute of Geography University of Bern Bern, Switzerland

with inputs from Dr. Thomas Kohler, Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern, and Dr. Daniel Maselli, Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency, Bern

Based on material provided participants in the World Mountain Conference held in Lucerne, Switzerland

11-12 October 2011

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Our review of the past twenty years of history in the various mountain regions of the world leads to the following.

#### I. Problem Statement

Since 1992, mountain regions, which constitute nearly a quarter of the land area of Earth, have not performed up to their potential. Instead of playing a vibrant role in the life of the nations within which they are found, mountains have, with some notable exceptions, failed to match their surrounding areas in terms of the growth of environmental, social and economic capital. All too frequently, mountains have experienced losses of environmental capital through pollution and erosion of soil and biodiversity, losses of social capital through breakdowns in family and social disintegration, and losses of economic capital with stagnant economic growth, increasing poverty and destruction of infrastructure.

This fate is however not inevitable for mountain regions. Few observers of the Alps in the early 1800s, when they were characterized by severe environmental challenges, poverty and emigration as are other mountain regions today, could have imagined the Alps in 2011, when they play a central role in the life of Europe and offer benefits to both residents and visitors. While the development trajectory of the Alps cannot be followed by all other mountain regions, the high level of environmental, social and economic capital of the Alps shows that marginal regions can achieve sustainable development and enter more fully into the life of nations.

#### II. Principles of Sustainable Mountain Development

Pertinent to 3b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

**Innovation:** Sustainable mountain development (SMD) is fundamentally about the search for the comparative advantage of mountain regions in the life of nations. The comparative advantage of mountains is not a given but is in fact discovered and indeed created by actors through innovation, the pursuit of novel actions. The development of the Alps was not ordained by any government or organization but rather discovered and constructed by myriad actors over two centuries. Thus a first principle in SMD is to promote ability of stakeholders to innovate, to conduct the search for the comparative advantage of their region.

**Exchange:** The very notion of comparative advantage implies exchange with the larger world. The nature of this exchange is central to SMD, spelling the difference between being a colony and an equal member within the nation. But exchange, rather than autarky, is a fundamental premise. **Investment:** Taking advantage of the comparative advantage without destroying capital necessarily requires investment in at least one of the three dimensions, and more likely in all three. New enterprises and more broadly, new roles for mountains in the life of nations will require investment. Mountains have not seen the nature and level of investment in environmental, social and economic capital necessary to achieve on-going sustainable development. In addition, wealth created from mountains has seldom been reinvested in the mountains themselves but has been exported to distant centers. A central outcome of Rio+20 must be the steps needed to define and obtain that investment and especially, re-investment.

**Security and Justice:** Investment will not be forthcoming if civil disturbance and the absence of law make returns on investment unlikely. Unfortunately, war, conflict, drug interdiction and the absence of law characterize far too many mountain regions and make a mockery of any development efforts. **Sustainability:** If it is to result in sustainable solutions, the search for comparative advantage must be conducted within the three dimensions of environmental, social and economic capital. Sustainable solutions are those that create capital in one or more dimensions without sacrificing capital in any of the others. All three of these dimensions must be enshrined with the law.

**Enfranchisement:** The importance of different types of capital is unavoidably a measure of the political importance of those who hold those values. For decades, the relatively powerlessness of those who held environment values meant that environmental values were deeply discounted in the social calculus. Similarly, to the degree that indigenous populations in mountains are disenfranchised, and particularly when their ownership of resources is dismissed, the values that they hold dear will figure little in the decisions taken. For the dimensions of environmental, social and economic capital to be meaningful, stakeholders must be enfranchised within the political economy both to promote the development of truly long-term solutions and to participate in the trading and compensation that inevitably accompanies change.

#### III. Guidance for Sustainable Mountain Development

Pertinent to 4a. "Contributions could include possible sectoral priorities (e.g., (e.g., energy, food security and sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, water, oceans, sustainable urbanization, sustainable consumption and production, natural disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, biodiversity, etc.) and sectoral initiatives that contribute to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20."

Sustainable mountain development requires multiple actions by the government, by the private sector and by civil society.

##### Public Responsibilities

The government responsibility is to create an enabling framework, one that facilitates the search for a better future while respecting the boundary conditions for sustainability. The government can seldom perform the search by itself, but must instead bring all the actors within society to participate in the solution.

- Establishing peace and the rule of law. Unless and until mountain regions are secure and basic legal rights ensured, the investment required for sustainable mountain development will not be forthcoming. This requirement affects not only zones of civil conflict such as Afghanistan and Pakistan but also areas such as the Tropical Andes, where drug interdiction campaigns create conditions not dissimilar to combat.

- Providing legal and procedural recognition of three dimensions of sustainability. If the law does not require an impartial assessment of the impacts of decisions on environmental, social and economic capital, governance lacks the information essential for an informed decision. In nations with environmental disclosure laws, such laws should be expanded to include the other two dimensions. In nations without such laws, they should be legislated. In addition, on-going measurement and periodic assessment of all three dimensions is essential for governance to monitor results and readjust trajectories.

- Clarifying the tenure rights of mountain communities. The ownership of mountain resources sets the stage for all subsequent steps in sustainable development. Those who have little or no ownership rights, regardless of their historical claim, will have no standing to contest decisions and will be excluded from any negotiations that lead to compensation. In the absence of clarity, powerful, often external, actors can monopolize and in the broadest sense, mine what were heretofore community resources. The solution is not obvious as many actors both within and outside mountains have plausible claims to resources, with water and minerals being only the most obvious examples. However, long-term investment, again by actors both within and outside mountains, requires clarity of tenure. On-going efforts to establish or to protect already legal tenure is a fundamental requirement for sustainable mountain development.

- Promoting investment in all three forms of capital. While not solely a government responsibility, investment in human resources through education and health is central to sustainable mountain development. Certain key sectors especially communications, transportation and banking to facilitate exchange, and renewable energy to increase productivity and lower environment degradation generally require government support. Government policies can also encourage the investment of private capital through preferential tax treatment, advanced land and utility planning, and even the location of government jobs and services in mountain regions. Finally government decisions on

parks and protected areas set the stage for both protection in core areas and tourism development in buffer areas.

-Ensuring physical security of life and property. Mountains are particularly hazardous regions with glacial lake outburst floods, landslides, mudflows, avalanches, floods, and earthquakes, all of which expose important investments, not to mention lives, to risk. Governments should make appropriate investments in hazard zoning, early warning systems and emergency incident command.

-Protecting diversity. Mountains are areas of high biological and social diversity, as evidenced by many different crop varieties and a plethora of languages and ethnicities. This diversity is an important resource in the search for comparative advantage. Crop varieties from mountains may be the source of useful genes lost from current cultivars. Techniques inherited from more self-sufficient societies may be key in achieving a less consumptive global society. Governments should ensure that this diversity is not lost.

#### Private Responsibilities

The private responsibility is to invest in innovation, to launch enterprises that create wealth and employment. The private sector should rightly focus on generating wealth, subject to the other two dimensions of sustainability, as mountains must cease to be seen as backward areas burdening the rest of society.

Innovation should focus on achieving higher incomes through higher productivity and added value while lowering exposure to both endogenous and exogenous shocks. Important foci include:

- Traditional export products that are likely to remain or increase in importance in the future, such as energy, water, minerals, tourism and trade routes;
- Improved subsistence cropping regimes that increase yields and food quality, lower risk and otherwise improve food security. Hedging risk through a combination of cash and subsistence agriculture is likely to remain important in mountain regions for the foreseeable future. The key is to offer choices to farmers so that they can pick the best combination for their households.
- Improved or novel subsistence and cash products from grazing and forestry, which in mountains are generally managed as common property regimes, even in developed countries.
- Novel products such as additional ecosystem services in the form of reduced sediment, or increased carbon sequestration, and indeed, products that we cannot even imagine now but which mountain entrepreneurs will discover.

Crosscutting innovations include

- Improved banking and insurance services, especially to facilitate the use of remittances from the mountain diaspora;
- Improved communication services include mobile networks;
- Vertical integration, so that producers are more attuned to the desires of distant consumers;
- Branding of mountain products to distinguish them from similar products and to capture additional value of mountain products;
- Cheap and renewable energy, which will lower the pressure on vegetation and enhance capacity to add value.

#### Civil Society Responsibilities

The civil society responsibility is to give voice to mountain people and to provide critical oversight to government and private decisions.

-Gaining representation of mountain communities in governance. If mountain communities are not represented in government, and more broadly, in the governance of the resources that are central to their existence, then their interests will not be considered in decisions and they will be excluded from the flows of wealth generated from mountain resources. It is thus essential that mountain communities create entities that represents their interests and can influence governance not just through government itself, but also through the media and other cultural forums. This is not a role for the government, nor for the private sector (which certainly already has its lobbyists), but for nongovernmental organizations and for other civil societies organizations.

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## Mountains Valleys Life & Citizenship Platform

### Mountains Valleys Life & Citizenship Platform

#### *For Sustainable Development on Times of Climate Change*

### Mountains Valleys Life & Citizenship Platform

#### *for Sustainable Development on Times of Climate Change inputs and contributions for compilation rio 2012 document*

To: UNCSD secretariat

Date submitted: 1 Nov 2011

Stakeholder type: **Platform of NGOs**

Name: Mountains Valleys Life & Citizenship Platform

*For Sustainable Development on Times of Climate Change*

Submission Document: UNCSD2012MVVC\_CCplatform.pdf

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Community Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/26768369930025/> The Beginning:

<http://br.groups.yahoo.com/group/becerecos/message/1382>

Volunteer Project Manager: Léa Corrêa Pinto

The Platform is now composed by almost 500 networks, civil organizations and citizens who have already signed the Adhesion Letter .

The Mountains Valleys Life & Citizenship Platform for *Sustainable Development on Times of Climate Change* was launched in Sao Paulo State, parallel to the **1st Rio +20 Paulista Seminar**, also during the **Seminar of the 4th edition of the MDGs** promoted by The Presidential General

Secretariat , the United Nations Development Programme ( UNDP ) and the National Movement for Citizenship and Solidarity, as well as during the **National Dialogue and Convergence Meeting** of Agroecology, Environmental Health and Justice, Food Sovereignty , Solidarity Economy and Feminism, in Salvador, Bahia.

#### The Platform Launched

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#### A case study: Threatened Cassador Basin is one of the civil historical of the Platform

Protestors block Brazil road project -The Earth Times by Jack Freeman, 4/13/97

In São Paulo Metropolitan Green Belt lies the Cassador Basin located **in the core area, of the Atlantic Rainforest World Heritage- Mab – Unesco, it hides the Iteiri Fauna and Flora Reserve**, officially under private protection, since 1978 (P-163/78IBDF) and an official member of Planet Society- Unesco (Project BRA022). Around there it is planned the duplication of the highway dividing these important area.

"It must be made clear," they say in a flyer, "that there is no opposition to the construction of the highway" itself, calling it "a very important project linked to the economic well-being of millions of Latin Americans."

But, they add, "the rainforest must not be destroyed" by the roadbuilders. "The authorities must change the design of the proposed duplication" of the roadway, they say, "in order to avoid destruction of a priceless ecosystem. A well designed project will cause no

harm to the environment; on the contrary, the unique nature of this beautiful landscape will be enhanced."

They add that there are many examples, the world over, of environmentally insensitive building projects that have been reversed because of pressure brought by

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#### Serra do Mar Civil Society and Ecologists

Thus, although all efforts being yet unsuccessful, for caution a group of citizens , the Iguassu Iteiri Reference Center from the Citizenship Movement for Water, Mountains and Forests and others civil society organizations, considering that not just in Cassador Basin but all over mountains are been neglected decided that it was time for more effective actions and mobilization

supported by the prevention and precaution principles and against the environmental legal flexibilization. From theory to practice . This is the origin of the Mountains Valleys Life & Citizenship Platform For Sustainable Development on Times of Climate Change towards Rio+20, on the basis for desirable participative governance.

1. The Mountains, Valleys, Life and Citizenship Platform, created by the individuals and the entities undersigned, warns the Brazilian and the Global society about the importance of mountains and valleys, from the urban to the rural and the forested ones, regarding their space, territoriality, local and downstream communities from the strategic, global economic and socio-environmental points of view through the perspective of climate change;

2. Permanent Preservation Areas - APPs are those protected areas in terms of 2º and 3º Articles of the Brazilian Forest Code (Federal Law No. 4.771/1965). The Brazilian legal concept of APP relates to such areas, regardless of soil cover, the environmental function of preserving water resources, landscape, geological stability, biodiversity, plants and animals gene flow, as well as of protecting the soil and of ensuring the well-being of human populations;

3. The environment is the set of conditions, laws, influences and interactions of physical, chemical, biological, social, cultural and urban, which allows and governs life in all its forms (Brazilian Federal Law No. 6938/1981);

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4. The Constitution of the Federative Republic of Brazil (1988) asserts, in Article 225, that the environment is a healthy and balanced right of the community, therefore everyone - the Government and the society - have a duty to defend it for their own enjoyment and for the future generations;

5. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992), held in Rio de Janeiro guarded Chapter XIII of AGENDA XXI, for fragile mountain ecosystems, because they are important sources of water, energy and biological diversity. In addition, they are key resources – for minerals, forest and agricultural products - and are a source of pleasure. As a major ecosystem representing the complex and inter-related ecology of our planet, mountain environments are essential for the survival of the global ecosystem.. Yet mountain ecosystems are undergoing rapid change. They are vulnerable to accelerated soil erosion, landslides and rapid loss of genetic diversity and habitat;

6. Rio +20 is an excellent opportunity now to assess the status of the Sao Paulo, the Brazilian and the Global mountains, slopes and valleys environmental degradation, the actions taken in support of sustainable mountain development, the challenges, the opportunities and the necessary steps to move forward in the future;

9. In times of climate change, it is essential that all development activities, among them the infrastructure for transmontana mobility, are seized based on the principles of **precaution and prevention**, since natural disasters recorded in 2010 killed more than 296 800 people in the world;

8. It urges the incorporation to the concept of **sustainability, the concept of survival** considering that in one year the average number of victims was more than quadrupled since 1980 (66.000 deaths) and costed about \$ 130 billion. 950 natural disasters were recorded in 2010, a figure well above the average of 615 over the last 30 years. In Brazil, relapse enhanced, the tragedies of the highlands, by 2011; Over the next 60 years, the storms in the city of São Paulo and in Rio de Janeiro, in the coastal towns and along the Atlantic Mountain Range - Serra do Mar - **will triple**, as, scientific study conducted by INPE (National Institute for Space Research) in partnership with the MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and IAE (Institute of Aeronautics and Space). The forecast is based on increasing the **temperature Atlantic Ocean water over the past 60 years, which was 0.6 ° C;**

## Tragical Landslides in Brazil

### Please download the original submission to see this image

10. The Mountains, Valleys, Life and Citizenship Platform, calls everyone to join forces and to contribute with proposals and to promote debate with a view: on the maintenance of existing environmental legislation; on the weighting of the true public interest, through the prism of medium and long term, as to public and private enterprises, on the analysis of all alternatives, and regardless of the immediate costs, the forecast is to opt for greater safety of the population, to the less disastrous alternative, to the adoption of the best scientific and technological knowledge, with the purpose of ensuring to all the multiple functions of natural resources;

11. The Mountains, Valleys, Life and Citizenship Platform confirms the population aspiration for a Brazil and for a World with more health, less injustice, in which the quality of life for all is a criterion taken into account. A World in which the poorest are not relegated to places destroyed, dangerous and unhealthy. Where nature is respected in order to remain our main source of life and not the messenger of our diseases and disasters, (CBDFDS, 2011).

São Paulo&Salvador, September 2011

### Credits

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#### – Drawings

Children Contexts

### The Mountain's Magie

All over the world mountains have been a children's theme on their drawings and have been worshiped by the traditional natives, and around here it is just the same, even up to now by one another as well as in the other countries! The belief that mountains get mad when hurtled could be accepted, considering the up-to-date geological and geotechnical knowledge. Nowadays mountains preservation must be based on incentives. Also it is necessary to alert about compensation mechanisms in order that the mountains good willers not to become dependent of evil actions against nature

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## Movement Nova Friburgo in Transition

### MANIFESTO OF THE MOVEMENT NOVA FRIBURGO IN TRANSITION

The world's problems cannot be solved by skeptics or cynics whose horizons are limited by obvious realities. We need men and women who can dream of things that never were. (John F. Kennedy)

One of the biggest challenges of rebuilding Nova Friburgo, severely hit by the biggest natural disaster in the history of Brazil, is to provide housings on a large scale and in safe places, from requiring techniques solutions which should not repeat the mistakes from the past. The natural disaster caused by heavy rains that devastated the Rio De Janeiro state mountains in January, was in the world-wide media because of our city vulnerable situation, due to an urban development related to the overlapping of the private interests above the collective ones. It brings up the urgency to radically update the way we deal with our habitat. Although these natural disasters happen year after year, with increasing frequency and intensity, it can be seen that the actions of the Government has been limited to its emergency aspects, not solving the problem in structural terms.

The Movement Nova Friburgo in Transition has as intention to insert the city in World-wide movement of the Cities in Transition (Transition Towns) from the actions of the civil organized society and the Government, for the accomplishment of the necessary changes, so that the city reaches a situation of urban sustainability, becoming less vulnerable to the effects of climatic changes, economical and/or energy crisis. We understand that every crisis is, also, a moment for chances and possibilities to change courses. It doesn't mean only to construct houses for the homeless, but rebuild these cities under new approaches, constructing, instead of those huge complex built in areas far from the workstations, districts planned under the perspective of sustainable ecosystems development.

The basic proposal of the Movement is the accomplishment of an eco-district pilot project, so that this experience can be redone in other places, encouraging a radical change in the current urbanization model, and promoting a more immediate positive repercussion toward to the desired transition, than just enforcing a urban legislation that, however indispensable, presents more results in the long run.

This eco-district project could be accomplished through a national competition of ideas.

The winners would participate, in a cooperative way, developing the project, based on a reference term created by a multidisciplinary technical team (architects, sociologists, geologists, engineers, geographers, anthropologists, economists, etc.) and representatives of the future residents. Parallel to that, wide eco pedagogical campaigns would be carried out, especially with the population target of the project (homeless people and inhabitants of areas that are in risk). There are institutes and workshop-schools in the region, such as: TIBA (Institute of Technology Intuitive and Bio-Architecture), Pindorama Institute, Bambu-Rio, CECNA, Mãos de Luz, Escola da Mata Atlântica, etc. They could qualify young volunteers to work, under the orientation of architects and engineers, in the construction of the new constructions and urban infrastructures, by applying sustainable technologies and ecological principles as the permaculture.

In a perspective of inversion of the current trend of extensive and predatory urbanization, this new urban settlement would have to be one vertical eco-district, in a conception of "compact city", with a similar urban quality to the ones in Brasília, but with some differences:

1. The traffic system will privilege the pedestrians (with attractive wide sidewalks and public parks), the bikers (with a wide bike road and public places to park the bikes), and a mass collective transport (moved by electricity or bio-fuel);
2. The urban implementation will have to adjust to the local geomorphologic characteristics, taking advantage on the topographical declivities, with the intention of avoiding the use of elevators (vide example of the "Conjunto Pedregulho", by the architect Reidy) and fitting the sight through the use stilts;
3. Use of local and eco-techniques materials, taking in account the geographic and cultural characteristics of the place and of the future residents;
4. Use of natural and renewable energies, biological treatment of the sewer, garbage separation and recycling, landscaping, organic garden, permaculture, etc.
5. Qualification of young volunteers to work erecting urban constructions and infrastructures (as in the Movimento Oasis, in Santa Catarina - BR).

The basic idea is the collective development of a trial design, radically new, regarding the current status that could serve as reference in the transition from the current predatory and chaotic urban standard to a model of sustainable development, like synergy. This is the appropriate moment for the fulfillment of this proposal, because of the Conference Rio+20 that's is going to happen next year, when Rio De Janeiro receives environmentalists from the entire world to evaluate the advances of the ECO-92.

To conclude, the perspective of a transition for a sustainable urban model also involves, necessarily, the people involved in the project and in its results, by the combination of values such as cooperation, neighborliness, solidarity, creativity and conscience of being part of the planet, under penalty of making it impracticable to live on Earth.

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## National Confederation of Engineering, Architecture and Agronomy (CONFEA) - Brazil

Rio+20Recommendations from the CONFEA, the National Confederation ofEngineering, Architecture, and Agronomy, Brazil.

General Content: What are the expectations for the Rio+20:It is expected that the multilateral and UN system will reach a consensus on poverty reduction under a sustainable economy, while adopting cleaner technologies.

1. What are the comments on existing proposals: a. What are the views on implementation:The tree UN conventions - climate change, biodiversity, and desertification- could be implemented in full measure, with commitments and money. b. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisagedThe Climate Fund should be strengthened to implement greener economy and drastically reduce the use of fossil fuels. The Fund should be fed from a carbon tax to be created, while the collected funds should be invested to implement the new recommendations of the conference.2. Specific Elements: a. Objective of the Conference:The conference should strengthen the focus on poverty alleviation and food security under a greener economy and sustainable technologies, for all countries. Sectoral priorities:Increase in the use of biomass energy to be implemented together with food security. Strengthening the transfer of greener technologies among countries. b. Green economy c. Institutional framework for sustainable development d. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes.

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## National Right to Life Educational Trust Fund

STATEMENT:

Human beings are the center of all sustainable development.

The loss of mothers and babies due to lack of even basic health care and the failure to dedicate adequate resources to save women's lives is the greatest impediment to development in all areas.

It is essential to the achievement of MDG Goals 4 & 5 (as well as 6) and to their empowerment that women of the developing world receive the kind health care, particularly maternal and child health care, which has been available to women in the developed world for over 60 years, that would provide a safe outcome for mother and child.

The world has failed to reach these goals because the resources have been directed toward decreasing the number of children women deliver, rather than making the delivery of their children safe and has failed to properly direct resources to save women's lives.

There is no doubt that unless and until MDG 5 (improving maternal health) is fully realized, none of the other MDGs will succeed and the world will be no better off than we were when the MDGs were conceived 11 years ago.

Even though the new estimates by Lancet of 350,000 per year are 150,000 fewer than the WHO estimates of over 500,000, these new estimates are still shockingly high. MDG 5 will not be achieved by 2015 unless there is a significant acceleration in allocation and in proper direction of resources.

We have grave concern about the false and dangerous claims that the way to reduce maternal mortality in the developing world is to legalize abortion. It is never necessary to directly attack the unborn child to protect the health of the mother in non life threatening cases and that laws against abortion should and do allow for those medical procedures that prevent the death of the mother while at the same time striving to save the baby's life.

The WHO also tells us that 99% of maternal mortality occurs in the Developing World. We have known how to save women's lives in the developed world for over 60 years. According to WHO, the dramatic decline in maternal mortality in the Developed World from 1940's to 1950's coincided with the development of obstetric techniques, the availability of antibiotics and improvement in the general health status of women (WHO, Maternal Mortality: A Global Fact Book, 1991)

The lack of modern medicine and quality health care, not the prohibition of abortion, results in high maternal mortality rates. Legalized abortion actually leads to more abortions—and in the developing world, where maternal health care is poor, legalization would increase the number of women who die or are harmed by abortion.

Legal abortion does not mean safe abortion. The evidence shows that a country's maternal mortality rate is determined to a much greater extent by the quality of medical care than by the legal status of abortion. Abortion complications are not a function of the legality of the procedure, but by the overall medical circumstances in which abortion is performed.

In its 2003 Report, Unsafe Abortion (Fifth edition), the World Health Organization states: "In some countries, lack of resources and possibly skills may mean that even abortions that meet the legal and medical requirements of the country would not necessarily be considered sufficiently safe in high-resource settings". In other words, as they said in their 1998 Report, "the legality or illegality of the services may not be the defining factor of their safety".

Comparison made between nations that have strong abortion restrictions, such as Ireland and Poland, and nations that permit abortion on demand, such as Russia and the United States, demonstrates that nations with strong abortion restrictions actually have lower maternal death rates than countries that permit abortion on demand.

For example, in India abortion is broadly legal, but maternal deaths are common due to dangerous medical conditions. According to Abortion Policies: A Global Review by the UNPD, "Despite the liberalization of the abortion law, unsafe abortions have contributed to the high rates of maternal mortality in India [570 maternal deaths per 100,000 live births in 1990.]"

Conversely, the maternal mortality rate in Paraguay is much lower, despite the prohibition of most abortions and the fact that "clandestine abortion is common." The rate has actually been declining—"from 300 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1986 to the most recent 1995 government estimate of 190 deaths per 100,000 live births."

The key, therefore, to reduction in maternal mortality rates from all causes, including abortion, is the improvement of maternal health care, not the legalization of abortion. In the developing world—where medical care, antibiotics, and even basic asepsis are scarce or absent—promoting abortion would increase, not decrease maternal mortality.

No abortion is ever completely safe, and, of course, abortion is never safe for the youngest member of the human family—the unborn child, who at the time of most abortions, which are performed at eight or ten weeks, already has a beating heart, brain waves, eyes, ears, fingers and toes.

Abortion is not good for women. With every abortion there is at least one dead and one wounded and sometimes two dead. Mothers still die and many are terribly wounded physically, emotionally or psychologically by abortion.

Again, human beings must be the center of all sustainable development.

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## Native American Olympic Team Foundation (NAOTF)

### The Native American Olympic Team Foundation (NAOTF)

The mission of the Native American Olympic Team Foundation (NAOTF), a partnership between Olympians and Native American leaders and Elders, is to "create joyful unity through sports and education, to help heal Mother Earth for all our children, including through the Olympics."

NAOTF was co-founded by Olympic skier Suzy Chaffee, who introduced fun fitness to America while serving on four Presidents Councils of Physical Fitness, and led the Title IX March that enforced Equal Opportunities for Women in School Sports and Education, which helped save the U.S. a trillion in healthcare and welfare.

A snow miracle in Telluride, Colorado, 16 years ago, after Suzy taught a Lokata Indian named Rollingbears to ski with a ticket donated by the ski area, inspired the ski area to partner with Suzy to pioneer Telluride's Ute ski and snowboard program. Chaffee then enlightened and inspired ski areas/communities across North America to give thousands of their nearby underserved Native youth a chance to ski and snowboard on over a million acres of their beloved ancestral mountains. Thanks to lifting the health, behavior, academics, joy, job and Olympic opportunities of their children, the Elders have been inspired to lead Gratitude Snow ceremonies that have helped save countless ski areas from droughts, including the Salt Lake Olympics.

Over the years, NAOTF created a working partnership between the U.S. Ski Industry leaders, scientists, such as the late Nobel Peace Prize winner, Stanford's Dr. Stephen Scheider, and a group of Native American Elders and Earth healers. For example, Seneca Elder Robert John Knapp who inspired Pope Benedict to declare, "It is a sin to poison the water," and gifted Cherokee Earth healer, Olivia Ellis, Phd., master gardener at President Jefferson's Monticello Gardens.

They agreed that these ceremonies that give appreciation to Mother Earth, raise the electromagnetic vibration of the mountains where no toxins can exist. And in purifying the mountains of the blankets of poisonous smog from the cities, it restores Nature's cycles and the natural weather and precipitation of regions. Elders-led gratitude ceremonies next to oceans have a similar purifying affect on water, also proven by Dr. Emoto, who often partners with tribal Elders worldwide to restore contaminated bodies of water.

Further empowered by the work that the United Nations is carrying in the area of Harmony with Nature and its holistic approach, NAOTF orchestrated high visibility model mountain and ocean ceremonies in Vail, Colorado, and Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, respectively, leading up to the UN's

2011 International Mother Earth Day. We deeply honor the Indigenous Bolivians for initiating this Day, after losing their only glacier/ski area and water supply for 2 million people in La Paz.

Learning from the Elders and proven by scientists that these ceremonies can also smooth out the earth changes related to 2012, NAOTF called upon the US Ski Industry leaders, David Ingimie, to assist us in reaching out to ski leaders on other Continents to share this ceremonial solution to inspire communities to live in more harmony with Nature, to help ensure that future generations can enjoy snowsports. Through our world press stories (some articles getting 10 pages on Google, including Forbes.com, USA Today, the Vatican and two UN websites), and contact with foreign ski leaders, added to partnerships with Michelle Cousteau, George Bauman, and Mountaineers, our stories have helped inspire many communities to invite the



Indigenous Elders to lead cross-cultural ceremonies in Australia, South America and Europe, which reconnect us with our Earth-honoring Indigenous roots.

Scientists have also proven the power of prayers. To help diminish and purify the oceans from radiation from Fukushima's nuclear catastrophe, NAOTF circulated in the press worldwide Dr. Emoto's Hawaiian Elders' powerful healing prayer.

To help prevent Los Alamos' nuclear catastrophe on our soil, which would have dwarfed Fukushima's, NAOTF gave world press spotlight to the prayers led by the Apache Elders, and united with prayers by hundreds of cross-cultural people of different faiths done on Mt. Baldy, one of "19 Holy Mountains." The rains miraculously came and winds shifted across the street from the Lab. These Holy Mountains on four Continents are energized so that each prayer on any part of them, even in the parking lot if you are disabled, is like 3,000 people praying with you. Stories available on [WWW.SNOW-RIDERS.ORG](http://WWW.SNOW-RIDERS.ORG).

Stanford's scientists and others corroborate the pioneering efforts of Sir George King, astrophysicist-mystic, to store prayers by hundreds of pilgrims on Holy mountains in the U.K. and U.S., to be able to send them to prevent or diminish catastrophes and more quickly recover from them.

Practical and Spiritual solutions need to go hand in hand to restore the Earth. Mother Earth has warned the Elders that man cannot keep polluting the lands and mountains. Doing ceremonies is a band aid to compassionately assist in emergency droughts and catastrophe, but our countries and individuals need to make bold green changes to prevent reruns. Yet these miracles, more than anything woke up Suzy and communities to realize that Mother Earth really listens to heart-felt prayers and appreciation.

Therefore since the toxins from all countries end up in the oceans, and we are headed toward mass extinctions, and the trade winds bring clouds of toxins to the Arctic regions and melt our glaciers, and every time we use a product with toxic chemicals we are contaminating our very drinking water which is the key to life, we must quickly shift to using all natural products and foods. The US has only banned 5 toxins, E.U. 35, and Japan 48, and we must do more to survive and thrive.

#### NAOTF RECOMMENDATIONS

Since most people have a hard time believing that the UN has made this phenomenal mind and heart shift in the last few years, which NAOTF heartily applauds, we recommend that the UN uses its immense resources and networks to better get the word out that they believe that Mother Earth is a living, and infinitely loving, compassionate intelligent being. Our Earth Family needs to hear that UN leaders and ambassadors from each country support these Elders-led ceremonies that are backed by Nobel Laureate scientists.

Therefore, NAOTF recommends:

1. That RIO-20 actively encourages world participation in Elders-led ceremonies and prayers, and to share joyful sports, dance and music activities, especially with the youth, which will also help prevent 2,000 tribes from going extinct each year, according to the U.N.
2. That the U.N. raise awareness and encourages our Earth Family to make pilgrimages to the Holy mountains (See Annex 1). The Aetherius Society, founded by Dr. King to assist pilgrims access them safely via Aetherius.org. And there are regular groups one can join. Some can be climbed in an hour and others in a day.
3. To restore our dying oceans, get agreements by all countries to ban 100 of the most dangerous toxins within 3 years, using the E. U. model, combined with the proposed U.S. model, approved by Elders, which test chemicals by using human cells in petree dishes rather than genociding millions of animals.
4. Follow the Mexican Government model of assisting farmers in becoming organic certified. Mexico has many organic farms.
5. Encourage all schools to have organic gardens to prevent obesity, diabetes and teach children to organic farming, to help restore world soil and water purity. And ideally have local Elders bless them at a ceremonial dance.
6. That all 192 UN member states strongly enforce laws protecting the headwaters of vast regions, since healthy normal Nature cycles are critical to ensure gentle abundant rain, snow and snowmelt for drinking water, Nature and Agriculture. Aspen (next Castle Peak, a Holy Mountain), and the Arizona Snow Bowl (on the San Francisco Peaks, sacred to 13 tribes), are the water sources of Colorado and the Southwest. They both found that through tribal-led ceremonies and detoxing their ski areas and towns with a variety of wind, solar, biodiesel mass transportation and snowcats, they restored their abundant snow cycles. While the Snow Bowl wanted to use wastewater in the snowmaking that could not filter hospital drugs, the tribal ceremonies and prayers we circulated worldwide made it so that the snowmaking was never needed for the last 4 years.
7. Acknowledge Student Green power through praising Middlebury (Vermont) College Students who created the first Zero Carbon Ski Area in partnership with Native (Wind) Energy, which won a world clean energy Oscar in Switzerland. Also the US Colleges who switched to green cleaning, including North Arizona University, which helped end Arizona Snow Bowl's snow drought.
8. Urge everyone with standard toilets to put a rock or two into its reservoirs, which could perhaps save quadrillions of gallons of precious water from going down the drain.
9. NAOTF recommends that Elders are allowed to present some of their contributions to live in harmony with nature and honour Mother Earth:

- Johann Grander should present his GRANDER METHOD AT RIO-20.

- Jamie Scheckman, founder of MountainRiders Alliance, who is ushering in a new era of Green Ski Areas that honors harmony with Nature above profit, should be cited as a model.

[http://live.tetongravity.com/\\_News-MRA-Skilogik-And-Suzy-Chapstick-To-Help-Native-Skiers/blog/5400887/75233.html](http://live.tetongravity.com/_News-MRA-Skilogik-And-Suzy-Chapstick-To-Help-Native-Skiers/blog/5400887/75233.html)

- Robert John Knapp speak on behalf of Mother Earth about preserving Her waters, given his Seneca Nation's Water Prophecy. Humanity may be as touched as Pope Benedict was to declare it a sin to poison the water.

#### DIET AND EXERCISE - KEY TO HEALTHY GREEN COUNTRIES

The Elders say what we eat affect the way we think and the same can be said about what countries eat. In order to create a healthy Earth Family with the energy and vision to live in harmony with Nature and restore our planet, we need to create psychologically healthy

populations through diet and exercise. Karl Jung (Swiss), "The Father of Modern Psychology," realized while living with a Pueblo Indian Family the five keys to being psychologically healthy: Sports, ideally in Nature and daily PE so kids can get naturally high and develop intuition; Fine Arts classes in schools to express who we are; giving

back our unique gift for the greater good (now curing bullies); and giving gratitude, including to Mother Earth. Therefore, NAOTF urges all countries:

1. To support daily sports plus the arts to create a psychologically healthier Earth Family, which is critical to creating good earth guardians. Also spread awareness of the other keys.
2. To help spread this research about Stevia as a cost-effective alternative to the world diabetes-obesity epidemics.
3. To urge star athletes to cheer on their country's children to reduce diabetes by also giving clinics in schools.

#### RESTORING EARTH THROUGH A NUCLEAR-FREE WORLD

**1. Above all else, RIO-20 leaders must urge humanity to ensure the Prophecy of Peace and Prosperity for 1,000 years by boldly enlightening and insisting our leaders and representatives learn from Fukushima and the Gulf catastrophes, and stop serving the nuclear and oil corporations, given their connection to wars and annihilation. The People have spoken through both the Nuclear and Wall Street protests around the world, that we want a nuclear-free world, since nuclear is motivated by what turns out to be sociopathic greed by the Military Industrial Complex. President Eisenhower warned us about them in his farewell speech. 2012 is the winding down of the greed machine and the rise of heart-centered, and those serving the People through safe clean wind, solar, geothermal and tidal turbine energy are flourishing. See Annex to learn the lessons of how three worlds have Already been destroyed.**

#### Forests

1. Urge humanity to further protect our forests following 2011's Year of the Forests, by encouraging all schools, Parks, Forest Departments, and ski areas to give an honorarium to Indigenous Elders or teachers to lead hikes in Nature to help students and hikers see through the eyes of their ancient Earth-honoring ancestors. 4th grade students in Telluride were totally fascinated by a Cherokee teacher who substituted a Forest Ranger who got sick. Aspen SkiCo then contacted NAOTF.org to implement such a program for their 4,000 per year Nature Adventurers on skis, snowshoes and shoes in summer.

#### Annex

##### Background Information on the Stevia Plant

Diet is also key to creating healthy Earth Guardians. Recent studies found that consuming high levels of sugar damages our brains, causes ADD and ADHD, the sugar blues, depression and violence – a pipeline to prison. The U.S. and Mexicans are the biggest consumers of Coke and Pepsi, which have 40 grams of sugar, when 15 grams of sugar is the recommended healthy limit per day. When a Mexican-American teacher got the sugary soda machines banned in the LA School district, violence in schools was also reduced by 65%. (NPR Radio) Yet there is a solution to *the Wall Street Journal* findings that “the number of adults with diabetes has doubled world-wide over the last three decades to nearly 350 million, and nearly threefold in the U.S.” “And Diabetes long-lasting and disabling condition is going to be the largest cost for many health systems.”

1,500 years ago the South American tribes discovered a flowering herb called Stevia Rebaudiana, which the Spanish then helped spread worldwide since it is the only known natural sweetener with zero calories, zero carbohydrates, and a zero glycemic index, which gives you zero fluctuations in blood glucose and energy roller coasters, and zero contributions to any disease. Yet surprisingly not everyone knows about this extraordinary sweetener.

Asia is the largest grower and user of Stevia, and have nearly stamped out diabetes. Stevia keeps blood sugar levels healthy to avoid hypoglycemia, which makes one vulnerable to the overuse of the fermented sugars in alcohol, which is only a step away from alcoholism and drug abuse. Another study found that “82.6% of those who attempted suicide were under the influence of alcohol and drugs.”

The tribes also used organic Stevia leaves for their anti fungal, viral, bacterial, cavity and gum disease qualities to heal wounds. There are many companies now making Stevias available in powder packets, liquid bottles, shakers, tabs, syrups, and canisters (fiber baking version) that are sold at healthfood stores, online, many grocery stores, supermarkets and super discount stores worldwide. While all Stevias are healthier than the toxic processed sugars, GMOed high fructose corn syrups in most sodas, and chemical sweeteners, the pure organic Stevias without additives, such as NOW Foods, Pyure Sweet, and KAL, plus Zevia and Rainforest Colas, have the healthiest qualities. Because Stevia is also an antioxidant which dilates blood vessels, it increases mental activity and reduces the craving for tobacco, sugar and alcohol. And no side effects have ever been found.

Pure organic Stevias without fillers are the best solution for managing or possibly reducing diabetes, as well as for those who want to enjoy vibrant health and never want to get it.

The U.S. manufacturers have some of the healthiest best tasting organic Stevia sweeteners and Stevia sodas, which are available in other countries, are now becoming available also to Latin America. Because Mexico has the highest Diabetes in the world, including children, in a role reversal, NAOTF united some of the Pan Am heroes who are gladly cheering on the Mexican children, as well as their countrymen, to be Lean, Clean and Diabetes-free through Stevia awareness!

##### Background Information on Purifying our Waters Solution

As part of encouraging other Continents to invite their Indigenous Elders or Shamen to lead ceremonies, I learned from the leaders of the Kitzbuhl ski Club about their revered local astrophysicist-shaman, Johann Grander, who has help purify their waters so they can drink from

their streams. His Grander Method is now used by ski areas across Austria and other countries. “As a result, Kitzbuhl's fields are also flourishing, and we have an abundance of natural spring drinking water, which we use for the little snowmaking we need, despite our low altitude. Austria also uses clean hydro power, and no nuclear plants ever, and all 28 E.U. countries having strict laws protecting our waters, thanks to banning 35 toxins, including chlorine, and our mountain communities are monitored regularly by the government and universities,” said the KSC Vice President Peter Obernauer.

“Because of different damages and stressors today, our water lacks its original cleanliness and potency,” says Johann. In the YouTube video, “Water: the Great Mystery” researchers in 11 countries and Nobel prize winner, Kurt Wuthrich, studied the only other known original water, which is protected by a tribe in Venezuela, and found it had 40,000 times the potency on all our organs than tapwater.

The GRANDER water revitalization system gives water the information back it needs to build up its self-purification process and its power,” says Johann, who was honored by the Russians after verifying his science. Its applications for swimming pools, home water systems, speedy recovery for injured Olympians, and spas, is used by enlightened communities around the world, including a green hotel in Boston and a Country Club and swimming pool in Taos, New Mexico. <http://usa.grander.biz/en/johann-grander>



## Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)

Submission of the Natural Resources Defense Council to the Secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development - "Rio+20 Earth Summit" -

November 1, 2011

The Natural Resources Defense Council ("NRDC"), a non-governmental organization in consultative status with UN Economic and Social Council, is pleased to submit our views as a contribution for "inclusion in a compilation document to serve as basis for the preparation of zero draft of the outcome document" for the June 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20 Earth Summit"). Here, we set our vision for a different kind of summit, provide a list of potential deliverables from Rio+20, and describe NRDC's international activities and experience with international sustainability summits.

### A Vision for a Different Kind of Summit

The June 2012 Rio+20 Earth Summit will be held "at the highest possible level, including Heads of State and Government or other representatives." It will mark the 20th Anniversary of the first "Earth Summit", held in Rio in 1992. Rio+20's key objectives are to stimulate a transition to a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and to strengthen global governance. This Summit comes at a critical point in the world's collective efforts to support "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

In January 2012, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon warned that the world is running out of time to avoid future "disasters" due to our ever growing consumption and pollution. He called for a "free market revolution for global sustainability". We couldn't agree more, and hope that this Summit will be truly transformative and historic. As world leaders, CEOs, civil society, and citizens gather in Rio next year, the Summit must do more than just deliver another agenda with lofty goals for the distant future. There are already hundreds of existing commitments and pledges in various treaties and plans of action, many of which have failed to be enacted. Instead, Rio+20 should generate real actions on the part of governments at every level, as well as by businesses and civil society groups, to immediately deliver the necessary actions to put us all on a more sustainable path.

Often overlooked is that Earth Summit 2012 itself will be an important milestone in global governance. We hope that the zero document will provide the basis for a discussion of how best to structure the Rio+20 meeting so as to assure its success. The Summit's success is particularly important after the perceived failure of the 2009 Copenhagen climate summit and growing skepticism worldwide about the ability of such international negotiations and gatherings to do anything worthwhile on the huge environmental and economic challenges we face. In the end, the summit process will involve thousands of officials, business and civil society leaders throughout the world and a collective investment of hundreds of millions of dollars. Learning from previous UN gatherings, here is our vision for the Rio+20 Earth Summit to make sure that it produces real results and progress.

### Three Days of Recognition and Support for Country Actions

The official high-level Rio+20 meeting now scheduled for June 4-6 must be different than earlier summits. The three-day meeting should put the spotlight on individual and collective actions of presidents and prime ministers to move toward sustainable development. These sessions should:

- Encourage all presidents and prime ministers to use their allotted time for speeches – usually about 5 minutes - to present on the specific sustainable development initiatives, challenges, and needs in their respective countries.
- Create the expectation for new or substantially scaled-up commitments from all countries, which are specific and short-term; and identify partners for technical assistance and coordinating actions.
- Produce a politically-binding outcomes document of not more than ten pages that recognizes the imminent threat of exceeding our planet's natural boundaries, the need to move to a new green economy, and recommit governments to act on their promises to move towards sustainable development, and
- Generate an appendix of country commitments to the outcomes document that provides a foundation for a registry of such commitments at a new global center for sustainability actions.

### Four Days of Engagement and Cooperation with Major Stakeholders

The period of four days (May 31-June 3) following the final preparatory meeting and before the official summit provides an unprecedented opportunity to engage sub-national governments, businesses and civil society on an equal footing. These sessions should be coordinated closely and in parallel with the official meeting; they should:

- Invite, regional, provincial, state, and local government officials, CEOs of major corporations, and civil society leaders to give presentations on sustainable development challenges and opportunities in their sectors
- Create the expectation for commitments from all major businesses and governments that are specific and meaningful, and complement or exceed national goals, and
- Produce a listing of major stakeholder commitments and is in parallel with the national registry above and could contribute to the global center.

### Proposed Rio+20 Earth Summit Deliverables

A central goal of the 2012 Earth Summit should be to generate specific "deliverables". Each of these "deliverables" should consist of: (1) specific, short-term commitments by countries, communities, corporations, and civil society groups; (2) commitments to work together where appropriate, including sharing technical assistance and coordinating actions; and (3) provisions for monitoring and reporting to ensure that the commitments are delivered on the ground. The zero draft document should include an initial compilation of such actions which should be developed, agreed to where appropriate by "coalitions of willing", and launched at Rio+20.

### BROAD POLICIES TO SUPPORT A GREEN ECONOMY

Governments, corporations, and civil society should support laws and policies to speed the transition to a green economy – defined by UNEP as "low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive" - including:

1. Replace or supplement GDP and other traditional economic metrics with broader indicators, such as the UN System of Environmental and Economic Accounting.
2. Actively phase out environmentally-harmful subsidies, including fuel subsidies, following the binding commitments already made by G-20 countries.
3. Remove barriers to trade in environmental goods and services, as outlined in the WTO's Doha Development Agenda.

4. Adopt the mitigation hierarchy in standard corporate and government operations, so that the environmental impacts of extractive industries and infrastructure activities are: (1) avoided, (2) minimized, or (3) offset by responsible parties.

5. Institute sustainable procurement standards, including ones encouraging the use of recycled products and renewable energy.

6. Implement aggressive and sustained green jobs policies, particularly those focused on youth.

#### ENHANCED GOVERNANCE

Governments should:

1. Establish a Global Center for Sustainability Actions to record, monitor and aggregate, encourage, and support all the various commitments on sustainability.

2. Negotiate regional treaties on Principle 10's environmental access rights, including access to information and justice.

3. Take specific actions at the national and sub-national levels to increase access to information, public participation in decision-making, and access to justice.

#### CLIMATE AND ENERGY

While the climate change treaty negotiations will continue, governments, companies, and civil society groups should come to Rio prepared to take tangible steps towards greater deployment of low-carbon energy technologies; improved energy and water efficiency; reduced deforestation emissions; reduced black carbon emissions; and the stimulation of low-carbon economies, such as:

1. Develop and enforce best practice and minimum performance energy and water standards for appliances and equipment and ensure an ongoing process to develop all cost effective standards by 2015

2. Phase out inefficient light bulbs through the establishment of minimum energy efficiency standards that reduce energy use of new bulbs by at least 65%

3. Scale-up renewable energy use by countries undertaking specific policies and programs to speed up the deployment of clean energy in their country in order to more than triple the amount of wind, solar, geothermal, and tidal power that is used throughout the world.

4. Promote clean and efficient vehicles that will cut greenhouse gas emissions from new vehicles by 30% by 2020 and by 50% by 2030, including policies, programs and standards adopted by individual countries that address sales and use of new, and where appropriate, imported and/or used vehicles.

5. Adopt low carbon fuel standards to avoid of the use of fuels with higher lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions than conventional petroleum.

6. Stimulate a market for clean cook stoves and invest in the efficient production of biomass fuels, with the goal of having clean and efficient stoves in 100 million homes by 2020 and thereby minimizing incidence of respiratory illnesses; deforestation; and destruction of local habitats

7. Replace polluting, inefficient, expensive, dangerous and unhealthy kerosene-based lighting with cleaner alternatives, such as solar lanterns.

8. Phase down HFCs and other "super greenhouse gases" by governments adopting new commitments covering these super greenhouse gases under the Montreal Protocol and by companies agreeing to phase down their use in products that they produce, use, or sell. Develop programs and policies to recover CFCs and other super greenhouse gases from fridges, foams, electrical transformers, and other equipment from which they are leaking to the atmosphere.

9. Reduce deforestation emissions by key corporations committing to avoiding purchasing products that cause deforestation, such as soy or cattle from deforested lands in the Brazilian Amazon, palm oil from deforested agricultural land in Indonesia, or illegal wood and wood products throughout the world. More countries should also commit to adopt, implement, and enforce requirements that all imported wood and wood products come from legal sources.

10. Undertake large-scale, environmentally and socially responsible reforestation efforts

11. Strengthen and increase the use of green building technologies and standards by working with the new GLOBE Alliance

12. Phase out lending by public and private financial institutions for energy projects with high GHG emissions and scale-up the financing for renewable sources of energy (e.g., at multilateral development banks, export credit agencies, and other financial institutions)

13. Commit to systematically evaluating, and where cost-effective, applying ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation (e.g., rehabilitating mangroves may be more cost-effective against storm surge than building a sea wall).

14. Create and enforce standards to reduce environmental risks associated with natural gas development, including the use of "fracking" to access natural gas.

15. Promote the development of clean transportation fuels by adopting low carbon fuel standards and eliminating subsidies for fuels with higher lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions than conventional petroleum.

#### OCEANS

1. Establish and monitor marine protected areas on the high seas and protect vulnerable marine ecosystems within national waters.

2. Integrate assessment and management of the various uses of ocean resources (wildlife migration routes, fishing grounds, fossil fuel operations, shipping lanes, etc) using marine spatial planning techniques.

3. Ensure that human activities with the potential to negatively affect marine life are subject to prior environmental assessment.

4. Reduce and control ocean noise pollution by incorporating noise into the design and management of marine protected areas and marine spatial plans, and by requiring use of best available noise-reduction technologies in commercial and industrial activities, including oil and gas exploration.

5. Reduce plastic pollution in the oceans, including by banning or taxing single-use plastics, supporting the use of recycled plastics in new products, and holding manufacturers responsible for plastics through their entire life cycle.

6. Stop "ghost fishing" – fishing gear lost or abandoned at sea that destroys fragile habitats and catches fish and mammals for decades after it is lost – by improving fishing technologies and providing incentives to prevent loss of gear and return old fishing equipment to shore for recycling.

7. Establish an international monitoring network for ocean acidification to enable the identification of vulnerable regions and industries and to provide an early warning system for industries already experiencing harm.
8. Designate the high seas of the Central Arctic Ocean as a zone for international scientific cooperation, where extractive and polluting activities are suspended until we have a better understanding of the area and the potential effects of such activities.
9. End the harvest, sale and trade of shark fins.
10. Schedule, as a matter of urgency, an intergovernmental conference to address multiplying threats to ocean areas beyond the jurisdiction of individual nations.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH

1. Endorse the finalization of a global mercury treaty by February 2013 that will aggressively limit the global use and trade in mercury and reduce global mercury emissions.
2. To immediately reduce the global supply of mercury, ban the export of mercury from remaining large exporters in the developed world, and the primary mining of mercury for export, and secure the agreement by chlor-alkali and large mining companies not to place mercury into commerce and take responsibility for ensuring its safe management.
3. Create new partnerships around the responsible sourcing of raw materials for production and the regulation of specific harmful chemicals.
4. To reduce vehicle pollution in cities worldwide, reduce sulfur in the global gasoline and diesel fuel supply to 50 ppm by 2020, concurrent with the adoption of cleaner vehicle emission technologies and standards.

#### WATER

1. Develop an independent certification system for the sustainability of public and private sector water use.
2. Adopt action plans for sustainable financing of equitable water supply services and watershed protection based on reviews of charging structures for all categories of water use, as well as strategic financial planning, tariffs, taxes and transfers.
3. Establish policies to provide rivers with the quantity, quality, and timing of flow they need to sustain life within them.

#### About NRDC

NRDC is a non-profit environmental advocacy organization headquartered in the United States with more than 1.3 million members and e-activists. With a staff of more than 400 people, NRDC addresses the broad range of pressing environmental challenges, including climate change and energy, oceans, toxics, wilderness and wildlife, and sustainable communities. We have five offices in the United States and one in Beijing, China. Over the last four decades, our staff attorneys, scientists, and other resource specialists have advocated and cooperated with the U.S. and other governments, international agencies, corporations, and other NGOs to produce major policy changes and progress in many arenas.

NRDC has a long history of international involvement. In addition to our office in China, we have an initiative on India and significant engagement on key issues in Canada, Mexico and elsewhere. Over the years, we have been very active on ozone layer protection, climate change, international toxics, and selected biodiversity matters.

NRDC has had a particular interest in international sustainability summitry. NRDC was one of the few American environmental groups that participated in the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment. We were very active in the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro. ("Earth Summit") NRDC created "Earth Summit Watch" to monitor the implementation of commitments made in Rio. In 1993 and 1994, we undertook unprecedented surveys of national sustainability actions. Our 1994 report contributed to the start of an informal global network which made major progress over the several years towards the global phase out of leaded gasoline.

NRDC also participated in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. NRDC was and continues to be a proponent of the "partnership and initiative" approach as a vehicle for delivering on sustainability commitments. For the last decade, we have been actively involved in the Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles which has now achieved success with the removal of virtually all lead from the world's gasoline supply. For almost two years, we have been working with other civil society organizations in the U.S. and worldwide on preparations for the Rio+20 Earth Summit.

NRDC's Director for Global Strategy and Advocacy S. Jacob Scherr is leading NRDC's "Race to Rio" campaign. In launching the campaign last June, NRDC President Frances Beinecke wrote that its main purpose is "to encourage leaders from all sectors and levels of society—government officials, CEOs, mayors, activists—to come to Rio to talk about what they are doing now to address the huge challenges we face." NRDC staffers from across the organization are involved in NRDC's preparations for Rio+20, including the development of this document. Special thanks for their contributions so far to my colleagues Michael Davidson, Jake Schmidt, Leila Monroe, and Lisa Speer. We also want to acknowledge the research assistance of our graduate student team at Yale University.

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## NCD Alliance

### NCDs in the Rio+20 conference outcomes

The NCD Alliance, an international network of over 2000 organizations working on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) including cancer, cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory diseases, and diabetes, believes the outcome document from the Rio+20 conference must contain a strong focus on health, specifically the threat to sustainable development and poverty eradication posed by the global NCD epidemic.

Rio +20 will be a critical opportunity to build on the efforts already underway to accelerate progress towards sustainable development and reduce poverty and inequality, which will ultimately contribute toward the prevention and control of NCDs worldwide.

Overall outcomes of the conference should be sustained political commitment and willingness to adequately address and invest in NCD prevention and control on the local, national, regional, and international levels. The conference will also provide a platform for Member States and other stakeholders to follow up on the commitments made during the UN High-level Meeting (HLM) on the Prevention and Control of Noncommunicable Diseases, held on 19-20 September 2011 at UN Headquarters.

### NCDs since the Johannesburg Declaration

The 2002 Earth Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, put forth a comprehensive agenda for action on sustainable development. Paragraph 19 of the Johannesburg

Declaration on Sustainable Development highlights a key area for further attention in the Rio+20 Outcome Document. It states:

'We reaffirm our pledge to place particular focus on, and give priority attention to, the fight against the worldwide conditions that pose severe threats to the sustainable development of our people, which include...endemic, communicable and chronic diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis...'1

In the 10 years since the adoption of the Johannesburg Declaration, NCDs (referred to as chronic diseases in the declaration above) have emerged as one of the foremost development challenges of the 21st century. There is growing evidence that NCDs are impeding progress to achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Effective prevention and control of NCDs requires that these diseases not be dealt with in isolation but be fully integrated into all aspects of the global development agenda.

#### NCDs and the eradication of poverty

The linkages between NCDs and sustainable development, particularly as a means toward the eradication of poverty, are clear and require concrete actions on the part of all stakeholders.

Member States unanimously adopted a Political Declaration during the HLM recognizing NCDs as a global development priority and the "the vicious cycle whereby NCDs and their risk factors worsen poverty, while poverty contributes to rising rates of NCDs, posing a threat to public health and economic and social development."

According to the World Health Organization, 100 million people are pushed into poverty annually because they have to pay directly for health services, which results in up to 5% of the population being forced into poverty in many countries.

In addition to the economic burden they place upon individuals, families, and communities, NCDs are already having devastating consequences on the global economy. A recent study by the World Economic Forum and Harvard University estimates that NCDs will cost the world economy \$47 trillion over the next 20 years, representing 75 percent of annual global GDP and surpassing the cost of the current global financial crisis.

#### NCDs in the green economy

WHO's Health in the Green Economy series, published in spring of 2011, highlights the relationship between sectors of the green economy and health and recommends solutions that both mitigate climate change and improve health conditions, particularly in low-income settings.<sup>5</sup> The NCD Alliance urges Member States and other stakeholders to strongly consider these solutions in the discussions and outcomes of the Conference.

The NCD Alliance suggests the following priorities for consideration during the Rio+20 Conference:

**Health systems integration:** The NCD Alliance urges governments to integrate NCDs into existing health policies and health systems strengthening initiatives, refocusing health systems on prevention, health education, and chronic disease care. Strengthened health systems will also benefit other diseases and conditions, including HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. The Rio Declaration should reaffirm the commitment made by Heads of State in the Political Declaration issued at the HLM to 'promote, establish or support and strengthen, by 2013, as appropriate multi-sectoral national policies and plans for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases' (para 45).

**Development goals:** The MDGs currently contain no goals or targets for NCDs. Yet, NCDs cause 60 % of all deaths globally (36 million) each year and four out five of these deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. It is therefore critical that Member States include NCDs in discussions at the Conference and at the 2013 MDG Review Summit, and commit to including targets on NCDs in the follow up development framework when the current MDG goals expire in 2015.

**Donor assistance:** Less than 3% of official development assistance (ODA) on health is spent on NCDs.<sup>6</sup> The NCD Alliance requests all governments with major overseas aid programmes to low and middle income countries to end the policy ban on funding NCDs that most bilateral donors operate now. Bilateral donor countries must live by the commitments made in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. The Rio Declaration should support the commitment in HLM Political Declaration to 'promote all possible means to identify and mobilize adequate, predictable and sustained financial resources and the necessary human and technical resources, and to consider support for voluntary, cost-effective, innovative approaches for a long-term financing of non-communicable disease prevention and control' (para 49).

**Whole of Government engagement:** NCD plans must involve the whole of government, not just the health sector. Action to prevent and control NCDs requires the active engagement of ministries of finance, foreign affairs, education, agriculture, and transportation, trade and others.

**Adopt policies to prevent NCDs:** Only governments have the power to regulate environments so that healthy food, smoke free places and physical activity are the norm and not the exception. The NCD Alliance expects governments to regulate unhealthy food content – salt, trans-fats and sugar - and harmful use of alcohol through policies on price, availability and marketing. Governments must accelerate implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) and tax tobacco to the level recommended by the WHO to both reduce tobacco use and generate revenues that can be used for sustainable development.

**Universal access to NCD medicines, technologies and care as a human right:** Today, over 100 million people with NCDs are denied access to the basic medicines (including for pain relief), technologies, education and care they need to stay alive and stay healthy.<sup>7</sup> Individuals and families in many contexts are being tipped into poverty by catastrophic expenditure on NCD care. NCDs are not new diseases and many can be treated effectively with off patent medicines. NCD prevention, and investment in early NCD diagnosis and treatment, is both morally right and sound economic strategy.

**Follow Up Action on Non-communicable Diseases:** Heads of State committed to a 'comprehensive review and assessment in 2014 of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable disease' (para 65) in the HLM Political Declaration.

The Rio Declaration should recommend that this review culminate in a High-Level Meeting of the United Nations to ensure that prevention and control of NCDs are given adequate follow-up as a priority factor in achieving sustainable global development.

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## Netherlands Platform Rio+20 (NPRio+20)

### PRIORITIES FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

#### Civil society outcomes of the Netherlands Rio+20 preparations

##### Preface

A lot has changed for the better in the twenty years that have passed since the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Millions of people, especially in Asia and Latin America, have escaped the poverty trap and are even daring to look beyond today's horizon. Big strides have been taken in the areas of education, health care and women's

rights, whilst at the same time companies, together with knowledge institutes and NGOs, are looking for ways in which to operate in an ecologically and socially responsible manner.

However, we still face many challenges today. Back then, the Convention on Biological Diversity was signed to stop the decline in biodiversity. At last year's conference in Nagayo it became clear that the targets were far from being met. The execution of the Convention on Climate Change that was agreed upon in 1992 and of Agenda 21, one of the most important results of the 1992 Rio meeting, also leaves much to be desired.

There are a lot more obstacles between ambitions and actions than we had foreseen twenty years ago. It has become clear that more is needed than simply signing ambitious agreements to achieve a society in which 7 billion, soon to be 10 billion, people can live well without exhausting natural resources.

One of the important lessons we can learn from Rio is that sustainable development is a matter of trial and error. It calls for the continual reinvention of the way in which we live together and fulfill our own needs. In short, it calls for permanent innovation in social, economical and technological areas.

This document contains a number of priorities that we believe can accelerate sustainable development and bring us a few steps closer to reaching the ambitious goals of Rio 1992. They can be roughly subdivided into economical priorities (number 1-7), social/cultural priorities (8-10) and priorities for individual sectors (11-18).

On the one hand they are meant to serve as an inspiration to the Dutch government for their contribution to the Earth Summit: a contribution that is a part of a European Union-wide effort. On the other hand they are intended to place the theme of sustainable development higher on the Dutch social agenda.

The story of their development is an extraordinary one. In June 2011, the Netherlands Civil Society Platform Rio+20 was founded, a group of NGOs, companies, knowledge institutes and interested individuals. Their aim was to make an inspirational contribution to the UN-conference on sustainable development held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012.

Several meetings were organized with NGOs, young people, companies, researchers and individuals. They were all asked to put forward what they think is needed to achieve a green economy and to consolidate the institutional framework for sustainable development, the two main themes of Rio2012. In the months since June there have also been opportunities to contribute, both through the website and through discussions on LinkedIn. Social media, such as Twitter and Face book, were also used to bring the theme to the attention of the general public.

This document containing the 18 priorities is only a snapshot. It is a 'living' document, whilst the discussion in the Netherlands on the goals and themes of the Earth Summit continue to evolve and expand. As the National Platform we will further develop these priorities over the coming months and augment them with inspiring initiatives from the Netherlands that show how sustainable development is actually becoming reality.

Prof. dr. ir. Louise O. Fresco, Chair of the Netherlands Platform Rio+20

#### PRIORITY 1. Reinventing our economy

Exploitation, pollution and exhaustion are strongly stimulated by the use of hot money, when the high returns on quick investments are the only priority. This has led to a growing rift between the interests of shareholders (short term profits) and those of other stakeholders of a company that would profit more from continuity and social responsibility. Taxation of flows of capital, such as the Tobin Tax, or the much further reaching Robin Hood Tax, form part of the solution to this problem.

New forms of financing are also needed, in which investors adhere to stricter social and ecological standards and are willing to enter a long-term relationship with their investees. This type of long-term relationship provides businesses with the opportunity to keep a continued and consistent focus on sustainable development. Alternative forms of financing, such as crowd financing, and the cooperative, an invention dating back to the late 19th century, all have to be considered with regard to their potential as sustainable financing methods.

A universal social protection floor is needed to help more people escape poverty; a social safety net that allows people to at least survive difficult periods. Apart from obvious ethical considerations, such a safety net is of economic importance too as it improves mobility, entrepreneurship and keeps labour potential at a consistent level.

#### PRIORITY 2. Internalising external costs

The economic system of production and consumption has costs associated with it that are not included in the prices consumers pay for products. The polluter pays, but not to a large enough extent. First we would need to develop indicators that can be used to determine the cost of products to society. These indicators would allow companies to calculate the 'footprint' of their products using life cycle analysis. Consequently the price of a product should then reflect the total costs over its lifetime, including the processing and disposal costs.

Secondly, mechanisms are needed that allow for the internalisation of external costs. Companies should produce annual sustainability reports, which would not only include their economic performance data, but also data on their social and ecological impact. Like economic data, external accountants should check these data. Managers will be appraised on the basis of these numbers. Another option, for companies as well as local and national governments, is the use of benchmarking: comparing performances based on representative and quantifiable data.

On a national level, governments could develop indicators for a green or sustainability-GDP, in which the social and ecological costs, such as pollution levels and exhaustion of resources, are included in the GDP of a country. This 'green-GDP' would provide a much better insight into how the income of a country and the division of wealth are developing. Certain data could be used to determine whether a country is developing in a sustainable manner and, if so, what the extent of this sustainability is. These numbers would be open to the public.

#### PRIORITY 3. Green taxation

An environment-focussed system of taxation would provide an important boost to internalisation of external costs. This would mean a lowering of taxes on labour and a rise in taxation of raw materials and energy from fossil fuels and would have positive social consequences, especially for countries that have economies based largely on production and mining of raw materials.

Green taxation could also be achieved by having varying VAT-tariffs. Levies on pollution, such as the (over 40-year old) water purification levy in the Netherlands, have also proven to be very effective in steering the behaviour of companies and individuals in the right direction. Taxing waste is an important method to stimulate the re-use of raw materials.

A variation on this theme would be the creation of (international) trading markets for pollution rights. This system has already proven successful in the reduction of the NOx-emissions (nitrogen oxides) and the recent CO2-trading scheme (The ETS, European Emission Trading Scheme) is also up and running, but has yet to prove its effectiveness.

#### PRIORITY 4. Provide a legal foundation for sustainable product chains



The Netherlands has been one of the originators of sustainable production chains. What started with the Dutch 'Max Havelaar'-initiative for fair coffee trading has over the years grown into a global range of initiatives for transparent and sustainable trade, for example the Marine Stewardship Council. To date, the initiatives have mainly been private. Companies and NGOs develop and implement a set of standards and certification schemes are used to make sure they are enforced. These standards are not just environmental, but also focus on labour conditions, education and whether trade unions are facilitated.

To better stimulate transparent and sustainable supply chains (the sustainable trade initiative in the Netherlands can be found on: [www.idhsustainabletrade.com](http://www.idhsustainabletrade.com)), these private initiatives need a legal foundation to help convince laggards to join, and to exclude free riders. There are occasional examples where steps have been taken to 'close the backdoor', but further steps are needed: on a national level through legislation and by changing government purchasing policies and on an international level by promoting transparency (EIT/VOECD) and by agreements on differential import tariffs for sustainable products (WTO).

#### PRIORITY 5. Closing the cycles

##### a) Biological cycles

The finiteness of natural resources compels us to close up recycling loops. This appears relatively straightforward for our biological resources, as they are inherently regenerative. This is an illusion. The loss of soil fertility in large parts of the world is a worrisome trend, as it impacts agricultural productivity worldwide. This is not just a result of inorganic nutrient loss, but also of organic material. New techniques, as well as institutional mechanisms (such as carbon bundling), are needed to stop and reverse the loss of soil fertility.

Loss of biodiversity has also to be stopped. For this, systems are needed to properly value our biological capital (TEEB) and to protect it with new financial and policy instruments. At the same time there is a need for better biodiversity data. Agreements for the free exchange of data and objects in this field are also urgently needed.

##### b) Technical cycles

The finiteness of raw materials and the burden on the environment of mining these means that we need to drastically reduce the use of 'virgin' materials. As well as recycling, this involves reduction of their use (dematerializing), finding multiple uses and redesigning products so that they contain less of them (the 5Rs: reduce, re-use, recycle, replace and re-design). The energy content of materials also has to be used as efficiently as possible.

A lot of innovative initiatives are already being developed in relation to the 5Rs. Current legislation and other practical hurdles are, however, proving burdensome at the moment. A critical review of the relevant legislation is therefore needed. Combining a more streamlined legislation with a tax on waste would promote the re-use of materials and products.

A lot of initiatives also strand due to a lack of leadership in the cradle-to-cradle value chain. Governments and international organisations can play an important role in orchestrating the different parties in these chains.

#### PRIORITY 6. Public (-private) ownership of public goods

Over the last few decades it has become apparent that the free market economy isn't the cure-all for matters regarding ownership and distribution. When shareholder-value is the only important consideration when taking business decisions, social and ecological values can get pushed to the sideline. For example, big fluctuations in prices of raw materials are leading to social and economic instability. This can partly be prevented by new rules and legislation. But only partly. Many public goods and services, like drink water supplies, sanitation, waste collection and processing, the electricity grid and other networks, decentralised energy production and storage and ownership of the land charge register would benefit from different ownership models.

At a local or national level, the not-for-profit public enterprise offers an alternative. Town and county councils can own shares, as is the case with the Dutch water supply companies. Another example is the housing corporations that have a primarily social mission, although private capital can be invested. The public-private enterprise has the advantage that it works like a business without the disadvantage of shareholder-value being the main determinant for management decisions. Instead social and/or ecological values are, or can be, the main focus.

Internationally, the management of global public goods needs to be considered, such as the planet's biodiversity, the ozone layer, our oceans and the earth's climate. Proper management means that all the various parties, i.e. governments and other beneficiaries cooperate and share their collective responsibilities. This is not so straightforward, as the management of climate change and execution of the biodiversity agreements have shown. As species are lost increasingly fast and the impacts of climate change are becoming increasingly noticeable, new forms of ownerships of global public goods are needed, since they form the foundation of our world heritage.

#### PRIORITY 7. Changing routines

Consumers (and organisations) act based on routines. Lifestyle and actions, including the preference for certain products, are therefore hard to change. This explains why people can say one thing when they are speaking as civilians and act completely differently in their role as consumers. Finding ways to change people's non-sustainable routines therefore needs to be a priority.

One of the ways to do this would be to provide consumers with on the spot (in the real or virtual store) information on whether a product meets (or does not meet) certain sustainability requirements, perhaps using a QR-code that can be read on a Smartphone.

Another option would be to deploy intelligent marketing and communication techniques that would increase the desirability of sustainable products and restore the association between sustainability and high product quality. Sustainable construction, for example, is more than simply building in an energy-efficient manner. It also means paying attention to the aesthetic qualities of a building. If they are appreciated for their beauty, buildings will have much longer lifetimes.

Shifting from product ownership to product rental can change consumer routines. The use of rental cars, for example, forces consumers to consider each time whether they are not better off taking the bicycle or public transport, as the operational costs of the car are more apparent and therefore better comparable. In general, the rental of capital goods, whereby the supplier remains the owner and the consumer simply pays for its use, stimulates the recycling mindset and thereby sustainable development.

#### Priority 8. Sustainable education

Sustainable education means being able to learn from mistakes and having the ability to cope with insecurities. The acquisition of knowledge and skills needed for this are one of our priorities. They have to be given a place in the curriculum of schools and in staff training programs: from low-end to high-end jobs.

Core qualities are:

- Awareness of one's own value(s) and that/those of other people
- The ability to think in terms of systems

- The ability to distinguish between facts, opinions and suspicions
- The ability to learn from one's mistakes.

The relevant knowledge and skills can largely be taught through the normal curriculum and through regular on-the-job training, and informally through the media. This would require an adaptation of the educational system, for example by incorporating sustainable development themes into all subjects. It also requires adaptation in company culture and a focus in the media and marketing on sustainable development.

#### Priority 9. Empowering people

People feel a responsibility towards their own environment (and towards future generations), but do not always see the opportunity to substantiate that feeling. Priority should be given to social innovations that allow people – together with others – to regain control over their direct environment; for example, through urban agriculture. Here nature management is combined with food production. Although the contribution to the food supply is rather modest (approximately 5%), urban agriculture does make an important contribution to the restoration of the relationship between city dwellers and their food sources.

The Internet is responsible for connecting people in an intelligent manner. This has created a new balance between local and global activities and can give a worldwide sense of shared responsibility for our planet. It means a great opportunity to mobilise the knowledge and creativity of the masses and use it to generate ideas for sustainable development, even outside one's own direct living area. For example, games or social media can be used to collectively develop sustainable products and services.

#### PRIORITY 10. Stimulate dialogue

Developing a green, sustainable economy and at the same time eradicating poverty can only be achieved if a dialogue takes place between various parties at various levels. A strategic dialogue, where a general course for the coming years is determined, as well as an operational dialogue, where the requirements for a sustainable product are developed, are both important. In order for the dialogue to be constructive, all involved parties should join the debate. If necessary, parties should be assisted in formulating and defending their interests.

It is important that all parties in the debate are aware of their own value and the value that other parties bring to the table. Only then is it possible – despite having different values and interests – to develop a common strategy or to reach a common goal. A distinctive feature of constructive dialogue is the occurrence of 'integrated negotiation'; when the various parties are not just dividing up the cake, but are working on baking a new cake together.

#### PRIORITY 11. Accessible healthcare

In both the Northern and Southern hemispheres the number years lived in good health is strongly dependent on a person's wealth. The gap between rich and poor is increasing. One of the ways to bridge this gap would be to make healthcare accessible to all, irrespective of income. Health insurances and health trusts could make an important contribution. On the one hand by reimbursing costs made by their members and on the other hand by using their capital to invest in improving the healthcare system. A sustainable health care system that is accessible to people with low incomes, based on the model of collective health insurance funds, can then be created.

#### PRIORITY 12. Multiple land use

Growing cities are absorbing more and more agricultural land, as are the creation of new infrastructure, the production of energy (mining, damming, wind parks, CSP) and of course the production of food and plant-based raw materials. Increasing acreage by encroaching on nature is detrimental to ecosystems, species diversity and thus to the proper functioning of spaceship earth's life support systems.

Multifunctional land use is necessary to cope with the growing need for space. It is a challenge to combine the diverse uses, such as living, working, recreation, nature, intensive agriculture and water management in such a way that not only people and planet will flourish, but that prosperity does not suffer.

The challenge should be met for urban areas as well as for the countryside. Innovations are needed in town planning and management to combine multiple uses of land, such as metropolitan agriculture, agricultural nature management, home care farms and industrial ecology systems. Focus should not only be on dealing with a growing population, but also on dealing with shrinking populations, as is happening in some areas.

#### PRIORITY 13. Intensifying agriculture (in an ecological manner)

Food demands will double over the next few decades as a result of an increase in wealth and the growth of the world's population. On top of that, agriculture will become a supplier of construction materials and raw materials for the chemical industry as well. This calls for an intensification of agriculture in areas where the soil, climate and water supply allow for it. Intensification alone, however, is not sufficient. A drastic ecological modernization is also needed in order to prevent an equal growth of pressure on the environment, e.g. exhaustion of nutrients and the threat of water shortages. The yield per acre, per litre of water, per kilogram of nutrients, per gram of pesticide and per man-hour needs to be improved.

Despite a global trend towards urbanization, the livelihood of millions will continue to depend on – mostly small-scale – agriculture and livestock farming. Ecologically focused modernization not only demands an improvement of crops and other technical measures custom-made to different local circumstances and farm sizes, but also education, (micro)-investments and an improvement of infrastructure.

#### PRIORITY 14. A consolidated approach to water management

Nearly a billion people worldwide have no access to safe drinking water and three billion people lack basic sanitation. At the same time damages due to flooding are on the rise, as more and more people work and live in low-lying river deltas. Damage due to droughts – often in these same areas – is also increasing as a result of climate change and the exhaustion of aquifers.

Even though water is our most essential human need, we treat it carelessly. To meet water needs of humans and ecosystems in future, we need a more consolidated approach to water management. Techniques are needed to use water more efficiently, and institutional mechanism to decide on the different 'water priorities'. These can range from drinking and industrial water needs and irrigation to preventing water pollution and the conservation and improvement of aqueous ecosystems.

#### PRIORITY 15. Promoting human-powered transport

Transportation of people and goods is a large burden on available energy resources. Even if we were to switch from fossil fuels to electricity as a source of energy this would still be the case, as the energy still has to come from somewhere. If the electricity can be produced sustainably – which is not the case at the moment – electric transport will still take up a lot of natural resources including (rare-earth) metals and space.

It should therefore be a priority to promote human-powered transportation, i.e. walking and, in particular, especially cycling. This is not just good for the environment and the

climate, but also for the general health of the population; something particularly poignant as today there are more obese than starving people. Making half of all transport events human-powered should be feasible, especially in flat areas. This not only requires infrastructure to allow for safe walking and cycling, but also economic and planning policies that actively promote these types of transport.

#### PRIORITY 16. Creating an enabling environment

Sustainable development will bring forth extensive technological and social innovations. Scientific research and the development of new ideas and concepts, and the translation of these into new products and services, should be given priority. The creation of an 'enabling environment' will provide start-up companies and those wishing to expand with the opportunity to get involved with new developments from a very early stage, so that great social challenges, such as underdevelopment, poverty, an aging population, making society more ecological, and limited natural resources, can be met.

Governments can make an important contribution by letting social and ecological aspects determine its purchasing policies and – together with industry and NGOs – develop standards for sustainable purchasing. It has to be taken into account that these standards will be ever changing, due to the evolution of the insights into what sustainable development actually entails.

#### PRIORITY 17. Deploying sustainable technologies

Twenty years ago many people believed that rapid technological development was the driving force behind the exhaustion of natural resources and the uneven division of wealth in the world. It has now become clear that technological developments form at least part of the solution. Scientific research and technological developments are essential for efficiently using natural resources (e.g. solar energy). However, scientific research and technology do not lead to a sustainable society per se. That requires embedding of research and technology in society and the development of technologies that stimulate people to act sustainably.

In practice, the success of innovations (including sustainable ones) is largely dependent on the interplay between knowledge institutes, NGOs, businesses and government. The conditions needed for new technological development to become a hit in society can be created by exchanging information and by forming strategic alliances, also across the equator. A new covenant between science, politics and society can lead to a kind of communal design process based on a widely supported set of demands.

#### PRIORITY 18. Sharing knowledge

Sustainable developments are often delayed by the restricted access to results of scientific research and technological developments to those organisations and individuals who can benefit from them. A lack of research infrastructure and financial means in developing countries can result in local researchers lacking awareness of new scientific and technological developments.

Intellectual property legislation is another way in which access to new developments is prevented, as it means that new developments cannot be used at all, or only after large licence payments.

The first hurdle can be overcome by publishing new scientific breakthroughs on the Internet and making these articles accessible at little or no cost. Research funding agencies have an important part to play in this by including open access requirements in their contracts with researchers. Collaborations and exchanges can be used to improve scientific infrastructure in developing countries.

Protection of intellectual property rights cannot simply be abolished, as they are an important stimulus for researchers as well as for venture capitalists. The only thing that can be changed is the price one has to pay for a licence. A few years ago it was, for example, decided to keep the licence cost for anti-HIV/AIDS medication low. A more structural solution would be to set up a court of arbitration that can force companies to issue licences and can determine the licence costs.

#### FINAL NOTE

As stated in the preface, this set of priorities is a living document. It will be debated in meetings to come, on our website and via social media. Although it is not final, it already sets ambitious goals and shows us the paths towards realising them.

Sustainability is not a fixed state but a learning process and our goals will shift as we know more. But we must begin – now.

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## New Vision International

**Focusing on Entrepreneurship for Job Creation and Agri-Business for Enhancing Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication. *Topic suggested and submitted by Bernard Nyembo***

**New Vision International – <http://www.nvint.org>**

### INTRODUCTION

"An Ant on Move Accomplish More Than a Dozing Ox." Lao Tsu.

The purpose of this paper is to provide a significant contribution to the pillars of sustainable development that could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20. The objective is to share our insights on the final document about this important event. Our endeavor implements the gaps and proposes some guidelines to Government, the Civil Society and the UN organizations, as well as Transnational Corporations.

Our expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 is to see a new era of Actions in the field, rather than scientific, scholars and technocrats in air-conditioned offices in New York, Paris, or London, focusing on theories about development and world problems. In order to achieve it, we tap into our thirty years of international experience in Banks, Trading, and Humanitarian for providing achievable framework for action in order to revamp sustainable development plans, with a focus on Entrepreneurship, Agri-Business, Global Trading and Partnership. Specifically we integrate Finance, Energy and Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

The world economy is still struggling to recover from the worst recession since the Great Depression. Therefore in this paper, we insist that the G-20 and policymakers cannot afford to waste the opportunity for a more fundamental reorientation of policies and institutions. Strict regulation of the financial sector; orienting it more towards investment in fixed capital, agri-business and transfer of technologies is key to greater stability of the global economy and to its return to a sustainable growth path. This requires increased coherence between the multilateral trading system and the international monetary system, a reorientation of fiscal policy at the national and regional levels, rather than focusing exclusively on balancing budgets or on achieving public deficit target. However, unless there is a reversal of the current trend of diminished income expectation of the average household and a return to policies that emphasize the importance of mass income growth as the basis for sustainable and balanced development in rich and poor countries alike, all other attempts to regain growth will be in vain.

Poverty reduction is a central feature of the international development agenda and contemporary poverty reduction strategies increasingly focus on “targeting the poor”, yet poverty and inequality remain intractable foes. Combating Poverty and Inequality argues that this is because many current approaches to reducing poverty and inequality fail to consider key institutional, political and political dimensions that may be both causes of poverty and inequality, and obstacles to their reduction. Economic integration and interdependence in the world today have reached an unprecedented level. As a result, the globalized economy cannot function for the benefit of all without international solidarity and cooperation. This was highlighted by the global financial and economic crisis that

followed the collapse of big financial institutions, and it has underlined the need for developing approaches to new forms of global collaboration.

The G-20, which has become a leading forum for international economic cooperation, successfully coordinated an immediate policy response to the crisis, or “Great Recession”

as it is now called. Coordinated monetary policy easing by leading central banks marked the first step, with most members of the G-20 launching large fiscal stimulus packages as

well as emergency support programs to restore financial stability. The aggregate impact of these measures stopped the economic free fall and won policymakers an important first

round in battling the crisis.

But, despite intense discussions, little progress, if any, has been achieved in major areas that were also concern to the G-20. These include financial regulation, inter alia for tackling problems related to the “financialization” of markets for many primary commodities, and, even more importantly, reform of the international monetary systems for curbing volatile short-term capital flows that are driven mainly by currency speculation. Meanwhile, global economic recovery has entered a renewed phase of fragility because a process of self-sustaining growth through private spending and employment is not assured, especially in developed countries. Many of these countries have shifted their fiscal policy stance from stimulus to retrenchment, which risks leading to prolonged stagnation, or even to a contraction of their economies.

Given the lack of growth in employment and wages in Europe, Japan and the United States, their policies should aim at continued stimulation of their economies instead of trying to “regain government spending. The main global risk is that wages and mass incomes might not increase sufficiently to feed a sustainable and globally balanced process of growth based on domestic demand. This indicates that the risk of higher inflation resulting from rising commodity price is very small. Only few countries that have strong growth and overshooting wage dynamics face inflation risks.

Therefore, we propose the G-20 to: (i) Encourage and support entrepreneurs for job creation in order to fight poverty; (ii) Launch an international Task Force for facilitating and monitoring the Diaspora from poor countries relocate in their homeland for making positive changes; (iii) Facilitate credit access for enhancing investments in Agribusiness and Food quality; (iv.) Encourage our plan for the creation of an Ethical Bank for Development.

In this paper we argue that the main issue is Job Creation and Equal Opportunities. Based on our own experience as Entrepreneurs we will focus on three main issues that constitute the critical elements of a sustainable and inclusive development strategy: (i) patterns of growth and structural change (whether in the agricultural, industrial or service sectors) that generate and sustain jobs that are adequately remunerated and accessible to all, regardless of income or class status, gender, ethnicity or location; (ii) comprehensive social policies that are ground in universal rights and that are supportive of structural change, social cohesion and democratic politics; (iii) protection of civic rights, activism and political arrangements that ensure states are responsive to the needs of citizens and the poor have influence in how policies are made.

Therefore, without investigating theories, we explore through our experience of Entrepreneur, the causes, dynamics and persistence of poverty; we examines what works, and what has gone wrong (and why) in international policy thinking and practice; and lay out a range of policies and institutional measure that countries can adopt to alleviate poverty by job creation.

We approach the topic with the spirit of re-visiting and implementing specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other development schemes pertained to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for sustainable development.

Through our experience, we illustrate and we assess the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development while addressing new and emerging challenges. We describe how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development, and how to add value by transforming agriculture into business. And we describe our own experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

To make the paper looks more practical, we provide a limited number of quotes and references. A small bibliography is available at the end. We rather explore our expertise in order to present “A Case” based on our experience of Entrepreneurs and Businessmen. Therefore, we organized the paper in seven parts: (i) The Need of a New Direction, and a New Vision of World Affairs. (This part is certainly the most important); (ii) Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture (Agri-Business); (iii) Revisiting Aid, and Technology Transfer; (iv) Energy (oil); (v) Job Creation; (vi) Our Own Experience as Entrepreneurs and Businessmen; (vii) The Role of International Organizations and the Transnational Corporations in world affairs.

## **PART I: THE NEED OF A NEW DIRECTION AND A NEW VISION**

### **OF WORLD AFFAIRS.**

#### **I. A NEW ETHICS.**

The world's richest 20% now get 86% of the world's GDP, while the poorest 20% get

1%. The income of the world's two hundred richest people doubled between 1994 and

1996 to over a trillion dollars. The world's three richest people have assets greater than the combined output of the 48 poorest countries. The result is not only acute social and political tensions but a rise in armed conflicts and foreign military aggression against sovereign states, bringing the world to the brink of a third world war. As a result, many puzzles are in conflicts: Shall we use the puzzle of criminal laws as price? How about the puzzle of prison? How about the puzzle of criminal intent? How about the puzzle of the tort/crime distinction? Etc.

Such dilemmas should force us to think about the fundamental, "is criminal law mistaken about economics and finance? Even law and economics guru Richard Posner conceded that economic explanations for criminal behavior are "not... entirely satisfactory". Economist George Stigler goes further. He said, "the fault lies not in economics, but in the law itself." If we do not learn the lessons from the Oil crises and the financial crunch, some specialists will introduce the idea of "de-regulation", and financial/economical "re- habilitation". But homo economicus is incapable of being rehabilitated. He is, and always will be, happy to follow any course of action, legal or illegal, that maximizes his own material welfare. This principle is killing the Oil price, and may create other tsunamis.

It is critical that the young generation of African Leaders working in international institutions should be aware of the Jekyll/Hyde Syndrome and many others criminal attitudes and behaviors from the deciders towards world affairs. In world affairs, especially in international institutions, it is critical to understand why some people have the tendency to shift between selfish and unselfish behavior - and vice versa - in response to social context. Acting like Mr. Hyde implies there is no difference between the motives and attitudes of criminals, and the motives and attitudes of law-abiding citizens. As Gary Becker has explained it, "the approach... assumes that a person commits an offense if the expected utility to him exceeds the utility he could get by using his time and other resources at other activities. Some persons become 'criminals', therefore, not because their basic motivation differs from that of other persons, but because their benefits and costs differ".

In Stevenson's novella, however, Dr. Jekyll's basic motivations differed greatly from Mr. Hyde's. Hyde was a psychopath of "wonderful selfishness" who was "wholly evil". Today we are expected to follow the rules even when self-interest tempts otherwise. An

individual who steals, rapes, and murders whenever it suits him is acting like Hyde in a social context where he should act like Dr. Jekyll. Something has gone seriously wrong and is still going wrong with the global economy. The criminal's Hyde persona dominates in situations where his Jekyll persona should be in charge. Modern societies are not set up to endure such individuals, especially in big institutions commanding world affairs. We must take a new vision, a new direction.

Hyde not only succumbs to temptation, he does not try to resist it. A person who always acts Hydish poses a danger to the rest of us, just as Hyde posed a danger to the inhabitants of nineteenth-century London.

The above observations should lead to question whether the policymakers who create financial crunches are dangerous silent killers. Why?

To lawyers, murder is "malice", defined as the mental state of indifference or hostility toward the welfare of others. Indifference toward others is, of course, the very definition of homo economicus. A person who shows "malicious" indifference toward others in situations where the social signals say he should show concern is a serious threat. The difference between the criminal and the law-abiding citizen may only be a matter of degree. Tort law deals with otherwise-pro social individuals who miscalculate a risk or fail to recognize a danger. We should target purely selfish individuals who just don't care. Such persons pose a danger not only to his immediate victim, but to everyone else around him.

We need a new vision, new paradigms in order to transform homo economicus to homo sociologicus. This implies among other things, revisiting the laws and regulations in order to fight the global economic injustice. According to Frans de Waal, even chimpanzee tribes select a dominant male (a "Big Chimp") to keep order and settle fights: "Dominant chimps generally break up fights either by supporting the weak against the strong or through impartial intervention. Broken windows theory got its name from the title of an influential article by James Q. Wilson and George L. Kelling published in 1982 in the Atlantic Monthly, "if a window in a building is broken and left unrepaired, all the rest of the windows will soon be broken... One unrepaired broken window is a signal that no one cares, and so breaking more windows costs nothing." One remembers how in June 2008 a young golden boy, Bradley Birkenfeld, banker said at the U.S. District Court in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He and other UBS bankers had advised their U.S. clients to cheat by creating offshore accounts; to stash watches, jewelry, to use Swiss credit cards to prevent the IRS from tracking their purchases, etc. When Judge Zloch asked him why he nevertheless participated in the scheme, Birkenfeld replied softly, "I was employed by UBS... I was incentivized to do this business...".

The above examples show that we are not blind; we know how it works and who are hiding behind the curtains in the matter of "fixing commodities prices, including oil". It works exactly like the "future", the speculation, or the "casino" banking, and other (virtual) structured products. We recommend the section at page 12, *"The Invisible Hand: The incidence of Maladjusted Persons in Business and in World Affairs."* This section is the most important since it illustrates how if well used, social sciences (non-

quantitative) can control quantitative data in order to correct the grave distortions and deviations of commodities prices in the Global Market.

## SUMMARY OF ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED

We herewith provide a synopsis of issues to be addressed in order to comply with the

MDS.

### 1. The Banking System

As the problem of mispricing a systemic feature of financial markets, regulation should

focus on the system, rather than on behavior inside the system, with a view to enduring that the system as whole better serves real productive investment and growth in the real economy. A clear separation of deposit-taking institutions from those that are engaged in investment banking activities could help prevent gambling and casino "banking" by commercial banks. This would also reduce the size and increase the diversity of banking institutions. Publicly owned banks could play a more important role, not only for development finance purposes, but also as an element of diversity and stability. These kinds of banks have turned out to be more resilient during crises, and they have partly compensated for the credit crunch in the private system caused by the recent crisis. They may also help promote competition in situations of oligopolistic private banking structures<sup>1</sup>.

### The International Aid. (Details are provided at p. 15, Section, "Technology Transfer".)

Aid of Official Development Assistance (ODA) refers to resources made available by governments on concessional terms primarily to promote development and the welfare of developing countries<sup>2</sup>. This can take the form of grant funds, grants in kind, services or concessional loans that have at least 25% grant component. It can come from a single donor country or from many donor countries that course aide through multilateral institutions such as the World Bank, the European Commission or United Nations (UN) agencies. The former is referred to as bilateral aid while the latter is known as multilateral aid.

### What is wrong with Aid?

<sup>1</sup> Trade and Development Report, 2011 Unctad, p. 19.

2 According to the DAGOECD, ODA refers to "Grants or loans to countries and territories on the DAC List of ODA Recipients

(developing countries) and to multilateral agencies) which are: (a) undertaken by the official sector; (b) with promotion of economic development and welfare as the main objective; (c) at concessional financial terms (a loan, having a grant element of at least 25 per cent). In addition to financial flows, technical co-operation is included in aid. Grants, loans and credits for military purposes are excluded. Transfer payments to private individuals (e.g. pensions, reparations or insurance payouts) are in general not counted. (DAGOECD)

1. Aid is given to countries according to the economic, political and security interest of donor states.

2. Aid is given with policy conditionalities to favor the commercial interests of donors.

3. Aid comes with strings attached and aid has been so broadly defined that much of the

money counted as aid never even enters the recipient country.

4. Aid finances a huge and expensive aid industry.

5. Aid is owned and managed by donors.

6. Aid benefits are captured by domestic elites at the expense of the poor and

marginalized.

### 3. South-South Cooperation

In his Report 2010 about South-South Cooperation: Africa and the New Forms of Development Partnership, the Unctad indicates that International trade has and will continue to play a vital role in the economic development of Africa. It provides employment, contributes to technology transfer and is an important source of foreign exchange needed for imports of intermediate and capital goods used in domestic production. In recent years, African countries have intensified efforts to exploit this potential of trade for strong economic growth performance observed in the region between the second half of the 1990s and the onset of the financial crisis in 2008 was accompanied by a spectacular increase in trade. Africa's total merchandise trade also increased from \$217 billion in 1995 to \$986 billion in 2008. Its share of global trade also increased from 2.2 per cent in 2000 to 3.3 in 2008. This means that Africa currently has a share of world trade that is higher than its share of world gross domestic product (GDP) (2.5 per cent) but much less than its share of world population (14.6 per cent.)

### 4. About Oil

What a difference a decade makes. By 2010, a new understanding about the natural limits

of oil production had sunk in at the EIA and its experts were predicting a disappointingly modest petroleum future. In that year, world oil output had reached just 82 million barrels per day, a stunning 15 million less than expected. Moreover, in the 2010 edition of its International Energy Outlook, the EIA was now projecting 2020 output at 85 million barrels per day, hardly more than the 2010 level and 30 million barrels below its projections of just a decade earlier, which were relegated to the dustbin of history. (Such projections, by the way, are for conventional, liquid petroleum and exclude "tough" and "dirty" sources that imply energy desperation -- like Canadian tar sands, shale oil, and other "unconventional" fuels.)

The most recent EIA projections also show oil's share of the world total energy supply -- far from remaining constant at 38% -- had already dropped to 35% in 2010 and was projected to continue declining to 32% in 2020 and 30% in 2035. In its place, natural gas and renewable sources of energy are expected to assume ever more prominent roles. So here's the question all of us should consider, in part because until now no one has: Are the decline of the United States and the decline of oil connected? Careful analysis suggests that there are good reasons to believe they are.

### Our Recommendations:

1. G20 should take the ownership for encouraging the Diaspora to relocate back home in order to bring their expertise and to make positive changes. I will recommend the name of "G20-Support Team of Diaspora from Poor Countries" (G20-STDPC). Such dynamism will create jobs and will reduce poverty.

2. Remembering Some Lessons from the Financial Meltdown and the Bailout.

In 2007 -- 2008 we have since seen the bailout of Bear Stearns and serious concerns about Lehman and -- the GSE's, as well as the continuing bother of the classic too-big-to-fail doctrine.

The supply of capital worldwide is faltering as sovereign wealth funds pulled back to the sidelines and policymakers are discussing allowing non-bank private equity funds to aid the recapitalization. As a result of the continuing need for capital, press and policymakers are once again discussing direct government and government-sponsored bailouts. In doing so, however, I want to remind readers that there are (at least) three lessons that legislators and regulators -- and investors -- should be aware of before assembling any systemic bailout. Those lessons are knowledge accumulated through the history of successful and unsuccessful bailouts.

We probably won't get it right the first time, but that would not be surprising, even in the global and historical context. The first binding principal is that if the target institutions like the terms, the bailout isn't going to work. Second, adding leverage to insolvent institutions doesn't help them achieve less insolvency. Third, recapitalizations work but only if properly structured.

### 11. Some Measures

Although the challenge is tough, it doesn't mean that it can't be achieved. We must avoid restrictions by adapting our business culture to new environment. For example, we could begin interest in the wider world, building a culture of adventure, a thirst for challenge and a healthy curiosity about alien culture, religion, food, etc. It will help if the local people in the firm are multilingual, multiracial or multi-cultural.

The world is changing very fast. No one can cope with such a trend while dealing with old ideas, and conservative attitudes. We must rethink the role of a bank in our economy.

**Among the series of solutions:**

1. Review the fundamental mission of a bank: securing and lending money. Banks and financial institutions must seek maximum protection of funds. The motto must be: prudence, manage risks.
2. The Concept of Homo Economicus has proven its limits.

Let's take another (empirical) metaphor distilled from Prof. Stanley Milgram of Yale

University. In 1961-1963 Prof. Milgram conducted a weird experiment about obedience

to authorities.<sup>3</sup> Today some gurus of Economics and Finance are making the same experiment under our noses.

The law must play an important role, however conscience is key. In 1958 political economist Edward Banfield concluded that poverty in Southern Italy was directly attributable to what he dubbed "amoral familism". Take away one leg of a three-legged stool, and the stool no longer stays upright. Take away conscience, and law and reputation, by themselves, may no longer suffice to ensure a civil society. As said Robert Putnam, "our increasing reliance on television and other forms of electronic entertainment contribute to declining pro social behavior. Electronic entertainment keeps people indoors and isolated, away from public places and from each other. It encourages narcissism, materialism, and envy...."

The assumption that people are selfish has been embedded in economics from the beginning. From at least Hobbes's day, economic thinkers have emphasized self-interest in explaining human behavior. This seems appropriate in a well regulated marketplace, where selfish behavior is common and contributes to social welfare. The homo economicus approach is a wonderful tool for analyzing problems like monopoly, surplus, and shortage.

But, outside this arena, especially in the Oil Price Market, the assumption of rational selfishness may be of questionable value in helping us address social problems like failing schools, rising crime, poor medical care, political corruption, financial frauds and manipulations, or CEO malfeasance. Slogans like, "Accountability", "Transparency", "Incentives" are often used by cynical crooks in order to delude. The most obvious example may be Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner's 2005 blockbuster, *Freakonomics: A rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything* (2005). According to the authors, "incentives are the cornerstone of modern life. Morality... represents the way that people would like the world to work – whereas economics represents how it actually does work."

There many things to say about Ethics in order to prevent the same mistakes that put us into this current financial mess. It is time to stop watching them play the yoyo game, and the "Milgram Experiment" on the oil prices and the global economy. If we do not take responsibility to act now, the consequences will be devastating on poor countries. Emphasizing the power of material incentives and ignoring conscience not only hampers our ability to address certain social problems, it can make those problems worse. We

*3 The Wikipedia: In this experiment, 37 out of 40 participants administered the full range of shocks up to 450 volts, the highest obedience rate Milgram found in his whole series. Thus, according to Milgram, the subject shifts responsibility to another person and does not blame himself for what happens. This resembles real-life incidents in which people see themselves as merely cogs in a machine, just "doing their job," allowing them to avoid responsibility for the consequences of their actions. The shocks themselves were fake, the participant who took the place as the 'learner' in the experiment was in fact a paid actor who would simulate the effects of the shock depending on the voltage. Milgram became very notorious for this tactic, and his experiment was soon classed as highly unethical as it caused stress to the participants in the study. The study soon became one of the most talked about psychological experiments in recent history, invading headlines across the world, and resulted in Milgram finding himself in the centre of public attention. There was a huge divide in the psychological community as many [who?] believe that his deception was necessary in*

*proving fault with the human condition and helping to explain the actions of the Nazis in the Holocaust, which was the main reasoning*

*behind the creation of the study.*

must continue cultivating conscience and go beyond Homo Economicus, it already proved its limits.

3. Restore the credibility of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and change its mission to a global central bank for overseeing the rudderless global financial system, monitor risk of big players like Citigroup, Deutsche Bank, HSBC, and large insurance groups.

4. New Banking Paradigms:

- Stability first, then transience, entrepreneurship, advisory before taking risks.
- Technocracy versus adhocracy, rationalism, intuition logic based on "how and knowledge" rather than hierarchyization and a rigid chart for the decision making.
- Job openings fitting the candidate capable of adaptability; vision and go beyond.

Rather than job description predetermined and conformity.

5. We can limit the impact of this financial crisis by lowering interest rate. It will induce consumers to buy and to regain confidence.

6. We should review the Doha Agreement on the international trade in order to segregate and or to avoid the international recession.

7. Suppress toxic debts as well as other financial instruments related to credit.

8. Encourage and innovate instruments of collaterals including the letter of credit, bid and performance bonds.

9. The G20 should insure that the World Trade Organization (WTO) is fairly monitoring subsidies to companies involved in international trading. Again the Doha Cycle must be re-dynamized.

10. Bagehot's Dictum: Bail out Illiquidity, not Insolvency and Make Sure it Hurts. Despite the paucity of the FDIC's problem bank list – and indeed because the FDIC is staffing up their resolutions division to historic levels – there are lot of banks in trouble today. The typical starting place for systemic assistance is Bagehot's dictum. Bagehot's dictum is the classic rule of bank policy (as opposed to monetary policy): lend to illiquid, but not insolvent, institutions at a penalty rate.

Bagehot therefore necessitates answering the question: which ones are insolvent and which just illiquid? Hence, the problem with applying Bagehot's dictum to bailout policy

is that it is difficult to distinguish illiquid from insolvent institutions during a financial crisis. Following the crisis, therefore, institutions that are clearly insolvent must be allowed to fail. Institutions at the margin may be candidates for targeted recapitalizations, but only in tightly supervised conditions.

11. No institution should want a bailout – hence Bagehot’s stipulation of a penalty rate. Even in the depths of the Great Depression thousands of banks were so deeply troubled

that they could not be rescued. Those that received Federal recapitalization did so through preferred stock investment with full voting rights, which the Reconstruction Finance Corporation used to replace officers and directors and forcibly restore institutions to solvency. No bank wanted the funds and the Federal control that came with them. Today, while many banks are in trouble the FDIC does not seem to want to reveal the true extent of the difficulties. Those difficulties need to be revealed for Bagehot’s rule to be applied.

#### 12. Loans Don’t Help

Because of the aversion to the harsh realities of Bagehot’s rule, nearly every bailout program begins by trying to lend money to the affected institutions in order to mask wide spread insolvencies.

The Great Depression’s Reconstruction Finance Corporation attempted loans initially, but Mason<sup>4</sup> showed that loans to weak institutions actually increased the chance of failure. The Discount Window was opened to weak banks in the Thrift Crisis, but, showed that discount window lending was a similar waste of money and effort. For Japan, Calomiris and Mason document the efforts to lend to banks in the early 1990s, and how authorities quickly concluded the effort was a failure and moved to recapitalizations. In each case the effort was based on the allegation of the effectiveness of Great Depression programs

administered by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. The problem is, showed that those programs didn’t work. The short reason is that giving additional leverage to a bank already in trouble will only make the situation worse.

#### 13. Recapitalizations Help, but Change Management and Close the Back Door.

In each of those cases, recapitalizations were the next logical step. In the Great Depression, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation took a three-step approach: close the weakest banks, recapitalize the sounder institutions, and exert iron-fist control over the banking industry after the Federal Government owned voting stock in nearly every commercial bank (and many nonfinancial corporations) in the US. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation replaced officers and directors of banks and corporations and prohibited dividend payments for as long as they owned stock in the institution. The Reconstruction Finance Corporation then used that same control to direct credit to strategic industries for the ensuing war effort and post-war recovery. Notably, the Reconstruction Finance Corporation was the only government agency to be shut down after its policies were alleged to part of widespread pattern of greed and corruption in the

1950s.

US officials wanted to reinstate the Reconstruction Finance Corporation recapitalization program in the 1980s Thrift Crisis, but found they did not have adequate authority to do so. Hence, regulators resorted to regulatory goodwill capitalization (forbearance) to fund

4[https://exmail.smarsh.com/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://research.stlouisfed.org/publications/review/92/09/Misuse\\_Sep\\_Oct1992.pdf](https://exmail.smarsh.com/exchweb/bin/redir.asp?URL=http://research.stlouisfed.org/publications/review/92/09/Misuse_Sep_Oct1992.pdf)“Schwartz (FRB St. Louis Review 1992).

bank capital, which was ultimately withdrawn by Congress. That withdrawal led to a Supreme Court breach of contract ruling against Congress and in decades of lawsuits (that are still being worked out). Congress’ withdrawal of regulatory goodwill was the only time Congress has been successfully sued. But Japan used direct recapitalization to rescue its banking system in the 1990s. As a result, much of the capital injected by the Japanese government was immediately tunneled out of the banks in the form of excess shareholder dividends. A second recapitalization program was necessary to make an impact.

#### **The Invisible Hand: The incidence of Maladjusted Persons in the Conduct of**

##### **Business and in World Affairs.**

Today the most notorious criminals are on the street, and/or are hiding themselves inside powerful institutions. People evidencing Antisocial Personality Disorder (ADP) are everywhere. The most characteristic of these “silent killers” can be summarized as follows: (1) Failure to conform to social norms with respect to lawful behaviors as indicated by repeatedly performing acts that are grounds for arrests; (2) Deceitfulness, as indicated by repeatedly lying, us of alias, or conning other for personal profit or pleasure; (3) Impulsivity or failure to plan ahead; (4) Irritability and aggressiveness as indicated by repeated physical fights or assaults; (5) Reckless disregard for safety of self or others; (6) Consistent irresponsibility as indicated by repeated failure to sustain steady work or honor financial obligations; (7) Lack of remorse as indicated by being indifferent to or rationalizing having hurt, mistreated, or stolen from another.<sup>5</sup>

The most dangerous are Psychopaths and Schizophrenics. These maladjusted persons who should be in hospitals and/or in high security prisons are spreading dangerous viruses among us. Psychopaths are people evidencing a condition characterized by lack of empathy or conscience, and poor impulse control or manipulative behaviors. At work place psychopaths use manipulative skills of some of the others are valued for providing audacious leadership. Some have argued that psychopathic is adaptive in a highly competitive environment, because it gets results for both the individual and the corporations they represent. But Psychopaths are interspecies predators who use charm, manipulation, intimidation, and violence to control others and to satisfy their own selfish needs. Lacking in conscience and in feelings for others, they take what they want and do as they please, violating social violence to control others and to satisfy their own selfish needs. Lacking in conscience and in feelings for others, they take what they want and do as they please, violating social norms and expectations without guilt or remorse. Psychopaths miss the very qualities that allow a human being to live in social harmony. Psychopathy can be a product of genes, trauma, or disease.

5 P.46, Cultivating Conscience, By Lynn Stout.

Eventually the most popular dangerous attitude is “the schizophrenic’s behavior.” Schizophrenics constitute a social menace because schizophrenia seems to be the most important disintegrative forces within our cultures. It is a lack of emotional tone, the

« dead-pan » expression, and the verbal irresponsibility. And a general lack of any



consciousness of abstracting, a schism within the personality, with extreme ravage around the patient. Or a split between « the intellect » and « the emotions. » The patient exhibits an almost chronic poker face, a « dead-pan » or « dead-fish » expression. He seems usually to show no affective reactions, to experience little or none of the grief, affection, joy, etc., which are felt and expressed by normal people. These ignored patients are spreading thousands of “viruses” (stress), ranging from verbal bacteria to cancers, and ending to wrong decisions, and conflicts around them. Most of these patients are designed to manage uncertainties and to take very crucial decisions for the rest of the world, including... commodities and oil prices...

## PART II: GREEN ECONOMY, AGRI-BUSINESS AND FOOD.

Since 2008, about 60 countries from all continents have faced social disturbances brought forth by the dramatic increase in the prices of the most important foodstuffs. In Bangladesh, Egypt, the RD Congo, the Philippines, Angola, and a major part of West Africa, just to name a few, social tensions and violent demonstrations were initiated by multitudes that vehemently claimed their right to a more dignified and faire life. Because of rise in the price of the basket of essential foodstuffs, it is estimated that an additional

100 million people will face hunger in the world. It is an indescribable tragedy. It

generates anguish, anxiety and helplessness in people and nations, threatening social peace and political stability.

From 2006 to 2008 the price of rice increased by 127%; wheat, by 136%; corn, by 125%; soy, by 107% and milk, by 80%. Likewise, the price of beef increased by over 60%; of chicken by over 50%, just like for eggs and edible oils. And prices this year have exceeded 2008 levels for all these products. (Source: Mr. Leonel Fernandez, President of the Dominican Republic, at the Unctad 58th Session in Geneva, 12-23 September 2011.)

This inflationary behavior has been explained by the off-season droughts faced wheat producing countries; by the increase in oil prices and its impact on fertilizers, pesticides and transport; by the use of food crops to produce biofuels, as has been the case of ethanol produced out of corn; by the increasing standards of living in Asia and the subsequent higher demand for meat; by decrease in food reserves; by the effects of climate change; or by the variations in the composition of demographic groups in several parts of the world.

Without attempting to dispute the truth inherent to all these explanations, little attention has been paid to the role played by speculation in the rise of international prices. According to academic experts, speculation has been one of the main factors in the economic and financial crisis that began in 2007. They attribute between 20 and 40% of the rise in international commodity prices to speculation. Futures markets have allowed the anticipated negotiation of prices between commodity producers and their wholesale clients. In this fashion, the participants have been able to distance themselves from the effects of any unforeseen fluctuations in final prices or in their financial or productive

costs. They involve producers and buyers around transaction of tangible products acquired by the latter and sold by the former by an agreed date...

In this traditional way, futures markets have given security and certainty to producers and consumers when facing volatility. As a consequence the volatile and uncontrolled rise of commodity prices causes trade deficits, inflationary pressures, interest rate hikes and currency devaluations, with their accompanying social costs and political pressures to fight fluctuations by means of prices subsidies to commodity products; subsidies which are almost impossible to provide in the absence of fiscal surpluses and international financing. In the same manner, commodity – producing countries are also affected eventually, due to the decline in the long – term demand for their products, resulting from the inability of end – users to accommodate their budget to the high cost of speculation.

Commodity – exporting countries should have the greatest interest in preventing the immense suffering of citizens in importing countries, whose income is weakened by market volatility, eroding their purchasing power, their quality of life and their hopes for a better future.

The topic to be raised should be the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in raising awareness that firms have responsibilities other than to their owners and the bottom line. Yet despite all the talk about the importance of stakeholders, transparency, corporate citizenship and sustainability, the developmental and regulatory impacts of CSR remain highly questionable. With regards to the above, we propose that G20 should examine why the experience of CSR pales in comparison with the promise, what needs to be done to address the intellectual crisis of CSR, and forms of corporate accountability and regulation more conducive to inclusive patterns of development by exploring new avenues for job creation.

Despite progress in Europe and in Asia, the world is still affected by major development challenges: Poverty, Education, Gender Inequality, Health, Environment and Sustainable development. Yet, the Nansen Principles to responds to climate and environmentally- related displacement need to me informed by adequate knowledge and guided by the fundamental principles of humanity, human dignity, human rights, and international cooperation. In Africa particularly faces a number of post-transition challenges: weak governance and fragile institutions, frozen conflicts, inequality, expansion of the informal economy, demographic dynamics (uncontrolled), Migration flows, etc. Agriculture, by its inherent multifunctionality, has the potential to both influence and address the factors that contribute to food insecurity. Organic agriculture relies on five capital assets for success (natural, social, human, physical and financial) and so contributes to and builds ups stocks of these natural, social and economic resources over time thus often reducing many of the factors that less to food insecurity.

### Benefits of such policy:

1. Increase in food availability especially in developing countries,
2. Benefits to the natural environment,
3. Benefits to the natural environment,
4. Benefit to community, cooperation and partnerships,
5. Increase in education, skills and health,
6. Improvements to infrastructure and markets,
7. Increase in farmer and household incomes.

### Factors contributing to food insecurity in Africa:

1. Lack of consistent access to food,
2. Degraded natural resources, practice of mono-cropping,
3. Community and group issues,
4. Lack of education and knowledge. Health and disease, gender issues,
5. Poor infrastructure, lack of access to appropriate technologies,
6. Poverty, lack of access to markets,
7. Land-tenure issues, political issues (External factors.)

**Other priority areas for investment in the transition towards a green economy are:**

1. Small holder food agriculture, where farmers should be assisted and credited for investing in sustainable livelihoods,
2. Sustainable agriculture, which must be de-industrialized, given that at present time is largely hydrocarbon-based,
3. Clean, decentralized rural energy systems,
4. Less polluting public transportation systems.

**The Impact and Consequences of Global Warming for Agriculture:**

Generally, the impact and consequences of global warming for agriculture tend to be

more severe for countries with higher initial temperatures, greater climate change exposure, and lower levels of development. Particularly hard hit will be areas with marginal or already degraded lands and the poorest part of the rural population with little adaptation capacity.

**As a summary:**

1. Higher temperatures affect plant, animal and farmers' health, enhance pests and reduce water supply increasing the risk of growing aridity and land degradation.
2. Modified precipitation patterns will enhance water scarcity and associated drought stress for crops and alter irrigation water supplies. They also reduce the predictability for farmers' planning.
3. The enhanced frequency of weather extremes may significantly influence both crop and livestock production. It may also considerably impact or destroy physical infrastructure for agriculture.
4. Enhanced atmospheric concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> may, for a limited period of time, lead to "natural" carbon fertilization and thus a stimulus to crop productivity.
5. Sea level rise is likely to influence trade infrastructure for agriculture, may inundate producing areas and alter aquaculture production conditions.
6. The impact of global warming has significant consequences for agricultural production and trade of developing countries as well as an increase risk of hunger.

**Our Recommendations**

Price stability is an indispensable prerequisite for food security. It is also imperative for

the smooth transition to new patterns of energy generation. And it is an urgent need for developed and developing countries that are seeking to prevent further economic crises and social unrest.

Even though there has been a slow and fragile recovery from the 2007-2008 financial crisis, at the end of 2010 and beginning of 2011, a new wave of financial speculation has once again, increased oil and food prices. This can continue in the future in the absence of regulatory mechanisms. These mechanisms should be implemented without exclusions that would ensure the existence of transparent futures markets, where all transactions are properly cleared and accounted for, such that the participation of institutional investors could not have speculative effects.

That is why a new consensus is needed among all members of the United Nations with regards to the stability of commodity prices. A consensus that must rely on appropriate oversight and regulatory mechanisms at both national and multilateral levels, in order to preserve the positive role of the commodity futures markets, which should reduce price fluctuations by allowing farmers to protect themselves through hedging and thus ensuring market integrity, mitigating manipulation and allowing the market's price discovery function.

There is also an urgent need for the international sharing of the best practices for regulating the futures market, to promote the growth of commodity production, to provide reliable trade flows and thus mitigate price volatility, so that more people can buy these products and more producers can sell their products on world markets.

A new consensus in these terms is possible. Because it will benefit all members of the United Nations. Because only in the United Nations can such a consensus be legitimated. And because legitimacy is the foundation of good governance, which is a precondition for the stability we need to ensure food security for all.

### **PART III: REVISITING “AID”, AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.**

*Poverty of poor nations is a permanent danger to rich countries.*

In this section we explain why “Aid” must be replaced by “partnership and technology transfer. Our position is corroborated by Dambisa Moyo in her bestseller, “Aid, Why Aid is Not Working and How There is a Better Way For Africa.”<sup>6</sup>

#### **I. The Dilemma about “International Aid.”**

Every unhappy country is unhappy in its own way, but all are alike in their inability to produce equitable growth. The roots causes are often also the main reasons why disbursing foreign assistance in these places is fraught with difficulty: weak state institutions or overbearing bureaucracies, few accountability mechanisms, pervasive corruption; lack of human capital, and so on. The countries that most need development assistance are often also those that are least able to cope with it. In decades past, the standard response by donors was to implement aid programs directly, with little active involvement from recipient countries. This approach often achieved the immediate objectives of individual projects – but it did nothing to address the underlying problem of institutional weakness.

Since the 1980’s many programs were launched to help poor countries end their growing misery. But these programs generated many ill effects resulting in immigration and other dramas when people try to escape misery in their homelands. Despite international conferences and plans about poverty, the world is still confronted with an unprecedented growth in inequalities and a spectacular increase in the gap between rich and poor, aggravated by the current financial crunch. It raises concerns and questions about the

6 Dr. Dambisa Moyo is an international economist and New York Times best-selling author of both *Dead Aid: Why Aid is Not Working and How There is a Better Way For Africa*,<sup>[2]</sup> published in 2009, and *How the West Was Lost: Fifty Years of Economic Folly - And the Stark Choices that Lie Ahead*, published in early 2011.

result of colonialism, especially in Africa. The case of the Democratic Republic of Congo is very critical.

Eventually, if by democracy is meant discussion and debate among equal human beings making a free choice of a project for a collective future. Then, the unilateral imposition of market rules on individuals and peoples is the antithesis of democracy. The market, as defined by contemporary neoliberals, where “free and equal partners” act in a deregulated space, is pure fiction, as is the belief that the free market is a condition for the existence of other liberties. In fact, market function inevitably leads to battles of wills and power struggles, which the strongest usually win. The crux of the matter, then, is by whom and for whose benefit the market is regulated

#### **Solutions are possible.**

For example, instead of pursuing the traditional policy that attaches little importance to how dictatorship is devastating people in poor countries, the New Administration could change drastically attitude, considering and treating dictatorship governments as terrorists groups.

Eventually, entice cooperation with talented members of the Diaspora in order to make positive changes in their homelands. As a consequence, the G-20 will lighten the correlation between social investment for economic development and democratization through different schemes.

Among them: new vision on Africa, working with the Diaspora as new G-20 partners for developing poor countries, reviewing financial programs, creating a New Development Fund, encouraging trading with poor countries.

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#### **1. Changing Vision on Africa**

Poor countries need commitment of international and national strategists. However, Africans must be the architects of their own development. The role of the G-20 should be supporting such an effort. It is critical that the Diaspora must bring its expertise back home for improving the living conditions.

- Africa is a potential market and there will be no future without Africa. A study published by the IRIN in Johannesburg in 2005 reveals that the new field in 2055 will be Africa.
- The continent is the second lung of the world. With 30 million square kilometers of landmass, Africa is three times the size of China, more than three times the size of the US and six times bigger than Europe.
- Africa has huge water resources, and abounds in agricultural and mineral resources.
- In 2025, one in four of the world’s population will be African - an estimated 1.9 billion people. In 2055, Africa will be the second demographic power of the world - more than Europe, North America, and Latin American countries combined.
- Africa has 830 million people and millions of immigrants (Diaspora) scattered around the world.

#### **2. Working with the Diaspora as new partner for developing poor countries.**

The cost of hiring international project managers and of buying goods and services on the international market prompted questions as to whether the aid money was being well- spent.

Therefore, instead of encouraging charities to stimulate social development in poor countries, we strongly recommend integrating the Diaspora and transform it to a “G-20 Partners for Development” in poor countries.

#### **PLAN**

- Select and recruit well educated, trustworthy and capable people in the Diaspora in each specific field.

- Grant them a special status and protection so that they can return and work safely in their homelands.
- Sign a clear agreement with the government of their homelands and protect this Work Force by the means of a special status as International Civil Servants for Development.
- Instead of financing corrupted and/or incompetent governments in poor countries, the New Administration should pay these civil servants and give them a clear mission in their respective areas of expertise. The past decade has seen a shift away from direct execution towards national ownership of development efforts – i.e., ownership by the national administrations of the recipient countries.
- A special division at the G-20 should evaluate the performance and the achievement of the Diaspora operating in homeland.
- The G-20 should avoid large paper work that recipient governments have to provide in order to qualify for development assistance because they are not only

expensive to draft and lengthy; but also tend to be a major distraction from more basic tasks in the building of effective states.

- Also, too great a focus on ownership actually discourages frank discussion between donor and partner, because many issues are deemed to be matters for the partner country alone.

### 3. Financial Programs

It is a mistake for donors to continue generously pledging so-called grants and loans to governments of poor countries.

- We have seen billions of dollars "given" to poor countries, however, money has been misused, diverted or stolen by the heads of poor countries, especially African governments.

- Vast and urgent needs have emerged since then, which makes it yet even more

imperative to convert the pledges into cash quickly and give them to private investors.

- Bearing in mind the growing challenges faced by populations in poor countries in all regions, donors will have to be prepared to mobilize additional resources for urgent as well as long-term needs.

- Micro credit should be limited because it creates dependence and it reduces the market share.

- Business in poor countries are facing many other problems going from unjustified suspicions from the officials, passing to the market barriers erected for political reasons rather than business and free trade, and the unfairness of international financial institutions like the IMF.

- If supported by the financial institutions, entrepreneurs in poor countries will enhance operations and diversify activities in other market places. The effective financial products and instruments would be multiple, ranging from international transferable commercial guarantees and collaterals to credit lines facilities to entrepreneurs.

The result will be: creation of jobs, with a significant impact on reducing poverty and its ill effects.

The G-20 should be involved in facilitating access to finance to poor countries exporters. The direct consequences of such a global strategy would be multiple and nurturing. We will see the resurgence of a new economic era in poor countries. The informal economy would be eroded and businesses will export, get strong currencies from their transactions with rich countries, acquire and develop new technologies, inflow of tax in poor countries resulting from international trade, job creations, including the development of the

banking industry and related sectors. The global impact would be the reduction of unemployment and the amelioration of social and economic life in poor countries.

This is why the next G-20 Conference should encourage institutions and private investors to rethink credit programs and business incentives to poor/lesser developed countries.

We should insist on the commitment of the international and national strategists in order to ensure that adequate and fair financial facilities are available to the poor for them to export their products and services into the international market. It will be a significant way to share the economic resources of our global world. As a direct consequence, it will generate jobs; reduce poverty and its ill effects in poor countries.

### 4. Create a New Development Fund.

In addition to existing programs, the G-20 should give a special budget to the Diaspora. The purpose should be the rehabilitation and construction of the core infrastructures in homeland. However, the G-20 should create an entity designed to insure good governance in the recipient countries.

In order to achieve this, we must work together to create flexible mechanisms that bring funds and expertise more rapidly to where they are needed, particularly for creating jobs, exploring and setting up new technologies in poor countries, and helping businesses from these countries to export their goods and services.

### 5. Encouraging trading with poor countries.

There is nothing more false and misleading than equating democracy with free markets. If democracy means discussion and debate among equal human beings making a free choice of a project for a collective future, then the unilateral imposition of market rules on individuals and peoples is the antithesis of democracy. The market, as defined by contemporary neoliberals, where "free and equal partners" act in a deregulated space, is pure fiction, as is the belief that the free market is a condition for the existence of other liberties. In fact, market function inevitably leads to battles of wills and power struggles, which the strongest usually win. The crux of the matter, then, is by whom and for whose benefit the market is regulated. The G-20 can play this role too.

**Actions to be taken by the G-20 in order to make it happen:**

- G-20 should advocate for rich countries not seal up its borders, but look harder at the terms of engagement. Business insists that trading nations respect its property rights.

- The G-20 should use its power to influence the UN and its affiliated organizations should interfere in facilitating poor countries to access credits, for exporting their products and services, and then to face foreign competition. As a result, there

would be tremendous economic benefits of opening services markets such as helping exporters and producers capitalize on their competitive strength; enhancing consumer savings; fostering innovation and technology transfer.

- The G-20 should change stereotypes built on investments from poor countries, access to affordable financial supports, suppressing marketing barriers, suppressing protectionism, and facilitating the visas to poor investors. It will lead to a platform where we will have unconditional allies around the world.

**In order to achieve such challenges, many steps can be taken:**

- Suppressing market barriers and protectionism.

Poor countries businesses are stunned how rich countries protect their market by means of restrictions and drastic regulations going from visas and immigration, to business authorizations to entrepreneurs from poor countries. There are huge administrative and market barriers as well as dark protectionist mutterings on both sides of the Atlantic. Resistance has grown to unfettered changes in ownership through mergers and acquisitions.

- Immigration issues.

Qualified workers from around the world with proven experience need facilitation to immigrate to the US. However access to visas and employment permits is very difficult to obtain. In business for example, investors are facing difficulties in negotiating and or trading face to face with their clients, and other partners in America. So they may chose, although very risky, was to rely on their supplier and their technology, for sub-contracting.

- Integrating immigrant financial force

We must spur the market dynamism into our hubs, and explore the impact of the immigrants in the global. In Third world countries, the transfers done by the Diaspora are superior to the public budget. The economies of poor countries will continue being financed by the Diaspora. The success will depend on how this financial force will be integrated in the local, regional and global economies.

As a result, the G-20 will become the "Enabler".

#### **TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER: WHAT CAN FIRMS DO?**

Technology transfer is one of the important engines for development. It also provides corporations the tools they need for competing in the local and in the global market,

especially export of products and services.

There are a variety of ways to export professional services. Today most businesses tend to think to professionals traveling to a foreign country and selling their services as a consultant. But businesses sell many such services at home to non-residents. Some legal and medical services fall into this category. Some services require an on-to-ground presence. Banking and advertising services, for example, generally require offices close to the clients. It illustrates the importance of measuring and having Consultants.

#### **1. Trading Services Across Borders.**

Business services can also be traded across borders, as with the sale of franchises or the delivery of software across borders. And some architects can organize their work so that much of it is delivered over the Internet and they can stay at home and still work with their clients via the Internet.

One way of getting around the problem of scale is for individuals to join together. The large international legal and the large international accounting firms have tried and tested this technique of partnerships over a long period and managed to make it work extremely effective.

#### **2. Word of Mouth and Trade Promotion Organizations (TPOs.)**

Word-of-mouth marketing international is the first principle. It is just to be very good at

what you are doing. The second is to get exposure – via international conferences, publications, formal and informal networking, and to network effectively, following up correspondence, staying in touch.

Then when an opportunity does arise, they think of you. Sometimes it means taking on unprofitable work for a period to establish a reputation. Or doing something for free. (Somewhat like the samples that merchandise exporters can provide.)

#### **3. Trust and Experience Make a Good Service Partner.**

You should build and/or to enhance these assets.

- Build personal relations, aim for best in class.
- A strong local base from our experience, firms with international ambitions need to already be one of the "best in their class" in their local environment in some important or niche area. They need to have a strong financial base.
- Interest in the wider world. They also need to possess a culture of adventure, a

thirst for challenge and a healthy curiosity about alien culture, religion, food, etc. It helps if the local people in the firm are multilingual, multiracial or multi- cultural. Today being fluent in English is very important.

- Excellent grasp of technology. Easy and effective access to Internet is a great tool.

An impressive website, high bandwidth access, good internal communication infrastructure, mobile capability and preferably a File Transfer Protocol (FTP)

service are the minimum requirements nowadays.

- Meeting international standards. And it is also important to develop capability in a

set of standards in compliance with either British and/or American standards. And work with the ISO.

- Respect creativity. Respect the creative output of your service sector professionals. Give them due credit for their intellectual innovations, which are the intangible, yet most valuable asset they have to trade.

- Opening the community and the government's eyes.

**Small firms can:**

- Find sustainable service niches. Devise an exit strategy if the demand in their niche dries up.

- Target opportunities requiring a high skill set and not only offer "cut and trim"

services

- Move to favorable locations, such as high-tech business parks, to reduce costs

(office space, telecom, etc.)

- Use their size as strength: decisions can be made quickly and staff can be kept motivated.

- Look at opportunities for niche markets that the bigger players will not compete for. At a time when the market for providing business process services continues to grow quickly, new opportunities are appearing all the time.

- Try to partner with a foreign firm, either one that is already established in the country and can offer world-class facilities, or one that markets its services overseas.

**Strategies can:**

- Make available effective infrastructure so that suppliers can compete on costs.

They must also help create the legal structure and provide a secure environment.

- Form effective partnerships with business to attract investors and promote an attractive national offering.

- Treat information technology as a priority sector.

- Give incentives to brokers, who play a crucial role in ensuring that services get to

the market, so that they become active participants in making deals.

**4. Think it Through.**

- Think strategically about communications.

- Build support with target groups.

- Integrate communications in your business plan.

- Plug into your National Brand: Build a global image.

- Put your stamp on trade.

- Reaching out with the Web. Simply building a web site won't bring visitors. It takes careful strategy and targeted marketing to lure visitors to the site once, and even more work to bring them back.

- Links bring new readers.

- Trade forum (also use them online.)

- Evolve as a portal

- Learn more about your reader.

- Build a global image.

**PART IV: ENERGY.**

In the Energy Industry, Oil remains the most popular source. However, its prices do not necessarily follow the Demand and the Offer trend. In an article published in September

2011, Edouard Nsimba, PhD in Economics, and Expert of the UN, Ed described and questioned "Do Higher Prices Indicate a Tight Market?" He brought the following analysis about Oil price variations.

After averaging \$116.5 per barrel (pb) in July 2011, Brent oil price decrease a bit to an average of 109.7 pb in mid-August 2011 (we refer here to spot prices as opposed to future prices). Contrary to expectations, oil price will strengthen further during the last quarter of 2011; a quarter of which, for seasonal reasons, global oil demand always

increases, which in turn often lead to a rise in oil price. The US light crude (WTI) rose to

\$115.0 pb in mid-August 2011; the highest in 22 years and exceeded –by far– the

psychological threshold of \$40.0 pb. In March 2011, oil prices as measured by the OPEC's reference basket averaged \$110.5 pb and remained unchanged so far. The surge in oil prices is led by market fundamentals, a great deal of speculation and lately a "fear premium". The former reflects stronger-than-expected global oil demand and lower than normal world oil inventories, particularly private inventories.

Oil demand increased in the United States in view of a colder than usual winter and an increasingly fuel-inefficient automobile fleet. Other sources of oil demand strengthen have been China, which has become the world's second largest oil consumer, Japan due to its nuclear power plants disaster (especially Fukushima), the inability of the plant return to full capacity any times soon and the German government's decision to gradually abandon nuclear power as source of alternative energy. Furthermore, government stocks have increased, thus contributing to higher demand and keeping the pressure on prices, whereas private inventories dropped to levels that kept refineries, particularly in the United States, dependent on fresh supplies therefore also maintaining the pressure on prices. Worldwide, global oil demand is expected to average 89.5 million barrel per day (mbd) in 2011 and slightly increase to an average of 91.1 mbd in 2012.

Meanwhile, market sentiment has remained volatile. At the beginning of this year, market sentiment remained strong as the global economy entered a more definitive recovery phase. Additionally, market participants started to anticipate fuel shortages and other potential supply disruptions particularly since the deterioration of the security situation in Iraq and repetitive attacks on oil infrastructure in Yemen. Market sentiments radically changed in mid-2011 responding to world economic downswing, fiscal consolidation and

its pro-cyclical policies. World oil supply, however, did not increase as abrupt disruption is taking place in Libya and Syria. Saudi Arabia and other OPEC producers are not willing to step in and calm the markets. Global oil supply is expected to average 87.7 mbd in 2011 and 89.4 mbd in 2012. The global oil market will remain tight with world oil demand slightly exceeding global oil supply, suggesting that oil price will remain high. Downside risks associated with higher oil prices are a big concern for both developed and developing countries. The relatively optimistic outlook for the world economy is based on the assumption that the petroleum prices will retreat to below \$70 pb by the end of 2011.

If, however, geopolitical events push upward further the petroleum prices, which in the

middle of 2011 are already extremely high, the global economic growth could be substantially curbed, and in a worst scenario, if a disruption of oil supply were to happen at large scale, the world economy would be sent into a recession, as witnessed in the two previous major oil shocks (1973-1974, 1979-1980). As stated, higher petroleum prices will act as an increase in international tax, reallocating wealth from a large number of oil-importing economies to a relatively small number of oil-exporting countries, from consumers to oil-producers. As a result, there will be a net welfare loss for the world economy as a whole.

However, there are two significantly different cases in terms of the impact of higher oil prices on the world economy. In the first case, the higher prices are mainly caused by a temporary disequilibrium between global demand and supply, and they will act as a brake to slowdown otherwise an overheated world economic growth, a normal market mechanism (although the distortion in the global oil market is notably more pervasive than in other markets). In the second case, however, the higher oil prices are primarily pushed up by a substantial supply shock, and if the disruption persists for a considerable period, an oil crisis will lead to a global recession. While the world economy will suffer notable welfare losses in both cases—for example, as shown by our world oil model, an increase of \$10 pb in petroleum prices will lead to a loss of about 0.5 per cent in the world gross product; in the latter case, the world economy will be aggravated by an indirect but even more severe whammy of shocks in confidence. A review of the past two oil crises suggests that the negative indirect consequences are likely to be larger than the direct effects.

The indirect effects stem from a sharp collapse of consumer and business confidence brought about by the higher prices. In both 1973 and 1979, the index of consumer confidence in the United States dropped by more than 50 per cent when oil prices stayed at their peak levels for about 6 to 12 months. In both instances, this loss of confidence resulted in a recession in the United States, to the detriment of growth in the world economy as a whole. For some net fuel-importing developing countries, higher oil prices might also trigger financial instability, severely damaging short-term prospects. Please, note that most quantitative studies based "static comparative analysis" can only catch the linear relationship between the oil prices and the welfare loss through income and substitution effects, but cannot reflect the non-linear impact from the shock on confidence.

There will certainly be a difference in the impact of an oil price shock on various country groups. The direct welfare loss from the income effects of increased oil prices for net fuel-importing countries differs from country to country and depends on the share of oil in total consumption. Most developed economies, the United States in particular, are still the largest per capita consumer of oil; however, per capita consumption in Asian developing economies has increased significantly, making them more vulnerable than previously to increases in prices and, in several cases, more affected than other countries in relative terms. Meanwhile, changes in the structure of production, towards service sectors, have made output in most developed economies less energy-intensive and will correspondingly reduce the adverse direct impact of any oil shock.

In contrast, more industrialization in many developing countries, such as China, during the past decade has been energy-intensive. For instance, oil consumption per unit of GDP in China, and many other developing countries is more than twice of that in most developed economies. As a result, for any given oil-price shock, these countries will experience a larger adverse effect than during earlier episodes.

The price spike is a matter of deep concerns for oil consumer countries, especially developing countries. If export revenues remain unchanged, oil-importing countries have four main ways of responding to these higher prices:

- Reducing the quantity of oil imports: this will slow their rate of economic growth;
- Reducing expenditures on other imports: since a large part of developing country

imports are capital goods and other inputs for production, this will also slow their rate of economic growth;

- Using foreign exchange reserves to meet the increased costs: the reserves of many developing countries are less than the unofficial prudential benchmark of three months' import expenditures, limiting on their ability to exploit this option;
- Obtaining additional financial resources from abroad, either from official sources

or by borrowing on international capital markets. High levels of existing debt, reinforced by the present general reticence of international capital markets to lend to developing countries, limit the scope for additional international private borrowing in most cases.

Even before the world economic recession (2007-2008), rising oil prices had already dampened growth in many oil-importing developing countries through the adverse impacts on their trade balances. Fiscal positions had also deteriorated, constraining government expenditure and/or raising the level of domestic public debt. The overall effect is a loss of economic welfare for oil-importing developing countries. From the point of view of the balance of payments, the countries most affected by higher oil costs are those with a high proportion of oil in their imports and in their GNP or with limited foreign exchange reserves to absorb the "shock" of higher prices.

Market volatility and differing assumptions about the future of the world economy are reflected in the range of price projections for both the short term and the long term; however, most projections show prices rising over the entire course of the projection period although slowing after 2025. The other projections range from \$78 per barrel to

\$95 per barrel in 2015, a span of \$17 per barrel; and from \$78 per barrel to \$135 per barrel in 2035, a span of \$57 per barrel. The only series that do not report projections in WTI terms are IEA's World Energy Outlook 20107, where prices are expressed as the IEA crude oil import price, and INFORUM, where prices are expressed as the average U.S. refiner acquisition cost of imported crude oil.

#### **How America's Decline Is Linked to Oil.**

In his ironical article published on September 15, 2011, Michael T. Klare describes,

America's rise to supremacy was fuelled by control over the world's oil suppl. Now, the decline of the U.S. coincides with the decline of oil as a major energy source. According to Michael T. Klare, America and Oil is like bacon and eggs, Batman and Robin. As the old song lyric went, you can't have one without the other. Once upon a time, it was also a surefire formula for national greatness and global preeminence. Now it's a guarantee of a trip to hell in a hand basket. The Chinese know it. Does Washington? America's rise to economic and military supremacy was fueled in no small measure by its control over the world's supply of oil. Oil powered the country's first giant corporations, ensured success in World War II, and underlay the great economic boom of the post-war period. Even in an era of nuclear weapons, it was the global deployment of oil-powered ships, helicopters planes, tanks, and missiles that sustained America's superpower status during and after the Cold War. It should come as no surprise, then, that the country's current economic and military decline coincides with the relative decline of oil as a major source of energy.

If American power is in decline, so is the relative status of oil in the global energy equation.

In the 2000 edition of its International Energy Outlook, the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the U.S. Department of Energy confidently foresaw ever- expanding oil production in Africa, Alaska, the Persian Gulf area, and the Gulf of Mexico, among other areas. It predicted, in fact, that world oil output would reach 97 million barrels per day in 2010 and a staggering 115 million barrels in 2020. EIA number-crunchers concluded as well that oil would long retain its position as the world's leading source of energy. Its 38% share of the global energy supply, they said, would remain unchanged.

#### **"When Deeds Speak Words Mean Nothing" (South Africa...)**

At our former position at the Italian state energy company, ENI (Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi), among other things our role was to check the historical reference prices, price formation, taxes and other prices of oil derivatives, scrutinize the physical market,

7 The EIA carries out interesting researches on oil prices. Information can be found at <http://www.eia.doe.gov>. (Energy

Price Volatility and Forecast Uncertainty, Source: EIA).

*In April 2009 I attended the EIA Annual Conference at the Washington Convention Center. Many Experts participated in this event, including Dr. Steven Chu, the US Secretary of State.*

etc. We realized that prices follow a cyclical trend, based on the market risks rather than the systemic risks.

It became clear to us that Crude Oil Prices increase when such events occur:

- Wars and armed conflicts (Angola, Iran-Irak, Irak-Koweit, etc.),
- Change of political regimes, or instability in some countries, terrorism, etc.
- Prices tend to increase especially in summer because of holiday season (people use more cars, airlines, ships, etc.)
- Oil prices are stable in winter.

But the question remains, "what will be consequences of high prices of oil on very poor

countries when the current financial will spread worldwide? "

#### **Summary of Recommendations:**

Because of increase of the population, cars production, heavy industry and transformation industry demand of oil, etc., my feeling is that Oil prices will continue to rise high and can reach a pick of \$160 in 2012.

We are pretty much convinced that if this scenario happens, the following would happen:

1. The GDP and the private consumption would be severely hit because incomes and revenues would be eroded by higher living costs.
2. This could drag many advanced economies back into recession.

The yoyo game (you start with economic recession followed by economic recovery and

again economic recession) will never last. The homo economicus philosophy is the trigger of our current international financial crisis.

3. At the same time, inflation would rise, increasing pressures in already heated poor countries, especially those who do not produce and export oil. However, the policymakers will come again with "appropriate" counter measures in order to fix the yoyo. We should expect the emerging economies represented by the BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India and China) to play a big role in order to reach an acceptable break- even-point about oil prices. And I strongly recommend that the BRIC should work



closely with the Opec countries.

From my experience at ENI, I also realized that the Oil industry is linked with the transportation demand. Both industries are in turmoil. If we do not take the necessary realistic measures to accommodate transport with the oil prices, we will pay the high price in five-ten years. For example, how many cars, trains, aircraft, ships, do we have in the world? How about in 2050? Are we dreaming about the Hybrids and Electric cars? How will we monitor and catch the CO2?

## **PART V: JOB CREATION.**

Why do we experience bankruptcies, layoffs, and growing unemployment? How can we reverse the trend by creating jobs? In today's developing and transitional economies, can we expect organized business interests to support social and other public policies conducive to inclusive development? Does the rise of big business facilitate or undermine this objective?

Based on our own experience of Entrepreneur, here are 13 actions to be taken for job creation:

### **1- Support Start ups and Small Business Companies.**

Startup companies suffer in securing a loan from banks and financial institutions. On one

hand, banks offering unacceptable conditions and terms for loans and credits, and on the other hand, finance being used as a political weapon. The largest difficulty to obtain the needed initial investment is the unacceptable conditions and terms for loans and credits from banks and lenders. Such difficulties can force some vulnerable startup to take a high risk exposure for losing intellectual property by sub-contracting with other businesses already operating in the international market. The G20 should address such critical contradictions between theories and practice.

How?

- Generate a policy encouraging innovation and creativity (I.e., new industries.)
- Review our Patents system for encouraging escrows accounts for start ups,
- A significant budget should be secured in order to cope with the effects of climate change.

- Sanctions shall be taken against abuses.

### **2. Prioritize Agri-Business and Technology Advance.**

They are both one of the basic tools to measure the competitiveness and the economic growth of a country. They are the main barometers for integrating and improving productivity of goods and services in other fields. Special units should explore these fields through effective entrepreneurship schemes.

### **3. Encourage trading with emerging economies.**

These countries are becoming dynamos of economic activity. In other words, the contribution of these countries reinvigorates the global economic activity. In particularly countries with a high economic rate growth, including Africa.

### **4. Energy, environment (ecology, climate changes), and development.**

- Encourage Entrepreneurs, and Students attend international conferences and workshops on climate changes.
- Develop new energy sources technologies and export it as well.

### **5. Promoting new industries we will generate significant revenues.**

For instance, we should design our environmental agenda to be a stimulus plan for the

clean-energy industry. A carbon tax or a cap-and-auction system, along with eliminating tax cuts for oil companies, could raise revenue for investments in green power or to retrain workers in older industries.

### **6. Education; innovation, research and training**

- Double the number of women in poor countries to attend colleges,
- Remunerate companies and or individuals, who innovate in their specific fields,
- Build an International Task Force for checking counterfeits.

### **7. No risks, no opportunities.**

We should remind and encourage people to take risk because risk is an opportunity. Not taking a risk may become a risk too. Entrepreneurs must participate to changing programs by being more action oriented, and risk takers. This program should be taught at high school and reechoed by the media.

Today the business world is locked with buyouts and acquisitions, which force some investors to believe that the fight is over, already won, or lost. What if your biggest competitor today, launches a product that could very well sink your biggest line? Or, what if an unforeseen shift in politics causes currency prices suddenly open a new market. Or, close an old one? How will you adapt? The Japanese have invented products which are already performing in the market, especially in automobiles and robotics. Amongst other things they introduced comfort and miniaturization, "the nano- technology." Your size is not necessarily a guarantee for your success and/or your survival within a never-ending competitive environment. And, you do not have to be big in order to see big. Your vision, creativity and technology can play a significant role in how fast and how well you can deal with new markets. Quality of the products and good risk management are essential to success.

#### **8. Government must be committed.**

Governments should be a partner to business and should focus on innovation, motivation,

ethics, and new markets

#### **9. Added value, products and services.**

The G20 should restore the qualities of products and services. For example, producing

coffee and/or ingredients, packing and labeling them at the place of production. The G20 should support manufacturers of products and services made locally. Governments should reduce tax to local companies, and increase tax of those who manufacture their products and services abroad, then import them to the country (i.e., dumping.)

#### **10. Ethics should be the motto.**

Because Ethics is an intangible assets with more value than material and money. The new administration should strive for ethical investments and should integrate human values into its goals and objectives.

We should respect the creativity of our entrepreneurs and give them due credit for their

intellectual innovations, which are the intangible, yet the most valuable asset they have to trade. We should pledge an intangible asset that stands far beyond measurable figures, and go much further because we do not see only with our eyes. Together we can make the difference of the difference, and change the transformation.

#### **11. Innovation.**

We must continue improving the quality of our products and services. Businessmen and Businesswomen should carry out activities towards specific schemes, and continue to take measured risks. They should have a long term vision and an aggressive strategy because after India and China, Africa is the next potential market. They should scrutinize the market opportunities and adapt strategies to the function of revenue and the type of resources it represents. It requires being organized, and be prepared for mutations within different industries. Mostly, they should be aware and alert to changing circumstances, which can make some businesses vulnerable or provide opportunities. The focus should therefore be on the future.

Organizations must be trained to respond quickly to signs of change and they should be able to quickly move people and money where needed. We should launch a United Nation's Pool of Innovativeness and Creativeness (UN PIC). It will operate as a melting pot where experts will distill ideas and experience and apply them in practice. However, they should be aware of imperfections; solutions should be monitored adequately for financial matters.

#### **12. Export Products and Services.**

Financial institutions are important in assisting businesses for exporting their goods and services. Exporting know-how is one of the engines for jobs creation, and the reduction of poverty in our blessed country. Such a conjunction of constructive ideas between entrepreneurs, investors and the government will be a terrific weapon to fight inequalities and to open a new era of an ethical global market.

#### **13. Businessmen and businesswomen must be highly motivated.**

We must believe in the power of networks for generating uncanny synergies that entrance

new paradigms in the financial and banking industry. If we preserve and if we improve access to international market, especially to emerging economies; competition will be enhanced; thereby inducing company to innovation; creativity and added value. As a consequence, job creation, as well as ending the current financial crisis.

### **PART VI: OUR OWN EXPERIENCE IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET.**

Today's international crisis appears to be an accumulation of various factors. In September 1999, while employed as a Risk and Operations Control Specialist at Barclays Bank in Geneva, Switzerland, I predicted this type of scenario. I have seen the risks inherent with credit derivatives and hedge funds in an industry left without control. I wrote papers for alerting about the ill effects and the need of governments to control such Damocles spears. Today, I realize that my previous analysis is being corroborated by many experts.

The following is based on my experience as Businessmen and Entrepreneurs in America, in Europe, and in Africa. In August 2005 I created a sole proprietorship in San Francisco, that we named, NVI Finance, Trading & Services, (NVI), designed to create a strategy of competitiveness and of growth. We subcontract in the areas of Finance, Agri-Business, Energy, and Mining. We remind people that the size of an investment or of a corporation is not necessarily a guarantee for survival and/or success in an ever-ending competitive environment. Our objective is to set up an architecture engine of innovation and creativity in new technologies. Focus on added value, comfort, and quality. Export to other markets, including the emerging economies and transition economies. This process would require the commitment for the government to ensure that such instruments are fair and available to all.

We approached faculty and scholars for applying new technology to business. We shared responsibility and competences between businesses and government. We propose to "solve immediate problems; set short-term agenda rather than thinking large policies and strategies." In order words, entice new paradigms and support Start ups.

#### **MILESTONES: Towards a Restructuring of the Banking System**

In this section we share our experience in the linkages and implications between export development and poverty reduction for Export Strategy-Makers". We will induce different topics to be debated by the audience, such as, Export Competitiveness and Poverty Reduction: Complementary or Competing Objectives? Pro-Poor Export

Strategies: What Works - A National, Regional, or Municipal Approach? Bringing the Poor into the Export Process: Is South-South Trade the Answer? Bringing the Poor into the Export Process: Is Linking Small Producers and Big Exporters a Solution? Bringing the Poor into the Export Process: A Question of Education or Entrepreneurship? Bringing the Poor into the Export Process: Is Access to Finance the Trigger? Gender and Export-Led Poverty Reduction: A Strategic Imperative? The Fair Trade Initiative:

Sustainable Commercial Opportunity or Development Trap? Export and Poverty: Impact Measurement – What are the Verifiers?

## EXPERIENCE #: LAUNCHING AN ETHICAL BANK

"Never doubt, that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." (Margaret Maed.)

Today the banking industry is locked with buyouts and acquisitions, and thereby forcing some investors to believe that the fight is over, already won, or lost. What if your biggest competitor, today, launches a product that could very well sink your biggest line? Or, what if an unforeseen shift in politics or in currency prices suddenly opens a new market? Or closes an old one? How will you adapt? The Japanese have invented products which are already performing in the market, especially in automobiles and robotics. Amongst other things they introduced comfort and miniaturization, "the nano-technology." Your size is not necessary a guarantee for your success and/or your survival within a never-ending competitive environment. And, you do not have to be big in order to see big. Your vision, creativity and technology can play a big role in how fast and how well you can deal with new markets.

Because we want to entice investments and entrepreneurship, we decided to launch an ethical bank designed to facilitate credit access. We will locate the bank in Geneva, Switzerland, for penetrating the international market. However, this strategy illustrated how it is difficult for businesses from poor countries to benefit the financial support in trying to sell their products and/or services worldwide. Despite difficulties, we use our size as an opportunity, and we are determined to achieve our objective.

We wrote the business plan, we completed the procedures, policies and strategies, we approached auditors and lawyers, and we discussed with the officials, for the banking license. Our main activity is granting credits. We will carry out also private banking activities for managing assets, and other facilities in the international arena. Our operations will be supervised by a Board of Directors and managed by an Executive Committee of experts, selected because of their outstanding experience and caliber in banking and world affairs. Client relationships will be carried out by qualified Private Bankers. Specialized departments will centralize operational support, while specific units

will run business quality control and compliance offices. We are ready to start operating. However, we need the required initial capital. And this is our major difficulty.

Therefore, we decided to explore another avenue for generating the funding ourselves. We decided to launch a bakery in San Francisco, with a Beta return. Profits generated will constitute a portfolio for financing the capital of our ethical investment bank. But, we soon find ourselves in the middle of contradictions between theories and practice. To one hand, banks offering unacceptable conditions and terms for loans and credits. To the other hand, finance being used as a political weapon. Basically we faced distrust, prejudices, disrespect and no recognition, just to impeach us to export our products and services. The market being locked by the giants, who decide who should be in the market or not.

We found some similarities between our approach and philosophy with Bank Raiffeisen created in 1902 by Reverend Pastor Johann Traber, at Bichelsee in the Canton (province, or state) of Turgovie. Today this bank has over 450 branches in Switzerland. Each shareholder is a co-operator, and part-owner of the bank. Until today, this bank is committed to the ethic preached by its founder. Like in 1862 Frederic Guillaume Raiffeisen we also decided to reconstitute the capital where it was produced, i.e. to the villagers in the form of saving and mutual petty cash for credits – against best terms guaranties.

The following lines describe how we started, the problems we are facing, and why we believe that financial support is the trigger for poor countries businesses to export. We will also describe how we try to solve this problem. Let see why we believe that poor countries can compete and how this vision led (epitomized) our business proposal for the creation of an investment ethical bank. Then we will describe how we organized the job, difficulties faced, and how we tried to solve them.

### Why should G20 supports our initiative for launching an Ethical Bank?

#### 1. The Momentum.

Success is not an accident. Although mergers and acquisitions are still dumping the

market, limiting and discouraging new entrants in the banking industry, we sustain that the game is not over. Our global strategy will reinforce our position in the emerging countries, and adapt our penetration strategy. This strategy sounds like a new miracle medicament entering into the market. We will avoid frontal and lateral attacks, and we will not adopt the surrounding technique. We prefer to conquer a market segment, and take advantage of inestimable trump, "the small entrant," for becoming the enemy who did not know how, but learned, and went beyond results. For example, we will explore the International Migration schemes.

Each year, immigrants and expatriates invest about 55% more than foreign investors. The Immigrants from Asia, Latin America, Arabs and Africans send back home hundreds of billions of Dollars, for the needs of their respective families. We encountered this

network, as well as, the African Americans community. We can defeat Goliaths by innovating top products at higher prices but with a low cash flow. This strategy can work, on the condition that our innovation (credit) should be really a small marvel offering advantages for which customers are ready to accept the price.

#### 2. Our Interpersonal Skills.

There are many factors and indicators that spur on to great efforts for the success of our endeavor. And we count on our interpersonal skills. We are encouraged, first by the new configuration of the emerging countries. In particular those with a high economic rate growth – are becoming dynamos of economic activity. In other words, the contribution of these countries reinvigorates the global economic activity. We want to explore this structural evolution. Second, we want to react against the inadequacies and perequations of different investment programs in the EC's. For example, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (Nepad), led by South Africa is an excellent plan.

However, its "unfulfilled commitments" by nations pose one of the greatest threats to the global investments network. We want to change such a situation by granting loans facilities to entrepreneurs, with another perspective for credit and risk.

#### 3. Risk Alertness.

Another indication of our chances for success is our notion of Risk. We interpret risk as

implying opportunity for greater returns. In our philosophy, risk is an investment, and also a stimulant that generates our excitement in any venture. We believe that when risk can be treated in a more discriminating manner, it becomes less threatening and more amenable to management, if not to elimination. Most important, we are aware that in evaluating risk, one dimension that is too often ignored is the risk of no action. In the real world, inaction involves risk - which a competitor may act, that customer preferences may change, that a new technology may appear from the shadows, and that factor costs may change.

#### 4. We promote business with a focus on Africa - by facilitating credit access.

We focus on Africa because it represents a terrific potential. Africans are reshaping their continent and improving their living conditions. The world is changing very fast. No one can deal with such a trend while coping with old ideas, and conservative attitudes. Today the main priority of nations is the eradication of poverty by providing employment. Since the 1980's many programs pretended to eradicate poverty, however, the ill effects of poverty caused immigration with dramas. We believe that African can do it themselves and enter in the international arena as competitors, not as subordinates or assisted. Like in sport, the new generation of African is multi qualified in the best school worldwide, and experienced. Especially, the Diaspora and its descendants. We want to explore these synergies.

##### **5. We understand the role of the Diaspora in the economy.**

We bank on an increase of transfer from the Diaspora for the economic rise of their

countries of origin. On November 2005 Sixtine Léon-Dufour, a World Bank expert quoted that the number of immigrants was 105 millions individuals in 1985. It counted

twice twenty years later. Immigrants from the South transfer 20% of their revenues in their homeland, the equivalent of 167 billions US in the first semester of 2005 (126 billions a year before). Despite the excessive transfers fees of organizations like Western Union. To the world scale, from now such flows of private capital represent two times the amount of the public assistance offered by the richest countries to the third world. They constitute the second source of direct investments. The World Bank suspects that these official figures could have been increased to 50% if we had computed the informal transfers, i.e. hidden money in the suitcases and funds sent back home by the means of non official network. Since 2001, the amount of transfers has soared to 73% and the trend does not show any sign of reversal.

The transfers done by the Diaspora represent an important part of the GDP of the recipient countries. In Tonga, for example, the amount of salaries equals 31% of the GDP, 16% in Salvador, almost 26% in Lesotho... «Besides, these amounts should be considered at the same degree than revenues from exports», thinks François Bourguignon.

The amount of transfers done by the American Latino immigrated in the United States, the "remesas", have reached the top in 2004, particularly in Mexico, Salvador or the Dominican Republic, countries dependent on such foreign exchange resource. Between

2003 and 2004, the total "remesas" in Latin America and in the Caribbean have shifted

from 38 to 45 billion dollars, as per the International Bank for Development (IBD)

estimates.

Experts estimate that if the money transfer are stopped, poverty will increase at least of ten percent in Mexico, which represent approximately the third of "remesas", that is to say 16,6 billion dollars (12,7 billion of Euros) in 2004. To the world record of "remesas", Mexico is the second after India, and accumulates a third of the transfers to Latin America and the Caribbean. Twenty two percent of Mexican families receive such manna from their relatives. The Mexican government leans on the Remesas for building infrastructures (streets, schools, etc...). The program "one for two" or "one for three" allows the immigrant worker to transfer money into a Common Fund in his original county. Then the government multiplies twice or three times the balance of the Fund allocated to a specific plan. Today, Mexicans or Americans originally from Mexico represent 9% of the population of the United States, in other words, 26,6 millions persons. Besides Mexico, money from the Diaspora is the cornerstone of the economy for countries like the Dominican Republic, the Salvador, Guatemala, Columbia, Cuba, China, and African countries.

We still believe that the economies of emerging countries will be fuelled and controlled by the Diaspora. The success will depend on how this financial force will be integrated in the local, regional and global economy. We can help because we understood that since we are small, the best strategy is to be very smart.

##### **EXPERIENCE# II: International Trading. Exporting is the Issue; However, Financing is the Key. The Case of "Encore Bakery" in San Francisco, California**

**(July 2006.)**

Poor countries are capable to compete in the global market.

Countries like India and Pakistan have seen exports of services such as software development, back-office support and services supplied by call-centres, expand in a significant way. Some descendants from immigrants from poor countries were educated in good schools, and some have good work experience in specific fields. However, when this elite try to create or reproduce the same business in their home land, they face difficulties for finding the initial investment from banks. How can a company operate internationally without good banking references?

We only tried exporting our services because local market is limited, and risk taking. Good information and best risk management are the keys to success. Moreover, there is a clear link between development and the benefits brought about by exporting products and/or services in the international market.

Proof of these benefits is that poor countries which businessmen have embraced and invested in the establishment of a services industry worldwide are clearly in the forefront of the battle against poverty and illiteracy. They have seen greater product and process innovation. However, they are penalized on access to foreign capital and world-class technology. The explosive growth of the Internet - and of Internet-related sectors - in countries like India is only one example, however breathtaking. It clearly shows how modern services can help to overcome the constraints of economic poverty, geographic periphery, and social exclusion.

We wanted to entice business from poor countries to export their goods and services. Because we have experience in the diet Bakery and we can produce a high quality of

product compared to our competitors. However, our specialists are located in Africa. So we decided to buy frozen products from an experienced bakery in Europe, and bake them in America for the resale. Later we will start building our brand, and bring our specialists from Africa to America. The cost of exporting frozen products to America was unbearable for a start up of our size. We suspended the project.

Let summarize the main difficulties we encountered in exporting our services and products from Africa to America.

##### **1. Financial risks for banks.**

We needed money for starting operations. Banks proposed hard conditions, like a standby letter of credit, or normal business credit application, collaterals, etc. Where to find them when you are a new entrant? And the same question, "why should we deal with you, while other products are already in the market?"

We found out that it is not easy to export business and professional services. This doesn't

mean that it can't be done. We partnered with those who are already into the market. We spent six months in building and enhancing this intangible asset.

-We realized that firms with international ambitions need to already be one of the "best in their class" in their local environment in some important or niche area.

-Our European partner has already a strong financial base. So we began our interest in the wider world, building a culture of adventure, a thirst for challenge and a healthy curiosity

about alien culture, religion, food, etc. It helps if the local people in the firm are multilingual, multiracial or multi-cultural.

## **2. We became fragile vis a vis our competitors.**

Because we cannot find banking supports, we decided to meet our competitors, establish personal relationships and work together as partners. We became dependent on them. In order to reduce such a big risk, we learned that "trust and experience" is the main ingredient for becoming a good service partner.

## **3. Barriers.**

We faced other barriers for exporting our products and our combined know how (acquired in Africa and in Europe) to rich countries, especially in the USA. My team and myself identified a number of issues that commonly act as barriers to services exporting.

### **THE CORE DIFFICULTIES FACED.**

Basically we faced distrust, prejudices, disrespect and no recognition, just to impeach us to export our products and services. The market being locked by the giants, who decide who should be in the market or not, and raising a cynical question, "why should we deal with you, while other products are already in the market?"

#### **Difficulty #1: the initial capital.**

The most difficulty was finding the initial capital for exporting our goods and services. To the one hand, banks offering unacceptable conditions and terms for loans and credits. To the other hand, finance being used as a political weapon. We realized the unfairness of international financial institutions like the IMF.

#### **Difficulty #2: Prejudices from the authorities.**

We experienced prejudices from the authorities: disrespect and non recognition. When we tried to build our own capital through banking, we found out how rich countries protecting their market by means of restrictions and drastic regulations about visas and immigration. Administrative and market barriers as well as dark protectionist mutterings on both sides of the Atlantic. Resistance has grown to unfettered changes in ownership through mergers and acquisitions.

#### **Difficulty#3: Higher Transportation Costs.**

Higher transportation (freight) costs as a result of shifts in politics pertaining to terrorism

(the case of the US take over Dubai and foreign companies owning US ports). Most of

the business and professional service firms are bigger and seem to have closed the market. Hesitations from customers. Difficulty to establish our brand and to build our reputation.

#### **Difficulty#4: Huge Marketing Budget, discrimination about qualifications than others.**

Working under the umbrella of our suppliers and different partners, difficult for a trade promotion agency to keep finding new relevant opportunities.

#### **Difficulty #5: The risk exposure for losing our intellectual property.**

The situation is that poor countries and their businessmen are economically on the bondage of rich countries. So we decided to sub-contract with huge institutions.

### **THE MAJOR LESSONS LEARNED IN TRADING FOODSTUFFS.**

Our misfortune at "Encore Bakery" in July 2006 in San Francisco helped us identify a number of issues that commonly act as barriers to services exporting. Our experience is that it is not easy to export business and professional services. For us the interesting thing is that foreseeing companies should rethink their programs and strategies in order to export, or to bring new technology.

#### **The core challenges are:**

**1. Scale** - Most of the business and professional service firms are bigger and seem to have closed the market. In fact there are many niches, and most companies have poor management and strategy. Moreover, it was very difficult for a trade promotion agency to keep finding new relevant opportunities. So we decided to work with people who can help us to create a network.

**2. Why do it over there when you can do it here?** This comment summarizes the views of most of our professional service companies. If they make a comfortable living working in the domestic market, where is the incentive for them to seek work offshore in an unknown environment? Again, this is a big mistake, lack of vision. The giants are already into the market. Most of the business and professional service firms are bigger and seem to have closed the market. Our reaction was to explore further niches, because most companies have poor management and strategy.

**3. You can't ship samples** - If you are exporting automobile accessories or coffee, you can send samples and these can be tested, assessed and compared by the potential buyers. But if you are exporting professional services, buyers don't really know the quality of what they are getting until they have received them.

**4. Reputation** - People tend to buy professional services based on the reputation of the supplier. And reputations are very hard to establish and very fragile. People tend to buy professional services based on the reputation of the supplier. And reputations are very hard to establish and very fragile. So we decided to sub-contract with a multinational in Europe, already in the market for years.

**5. Relying on Word of Mouth for Marketing** - This applies both onshore and offshore. But it is probably more difficult to make the translation to an international domain than it is domestically. As a company from a poor country, operating in America, we discovered that we will be requested more qualifications than others. We decided to operate

under the umbrella of our suppliers.

We changed our strategy and we adapted our marketing. We identified and we explored interesting niches. We also moved from San Francisco to Oakland, a favorable location, for costs reduction (office space, telecom, etc.) Eventually we started using our size as strength: decisions were made quickly and staff kept motivated.

Looking at opportunities for niche markets that the bigger players will not compete for. At a time when the market for providing business process services continues to grow quickly, new opportunities are appearing all the time. Partnership with a foreign firm, either one that is already established in the country and can offer world-class facilities, or one that markets its services overseas. As a result, we made available effective infrastructure so that our suppliers can compete on costs. They must also help create the legal structure and provide a secure environment. We are creating an effective partnerships network with business to attract investors and promote an attractive national offering.

We treat information technology as a priority sector. And we are giving incentives to brokers, who play a crucial role in ensuring that services get to the market, so that they become active participants in making deals.

**6. Recognition of Qualifications** - Professional qualifications that allow you to practice law, dentistry, medicine or accounting in your home country are very often not recognized by other countries unless you go through complex testing and admission procedures (and possibly not even then).

If you are exporting automobile accessories or coffee, you can send samples and these can be tested, assessed and compared by the potential buyers. But if you are exporting professional services, buyers don't really know the quality of what they are getting until they have received them. So we decided to go on delivering loaves of bread to our customers and have them taste them first.

**7. Capacity to do Only a Part of the Whole Job** - Typically companies have to find niche opportunities or they have to be subcontractors to the larger firms who can tender for the big projects.

**8. Financial Risk** - When you are working in a foreign country where the legal systems

are unfamiliar, where your partners may be untested, where the political regime may be unstable, where business practices are unfamiliar, etc., then the financial risk is magnified.

**9. Language/Cultural Skills** - Case studies that worked at home may not translate easily into a foreign business environment.

**10. Very Short-Term Contracts** - Professional service consultant may find a job that lasts a few weeks and then they have to find another one. This is very difficult for them. And it is very difficult for a trade promotion agency to keep finding new relevant opportunities.

**11. Difficulty Getting Finance** - Business and professional services generally do not require a lot of capital. This is one of the advantages. But it's also a drawback when you need a line of credit so that you can undertake a lengthy service contract. The banks don't want to know people who rely on their wits or what's in their head as their main asset.

**12. Difficulty Getting Paid** - To resort to the legal system of the foreign country may be prohibitively expensive and legal systems are notoriously to the advantage of the locals.

**13. Access and Visa Issues** - Hand in hand with the difficulty of having professional qualifications recognized comes the difficulty of getting a work permit and/or a visa to operate within a foreign country. We have qualified people from poor countries with proven experience in the baking in the industry but living in Africa. We immediately realized how access to visa and employment permits is very difficult to obtain from rich countries. So we decided to rely on our supplier and their technology, for sub-contracting in America. Rich countries protect their market by means of restrictions and drastic regulations about visas and immigration.

As a consequence, poor countries businesses are facing difficulties in negotiating and or trading face to face with their clients in the international market.

In July 2006 we were running after a contract valued at three millions dollars in Poland. But we were the direct victims of visas barriers.

When the agreement was pre-approved, we set up a meeting in Warsaw. However, we had only the Schengen visa in our passport, the Polish visa took five days. Due to the emergency, we decided to fly to Berlin, from where we would obtain the Polish visa at the border. Despite all the evidence and the commitment of our partner in Poland, the visa was scheduled in a week. We had no time to wait, we returned to California. Then we continued dealing with this case by phone and by email.

**14. Loss of Intellectual Property** - We have many examples of companies who have given copies of their training manuals, methodology and plans before signing any contracts. And have thus lost their intellectual property without any compensation. Even where there is copyright, trademark and patent protection, it can be difficult and

expensive to pursue the infringers. By doing so, we put our intellectual property and ideas in danger from competitors. We have given copies of their training manuals, methodology and plans before signing any contracts. And have thus an exposure for losing our intellectual property without any compensation. Even where there is copyright, trademark and patent protection, it can be difficult and expensive to pursue the infringers. We believe that this is a kind of narrow minded question, and lack of vision, being cut from the reality. It does not mean that because a product exists already in the market that the battle is over. Large groups could be vulnerable, not only with an offensive price policy, or only technological turmoil's, but also by grinding its periphery. The Japanese have proven it, and keep on with such a usury war. We have found some weaknesses in the banking industry, especially in the credit sector for transactions pertaining to investors in the emerging countries.

**15. Difficulty Finding the Opportunities** - From the perspective of our overseas trade posts, it is easier for them to concentrate on the traditional areas or merchandise – where import and distribution channels are easily identified.

**16. Market Barriers.** It was extremely difficult to export to America and to penetrate the market. Therefore we concentrated on the traditional areas or merchandise – where import and distribution channels are easily identified. We identified the baking and we selected different types of products that we want to explore in California. Since 2001, the climate remains forbidding. There are dark protectionist mutterings on both sides of the Atlantic. Resistance has grown to unfettered changes in ownership through mergers and acquisitions. These could escalate into full-blown protectionism given a global macroeconomic dislocation, particularly of international trade in goods and services. My group has and is still experiencing such ill.

Even in the area of transportation (freight), we are facing problems. The recent Dubai case was a genuinely close question. On the one hand, non-US companies already own US port operations, with long proven experience in the field. And the US Coast Guard is responsible for port security, regardless of who owns the facilities. On the other hand, because of shifts in politics the US took over Dubai and foreign companies owning US ports freight operations. And we know how affordable were the freight costs

offered by these companies from poor countries. Now, because of suspicions on terrorism, many affordable freight companies from poor countries are discouraged to deal with US ports. We have to pay three times more than before.

The decision was taken by the political process, not by the marketplace or the economic impact on the free trade. As a consequence, it eroded other values. When rich countries trade with poor countries, they should not seal up their borders, but it means looking harder at the terms of engagement. Business insists that trading nations respect its property rights, What about human rights and social rights?

#### **Our Recommendations:**

We believe that it is a mistake for donors to continue generously pledging grants and loans to governments of poor countries. We have seen billions of dollars "given" to poor countries, however, money have been misused or stolen by the head of many African governments. Vast and urgent needs have emerged since then, which makes it yet more imperative to convert the pledges into cash quickly and give them to private investors.

Bearing in mind the growing challenges faced by populations in poor countries in all regions, donors will have to be prepared to mobilize additional resources for urgent as well as long-term needs. And we must work together to create flexible mechanisms that bring funds and expertise more rapidly to where they are needed, particularly for creating jobs, exploring and setting up new technologies in poor countries, and helping businesses from these countries to export their services and goods too.

Our experience taught us that the reality is obviously different from what is preached by governments and international organizations. Exporting services and goods from poor countries is a typical example. It is difficult to conceive social and economic development when, on one side, businesses from poor countries are relegated to the second class, and erecting barriers to impeach them to operate in the international market as partners. They simply do not have the financial capacity to put in place the infrastructure of exporting and distributing in all areas where it is needed. On the other side, the market is generally owned and operated by richest countries through their MNC's.

Therefore, if the market is not open to poor countries, services and or products exports system will take much longer to be established, and delay productive investment in other areas.

Changing features in international trade in services are reflecting the needs of businesses from poor countries to export their products and services worldwide. These changes have brought about new concepts and problems. An array of challenges remains before us. My team and myself are a good source for organizations likes ITC, UNCTAD, WTO, FMI, and many others for creating a platform that will focus in this matter with new perspectives.

#### **EXPERIENCE# III: Launching a Fund in Switzerland for the Diaspora**

Our team is very concerned about the integration of the Diaspora in the development process. We have a solid educational background coupled with a thorough long experience, and high ethical values in international affairs. Prior to launching a bank in Switzerland designed to foster the efforts of the Diaspora in entrepreneurship, we decided to start a financial platform, called World Diaspora Fund (WDF).

WDF is an investment company for the international Diaspora, in respect to a cooperative model, similar to the Raiffeisen Bank in Switzerland. Essentially we will be offering Collaterals and Bonds to facilitate access to Credit Instruments and Bank Loans. We

prioritize ethical investments in agriculture, principally in Africa because we believe that agriculture is amongst the key indications of the economic goodwill of a country.

Following our field survey, we realized the major weaknesses of other financial institutions operating in the same areas; we went further ahead of them to innovate by providing opportunities to the community:

- We would create jobs both locally and in the Diaspora's homeland.
- We would bring the money back where it is most needed for fighting poverty.
- Today there is no financial entity that consolidates the Diaspora savings in order to build a portfolio for development plans, and to answer to the specific financial needs of these communities.

In other words, there are no institutions serving the Diaspora with collaterals, bonds, other means of money transfers, savings, investments, equity, etc., encompassed in ethics criteria.

- The international Diaspora is an interesting human and financial resource for the

economic and social progress of the community. Its members are well equipped with good education, know how, entrepreneurship, and they are open to positive changes. WDF scrutinizes such resources in order to generate more revenues for the development process.

- We innovate the transfer's niche by consolidating an Investment Fund because

today the international Diaspora contributes essentially to the immediate needs of their families in their homelands.

These aggregate remittances count in billions of US Dollars per year, but they respond essentially to emergency assistance in different social areas such as food, health care, education, housing, etc. At the macroeconomic level, these transfers represent an important part of the GDP of the country of origin and they impact the payments balance.

We sought good opportunities in Switzerland and in the Emerging Economies, and we want to explore them. Therefore, we decided to rely on new synergies for transforming a new vision of banking, by integrating human values in our goals and our objectives. We will enhance business in Africa by operating in Geneva, one of the best financial places of the world, situated in the center of Europe.

#### **PART VII: THE ROLE OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND THE TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS.**

Now let see how International Organizations and Multinationals impact world's affairs.

## I. The World Trade Organization (WTO), the General Agreement on Tariffs and

### Trade (GATT), and Transnational Corporations (TNC's).

The financial crisis is being used as a political weapon to discourage investors from poor countries to export their goods and services. As we are involved in the baking industry (the primary sector), we should point out two concerns about international organizations like the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for problems related to agriculture and international financing.

We refer to the CETIM (Centre Europe Tiers Monde in Geneva) observation in 1999 on a special session on Agricultural Free Trade imposed on the South through WTO Agreements and its Consequences." These organizations pretend to be only for technical assistance for organizing seminars in national capitals (some 20 to 25 per year), regional seminars, as well as workshops and symposia in Geneva. Tellingly, the most recent symposium dealt with the challenges and opportunities of cross-border trade in services. But what are the results so far? Business from poor countries trying to find finance for exporting, need to maintain a permanent office in export markets. The UN can interfere to ask countries members to alleviate restrictions.

As mentioned by the joint written statement by CETIM, and AAJ (American Association of Jurists) at the UN Human rights session in 2004: "We would like to seize this opportunity to draw the attention of the 51st session of the Sub-commission on the consequences of free trade policies imposed on countries of the South by the WTO in

particular on agricultural issues. The WTO officially started its work in January 1995, succeeding to the (GATT) after the conclusion of the Uruguay Round negotiations. The agreements signed at that time include for the first time one on agriculture.

This is a source of concern for a growing number of peasant organizations, NGOs and some countries of the South. This agreement makes it compulsory for these countries to stop controlling importation of food and other agricultural goods. They are also required to reduce and eventually stop all subsidies to peasants, thereby exposing them to the competition of international agricultural markets. Four years later the disastrous consequences caused by the liberalization of the agricultural sector in certain countries of the South are becoming more and more obvious: the control of the world food system has fallen into powerful hands, to be more specific it has fallen into the hands of agribusiness. These changes concern the life style, revenue, and even the survival of small farmers worldwide and food security in many countries. International organizations policies should be reviewed and people should be re-educated on financing exports from poor countries to richest. The first set of problems and challenges has to do with the political sensitivities of market opening in different services sectors.

Several NGOs and civil society groups consider that opening services markets is a dangerous path to follow for less competitive economies. They claim that there is an intolerable level of intrusiveness by the WTO rules in areas of national policy competence such as education and health care.

My team and myself are pragmatic, action oriented. However, we wonder if there are active organizations to support initiatives like ours. We suggest that the UN and its affiliated organizations like the WTO should interfere for facilitating poor countries to access credits, for exporting their services and products, and then to face foreign competition. As a result, there would be tremendous economic benefits of opening services markets such as helping exporters and producers capitalize on their competitive strength; enhancing consumer savings; fostering innovation and technology transfer. Therefore, we came to the conclusion that organizations like the IMF and the WTO maintain a service as a public monopoly if they so wish.

The liberalization of international commerce cannot lead to the development of national agricultural economies. Indeed, the beneficiaries are neither the peasants nor the third world governments. The liberalization of commerce has mainly enriched agribusiness transnational companies (TNCs) such as Cargill and Continental. Giant food-processing companies already control three quarters of the world's cereal trade.

In short, world competition that the WTO aims to introduce is altogether unfair, inappropriate and disloyal.

Unfair because TNCs from the North have at their disposal highly developed technology and experience in agricultural industry that can only lead to the disappearance of traditional agriculture which has no means to defend itself. "In general (traditional agriculture) is not in a position to survive competition with powerful trans-nationals

which benefit from strong economy of scale, from large capital investment and technology, and which have good access to world markets. The technological and management skills brought by investors render them more competitive compared to local producers."

Inappropriate because free trade doesn't correspond to any real need but serves the profits of TNCs and the enrichment of elites.

Disloyal not only because agriculture is subsidized in countries of the North but also because "on the one hand foreign investors are strongly encouraged, and on the other hand small scale producers are subjected to significant constraints particularly an inequitable fiscal burden designed to discourage them." And finally TNCs are not subjected to any controls.

### Outsourcing

Outsourcing of services has become an important feature of international trade in

services. Developed countries have gained access to a new pool of talent abroad and have boosted productivity. Developing countries, on their side, have seen the establishment of high-tech industries and gained a substantive increase in income related to services jobs. Outsourcing is thus influencing policy decisions in both developed and developing countries, in ways which require complex examination of trade, economic and social factors.

Countries like India have seen exports of services such as software development, back-office support and services supplied by call-centres, expand in a significant way. Some African countries have also seen an increase in their exports of non-traditional services. The positive spin-off effects of liberalizing services have been felt in the form of increased Foreign Direct Investment and the creation of new businesses to support the new services providers. Matched with sound educational policies and investment in infrastructure, the services sector has proven a powerful engine for growth and development.

Not all of these changing features in international trade in services have been fully reflected in the negotiations. Also, these changes have brought about new concepts and problems. An array of challenges remain before us.

The first set of problems and challenges has to do with the political sensitivities of market opening in different services sectors. Several NGOs and civil society groups consider that opening services markets is a dangerous path to follow for less competitive economies. They claim that there is an intolerable level of intrusiveness by the WTO rules in areas of national policy competence such as education and health care.



The water distribution sector is often cited as a good example of this debate. Water distribution is obviously a basic service in any country. It is difficult to conceive social and economic development without this service. On one side, this is a service of general public interest, and as such it is generally owned and operated by the government,

through public companies. On the other side, many governments simply do not have the financial capacity to put in place the infrastructure of water distribution in all areas where it is needed. Therefore, if the market is not open to private investment, a water distribution system will take much longer to be established, and delay productive investment in other areas.

What must be stressed in this debate is that the GATT does not require the opening, privatization or deregulation of any service. In respect of water distribution and all other public services, different policy options are perfectly legitimate and are open to all WTO Members. I wish to underline this point: neither the current rules in the GATS, nor the new round of negotiations will force WTO Members to open the totality of their services sectors to private or foreign competition. WTO Members are free to maintain a service as a public monopoly if they so wish.

What also needs to be stressed are the economic benefits of opening services markets

such as helping exporters and producers capitalize on their competitive strength;

enhancing consumer savings; fostering innovation and technology transfer.

A second set of problems and challenges has to do with inexperience with the GATT. Participation in services negotiations is more demanding than government officials were used to in old-fashioned trade negotiations on goods.

The services economy is not only larger than agriculture and manufacturing in most countries in the world, it is also far more diversified. And the services agreement, the GATT, is far broader than conventional trade agreements for goods. It covers not only cross-border trade, but movements of consumers, of producers/investors, and of persons. Negotiations are thus more complicated — and so are the country-internal processes of preparation, coordination and implementation. Services negotiations generally require Trade Ministers to work with their colleagues who have regulatory responsibility in different services sectors — and the difficulties of such internal coordination should not be underestimated.

The complexities of services are also quite clear in the negotiations in the rule-making areas, that is on the disciplines for domestic regulation, the question of an emergency safeguard mechanism, as well as the need for and scope of rules on government procurement and on subsidies. Leaving aside the practical difficulties of some of these instruments, several Members argue that progress in rule-making would provide them with some degree of comfort to enable them to make further specific commitments. These Members point out that, if they knew they could count on a mechanism such as an emergency safeguard, more commitments could be made. In contrast, others are concerned that such a mechanism could unnecessarily undermine the predictability of the commitments sought in the Round.

For the moment, many governments continue to be more hesitant in their approach to services trade than they use to be in manufacturing. Although one can understand this situation, it is nonetheless unfortunate, since the benefits of services liberalization are key to any development strategy. Barriers are still far higher and less transparent in services

than in most goods markets (with some notable exceptions such as agriculture).

What can be done about this? On our side in the WTO, a key factor is technical assistance. Based on donor funds, the Secretariat has been conducting a broad range of technical assistance activities. These include seminars in national capitals (some 20 to 25 per year), regional seminars, as well as workshops and symposia in Geneva. Tellingly, the most recent symposium dealt with the challenges and opportunities of cross-border trade in services.

Two further points need to be added to my list of negotiating 'challenges' in services. One is the idea that one will only negotiate services once there has been movement in other areas of negotiations. Of course, bearing in mind a long and painful negotiating history in areas such as Agriculture, this is understandable. However, the quality of results of negotiations in services may be seriously affected by the delay in tabling requests and offers.

Services negotiations do not lend themselves to the same formula-based approaches as agriculture or goods. Rather, they are advanced mostly sector-by-sector in a host of bilateral meetings. There might not be sufficient time to successfully complete this time

— and resource-intensive process if it is not allowed to advance at its proper pace.

This would be problematic especially for an area of focal interest to many developing countries: Mode 4 — the presence of natural persons. It is the most protected, most sensitive and, by the same token, most challenging area under discussion. I am fully aware of its particular importance for small and medium-sized companies that cannot maintain permanent offices in export markets, but need the flexibility to move staff as the opportunity arises. Any meaningful outcome, however, needs time — time for negotiation in Geneva and time for preparation, coordination and persuasion in capitals. Given the tight schedule before us, we cannot afford to wait any longer.

Finally, there is an urgent need for political guidance and orientation to services negotiators. It has become increasingly relevant in recent months that political input is badly needed to advance services negotiations. The main concern is no longer the absence of a sufficient number of offers — three-quarters of the Membership has participated in the process to date and submitted at least initial offers of new or improved commitments. But it is widely recognized that the quality is poor and, if implemented, would open hardly any new access opportunities for service providers.

We are at a crossroads. Should the bilateral request-and-offer process simply be

continued, or do we need to develop complementary mechanisms that would (re-) launch this process on a higher plain? If so, what would these mechanisms look like — and how could they be translated into clear guidelines to be endorsed by Ministers in Hong Kong? Members need to focus further on these issues as a matter of priority — and arrive in Geneva with fresh instructions from their political leaders.

Services are a core element of the Doha Development Agenda — and a satisfactory result is a condition sine qua non for the whole project. Therefore, my message to you is: your support for the services negotiations is crucial to the whole Round.

Defenders of free trade admit that subsidies distort the market, but maintain that these distortions will disappear thanks to the new measures progressively introduced by GATT as from 1995. The result is a widely held but illusionary opinion that producers from all four corners of the world are placed on an "equal footing"!

This GATT agreement represents a real fraud. In reality developed countries have agreed to reduce their subsidies by between 20% and 36%. So, far from getting rid of industrialized countries' subsidy structures, GATT has left them largely intact, notably thanks to the bilateral agreement between the United States (US) and the European Union (EU) called the "Green Box". Through this agreement, the US and the EU have been able to maintain or even increase subsidies targeted at their agricultural exports! On the other hand, certain governments of the South have been encouraged to further liberalize their economies, reducing their taxes by 24% on imported foodstuffs and by increasing their minimum import from 1% to 4%.

### III. THE WORLD BANK

We wonder about the increasingly significant role being played by the World Bank in Human Rights activities. In innumerable papers the real experts - not the World Bank scribes - describe the funereal role of the World Bank in matters such as the right to Development and Human Rights in general. All over the world, peoples are protesting at the policies of the Bretton Woods institutions. During the Social Summit held at Copenhagen over 600 NGOs said in a joint statement, later signed by thousands of NGOs the world over that "the policies of the LMT and the World Bank are among the main obstacles to real economic and social development", and declared that they were in favor of the democratization of these two institutions.

And another article in the San Francisco Chronicles of October 23, 1997 from Mr. Simon, calling to abolish the IMF. Mr. Simon, secretary of the Treasury from 1974 to 1977, and president of the John M. Olin Foundation: "The Clinton administration is asking Congress to approve \$3.5 billion in additional funding this year for the International Monetary Fund. Congress should not only reject this proposal, but also take the long overdue step of ending all future funding for the IMF. As a practical matter the

institution cannot continue to exist without the participation of the most powerful nation in the world. By withdrawing its funding, then, the U.S. can take a leadership role in putting this outdated organization out of business... And George Shultz, the esteemed former secretary of state and of the Treasury, has called for the elimination of the IMF. In

a 1995 lecture before the American Economic Association, Mr. Shultz observed that "the IMF has more money than mission." As a consequence, he said, we should "merge this

outmoded institution with the World Bank, and create a charter for the new organization that encourages emphasis on private contributions to economic development. This would make a great deal of practical sense."

Globally speaking it is difficult to overstate the difference between the spectrum of positions in services negotiations at the time of the Uruguay Round and the situation today. We have moved from a picture where most developing countries were reticent, if not outright opposed, to negotiating services, to a new set of positions, where some important developing countries have become strong negotiators. Availability of world-class services has enabled exporters in developing countries to capitalize on their competitive strength, whatever the goods and services they have to offer.

An increasing number of developing countries, building on foreign investment and expertise, have been able to make impressive inroads in international services markets. Services opening has become an indispensable element of development strategies. In turn, this has prompted many initially skeptical governments to change track. Having largely remained on the sidelines of the Uruguay Round, they now play an increasingly vocal role in the services negotiations.

The phenomena of outsourcing and cross-border supply of services, facilitated by IT and FDI, have introduced new strategic elements in the negotiations. Modes of supply of certain services, which were difficult to conceive in the past, have not only materialized in practice but in some instances have become commonplace.

### IV. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

In November 1996 Heads of States and Heads of Government from 186 countries met in

Rome for the Food World Summit organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). They proclaimed their national commitment and their political will to make constant efforts to eradicate hunger in the world. They have also decided to do all that is in their power to reduce the number of people suffering from chronic under-nourishment by the year 2015, this concerns over 800 million people.

The FAO adopting free trade theories pretends that withdrawing domestic commercial barriers will enable all countries to export their products which have a comparative advantage and eliminate less productive activities. The FAO concedes that this will lead to "adjustment costs" for producers but insists that these costs will in the long term be made profitable thanks to exportation opportunities and large profits reaped through modernization. But free trade is an illusion, which serves the interests of the strongest, and worldwide liberalization would be harmful because of the unequal conditions of production and of the diversity of market players.

We would first like to talk about agricultural subsidies. Farmers from the South face enormous inequality when it comes to agricultural subsidies.

A small farmer from the South earns in a year hardly more than what his US "colleague" receives as subsidies per ton through the Export Enhancement Program (EEP), (i.e. 77\$ per ton). The latter if suitably equipped will produce between 800 and 1000 tons per year

and will consequently receive, in subsidies alone, a 1000 times the revenue of his colleague from the South.

### CONCLUSION

Because we want to see a new era of Actions in the field, we suggested a topic pertained to *"Focusing on Entrepreneurship for Job Creation and Agri-Business for Enhancing Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication."* We described that the world is still confronted with an unprecedented growth in inequalities and a spectacular increase in the gap between the advanced countries and those of the Third World.

We approach the topic with the spirit of re-visiting and implementing specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other development schemes pertained to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for sustainable development.

Among our core contribution, we propose that the G-20 should:

- Encourage and support entrepreneurs for job creation in order to fight poverty.

- Launch an international Task Force for facilitating and monitoring the Diaspora

from poor countries relocate in their homeland for making positive changes.

- Build a bridge for facilitating credit access for enhancing investments in

Agribusiness and Food quality.

- Encourage our plan for the creation of an Ethical Bank for Development.

Because we want to see it happen, we provided our contribution to the pillars of sustainable development that could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20. We tapped into our thirty years of international experience in Banks, Trading, and Humanitarian for

providing realistic solutions. We insisted on linked topics:

The need of a new direction and a new vision of world affairs. We indicated that we must pay attention about incidence of maladjusted persons; we described the most of these silent killers (psychopaths, schizophrenics, etc.). Most of them are on the streets and are involved in the decision making process and policymaking. We proposed the necessarily to review the "Homo Economicus" and to replace it progressively by "Homo Sociologicus". We integrated Finance, Energy and Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. We proposed new paradigms in the banking industry in order to avoid setbacks and other financial meltdowns.

We evoked the contradictions about "aid", we proposed rather to work with the Diaspora by creating an international task force associated with the G-20 in order to integrate the Diaspora in the development process in poor countries. We focused on poverty reduction because it is a central feature of the international development agenda and, the main cause of inequalities.

About Agri Business and Food Security, we indicated how preventive solutions can be taken right away in order avoid the high cost of speculation in preventing the immense suffering of citizens in importing countries, whose income is weakened by market volatility, eroding their purchasing power, their quality of life and their hopes for a better future.

We encourage the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in raising awareness that firms have responsibilities other than to their owners and the bottom line. We also described the necessity to review Energy with a priority on oil. Both, producers and importers of Oil must review the mechanisms of price fixing, and take Speculators out of business. The most focus was on Technology Transfer and we proposed plans for Job Creation. We insisted on the necessity of encouraging Entrepreneurs and Startups, especially those from poor countries. The G-20 should advocate and facilitate credit access to job creators.

Again we plead for supporting our plan for launching an Ethical Bank. Our staff is ready with Business Plan, and the Strategy. Barriers, protectionism, visas facilities, and other barriers must be alleviated.

Eventually we applied a feedback and we proposed some guidelines to Government, the Civil Society, the UN organizations, International Organizations, and Transnational Corporations in world affairs.

Both agriculture and technological advance is one of the basic tools to measure the competitiveness and the economic growth of a country. Our Team is exploring these sectors such fields through effective financing entrepreneurship schemes. Agriculture and technological are the main barometers for integrating and improving productivity of

goods and services in other fields. This trend is not an isolated factor; it includes the banking industry too.

Poverty in poor countries threatens the entire world. It knows no borders. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that all countries -- rich and poor -- change their minds, find new ways to shift and to enhance business with new perspectives. Such a conjunction of constructive ideas is a terrific weapon to fight inequalities and to open an new era of global ethical business. Private initiatives (like our plan for an ethical bank) are the engines for the reduction of poverty in poor countries. Such initiatives should be encouraged by governments, international institutions, and individuals.

The experience of the Task Force NVI illustrates how the financial support to business from poor countries are the main key for helping them to export their goods and services. Thereby, they can expand their operations and diversity their activities in other market places. The direct consequence will be the creation of jobs in their homeland, with a significant impact on reducing poverty and its ill effects. Digging into our endeavor to create an ethical investment bank located in an emerging country, we realized the cynical and the contradictions between how in theory rich nations try to help poor nations in the international market.

Our experience in our sole proprietorship, "NVI Finance, Trading & Services" evidences that poor countries can compete in the global market by exporting their services and products to rich countries too. We challenged ourselves because the size of an investment or of a corporation is not necessarily the guarantee for survival and/or success in an ever- ending competitive environment. Risks are opportunities (and dangers) to be taken. Success is not an accident.

We identified niches and we advocated for ethical investments in a tremendous and a potential market, Africa. We anticipated innovative solutions in order to prioritize actions for job creations in order to fight poverty and its devastating consequences for the individual, and the community.

Not taking a risk may become a big risk too.

Our team can make a difference, and change the transformation, because we pledge an intangible asset that stands far beyond measurable figures, and we go much further because do not see only with our eyes. We are changing something fundamental.

Poverty of poor countries is a permanent danger to rich countries. Thank you for supporting our endeavor.

Bernard Nyembo

Geneva – October 29, 2011

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## Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

This submission to the compilation document for the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development is presented on behalf of Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (Ngāti Kahungunu). Ngāti Kahungunu are an Indigenous tribe of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Ngāti Kahungunu, as an Indigenous people, define our identity as a people through our inalienable, inherited connection with the natural environment that forges a reciprocal relationship whereby our ancestral landscape gives us holistic sustenance as a people, and we cherish our obligations to the environment to act as guardians, protecting the ability of our descendants to have a living and full relationship with the natural environment.

Ngāti Kahungunu consider Indigenous peoples contributing leadership to sustainable development is a fundamental aspect of our status as Indigenous peoples and a necessary expression of our inherited values and relationship with the natural environment. Recognising the alignment between our values and the driving objectives of Rio +20, we share the optimism of many that the conference will galvanise a step change in global practice toward sustainable development and green growth.

For the purposes of the compilation document, this submission concentrates on the general question posed:

What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

Ngāti Kahungunu wish to signal our aspiration to develop, in advance of Rio+20, a partnership contributing Indigenous peoples, private sector and state leadership in the protection and restoration of the Pacific Ocean.

For Ngāti Kahungunu, the Pacific Ocean is fundamental to our identity as we are a voyaging people who trace our migration to New Zealand across the Pacific Ocean, and through our migration, forged strong genealogical connections with many of the peoples of the South Pacific. In addition to tracing our identities to the Pacific Ocean, we also celebrate the critical role of the Pacific Ocean in contributing to carbon sequestration and the wider sustenance of many states and communities.

Our vision is to restore Indigenous knowledges and peoples to being active guardians of the Pacific Ocean, generating economic, environmental, social and cultural outcomes. In advance of Rio+20, we intend to explore the development of a multi-stakeholder partnership amongst Indigenous peoples, states and private sector actors in the form of payment for ecosystems services arrangement.

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#### **b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

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#### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

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#### **d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

Ngāti Kahungunu wish to signal our aspiration to develop, in advance of Rio+20, a partnership contributing Indigenous peoples, private sector and state leadership in the protection and restoration of the Pacific Ocean.

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### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

It is our aspiration that the partnership we intend to explore amongst Indigenous, state and private sector partners can contribute to poverty eradication, decreasing aid dependence and generate 'green collar' jobs for Indigenous peoples.

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Ngāti Kahungunu Submission to the Rio+20 United

Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

This submission to the compilation document for the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development is presented on behalf of Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (Ngāti Kahungunu). Ngāti Kahungunu are an Indigenous tribe of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Ngāti Kahungunu, as an Indigenous people, define our identity as a people through our inalienable, inherited connection with the natural environment that forges a reciprocal relationship whereby our ancestral landscape gives us holistic sustenance as a people, and we cherish our obligations to the environment to act as guardians, protecting the ability of our descendants to have a living and full relationship with the natural environment.

Ngāti Kahungunu consider Indigenous peoples contributing leadership to sustainable development is a fundamental aspect of our status as Indigenous peoples and a necessary expression of our inherited values and relationship with the natural environment. Recognising the alignment between our values and the driving objectives of Rio +20, we share the optimism of many that the conference will galvanise a step change in global practice toward sustainable development and green growth.

For the purposes of the compilation document, this submission concentrates on the general question posed:

What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

Ngāti Kahungunu wish to signal our aspiration to develop, in advance of Rio+20, a partnership contributing Indigenous peoples, private sector and state leadership in the protection and restoration of the Pacific Ocean.

For Ngāti Kahungunu, the Pacific Ocean is fundamental to our identity as we are a voyaging people who trace our migration to New Zealand across the Pacific Ocean, and through our migration, forged strong genealogical connections with many of the peoples of the South Pacific. In addition to tracing our identities to the Pacific Ocean, we also celebrate the critical role of the Pacific Ocean in contributing to carbon sequestration and the wider sustenance of many states and communities.

Our vision is to restore Indigenous knowledges and peoples to being active guardians of the Pacific Ocean, generating economic, environmental, social and cultural outcomes. In advance of Rio+20, we intend to explore the development of a multi-stakeholder partnership amongst Indigenous peoples, states and private sector actors in the form of payment for ecosystems services arrangement.

## NGO PROTESTE (Brazilian Association of Consumers Protection)

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - RIO+20

PROPOSITION: PROTESTE – ASSOCIAÇÃO BRASILEIRA DE DEFESA DO CONSUMIDOR (BRAZILIAN ASSOCIATION FOR CONSUMER PROTECTION)

### I. PROFILE, HISTORY AND MISSION

PROTESTE – Associação Brasileira de Defesa do Consumidor, Brazilian Association for Consumer Protection, registered at CNPJ/MF under number 04.591.034/0001-59, based on 6.420 Lúcio Costa Ave, Rooms 101 to 106 – Barra da Tijuca, Rio de Janeiro/RJ, and representative office on 173 Dr. Bacelar Street, commercial complex 52 – Vila Clementino, São Paulo/SP, is a non-profit Civil Association, independent from governments and enterprises, political or religious groups, whose statutory purpose meets the requirements foreseen by Articles 4th, II, "b"; 5th, V; 6th, I, II, III, VI, VII, of Law no. 8.078, of September 11, 1990 and 2nd, of Decree no. 2.181, of March 20, 1997.

It was established in July, 2001, on the initiative of IPEG – Instituto Pedra Grande de Preservação Ambiental, from Atibaia (SP), established 20 years ago, and ABC-Test-Achats, Associação Belga de Consumidores, Belgium Consumer Association, that has been defending European consumers for over 44 years.

The Association, that currently has about 250 thousand active associates, is the biggest organization for consumer protection in Latin America and is a qualified OSCIP entity – Civil Society Organization for Public Interest (D.O.U. – Official Journal of the Union – no. 237 of 12/05/03).

It is associated to Euroconsumers – European Association -, the second biggest consumer protection association in the world, with over 1 million associates, which unites organizations from Belgium, Portugal, Spain and Italy. It is also associated to Consumers International – organization that brings together entities for consumer protection from all over the world, and that promotes de defense of the interests of consumers through local centers, in particular from Latin America and Caribbean, with headquarters in Santiago, Chile.

PROTESTE is also a member of ICRT – International Consumer Research and Testing, independent organization that unites associations of consumers from all over the world, with the view of stimulating cooperation in research and comparative tests.

It is the mission of PROTESTE to raise standards of consumer protection in Brazil by all instruments at its disposal. For this purpose, its goals are:

- Inform, guide and defend the consumer, individually and collectively, fighting for the improvement of consumption relations in Brazil;
- Promote and implement the compliance of consumer protection laws, as well as fight for the improvement of all the correlative amendments;
- Help improve the quality of life of consumers in Brazil, particularly with regard to the quality of products and services, providing also orientation to the access to Justice, when necessary.

In order to inform, guide, represent and defend the interests of the Brazilian consumer, PROTESTE has its legitimacy granted by its bylaws (art. 4th), as well as by the Code of Consumer Protection (art. 4th, "b" and art. 5th, "V"). We act in accordance to Article 5th, XVII to XXI of The Federal Constitution and to Articles 53 to 61 of the Brazilian Civil

Code, that expressly

rules Civil Associations in Brazil. We do not advocate individually, neither appoint Law offices to our associates, for ethical reasons.

In that sense, supported by Article 103 of Law no. 8.078/90 and article 2nd of Federal Decree no. 2.181/97, PROTESTE is an entity that is part of Sistema Nacional de Defesa do Consumidor (SNDIC), National System for Consumer Defense, coordinated by Departamento de Proteção e Defesa do Consumidor (DPDC), Agency for Protection and Defense of the Consumer, agency linked to the Ministry of Justice.

Such organization has been seriously acting through the ten years of its existence in Brazil, and its work for consumers defense has been recognized not only by civil society but also by public agencies, like Public Prosecutor Office and Federal Chamber, as well as public and private companies. We highlight, once more, that all the work is done with complete independence.

Brazil is among 20 the most important emerging countries, where the society has the need for an independent association, able to work in an organized way, without the intention to compete with the existing System but on the contrary, cooperating with expertise and high-standard technical knowledge. PROTESTE is among the twelve biggest consumers defense organizations in the world concerning to action, expertise and contribution to society, all of that achieved in its ten-year journey.

Among our activities, we also highlight:

- ProTeste Magazine (published monthly, except January), Money and Rights (published bimonthly) and ProTeste Health (monthly), which are not sold in newsstands, and through them we disseminate the results of comparative tests performed by the organization with a series of products and services, in order to provide consumers with information and guide them in their purchases and when contracting services, besides publishing articles of interest in various areas.
- Members Service: support and guidance about consumers' rights and intermediation with companies that do not comply with CDC (Consumer Defense Code), in the search of an out-of-court settlement, achieving high success rates. More than 70.000 contracts were settled.
- Comparative Tests and Research: More than 5.900 items were evaluated – from food commodities to financial services. Dissemination of results through our magazines and website. Notification of competent authorities, regulatory and monitoring agencies when ruling is inappropriate, incomplete or inexistent, as well as when we find dangerous, unsafe or tainted products;
- Prosecution of Public Civil Actions: credit cards, phone services, Banks, tainted products, etc.;
- Participation: with Public Hearings and Public Consultation, related to Consumers Rights;
- Media: through radio spots, interviews to newspapers, TVs and sites of interest, always for providing consumers with assistance and guidance about the issues on focus.

Over the years of operation, we released 108 issues of ProTeste Magazine, 34 issues of Money& Rights Magazine and 03 issues of ProTeste Health Magazine, which regularly bring articles with practical tips that help consumers in choosing the best products and services on the market.

We achieved several victories through those ten years, like empowerment of arguments for automobile safety, campaigns against consumption accidents and in favor of healthy food for children, CET – Custo Efetivo Total (Real Total Cost), Terms of Adjustment of Conduct signed between the Public Prosecutor's Office and AMBEV. We also expressed ourselves by means of

several different ways, including legal ones, in favor of the users of wire line and wireless telephony services, pay TV and electricity. Besides, through comparative tests of products and services we were able to identify needs for updating rules so consumer's safety and rights could be improved. Several laws and technical Standards have been changed in Brazil due to PROTESTE work. Our most important achievements are:

- Implementation of conveying information about the Real Total Cost in financial operations;
- Demands in order to include airbags as factory-set features in all vehicles manufactured in

Brazil from 2014 on;

- Creation and implementation of a national data bank for consumption accidents;
- Charging of differentiated electricity rates for the low-income population.

The activities of PROTESTE show their impact in society mainly through raising their awareness. Brazilian consumers have a power that they do not realize at times, especially due to the ascension of the working classes, since our consumer market has surpassed that of developed countries. This way, by following our comparative tests, by choosing higher-quality products and services and the ones that offer the best cost-benefit ratio, by demanding them to become safer and more environment-friendly, our consumer becomes more discerning and help improve all citizenship relationships, not only those related to consumption.

Our work is not important for our associates, but for all Brazilians. Next we show numbers related to the population assisted by PROTESTE, organized by type of service:

- More than 70.000 calls for legal advice, from our 250.000 associates;
- More than 11.000 mediations between consumers and companies, showing an average of

75% of satisfactory solutions;

- 250.000 associates and their families receive the magazines published by PROTESTE (different age groups are benefiting);
- 250.000 associates and consumers throughout society benefit from our actions with the Prosecutor's Public Office and the Judiciary (when needed, through Civil Public and Collective Actions);
- 250.000 associates and consumers throughout society benefit from our contributions to Public Hearings (federal, state and municipal Legislative Power);

- 250.000 associates and consumers throughout society benefit from our contributions to

Public Consultations (Regulatory Agencies);

- 250.000 associates and consumers throughout society benefit from the Campaigns and Projects we develop (at times in partnership with other civil and public organization) for implementing the improvements demanded by the consumer market;
- 250.000 associates and consumers throughout society benefit from the warnings and information we provide consumers by means of different media (radio spots, interviews to newspapers, radio stations, TV channels and websites).

## II. CAMPAIGNS AND PROJECTS

Campaigns and Projects focused on education for conscious consumption, prevention of accidents, demands for improvement of public policies, financial education, quality of life, etc.

- Campaign Healthy Feeding from an Early Age and Forever
- Campaign against Liquid Alcohol
- Project for Prevention of Consumption Accidents
- Campaign for Lowering the Rates for Basic Wire Line Subscriptions in contracts for fixed telephony
- Campaign Care for School Bags

- Campaign There is no Age for Living with Quality Live (focused on the elderly)
- Campaign Transparency in Financial Services
- Campaign Plastic Money is Money
- Campaign for Mandatory Sale of Fractionated Medicine

PROTESTE, being aware of all the activities being developed in various fronts – as we believe we have thoroughly listed here, is, in fact, the biggest independent non-governmental organization for consumer defense in Latin America. For being representative all around the country, PROTESTE is able to mirror, clearly and precisely, consumers real needs, as well as some of the woes and difficulties in the quest for improvement in products and services in the market, looking for a balance, so strongly stated in the National Policy for Consumption Relationship, as highlighted in Article 4th of the Code for Consumer Defense (Law 8078/90).

PROTESTE has also been consolidating its position and being recognized in the national scenery, due to its capacity of media mobilization – as it has also been pointed before -, that sensitizes and guides public opinion, feeding opinion makers in our country with serious and objective information.

## III. RATIONALE OF THE PROPOSITION AND ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE SCOPE OF RIO+20 AND EXPECTATIONS

Having introduced the work we have been performing in the scope of Consumer Defense in our country, PROTESTE is able to actively cooperate to the debates of The United Nations Conference for Sustainable Development — Rio+20.

Protecting the environment and the consumer are principles of the economic order, as stated in Art. 170 from the 1988's Constitution of Brazil. The ways for such protection, both of the environment and of the consumer are the same, being based in human dignity and quality of life, taking into account the intergenerational fairness. Being hierarchically under the Federal Constitution, The Code of Consumer Defense is also applicable to Civil Public Actions concerning to environment damage. In that sense, Article 3rd of the Law of Civil Public Action, Law no. 7.347/81, provides for a unified system for protection of the environment, consumers, assets and rights of artistic, aesthetic, historic, touristic and scenic value, to any other diffuse or collective interest, by infringement of the economic order and popular economy, to the urban order. Therefore, the "diffuse interests" approach makes a clear link between consumption and environment.

Accordingly, it is impossible today to think in protection of the environment dissociated to the protection of the consumer. The main topic of Rio+20, the 'Green Economy', and all its correlated issues, have been object of our acts and researches. We believe in the concrete contribution of PROTESTE for the priorities established as scope of the Conference, especially energy, sustainable production and consumption (waste, disposal and recycling), impact of pollution and health. A holistic perception of consumer and environment protection are seen, and shall the joint agenda lead the desired sustainable development.

Intending also to follow-up specific aspects of Brazilian legislation, PROTESTE has signed a partnership for research with the Group of Applied Studies to the Environment: preventive and reparative supervision of environmental damage, from the Law School of São Paulo University. It's a group constituted by 8 researchers and 4 students, coordinated by lead researcher Associate Professor Patricia Faga Iglecias Lemos, who has published books on the environment area, especially "Solid Waste and Civil Responsibility pos consumption". Professor Lemos have been doing research on prevention and repair of damage to the environment. The Group has taken part on the Workshop Climate and Health in Megacities, held in São Paulo on April 9 and 10, 2011 at FMUSP, acting in the Working Group about Waste, and proposing actions for mitigation and

adaptation to climate changes, concerning to waste management in the cities and impacts to health. As a consequence of such workshop, the Group took part of the C40 Large Cities – Climate Summit 2011 Conference, held in São Paulo from May 31 to June 3, 2011, in which the Charter of Recommendations on Health was presented. It is important to mention that the Group members Patricia Faga Iglecias Lemos (leader), João Múcio Amado Mendes and Ana Carolina Corberi Famá are co-authors of the document mentioned above. The Group has also taken part of an international research, in partnership with Institute "The Right for A Green Planet", as part of the project Law and Climate Changes in Amazonian Countries, whose objective is stimulate the development of regulatory tools related do climate changes in Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela, all of them part of Amazon Cooperation Treaty. Group components and data as well as their curriculum might be seen at the national resumé database "Currículo Lattes", at ([www.cnpq.br](http://www.cnpq.br)).

The United Nations Program for the Environment (Pnuma) has described Green Economy as a system of activities related to production, distribution and consumption of goods and services that leads to improvement in human welfare in the long term. Such improvement must take into account the preservation of natural resources as well as the use of the least environmentally- harmful productive processes, leaving behind an economic model that prioritizes a production that is dissociated to preservation.

Changing that economic model depends on the important role played by the consumer; When well informed, the consumer can make better choices that take into account consumption patterns and reflect on environment protection.

In order to insert Green Economy to its priorities, PROTESTE develops actions and initiatives that improve human welfare and social justice, as well as reduce significantly the environmental risk and the risk of shortage of natural resources. Our tests and analysis aim to show to those that are part of the production and consumption chain - manufacturers and importers, traders and representatives, consumers and authorities - the methods used in the production and their consequences, so that sustainable development is enhanced on its environmental, social and economical aspects. The benefits of sustainable production and consumption spread through the whole society, not being restricted only to the individual consumer of a good or service. For that purpose, PROTESTE stimulates Sustainable Consumption, providing the customer clear, visible, systematic and efficient information about products and services.

Sustainability is, no doubt, a matter of perspective. Therefore, only an Economy based on renewable energy sources and closed substance cycles can be sustainable. The expectation is that the Conference will propitiate new partnerships and commitments from the estates, which should consider the current economic model and consequently its sustainability. For that, the principles of Rio/92 that support such model should be revisited. "The principle of sustainable development should be understood in line with the other principles of environment protection. The goods that bring economic, social, cultural, and political development are the same that are important for a healthful quality of life. For that reason, there is no sense in a disordered development, which harms the environment".<sup>1</sup>

As well clarified by Enrique Leff, the command and control system, as a set of rules, is not enough to prevent entropic degradation. "It is necessary to head to a sustainable development paradigm taken from eco-technological processes, based on the productive potential of living systems and of the cultural organization, which means, a process of participative management and collective appropriation of nature".<sup>2</sup> In such sense is the work of PROTESTE inserted, enabling the consumer to make better choices.

<sup>1</sup> LEMOS, Patrícia Faga Iglecias. *Meio ambiente e responsabilidade civil do proprietário*: análise do nexo causal. São Paulo: RT, 2008, reprinted, p. 59-60. (*Environment and Civil Responsibility: analysis on the causal link*)

<sup>2</sup> See LEFF, Enrique. *Racionalidade ambiental: a reapropriação social da natureza*. Rio de Janeiro: Civilização

Brasileira, 2006, p. 207 e 208 (*Environmental Rationality: social reappropriation of nature*) and LEMOS, Patrícia Faga Iglecias. *Resíduos sólidos e responsabilidade civil pós-consumo*. São Paulo: RT, 2011, p. 41. (*Solid Waste and post-consumption Civil Responsibility*).

Among the priorities indicated as goals of Rio+20, we listed 3 main themes, highlighting the comparative tests intended to be made and their rationale, as reported below:

- Energy: the issue of energy is a priority for enabling Green Economy. It's important to work with quality standards for products that are linked to the levels of environmental impact. In that sense, art. 9th of Law no. 6.038/1981 (National Policy for the Environment) foresees incentives to implementation on equipment and technology developed for the improvement of environmental quality, which allows the incorporation of environment- friendlier technology, as well as the correct waste disposal, loss control and reduction in the use of toxic substances, aiming to preserve natural resources. PROTESTE tests are relevant for they analyze the energetic benefits and provide the consumer with correct information.

Sustainable Production and Consumption (Waste, Disposal and Recycling): the choice of the issue considers the importance of the contributions of green economy for eradicating poverty, as well as the need for the consumer to be correctly informed on how to perform waste disposal. The reverse logistics was foreseen in Law no. 12.305/2010 (National Law for Solid Waste) for the following products: pesticides, their waste and packaging, batteries, tires, lubricants, their waste and packaging, compact fluorescent lamps, sodium steam bulbs, mercury and mixed lamps and electronic devices and their components. Therefore, testing products and monitoring the implementation of such a new system is justified, to provide the necessary information to consumer. It is important to emphasize that as stated by Decree 7.404/2010, which regulated the mentioned law, after the implementation of the reverse logistics, the consumer who disobeys the established obligations can be charged, if it is recurred, to be liable for environmental violations, being punished with fine varying from R\$50,00 to R\$500,00, which may be converted in services for preservation, improvement and environment quality repair. On the other hand, considering the need for eradication of poverty, tests linked to reverse logistics system should consider the existence or not of partnerships between manufacturers and/or importers and pickers cooperatives, as well as social and laborer conditions and compliance of labor laws.

- Impact – Pollution and Health: Preventing pollution depends on changes in equipment and in productive processes, with higher efficiency of supplies (raw material, energy and water, etc). It means reduction in the origin, changing productive processes that will bring benefits to the consumer and to the environment. Regardless of legal requirements, companies can adopt such practices, adding value to the business.

The selection of the mentioned aspects took into account their relevance in the scope of the priorities of Rio+20, their inter-relationship and the desire for seeing the purposes of the Conference being met.

Considering that PROTESTE is associated to Euroconsumers – European Association, to Consumers International – organization that brings together entities for consumer protection from all over the world and is a member of ICRT – International Consumer Research and Testing, independent organization that also unites associations of consumers from all over the world, with the view of stimulating cooperation in research and comparative tests, our Brazilian experience can also be shared with other countries, aiming to a cooperation that shall bring global results that enable sustainable development.

#### IV. TESTING SCHEDULE FOR 2012: energy, waste disposal and impact to pollution and health

PT 110 – February/ 2012

Microwave ovens:

Analysis of energy consumption when in standby mode. The difference in energy consumption among brand is really high. The idea is to warn consumers about that difference, so the choice may be done for a product that spends less natural resources and also provide tips on how to use the product without damage to the health, like using it only with specifically designed material for microwave ovens.

Wall paint:

Analysis of the products, in order to inform the consumer which of them adopt safer chemical processes and environmentally clean ones, based on the investment in methods that mitigate environmental impact, like reduction in the use of energy and water, more efficient production generating less waste and prevention of pollution and reduction on the emission of volatile organic compounds (VOC).

GPS:



Studies on reverse logistics and proper disposal are planned. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics of electronics, and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Lubricants for cars:

Warn the consumer about the correct disposal of this product, including its packaging, showing that there is already recycling possibility for this kind of lubricant.

Wood Certification:

Show the consumer which of the products are certified by FSC or Cerflor, lobbying for governmental investment that makes certified Wood become more competitive compared to the non-certified, increasing its consumption potential.

PT 111 – March/ 2012

Digital Camera:

Studies on reverse logistics and proper disposal are planned. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics of electronics, and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Fuel

Show the consumer the measures that have been already taken in order to reduce the pollution caused by cars: banning the use of lead in gasoline, limiting its volatility, using of reformulated gasoline, limiting the use of sulfur content on diesel, etc. as well as the changes that still haven't been made. Warn the consumer of the cleaner types of fuel.

PT 112 – April/ 2012

Sewer:

Evaluate the areas on the coverage of the sewerage system in Brazilian cities. Comments and discussions about the link between the United Nations Millennium Goals for water, sanitation and consumers are made.

Anti-bacterial soap:

Comment on the impacts of its production and disposal to the environment. Focus on health, prevention and toxicity of products.

PT 113 – May/ 2012

Blender:

Assess the durability of the product, showing the consumer the concept of obsolescence planned by the manufacturer.

Showers:

Analyze energy consumption. Evaluate water pressure compared to bath time as to quantify the consumption.

Cooling Liquid:

Comment on the impacts of its production and disposal to the environment. Focus on health, prevention and toxicity of products. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Air pollution:

Show consumers the quality of the air in their city and an overview, that will be build based on data from INEA and CETESB, from 2009 to now. Alternatives for a healthier life in the city, ways to reduce pollution, ways to reduce stress, etc.

Green Houses:

Show consumers ways to make the dwelling-place become more sustainable, providing tips to reduce heat and energy consumption and increase comfort and air quality without the need for remodeling.

PT 114 – June/ 2012

Tablet:

Reverse Logistics and correct disposal. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics of electronics, and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Checklist for traveling:

Focus on sustainability, benefits that tuning the car bring to the environment.

Window cleaners:

Show consumer the products that contain chemical components that may impact negatively the environment, such as water pollution. We could provide a homemade recipe, environment-friendly, for window cleaner.

PT 115 – July/ 2012

Coffee maker:

Energy consumption will be analyzed. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics of electronics, and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

LED TV:

Reverse Logistics and correct disposal and energy consumption. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics of electronics, and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Ground Coffee:

Warn consumers about the impact of production to the environment. Value the producers who minimize socio-environmental impact to the farming communities, stimulate sustainable production and social responsibility.

Self –tanning products:

Comments on the impact of disposal and production for the environment. Focus to health, prevention and toxicity of products.

PT 116 – August/ 2012

Multifunction printer:

Reverse Logistics and correct disposal and energy consumption. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics of electronics, and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

New or Second-hand Cars:

Compare environmental impact of second-hand cars, pollution and fuel consumption of old engines with the impact of waste production when the engines are not reused and the impact of manufacturing new cars.

Olive Oil:

Warn consumers about the impact of production to the environment. Value the producers who minimize socio-environmental impact to the farming communities, stimulate sustainable production and social responsibility.

Bleach:

Verify which products are biodegradable and the potential impact to the consumer and to the environment.

PT 117 – September/ 2012

Mixer:

Energy consumption will be analyzed. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Washing Machine

With the inclusion of this product in the PBE (Brazilian Labeling Program), manufacturers, in order to reduce energy consumption and be granted with positive evaluation at the Energy Saving Procel Seal, have been reducing the quality of the product. In the tests, washing capability of the machine in a single cycle will be evaluated. An overview of older models will be shown.

Macintosh Computer:

Reverse Logistics and correct disposal and energy consumption. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Car Batteries:

Show the evolution of batteries so they contain less toxic material and the correct way for their disposal in order not to pollute the environment.

PT 118 – October/ 2012

Camcorder:

Reverse Logistics and correct disposal. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Liquid Coconut Soap:

Comments on the impact of disposal and production for the environment will be made. Focus to health, prevention and toxicity of products.

Soymilk:

Warn consumers of the impact of large-scale production of soybean in Brazil to the environment. Value the producers who minimize socio-environmental impact to the farming communities, stimulate sustainable production and social responsibility.

PT 119 – November/ 2012

Wireless telephone:

Reverse Logistics and correct disposal. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Toothpaste:

Comments on the impact of disposal and production for the environment will be made. Focus to health, prevention and toxicity of products.

PT 120 – December/ 2012

Air conditioner:

Energy consumption will be evaluated and tips on how to increase efficiency of the air conditioner, like temperature and correct placing, will be given. Air quality will be analyzed, verifying interval between filter cleaning and if there is difference among brands.

Issue of the cooling gas used (no-polluting, ecological gas). Reverse Logistics and correct disposal. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no.

12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Car radio:

Reverse Logistics and correct disposal. Verification if manufacturers and importers have adjusted their productive process to Law no. 12.305/2010. It states the reverse logistics and the need for informing addresses of collection stations for the disposals and post-used products.

Frozen Chicken:

Warn consumers of the impact of large-scale poultry production to the environment and address the issue of humane slaughter.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

The United Nations Conference – Rio+20 brings new opportunities to revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development, relevant to the participation of governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations, experts for the implementation of local, regional and global solutions. It is necessary to work out the efficiency mechanisms for economic activity, with quantitative and qualitative minimization, with less polluting raw-material, renewable energy and reduction of use of natural resources in the productive process, among other issues. Regarding to disposal, the priority order is: non-production, reduction, reuse, recycling, waste treatment and adequate final disposal.

As established at Principle no. 10 of Rio/92, the best way to approach environmental issues is by making sure that all citizens interested are able to take part in the discussions, in appropriate levels. For that, it is essential that information is made accessible, and PROTESTE has widely disseminated through its researches.

Considering such aspects, PROTESTE believes it is inserted and capable of taking part in the discussions of the Conference, being able to contribute to the Green Economy and the implementation of cooperation mechanisms.

King Regards,

Maria Inês Dolci

Coordenadora Institucional

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## Non Timber Forest Product-Exchange Programme

### Sustainable Mountain Development

#### Draft Regional Report

#### South East Asia and Pacific

#### prepared for the

#### Lucerne World Mountain Conference 10-12 October 2011

#### From Rio 1992 to Rio 2012 and beyond

### DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION From Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond: Sustainable Mountain Development

#### Southeast Asia Pacific (SEAP) Mountain Region

The report aims to provide an overview and assessment of trends, issues, and challenges for promoting the agenda of sustainable mountain development in the SEAP region since 1992 highlighting the progress made and lessons learned in key sectors and sub-sectors; it covers all the three pillars of sustainable development and scopes out opportunities in the two themes of the Rio+20 – Green Economy and Institutional Framework for sustainable development and poverty reduction..

The Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC) as a part of the Mountain Partnership Consortium (MPC) has provided financial support to carry out this study. The views expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect views of the organization they are associated with.

By: **Ramon Razal Madhav Karki**

**Benedicto Q. Sánchez**

**Sanam Aksha**

**Tek Mahat**

## Plus

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**September 2011**

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ADB	<b>Acronyms and Abbreviations</b> Asian Development Bank
AFCC	ASEAN's Multi-Sectoral Framework On Climate Change And Food Security
AFP	Armed Forces Of The Philippines
APEC	Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Council
APSUD	Asia Pacific Sustainable Development Initiatives
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations

ASFN	Asean Social Forestry Network
BIND	Broad Initiatives for Negros Development, Inc.
BNBNP	Bidoup Nui Ba National Park
CAA	Community Aid Abroad
CBFM	Community-Based Forest Management
CBFMA	Community-Based Forest Management Agreement
CF	Community Forestry
CFM	Community Forest Management
CFM	Collaborative Forest Management
CFP	Community Forestry Program
CFSA	Certificate Of Forest Stewardship Agreement
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
DENR	Department Of Environment And Natural Resources
DGTP	Democratic Governance Transition Phase
DOST	Department Of Science And Technology
ELCs	Economic Land Concessions
EO	Earth Observation
ESCAP	United Nations Economic And Social Commission For Asia And The Pacific
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FIT	Forest Improvement Technology
FMG	Forest Management Groups
FPE	Foundation For The Philippine Environment
FPIC	Free And Prior Informed Consent
FSSI	Foundation For A Sustainable Society
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GI	Geographic Information
IAP	Individual Action Plan
ICIMOD	International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development

ICRAF	International Centre for Research in Agroforestry
ICT	Information And Communication Technologies
IP	Indigenous People
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPSP	Internal Peace And Security Plan
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JMHI	Forest Honey Network Indonesia
KEF	Kalahan Educational Foundation Inc.
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MKNP	Mount Kanlaon Natural Park
MOA	Memorandum Of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
NCFPCC	National Community Forestry Coordinating Committee
NFP	National Forestry Program
NGO	Non-Government Organization
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NIPAS	National Integrated Protected Area System
NRM	Natural Resource Management
NTFPs	Non-Timber Forest Products
PA21	Philippine Agenda 21
PAMB	Protected Area Management Board
PCSD	Philippine Council For Sustainable Development
PNG	Papua New Guinea
PPP	Purchasing Power Parity
PRC	People's Republic Of China
PwM	Partners With Melanesians Inc.
RCFs	Revolving Credit Funds
REDD	Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation
RFN	Rainforest Foundation Of Norway

RPP	Readiness Preparation Proposal
SALT	Sloping Agricultural Land Technology
SD	Sustainable Development
SEAP	South East Asia and Pacific
SIAD	Sustainable Integrated Area Development
SMD	Sustainable Mountain Development
SMEs	Small- And Medium Scale Enterprises
SPSN	Strongim Pipol Strogim Neisen
TCDP	Targeted Community Development Program
UN	United Nations
UNCED	United Nations Conference on Environment and Development
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNEP	United Nations Environment Program
WSSD	World Summit On Sustainable Development
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## Executive Summary

Southeast Asia and Pacific (SEAP) mountains, which are spread across two geographic regions – mainland Asia and island/archipelagic states in the Pacific Ocean - form one of the world's highest but also most severely threatened biodiversity pools. A number of indigenous peoples who are marginalized, poor, and underserved by their respective nation states live in structurally weak and fragile SEAP Mountains even made more vulnerable by increased frequency and intensity of rainfall, extreme temperatures and severe tropical storms. Expanding global population and economic pressures are driving migrant lowland settlers toward SEAP Mountains while extractive companies harness the mountains' timber, minerals and water resources without giving due share to the local communities. In general, the mountains have not been mainstreamed in the governance of most Southeast Asian countries, which highlight the need for policy reforms to protect social and ecological systems in the mountains, strengthen sustainable development, prevent environmental damage, and improve national and regional food security.

Governments and civil society organizations, international and local donors, and development agencies have played key roles in facilitating development and/or resolving conflicts arising from competing demands on SEAP mountain resources. Lessons learned in addressing conflicts showed that these involve a slow process that is best initiated by creating an environment for dialogs to take place. Toward this end, stakeholders must be capacitated on collaborative negotiations and non- adversarial communication skills to enable them to engage in multi-stakeholder dialogs that strive for win-win solutions and aim to do the greatest good for the greatest number of people in the long run. Improving governance, meeting the economic needs of the people, and making them more self-reliant through proper education avert conflicts that border on terrorism in remote regions of SEAP Mountains.

People in the SEAP Mountains need to take charge of development of the welfare of their communities and the mountains in partnership with civil society, particularly for advocacy and building public support for mountain-specific policies and development approaches. Partnerships need to be forged with the private sector based on corporate social responsibility initiatives to provide innovative, simple technological and market solutions to livelihoods problems in the mountains following low carbon or green growth pathways. Specifically, private sector support can be directed for empowering mountain stakeholders with community-based technologies and for developing business skills. Product value chains through cooperative efforts among the primary producers and private businesses can result in reasonable returns on their investments for both the mountain people and downstream commercial enterprises. Ecotourism can be promoted to help generate income in mountain communities and among indigenous peoples as strategies, to counter violent conflicts and finance mountain conservation and sustainable development.

Participatory action research that takes into account local good practices and indigenous knowledge are needed to determine carrying capacity of mountains and for implementing plans and measures for adapting to and mitigating the worsening impacts of climate change and unregulated human activities on mountain resources. There is growing awareness on the benefits provided by the SEAP Mountains in terms of ecosystem goods and services. Increasing frequency of mountain-originated disasters both in the uplands and lowlands has raised policy level awareness for integrated approaches. Combining the increased awareness, with traditional and scientific knowledge will help improve sustainability in resource use by creating opportunities for multi-stakeholder participation that can address pressing mountain issues and challenges. Effective participation of communities in mountain governance – supported by enabling policies – can pave the way for sustainable mountain resource management practices, and help end pervasive poverty in the uplands through carefully-planned and community- controlled, human development initiatives. In summary, this report advocates:

- Developing good governance mechanisms that account for unique characteristics and wealth of mountains and meet needs and aspirations of mountain people in reducing



poverty and conserving the region's once-rich biodiversity through sustainable development approaches.

- Assisting mountain communities in negotiation and collaborative dialogues for resolving conflicts and enabling them to participate in sustainable mountain development activities in collaboration with government, civil society, donors and the private sector.
- Strengthening research by combining traditional practices and scientific knowledge for developing actionable plans for implementing with the meaningful participation of stakeholders both in the mountains and downstream.
- Consolidating international and national funding mechanisms and resources for financing sustainable development programmes and achieving well being of mountain people.

## PART I: Setting the stage

### 1.1 General overview and introduction of the South East Asia and Pacific (SEAP Region)

Geographic areas lying between the continents of Asia and Australia, covering countries that are located south of China, east of India and north of Australia comprise the Southeast Asia and Pacific (SEAP) region. SEAP lies at the intersection of geological plates, with heavy seismic and volcanic activity. Although SEAP mountain ranges are much smaller compared to the Himalayas, they are much richer in floral and faunal diversity.

The region is divided into two geographic areas: (1) Mainland Southeast Asia or Indochina comprising of Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam and Peninsular Malaysia, and (2) Maritime Southeast Asia, also called the Malay Archipelago which is composed of Brunei, East Malaysia, East Timor, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Singapore. The Myanmar Mountains are actually part of the Himalayan ranges with peaks ranging between 5,881 meters above sea level (masl) corresponding to the highest mountain of Hkakabo Razi to over 2,000 masl for 30 other peaks. The second highest peak in the region is Puncak Jaya (4,884 masl) in Indonesia, followed by Mount Kinabalu at 4,093 masl, which is the highest mountain of Malaysia and Borneo.

The area is rich in history, has varied people and cultures living amidst warm tropical climate. The mountains, jungles, lakes, rivers, and SEAs of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam form one of the biggest biodiversity pools in the world. They are also home to numerous centers where restricted-range birds, plant and insect species are concentrated. Southeast Asia has one-third (or 284,000 square kilometers) of all coral reefs, in the world, which are also among the most diverse.

In the Philippines, there are three large mountain ranges in the country's largest island, Luzon, of which Sierra Madre is the longest. The world-famous, almost perfectly cone-shaped Mayon Volcano in the province of Albay and Mount Bulusan in the province of Sorsogon form part of the Caraballo de Baler mountain range. The highest mountain peak in the Philippines is Mount Apo, located in Davao del Sur, Mindanao Island, which has a height of 2,954 masl. Other notable Philippine mountains are Mt. Pulag (the second highest mountain peak located in Northern Philippines), Mt. Banahaw and adjoining San Cristobal in Laguna and Quezon provinces (Luzon), Mt. Arayat in the province of Pampanga (Luzon), Mt. Baco in the island of Mindoro, Mt. Matalingajan in the island province of Palawan, and Mt. Makaturing in Lanao del Sur province (Mindanao).

Papua New Guinea (PNG) has a distinct mountain geography, biodiversity and culture. It is classified as one of earth's mega diverse regions, owing much of its diversity to its varied and distinct topography. It has isolated mountain ranges that are home to unique fauna and flora found nowhere else. Each mountain range has been bestowed with different species whose composition changes with altitude. The forest biodiversity found in the lowlands are similar to those in Southeast Asia. In mountains at about 1500 masl, the faunal biodiversity is very different from regions with much higher species diversity. The faunal diversity traces its origin in Australia, among the marsupials in this island-continent. Shrub and grasslands dominate the tropical montane forest vegetation at 3000 masl. After crossing timberline, cryosphere and alpine grassland and herbaceous plants dominate the vegetation. The region also has rich bird and butterfly habitats.

The major river basins of the SEAP region, with the Mekong River as the major river system, are shown in Figure 1 below:

### 1.2 Mountains of Asia Pacific region

It is estimated that some 40 million sq km or 27% of total land area of the world lies above 1,000 masl. The breakdown of this elevated land surface is as follows: 24 million sq km at 1000-2000 masl,

10 million sq km at 2000-3000 masl, 6 million sq km above 3000 masl. A large percentage of the high

(900m+) to low (300-900m) mountains are found in Eurasia as can be seen in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Distribution of Mountain Typesii						
Mountain Type (Elevation range)	Africa	Australia	Eurasia	North America	South America	World
High Mountains (900m+)	4	1	23	16	11	13
Low Mountains (300-900m)	13	12	21	10	11	14
Hill (0-300m)	11	12	10	18	5	8
Total	28	25	54	44	27	35

Asia is unique among the continents in that it is mountain heartediii. Geographically, mountains in the

Asia Pacific can be categorized as follows (Table 2):

Table 2: Major mountains in Asia Pacific grouped according to region of occurrenceiv

South Asia West Asia Central Asia North-East Asia South-East

Asia

Australasia

Karakoram Iran Plateau Tibetan

Plateau

Eastern Russia Continental

Interior

New Guinea

Himalaya Trans- Caucasias

Hengduan North and East

China

Peninsular Australia

North-East Anatolia Kun Lun Korean Peninsula Insular New

Zealand

Peninsula Arabia Pamir Japanese

Archipelago

North- Tien Shan

West

Altai

Urals

These mountain systems serve as vital source of ecosystem goods and services for people living in the Asia Pacific mountain areas as well those downstream. Such goods and services include natural system regulation, water and energy, forest and biodiversity, fertile top soil, tourism, minerals, protected areas and carbon and several other secondary and tertiary products from the mountain areas. Unlike many goods and services that are produced downstream, mountain services are strongly integrated with the topography and coexist with other mutually supportive mountain resources. For example, a nicely managed watershed ensures better biodiversity, prevents the occurrence of potential hazards, provides balanced flow of nutrients to cultivated land, and contributes to forest and plant conservation, maintains landscape beauty and the vast diversity of economic opportunities, as well as the richness in culture and languages of people living in the mountain areas. Among these services, water seems to be the single most important service that the mountains in the region offer.

### **1.3 Trends in the SEAP mountain regions over the last twenty years**

To our knowledge, no comprehensive report has been prepared to exclusively account for the SEAP mountain people. Available information is taken from largely generalized sources and hardly shows the real picture of the SEAP mountain situation.

#### **1.3.1 Demography and socioeconomic development**

In 2005, the total population of Southeast Asia was estimated at 558.2 million (ASEAN, 2005). This makes up about 8.6% of the world's total population in the same year. All member countries are experiencing different levels of socioeconomic development under diverse socio-cultural imperatives. Nonetheless, all countries in ASEAN are

undergoing demographic transition albeit at different rates and stages.

Population growth rate is high among all countries. In 2009, Malaysia, Philippines and Papua New Guinea experienced more than 2 percent population growth. The total population of the developing member countries grew by 1.7% in 1990 but by 2009, growth had slowed to less than 1.1%. Quality of life (life expectancy for both men and women) has increased in all countries from 1990 to 2008. Majority of these countries are categorized under Medium Human Development. Literacy rate at all age groups has increased quite significantly.

Between 1970 and 2000, the young adult (15-24 years) population grew from around 18 percent to approximately 21 percent of the total population in the SEAP region. This age group has been and will continue to be a major factor that contributes to migration levels, especially rural to urban movement. As a consequence, urban areas become increasingly "young" in their demographic profiles.<sup>1</sup>

One factor that sets the Southeast and East Asian countries apart from most other countries in the world, with the exception of those in Latin America, is the high level of female migration, especially rural to urban migration. The level of female migration has increased over recent decades. Moreover, in such rural-urban migration streams, the majority of female migrants are young and unmarried. These result in urban populations that include large numbers of young unmarried females, who usually live away from their families. The concentration of young adult females in urban areas is particularly pronounced in the "mega cities" of East and Southeast Asia.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Guest, Philip, *Bridging the Gap: Internal Migration in Asia*. Paper prepared for Conference on African Migration in Comparative Perspective, Johannesburg, South Africa, June 4-7, 2003. Population Council, Thailand.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

Since the 1980s, labor migration has been increasingly feminized in East and Southeast. By the beginning of the twenty-first century, more than two million women were estimated to be working in the region, accounting for one third of its migrant population. Most female migrants are in reproductive occupations such as domestic work and sex services, in private households, and informal commercial sectors. Despite the great need to protect their welfare and human rights, governments of destination countries view migrants as mere workforce to meet labor shortages, and neglect the implementation of protective measures and gender-sensitive policies. Under pressure to increase foreign revenues, labor-source countries encourage their women to migrate and remit their earnings from abroad. In the face of global competition, governments of source countries have shown little interest in their migrant women's welfare. Given the E/SE Asian countries' bleak human rights record, non-state actors have assumed increasing importance in advocating migrants' rights, which they have done through local and transnational networks.<sup>3</sup>

### 1.3.2 Globalization and economic liberalization

Many civil society organizations see the forces of globalization as threats to sustainable mountain development, and that these forces are greatly skewed in favor of external interests. Mining and expansion of plantations for agro-fuels are considered the biggest threats to forests and forest communities, as such encroach on ancestral domains, displace indigenous tribes and endanger forest ecosystems. The island province of Palawan in the Philippines, for example, has 354 mining applications while the island of Mindoro has 92, some of which are already operating sans the proper permits. In contrast, land titling has remained a long and difficult process for indigenous communities. The issuance of permits for gathering non-timber forest products (NTFPs) has remained to be slow and tedious. Community development plans that are supposed to serve as permits take a long time to approve. In the meantime, the livelihood of mountain communities is negated, as many are not able to harvest rattans and other NTFPs.<sup>4</sup>

Globalization and economic liberalization impinge on mountain people in multiple ways. Economic opportunities have diversified, opening up markets for high value-low volume products available in the mountains. Likewise, several new technologies were introduced that helped in establishing small- and medium scale enterprises (SMEs) in the mountain areas. Overall, there is net positive effect on the livelihood of mountain people.

On the other hand, bonafidé mountain residents do not benefit much from businesses owned and operated by non-mountain people. The mountain peoples' involvements in such enterprises are restricted to low-profit making supply of cheap raw materials or the provision of menial labor as porters or helpers. Meanwhile, competition for the limited products in the mountain areas has increased, and the introduction of goods from outside threatens the security of markets for locally- produced products. Many traditional systems and processes, like "barter trade," are now becoming things of the past as dependency of mountain people on imported products is increasing. This has also intensified out-migration from mountain areas, thereby affecting negatively the preservation of specific cultures, traditions, customs and languages across mountain regions.

The integration of mountain subsistence economies with the urban-based market has made it necessary for mountain people to earn cash incomes that are chiefly available in urban centers in the lowland.

### 1.3.3 Political changes and democratization movement

The remoteness, ruggedness and relative inaccessibility of mountain areas have spawned the poverty and isolation of mountain communities. Receiving little government support for development and

<sup>3</sup> Yamanaka, Keiko and Nicola Piper, *Feminized Migration in East and Southeast Asia: Policies, Actions and Empowerment*. Summary. Occasional paper. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development. Geneva, Switzerland. December 2005. iv

<sup>4</sup> Annual Report 2009 to HIVOS. *Strengthening community and NGO capacity in sustainable NTFP*

*management through advocacy, livelihood and research and learning programs*. NTFP-EP for South and

Southeast Asia.

social services, remote mountains have virtually become ungoverned spaces where the State faces significant challenges in establishing control over the area. These areas have poorly controlled or delineated land borders, where the central government's authority is not felt or is virtually non- existent. It follows that in these regions, the state is unable or unwilling to perform its functions. This is not to say that these territories are devoid of governance; rather, the structures of authority that exist are not related to the formal institutions of the state. <sup>5</sup>

The factors that determine governability include: (1) the level of state penetration of the society; (2) the extent to which the state has a monopoly on the use of force; (3) the extent to which the state controls its borders; and (4) whether the state is subject to external intervention by other states. State penetration of society can be measured in terms of the presence or absence of state institutions; the state of the physical infrastructure; the prevalence of the informal or gray economy; and social and cultural resistance to state penetration.<sup>6</sup>

As ungoverned territories, mountains become the arena for internal or inter-border armed conflicts such as those seen along the Afghan-Pakistani borders, in the Philippines and some other parts in the Asia Pacific region. In the RAND study (2007), the eight case studies covered the Pakistani-Afghan border region and the Sulawesi-Mindanao arc in Southeast Asia.

Several measures were proposed (RAND, 2007) to deny non-state armed groups from using ungoverned spaces as their sanctuary. Such measures include the reevaluation of the role of development assistance and the strengthening of governance. Currently, the United States emphasizes security cooperation and military assistance in dealing with the security problems that ungoverned territories generate. Extending the reach of government should also involve other activities. One possible option is the use of development assistance as a tool to encourage recipient governments to invest in infrastructure and institutions in regions where they have abdicated their governing responsibilities.

The promotion of competent practices will also help government gain back its control over ungoverned spaces. Lack of coordination among agencies is a major obstacle in improving governance. Therefore, providing expert advice to officials on how to coordinate actions across departments and to minimize bureaucratic competition is an important step in strengthening public sector capabilities. The improvement of the transportation infrastructure could have profound effects in many ungoverned territories as such will enhance overall mobility within society.

The United States has been grappling with radical Islamist groups in Southeast Asia, particularly those in the Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, and Singapore that are suspected to have ties to the Al Qaeda terrorist network. Southeast Asia is a base for past, current, and possibly future Al Qaeda operations. For nearly fifteen years, Al Qaeda has penetrated the region by establishing local cells, training Southeast Asians in its camps in Afghanistan, and by financing and cooperating with indigenous radical Islamist groups. Indonesia and the southern, generally mountainous regions in the Philippines have been particularly vulnerable to penetration by anti-US Islamic terrorist groups.<sup>7</sup>

In 2009, the US government shifted its counterinsurgency (COIN) efforts to blend comprehensive civilian and military efforts while simultaneously containing insurgency and address its root causes. Unlike conventional warfare, non-military means are often the most effective elements, with military forces playing an enabling role. COIN is an extremely complex undertaking, which demands that policy makers have a detailed understanding of their own specialist field and a broad knowledge of a variety of related disciplines. Strategies are focused primarily on the population rather than the enemy and seek to reinforce the legitimacy of the affected government while reducing insurgent influence.

5 Rabasa, Angel, Steven Boraz, et al. *Ungoverned Territories: Understanding and Reducing Terrorism Risks*.

*RAND Project Air Force*. San Monica California. 2007. xv

6 Ibid.

7 Vaughn, Bruce, Coordinator. *Terrorism in Southeast Asia, CRS Report for Congress*. Congressional Research

Library. Updated February 7, 2005.

This can often only be achieved in concert with political reforms to improve the quality of governance and address underlying grievances, many of which may be legitimate.<sup>8</sup>

In the case of the Philippines, the administration of Pres. Benigno Simeon Aquino III has embraced a paradigm shift that hews to the US COIN concept in its Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Internal Peace and Security Plan (IPSP). The IPSP seeks to draw support from the broadest spectrum of stakeholders. It highlights the importance of increased stakeholder involvement - the national and local government agencies, nongovernment entities and the entire citizenry in addressing peace and security concerns. It gives equal emphasis to combat and non-combat dimensions of military operations. On the other hand, the IPSP departs from the old parameters and explores non-combat parameters of success in addressing the country's peace and security problem.

The AFP realized that insurgency is largely driven by structural problems in Philippine society, such as unequal development, non-delivery of basic services, injustice, and poor governance - all of which are beyond the military's purview. Moreover, insurgency cannot be viewed from a strictly state- focused perspective, that is, it is not a threat to the sovereignty of the state alone. More than the threat it poses to the country's democracy and institutions, insurgency and armed conflict threatens the way of life, safety, and security of Filipinos. Addressing the insurgency problem, therefore, is something that cannot be done by the military alone.<sup>9</sup>

How structural development has favored urban areas in the Philippines is shown in many poverty alleviation studies. The gap between urban and rural areas has been increasing. While the poverty incidence in the urban areas has declined by 14 percentage points between the years 1985-2000, rural poverty incidence decreased by only 4 percentage points over the same period. Consequently, rural poverty is now more than double that of urban poverty. Urban and rural poverty incidences are presented in the following table.<sup>10</sup>

#### Poverty Incidence of Families, Urban-Rural, 1985-2000

Urban-Rural Area	1985	1988	1991	1994	1997	2000
Philippines	44.2	40.2	39.9	35.5	31.8	33.7
Urban	33.6	30.1	31.1	24.0	17.9	19.9
Rural	50.7	46.3	48.6	47.0	44.4	46.9

Source of Data: Family Income and Expenditures Surveys, 1985 – 2000, NSO

The Philippines has no segregated data between lowland and upland rural communities. Given the remoteness, ruggedness and relative isolation of mountain communities, it is likely that they would receive the least in terms of basic government services.

The highest State entity in remote hinterland communities in the Philippines is that of the military. Towards peacefully securing peace in far-flung mountains, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) must continue to sustain community development initiatives, including the construction of basic social infrastructures. Engineering and civic action units shall be deployed in areas where there are governance vacuums - which the Americans call ungoverned territories. Construction of short- gestation, high-impact projects

such as irrigation systems and farm-to-market roads is intended to jumpstart the long-term building of more specialized projects by national government agencies and local government units.<sup>11</sup>

8 U.S. Government Insurgency Guide. Bureau of Political-Military Affairs. January 2009. 2.

9 Internal Peace and Security Plan Bayanihan. Executive Summary. Department of National Defense. 1

10 Reyes, Celia M. and Lani E. Valencia, Poverty Reduction Strategy and Poverty Monitoring: Philippine Case

Study. Reyes and Valencia are Senior Research Fellow of the Philippine Institute of Development Studies, CBMS-Philippines Project Leader and CBMS International Network Leader, and Research Associate, respectively.

11 Ibid.

#### 1.3.4 Climate change as a major driver of change

A large body of scientific and historical evidence indicates that recent changes in climate in many mountain regions of the world are often greater than those observed in the adjacent lowlands. Mountains represent unique areas for climatic change detection and the assessment of climate-related impacts. Climate along with vegetation and hydrology changes rapidly with the height of mountains, over relatively short horizontal distances. As a result, mountains exhibit high biodiversity, often with sharp transitions (ecotones) in vegetation sequences. In addition, mountain ecosystems are often endemic because many species remain isolated at high elevations. This is unlike lowland vegetation communities that occupy climatic niches spread over wider latitudinal belts.

Climate change in the SEAP Mountains can bring about changes in water resources and hydropower generation, on slope and top soil stability, vegetational composition, disrupt cropping patterns and bring about other hazards that in turn impact on the well-being and livelihoods of mountain people.

To address these natural disasters and vulnerabilities, States have adopted disaster risk reduction as a matter of public policy. In the case of the Philippines, Republic Act 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 was passed by Congress. In the declaration of policy, the constitutional rights to life and property had been affirmed to include addressing the root causes of vulnerabilities to disasters, strengthening the country's institutional capacity for disaster risk reduction and management, and building the resilience of local communities to disasters including climate change impacts.

#### 1.3.5 Environmental degradation and land-use changes

Rapid human population growth is often identified as one of the main factors behind environmental degradation. Population affects the environment mainly through changes in land use and industrial metabolism (Turner and Meyer, 1991).

Southeast Asia has the highest relative rate of net forest loss (0.71%) and degradation (0.42%) in the humid tropics (Achard *et al.* 2002), and could lose up to three-quarters of its original forests and almost half its diverse species by 2100 (Brook *et al.* 2003). While extensive forests are still found in Laos and Myanmar for commercial logging, widespread land use conversions of montane rainforests into rubber and palm oil plantations take place in Sabah and Sarawak in Malaysia. Logging operations and road development pose a big threat to tiger habitats, and the conversion of forests to agriculture or commercial plantations has resulted in more frequent encounters between tigers and livestock (WWF). Human-tiger conflicts bring about very strong negative sentiments toward tigers among local people.

The main driver of deforestation in Indonesia and Malaysia - and one of the key drivers in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands - has been the expansion of the palm oil monocultures. This economic activity has been associated with widespread forest conversion and indigenous conflicts. In addition, palm oil production has also resulted in the destruction of key habitats of endangered primates. As a result of deforestation, Indonesia has become the third-largest emitter of carbon dioxide. The logging that precedes these industries in most cases opens up the forest and provides added financial incentive to deforestation for agriculture. Sawit Watch states that the Indonesian government has already expanded oil palm concessions to cover 9.4M hectares and has granted permits for over 26 million hectares.<sup>12</sup>

The balance may tilt, however, in favor of the green economy and forest conservation with the billion dollar agreement between the government of Norway and the Indonesian government to implement REDD. The signing came at the heels of the pledge of the Indonesian government for a two-year deforestation moratorium. However, there continues to be the lack of clarity on the implementation of the moratorium several months after the moratorium was declared on January 1, 2011. There is a strong lobby by plantation firms to exclude existing plantations from the moratorium. There are many competing proposals as to which kinds of forests will be included and the time frame covered by the moratorium.

#### 1.3.6 Community involvement in natural resources management

In the 20th century, Southeast Asia's forests were nationalized and the timber industry expanded its operations throughout the region, resulting in the degradation of vast forest areas in the region. In the meantime, indigenous systems of natural resource management were displaced. The erosion of customary systems has led to the deterioration of natural resources in many parts of the region. The dissolution of traditional local institutional arrangements and practices has not been replaced with the establishment of more effective institutions and adequate resource management regimes.

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The rise of state agencies and private companies as forest managers has generally coincided with an accelerating loss of natural forests throughout the Asia region during the post World War II era. Tropical rainforests in Southeast Asia receded from 250 million hectares in 1900 to below 60 million in 1989 (Poffenberger, 1990).

By the 1980s, the deforestation of Asian lowlands as well as the deteriorating condition of many upland watersheds began to generate serious concern among national planners and the development community alike. Floods and brownouts affecting Bangkok, Jakarta, Manila and other urban centers brought deforestation issues to the attention of the public, thereby initiating a new generation of environmental protection policies including logging bans. There has been growing recognition through the 1990s in many Asian nations that rural people have an important role to play in managing and protecting forestlands, including those nominally under state jurisdiction.

Over the past two decades, a ground swell of support has emerged from many quarters to assist communities to re-establish management and control over their resources. Planners have crafted national Community Forest Management (CFM) policies, while legislatures have passed laws in empowering communities and local government with resources stewardship rights and responsibilities. The objectives of CFM is to establish the mechanisms for enhanced community participation in planning, development and

benefit-sharing in selected watershed protection forests and production forests, and create possibilities for collaborative planning and management. These objectives are based on the premise that collaborative management is a practical solution to achieve sustainable multiple-use forest management. Thus, CFM's main feature is that it empowers local communities to participate in the planning and management of natural resources.

The experiences with CFM in the past two decades have shown the possibility of mainstreaming benefits for mountain peoples. ASEAN governments have embarked on policy-making from the top-down with bottom-up good practices in collaboration with regional civil society organizations. In the next phase of support of the Swiss government to ASEAN's Multi-sectoral Framework on Climate Change and Food Security (AFCC), the Swiss Development Cooperation has asked the NTFP-Exchange Programme (NTFP-EP) for South and Southeast Asia to focus on enhancing civil society engagement of the ASEAN Social Forestry Network (ASFN) with vulnerable groups such as indigenous and other mountain communities. In general, NTFP-EP would assist in facilitating mechanisms and initiatives between government and civil society partners to enhance social forestry policy and practice under the food security and climate change theme.<sup>13</sup>

### 1.3.7 Information and communication technologies (ICT)

ICTs have provided a new set of tools to provide solutions to development problems faced by regions like Southeast Asia. As a sector, ICT has contributed to the creation of the most rapidly growing industries, such as electronics, business process outsourcing, and telecommunication and internet services. As an infrastructure, ICT is seen as an enabler of economic growth and competitiveness based on the uptake and utilization of ICT in business and society (ADB, 2011). Southeast and Pacific nations spent 3 to 9 percentage of their total GDP (2008) in ICT related expenditures. In the last two decades, cellular subscriptions had exponentially grown and internet users also increased.

These show the high expectations about the applicability of such technologies. However, current uses are not necessarily focused toward human development. Policies are lacking to integrate ICTs with economical goals, and to combine ICTs with other development tools and engender active people's participation. The digital divide is still large: more than 40 personal computers per hundred persons in a few countries, but less than 10 in most.

13 Annual Report 2010 to HIVOS. *Strengthening community and NGO capacity in sustainable NTFP management through advocacy, livelihood and research and learning programs*. NTFP-EP for South and Southeast Asia.

### 1.3.8 Expansion of tourism and ecotourism

The tourism sector is a major contributor to the socioeconomic development of Southeast Asian countries. For example, prior to the 2011 floods, Thailand has become hugely popular, attracting more than 12 million tourists every year. Tourism has made a large contribution to Thailand's economy (typically about 6 percent of gross domestic product) more than any other Asian nation.

Thailand, Laos and Cambodia are increasingly struggling to identify destinations in their respective countries and attract a market that lends itself to sustainable tourism. Many Southeast Asian countries had planned to develop ecotourism as early as 1998, but had faced problems associated with the lack of infrastructure development, the adequacy of personnel training, the absence of, or delays in plan implementation, and political instability.<sup>14</sup> The focus shifted to community-based approaches to ecotourism development because of the industry's heavy reliance on national parks and other protected areas.

According to Leksakundilok (2004), Cambodia received 174,574 foreign tourists at an annual increasing rate of 12.56 percent from 1962-68. Tourism in Cambodia grew very quickly thereafter, particularly after the 1993 election organized by the UN. The number of tourists increased by 21.3 percent per annum on average (from 118,183 in 1993 to 218,843 in 1997); in 1994 there was an increase of 49.44 percent (Khanal and Babar, 2007).

### 1.3.9 Major policy and legal reforms in NRM sectors

The policy link of national and local government units in natural resource management (NRM) is a crucial factor to the state of a country's natural resources. In the 1990's, a number of SEAP countries started to decentralize or devolve power and authority to local political units in response to criticisms of too much centralization in the past. Devolution involved the transfer of responsibility in the delivery

14 Dowlings, Ross K., *Ecotourism in Southeast Asia: A Golden Opportunity for Local Communities*, Tourism in

Southeast Asia—A New Direction. Chon, K.S., Editor, The Hayworth Hospitality Press. New York. 2000. p. 2

of basic services from the national government to the local government, including personnel, assets, equipment, programs and projects (Elazegui *et al.* 2001).

Each country is at a different stage in the implementation of decentralization policies but they must all deal with pressures stemming from competing uses for common natural resources, confusion over conflicting policies and/or laws, and socio-cultural diversity. Different case studies in Southeast Asian countries demonstrate that, although recognition is growing at all levels of society of the potential of decentralization as a viable option for natural resources management, reforms have not yet reached their desired levels. There have been only sporadic and intermittent attempts to develop ideal decentralization structures in compliance with the principles of subsidiarity, accountability, and capacity. Upward and downward accountability within and across sectors, jurisdictions, and organizations, both public and private, has yet to be fully established or practiced. Human, financial, and political resources are insufficient at the local level to match the increased responsibility that local governments have been granted under decentralization. Meanwhile, the perpetuation of the vicious circle of rural poverty continues, leading to further natural resources degradation. Decentralization efforts in Southeast Asia are still in the nascent stage, characterized by "learning-by-doing." Thus, it is still too early to conclude whether the ongoing reforms in Southeast Asia will ultimately be successful. (Kurauchi, *et al.* undated).

The devolution process within the national legal decentralization framework has started to flex its muscle in favor of downstream and upstream forest-dependent communities. In May 2009, indigenous communities in Malaysia celebrated a landmark court judgment on land rights in the case of Madeli Salleh versus the Superintendent of Land and Surveys. The judgment defined native customary rights not only as forest-felled, cultivated and settled, but also communally protected forest. This was strengthened by judgments in two recent cases in January 2010 that confirmed the rights of communities to their land, in particular the protected forest. It also provides leverage for community-based conservation and traditional land use and management for food security and increased income through NTFP development.<sup>15</sup>

### 1.3.10 Harnessing the potential of water resources (Mekong Commission)

Water sources in Southeast Asia are strained by the increasing demand for water from different sectors such as agriculture, industry and domestic users. The situation is likely to worsen in the future. Shared water resources in Southeast Asia are also a concern (Yian, 2005). Energy demand is mostly met through fossil fuel-generated electricity; however, hydroelectric energy production is growing.

The Asia and Pacific region produces less than 32% of world's energy, with the People's Republic of China (PRC) producing almost half of the total energy in the region. Most

Asian economies rely on imports to meet their energy needs. Measured by GDP per unit of energy use, most Asian economies are becoming more energy efficient. Vietnam's electricity production increased eight times between

1990 and 2007. Other economies in Southeast Asia recorded large increases, including Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, and Thailand.

The Mekong River is one of the least developed major international river basins, covering parts of China, Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam. The Mekong River is marked, on the one hand, by under-utilization of its vast water resources potential, and on the other by frequent large magnitude flooding that causes widespread damages and devastation. The governments of the four riparian countries of Lao PDR, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam signed in 1995 the Agreement on the Cooperation for the Sustainable Development of the Mekong River Basin, which established the Mekong River Commission. The objectives include the promotion and coordination of sustainable management and development of water and related resources for the countries' mutual benefit and the people's well-being by implementing strategic programs and activities and sharing of scientific information and providing policy advice (WMO and MRC, 2006). The importance of the water

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resources development potential in the basin is evident in the amount of fresh water resources per capita estimated in the year 2002 as follows: 38,136 m<sup>3</sup>/per capita in Cambodia; 60,307 m<sup>3</sup> in Lao PDR; 6,653 m<sup>3</sup> in Thailand and 11,081 m<sup>3</sup> in Vietnam.

The landlocked Southeast Asian mountains provide neighboring downstream communities within Laos with hydroelectric energy. Laos will build 10 hydroelectric dams, with five already under or nearing construction, over the next five years as part of its goals to become the "battery of Southeast Asia."<sup>16</sup> However, the Xayaburi hydro-electric plant, planned on the Mekong River, met with regional opposition. Cambodia, Thailand and Vietnam have called for delay in the dam's construction on the grounds that it could impact on downstream fisheries and sediment flows. To date, only China has built dams on the Mekong River, the longest waterway in Southeast Asia.

The Philippines can provide a solution to resolve these incipient water-resource conflicts. In building the Ambuclao-Binga hydroelectric dam in Benguet Province in Northern Philippines, multiple stakeholders with competing claims entered into collaborative negotiations and non-adversarial communication skills prior to actual negotiations and created a mechanism for dialogues that the stakeholders can access at any time. Needs-based negotiations of various players serve as the starting point for coming up with win-win solutions.<sup>17</sup> The practice of seeking free and prior informed consent (FPIC) of key stakeholders before arriving at any decisions by all the parties involved is an alternative approach to averting stakeholder conflicts.

WMO and the Mekong River Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding in July 2003 and the first consultation meeting was held on October 2003 in Phnom Penh. The objective of this project is to establish and operate a real-time flood information system in the Mekong basin with Cambodia, Lao, Thailand and Vietnam as participating countries.

Pollution and weak institutions are obstacles to effective water management in most of Southeast Asia. Heavy river pollution has affected Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Vietnam. Weak institutions in Malaysia, for example, mean that the available technical expertise lacks legislative or enforcement powers. Privatization is an increasingly popular option for water management and delivery. Privatization is, however, not without controversy as it raises public fears of "unbridled capitalism." Furthermore, government failure does not automatically justify private sector involvement in the water sector as transforming state monopoly into a private monopoly could worsen the situation, especially if the monopolist would take advantage of its privileged position (Yian, 2005).

### 1.3.11 Social and political reforms in Indonesia, Cambodia and Vietnam

The Asian financial crisis in 1997-1998 changed Indonesia's economic and political landscape virtually overnight. Indonesia was one of the worst casualties of the krismon (monetary crisis), and the resultant economic disaster severely damaged the legitimacy of the New Order regime, eventually triggering President Suharto's political demise. This in turn catalyzed a swift transition in Indonesia characterized by deep political and economic decentralization. Since this "big-bang" reform occurred, Indonesia has displayed modest yet positive economic growth, dealt with major separatist movements, and established arguably the most democratic state in the region. The Indonesian economy is driven significantly by domestic consumption, which arguably sheltered Indonesia from unfavorable external shocks during the recent global financial crisis.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> *Hydropower dams in Southeast Asia*, the Straits Times, September 14, 2010. <http://www.eco-business.com/news/hydropower-dams-southeast-asia/> Accessed August 27, 2011

<sup>17</sup> Abaya, Annabelle, e-Conference on Sustainable Mountain Development in the Southeast Asia, June 1-30,

2011. <http://dgroups.org/Community.aspx?c=1e8d0925-6418-4258-a6ae-73d720453099>. Accessed September 1,

2011

<sup>18</sup> Tao Kong, Sherry. Economic and political transition in China and Indonesia. *East Asia Forum*. August 4,

2010. <http://www.eastasiaforum.org/2010/08/04/economic-and-political-transition-in-china-and-indonesia/>. Accessed September 29, 2011.

Meanwhile, Indonesia's Forestry Administration reported in 2010 that there are 427 community forestry site applications covering over 400,000 hectares in 20 provinces, but only 126 sites equivalent to 145,036 hectares have been approved. The Community Forestry Program (CFP) is one of the sub- programs in the recently launched National Forestry Program (NFP). In theory, Community Forestry (CF) holds promise for sustainable forest management and promotion of community-based forest livelihoods. Non-government organizations (NGOs) and other stakeholders including the reconstituted National Community Forestry Coordinating Committee (NCFPCC) continue to raise concerns about boundary overlaps between economic land concessions (ELCs) and community forestry areas. ELCs continue to be allocated with limited community consultation and information disclosure, and pose considerable impediments to meeting the 2M community forestry target. Community protected areas (a parallel social forestry and community based natural resources management mechanism under the Protected Areas Law) face the same challenges.

One of Cambodia's Millennium Development Goals targets is to designate 2 million hectares of forest land as Community Forestry by 2030.<sup>19</sup> But disputes over land and natural resources in Cambodia remain an utmost concern especially in developing the green economy and the institutionalization of CF as an expression of devolution and decentralization. There have been increasing cases of land grabbing, as well as evictions and loss of livelihoods in both rural and urban areas. Correspondingly, growth in civil society actions is emerging: activism and protest action with human rights defenders being threatened, intimidated, physically abused and temporarily detained. Active non-violence and mobilization of community networks are also rising. The disputes center on ELCs and international land deals over commercial projects such as real estate, mining and plantations. While a sub-decree on procedures for registering communal lands of indigenous peoples has been passed in April 2009, so far, only three pilot titles in the Northeast are underway. Interim protection measures for indigenous land claimants are weak against ELCs, which are generally favored over possession rights of IPs

despite the Land Law and the new sub-decree.<sup>20</sup>

Vietnam has undergone an impressive socio-economic transformation. The country's current economic development stems from its twenty-year reform program, known as the Doi Moi (renovation process). This was introduced in 1986 after Vietnam experienced a huge economic crisis in the

mid-1980s during which over 70 per cent of the Vietnamese population lived in poverty with an

average per capita income of less than US\$100. Since then, the economy has opened up with export

and investment surging. In stark contrast to Vietnam's economic situation in the mid-1980s, the average economic growth rate has consistently been above 7 per cent per year in the last two decades. Today's GDP per capita (The Economist, 2010) is US \$1,240 while the household poverty rate stood at 12.3 per cent of the population in 2009. Like its neighbor, China, Vietnam and its economy are increasingly outward investment-oriented and export driven. The total export volume made up over 65 percent of the country's GDP in 2008, with the US, the EU, Japan and Australia as the biggest export

markets. Vietnam is in a transition from being an aid-recipient to becoming a middle-income country.

Most indicators of the population's living standards and welfare have improved.

In the natural resource management front, Vietnam is experimenting with co-management schemes and benefit-sharing for forest communities living in national parks. Vietnam's new biodiversity law gives recognition for reasonable use of biodiversity to harmonize conservation with hunger and poverty alleviation. The concept of people participation in forest management is still very new in the country's national parks, and various sectors are still struggling to reach compromises. The government is slowly starting to give communities permission to harvest within national parks. The Raglay community in Nui Chua was relocated at first and had been kept away from their forest and forest resources when the Nui Chua National Park was established. They were made to plant trees and crops they can use economically, but most of them still had their farms inside the park. Now they are starting to have access to NTFPs and at the same time help the park management in patrolling the

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20 Ibid.

area.<sup>21</sup> In the meantime, a trial Benefit Sharing Mechanism has been initiated based on the Vietnam

Conservation Fund that will develop five protected areas.

### 1.3.12 Major activities in promoting the Mountain Agenda

A great majority of Southeast Asian countries took part in the UNCED in Rio in 1992, and almost all have acceded to or ratified the relevant international conventions and treaties for sustainable development. Each has taken a different thrust toward the realization of national development objectives. These include economic incentives, new legislation, and a social reform agenda.<sup>22</sup>

A decade later, the Asian Development Bank (ADB), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) established a partnership (the Task Force) to undertake the preparatory process for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD). Forty-nine (49) representatives from the governments of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, East Timor, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR), Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam attended the meeting held in October 2001 at the ADB Headquarters in Manila. About 40 representatives of major stakeholder groups from seven countries also took part in the meeting. The preparatory process crafted a sub-regional action plan which peripherally tackled sectoral SMD issues such as sustainable land management and biodiversity conservation, and sustainable water resource management.<sup>23</sup>

The Philippines formulated Philippine Agenda 21 (PA21) which has since been considered as the highest policy framework for civil society participation in environmental governance in the country. In

1996, the leaders of more than 5000 organizations under the informal banner of the Asia Pacific

Sustainable Development Initiatives (APSUD) rallied around PA21 as their framework for negotiations with government on the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Council (APEC). Even those

who questioned APSUD's stance in APEC did not oppose PA21; rather, they questioned the sincerity

of government in carrying out the promises they made to put the Individual Action Plan (IAP) under

PA21.<sup>24</sup>

Other regional funding mechanisms came into existence. An example is the Samdhana Foundation based in Bali, Indonesia. The foundation acts as an adviser for Global Greengrants Fund grants to groups in Laos, Cambodia, Thailand, Malaysia, East Timor, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Its vision is for a region where natural, cultural, and spiritual diversity are valued and environmental conflicts are resolved peacefully, with justice and equity for all parties. Achieving this requires that communities that directly manage their local natural resources have clear rights, ready recourse to justice, strong and skilled leadership, stable financial resources, and access to appropriate technical support.<sup>25</sup> There have been a number of Southeast Asian NGOs and community-based organizations that had received Samdhana funds including 112 grants in Indonesia, 54 in the Philippines, and 14 others received by Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Cambodia and Thailand.

### 1.3.13 Role of non-government (NGOs) and civil society (CSO) organizations

The forces of globalization and the emergence of civil society have led governments to accept the role of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in the governance of society. An important contributor to the growth of Asia Pacific civil society is the emergence of a favorable political and social environment for the operation of Non-Governmental Programs. The restoration of democratic

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22 Executive Summary, *The Southeast Asia Preparatory Meeting for the World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002*, [http://www.adb.org/Documents/Reports/SEA\\_WSSD/exec\\_summary.pdf](http://www.adb.org/Documents/Reports/SEA_WSSD/exec_summary.pdf) Accessed September 2, 2011

23 Ibid.



24 Philippine Agenda 21, Center for Alternative Development Initiatives, [http://www.cadi.ph/philippine\\_agenda\\_21.htm](http://www.cadi.ph/philippine_agenda_21.htm) Accessed September 2, 2011

25

governments in various nations helped to galvanize public support for civil society organizations, which played a large role in the movement (Kim, 2004).

They have become legitimate (policy) actors involved directly in many social and economic policy making process. They have become part of policy networks that link state bureaucracy and the market. There are many factors that have influenced the NGO sector's growth in the region. For nations that have undergone political regime changes, socio-political democratization enabled many NGOs to take advantage of newly found freedom of association and representation.

The rapid growth of the civil society sector and the growing recognition of civil society players in the policy making and service delivery functions have warranted the redefinition of the relationship between the NGO sector and the state. The (re)emergence of civil society in the region often created uneasiness on the part of the government in terms of state-NGO relationship. Unlike some developed nations that have experienced more "evolutionary" changes in the state-NGO relationship, many of Asia Pacific nations, especially those that have witnessed political democratization, have undergone changes that are more "revolutionary" in nature. Government bureaucrats in many of Asian countries had adopted the developmental state model where strong and centralized governments and top-down decision making process were the accepted norm. In addition, the change from an exclusive bureaucratic network to a more inclusive network in terms of policy-making and implementation process occurred within a short period of time and was forced upon state bureaucracies. Changes in (democratic) governance in a very short time span have necessitated shifts in societal players' positions and roles. But the quicker the state bureaucracy moves to accept diversity and democratic governance, the easier the transition will become for all parties concerned.

Numerous cases where civil society has provided the good practices eventually led to the crafting of state policies in Southeast Asia. In Papua New Guinea, the 1998 Steering Committee meeting developed a set of principles for effective development on the Managalas Plateau. The "Sustainable Development Guidelines" covered aspects of forest use, gardening, water and other issues in resource management and community development. These guidelines were intended to inform the plans and decisions of each village. Significantly, these bottom-up guidelines have now been recognized and adopted by the government. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between Partners and the Oro Provincial Government providing an initial foundation for government recognition of the Managalas sustainable development guidelines. This is the first local level recognition of community development management rules in PNG and by itself, a significant achievement. Sustainable harvest guidelines have been completed for the okari and there is some recognition of harvest regimes that take these into account.

NGOs have also been leading the promotion of organic farming. In the Philippines, Alter Trade promoted fair trade among agrarian reform beneficiaries in the upland and lowland farms of Negros Occidental. Alter Trade sees "the necessary role of government, academic institutions, church, private sector, NGOs, organized producers and consumers and civil society in propagating sustainable agriculture and development." It has entered into multi-stakeholder partnerships to harness the potentials and facilitate complementation among the different social sectors.<sup>26</sup>

The idea of an alternative trading system - or what the Japanese support groups call people-to-people trade - was first broached in 1986 during a conference in Japan. Invited to the conference were consumers' cooperatives, environmental activists and organic agriculture movements. Present were three major groups - the Kyoseisha Coop, a large consumers cooperative in Kyushu, the Tokushima Association for the Betterment of Life, a consumers group in Tokushima Prefecture in Shikoku Island, and the Chubu Recycling Citizens' Group, an influential citizens' organization in Nagoya concerned with the environment and direct producer-consumer linkages. These groups committed to buy muscovado sugar, which was largely seen as a "poor man's sugar." Alter Trade view muscovado sugar as an apt statement of its vision to help the poor people of Negros Island in the Philippines. It adopted

26 Mugar, Norma, Alter Trade's Reply to NDF-Negros, February 7, 2007. (Accessed November 26, 2010). [http://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?page=article\\_impr&id\\_article=5137](http://www.europe-solidaire.org/spip.php?page=article_impr&id_article=5137)

the brand name Mascobado, "mas" meaning the masses - the ordinary people. The product was first shipped to Japan in 1987 with cooperatives in Japan as its initial market. A year later, trading firms that espoused the principles of fair trade from Switzerland and Germany, and then Italy, began buying the poor man's sugar.

Another NGO in Negros Occidental, central Philippines, the Broad Initiatives for Negros Development, Inc. (BIND) has been helping farmers use vermi-compost as fertilizer and herbal plants to ward off farm pests in organic rice and vegetables production (The Manila Times 19 February

2005). They also produce organic livestock among many other products. <sup>27,28</sup>

### 1.3.14 Poverty reduction measures and successes

One important lesson that has emerged in tackling poverty and food insecurity concerns the use of investment policy and institutional reforms to enable the rural poor to partake of domestic markets and improve access to technology, infrastructure and education. Many success stories would show that the main push to these efficiency-enhancing reforms has come, neither from globalization nor agricultural policy, but from internal realization that the country and its citizens are the major beneficiaries of state-initiated reforms. Governments must develop capacity to find the appropriate mix of policies and institutions that would maximize the enormous benefits from globalization while protecting its people against its risks and pitfalls.

Although poverty remains as one of the most pressing issues facing Asia and the Pacific, the Southeast Asian region should be credited for continuously making progress in reducing income poverty and enhancing people-oriented achievements toward the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Despite some progress over the last few decades, the region remains home to two thirds of the global poor.

Economic growth during the last 25 years has averaged at five percent per year and has been accompanied by a decline in the relative importance of agriculture in the national output and employment. The response of poverty to this growth and structural transformation has been equally remarkable, with the headcount ratio in 2002 registering a more than 50 percent drop from the 1990 figure. Although impressive, Southeast Asia's overall record in growth and poverty reduction has not been uniform, which is evident in the experiences of countries like Indonesia, Philippines and East Timor as well as the transition economies namely, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam. In these countries, liberalizing agricultural trade, combined with public investment in productivity-enhancing support services, would advance the interests of the poor (Balisacan *et al.* 2009).

### 1.3.15 Growing urbanization and labor migration

Southeast Asia is one of the world's least urbanized regions. Its level of urbanization is roughly the same as that of Asia as a whole and slightly above that of sub-Saharan Africa. According to UN projections, it will be at least another 50 years before the level of urbanization in Southeast Asia approaches that already achieved in Europe, North America or Latin America, where less than 25 percent of the population now live in non-urban areas. Even among the 25 percent who remain in rural settings, most no longer

lead traditionally rural lives (Jones, 2002).

Rapid economic growth has fundamentally changed the composition and distribution of Southeast Asia's labor force. Over the past 25 years, a labor force that was predominantly agrarian and rural has become increasingly urban and industrial. As Southeast Asia's regional economy shifts from agriculture toward industrial and technological pursuits, employers increasingly require highly-skilled and talented professionals, which the local educational institutions cannot readily supply.

27 Faylon, Patricio and Cardona, Eileen C., Philippine Agriculture: Retrospect and Prospects in Good Agricultural Practices Amid Globalization, May 16, 2007. Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD), Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines, <http://www.agnet.org/library/bc/54006/>. Accessed September 3, 2011.

28 Samonte, Angelo, S., *NGO lends helping hand*, Manila Bulletin, February 19, 2005. <http://www.docstoc.com/docs/2908129/Manila-Bulletin> Accessed September 3, 2011.

Consequently, the developing nations of Southeast Asia are faced with a variety of human resource dilemmas.

The changing structure of urban population across different categories reveals a shift of growth dynamics from large to second order cities and the stagnation of small towns. The pace of urbanization has been modest to high in select countries in Asia, not because of their level of economic growth but because of rapidly growing informal sectors (Kundu, 2009).

There has been a growing concentration of international out-migrants from Asia to a few countries in the developed world. In 1960, 57 per cent of all migrants lived in the less developed regions but this has increased to 37% by 2005. Asia accounts for 53 million or 28 per cent of this sector basically due to its high demographic weight. In terms of the share in total international migrants, exactly half among the top twenty countries are from Asia, both in 1990 as well as in 2005.

Since the 1990s, migration within Asia has grown, particularly from less-developed countries with massive labor surpluses to fast-growing newly industrializing countries. Since the mid-1980s, rapid economic growth and declining fertility have led to strong demand for labor in the new industrial economies of East and Southeast Asia. Labor migration within Asia grew exponentially in the first half of the 1990s. Some migrants returned home during the Asian financial crisis of 1997-1999, but labor migration resumed quickly. Early migrant flows mainly comprised of low-skilled workers. In recent years, flows of highly skilled workforce have increased throughout the region, and the demand for health-care workers is increasing.

Often cited as the main reasons for the movement of workers both within and external to the region, are wage differentials, the availability of jobs and work opportunities (in some cases for long periods), and opportunities for workers to grow in the labor market (Acharya, 2003). On the downside, opportunities in nearby urban areas have spawned slum areas. About two-thirds of the urban population in most Southeast Asian cities lives in slums.

The number of urban dwellers swelled between 1990 and 2009, with increases of 12 percentage points or more in PRC, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Philippines, and Thailand. Likewise, highly urbanized mountain cities such as Baguio City in the Philippines grapple with population growth due to the influx of immigrants from the plains and outlying mountain communities.

### 1.3.16 Human Resources Development

Asia and Pacific is a vast region with economies at different stages of growth. World-wide competition has increased, the pace of economic change has accelerated, and the process of development has become less predictable. The advent of globalization has fostered not only technological change and continually falling communication and transport costs but also decisions of developing countries to embrace market-oriented development strategies that have increasingly opened up markets to the world economy. The world is thus fast becoming one interdependent global market place.

A key contributor in this regard is the knowledge and skills of the workforce. Technological changes, especially information technology and telecommunications, and competition in the fast moving competitive global marketplace have changed work organizations and working patterns. Virtual offices are emerging as companies are leveraging cyberspace and electronic technology to cut costs and to boost productivity. These firms need reliable and educated workers, who are able to understand the new forms of information, adaptable, and who can work in a team environment. Employees need both technical skills and the capacity to cope with continuous and radical changes in virtual businesses.

Finding adequate human resources in Southeast Asia presents a problem, as there is a shortage of skilled labor in many of the developing countries. However, doing business in the region offers opportunity for employing a relatively inexpensive workforce in the Asian region.

### 1.3.17 Growing awareness and importance of indigenous and traditional knowledge

The rich diversity of plants in the Asia Pacific region has been used by people for many generations, for food and medicine, among many other applications. There is an abundance of, and a constantly evolving, local expertise in plant genetic resources. Annual global sales of products derived from the manipulation of genetic resources lie between US\$ 500 and US\$800 billion annually. Sale of herbal medicine alone is estimated to have exceeded US\$ 12.5 billion in 1994 and US\$ 30 billion in 2000, with annual growth rates averaging between 5% and 15%, depending on the region (GRAIN, 2002).

Indigenous peoples (IPs), many of whom are mountain dwellers, represent a significant proportion of the world's poor. Reducing poverty among native tribes would contribute greatly to attaining the MDGs. As stewards of biodiversity in many environmental hot spots, IPs deserve to be assisted and protected as doing so redounds to safeguarding the global environment (IFAD, 2003).

### 1.4 Rapid economic growth

The rapid economic expansion in both China and India is a boon for the more advanced economies in Southeast Asia, notably Singapore, Malaysia, Brunei, and Thailand. But growth in China and India will negatively affect the less-advanced neighbors, notably the transition countries, as well as the Philippines and Indonesia, as industries in these countries still have to contend with unskilled labor.

The Asia and Pacific region accounts for almost one-third of global GDP measured in purchasing power parity (PPP) terms. Many economies in the region have made substantial increases in their per capita GDP in recent times. Although the 2009 GDPs were lower in constant prices, most economies still managed to post modest or even healthy, growth, despite weakening export markets and lower shares of exports in GDP in almost all economies as compared with pre-crisis levels.

### 1.5 Major and support organizations in sustainable mountain development

### 1.5.1 Hydro-meteorological observation facilities

Hydro-meteorological data and information are essential to support water resources development and management, and for flood forecasting and disaster warning activities. The existing hydrological and hydro-meteorological networks in the region are insufficient, especially in the mountainous areas. Technologies involved in the data collection, transmission and processing should be improved to achieve state-of-the-art process sophistication and operational efficiency.

### 1.5.2 Earth observation facilities

Earth observation satellites have a central role to play in understanding the Earth system as a whole. They overcome the difficulty of obtaining accurate, continuous, simultaneous measurements of the Earth's atmosphere, oceans, ice sheets, land surface and interior. They are often the only way to highlight gradual change on a global scale.

The relevance of geographic information (GI) and earth observation (EO) applications in supporting decision-making is being increasingly realized by technical experts, practitioners and policy makers. There is a growing need for generating spatial and temporal data to aid planning, management and policy formulation in the mountain context. Because of the vast biophysical and socio-cultural diversity of mountain ecosystems, data generation is difficult. Consequently, the proper delineation of areas where appropriate management and policy reforms can be initiated is hardly done. In addition, available records and data sets are often not comparable because of differences in standards, scale, and accuracy and collection procedures.

The last decade has witnessed an unprecedented growth and development in earth observation data and applications. Earth observation techniques through remote sensing are proving to be more cost-effective than ground-based techniques over large areas. There has been an emergence of high resolution satellite data in recent years, with greater degree of spatial and temporal variations than ever

before. The sharper resolution can yield useful, site-specific information that are needed to come up with more unambiguous prescriptions to deal with location-specific problems in the mountains.

## PART II: Progress of changes in the SEAP region since 1992

### 2.1 Overview of the assessment and results

#### 2.1.1 The specific aims of the SEAP Regional Assessment

- review commitments, by taking stock of the progress made in development across the mountain areas of the world over the past 20 years, by presenting and appraising strategies, policies, and instruments, and programs by mountain communities, governments, civil society organisations, academia, and the private sector for promoting sustainable mountain development in the South East Asia and Pacific (SEAP) mountain regions;
- Analyse emerging issues and challenges, by identifying gaps relating to mountain development in different mountain regions recognising that there are regional specificities and variations; and
- Discuss ways forward for closing these gaps and for enhancing sustainable development in mountain regions worldwide.

#### 2.1.2 General Methodology and Assessment Process

The assessment followed a common framework for case study selection and case study methodology. The report must ensure the inclusion of the three-pronged objective of securing renewed political and financial commitment, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps, and addressing new and emerging challenges as a strategic entry point to the Rio+20 agenda. The assessment focused on the two major themes of the Rio+20 Conference: Green Economy and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development and Good Environmental Governance. The report covers two geographic areas to provide the context of SEAP region and was prepared following a multi-stakeholder dialogue and consultations.

#### A. Virtual (e-conference) consultations

Table I: Summary information on the ICIMOD-organized e-Conferences (Stakeholder Consultation on Rio+20 Conference)				
Event	Event duration	No. of stakeholders participated	Countries represented with major concentration	Total contributions and eye catchers
Southeast Asia and Pacific e-conference	1-30 June 2011	150	20 countries AP, Europe, North & Latin America (mostly from South and Southeast Asia)	Over 100  Key topics: Natural resource (NR) conflicts,  indigenous community rights over NRs

#### B. Commissioning of case studies

Table II: Distribution of case studies by countries and themes			
Event	Countries covered	Total case studies/remarks	Thematic focus

South East Asia and Pacific case studies	Indonesia, Philippines, PNG and Vietnam	4 case studies that involved examination of what worked and what did not and what are the policy weaknesses	Watershed management, forest conservation, Beekeeping and bio- resources conservation
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### C. Workshop of stakeholders from the SEAP region

Table III: AP regional capacity building and knowledge sharing workshops			
Event	Participating countries	Key highlights	Major outputs
Asia-Pacific Youth Forum on Climate Actions and Mountain Issues (convened as Asia Pacific Youth meeting on Rio+20), 8-12 August 2011	<b>43 YOUTH from 17 countries</b> <b>SEAP countries:</b> Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam	- Capacity building sessions - Motivational sessions - Sustainability exercises - Team works developing youth statements for Rio+20	- Asia Pacific Youth Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development - Asia Pacific Youth Position paper on Rio+20
Regional Sharing Workshop on Assessment of Challenges and Opportunities in the Asia Pacific region for Rio +20, 23-25 August 2011	<b>161 participants from 10 countries, with 37 contributors</b> SEAP countries that participated: Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, PNG and Vietnam	- Presentation of and discussion on case studies - Presentation of Key Informants - Sub/regional group works to assess key issues, challenges and opportunities and develop recommendations	- Finalization of structure of Assessment Report - Documentation of key issues, challenges and opportunities - Development of key recommendations

### 2.2 Major progress by sectors highlighted by the four case studies

2.2.1 Community-based biodiversity/forest conservation in PNG

2.2.2 Collaborative forest management in Vietnam

2.2.3 Watershed management in Ikalahan, Philippines

2.2.4 Honey Bee Management as a NTFP product in Indonesia

#### 2.2.1 The Managalas Plateau Conservation Area Project, Oro Province, Papua New Guinea

The Partners with Melanesians Inc. (PwM) is a non-government organization that implemented the Managalas Plateau conservation project in Oro province in Papua New Guinea. PwM envisaged establishing, coordinating and promoting the work of all members of the community and partner organisations through equal participation and self-reliance, and practices of sustainable alternative development. PwM has been working with the local

communities in the case study area since 1984. PwM's involvement in the Managalas project had affirmed its belief that the full participation by the people in development is needed, as everyone benefits from doing so in the process. Although dealing with rural people was difficult, PwM insisted on the community's active participation in development processes or programs that were intended to improve their lives, and transform the context and conditions within which they live and upon which their well-being depended. The local people were made to realize that they cannot remain recipients and mere spectators of development, but rather, that they are the cause of development.

#### 2.2.2 Vietnam: Collaborative Forest Management (CFM) in Bidoup Nui Ba National Park, Lam Dong province

Collaborative Forest Management (CFM) was introduced in 2007 and has been implemented at Bidoup Nui Ba National Park within a project called "Piloting an Approach to Multiple-Use Forest Management in Lam Dong Province." The objectives of CFM were to establish the mechanisms for enhanced community participation in planning, development and benefit-sharing at selected watershed protection forests and production forests, and to explore possibilities for collaborative planning, management and benefit sharing.

Multi-stakeholder Forest Management Groups (FMG) were established at village level involving communities, forest officials, and local government representatives.

The FMGs have enhanced cohesion in forest protection work, with local people working together as self-managed groups in coordination with the national park and forest guards. Revolving Credit

Funds (RCFs) were also established in pilot villages. The RCFs appear to have been a success, as they allow the provision of village-managed credit to those who had no access to loans. While the loans did

not actually "pay" people to protect forests, they have helped increase their motivation for such work.

Another project, "Piloting of Payments Environmental Services," in the forest sector in Lam Dong province, contributed significantly toward poverty reduction and enhancing forest protection. As a result, there has been a significant increase in both the income of households and the area of forest contracted for protection with communities for the period 2008-2011.

The key factors to success of CFM in BNNBP were: (i) FMGs were established based on a process of negotiation and consultation with stakeholders; (ii) Implementation of CFM ensured fair and real benefits for all parties, and (iii) The piloting of payments for environmental services contributed significantly toward poverty reduction and enhanced the effectiveness of FMGs in protecting the forests.

The application and replication of CFM in Vietnam would need legal regulations and guidelines at the national level, but the project design did not have any provision for involving decision makers at that level. Consequently replication could be difficult, or limited to within the province only. The FMGs appear to have enhanced coordination for forest protection between local people and the authorities but they have yet to facilitate broader participation by local people in other conservation activities. In

this context, there is an effort to elaborate the lessons learned from collaborative forest management in policy documents that can provide a common basis for better understanding of concepts and in formulating and implementing necessary laws and policy regulations in the future.

### 2.2.3 Forest Honey Network Indonesia (JMHI)

Forest-based carbon sequestration is considered to be the most efficient and effective long-term greenhouse gas mitigation policy. Carbon is stored within forest products and that keeps the gas out of the atmosphere. Studies indicate that the amounts of carbon stored in forest products are increasing by about 40 million tons per year. Currently, forest products store more than 3 billion tons of carbon globally. Forests are an important renewable natural resource. They contribute substantially to the economy by providing goods and services to the people and industry. They also play an important role in enhancing environmental quality by influencing the life support systems.

Many products are harvested from the forests that are not timber-based, but originate from plant materials. These are called non-timber forest products (NTFPs). Forest communities have derived sustenance from NTFPs in periods of stress and have used NTFPs as inputs or raw materials for the production of items of daily use in normal times. NTFPs include bark, roots, tubers, leaves, flowers, seeds, fruits, sap, resins, honey, fungi (mushroom), moss, lichen, herbs, vines, shrubs, or trees and animal products, such as, meat, skins, bones, and teeth. They are used for food and medicine and as a source of income. NTFPs are consumed in rural and urban homes, and are traded in local, regional, and international markets.

The Food and Agriculture Organization claims that at least 150 non-wood products are found in international markets (United Nations, 1997). NTFPs provide small but significant sources of income, particularly for women and for families that do not have access to agricultural markets. The conspicuous lack of information on the scope and value of these markets is a major obstacle to the sustainable development of these resources. Forest landowners, harvesters and processors, and policy makers greatly influence how NTFPs resources are used, and whether suggested policies can be successful.

The case study is about indigenous collectors of honey from the forests, which together with wax, are sold at low prices in Indonesia. It describes how, since 2005, an expanding community-based Forest Honey Network Indonesia (JMHI) has been operating. The case also stresses vital success factors, one of which is the full support

- in some locations - of local governments/agencies. The exemplary performances of the regencies of Sumbawa Besar and Luwu, as well as that of the Danau Sentarum National

Park management are also discussed. Furthermore, it explains how the network, together with its members, partners and supporters, have succeeded, firstly, to dramatically increase the quality

standards of this NTFP, and secondly, how the affiliated honey collectors got into sustainable harvesting and active forest conservation.

The network has gradually expanded and currently includes members in the following locations: Kalimantan (Danau Sentarum National Park, Mount Meratus and Serengkah in Ketapang regency),

Sulawesi (North Luwu in South Sulawesi, Ueesei in Southeast Sulawesi), Sumbawa Besar (Batulante watershed), Java (Ujung Kulon National Park, Banten) and Sumatra (Tesso Nilo National Park, Riau). Though not all harvesting sites are in the mountains, the bees routinely migrate between higher and lower elevations, benefiting from variations in flowering season at different altitudes. Therefore, intact mountainous forest ecosystems are crucial for honeybees (*Apis dorsata*) colonies to thrive. Hence, the good condition of the upland forests also benefits communities outside of the mountains that (mainly) work with honey and wax. Still, all of this could go terribly wrong - with forest degradation and conversion still rampant in many locations - if urgent measures are not taken to bolster the commitments of organised honey collectors.

Thirdly, the activity has demonstrated how this venture has contributed to significantly better income situation in many of the sites. Finally, some lessons learned and ambitious, but realistic plans for the near future are shared. One example of the latter is that of scheduled increased support for women, eager to become top-of-the-line artisans working with wax as the primary raw material.

In Indonesia, the JMHI is very much on the frontline of this development. The members collectively aim at establishing an Indonesian top quality product, as well as promoting truly sustainable harvesting practices, and the conservation of the forests upon which the bees depend. An interesting aspect of it is that a number of these initiatives operate in and around national parks or otherwise protected forest areas and with full support of (local) government, park management and other agencies. However, the deterioration of the resource base casts a shadow on the efforts, with the unabated heavy pressure on the remaining forests in Indonesia. This case study is an example of successful sharing of knowledge about forest conservation through community-based forest honey harvesting, production and marketing.

### 2.2.4 Living in watersheds: a Case Study of the Experiences of the Ikalahan in Forest

#### Management

Long before the Kyoto Protocol and terms like 'carbon sequestration' were popularised in the Philippines, the Ikalahans (literally, 'people of the broadleaf forest') had practiced their own ways of conservation and sustainable livelihoods. Forest-based carbon sequestration is believed to be the most efficient and effective, long-term, GHG mitigation policy.

The Ikalahans are the indigenous people in the province of Nueva Vizcaya in the northeast of the Philippines. They belong to the Kalanguya-Ikalahan tribe, which inhabits the Ikalahan ancestral domain. The domain, which includes the Kalahan Forest Reserve, covers 38,000 hectares in Nueva Vizcaya plus about 10,000 hectares in Nueva Ecija. The Ikalahans are known for their indigenous knowledge practice systems, which are environmentally sustainable. The indigenous practices have been transferred, protected and maintained for generations. Among these practices are the *day-og* and *gengen* which are ancient composting techniques that take only about three months to complete,

on level and sloping land, respectively. The resulting compost is used for restoring soil fertility of upland farms. The *pang-omis*, which is a method of expediting the fallow, was invented by one of the tribal elders while *balkah* is a contour line of deep rooted plants that traps eroded topsoil at the belt line (Rice 2000).

In 1973, Ikalahan tribal elders organised the Kalahan Educational Foundation Inc. (KEF) to protect communities from possible eviction by land grabbers. They pioneered the Social Forestry Program of the Philippine Government in 1974 when they entered a contract with the government to manage

15,000 hectares of their ancestral domain.

First the Ikalahan leaders controlled occasional wildfires in the area and also improved their food supplies, then turned to developing various forest-based natural resources to provide income for the residents. They trained the population in the principles of ecology and focused efforts on enabling the Ikalahan to be self-sufficient, minimising their dependence upon external raw materials and markets. Some of the products they are now developing are jams and jellies from wild fruit, hand-made paper,

brooms and baskets, mushrooms, organic vegetables and fruit, and furniture. In 1994, the carbon stock measurement system was set up. They also promoted the Forest Improvement Technology (FIT) to expedite the growth rate of indigenous trees to improve carbon sequestration.

According to Espaldon (2005), the economic activities in the mountain reserve indicates that

forest management in the area is about 10 years ahead in terms of measuring ecological benefits of protecting forest ecosystems. The Ikalahans also hope to receive payments for the environmental

services of their forests through carbon sequestration, irrigation water for downstream areas, and eco-

tourism. To the Ikalahans, the primary role of government is primarily to protect their rights to their lands and resources. The government should allow forest dwellers freedom to manage the resources and benefit from them.

The accomplishments of the Ikalahan people demonstrate what initiative and role modeling can do. While many ethnic communities are known to live harmoniously with nature, being content with their traditional knowledge system, the Ikalahans have gone a step further by learning about, and practicing more ecologically friendly and sustainable agro forestry skills. The efforts of the Ikalahan have been rewarded by the emergence of expanded forest cover that contributes to the ecological, economic and food security of the community. The Ikalahans are confident that they can protect their remaining primary forests while making a living from niches in the secondary forests. They are also convinced that it will be achieved in their own lifetime with enlightened government cooperation.

These projects have significance to the industry. Markets for non-traditional forest products and the capacity for NTFP enterprises to add value at the local level are not well known, but are thought to have significant impact on rural economies. However, no data on its potential for, and its market value, are available. The NTFP sector is growing rapidly, perhaps faster than the timber industry, and the trend is expected to continue. The forest officials of state and central governments have to take proper steps for enhancing sustainable collection and marketing of the NTFPs, involving the local people in the process. This way, local people benefit and forests are conserved, lead towards sustainable development in the locality and region.

### 2.3 Evaluating progress with sustainable mountain development: Progress, changes, and lessons learnt in the region over the last 20 years

**Table 2.1. Summary highlights of the case studies in the select SEAP Mountains**

Case study theme	Major highlights of findings
Conservation area project	Aim was to have equal community participation and self-reliance and development of sustainable alternative livelihoods through conservation; equitable benefit sharing is not possible due to poor policy implementation
Community-based Forest Honey Network	Establishing an effective 'working' network is key for sustainable NTFP management; support from government agencies is crucial; Indigenous honey production by the growers
	empowered community organizations, improved economic gains and enhanced conservation and SD
Integrated forest and watershed management	Effective implementation of Payment for Ecosystem Services can help a large population to escape from poverty, protect and expand forests, restore wildlife, provide health services and eventually utilize generated revenues for social benefits
Collaborative forest management (CFM)	Multi-stakeholder (at all levels) consultation is critical to ensure project sustainability and effective replication or up-scaling; Convincing all parties about benefits can lead to a win-win situation.

### 2.4 Analysis of initiatives: challenges, opportunities, lessons learned, links to

#### Rio+20

This section is focused on evaluating the progress in the Southeast Asia Pacific (SEAP) regions.

It does not refer specifically to Rio 1992, but summarises progress and changes in general over the last

20 years: In the SEAP region, the three pillars of *Sustainable Mountain Development* have been influenced by many emerging trends and challenges, which are:

**Social transformation:** Devolution and decentralization underpin social transformation across the SEAP region as communities become more demanding of the attention of their politicians and governments. But income inequalities, rising food prices and water scarcity have aggravated social tensions and regional conflicts. The region is confronted with a development pattern that pushes people and resources against natural or sustainable limits, which is more apparent in the marginalized highlands.

Migration has exacerbated in the last two decades and as a consequence, nearly brings to completion the feminization of subsistence agriculture<sup>29</sup>. Sustained migration compensated though remittances reflects an economy that is dependent as ever. Inadequate appreciation of mountain specificities has led to unplanned implementation of infrastructural development, thereby enhancing vulnerability.

**Ecological Crises:** Infrastructure development has contributed significantly to natural resource degradation<sup>30</sup>, as well as to human displacement. Climate change-induced variability of temperatures and precipitation has multiplied risks through water stress, cropping shifts and natural hazards, exacerbating the fragility of the natural resource base in the region.

Climate change adaptation is still nascent in the region but climate change impacts on crop productivity and food security has been widespread. Across the region, wildlife intrusion on cultivated landscape (due to natural resource degradation) has impinged upon livelihood security of large agrarian population in the mountains.

**Economic transition:** Land use change, urbanization and market expansion has transformed economic landscape in the mountains. In mountain areas with longer history of sedentary agriculture, as in Nepal, Bhutan, Sikkim and Uttarakhand, the fruits of development have come slow and late, but have accelerated with mixed results, in the last few decades within the SEAP mountains.

Community control over resources, for example community forestry in Nepal and *Van Panchayats* in Uttarakhand, has demonstrated the virtues of community empowerment. However, opportunities to convert such comparative advantages into competitive advantages from economic standpoint have

<sup>29</sup> Increased acceleration and scale of migration has negatively contributed to loss of local labour, brain, enterprise and leadership, has been underscored by delegates at the Regional Assessment Workshop on Rio+20 at ICIMOD, Kathmandu, Aug 23-25, 2011

<sup>30</sup> Road building, urban expansion and mega-projects have contributed to eco-degeneration across SEAP region.

been squandered in Southeast Asia. Governments, knowingly or unknowingly, have allowed poverty to persist.

## 2.5 Institutionalization of Agenda 21, Chapter 13

A key plank to building ecological infrastructure is to institutionalize the decentralization and devolution of decision-making processes. These must extend from local governance to community- based natural resource management regimes in various parts of Southeast Asia.

In the Philippines, the Philippine Congress enacted laws to ensure compliance with the devolution mandated by the 1987 Philippine Constitution. Foremost among these laws is the Local Government Code of 1991 which enabled various political subdivisions to "attain their fullest development as self- reliant communities and make them more effective partners in the attainment of national goals." The Philippine Constitution stipulates that the "State shall provide for a more responsive and accountable local government structure instituted through a system of decentralization where local government units shall be given more powers, authority, responsibilities, and resources."<sup>31</sup>

In 1995, then Philippine President Fidel Ramos issued Executive Order No. 263 adopting community- based forest management (CBFM) as the national strategy to ensure the sustainable development of the country's forestlands and provided mechanisms for its implementation.

Ramos also adopted and mandated the operationalisation of the Philippine Agenda 21 (PA 21) on September 26, 1996, with the issuance of Memorandum Order No. 399 which also identified the roles of the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD). Quite remarkably, for a mountainous archipelagic country, PA 21 left out Chapter 13's sustainable mountain development agenda, that could have complemented the CBFM policy. The short-lived Estrada Administration re-affirmed PA21 as the country's framework for sustainable development by issuing Memorandum Order 47, which directs all local government units to localize PA21 through sustainable integrated area development (SIAD). SIAD is now also recognized as a potent framework for poverty eradication.<sup>32</sup>

## 2.6 Analysis of initiatives: Challenges, opportunities and lessons learned, linked to Rio+20

a. A recent CIFOR<sup>33</sup> study suggests that the strengthening of community-managed forests

could be a more cost-efficient and effective solution than traditional forest management to reducing deforestation and ensuring the sustainable use of forests while benefiting local livelihoods. Community forestry forms an essential component of the proposed Philippine sustainable forestry management bill.

b. Reinforcing the devolution process is the Philippine Republic Act 7586, otherwise known as the National Integrated Protected Area System (NIPAS) Act. Each established protected area shall be administered by a Protected Area Management Board (PAMB). Among its functions are to delineate and demarcate protected area boundaries, buffer zones, ancestral domains, and recognize the rights and privileges of indigenous communities under the provisions of the Act. Members include the DENR officials, barangay (village) officials, three representatives from NGOs and community-based organizations.

<sup>31</sup> General Provisions, Basic Principles, the Code, Policy and Application, *the Local Government Code of the Philippines*.

<sup>32</sup> Centre for Alternative Development Initiatives, *Philippine Agenda 21*. [http://www.cadi.ph/philippine\\_agenda\\_21.htm](http://www.cadi.ph/philippine_agenda_21.htm). Accessed September 2, 2011.

<sup>33</sup> CIFOR, *Deforestation much higher in protected areas than forests run by local communities*, Press Release, <http://www.cifor.org/mediamultimedia/newsroom/press-releases/press-releases-detail-view/article/238/deforestation-much-higher-in-protected-areas-than-forests-run-by-local-communities.html>. Accessed August 29, 2011.

c. One such protected area under the Philippine system is the Mount Kanlaon Natural Park (MKNP), created by Congress under Republic Act 9154 of 2001. Part of the Western Visayas Biogeographic Zone, MKNP has high biodiversity value because of its relative endemism and species richness.

d. MKNP has formulated biodiversity conservation strategies by zoning MKNP's land use, implementation of community-based protection measures designed to protect,

conserve and develop its remaining resources, rehabilitation of highly disturbed and degraded habitats and ecosystems, and the conduct of biodiversity monitoring and researches, among others. Moreover, official policy has enshrined the importance of different tenurial regimes in public and private lands to provide mountain communities, especially the indigenous peoples, with inalienable rights such as free and prior informed consent (FPIC) in what otherwise would be open access regimes against encroachers such as extractive industries equipped with timber or mining licenses.

e. Lately, Philippine President Benigno C. Aquino III has tasked the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to implement the National Greening Program, which seeks to plant 1.5 billion trees in 1.5 million hectares nationwide in six years, from 2011 to 2016.

f. In Papua New Guinea, a 1998 coordinated action (in cooperation with other groups such as MICAD, Greenpeace and ICRAF) resulted in the cancellation of proposed Gora-Itokama Forest Management Area and an oil palm operation in the same year. Concerted actions that included letters from lawyers serving as legal representatives in behalf of the communities, placing of newspaper advertisements, lobbying the government and the Forest Authority Board, and holding press conferences have averted the implementation of these environmentally disastrous ventures.

g. Another significant example of how activism can sway governments to stop resource extractive activities in SEAP Mountains was the designation of an area for conservation in the PNG Forest Authority Forest Plans. This was the first time such formal recognition was given to a forest area in PNG that was not initially considered to be a formal conservation area. As a result, there is greater security for the resources of Managalas and Collingwood Bay. These two large areas have also opened the possibility for a protected forest corridor from the Kokoda trail to the Oro Province border.

h. Initial financial support to the NGO Partners with Melanesians Inc. (PwM) came from the MacArthur Foundation, the World Bank, and Biodiversity Conservation Network (BCN). Consensus building among the stakeholders started in the late 1980s. As the project evolved to include more and more areas, the need for a long term commitment from donor partnership was realized when the Rainforest Foundation of Norway (RFN) entered into this partnership in

1997. Since then, various other partners have joined in this project including the Government of PNG through the Targeted Community Development Program (TCDP) and Community Aid Abroad (CAA) of Australia, IUCN Netherlands, DOEN Foundation Netherlands, World Bank, UNDP GEF funds, Democratic Governance Transition Phase (DGTP) of Australian Aid now called Strongim Pipol Strogim Neisen (SPSN) and Canada Fund.<sup>34</sup>

### **2.7 Opportunities for green economy and poverty alleviation in SEAP region**

a. Adopting a human ecology approach, biodiversity conservation also means strategies to promote green economies and inclusive social development, targeting the alleviation of poverty conditions among indigenous and settler communities in the PA while promoting the active participation of communities in the management of biodiversity parks. These require the adoption of more sustainable, non-destructive alternative livelihood practices, sustainable

34 Mahuru, Rufus, The Managalas Plateau Conservation Area Project, Oro Province, Papua New Guinea. SMD Case study.

agriculture technologies, community-based eco-tourism, provision of land tenure security, and advocacy on ecological integrity.<sup>35</sup>

*The Kalahan Educational Foundation (KEF) got control of nearly 15,000 hectares of their tribal lands in 1974 with Memorandum of Agreement No. 1, a tenurial and forest resource use right instrument from the national government which was then under martial rule. Eventually, MOA No. 1 has evolved into the certificate of forest stewardship agreement (CFSA), and much later the community-based forest management agreement (CBFMA) while simultaneously maintaining the name Memorandum of Agreement Number 1, (MOA #1), being the first of its kind. The land covered by the MOA has been known as the Kalahan Reserve.*

b. Another Southeast Asian devolution example is the Collaborative Forest Management (CFM) scheme at the Bidoup Nui Ba National Park (BNBNP) in Vietnam, through the project "Piloting an Approach to Multiple-Use Forest Management in Lam Dong Province" which began in 2007. The devolution process was initiated with six forest management units involved in a sub-project of "Establishing a mechanism for collaborative forest management with local communities" from 2007-2009.

*The BNBNP Protected Area Management Board adopted measures to deal with increasing human pressure within the park by boosting the income of the people living around or inside the forest, especially through buffer zone development projects and increasing community-based forest protection efforts. The socialist government realized that it alone cannot sustain a ranger force big and strong enough to forcibly keep the people out of the forest. Thus, the government realized that forest management is not possible without the involvement of the neighboring populations. Most of the human pressure comes from the indigenous ethnic minorities, K'Ho and M' nong, whose daily living comes from traditional agriculture and the exploitation of forest products. However, agricultural lands are fast becoming scarce. As a result, BNBNP's biodiversity is under threat due to the increasing conversion of forest land into agricultural land and illegal exploitation of natural resources.*

c. Regulation, however, needs to be coupled with economic incentives in order to achieve green growth-based development. An emerging feature of developing green economics in mountain forests is the promotion of non-timber forest products (NTFPs). The BNBNP assisted communities to develop on-farm alternatives for forest products such as orchids, ornamental plants, ferns improved for commercial purposes, and the planting of medicinal species for the consumption by the local communities.<sup>36</sup>

*One such ecological infrastructure is rainforest conservation and the expanding role of NTFP value chains in mountain livelihoods for poverty alleviation. In the Philippines, rattan and abaca feed major industries. These serve as traditional materials for furniture and fabrics, which can also be tapped as materials in the manufacture of specialty products.<sup>37</sup> The history of livelihood generated from both products is pro-poor and pro-indigenous peoples and are therefore well-accepted by the local economy and considered as non-risks to ecology.*

d. To support forest conservation, non-timber forest resources are emerging as alternative resources to timber utilization. The Philippines remains one of the biggest furniture exporters among ASEAN countries, and rattan furniture accounts for more than 65% of export volume

35 Malabor, Hermene, Ibid. e-Conference on Sustainable Mountain Development in the Southeast Asia. The Southeast Asian e-Conference lead coordinator Benedicto Q. Sánchez confirms Malabor's post. They are both members of the MKNP Protected Area Management

Board.

36 Le Buu Thach, Vu Ngoc Long, Le Van Huong, A Vietnam case study: *Collaborative forest management (CFM) in Bidoup Nui Ba National Park, Lam Dong province*

37 Sustainable mountains: people, resources, community and environment, <http://winner-tips.org/magazines/sustainable-mountains-people-resources-community-and-environment/>. Accessed August 28,



in this sector. Aside from use in furniture making, rattan is also used as raw material in the manufacture of walking sticks, fish traps, hammocks or sleeping mats, handicraft, footballs, carpet beaters, hat, bags and baskets, buggy whips, twines and toothbrushes. On the other hand, the Philippines supplies about 90% of the world's supply of abaca. This NTFP performs a multi-function role as plant hedge to crops planted on a sloping land, often found at the foot of volcanoes, applying the sloping agricultural land technology, better known as SALT. This technology was developed in the Philippines and has now been adopted in a growing number of other countries including the Hindu-Kush Himalayan Mountains.

e. Another devolved process in developing the green economy is the community-based Forest Honey Network Indonesia (JMHI) which started in 2005 in Indonesia. Those involved in the process cited that among the venture's success drivers are the full support (in some locations), by the local governments/agencies as well as the exemplary performances of the regencies of Sumbawa Besar and Luwu, and the Danau Sentarum National Park management officials.

*The JMHI has developed NTFP subsectors that have created an organic industry-wide niche market. One such example is that of organic Apis dorsata wild honey. The Forest Honey Network Indonesia (JMHI) actors included in the value chain are the honey collector groups and local supporters who are involved in organizing the primary producers and implementing improvements at the grassroots level. Riak Bumi handles coordination of technical support in the entire network, particularly for the production side; and Dian Niaga EcoTraders, based in Jakarta, takes the lead in the joint marketing of products of JMHI members at the national and regional level.<sup>38</sup> This is therefore an example of public-civil society-private sector partnership resulting in pro-poor solutions for the mountains.*

*Other institutional support groups include BioCert, a certifier based in Bogor which guides the process toward organic certification and assists JMHI in establishing internal control mechanisms; Gekko Studio for developing promotional materials such as video clips and organizing special events; and the NTFP Exchange Program for South & Southeast Asia (NTFP-EP), a regional network and its partners, notably the Bee Research & Development Center in Hanoi and the Keystone Foundation in Kotagiri (TN), India for technical assistance.*

f. At the institutional level tasked to finance the building of ecological infrastructure, some heavily-indebted Southeast Asian countries negotiated that a portion of their foreign debt be condoned in exchange for local investments in environmental conservation measures.

g. The US Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 provides developing nations with significant tropical forest, a democratically-elected government, and an economic reform agenda, with debt condonation in return for conservation efforts. This program has benefited upstream mountain stakeholders, especially communities. The US Government signed a 2009 agreement with Indonesia to forgive nearly \$30 million in Indonesian debt in exchange for Indonesian government efforts to protect Sumatra Island forests, which are home to endangered tigers, elephants, rhinos and orangutan. These tropical animals are found in the mountains dominated by Lake Toba, formed from the caldera of an ancient volcano.

*Through the endowment fund established through a 1992 debt-for-nature swap, the United States Agency for International Development and the Philippine government created the Foundation for the Philippine Environment (FPE) with an endowment worth US\$ 21.8 million. Similarly, the 1996 debt reduction agreement between the Governments of the Philippines and Switzerland led to the creation of the Foundation for a Sustainable Society*

(FSSI) to

*sustainably manage economic development of poor communities, including*

*mountain communities such as those with various community-based tenurial instruments. Then in 2002, the US and Philippine government created the Philippine Tropical Forest*

38 De Beer, Jenne, Indonesian case study on wild honey.

*Conservation (PTFCF) to manage the debt swap to improve the status of Philippine mountain dipterocarp rainforests.*

h. The Philippines enacted Republic Act 10068, otherwise known as the Organic Farming Law of 2010. Elsewhere in Asia, civil society and other private initiatives practice organic farm management. Indonesia has the highest area coverage under organic agriculture at 52,882 hectares; Japan, 29,151 hectares; South Korea, 28,218 hectares; Philippines, 14,134 hectares; Thailand, 13,900 hectares; Vietnam, 6,475 hectares; Malaysia, 600 hectares; and Laos, 60 hectares.<sup>39</sup>

*In Negros Island, the governors of the two provincial governments in 2005 declared to make the entire island as the organic food bowl of Asia. People in Negros began diversifying their economy some years back, turning some large tracts of sugar plantations into more profitable ventures such as fish ponds, farms nurturing high value crops, as well as organic farming.<sup>40</sup>*

*NGOs such as BIND have been leading the promotion of organic farming in the Philippines.*

i. Based on partial reports, projected sales of organic products will reach 50.2 million from Fresh Start Organics, Organic Market (organic food), Peñalosa Farms, and muscovado sales in Bacolod alone (Personal communication with Ramón Uy Jr., President of the Organic Market of the Organik Na Negros! Organic Producers and Retailers Association, ONOPRA). Not yet included in this estimate are the projected sales from other private companies, NGO-assisted communities, organic fertilizers, and natural and health-promoting products. In the cold highlands of Benguet province in the Philippines, organic Arabica coffee is being grown through the partnership of a private firm, Figaro Foundation Corp., and the Benguet State University (Inquirer News Service 25 March 2004).<sup>41</sup> While Southeast Asian countries reel from the conversion of mountain and lowland forests into monocultures, some countries have turned environmental losses into an opportunity.

j. In an early section of the present report, it was mentioned that the Bacolod-based Alter Trade group has exported muscovado sugar to fair trade markets in Japan, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, France, Malaysia, and South Korea.<sup>42</sup> The biggest challenge facing domestic muscovado producers is in complying with standard production processes to overcome foreign quality restrictions. Alter Trade had sought assistance from the Industrial Technology Development Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) to improve its production processes. As a result, Alter Trade Company has one of only two muscovado mills whose products pass strict global market requirements. Alter Trade's success shows that the muscovado sugar remains one of the country's export winners.

k. Meanwhile, ecotourism remains a potential major market segment in the SEAP Mountains. It has been targeted for expansion and promotion of nature-based tourism in the

region. Ecotourism can provide the economic basis for the conservation of natural areas. An indication of commitment to an ecologically sustainable tourism was manifested when the three ASEAN travel associations (the Tourism Association, the Federation of Travel Associations, and the Hotel and Restaurant Association), met to discuss the quality and sustainability of tourism in the region.<sup>43</sup>

39Danuwat Peng-ont, Anan Pintarak and Prof. Numchai Thanupon, *Organic Agriculture in South East Asia*, <http://info.organic.org.tw/supergood/ezcatfiles/organic/img/img1085/61701466.pdf>. Accessed August 28, 2011.

40Dionela, Carolina, *Negros Goes Organic*, Philippine Information Agency press release, January 27, 2011. <http://www.pia.gov.ph/?m=1&t=1&id=13769&y=2011&mo=01>. Accessed September 3, 2011.

41 Ibid, Faylon.

42 Alter Trade Manufacturing Corp., Technology in Business, A Catalogue of DOST-ITDI-Assisted Food

Companies. [http://itdibiz.com/ecatalog/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=74&Itemid=117](http://itdibiz.com/ecatalog/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=74&Itemid=117). Accessed August 29, 2011

43 Dowling. Ibid.

## 2.8 What expectations for SMD were raised by Rio 1992?

Many ASEAN countries have translated the ideals of Agenda 21 into their own national development plans or have created national councils for sustainable development. Several laws and regulations have been passed to control environmental degradation and natural resource depletion, and recent advances in science and technology have helped in improving people's lives. The stabilization of political regimes has also helped in the rapid development of countries in Southeast Asia. Economic, social, and environmental cooperation among the countries of the sub region, such as ASEAN and the Greater Mekong sub-region, has yielded positive results in many areas.<sup>44</sup>

The problems, however, have not disappeared during the last decade; in some areas, they have become more serious. Rapid population growth, which has resulted in greater demand for natural resources and energy, is threatening the gains made in several countries. The major constraints to adopting Agenda

21 include a lack of financial support and the absence of capacity in several countries to address an overwhelming number of issues. Official development assistance from wealthier countries has slowed

or has stopped altogether from being forthcoming.

In 2001, under the aegis of the Asian Development Bank, a sub-regional report for Southeast Asia put forward nine sub-regional action plans (SRAPs) for sustainable development. The report also developed discussion on "Emerging Issues" to cover globalization, biotechnology, and information technology. None of the SRAPs, however, dealt with problems peculiar to mountain development issues. The oversight had come to light in recent years as extreme weather events brought about by climate change caused mudslides and flash floods, killing thousands of residents, destroying property, and disrupting economic activities.

The Philippines joined the United Nations in celebrating the 2002 International Year of the Mountains. Aside from the national IYM committee, some civil society groups organized their own IYM committees, (e.g., Negros IYM Committee in Central Philippines) that linked up with other stakeholders in local government, national line agencies, academia, community-based organizations, and faith-based organizations. They crafted their own SMD agenda for local lobbying efforts. Starting Subsequent to the IYM, Mountain Forum has since linked up with various players in the Philippines including representatives from civil society, academia, corporate-based foundations, and government.

Sadly, the civil society agenda never went beyond the crafting of provincial resolutions and the yearly observance of June as the Mountain month, in compliance with a presidential declaration to this effect. Often, civil society develops good practices based on alternative conceptual development models at the grassroots levels, which later find traction in academia and political circles. Cutting edge, good practices at the local level remained oases of sustainable development amidst dominant economic models of over-utilization and overconsumption of natural resources, where the search for the highest profit margins tend to focus on lowland urban-based centers. Mountains are important only insofar as industries can extract resources to feed the needs of lowland, if not overseas industries.

In the meantime, mountain communities with their subsistence, i.e., hunting and gathering, economies, are left out in the cold. These communities are incapable of raising the ROIs of lowlanders. Indigenous knowledge of human interaction with mountain natural resources, especially NTFPs, is neglected since lowland-based economies view these products as unprofitable.

## 2.9 New issues/challenges after 1992

During the Rio conference, there was already discussion of climate change issues among global development partners, but every country invariably focused on reducing its own global carbon footprint. Two decades later, the theme that resonates among Southeast Asian countries is climate change adaptation, which has also expanded into disaster risk reduction.

44 Ibid. Executive Summary. p. xx

With the worsening of climate change, civil society and community-based organizations explore turning crisis into opportunities. In Vietnam, the BNPP project on "Piloting of payments environmental services (PES)," in the forest sector in Lam Dong province was designed to contribute towards poverty reduction and enhancing forest protection, through forest management groups (FMG) models equipped with practical mechanisms for implementing PES. Under the PES scheme, forest protection payments ranged from 350-400,000 VND/ha. This exceeds the amount previously paid under Program 661 (100,000 VND/ha) and appears to have provided greater motivation for forest protection work - the level of payment now competes with the rate paid for rural labor (100,000

VND/day).<sup>45</sup>

Where 20 years ago, development planners talked of isolation, remoteness and ruggedness of mountain communities, advances in information technology has reached the point that even mountain farmers and indigenous communities can use cellular/mobile phones to communicate with one another. Local governments in the Philippines have linked up with corporate telecommunication groups to set up missionary cell sites to be used for rapid transmission of information for forest protection against poachers.

## 2.10 Major themes of SEAP regional initiatives

CBNRM, NTFP, and SFM have been the major development themes in the region, while ecological agriculture, integrated water resources management, and inclusive development have received far less attention. Prior to Agenda 21, the Philippines implemented the Environmental and Natural Resources Accounting Project, 1991-2000 (ENRAP) to address deficiencies in the System of National Accounts (SNAs) in order to reflect economic-environment interactions by explicitly recognizing the potential of the natural environment as a productive economic sector. The ENRAP project, which developed an environmental accounting framework that drew on principles from the environmental and resource economics literature, applied imputation approaches that are consistent with definitions of depreciation and environmental damage widely accepted in economic theory and that are commonly applied by practicing environmental economists.<sup>46</sup>

### 2.11 Future actions needed

Green Accounting or Inclusive Wealth Accounting within the mountain context should be developed for measuring green economy transition at the macroeconomic plane. As the ICT revolution has addressed the inaccessibility issue of the Mountains, the fragility can be attended to through building community-based ecological infrastructure. Marginality, on the other hand, can be tackled through decentralized governance.

45 Ibid. Le Buu Thach.

46 Peskin, Henry M. and delos Angeles, Marian S., Selected Country Frameworks, International Workshop on

Environmental and Economic Accounting. <http://www.nscb.gov.ph/peenra/workshop/Technical%20Papers/Session%203%20ENRAP.PDF>. Accessed September 1, 2011.

## PART III: Challenges and opportunities for sustainable mountain development

### 3.0 Emerging challenges and opportunities

Climate change, disasters, and social and political conflicts are the emerging challenges facing SEAP Mountain ecosystems, while gradual democratization, devolution, and good governance are seen as opportunities that can help bring about sustainable development among mountain communities.

#### 3.1 Emerging trends and challenges for SMD in the region

The biggest challenge for Southeast SMD is the formulation of mountain specific policies that can go beyond traditional forestry concerns. The Southeast Asian synthesis has identified different stakeholder groups whose varied interests need to be brought to the discussion table to ensure that rights are respected and protected, and that the consequent needs are fulfilled. The stakeholders, as defined by the e-conference include the indigenous peoples, non-indigenous, migrant settlers from the lowlands resource users and extractive companies; visitors and travelers, indirect stakeholders, and even the future generation.<sup>47</sup>

#### 3.2 Addressing Trends and Challenges

To address new challenges, evidence-based advocacy to influence policy-making has been suggested. Across the Hindu-Kush Himalayan region a range of innovative solutions on resource conservation, alternate market and institutional development have been showcased. New pathways need to be determined to catalyze sustainable mountain development, such as:

**Niche markets:** Given the SEAP Mountains' rich biodiversity, there is an urgent need to build markets for niche products coming from the region. Capturing diversity to compensate for lack of volume, branding of mountain products can leverage market opportunities for building and strengthening local economies and resource base.

**Partnership protocols:** Increased electronic communication has been one of the hallmarks of change in SEAP Mountains. Mountain communities are now connected to the world but are essentially driven by the externalities of change. The change is neither demand-led nor based on an assessment of community needs, and consequently has an appearance of being imposed against the community's will.

Mountain communities need partnership protocols between diverse actors like community organisations, cooperative societies and private sector under sub-regional growth agenda to promote sustainable mountain development. An array of 'good practices' can trigger policy changes at the macro-level, with new partnerships as change drivers.

**Green growth:** Favourable demographic conditions are creating potential for rising prosperity in many developing countries, as large youth populations enter labor workforces. Better marketing, institutional arrangements and policies can ensure benefits from green economy (ecotourism, niche products and eco-system services) to improve local livelihoods. But the current green economy agenda need to be made more mountain-sensitive, and should focus primarily on SEAP mountain issues.

47 Razal, Ramón and Sánchez, Benedicto, *Sustainable Mountain Development in Southeast Asia—The Synthesis*. pp. 6-10

#### 3.3 SEAP: Mountain specific challenges

A lot of challenges remain for the Southeast Asian green economy in the light of national/regional efforts to promote sustainable mountain development. The main hurdle is deep-rooted path of brown economy which includes land use conversions of forests to chemical-based monocultures such as palm oil and sugarcane plantations, extractive industries such as irresponsible mining and logging, and mainstream tourism.

China, already the world's largest generator of electricity from freshwater trapped in giant dams, announced plans to nearly double its hydropower capacity by 2020. For downstream Southeast Asian states of Myanmar, Laos, Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam, China's plans could trigger cross-border conflicts based on two points of concern. The first is how much water will be impounded in Chinese reservoirs behind the dams in these projects. The second is how hydropower operators, all of them state-owned firms, will regulate the flow of water once the reservoirs has impounded enough water and the generating units are ready to run.

Competing demands for forest-based resources give rise to major conflicts in Southeast Asian mountains. In the past 20 years, armed conflicts have struck forest areas in Southeast Asian tropical forests. Notorious examples are Cambodia and Myanmar where rebel warfare largely played out in remote cross-border forest areas. Conflicts of lesser intensity include inter-communal struggles and forms of protests that frequently occur along forest frontiers in Indonesia. Although each of these conflicts has its own historical and political context, many reveal a distinctive role of the forest, its timber, and the rights over them.<sup>48</sup>

The Golden Triangle is one of Asia's two main illicit opium-producing areas. Encompassing 950,000 square kilometers, the area overlaps the mountains of four countries of Southeast Asia: Myanmar, Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand.

Meanwhile, Maoist-inspired revolt in the Philippines based largely in remote forest mountains has stubbornly resisted all attempts at eradication by the national government.

The ungoverned remote, isolated and rugged terrain of the country's scattered mountainous islands provide insurgents the spaces needed to build its guerrilla fronts. In addition, the government has to contend with armed Muslim secessionists and bandits who are based in Mindanao's forested mountains.

Findings by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) indicate that the effects of climate change will impact all countries of the Southeast Asia Region. IPCC predicts a rapid glacier melt in the Himalayas - with a rate of recession greater than anywhere else in the world, along with increased floods and landslides, reduced water and food resources, more frequent storms, and rising sea levels.

The Philippines, lying along a typhoon belt, is visited by an average of 19-20 cyclones a year. Most typhoons emanate from the Pacific Ocean which lies at the eastern board of the Philippines. A natural mitigation measure is the mountain range located along the eastern coast of the country. Other mountains which dot the country have aided as natural barriers to the strong winds which have often breached 250 kms per hour recently, because of the prevalence of super typhoons.<sup>49</sup>

Many Southeast Asia countries are well within the Pacific Ring of Fire. This is a 40,000 kilometer- long "system of faults", which is responsible for 90 percent of the world's earthquakes. Mountainous Southeast Asian countries like Indonesia and the Philippines face volcanic eruptions and tectonic earthquakes. These natural hazards add to the fragility of Southeast Asian mountains.

48 de Koning Ruben, Capistrano Doris, Yasmi Yurdi, and Cerutti Paolo, Forest-Related Conflict Impacts, Links, and Measures to Mitigate, Rights and Resources Initiative, p. 1

49 Delica, Zenaida, Preserving the Mountains, <http://www.adpc.net/infores/adpc-documents/zen-mountains.pdf> Accessed

As early as 1998, ecotourism has been on the drawing board for most of Southeast Asia, but countries still face problems associated with the lack of infrastructure development, the need for and adequacy of personnel training, the lack of plan implementation, and political instability.<sup>50</sup> Retaining the mountain youth in the locales where they could help develop niche goods and services has been a problem in many countries as well. As more and more mountain children get to study within the mainstream educational system, they are tempted to pursue the "beaten path of other rural youths", and thus emerge to follow the brain drain of mountain population toward the urbanized lowland cities if not overseas.

On the other hand, in some cases in Southeast Asian mountains, highly urbanized mountain cities such as Baguio City in the Philippines grapple with population growth due to the influx of immigrants from the plains and outlying mountain communities. This has strained limited resources in the mountain urban centers and increased the vulnerability of mountain dwellers, especially when new communities are established without regard for the risks associated with steep slopes, erodible soils, and unstable ground foundations. Managing these contradictions, diversities and social tensions which the mountain communities face is a major challenge that needs adequate attention from all concerned.

### 3.4 Opportunities

The foundations for building ecological infrastructure have already emerged in Southeast Asia, both sectorally and cross-sectorally.

The flipside of challenges are opportunities. The shift is vital to ensure the stability of mountain ecological commons, the water cycle and its benefits to organic agriculture and households, the conservation of Southeast Asian tropical rainforests to enhance carbon cycle and climate mitigation, soil fertility and its value to diversified crop production, and the local microclimates for safe human ecology for both upstream and downstream communities. These are all crucial elements of a mountain-based green economy.

Two decades after Agenda 21, global efforts led to the creation of ecological infrastructure to reduce deforestation and increase reforestation to support upstream and downstream agriculture and rural livelihoods. Tropical rainforest goods and services support much of the economic livelihoods of Southeast Asian mountain communities. Increasing ecological infrastructures managed by local government units and Green-for-debt-swaps schemes offer appropriate opportunities for forest-rich local communities. Collaborative forest management can be a good strategy to carry out REDD+ initiatives in mountains since the participation of the community can help assure social equity and more inclusive development, eventually leading to poverty reduction in the mountains.

The Royal Cambodian Government has prepared a National REDD+ Road Map, which served as the basis of funding applications to the UN-REDD and of the Readiness Preparation Proposal (RPP) to the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF). The UN-REDD approved the proposal for

\$3M over 2 years, and UNDP and FAO committed an additional \$1.35M. WB has already earmarked

\$3.6M over three years but the final approval has yet to be given. Barring any strong civil society concerns about the RPP and the process involved in developing the proposal, approval will be secured.

Key concerns raised by Cambodian NGOs and civil society groups center on securing NGO/CSO representation in REDD+ management arrangements, the definition of main drivers of deforestation in Cambodia to include ELCs and mining activities and concessions, and the explicit integration and application of free, informed and prior consent in the management arrangement as well as in the implementation of the plan.<sup>51</sup>

50 Dowlings, Ross K., *Ecotourism in Southeast Asia: A Golden Opportunity for Local Communities*, Tourism in

Southeast Asia—A New Direction. Chon, K.S., Editor, The Hayworth Hospitality Press. New York. 2000. p. 2

51 Annual Report 2010 to Hivos.

2009 was a crucial year for climate change lobbyists, and although many were disappointed with the turnout of the UNFCCC negotiations in Denmark in December that year, opportunities for forest conservation through the global mechanism for "Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation" (REDD) opened up. With its 3.8M hectares of remaining dipterocarp forest, rich biodiversity, decentralized forest governance, and enabling forest management policies, the Philippines hopes to become eligible for the REDD + regime.<sup>52</sup>

### 3.5 Specific actions needed

Need-based conflict resolution and seeking the free and prior informed consent (FPIC) of the local communities before planning natural resources conservation management in fragile and biodiversity rich ecosystems should be made mandatory. As funds from the government and donor sources for local initiatives dry up, there is a need for timely updates on CBFM policies to avail of other funding opportunities elsewhere, such as from private sector groups and other donor groups with more stringent fund availment

and release requirements.

The examples given above, which demonstrate how problems can be turned into opportunities, for example, decentralized PES as well as strengthening of local governments through decentralization, devolution and empowerment, can be adapted as initial institutional frameworks. Weak local community participation and poor benefit-sharing schemes can be addressed by upholding communal property rights. The Philippines provides an example of decentralized CBFM institution which other SEAP countries can replicate. As a word of caution, decentralization without devolution cannot lead to good resource governance. The adoption of a multi-stakeholder approach to resource management will also help in implementing well-intentioned legislative acts, policies and executive orders.

REDD is not yet fully understood by many people, particularly forest communities, who can fall victims to unscrupulous carbon traders. It is in this light that the network NTFP-EP for South and Southeast Asia formed a consortium of NGOs and forged a partnership with the Forest Management Bureau to spread awareness on the concept and come up with a National REDD Plus Strategy for the country, thereby ensuring local community participation in the global climate change discourse.<sup>53</sup>

### **3.6 Way Forward and Policy Recommendations**

#### **3.6.1 What specific actions are needed to contribute to the Rio+20 priorities in the mountain areas of your region?**

Our analysis of the case studies and e-discussion outputs indicate that Mountain people have not been the real drivers of change in the SEAP Mountains. The people in power – such as the political leaders, bureaucrats, non-governmental actors and international development players including donors have taken the driver's seat in mountain development. The traditional or public sector institutions that are generally centralized and function in an archaic manner have determined the course of change in SEAP mountain regions. Although changes did take place since the Rio summit in 1992, both spatially and temporally, some changes have turned for the worst in many mountain areas.

It was argued by a contributor to the SEAP SMD e-conference that SEAP Mountains have become the safer refuge for people who had escaped the violence of wars and social conflicts unleashed in the plains. The prevailing peace and tranquility allowed them to develop unique socio-cultural 'bonding' with the mountains. However, due to neglect, marginality and poverty, the mountain communities are generally the losers in the seemingly good processes of decentralization, devolution and governance.

In general, changes introduced by successive regimes have occurred at the expense of prevailing peace and harmonious co-existence in the SEAP Mountains. Peace means more than just the absence of war in the mountains. New kinds of conflicts over the sharing and appropriating natural resources such as

52 Annual Report 2009 to Hivos.

53 Ibid.

water, forest, pasture, and biodiversity wealth have emerged, which in many cases had gone beyond the carrying capacities of traditional social institutions in the mountains. The undesirable, seemingly irreparable changes ushered in the past can be reversed by engaging and connecting with diverse mountain dwellers in a multi-stakeholder discussion and dialogue fashion. A neo-institutional mechanism of nurturing green economy that suits the mountain people can be created, while investments in developing technology to lessen vulnerability of SEAP Mountains should be made.

Translating good intentions into sustainable or smart actions warrant the re-thinking of existing institutional frameworks and the development of good governance practices while promoting low- carbon growth path in the SEAP Mountains. There is a downstream demographic push to extract more resources and put pressure on the ecological balance in some parts of the SEAP region. Multi-pronged strategy through people education, awareness-raising, leveling the playing field, crafting of enabling policies, and creating institutional spaces could help in managing the growing demand on mountain resources and services. Learning from local cultures, rebuilding on local knowledge, and encouraging many good practices could be crucial drivers of change. Participatory conflict resolution techniques as those practiced in the Philippines might be useful learning for some of the SEAP mountain communities.

The trans-boundary nature of natural resources including water and the trans-boundary relations in managing mountain resources, have yet to get the attention they deserve. Countries in the SEAP region ought to develop joint policies, programs, regulations and institutions for sustainable development of SEAP Mountains because of their common problems and the possibility for linked solutions to such problems. Cross-scale and cross-border linkages can help unravel complexities arising from the need to equitably share natural resources across diverse social systems. Clearly, there is a case for negotiating out-of-the-box solutions which are possible through collaboration and cooperation amongst the key players involved in sustainable management of SEAP Mountains.

A diverse group of people influences the Rio+20 agenda, as well as interprets and positions the green economy agenda based on their own understanding and contexts. They contend that Green Economy should not merely be an upgraded concept of 'sustainable development' agreed on 20 years ago, but that it is a totally different program that can reinvigorate SMD. The crucial question to ask is, "What form of green economy can be an effective instrument for addressing the problems faced by SEAP Mountains?" Like the concept of sustainable development that has limits in terms of its interpretation and application, applying "Green Economy" for other purposes should be avoided.

It has been argued that the 'top down' agenda of Green Economy is to break the current inertia in the global climate change debate. In the SEAP mountain regions, it is understood that environmental gains need not be at the expense of the economy if Green Economy has to provide green jobs and deliver green products. A balanced approach is needed to promote the 'Green Economy' concept in SEAP Mountains. Issues of scale, indigenous peoples' rights to resources, and the outcomes of 'green economy' will be important to consider. Already, the 'Green Economy' concept has been assailed as being too heavily dependent on technologies, on financial and human resources, with negative implication on its feasibility, sustainability and gender dimensions. Just as important is the need to address governance issues and to explore how multi-stakeholder participation in designing, implementing, and benefit-sharing from Green Economy initiatives can be enhanced.

Evolving development and institutional frameworks for low-carbon, or green growth should clearly and properly reflect the needs and aspirations of the mountain people so that they can liberate themselves from the vicious cycle of poverty, unbridled population growth, and environment degradation. The drivers for the transformation to Green Economy and institutional mountain governance should be the people of the mountains themselves, represented by genuine community leaders, not external forces who might fund and benefit from such initiatives.

### **3.7 Way forward for sustainable mountain development in the SEAP mountains**

#### **3.7.1 Undertaking more research, such as those that will define carrying capacity of mountains**

Apart from their high elevation and steep slopes, SEAP Mountains have relatively thin top soil that is

vulnerable to erosion owing to the intensity of tropical monsoon rains in the region. Natural causes are aggravated by human-made activities, such as unsustainable farming practices, human settlements, construction of road systems, and destructive logging and mining operations. There is a great need for information that will serve as inputs for planning in the mountains, including the implementation of measures that will help in mitigating the worsening impacts of climate change and unregulated human activities on the mountain's resources. Scientific inputs, as well as strategies that consider political and socioeconomic factors must be taken into account and within a multi-disciplinary framework, to come up with realistic solutions to address the environmental crisis besetting the mountains (Upadhyay, June 3, 2011).

The paucity of data is further aggravated by the lack of confidence in available information on mountain resources. Abi Aguilar (June 16, 2011) contends that government data is generally disaggregated and difficult to use in local conditions. Suspicions about the reliability of mountain data stems from methods that are employed to gather information, which Agha Iqbal Haroon (June 6, 2011) asserts as being collected by majority of non-government actors through local leadership that is part and parcel of land lords. Poudel (June 30, 2011) has critiqued the research and development efforts on the mountains, which he considers as having remained more or less on an *ad-hoc* basis, done within very short field work, and with a few set of objectives that are determined using the experience of the lowlands or outside the mountain, resulting in outcomes that are out of reality. Poudel believes that improving the design of mountain research will entail taking into account local, customary rules and regulation, local geographical terrain, aspect, and values, among others.

To avoid the pitfalls of research that do not produce meaningful results or whose value is not acceptable to the various mountain stakeholders, a multi-stakeholder, participatory type of research should be undertaken where all are given the opportunity to be involved in conceptualizing the research design, in planning the methodology, in undertaking the data gathering activity and in field trials, up to the interpretation of research data. Benedicto Sánchez (June 10, 2011) demonstrated that this is possible, citing his experience in developing sustainability thresholds for various species of rattan at the Northern Negros Natural Park in Mt. Mandalagan. The dialogic approach may appear to be done using a non-conventional research methodology, but the fact that it has generated research information acceptable to users and regulators attests to the fact that a participatory approach can stand on solid ground, and possibly even withstand scientific inquiry.

The manner of doing research is just as crucial as the kind of research that needs to be undertaken in response to the pressures on SEAP Mountains. In line with this, it is important to listen to what stakeholders are saying as important to them. E-conference participants have identified an initial list of research initiatives on mountains, like dealing with low carbon, clean fuel initiatives as mentioned by Chethika Abenayake (June 25, 2011). Swapna Deb considers the need for slope conservation efforts as important (June 29, 2011). The conduct of biodiversity researches also needs to be prioritized and made in conjunction with developing strategies for economic and social development so as to engender the active participation of communities in or near protected areas in managing their biodiversity resources (Malabor, June 6, 2011). The problems of water scarcity, disposal of huge amount of wastes, and crowded streets and traffic jams that are associated with growing urbanized mountain centres like Baguio in the Philippines (Chariz Castro, June 30, 2011) and Kathmandu, Nepal (P.B. Pandey, June, 30, 2011) could have been anticipated if their carrying capacity had been properly measured.

### 3.7.2 Improving mountain governance and innovating on institutional mechanisms

The precarious state of some of the SEAP Mountains and the marginalization of mountain people is attributed in part to the failure of governance within mountain ecosystems. Such failures arise because of incompatibility between traditional governance systems employed by the native people, and state governance that introduces development interventions which may be good on the surface, but turns out to be out of sync with local realities. The state is also seen as generally tolerant of extractive industries in the mountains in the name of development —mining and logging—which impact greatly on the mountain's topography including river and downstream pollution, erosion, landslides, displacement and community conflicts (Dictaan-Bang-oa, June 8, 2011).

Krishna Poudel (June 16, 2011) believes that this can be overcome by capacitating mountain people to exercise governance over their resources. However, this will not materialize, nor will become sustainable, if the economic standard of the people living in the mountains are not improved. Krishna thinks that giving access to state power can be achieved with proper education so that in the end, mountain people will appreciate that they are responsible for the consequences of their own action. Malabor (June 29, 2011) echoes the same sentiment. Likewise, Malabor believes that mountain people should participate in their governance with more power and the capacity to decide for their community. Toward this end, Malabor sees the need to further strengthen the barangay which is the smallest unit of governance in the Philippines, and understandably, the most accessible to the mountain people. Apart from mountain barangays being provided with their own education, livelihood and basic services programs, health and peace officers, the barangays should also have a say on the kind of projects that will be implemented in the respective communities.

### 3.7.3 Common grounds and bases for regional cooperation

**Caring for and protection of SEAP mountains is a collective responsibility.** A few urban centres in the SEAP Mountains are growing, but the fact remains that a large portion of SEAP Mountains have remained undeveloped, difficult to access, and structurally weak and fragile. No group has come out to claim sole ownership of the vast SEAP Mountains, and understandably so. What is clear is that many are aware of the numerous benefits that the mountains provide, as well as of the impending threats associated with global climate and economic pressures. This common awareness of the mountain as a wellspring of benefits and the anticipation of mountain-related disasters that can extend to the lowlands with far greater negative consequences has increased since Rio '92. This has driven all mountain stakeholders to consider collaborative efforts in protecting and conserving the mountains and the resources therein.

**Melding of traditional knowledge with externally-generated science is a key to sustainability in SEAP Mountains.** Despite some reservations by a number of e-conference participants over the value of scientific knowledge brought to the mountains by external scientists (e.g., Dr. Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend, ICCA Consortium Coordinator and IUCN CEESP Vice Chair; June 6, 2011), there were other participants who described cases that have demonstrated the value of collaboration that resulted in melding traditional knowledge with externally-generated science. One such case is the multi-stakeholders' sharing of knowledge on the proper utilization of non-timber forest products in a mountain community in the Philippines (Benedicto Sánchez, June 10, 2011). There was something to be learned from everybody, claimed Benedicto, where a variety of participatory approaches in the planning process, including community ranking of resources with economic and ecological values and knowledge on the NTFPs' marketability or the lack of it, were shared. The dialog also offered opportunity for a more balanced gender perspective although the outcome still leaned toward resources preferred by men. The continuing dialogs also resulted in the avoidance of harvesting endangered tree fern species that were considered essential to the natural regeneration of the secondary community rainforest ecosystem and of wild orchids which could not command a price as good as domesticated species that have saturated the market.

Angelo Mordeno (international consultant, June 19, 2011) likewise described interventions that had enabled the local people in Nepal to meet their needs for firewood and for electricity from power

plants through tree plantations. Other technologies that he suggested during his work in Nepal in 1983, included the (a) use of small machines to open up access roads, (b)

minimal road construction with compulsory provision of drainage structures, terracing, gabion-wiring down slopes, and graveling of access roads, (c) planting maguey and other soil-holding plants (bio-engineering) along the slopes, and (d) log transport by small long-distance skyline/cable cranes.

**Active participation of communities in mountain governance produces results that indicate there is hope to look forward to in SEAP Mountains.** Many participants shared work experiences showcasing the active participation of mountain communities in a number of efforts that otherwise would have failed if communities did not take part in them. Benedicto Sánchez (June 10, 2011) has described community participation in determining utilization thresholds of different rattan species, resulting in community defined thresholds more stringent than existing natural resource policies, and thereby ensuring the sustainability of said NTFP resources. Similarly, Swapna Deb (June 10, 2011) told of village community planning and participation that resulted in transparency in project implementation, enhanced enthusiasm among the people, and made them give up on destructive method of shifting cultivation and instead embrace a number of water harvesting structures like farm pond, fish pond, irrigation canal and providing high yielding, high value crops. The Ikalahan model, as described by Dictaan-Bang-oa (June 29, 2011) also shows how indigenous and montane community sustainable mountain management practices strengthened the community's hold on their ancestral territory and promoted the development of their culture and identity. As Grazia Borrini-Feyerabend (June 20, 2011) has aptly put it, "The alternative to destructive megaprojects is not hopeless

'poverty'... it is small scale, carefully-planned and community-controlled, sustainable human development."

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## Sustainable Mountain Development

### From Rio 1992 to Rio 2012 and beyond

#### Sustainable Mountain Development

In 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) – commonly referred to as

'Rio 1992' or 'the Rio Earth Summit' – mountains received unexpected high political attention. They were granted a chapter in the 'Agenda 21' as fragile ecosystems that matter for humankind.

Since then, a wide range of efforts by different actors have been undertaken to promote 'Sustainable Mountain Development'. Some of them relate to the above event others just emerged on their own. However, in view of the forthcoming UN Conference 'Rio +20' in 2012 it seems relevant to assess and understand what has been achieved by whom and how. It appears equally important to learn what has worked or not and why in order to draw lessons for more effective interventions in future. The anticipation of possible future challenges or opportunities may further help to be better prepared for their management. This will certainly encompass the adaptation and mitigation of Climate Change as the 'main stream concern of the last decade' well as probably the 'new mainstream paradigm' of Green Economy. But as in the past, major unexpected and unpredictable political, social, economic or even technological changes and innovations may overshadow any of these mainstreams.

In this complex world of today, the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation as one of the most committed agents in global Sustainable Mountain Development (SMD) over the past 20 years, has commissioned a number of regional reports to assess achievements and progress in major mountain regions such as in particular Central Asia, Hindu Kush-Himalaya (HKH) and the South East Pacific, South and Meso America or the Middle East and North Africa (MENA). The Swiss Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE) has commissioned - in the context of the Swiss Presidency of the Alpine Convention 2011/12 – a specific report on the Alps. In addition, UNEP has provided a separate report on Eastern Europe and started compiling a report on Africa's mountains.

The insights gained through these assessments in which key local, regional and global actors have been actively involved are meant to feed into a range of processes such as the UN Secretary General's High Level Panel on Global Sustainability (commonly referred to as 'GSP'), the preparation of the UN Conference in Rio 2012 and possibly the next cycle of the 'Commission for Sustainable Development' (CSD) or its possible successor structure. The present document is to be considered as a 'work in progress'. Hence the Organizers of the 'Lucerne World Mountain Conference' highly welcome inputs, feedbacks, and suggestions for further improvement.

## Nord Sud XXI

Nord-Sud XXI initial Inputs to the Drafting of the Rio+20 Declaration

Nord-Sud XXI respectfully calls upon States to consider the following in preparing the draft Rio+20

Declaration:

**1. The right to development should be reaffirmed** - This right has been reaffirmed consistently since

its declaration in UNGA Res. 41/128 in 1986, of which we celebrated the 25th anniversary in 2011. As

a leading principle of law guiding the work of the Rio Conference and reflecting the even stronger

consensus on this right today, it is appropriate to reiterate this principle

**2. Reaffirm the need for all States to take action based on the best available science to deal with the adverse impacts of climate change respecting the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities based on historical responsibility** - This basic principle is a foundation of the Rio Declaration and the treaties adopted as a consequence. For example, article 3, paragraphs 1 and 2

of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change reiterate this principle for States in

regards to action to address the adverse consequences of climate change.

**3. Support the right to food and food sovereignty for all States and all peoples** – The right to food is a basic human right. All States must ensure it for their people and cooperate with other States who have difficulties doing so to ensure that they have the resources to do so. This duty requires also

that States take steps to ensure food security, including controlling speculation that makes food too expensive for all persons to afford.

**4. Reject forms of commoditization of human life and values** – All forms of carbon trading, including REDD and REDD+, should be vetted to ensure that they contribute to reducing aggregate greenhouse gas emissions and do not increase incentives to high emitters.

**5. Forums concerning development and environment should be made more inclusive** – environment and development forums, especially the UNFCCC bodies, should be more inclusive and enhance the participation and capacity to participate of developing countries and civil society, especially from developing countries.



**6. Decision making processes concerning environmental, developmental, trade related, and international economic financial matters should be democratized**

– It is no longer legitimate for decisions over these vital areas of international affairs that affect billions of peoples' well-being to be made in undemocratic forums with very limited and very unequal participation by States. A necessary condition of democratic decision making is a wide range of stakeholder participation based on common values and goals.

**7. Mechanisms should be created or existing ones should be made readily available to effectively protect individuals' human right to water** – The right to water has been recognized by the UN General Assembly, without a single 'no' vote. A focused effort should now be made to ensure its implementation.

**8. Poverty must be reduced by creating mechanisms of accountability for all stakeholders** – Both governments-towards their own people and as donors-as well as private actors must be held accountable for reducing poverty.

**9. War and other similar forms of coercion should be absolutely banned from international relations**

– The greatest threat to human development is the use of force or war and other forms of coercion including the use of sanctions, especially unilaterally imposed sanctions. These threats to human development must be eliminated and absolutely banned. Consideration should be given to begin the process of removing the United Nations' right to use force in any circumstance.

**10. Development assistance must be made more equitable** – Development assistance should be based on both current needs and the ability of more wealthy countries to contribute to needy countries as well as on the historical responsibility that some developed countries have for conditions of exploitation suffered by the people of less-developed countries.

**11. Education about the environment should be significantly enhanced** – Teaching environmental sustainability should be a requirement of all levels of education—primary, secondary, and tertiary.

**12. Local agriculture should be protected** – Small farms and peasant farmers should be protected and preserved because of they support community values and are usually contribute more to sustainable development.

**13. Development, agriculture, and economic activity should be made sustainable** – Governments should commit to ensuring that each of these areas of human activity are made sustainable. The formation of a high level accountability mechanism should be suggested.

**14. A sustained effort to achieve and build on the Millennium Development Goals should be ensured**

– States should commit to enhancing their efforts to achieve the MDGs and to building on their achievements even after 2015.

**15. Commitment to addressing the social determinates of health to achieve development** - The effort within the World Health Organization and by States as reflected by the 2011 Rio Declaration on Social Determinates indicates a commitment by States to tackling the social determinates of health in a manner that serves the wider goal of social development.

**16. The 'green economy' should be understood in the context of development and environmental sustainability** – States should commit to dealing with the issues raised under the heading of 'green economy' in a manner and by actions that are consistent with the sustainability of development and of the environment.

**17. Encourage a rights-based, people-centered approach to social development** – States should reflect the new international order that emphasizes human rights and the protection of individuals and peoples basic rights.

**18. UN Committee on World Food Security should be empowered to identify current food deficiencies and propose plans to address them** – States should empower the mechanism they created to address the food crisis ensuring that they do so taking into account to the views and concerns of small scale food providers and ensuring food security is enhanced.

1 November 2011

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## Northern Alliance for Sustainability

### Introduction

Next year, in June 2012, world leaders and civil society meet for the Rio + 20 conference. While the global economy faces increasing challenges and the planetary environment is under stress as never before, it is clear to us that these twin challenges must be tackled together. Rio + 20, with its' focus on the transition to a green and sustainable economy, offers a unique opportunity to make a new programme for genuinely sustainable development globally, nationally and locally. At present the lack of commitment to the Rio + 20 event from governments is alarmingly weak. We, as non-governmental organisations within global civil society, want to increase the engagement of governments while ensuring that discussions before and in Rio + 20 take a positive and forward-looking view of a global green economy and lead to real commitments and lasting change.

This paper is a contribution to this process. It sets out a set of goals and priorities for action by governments and others. It draws from many sources and discussions including the recent declaration from the UN DPI conference held in Germany in September 2011. We invite all organisations concerned for sustainable development and the success of Rio + 20 to discuss and support these goals.

#### 1) Commitment to Rio + 20

Despite some progress made since the UN Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, human-induced loss of biodiversity, global climate change, desertification, deforestation, acidification of the oceans, and many other problems continue.

The current economic model promotes unsustainable consumption and production patterns, facilitates an inequitable trading system, has failed to eradicate poverty, assists exploitation of natural resources towards the verge of extinction, and has induced multiple crises on Earth. The urgency to change the roots of our economic model has to be stressed. As civil society we want to promote fair and equitable sustainable development for all with respect for the limits of our common ecological and social capital.

We urge governments to send their Heads of State or Government with the commitment to End the Rio+20 conference with a roadmap and politically binding targets for each country to meet an agreed set of goals: the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and agree on a strategy to achieve them. Agree on a set of principles, linked to the Agenda 21 principles, to frame the transition to a Green and Fair Economy.

## 2) The transition to a green and sustainable economy

We recognise that:

Our current economic models suffer from a series of market and institutional failures. It does not need reform but replacement. A true 'green' economy within a sustainable society requires policies that make the step from efficiency toward sufficiency. So far there is little sign that the technology and efficiency approach can lead to the reductions in the use and waste of both renewable and non-renewable resources on the scale that is needed to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, detoxifying our environment and enable us to live within global limits.

The steps taken so far fail to meet the scale and urgency of the problems humanity is confronted with: as such the approach taken to achieve sustainable production and consumption so far has been too weak. We call for a stronger approach to sustainability. We need technological innovations and efficiency gains and we need to make them universally available but we have to recognise that these will never be enough to achieve an economy that stays within the limits set by nature and by the social capital we have.

We urge leaders to face the facts: if we really want to halt the path of destruction that we're still in, then we need this stronger approach to sustainability. That means we need sufficiency policies for countries that are currently consuming beyond global limits. We have to stop telling consumers that they need to consume more in order to save the economy. Despite agreements at Rio 1992 and Johannesburg 2002 there has been a clear failure to integrate environmental, social and development priorities into economic policies. Social engagement and other elements of "well-being" that are at the core of sustainable development are still not taken into account when making economic policy. We have to shift from economic growth and more consumption to more well-being for all and more equal opportunities to consume in ways that foster social values and stay within the limits set by nature.

We urge governments to:

Establish national roadmaps for a green and sustainable economy, based on the fair share of natural resources and CO2 emissions. Policies for sustainable and humane agriculture need to be an important part of this, given its fundamental importance with regards to food security, food sovereignty, livelihoods, human health, animal welfare and environmental impacts.

Establish on a global scale a set of Millennium Consumption Goals (MCGs) for the period 2012-2031 towards establishing an intergenerational right to equitable consumption opportunities. Over-consumption needs to be capped and gradually lowered in order to give the necessary environmental space for under-consumers to meet their basic needs. Rethink the financing of social security systems currently based on continuous economic growth, which perpetuate the crisis, and with this rethinking start to move towards an economic model that is grounded in sustainable development principles;

## 3) Improved and new forms of governance to enable that transition

We recognise that:

The crises we face are multiple and complex, and that existing institutions are inadequate to tackle these challenges to humanity. Changes will be needed at every level, but action at the global and intergovernmental level will provide critical leadership in this process of change.

We urge governments to:

Establish a global sustainable development coordinating mechanism and parallel institutions at the national level, empowered to pursue system-wide policy coherence for Bretton Woods and UN institutions to advance sustainable development principles, pathways, and policies in a coordinated manner. A Council of the UN General Assembly on sustainable development should ensure that governance for sustainable development is at the top of the UN agenda. Upgrade UNEP to the status of specialised agency in the UN system.

Upgrade the International Panel of the sustainable use of Natural Resources. To implement the MCGs and a "resource capped economy" this panel has to define the sustainable extraction limits on a series of resources and define the fair share of distribution/capping of these resources.

Establish an International Environmental Court to implement environmental justice on a global scale. Crimes against the environment should be considered as a criminal offence and should be treated as such by this court. End the criminalisation of environmental movements and activists where this is occurring. Establish an Ombudspersons for Future Generations at global, national and local levels, who will advocate for sustainable development. Serve as an auditor at the heart of governments and deal with citizens complaints. Develop regional or international conventions to take forward Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration to ensure access to information, public participation and access to justice in environmental decision-making. Develop a Precautionary Principle Convention to assess new and emerging technologies, armed with the legal power to ban technologies that put the planet at grave risk.

Develop and resource National Councils on Sustainable Development to drive the transition to green economies and develop a national sustainable green economy roadmap for each Member State of the UN by 2017. Other governance levels should do the same.

Recognise that meaningful coordination and participation processes among civil society organisations require reliable and stable resources; we therefore urge a steady increase in the funding for such processes achieves a better balance between core- and project-based funding.

Many of the specific points in this text are taken from the declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO conference in Bonn (3-5 Sept 2011).

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## Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment

### INTRODUCTION

In a 'renewed political commitment for sustainable development', ForUM strongly advocates that the Rio+20-conference shall be a new starting point for sustainable development, including the implementation of the goals drawn up in Agenda 21 in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, as well as ensuing resolutions. We emphasize the need to critically review the results of the outcome documents of Rio-1992, Johannesburg-2002 and the other major global summits leading up to Rio-2012.

We recognize that governments, institutions and other decision-makers of the world community have failed to solve the most urgent crises humanity has faced: armed

conflicts, growing disparities between nations, particularly between countries in the South and countries in the North, a worsening of poverty and hunger, continued and growing human-induced deterioration of the planet's ecosystem leading to loss of biodiversity, desertification, deforestation, acidification of the oceans and threatening levels of global warming and climate change.

We also recognize that the prevailing economic system and policies are major causes of social and ecological imbalances of the planet. The recent financial crisis and its enduring and deepening consequences for the world economy and for the worsening of life-circumstances for large parts of the world's population show that the current economic model has indeed been a hindrance for implementing the aims and strategies of Agenda 21.

We therefore welcome the initiative to focus on the transition to a green and inclusive, sustainable economy at the Rio+20-conference in June 2012. Such an economy must be in accordance with the definition of "sustainable development" as it was given in "Our Common Future" in 1987: "Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

We are aware of the necessity to transform the dominating values from the ideals and goals of economic and material growth with excessive belief in technology and efficiency - to a growth in life quality independent of unsustainable consumption patterns and exploitation of cheap human labor. A "green economy" must be an "economy of sufficiency" for all.

We realize that social, economic and environmental developments are three spheres inextricably intertwined. A substantially transformed and green economy must therefore be aimed for increasing social justice, equity and healthy eco-systems.

We also recognize the urgent need to develop and strengthen the institutional framework for sustainable development including the governance of the implementation of the internationally agreed goals of sustainable development at all levels; nationally, regionally and globally - involving both women and men as well as youth.

As we recognize nature's limits as identified in The Nine Planetary Boundaries - and what she can endure concerning waste and pollution - we also recognize the huge potential capacity of individuals and of the human community in facing challenges and solving problems in a constructive way. This we want to see manifested in Rio de Janeiro in June 2012.

To meet the challenges mentioned, ForUM will point to the following:

#### FIRST AND FOREMOST

A main challenge for the immediate future will be to bridge the gap between rich countries and poor countries – as well as to bridge the growing gaps within countries. People living in poverty have the right to a decent livelihood including clean and affordable water, food, shelter, education, health-care and possibilities for unfolding cultural activities.

A green and inclusive economic growth in developing countries is necessary to achieve social justice and welfare for all.

The wealthy countries should declare their willingness towards the least developed countries (LDCs) to take responsibility for the socio-economic and ecological - including climate-related - debts that industrialized countries have accumulated in the past.

This implies a substantial transfer of financial and technological resources from the North to the South.

#### ON "GREEN ECONOMY"

A "green economy" has several goals; we highlight two:

- 1): To secure that production and consumption does not exceed the limits of the planet's ability to deliver its eco-systems' services and
- 2): to facilitate a just sharing of resources globally.

A green economy must be developed at the local, national, regional and global level. The bottom-up-approach will be of importance. The complexity of nature and the diversity of cultures demand a diversity of economic models.

We are concerned that the term "green economy" may be used as a means to "green-wash" unsustainable political and economic activities.

The rich countries owe the developing world support to increase and develop green production and processing of products. National markets in developing countries and these countries' opportunities on the world market must not be undermined by rich countries' export-subsidies.

A global green economy is about balance in the human community as well as in the ecosystems. The consumption within a number of areas must be reduced in the rich world, while it needs to be raised for people in poor countries and areas. Justice is about the just allocation of resources / benefits and the fair distribution of ecological footprint.

To achieve this, the Rio-conference should call upon governments to inter alia:

- Practice "green taxation";
- Phase out subsidies leading to negative environmental impacts globally, like subsidies to fossil fuels, bio-fuel and nuclear energy, chemical fertilizers and over-fishing etc;
- Donor countries should provide financial and technological support to developing countries in order to stimulate green economy initiatives;
- Eliminate developing countries' illegitimate debt.

For both North and South it is important to create new indicators of wealth creation, or what is known as "sustainable welfare" - to replace or complement the GNP / GDP – discourse. We therefore call upon all governments to:

- Support and further develop such initiatives as UNEP's System of Environmental and Economic Accounting (SEEA), Green Accounting or Inclusive Wealth Accounting. Such initiatives must be based on appropriate domestic and fiscal measures and policy reforms.

#### ON "GREENING OF THE FINANCE SECTOR"

The transition to a green and inclusive economy requires a thorough reform of the financial sector. The financial economy must be a tool that serves the real economy. The Rio+20-conference should take the initiative to implement restrictions on that part of the financial industry that engages in speculation - often under the name of "investments". Speculation in basic human needs such as water, food, land, minerals, health care etc. must be prevented through the states' control or regulation. The introduction of tax on financial transactions can help limit speculation and provide funds that can be allocated to key areas of development - especially in the South.

The Rio+20-conference should therefore call upon governments to:

- Ban speculation on water, food, land, minerals, health care and other human basic needs;
- Restrict investments in financial instruments not related to real commodities and services;
- Urge all governments to establish a Financial Transaction Tax.

Developing a financial sector serving sustainable development is demanding and will require strong efforts in which representatives from governments, the economic and financial sector and civil society must come together as equal partners. This should take place at national and international levels.

We therefore urge the Rio-conference to:

- Initiate and establish an international platform for the research and development on how to cure the financial system.

#### ON ENERGY

Populations in poor urban and rural areas shall all have equal access to modern, renewable and affordable energy. We recognize the poor countries' need to substantially increase per capita energy consumption in order to combat poverty.

Rich countries dependent on finite energy resources must reduce their energy consumption, enhance energy efficiency and change to renewable energy forms.

The Rio-conference should call upon the world's governments to:

- Set clear targets for universal energy access and an increase in energy supply from renewable sources;
- Develop low carbon energy plans;
- Support the research on and development of green energy technology;
- Support the development and production of green and renewable energy through tax incentives, feed-in tariffs, subsidies etc.

#### ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

A sustainable, small-scale farming adapted to ecological conditions is a major solution to environmental and social imbalances as well as lack of food security. Building upon the document "Time to act" we call on governments to:

- Ensure that agriculture in all its dimensions be a core issue at the UN CSD in Rio and subsequently in global policy and practice;
- Give strong and increasing support to small scale, agro-ecological and other forms of sustainable, ecological food production;
- Commit the UN – in 2012 to a negotiating process leading to an international technology assessment (bio, nano and geo-engineering) and information mechanism that strengthens national sovereignty and choice and respects the Precautionary principle and builds the capacity of developing countries and communities to assess the health, environmental, economic and social impacts of new and emerging technologies;
- Underline that the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities must be respected. That industrialized countries should pay their ecological and climate debt to developing countries, including payment for damages caused by their historical greenhouse gas emissions.
- Set robust targets to address inefficient and unsustainable use of water.

#### ON GOVERNANCE

The Rio+20-conference should encourage governments to adhere to the principles of participation, accountability and transparency concerning decision-making in the fields of environment and sustainability. We therefore call on governments to:

- Support initiatives to upgrade Principle 10 of the Rio-principles (1992) to a framework convention on global and regional levels.

ForUM also supports a number of initiatives for strengthening the institutional framework for sustainable development at global level. We therefore call upon governments to:

- Strengthen and upgrade UNEP to a "specialized agency";
- Establish a Council on Sustainable Development on par with the Council on Human Rights (UN HRC);
- Provide a mechanism within the Council on Sustainable Development to deal with emerging issues;
- Develop a framework convention incorporating the Precautionary principle dealing with new and emerging technologies, bio-engineering and nano-technology;
- Develop a framework for including sustainable development as an integral part of the curriculum of educational systems at all levels.

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## nrg4SD - Network of Regional Governments

North and South Subnational Governments committed to Sustainable Development consider that:

In terms of a reformed Institutional Framework

1. Any future institutional framework for sustainable development should be deeply rooted in the principles of multilevel and multi-stakeholder governance in order to allow for interaction, synergy and complementarity between all levels of governments in the elaboration and implementation of sustainable development policies and to encourage ownership of the challenges and the opportunities of sustainable development by all sectors of our societies. Adequate institutional frameworks should be based on the principles of coherence and coordination; transparency and accountability; participation and flexibility and; science base for policy making.

2. A clear territorial dimension should be considered in international sustainable development policies and therefore be coupled with adequate implementation resources and

governance tools at subnational level as a condition for obtaining results on the ground.

3. A new category of "Governmental Stakeholders" should be introduced among the observers accredited to UN processes in order to recognise the governmental nature of Federated States, Regions, Cities and Local Authorities and fully unfold their contribution to international negotiations and policies on sustainable development.
4. An institutionalised multilevel governmental dialogue should be put in place between UN institutions, UN Member States and "Governmental Stakeholders". The mechanism of such a dialogue should be part of the Rio+20 redesigned institutional framework, and enable subnational governments to contribute to the design of global policies on sustainable development.
5. The active participation of civil society stakeholders in international negotiations in a representative and relevant manner should be guaranteed and encouraged by all levels of government.
6. The UN Environment Programme UNEP should be strengthened and upgraded to a fully resourced Specialised Agency with a comprehensive mandate covering all international sustainable development instruments and focusing on mainstreaming sustainable development concerns into UN bodies; centralising all sustainable development initiatives and relevant existing bodies within the UN as well as the liaison with an independent intergovernmental group of sustainability experts; consolidating information, and knowledge; putting forward proposals for international binding measures, and alerting the international community about breaches of SD policies and instruments. This Agency should be vested with a strong monitoring and control system.
7. The UN Commission for Sustainable Development (UN CSD) should be upgraded into a Council and have a stronger monitoring and control mandate, including the elaboration of recommendations to UN members and the scrutiny of the initiatives of any UN body related to sustainable development.
8. An independent Intergovernmental Group of Sustainability Experts should be established in order to further encourage research, development and innovation in the field of sustainable development and to move towards innovative integrated and standard approaches, parameters, indicators and tools for sustainable development which are based on shared initiatives and intergovernmental expertise.
9. The international community should move progressively towards the establishment of a fair and transparent international environmental jurisdiction.
10. Independent, multi-stakeholder, multilevel and fully resourced sustainable development commissions should be created at national level within the possibilities of their respective jurisdictions and encouraged at subnational level. They would constitute an asset for the elaboration of inter-ministerial over-arching sustainable development strategies and for the compliance of public policies with sustainable development goals; while they would help reduce other negative impacts of policy fragmentation.

In terms of a Green Economy in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication (SDPE)

11. A transition towards a Green Economy in the context of SDPE shall be framed in the wider and sole goal of opportunities and encouraging a progressive paradigm shift in our societies capable of harmonising sustainable and inclusive economic development, responsible sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns, decent and green jobs efficient use of resources, energy efficiency and use of renewable energies, quality of life for all citizens, access to food, water and energy for all, intergenerational solidarity, access to information and participation by all sectors, environmental protection and conservation, ecological services of ecosystems and biodiversity and the resilience of our communities to climate change.
12. All levels of government should make further progress in the development of collaboration and partnerships mechanisms between the public and private sectors. The transition to a more sustainable pattern of development does not only represent a problem but, on the contrary, offers a whole series of opportunities particularly when environmental improvement and the generation of economic and social value added are considered in terms of potential synergy. The opportunities must be made use of through appropriate measures in the fields of economic policy, education and social change; the creation of alliances between employment policies and environmental policies
13. Crucial for a Green Economy in the context of SDPE is the maintaining and development of local frameworks. Further support and redevelopment of local markets will be key to achieve sustainable development and especially to eradicate poverty as these local market chains provides sustainable income at the lower level, and indirect benefits (reinforcement of the communities, financial resilience, and reduction of the environmental impacts).
14. A Green Economy in the context of SDPE can only constitute a tool for sustainable development and poverty eradication provided transparent and widely supported drivers, criteria and monitoring, reporting and verification systems are identified. Innovative and integrated parameters that go beyond the Gross Domestic Product GDP indicator and that guarantee a territorial dimension will be vital to a Green Economy capable of securing sustainable development and eradicating poverty.
15. UN member states and UN bodies should make full use of the contributions of subnational governments as key enablers to a transition to a Green Economy in the context of SDPE. These contributions consist namely of regulatory competences; long-track experience in elaborating territorial economic strategies in close collaboration with other levels of government and academia, civil society or private sector actors; prioritisation of public investment in their territories in areas that stimulate green economic sectors; subnational fiscal and market-based mechanisms to promote green investment and innovation; subnational green and ethical public procurement policies; community-based capacity building; training and education initiatives, and international solidarity initiatives.
16. Networks of local and regional governments can help the exchange of experiences, good practices and knowledge on a global scale to facilitate policy making for a Green Economy in the context of SDPE. These can help to build capacity and adequate bottom-up policies, based on local priorities and circumstances.
17. Sustainable development compliance should be integrated in all international, national and subnational policies for economic competitiveness and guaranteed for initiatives funded by any UN bodies.
18. Further efforts should be made to adopt innovative international financing mechanisms for sustainable development accessible to all levels of governments.

In terms of Other Topics

19. As more and more land is converted to urban uses and more and more citizens live in urban agglomerations, the patterns that this development assumes within a territory and its inter-connection with the subnational/regional level will have far-reaching effects on sustainable development goals. A city-region approach to the articulation of a territory in a sustainable manner becomes as essential as ever to achieving sustainable development goals on the ground.
20. These urbanisation pressures call for particular attention to rural sustainable development and rural-urban linkages in the elaboration and implementation of sustainable development policies.
21. Gender policies will be key to sustainable development goals and gender conditionality should be considered in sustainable development initiatives funded by UN national and subnational governments or UN bodies.
22. Access to education for sustainable development constitutes a must for social transformation in the North and poverty and inequality eradication in the South, as well as

favouring sustainable human development, intergenerational solidarity, North-South interaction and democracy. For all these reasons, access to sustainable education should be taken into account while designing children education programmes from an early age, as well as into a wide range of relevant professional and vocational training fields.

23. Efforts should be made towards the elaboration of a new language for sustainable development matters based on a multidisciplinary approach, and capable of communicating the new challenging as opportunities, as well as of capitalising on new communication technologies.

24. New international conventions shall be elaborated on management of international waters and the seabed and the participation and information in the field of sustainable development (Rio Principle 10). The latter could be easily achieved by enlarging the scope of the Aarhus Convention.

25. Further efforts should be made by the international community in order to further streamline the principles of sustainable development into the Breton-Woods system. This should encompass the adoption of international financing rules for sustainable development; the effective allocation and commitment of 0.7% of GDP of developed countries to Official Development Assistance (ODA); the establishment of a Financial Transaction Tax (FTT), and the allocations of its revenues to low carbon projects. Commitments to phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies (eg. G20 and APEC) should be expanded to include all UN Member states.

#### In terms of Outcomes of the Conference

26. An ambitious, firm, transparent, fair and comprehensive political outcome on a renewed commitment to sustainable development that embraces the Millennium Development Goals MDGs is necessary and possible.

27. It should be accompanied by verifiable objectives, roadmaps and timescales, adequate resources and governance tools at relevant levels of government.

28. The future Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development must be deeply rooted in a multistakeholder and multilevel governance approach, encompassing innovative participatory mechanisms for stakeholders while fully recognising the governmental nature of subnational governments.

29. new category of "governmental stakeholders" should be introduced among the Aobservers accredited to UN processes in order to recognise the governmental nature of Federated States, Regions, Cities and Local Authorities and fully unfold their contribution to international negotiations and policies on sustainable development.

#### Subnational Governments – Key governmental actors in the Sustainable Development Institutional Framework

In essence, nrg4SD and its members believe that the current name of the Major Group "Local Authorities" is too restrictive and unrepresentative of the governance structure of many UN Member States. "Referring to stakeholders of strictly governmental nature as NGOs fails to reflect the variety of subnational governmental actors and constitutes a missed opportunity to capitalise on the local knowledge, wide array of competences and strong leadership inherent to the governmental nature of Federated States, Regions, Cities and other Local Authorities - all of which work in full complementarity and synergy among themselves and also with national governments and international organisations. The Rio +20 Conference should therefore take this opportunity to reflect on the evolution of Major Groups since 1992 and introduce a new category of "governmental stakeholders", which could regroup Federated States, Regions, Cities and other Local Authorities.

Since the Rio Summit in 1992, when stakeholders were given a voice through the establishment of Major Groups by the UN, subnational governments all over the world have been fully involved in sustainable development processes and have demonstrated in a number of ways - for instance via Local Agenda 21 initiatives - that their contribution and leadership is essential to help achieve the ultimate objectives of sustainable development. The concrete initiatives of subnational governments have significantly evolved over the past years and shown that the efforts and initiatives of a country become stronger when transposed and complemented by subnational governmental stakeholders such as Federated States, Regions, Cities and other Local Authorities.

Twenty years ago, the idea of referring to any stakeholders different to the State that sit in the UN as "Non-Governmental Organisations" (NGOs) certainly allowed for structuring and channeling the participation of various stakeholders in the incipient sustainable development process under a set of Major Groups. However, nowadays, referring to stakeholders of strictly governmental nature as NGOs appears somewhat as an intrusion in the very much needed space for Civil Society within the sustainable development process. It also constitutes a missed opportunity to capitalise on the local knowledge, wide array of competences and strong leadership inherent to the governmental nature of Federated States, Regions, Cities and other Local Authorities. Last but not least, the current name of the Major Group "Local Governments and Municipal Authorities" is restrictive and fails to reflect the variety of subnational governmental actors – from Cities and Local Authorities to Federated States and Regions - that work in full complementarity and synergy between them and with national governments and international organisations. As a matter of fact, Federated States and Regions can play a pivotal and strategic role in the articulation of synergetic multilevel governance in their respective territories. But today, they do not even feature clearly in the current Major Group structure.

In this context, subnational governments believe that the Rio +20 Conference should take the opportunity to reflect the evolution of Major Groups since 1992 and introduce the category of "governmental stakeholders" among the accredited observers to the UN system. This category should regroup Federated States, Regions, Cities and other Local Authorities. In addition to the strengthening of a governmental stakeholders group, a thorough multilevel approach towards an institutional framework and policy making is important to establish the role of subnational governments.

It is worth noticing that the notion of "governmental stakeholders" is not new to the UN system but comes directly from recent developments within 2 Rio Conventions. At their last meeting in October 2010 in Nagoya, the parties of the UN Convention for Biological Diversity (UN CBD) adopted Decision X/22 endorsing the Plan of Action for Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities. The Decision invites Parties to involve Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities when revising their national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Besides, the Plan of Action establishes Advisory Committees of Cities and of Subnational Governments. Furthermore, in December 2010 in Cancún, México, the Parties of the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted the Cancun Agreements, which recognises in paragraph 7 - a first in an UNFCCC official agreement - subnational governments and local authorities as key „governmental stakeholders" in all aspects of global climate change efforts.

Subnational governments believe that the inclusion of a territorial dimension in all international sustainable development policy, coupled with adequate implementation resources and governance systems at subnational level, will be central to achieving solid results on the ground.

The economic, social and environmental challenges our societies are facing are crying out for multilevel and multistakeholder governance adapted to the modern times. Thus, we call for the creation of innovative participatory mechanisms allowing stakeholders a more direct role in policy making. A true multilevel and multi-stakeholder Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development will help turn the current and emerging sustainable development challenges into opportunities. In addition, it would facilitate discussions between UN institutions, UN Member States and "Governmental Stakeholders" on the design of international policies on sustainable development, hence enhancing subnational governments' contribution to international negotiations and the successful territorial implementation of international policies.

#### Subnational Governments – Key enablers of the transition to a Green Economy for SDPE

At a wider international level, subnational governments have a significant role in establishing the enabling conditions for a green economy outlined by UNEP's Report. Their contribution to these enabling conditions is outlined below in more detail. Subnational entities are often responsible for the implementation of national and international

policies, including policies related to sustainable development. They often constitute spatial and cultural entities that have a significant and coherent impact.

Establishing sound regulatory frameworks – Subnational governments have regulatory competences essential to vertebrate their respective territories from the social, economic and environmental point of view. This leads them to elaborating general economic and sustainable development strategies, as well as thematic ones on climate change, waste or social inclusion for instance. Subnational governments have long-track experience in elaborating these strategies in close collaboration with other levels of government and with actors from the academia world, civil society or the private sector.

Prioritising government investment and spending in areas that stimulate the greening of economic sectors – Thanks to their regulatory, budgetary and often fiscal competences, subnational governments can steer public investment to green a wide range of economic sectors and also influence the market. Competences in the area of public procurement and public provision of services allow subnational governments to incorporate not only economic but also environmental and social parameters in this field. This can set market trends and accelerate the market penetration of certain sustainable services and goods.

Limiting government spending in areas that deplete natural capital - Because of the above-mentioned competences, subnational governments can help national governments phase out subsidies with negative impacts on sustainable development or on the profitability of green investments. Also, a detailed knowledge of their respective communities is an asset in order to structure subsidy reforms that do not entail negative consequences to the poorest communities.

Employing taxes and market-based instruments to promote green investment and innovation – Subnational governments are able to influence the private sector behaviour through financial incentives and disincentives and green taxation. They can also contribute significantly to internalise the value of ecosystem services into the economy. Often they do provide incentives to the private sector and forge partnerships with it to accelerate the innovation, development and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies. These mechanisms can encourage long-term investments in infrastructures – for instance in the fields of sustainable mobility and renewable and efficient energy systems – that otherwise would not be viable. At the opposite end, subnational governments can discourage unsustainable industries and practices by means of restrictive authorisation policies and heavier taxation.

Investing in capacity building, training and education – Subnational governments, like national governments, are well positioned to tap into the reservoirs of engineering and manufacturing firms, as well as academic and research institutions, that are operating within their territories to encourage the sharing of scientific and technological skills and know-how with developing countries. Moreover, subnational governments can enter into cooperation agreements with private sectors companies that hold green or low-carbon technology patents and proprietary rights that can be offered to developing countries.

Subnational governments constitute social cultural entities. Their closeness to citizens and experience in working directly with other stakeholders, creates a pivotal position for raising awareness, providing public information on the environmental and social costs of certain practices, giving expert advice and counselling, and involving a range of stakeholders in the complex process of changing behaviours and production and consumption patterns.

It should be highlighted that subnational governments are involved in the international system of development cooperation and they orient their public policies in this field towards the Millennium Development Goals. Through development cooperation, subnational governments act as privileged hubs for implementing initiatives of co-development, and deepening democratisation and alignment processes. In conclusion, subnational governments are ultimately an active part of a new inclusive multilateralism for sustainable development.

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## Nurses Across the Borders Nigeria and SeaTrust Institute USA

a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

Rio+20 provides an opportunity to reinvigorate multilateralism in sustainable development through reversing what has gone wrong over the last 20 years. Taking advantage of this opportunity requires specific recommendations that equate to actions and an epistemological shift that balances and integrates sustainability's three pillars in a repair of the structural flaws in the UNFCCC/Kyoto model that has led to a misunderstanding of the nature of climate change between 1985 and 2009. The changes required, particularly in the face of the policy and monetary capital supporting the current challenged process requires examining past successes for guidelines that can be integrated within today's context to bring greater equilibrium to a process that now focuses on market and technology at the expense of both people and the environment.

To achieve the goal of a working multilateral process that continues to engage the countries that mostly contribute to emissions, those that will continue to increase their contributions, and those that will be most affected by the outcomes of climate change means forging incentives for all to continue to meaningfully participate in crafting the incremental solutions rather than artificially constructing an unenforceable legal structure upon an already fragile system. The ultimate goal should still be a comprehensive and binding global climate change agreement but to get there, reaching both within and outside of the UNFCCC may prove more effective to getting real results in real time. Recalling the comments of Mexico's Foreign Minister Espinoza at COP16 in Cancun in the face of a single country's challenge to an agreement by the other 194 members, consensus is not unanimity. Even with such official statements, the UNFCCC process as consensus diplomacy faces serious challenges and there is mounting evidence that collaboration may move processes more effectively by creating conditions that encourage rather than preclude, and that retain key countries rather than driving them to disengage from the issues of climate change and from the regime.

Consider:

- The Montreal Protocol ; is a frequently cited example of multilateral success. Like the UNFCCC, it is a framework with vague objectives and no specific obligations for its signatories. Its hallmarks are the capability for rapid modification to incorporate developing scientific information and technical advances with the ability to incite credible regulatory commitment. In accommodating alternatives developing out of science to promote effective public policy, it spawned successor agreements and removed competitive advantages for non-parties. Despite its differences from the UNFCCC, potentially transferrable factors that led to success include trade-related environmental measures, built-in flexibility for risk and uncertainty, and its provision of specific guidance on engaging developing countries. Other good practices that break down rather than reinforce barriers to sustainability goals, reduce transaction costs and increase legitimacy should be referenced as starting places for structuring the Outcome document.
- Trust is a prerequisite to durable legally binding agreements. Rebuilding confidence and trust in the regime is served by eliminating arbitrary divisions between countries, sectors and within systems to increase flexibility to changing science, political and economic systems while supporting incentives and reordering priorities that put people and the environment on a par with market systems and technologies.

b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

Many of the current proposals are exclusionary of other goals. Many if not most rely on market mechanisms as the overriding primary indicator. Adopting a "both/and" approach instead of "either/or" assumptions allows bottom-up to meet rather than compete with top-down efforts. Both are needed, but need to be reinforcing of the basic

tenets of sustainable development that expose the limitations of relying almost exclusively on financial arrangements and technology funding that relegate the protection of the Earth and human welfare to the equivalent of a business plan calling for a commodification of the commons. This requires redefining the "green economy" as a fundamental principle of sustainability in human and environmental terms that include a definition of global public goods and a vision of attaining a high quality of life for all .

Some reasons why current approaches are divisive and ultimately unsuccessful are that they privilege economic methods, metrics and techniques over knowledge co-generation through asymmetrical collaboration such as what has been shown to be effective between indigenous communities and biologists in co-managing natural resources .

Working at this type of knowledge interface of cultures, disciplines and interests involves people at the community level in policy-relevant participation, in gathering data, interpreting expert opinions within local contexts, and direct participation in national level discourse that transcends sectoral priorities and offers suggestions that can be replicated in other global locations through integration into the UNFCCC structure. What is needed is to enhance the sustainable development concept with appropriate new indicators. The universal and measurable indicator of human health in action frameworks, which is evidenced in successes and failure metrics by agriculture, disaster risk reduction, energy, climate change, trade and labor policies among others, the pillars of sustainable development are aligned with appropriate attention to the social and environmental values that operate to support healthy global economies.

c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.)

The goal of implementation is to make practical, not merely rhetorical progress. Rigid processes that impede this goal need to be restructured with priority given to institutional development that allows for the legal framework to evolve within the institutional processes, and including the full range of appropriate actors in policy development and implementation.

- The previous two Earth Summits, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED ) in 1992 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD ) in 2002 together with the Convention on Biological Diversity's (CBD) Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) provide a framework for achieving sustainable development. Implementation has been incomplete and many gaps remain in areas ranging from human health, to disaster reduction, migration and the oceans. For example, the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) could achieve a renewed prominence through integration with other sustainable development initiatives. The current MDG framework does not address growth or governance in its 60 goals for peace, development, the environment, human rights, the vulnerable, hungry, and poor, Africa, or the United Nations. Rio+20 is an opportunity to link the MDGs to Sustainable Development Goals and establish targets beyond 2015. Similar opportunities exist with other actions and frameworks.

- Pushing the legal framework in advance of institutional revisions weakens an already brittle structure. Strength, stability and binding authorities must develop rather than launch prematurely offering incentives such that no state benefits from withholding and no state accrues benefits by failing to comply.

- A more flexible process requires a restructured interaction among policy actors to reflect the interdependence between local, national and multilateral processes. NGOs, frequently cited as the most effective local implementation agents for poverty eradication, education and capacity building, adaptation and disaster reduction and relief, need direct and specific support from the multilateral system and from governments rather than being considered either competitive or a "necessary inconvenience." Directly involving civil society in setting policy as well as in local implementation of action supports prioritizing institutional development over the development of a legal framework - a necessary requirement to rebuild trust. It also gives local interests a voice in any policy as NGOs can represent those interests more authentically than governmental bodies whose foci are often sufficiently (and often appropriately) different from the local community.

d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

Unavoidably, the necessary partnership development and trust building processes take time and while immediate action on climate change is critical, avoiding a process breakdown through intractable conflict and stalemate requires taking the time to develop meaningful inclusion. This is true at national and multinational levels. To address the immediate requirements for action while rebuilding workable multilateral processes, new and borrowed mechanisms can be engaged to move climate change mitigation and adaptation action forward while building flexibility, inclusion and incentives into the multilateral UNFCCC/Kyoto process that allow for its continuation and evolution. For example, the following could be considered singly or in combination:

- Building bridges rather than artificially separating trade and climate change communities; incorporating learning from international trade law lessons about the fragmented and cyclical nature of international laws to create climate change incentives comparable to the drivers of trade negotiations, possibly through inserting climate change chapters into RTAs (regional trade agreements) which move faster than multilateral processes. RTAs could include geopolitical and security interests for conclusion of regional climate change agreements.

- Convening groups of countries for bilateral and regional climate change agreements and purposefully including the diverse range of institutions now relegated to non-decision making (like the Civil Society Organizations) in current regime complexes . Incorporating successes and working mechanisms into combined multilateral standpoints that reward political support for climate change action, discourage free-riding, and leverage actions such as RTAs with strong commitments for GHG emissions, health and adaptation commitments.

- Linking sustainable development to poverty reduction, considering differentiating responsibilities by GDP, per capita GDP, total emissions, per capita emissions and population/environment interrelationships in bilateral and mini-lateral actionable decisions building towards multilateral agreements.

Conclusion:

The current Kyoto Protocol is a top-down agreement that has proven to be very rigid. It is dominated by market mechanisms with insufficient regard for social and environmental values and methods. With complementary climate agreements, it could transform from what many see as the only structure providing a legal basis for climate change action into a more workable system within our emerging multi-polar world. Trade and climate change in cooperative alliance can act together to dissolve arbitrary barriers and include the appropriate actors at the right points in the process for swift and durable movement. Concepts like variable geometry (also known as enhanced cooperation) can enhance and make the UNFCCC more viable, more realistic, and more trusted .

Successful policy interlinks efforts to address ecological, social, economic and cultural issues. It interweaves local and regional actions with regional, national and multilateral processes and agreements which can become permanent and binding, yet flexible.

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## Observatorio Mexicano de la Crisis

INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE ON OUR WAY TO RIO+20



A contribution from Mexico's civil society

February 2011

Observatorio Mexicano de la Crisis A.C.

## INTRODUCTION

Due to the importance of Green Economy in Rio 2012, and as part of the International Green Economy Dialogue the Observatorio Mexicano de la Crisis (Mexican Observatory of Crisis) hosted an event together with the Mexican Environmental Ministry on February 3rd 2011. Up to forty experts from academia, civil society, government and the private sector participated in this event.

This document includes the results of this debate in order to contribute both to a strategic vision on green economy and to the design that is coherent both from a developed and emerging economies perspective.

The present document covers three main aspects of a Green Economy Strategy: priorities of a Green Economy strategy for Mexico, production, consumption and trade and public policy.

## PERTINENCE AND SCOPE OF A GREEN ECONOMY STRATEGY

There are important factors that need to be taken into consideration to promote a Green economy strategy, first the costs of business as usual need to be clearly stated both at the environmental and economic level. This means not just addressing each issue independently but also understanding interconnecting aspects and their impact.

The scope of the strategy also needs to define the extent of the reform process, but mostly it needs to be understood as a way to further a more comprehensive agenda, as the one set by sustainable development (equity, rational natural resource management and the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs) in which social aspects and pro-poor initiatives can be preserved and continued. In this sense, even when this is mainly an economic strategy, for its implementation it will be necessary to take into account other efforts made throughout the years, in different countries and by other international agencies inside the framework of sustainable development and the MDGs, i.e The Marrakech Process.

It is also important for the Rio Summit to be clearly understood as the beginning or continuation of an ongoing process that will require a set of environmental, political, policy, social, economic instruments to be designed, discussed and applied by each country. Therefore it is mandatory that the Summit is attended by Heads of State and/or Government, to state their commitment to these efforts.

## THE CHALLENGES OF BUSINESS AS USUAL

Considering the case of Mexico it is clear that a different growth pattern will be helpful to face current environmental, social and economic challenges, such as: Climatic impacts on land use, on biodiversity, irrational use of natural resources and water sanitation, waste management, and non-sustainable patterns of energy consumption.

Regarding social aspects like inequality, unemployment, underemployment and increasing violence. Economic issues including lack of competitiveness, low levels of taxation, lack of innovation, non-dynamic internal market. Even when, these challenges can be originated by different circumstances they end up being interconnected so they require comprehensive solutions that can work at the local, regional and national levels.

## II. PROMOTING THE TRANSITION – GOING BEYOND THE STATUS QUO

Currently, there are in Mexico policies which go against the promotion of an environmentally friendly economic growth, such as:

Policies and programmes for the agricultural sector that promote single-crop farming, migration and polarization among rural and urban areas. Therefore it is necessary to consider integrated policies that will help recover traditional forms of production and property that will restore both agricultural productivity and social structures and the quality of life in rural areas.

Increasing subsidies to urban areas promotes migration from rural communities, as well as centralization and concentration in big cities. It is necessary to recognize the real cost of living and services provided to cities, which can be reflected as an ecological foot print tax. MAKING CHANGE POSSIBLE – THE ECONOMICS AND THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT

In terms of political economy, there will be many adjustments to be made in order to promote a new strategy. As there will be winners and losers in the short run it is necessary to establish the means of dialogue in which rules an agreements can be defined, negotiated and accepted by different players. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that some of these instruments can be included in the policy toolkit. In the case of Mexico, these are some of the areas in which it will be necessary to pay attention:

There are no public policy instruments to promote a Green economy oriented industrial sector.

It is also necessary to create incentives to further change in production, even to consider the substitution of the current production line to a circular process to reduce waste. Emphasis should be place on innovation, training and human resources development.

National green clusters can be promoted by using integrated public policy instruments that will foster innovation and strategic sectors. Diversified industries are needed, as well as programmes to attract small and middle size producers into new green sectors. This will help provide the green economy strategy with an instrument to promote equality at the social level.

As one of the main components of the strategy is to understand the way in which Green economy can work in favour of development, in the case of Mexico it will be useful to have access to technology transfers that will help create value chains and clean industries without reproducing non sustainable international patterns of trade or macroeconomic disturbances.

Education is important in terms of promoting a new culture, which is not just respectful of the environment but also willing to shift consumption patterns and lifestyles.

Consumers need to be aware of the environmental impact of their choices. In this sense, "green purchases" from big buyers as the government, universities and retailers can be an important incentive.

A strong communication strategy needs to be implemented at each stage so governmental and private institutions can be able to inform the general public about the benefits of products, policies and decisions both in economic and environmental terms. Best practices catalogs and successful experiences can be used as a powerful instrument to communicate this message.

Any new strategy will need to be accompanied by strong transparency, accountability and social participation instruments, as well as other means to prevent corruption.

#### MEASURING PROGRESS

Any measure towards the implementation of a Green economy Strategy needs to take into consideration the social dimension and effects of policies, both in terms of costs and benefits.

It will be important to advance on the design and inclusion of indicators to measure the environmental benefits of specific projects and initiatives.

Green taxation needs to be promoted with clear goals and objectives as part of the whole strategy, and must include follow-up and performance indicators.

#### DELIVERING ON GREEN ECONOMY

The design and implementation of a Green economy Strategy needs to take into account the need for mainstreaming development and in particular social concerns. Considering, previous experiences in which growth was not necessary a prerequisite for development, but a source of new problems by ignoring prevailing social inequalities. Hence, policy recommendations must integrate equality, inclusion, economic, environmental, social, development and innovation issues. Together with institutional arrangements for planning and definition of regulation instruments that will promote green economy in an integrated fashion, including different ministries and levels of government and stakeholders.

Nevertheless, as mentioned before, the Green Economy Strategy must not be considered as a replacement for sustainable development which still has much to offer for developed and developing countries alike.

Finally, all the participants in this exercise (experts and interested parties in the field) will like to thank the UN for the opportunity to contribute with their insights and will be looking forward to participating in future stages of Rio+20.

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## Oceana - Protecting the World's Oceans

The signatory non-governmental environmental organizations, Oceana and the Natural Resources Defense Council, representing over 1.8 million members and online activists from around the world would like the 20th United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to address the emerging threat of ocean acidification to marine life, ocean-based resources and the people who are dependent on them. To solve the problem of ocean acidification we encourage aggressive reductions in carbon dioxide emissions from the international community, a major initiative to create fully protected marine reserves, and the establishment of an international network of monitoring stations to better understand and adapt to changes in marine life from a more acidic ocean.

#### Threats from Ocean Acidification

Currently, human activity - through the burning of fossil fuels - is changing the basic chemistry of our seas at an unprecedented rate, making them more acidic. As atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> has risen, the oceans have become 30% more acidic over the last 150 years (Caldeira and Wickett, 2003). Scientists predict an increase in acidity by approximately 150% by 2100, if we continue to pollute as we are now (Caldeira and Wickett, 2005; Feely et al., 2004; Orr et al., 2005; Doney et al., 2009). This will have far reaching consequences for life in the seas which could lead to widespread social and environmental costs (Turley and Boot, 2011).

Rising ocean acidity reduces the availability of carbonate, a critical component of shell or skeleton building for animals like clams, oysters, mussels, plankton, and coral (Fabry et al., 2008). As atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> rises, the oceans could become corrosive enough to literally dissolve shells, and potentially threaten populations of these animals. Without significant reductions in carbon dioxide emissions, ocean acidification could affect marine food webs and lead to substantial changes in aquaculture and fisheries, threatening protein supply and food security for millions of people as well as the multi-billion dollar global fishing industry (Monaco Declaration, 2009)

By mid-century vast ocean regions may become inhospitable to coral growth and reefs are expected to erode faster than they can grow (Hoegh-Guldberg, 2005). Regions dependent on healthy coral reefs for fisheries, tourism, and storm protection are at high risk. Ocean acidification will be especially challenging for coastal and small island developing nations that are highly dependent on ocean based protein and resources, which currently lack the capacity to adapt to these changes (Cooley et al., 2011).

#### Reducing Carbon Dioxide

The important actions taken in the next several decades regarding carbon dioxide emissions will influence the pH and the health of our oceans for thousands to millions of years into the future. The primary solution to worldwide ocean acidification is dramatically reducing carbon dioxide emissions, which is also a key strategy in solving climate change. However, many governing bodies like the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) are focused only on mitigating climate change which involves overall reductions in greenhouse gases, potential geo-engineering projects, and a limitation of 2 degrees Celsius increase in global average surface temperature. Even if climate change goals are met, the changes to the oceans' pH could be detrimental to many forms of marine life, ocean-based economies and cultures. The international community must focus on reducing carbon dioxide emissions to effectively mitigate ocean acidification.

#### Establishing Marine Reserves

It is critically important to protect sensitive marine environments from additional stressors that can exacerbate the debilitating impacts of acidification. Establishing fully protected marine reserves can help protect biodiversity and improve the resilience of our oceans in the face of rising acidity. Keys to the long term success of marine reserves involve creating sustainable sources of funding as well as local capacity to enforce their fully protected status.

## Creating an International Ocean Acidification Monitoring Network

There is also a pressing need to better understand and monitor the threat that ocean acidification poses to societies worldwide (Feely et al., 2010). Currently, there are only approximately 30 monitoring stations capable of measuring ocean acidity, and most of these are in developed countries. There is virtually no monitoring of biological impacts of acidification anywhere in the world. An international network of monitoring is needed to identify areas of vulnerability and develop effective adaptive management strategies for marine resources. States and coastal communities need information that can help them assess risks, plan for impacts and initiate management strategies, including, for example:

**Vulnerability Analyses** – Based on current research and observations, scientists have identified broad geographic regions and marine species that are vulnerable. High latitudes, regions of upwelling, and coastal estuaries with heavy river input, will experience episodes of corrosive water first. In addition, certain species such as tropical corals and some oysters and other mollusks are particularly sensitive to changes in carbonate chemistry. There may be many other marine animals and entire ecosystems that will be affected, and a more comprehensive and refined understanding of vulnerabilities is greatly needed.

**Early warning systems** - Real-time information about ocean chemistry can serve as an early warning system for already affected regions and industries. For example, oyster hatcheries along the west coast of the United States which were suffering from lower pH have deployed monitoring systems to alert their operators to episodes of corrosive waters which are harmful to larval oysters. With the use of these systems, hatchery owners have restored their production by 80% and have rescued their businesses.

**Management guidance** – Ocean acidification is happening against the backdrop of a rapidly changing ocean. In addition to changes in ocean chemistry, ocean water is getting warmer, oxygen availability is decreasing, and a host of local stressors exacerbate global change. Enhanced ocean observations are critically needed to improve ocean management in a changing world.

Sincerely,

Lisa Suatoni  
Senior Scientist, Natural Resources Defense Council

Matthew Huelsenbeck  
Marine Scientist, Oceana

Oceana is the largest international organization working solely to protect the world's oceans. Global in scope, Oceana has offices throughout the Americas and in Europe and more than 500,000 supporters around the world. Oceana works to protect and restore the health of the oceans using science-based campaigns. As part of our efforts to promote sustainable fishing, one of our top priorities is in addressing the considerable subsidies many countries provide to their fishing sectors. Oceana has been a leader in advancing global reform of fishing subsidies at the World Trade Organization (WTO) and in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement.

Oceana submits these comments with the belief that Rio+20 is an important opportunity to contribute to achieving healthy economies and sustainable development through the global reform of fishing subsidies.

## Oceans and the Green Economy

The heart of the Rio+20 conference is the recognition that the world's resources are capable of raising millions out of poverty, but only if they are managed intelligently. Central to achieving these objectives is the "Green Economy."

Given the significance of the oceans, both to the environment and to the lives and livelihoods of billions of people, a group of Pacific Island nations have introduced the concept of the "Blue Economy" and correctly recognize that this must be an integral of part of any Green Economy.

The Green Economy theme of this conference recognizes strong economic performance as a prerequisite for achieving sustainable development. In the context of the oceans, this begins with an urgent need for global reform of fishing subsidies.

Sustainable development will only take root and produce the Green and Blue economies that are sought if we create a framework to support it. Individual initiatives will struggle as long as economic incentives continue to encourage destructive practices.

Ten years ago, the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg (Rio+10) recognized this when it declared that many subsidies to the fishing sector create incentives to overfish and support illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. Fulfilling the promise of the Green and Blue economies requires following through on those commitments. Only by doing so can we ensure the ocean will continue to offer its bounty both today and in the future.

## The World Depends on the Oceans for Food and Livelihood

Oceans cover more than two-thirds of the globe, provide income and livelihood, and supply people with a key source of protein in their diets. More than a billion people depend on fish as a key source of protein. Fishing activities support coastal communities and hundreds of millions of people who rely on fishing for all or part of their income.

However, oceans are a source of immense but not inexhaustible wealth.

Ten years after the Rio+10 Summit recognized the need to reform fishing subsidies, the world's fisheries are close to irreversible collapse. Fish populations, as well as other ocean wildlife, have been depleted to a fraction of their historical levels – and their disappearance can trigger cascading adverse effects throughout the ocean.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) concluded in its 2010 State of the World Fisheries and Aquaculture report that more marine fish populations are now classified as overexploited and depleted than ever before. In fact, 85 percent of global fish stocks are fully exploited, overexploited, depleted, or recovering from depletion. More than 90 percent of the ocean's large predators -- tuna, marlin and sharks -- have disappeared as a result of industrial fishing. The global economic losses due to overfishing are estimated at US\$50 billion a year.

## Fishing Subsidies are a Major Driver of Global Overfishing

Despite the precarious state of the oceans, many governments continue to provide large subsidies to their fishing fleets. These subsidies allow fleets to fish longer, harder, and farther away than what would otherwise be possible. The scope and magnitude of fisheries subsidies and their impacts on overcapacity and overfishing are so significant that global subsidy reform is likely the single greatest action that can be taken to protect the oceans.

Fishing subsidies are defined as direct or indirect financial transfers of funds from public entities that help make the fishing sector more profitable than it would be otherwise. Fishing subsidies can create incentives to fish more, even when catches are declining. Subsidies can generally be described in three categories: beneficial, ambiguous, and capacity-enhancing. Beneficial subsidies enhance the growth of fish stocks through conservation, monitoring and control of catch rates. Ambiguous subsidies can lead to positive or negative impacts on the fishery resource depending on the design of the program. Finally, capacity-enhancing subsidies stimulate overcapacity and overfishing through artificially increased profits that further stimulate effort and compound resource overexploitation problems. Fuel subsidies, boat construction, and foreign access agreements are all examples of capacity enhancing subsidies.

An estimated US\$16 billion in capacity-enhancing subsidies are provided to the global fishing sector each year, representing approximately 20 percent of the value of total world catch. The intensity of these subsidies is even greater than those to agriculture.

Government subsidies have led to pervasive excess capacity in the global fishing fleet, while ongoing government support for fishing ensures that overcapacity is maintained. The global fishing fleet is up to 250 percent larger than what is needed to sustainably fish the oceans. Subsidies enable activity which results in overexploited fish populations, undermine fishing control programs, and prevent depleted fish populations from recovering.

#### Fishing Subsidies Lead to Unsustainable Economic and Environmental Practices

Fisheries subsidies are not only environmentally destructive, but also preserve uneconomic and inefficient practices. Large-scale, distant water fleets are often highly subsidized for their operations. A recent study found that bottom trawling on the high seas would not be profitable without high levels of government subsidies. This fishing practice is destructive enough that the United Nations has called for it to be severely restricted.

Fishing subsidies have also been shown to support illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. IUU fishing represents a major loss of revenue, estimated between 11 and 26 million tonnes per year, worth between US\$10 and US\$23 billion. This is a particular concern for some of the poorest countries in the world which depend on fisheries for food, livelihood and revenue.

The damage to ocean resources and biodiversity from overfishing will likely have implications that we cannot fully anticipate. However, one immediate danger is the impact that overfishing could have on food security. The FAO states: The maximum long-term potential of the oceans has been reached. As a result, increased demand for wild-capture fish cannot be met by increasing fishing effort without restoring fish populations and ensuring their ongoing sustainability. Sustainable fishing can only be achieved through compliance with effective fisheries management programs, by controlling illegal fishing and by limiting subsidies.

Beyond mere economic losses, losses to food production and the inequality of funneling ocean resources away from the least and lesser developed countries to their more industrialized neighbors present enormous difficulties. Healthy fisheries could produce even more, both financially and in food for the world's people.

#### The Rio+20 Conference has a Critical Role in Addressing Fishing Subsidies

An international framework to manage fishing subsidies is an essential step towards a sustainable economies and natural resources. The Rio+20 conference has a role and opportunity to support and advance these global objectives. Specifically, the Rio+20 conference should:

1. Reaffirm and strengthen the commitment of the Rio+10 conference and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation calling for global fishing subsidy reform.
2. Build on the commitment of the Rio+10 agreement to restore stocks to levels that can produce the maximum sustainable yield by 2015, by taking actions to control and reduce global fishing subsidies.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

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## OceanCare

### Input for the Zero Draft (Rio + 20) by OceanCare

OceanCare is a Non-Governmental Organization with a special consultative status at the ECOSOC and a founding member of the International Ocean Noise Coalition (IONC), a partnership of more than 150 non-governmental organizations deeply concerned about the impacts of ocean noise pollution on marine ecosystems. At the invitation of the Second Preparatory Committee, the following is OceanCare's input for inclusion in the compilation document that will serve as the basis for the zero-draft of the outcome document for UNCSO.

OceanCare looks forward to participating at the Rio+20 meeting and it is our view that the most important outcome of UNSDO will be agreement on a shared and holistic vision addressing current gaps in international law, including the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

The future of humanity is inextricably linked to a healthy ocean. This fundamental fact should guide our every interaction with the seas. However, scientists instead warn that harmful anthropogenic impacts such as climate change, overexploitation, and pollution are causing a devastating loss of marine biodiversity. Similarly, the significance of healthy oceans to sustainable development and poverty eradication cannot be underestimated. The status quo threatens the ability of the oceans to maintain vital ecosystem services and food security for hundreds of millions of people. As several delegations recognized during the March 2011 PrepCom meeting, we should be concerned not only with creating a sustainable green economy but also one that recognizes the value of a strong blue ocean economy.

Rio+20 provides an ideal opportunity to set in place a framework to build a blue economy based on an understanding of the value of healthy oceans to humanity and to support strong governance to that end. At present, existing regulatory frameworks do not prove adequate enough to prevent pollution, degradation of habitats, loss of marine biodiversity, acidification and overexploitation.

Recognising this, OceanCare and IONC support the proposal put forth by a vast majority of States relating to the negotiations of an implementing agreement of the UNCLOS. Such an agreement would have the overarching goal of long-term conservation and sustainable management of marine life, and the protection and preservation of the marine environment. It would also provide an integrated framework for existing, new, emerging and intensifying uses and activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction including through the implementation of environmental impact assessments and marine protected areas. An UNCLOS implementation agreement could serve as an improved regulatory framework, inter alia, for the problem of increasing anthropogenic ocean noise pollution.

Anthropogenic noise levels in the marine environment are increasing at an alarming rate. In some areas, noise levels have doubled every decade for the past 60 years. There is mounting concern that noise proliferation poses a significant threat to marine ecosystems and the survival of marine mammals, fish and other ocean wildlife.

Marine animals use sound to navigate, find food, locate mates, avoid predators and communicate. Flooding their world with intense sound interferes with these activities and results in serious consequences. A growing body of scientific research confirms anthropogenic noise can induce a range of adverse effects in fish, marine mammals and other

ocean creatures, from disturbance to injury and death.

According to the UN Secretary General, "Ocean noise involves the introduction into the sea of sound generated by various human activities, including commercial and non-commercial shipping, air guns used to carry out seismic surveys, sonar, underwater detonations and construction and resource extraction. Over the last fifteen years, research has indicated that such noise has been impacting numerous species of marine mammals and fish, which depend on hearing for communicating and accomplishing other functions vital to their survival and reproduction. Impacts from ocean noise include mortalities, injuries, temporary and permanent hearing loss, disruptions in essential activities, habitat abandonment and loss of biodiversity, chronic stress, the masking of biologically important sounds and alterations in the behaviour of commercially harvested fish." (A/66/70/Add.1 - 354)

Since 2005 the UN General Assembly has addressed noise through its annual resolutions on the law of the sea by recognizing the threat that ocean noise poses to marine biodiversity and encouraging further research and studies to better understand and minimize the impacts of ocean noise on marine living resources and on fishing catch rates. Other organizations addressing ocean noise include CBD, CMS, FAO, IMO and IWC at the global level, and Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS), Agreement on the conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS) and the Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR) at the regional level.

The International Ocean Noise Coalition and OceanCare believe that the commitment to an UNCOLOS implementation agreement is a tangible result that should be negotiated at the Rio+20 meeting. Using this new instrument, limitations of underwater noise in all oceans and seas at the international, national and regional level could be set and other mitigation measures to minimize acoustic pollution could be devised.

Another issue of concern for OceanCare is the International Whaling Commission (IWC). Since Rio+20 is expected to strengthen environmental governance, this conference should identify those organizations that need modernizing and work towards ensuring that they are viable into and beyond the 21st century. In light of ongoing discussions at the UN General Assembly on global governance, it would be appropriate to make sure that this body, which is the only one with a universal competence, is also involved in improving the current institutional framework, including in relation to environmental institutions. Admittedly, this would contribute to improving intra-institutional cooperation. Similarly, representation should also be guaranteed. There are currently still fora, including the IWC, where civil society, IGOs, NGOs and stakeholders are not invited to participate at a meaningful level. Governance is not effective if its exercise is not carry out by all the actors of the international community.

Rio+20 should also prioritize achieving coherence within the various multilateral environmental agreements and United Nations programmes. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) for instance needs to intensify intra-institutional cooperation if it is to succeed in managing trade in those species that are listed in accordance with its provisions. Although there is little doubt that polar bears, for instance, are menaced by international trade in their skins, any action within the framework of CITES would deal only with this one threat to their conservation. However, this species is also threatened by climate change and loss of habitat. A synergy would hence be necessary to ensure that all the organizations with a mandate that is relevant for the conservation of polar bears are involved in a cooperative effort aimed at addressing protection of this species. Many other examples could similarly be provided. Thus, Rio+20 should look at the need for environmental governance from a holistic perspective and make sure that sufficient guidance is provided to the international community. The environmental pillar of sustainable development is as important as the social and the economic ones.

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## Oikos - Cooperação e Desenvolvimento

The Global Challenge of Food Security in the Twenty-First Century

By: João José Fernandes

Population growth, increased global GDP and the consequent change in consumption patterns, price volatility, market failures, water scarcity, land degradation and soil erosion, loss of biodiversity in ecosystems, climate change and in some regions political instability and social upheaval, are some of the factors that condition the agro-food systems in the coming decades. According to the latest projections, world population, now 7 billion people will reach 8.1 billion in 2030 and 9.2 billion in 2050 (FAO, 2009ai). Virtually all population growth will occur in developing countries (DCs), where the soil and water resources are already facing enormous pressure. In 2006, the population suffering from food insecurity amounted to 854 000 million (FAO 2008ii). In 2009, the population with food insecurity rose to 1.02 billion due to the rising of prices seen in 2008 (FAO, 2009biii). The origin of this trend reversal is the rise in grain prices caused by a set of stressors: drought breaks in production and exporting countries (Australia, Canada), speculative capital in agriculture commodities, rising oil prices and increased demand for cereals – whether stating the result of demographic pressure – or the result of demand for raw materials for the production of biofuels. In the future, this combination of factors – now understood as cyclical – can become a structural trend. Indeed, demographic pressure and the expansion of consumption in emerging economies, the depletion of fossil fuels (Pick Oil), climate change, soil erosion and soil degradation, advancing desertification and water scarcity are factors that strongly condition the demand for and supply of food in the medium and long term.

How to Answer the Challenge of Global Food Security?

Facing the enormous challenges of food security, two main trends are perceived. The first marked by technological optimism, the second championing the enlargement of the market role, as a panacea for all ills of resource scarcity and environmental degradation. These two trends, with more or less charitable empathy for the poor, mark the mainstreaming economic thinking.

Limits of Technological Innovation Approach

Between 1950 and 2000, world population grew from 2.5 billion to 6 billion people, but the world economy expanded sevenfold. In terms of agriculture, growth in productivity per hectare on the level of cereals rose from 1.1 to 2.7 tons. The application of scientific knowledge to agriculture (advances in genetics and improved agronomic practices), coupled with powerful economic incentives to farmers, has allowed an enormous expansion of world agricultural product. At the level of genetic advances, there is the effort of finding varieties with greater capacity for channelling the photosynthates to the seed. In terms of agronomic practices, expansion of irrigation areas, the intensive use of fertilizers and control of diseases, insects and weeds. However, while in the period from 1950 to 1984 the cereal production rate has expanded faster than population growth, increasing production of cereals per person by 34% since 1984 grain output growth was exceeded by population growth. This drop was not more noticeable only due to increased efficiency in the cereals conversion process into animal protein (Brown, 2005iv).

But is technological innovation the master key and sufficient to meet the challenge of sustainable use of soil and feed a growing population?

In our view, investment in technological innovation may be important but faces major difficulties. Therefore, we are inclined to a more integrated and comprehensive approach. In fact, there are two main obstacles to an answer based solely on technology:

- 1st The current technologies' reserve, available to farmers to increase productivity is almost exhausted, at least for the major powers cereal producers'. As mentioned above, the techniques used during the last decades have extensively explored the genetic potential, in order to increase the percentage of photosynthates that is forwarded

to the growth of the seed.

- 2nd A paradigm shift would require increasing the efficiency of the process of photosynthesis, something out of the current possibilities. It is the efficiency of photosynthesis, which, coupled with the availability of agricultural land, defines the quantity of food that the earth can produce.

As Lester Brown notes (Brown, 2005), the advances made until now in genetic engineering and biotechnology are not promising signs in this line of research, limiting the focus on plant tolerance to herbicides, resistance to insects and diseases. To a lesser extent, there were some results about the resistance to drought or salt tolerance. These advances allow only marginal gains in terms of agricultural productivity. Given the physical limitations placed on increasing the efficiency of photosynthesis – and thus to the increased productivity of the soil – that the current technological paradigm does not seem able to overcome, we must choose complementary strategies for the expansion of agricultural output. One possible approach is the increase of multiple cropping, i.e. more than one crop per year. In some Asian countries the challenge is to maintain this practice, but countries like the U.S. can gain considerable production with the encouragement of this practice. This will require a reorientation of agricultural research for the development of technologies that enable the acceleration of the maturity cycles of crops from the first and second planting seasons. Another way to increase food production to increase water productivity. The construction of small systems to capture and store rainwater, as well as the development of precision irrigation techniques may prove to be an excellent contribution to conserve the existing irrigation areas, or even to contribute to its expansion. Land productivity can also be increased through the use of crop residues for the production of food, as the case of corn or cane straw of rice and wheat for animal feed, thereby allowing a second crop on the same land. In some parts of the world as in Africa, investment in transport and storage infrastructures could play an important role in increasing food production, facilitating the transition from subsistence farming to agriculture with great economic and productivity increases. These two measures are essential for the efficient link from producers to markets. Finally, it is necessary to find strategies to a more sustainable agriculture, or facilitate the decoupling of product per hectare (Santos, 2009v), given the level of non-renewable resources that produce damage to the natural environment (fertilizers, pesticides, etc...). Sustainable agriculture, particularly relevant in marginal agricultural land implies a more efficient use of resources and the copy of the natural processes at the level of nutrient cycling, nitrogen fixation, soil remediation, and use of natural enemies to control pests. In addition, we need a greater investment in human and social capital, particularly in developing countries. The training of farmers will help to self-sufficiency and the improvement of their agricultural practices, the focus on social capital is decisive for the increase in scale, integrated management of watersheds and forests, as well as access to credit and markets for small producers.

#### The Market Limits

The creation of markets for all ecosystem services assumes that the commercial interaction between economic agents will reveal the value of services inducing the appropriate incentives to the production, while the ecosystem management organizes itself in order to respond to these incentives. In our opinion, this solution is not applicable in all situations. There are other complementary solutions and, in certain circumstances, more feasible. There are three grounds:

- 1st The market failure does not occur only by the lack of commercial value to some of the services, but also due to the lack of protection of the rights of some stakeholders, including future generations.

- 2nd The creation of markets focuses on the scale of the service, to the detriment of the ecosystem scale. Ecosystem services, object of value, are only the "discrete and identifiable end products" (Kroeger e Caseyvi). Thus, the ecological functions underlying ecosystems are not subject to valuation.

- 3rd Moreover the fact that there are some barriers to the creation of markets as it is the case for some of the services of forest ecosystems. For example, refer to the complexity of the services of biodiversity conservation, the volatility of other services such as carbon sequestration, risks of future losses, the need for long-term monitoring, the impossibility of exclusion in the case of pure public goods such as air quality or climate, and the high transaction costs, e.g. costs of certification of carbon sequestration, which add to the cost of providing the service. The barriers to the creation of markets for some ecosystem services, the need to incorporate all ecosystem services in the decisions of managers, coupled with the need to protect the rights of interested parties who have no voice, as is the case of future generations, lead us to complementary solutions able to ensure effective governance of ecosystems, to be combined in different proportions and whose validity must be assessed according to specific circumstances. We emphasize, in addition to the creation of markets, the regulation by the state, the (re)defining and protecting of the rights of different individuals and groups, the accountability of managers (civil liability, or "societal license to operate"), the definition of new forms of organization for an ecosystem-wide management, or instruments such as green taxes and public payments for environmental services. Finally, it is noted that, even if the solution is the creation of markets, state intervention can be decisive. One of the classical situations is the need for intervention by the states in terms of defining property rights. There are no markets without clear and respected property rights. It is usually the state to define these rights and make them comply, namely through the exclusion of non-owners. Thus, following Bromleyvii, we can say that "while market processes can be used instrumentally after a previous definition of socially desirable environmental conditions, we cannot leave the market to decide on how clean should be our water or our air. The market is also not able to turn out how much biodiversity should be preserved for future generations. " Thus, we cannot accept technological innovation and market instruments as sufficient to solve all the challenges of sustainable food security. They are certainly necessary conditions but not sufficient.

#### Which role for Sustainable Consumption?

An increase of production which corresponds to the expected consumption as a function of population growth and increased purchasing power is problematic. First, because in the coming decades we will face constraints on natural resources such as soil or water and secondly the increased production and agricultural productivity is only sustainable if it does not result in irreversible losses of biodiversity and increased emissions of irreparable greenhouse gases (GHG). Thus, the solution should be found in a balance between a more eco-efficient agriculture and more sustainable consumption. The term "sustainable consumption" entered the international agenda through Agenda 21, the action plan for sustainable development adopted by 179 heads of state at the Rio Summit in 1992. However, the concept of sustainable consumption is far from obtaining a broad consensus. The first problem is related to the perception of the ultimate (or motive) of the act of consuming. The utilitarian approaches value consumption as a means to increase the utility (welfare) and the decisive factor is the information and knowledge that enable rational utility maximization. In this context, the instruments for sustainable consumption are a certification of "green" consumption and tax incentives to the consumption of "environmentally friendly" products. The scale of the analysis is the individual. It is also in the light of this scale that we situate the psycho-social approaches to consumption. Under this paradigm, the consumer arises as a response to a stimulus of the social or psychological needs. The consumption is then a kind of "identifier" of personality and social group membership. In this context the sustainable consumption emerges as driven by social marketing, aiming at the promotion of an "environmentally friendly lifestyle"; consuming a "green" product often promoted by a "celebrity", "is part of belonging to" a "tribe". More recently, some movements have been characterizing the consumption as an act determined by the supply-infrastructure (by supply chains). The scale of analysis becomes the society; consumption is understood as a routine habit, almost imperceptible. Sustainable consumption is then to be distinguished not only by individual preference for consumption, but by the initiatives – usually at the local level – aiming at overcome the constraints that are imposed by the format of the global supply chain of goods and services. An example is the local initiatives linking producers and consumers that outline the intermediation of large stores (Seyfang, 2009). The latter approach to sustainable consumption is actually a very profound transformation in consumption patterns, the motion falls into the so-called "New Economy" as opposed to current mainstreaming concept of sustainable economic consumption.

Table 1 summarizes the key differentiating elements between both approaches. (Please reference Submission Document for Table)

#### Sustainable Consumption and the New Economy

In order to understand the specificity of the concept of sustainable consumption in the "New Economy", it is necessary to briefly characterize this movement. First of all, bear in mind that we are no longer under a concept of consumption as "green washing", or consumption as a driver of economic growth. On the contrary, it is proposing a reduction in consumption in absolute terms. Immediately, from the three concepts of sustainable consumption mentioned above, it is this that more boldly relates to the global challenge of food security as introduced at the beginning of our text: population growth, rising standards of consumption, resource scarcity, biodiversity loss, soil degradation and climate change.

What distinguishes the "New Economy" of the mainstreaming concept of Economy?

The distinctive features of the "New Economy" (NE) are four: (i) a comprehensive understanding of the meaning of "welfare" (wealth), (ii) a richer conception about the "labour", (iii) new uses for the money and currency options, (iv) reintegration of ethics in economic life (Boyle, 1993). Influenced by the ecological economics (Costanza, 1991x) the New Economy (NE) puts the environment at the heart of economic analysis, accepting that there are ecological services that cannot be replaced by other types of capital and that ecosystems do not respond in a predictable and linear way to external pressures. It follows that the economy cannot be seen as an abstract mechanism that can generate indefinitely "value" and should take its place in the environment and society as a starting point. The first consequence is the need to design the development of new paradigms such as "welfare", "quality of life", using indicators that can measure social progress and the goals of economic activity more appropriately, in detriment of the sole use of Economic Growth Indicators (GDP - Gross Domestic Product) and its derivatives (Seyfang, 2005xi). The second starting point of the NE is related to the concept of "labour", trying to include the performance of unpaid tasks but socially reproductive, which support communities and families and, accordingly, contribute to the market economy. This approach implies a view of economics that assign "value" to informal, voluntary and unpaid "labour", complementing the formal remuneration for work. A sustainable economy would allow people to enjoy a portfolio of options, undertaking a wide variety of forms of labour – domestic, voluntary work for the community, paid informal employment with local currencies and informal employment in the market economy. The third feature of the NE is the concept of money. The conventional economics describes the money as a politically and socially neutral technology, which allows to fulfil four functions: to serve as a medium of exchange, a unit of account, a store of value, and a standardized instrument for the deferred payment. NE, by contrast, argues that these functions are rather conflicting agendas (e.g., withdraw money from a local economy to a store of value, inhibits its movement within the community and meeting local needs), and acknowledges that monetary systems are social constructions whose design emphasizes certain purposes and encourages certain behaviours over others. For example, I think we can all agree that the use of the monetary system favours a narrow range of economic activities (valuing what is scarce and not what contributes to the well-being), uprooting the exchange currency of its environment and social ambience, and inhibiting sustainable consumption. The corollary of this understanding is the need to design new systems of exchange, designed to serve different purposes and to allow an inclusive systemic approach of the social and environmental context of economic activity. NE acknowledges that this approach may be less efficient than a strictly economic point of view, however, by incorporating social and environmental factors appears to be much more rational. Embryos of this approach are the many initiatives around the "complementary currencies" that have emerged among local communities as diverse as the United Kingdom, Brazil and Argentina since the early 1990s. Last but not least decisive, NE considers ethics as central to economic activity. Unlike the apolitical abstractions of conventional economics (which obviously obeys ideologically based policy prescriptions) NE implies a normative analytical approach, which aims to describe and facilitate the transition to a more sustainable society (Seyfang, 2005). With regard to the experience of practical application of this new economic model, NE still lacks empirical investigations to test its ideas and concepts. One area where is relevant to promote a systematic scrutiny of the NE' initiatives is precisely the assessment of its contribution to sustainable consumption. To meet this challenge, Seyfang advances five indicators that must be present in a strategy of sustainable consumption, consistent with the proposals of NE, namely: location, reducing the ecological footprint, community-building, collective action, and creating new procurement and supply infrastructures (Seyfang, 2009). These indicators are briefly presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Evaluation/ Assessment indicators for sustainable consumption (Please reference Submission Document for Table).

In contrast to a "green consumption", so often vulnerable to strategies of "green-washing," the proposal from the NE suggests a sustainable consumption that contributes to an effective reduction of all consumption that does not contribute to the well-being. In contrast to the utilitarian concepts of sustainable consumption, or approaches based exclusively on the identification around social and psychological standards, NE points to the core of sustainability challenges: the promotion of social welfare, quality of life, a quest for courageous social cohesion and environmental protection. In conjunction with measures of eco-efficiency in agriculture and climate change adaptation, the use of economic policy instruments that allow the internalization of many of the environmental impacts of agricultural and livestock production (including market based instruments, such as payment for ecosystem services) – proposals for sustainable consumption of NE certainly have an important contribution to make in response to global challenges of food security. Will these measures be enough? Will we be able to implement them fast enough? Here's the challenge I leave to civil society practitioners and public decision makers.

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## One Earth Initiative Society

**One Earth Initiative Society:**

**Input into the UNCSD 2012 compilation document**

**1 November 2011**

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**A. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

In terms of **outcomes of Rio+20**, the One Earth Initiative Society expects to see:

- Renewed political commitment at the highest political level to move to sustainable development and to adopt sustainable consumption and production patterns.

- A bold vision of "a future we want" that is attractive, inspiring and a source of hope for humanity.
- An Outcome document that includes, or is accompanied by, a green economy roadmap.
- A Ten-Year Framework of Programmes in support of regional and national SCP

initiatives.

- A new, enhanced, comprehensive and more inclusive process for the UN to engage with civil society that addresses the current limitations, weaknesses and exclusionary nature of the 9 Major Group system.

Regarding a possible structure of the **Outcome document**, we suggest that it be short, and should include the following key elements:

- An introduction that recognizes the gravity of the situation faced by humanity and the urgent need for a 'great transition' to sustainability.
- A set of strong values and guiding principles drawn from, for example, the Earth

Charter, and that include:

- f* The need for reciprocity, cooperation and sharing;
- f* The need to achieve absolute reductions in material and energy throughput at the global scale;
- f* Recognition that at the global scale, more growth on a finite planet already in a state of ecological overshoot is anathema to sustainable development.
- f* Embracing sufficiency as an organizing principle;
- f* A reemphasis on Principle #10 of the Rio Declaration on access to information, transparency, public participation and access to justice; and
- f* An approach to global sustainability built around 'contraction and convergence' (decreased per-capita Ecological Footprints in the rich, industrialized countries, and higher rates of consumption in the low-income countries).
- Sustainable development goals, similar to the Millennium Development Goals, with global targets and timetables.
- A non-negotiated appendix of countries' own commitments to sustainable development and provisions for monitoring, compliance and reporting.

#### **B. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

- A **green economy roadmap** needs to include specific goals and a timeframe with short-, medium- and long-term targets to help guide action.
- It also needs to include indicators and a mechanism for monitoring and reporting.
- It needs to be clear on the barriers that are preventing the world from moving to sustainability despite the warnings of science that this is more urgent than ever (see C., below, for examples).
- It needs to feature a list of policy instruments that can guide countries' options on affecting change around production and consumption systems (see below, for examples).
- Countries should be encouraged to 'think out of the box' and prototype new ways of organizing their economy and of carrying out projects that contribute to sustainable patterns of consumption and production.
- Listed below are potential **policy instruments** to be considered by UN-member States and other stakeholders; they are organized in order of decreasing coerciveness, from the 'hard' policy instruments that include laws and regulations as well as 'carrots and sticks' (rewards/penalties), to 'soft' policy instruments, which include voluntary, non-binding recommendations and guidelines, education (formal and informal), information sharing, and organizational structure:
  - f* **Regulatory instruments** – Norms and standards, bans, caps and emission limits, building codes, etc.
  - f* **Economic instruments** – Fiscal, or market-based instruments (subsidies, taxes, user fees, green public procurement, bonus systems, emissions trading, etc.), investments in infrastructure that support sustainable consumption and production
  - f* **Participatory instruments** – Urban planning, public dialogues, policy discussions, participatory budgets, etc.
  - f* **Voluntary instruments** – Unilateral commitments, negotiated agreements, voluntary setting of targets, voluntary certification schemes, etc.
  - f* **Informational instruments** – Ecolabels, information centres, websites, demonstration projects, etc.
  - f* **Educational instruments** – Training, integration of whole-systems thinking in formal and informal education, research, etc.
  - f* **Organizational/institutional arrangements** – Cooperation schemes, public- private partnerships, agreements between different levels of government, etc.

#### **C. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.)?**

- The **conventional, incremental-change approach** to sustainability is failing to make sufficient progress in reversing the worsening social and ecological trends, and new models, mindsets and metrics are required to guide action for systemic and transformative change.
- **Systems thinking** needs to form the basis of action plans, roadmaps and frameworks for action to avoid fragmented thought, jumping to conclusions, short-sighted decision making and the "problem-solving treadmill", which have hampered significant progress towards sustainable development at the global scale thus far.



- There needs to be a recognition of the **barriers that prevent the urgent transition to a socially just and ecologically sustainable world**; these include:

*f* Fragmentation of sustainability initiatives at all scales

*f* Inertia in the system (including of habits as well as social and cultural norms;

in infrastructure and technologies; etc.)

*f* Paralysis in front of tremendous complexity

*f* Need for political leadership

*f* Skewed markets resulting from misplaced subsidies, the externalization of costs , short-term profit seeking, a non-level playing field and entrenched interests

*f* Misunderstandings around the seriousness of issues

*f* Unpopularity of proposed measures and policy solutions

*f* Influence of powerful interest lobbies

*f* Inability to effectively apply a systems perspective to problem solving

*f* Too much emphasis on efficiency as a means to reduce material and energy throughput when historically, lower prices brought about by gains in technology and efficiency have led to overall increases and bigger footprints when an overall cap on resource use is not established

- Implementation needs to focus on being **scientifically relevant** (i.e. leading to absolute reductions in resource use and negative ecological impacts at the global scale; reigning in climate change; etc.).

- Examples of **specific, high-leverage policies** to be implemented for a green economy:

*f* Instituting a socially fair carbon tax or equitable cap-and-trade system

*f* Phasing out of subsidies and investments for unsustainable, inhumane systems

*f* Freeing up the length of the working day, week and year to reflect a work-life balance that promotes well-being

*f* Reforming our banking system in support of a larger diversity of community-

based savings, lending and investment

*f* Putting a stop to urban sprawl through increased densification in existing urban centres

*f* Discouraging car use, especially in urban areas, and investing heavily in efficient and comfortable public transportation options and self-propelled infrastructure (i.e. car-free spaces)

*f* Retrofitting existing buildings to a minimum of PassivHaus norms

*f* Implementing choice editing to remove unsustainable options from the market place by industry and government

*f* Maximizing public purchases through green and fair-trade procurement

*f* Reforming the World Trade Organization so that it serves to promote fair trade

- **Diverse actors have specific roles**, tools and approaches that they bring to bear on addressing the consumption and production system. The World Business Council developed a useful characterization of these different roles:

#### **Role of governments and regulators**

*f* International agreements

*f* National policies, laws and regulations

*f* Fiscal structures and incentives

*f* Guidance for businesses and consumers

*f* Monitoring

*f* Enforcement

#### **Role of businesses**

*f* Economic development

*f* Legal compliance

*f* Ethical practices

*f* Sustainable sourcing, production and distribution

*f* Eco-efficiency and waste reduction

*f* Consumer choice editing

*f* Consumer choice influencing

*f* Recycling

*f* Innovation

*f* Example-setting

#### **Role of civil society (NGOs)**

*f* Independent assessment

*f* High profile public campaigns

*f* Critique or endorsement

*f* Thought leadership

*f* Choice influencing

#### **Role of consumers**

*f* Purchasing decisions

*f* Lifestyle choices

*f* Political support

*f* Peer-to-peer influencing

- No single actor can achieve broad, systemic change alone, and cooperation and dialogue is mutually beneficial and needs to be encouraged.

#### **D. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

- Multistakeholder cooperation could be organized around a **10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP)** in support of regional and national initiatives on sustainable consumption and production. Although the ideas for this framework were successfully negotiated and agreed at the 19th Session of CSD, they have yet to be implemented. The UN Conference on Sustainable Development has a timely opportunity to adopt this 10YFP as one of the positive constructive institutional outcomes for moving the sustainable development agenda forward.

- Rio+20 should open a new discussion track on **improving the model, process and effective engagement of civil society** in sustainable development policymaking and decisions. The Outcome document can include commitment to review current and new models of civil society participation and to design a new, more inclusive and effective participation structure for civil society organizations (CSOs) to be meaningfully engaged in the current and future sustainable development governance framework and institutional structures, including the United Nations.

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## One Justice Project

[www.onejusticeproject.org](http://www.onejusticeproject.org)

Strengthening Institutional Frameworks for

Sustainable Development: Ending Impunity for

Economic, Social, and Environmental Crimes

Submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

1 November 2011

The One Justice Project supports new thinking and measures dedicated to ending impunity for serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

To this end, the One Justice Project makes the following four recommendations to States in the context of general debates, negotiations, and commitments on institutional frameworks for sustainable development.

**Recommendation No 1:** States should recognise the critical importance of individual criminal accountability in developing and strengthening institutional frameworks for sustainable development.

Over the past 25 years, States have adopted commitments, principles, and initiatives aimed at advancing and strengthening the interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development – economic development, social development and environmental protection – at the local, national, regional and global levels.”<sup>1</sup>

However, States have failed to take steps to address serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law that undermine the very foundations of the economic, social, and environmental pillars of human development. Corruption, forced labour, pillage, large-scale environmental pollution and destruction, harmful medical experiments, and the deliberate and discriminatory denial of access to food, shelter, medical care, education, and culture remain common throughout much of the world.

<sup>1</sup> Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, in Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, August 26 to Sept. 4, 2002, A/CONF.199/20 (New York, United Nations, 2002).

These serious violations of international law have severe and long-term consequences on the well-being of present and future generations and weaken the very conditions that make sustainable human development possible. Most importantly, they are not the product of a lack of resources or of structural factors beyond human control, but result from the deliberate and morally blameworthy acts and conduct of individuals that should be recognised as criminal in appropriate circumstances.

Mechanisms of criminal accountability for serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law can promote progress toward sustainable development by instituting the basic conditions of good governance, ensuring that laws are properly enforced and that individuals are held accountable for their violation, and providing marginalised communities with the rights and protections afforded by law, including recognition and redress to victims of crime. In these ways, the establishment of individual criminal accountability for acts and conduct that undermine the pillars of sustainable development finds support in an emerging international policy agenda that views the rule of law and legal empowerment as integral to

economic and social development, poverty eradication, and environmental protection.<sup>2</sup>

The One Justice Project recommends that States recognise that institutional frameworks for sustainable development must include fair and effective legal mechanisms for investigating and prosecuting all serious violations of international law that undermine the foundations of the economic, social, and environmental pillars of sustainable development.

Recommendation No 2: States should condemn the impunity that remains for serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law.

The international community has made significant strides in ending impunity for serious violations of international law amounting to war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide – the core international crimes that have been prosecuted and tried by both domestic and international criminal courts in the second half of the twentieth century. This current system of international criminal justice is founded on the principle that individuals should be held criminally accountable for the most serious violations of international law – what the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court defines as “grave crimes that threaten the peace, security and well-being of the world” and “atrocities that deeply shock the conscience of humanity.”<sup>3</sup>

But with few exceptions, international crimes focus on serious violations of civil and political rights and do not cover the serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law that are of direct relevance to sustainable development.<sup>4</sup> Moreover,

2 World Summit on Sustainable Development, “Johannesburg Principles on the Role of Law and Sustainable Development,” adopted at the Global Judges Symposium, August 2002; Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor and United Nations Development Programme, “Making the Law Work for Everyone,” (2008) Report of Commission on Legal Empowerment of the Poor, Volume I.

3 Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, U.N. Doc. A/CONF.183/9, (1998), Preamble.

4 Exceptions include the crimes against humanity of persecution (Rome Statute, Article 7(1)(h)) and other inhumane acts

(Rome Statute, Article 7(1)(k)) and the crime of genocide of deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part (Rome Statute, Article 2(c)), although there is little

authority in support of their expansion to economic, social, and cultural rights. Relevant war crimes include starving civilians as a method of warfare (Rome Statute, art. 8(2)(v) (xxv)), subjecting individuals to harmful medical or scientific

the scope of application of international crimes, especially in cases before existing domestic and international courts, has focused on behaviour that is essentially limited to situations involving physical violence on a large scale.<sup>5</sup> Although there are understandable historical and political factors that explain this focus on armed conflicts and physical violence, the exclusion of other serious

violations of international law with equally grave consequences for human populations from the scope of international criminal law has troubling implications for the integrity of international law and the access to justice that it provides for victims of morally opprobrious acts.

The problematic limited focus of international criminal law is all the more striking when one considers the few existing international crimes that engage with economic, social, and environmental harm. For instance, while subjecting individuals to harmful medical or scientific experiments or causing widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment are war crimes when committed in the context of an armed conflict, equivalent behaviour, with equivalent consequences, of the sort that frequently takes place in the context of peace is simply not a crime under international law.

Despite the critical importance of repressing these serious violations of international law for securing the peace, security and well-being of the world, they remain outside the scope of existing treaties and institutions in the field of international criminal law. This is yet another way in which the international community has failed to abide by the principle of international human rights law that all

human rights are equal, interrelated and indivisible.<sup>6</sup> As noted by the U.N. Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in other context, “despite the rhetoric, violations of civil and political rights continue to be treated as though they were far more serious, and more patently intolerable, than

massive and direct denials of economic, social and cultural rights.”<sup>7</sup>

The One Justice Project recommends that States condemn the impunity that remains throughout the world for a whole range of serious violations of international law, namely international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law, and should recognise that these violations are the product of behaviour by individuals that is sufficiently deliberate and morally opprobrious to be recognised and treated as criminal in both domestic and international law.

experiments (Rome Statute, art. 8(2)(b)(x)), and causing widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment (Rome Statute, art. 8(2)(b)(iv)).

5 War crimes are committed in the context of an armed conflict, crimes against humanity are committed as part of a

widespread or systematic attack against any civilian population, genocide involves the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, and aggression involves the use of armed force against a State or other acts that threaten international peace and security.

6 The equality of rights vision has been reaffirmed repeatedly by the international community in instruments including

the Proclamation of Teheran (1968) Art. 13 ("Since human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible, the full realization of civil and political rights without the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, is impossible...");

U.N. General Assembly Resolution 32/310 (1977) Art. 1(a) ("All human rights and fundamental freedoms are indivisible and interdependent, equal attention and urgent consideration should be given to the implementation, promotion and protection of both civil and political, and economic, social and cultural rights. and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, as adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993, U.N. Doc. A/CONF.157/23, para. 5 ("All human rights are universal, indivisible and interdependent and interrelated. The international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing, and with the same emphasis...").

7 CESCR, Statement to the World Conference on Human Rights, U.N. Doc. E/1993/22, para. 5.

Recommendation no 3: States should commit to taking all appropriate steps for investigating and prosecuting serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law that amount to existing domestic or international crimes.

The impunity that subsists for serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law is all the more problematic given the overall, well-recognised weakness of enforcement mechanisms in these fields. More often than not, serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law are not recognised as crimes or are not treated as such by legal authorities. As a result, civil society actors in developing and developed countries have had to resort to civil liability to obtain a measure of justice and compensation for serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law. However, civil liability remains a costly, time-consuming, and ultimately unsatisfying alternative to mechanisms of criminal investigation and prosecution. Civil liability does not capture the gravity, morally blameworthiness, and the harmful consequences that can characterise conduct amounting to serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law. Indeed, the notion that such behaviour should merely give rise to civil liability, rather than criminal liability, feeds the perception that it is not especially morally opprobrious and that it falls within the range of acceptable human conduct.

The deliberate nature, grave consequences, and frequency of serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law requires that they be recognised and treated as crimes by all States. To some extent, this can be achieved through the enforcement and extension of existing domestic and international crimes that encompass acts and conduct amounting to serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law.

The One Justice Project recommends that States take all appropriate measures at the domestic and international levels to ensure that serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law that amount to existing crimes are investigated and prosecuted as such.

Recommendation no 4: States should commit to negotiating an international convention for the prevention and repression of economic, social, and environmental crimes.

Ending impunity for serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law requires more than changes in the enforcement of existing domestic and international crimes however.

Serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law frequently result from governance gaps arising from the activities of transnational corporations. A patchwork of weak, non-existent, or inadequately enforced laws across borders has resulted in gaps in the governance of transnational corporations operating in developing countries, providing a "permissive environment for wrongful acts by companies of all

kinds without adequate sanctioning or reparation."<sup>8</sup> While criminal law at the domestic level may offer opportunities to take action against individuals responsible for corporate abuses, governments in developed and developing States have generally been unwilling or unable to investigate and prosecute the acts and conduct of corporate directors and officers.

Any serious effort aimed at addressing these governance gaps must provide consensus definitions of criminal violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law, ensuring consistency and coherence between judicial systems across the world. Rule of law assistance will be required to enable developing States to strengthen their existing enforcement mechanisms and ensure that they can consistently enforce relevant domestic criminal provisions covering these serious violations of international law. The establishment of forms of extra-territorial liability will also be critical, enabling States to take jurisdiction over crimes allegedly committed abroad by their nationals or directors or officers of nationally incorporated corporations. Finally, obligations and mechanisms for international judicial cooperation between States will be required to coordinate the efforts of States in the fight against impunity for these crimes.

In sum, what is needed is a stand-alone international convention that would require state parties to exercise criminal jurisdiction over serious violations of international economic, social, and cultural rights and international environmental law. Following the model employed for crimes of international concern, such as the theft of nuclear materials, terrorist bombings, or torture,<sup>9</sup> such a

convention could define relevant economic, social, and environmental crimes, commit state parties to enacting these crimes in their national legislation, investigating and prosecuting cases falling within their jurisdiction, and cooperating with other States in investigations and prosecutions.

The One Justice Project recommends that States commit to initiating negotiations aimed at elaborating and adopting an international convention that identifies and defines the most serious violations of international economic, social and cultural rights and international environmental law as crimes of international concern; creates grounds of jurisdiction for their effective investigation and prosecution by states; obliges states to initiate investigate and prosecute alleged crimes falling within their jurisdiction; and provides mechanisms for international judicial cooperation, support, and capacity-building.

<sup>8</sup> Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, Protect, Respect and Remedy: a Framework for Business and Human Rights, U.N. Doc. A/HRC/8/5, para. 3.

<sup>9</sup> See, e.g., Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, 3 Mar. 1980, 1987 U.N.T.S. 125; International

Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings, 15 Dec. 1997, 2149 U.N.T.S. 256; Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 10 Dec. 1984, 1465 UNTS 85.

#### Overview: The One Justice Project Conception of Economic, Social, and Environmental Crimes

Each of the crimes listed below is a serious violation of existing obligation of international law and draws on wording from international treaties, declarations, cases, and reports. For specific references on sources and wording, see: [www.onejusticeproject.org](http://www.onejusticeproject.org).

#### Economic Crimes

- the appropriation of private or public property without lawful basis or legal justification;
- the embezzlement, misappropriation or other diversion of public resources or property by a public official; and
- the exaction of work or service from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself or herself voluntarily.

#### Social Crimes

- the discriminatory denial of access to primary, secondary, technical, vocational and higher education;
- the discriminatory denial of access to minimal levels of water and food sources;
- forced evictions;
- the discriminatory denial of access to minimal level of medical services, facilities and treatments;
- the subjection of persons to medical or scientific experiments of any kind which are neither justified by the medical, dental or hospital treatment of the person concerned nor carried out in his or her interest, and which cause death to or seriously endanger the health of such person or persons; and
- the discriminatory systematic destruction, prohibition or diversion of books, religious works, historical or religious monuments, or documents and objects of historical, artistic, cultural or religious value.

#### Environmental Crimes

- the causing of widespread, long-term and severe damage to the natural environment; and
- the unlawful pollution of air, water or soil through the release of harmful substances or organisms which cause death to or seriously endanger the health of affected persons.

The One Justice Project (1JP) seeks to end impunity for serious violations of international economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights, wherever they are committed. Through innovative and collaborative research, advocacy, litigation, and capacity-building activities, 1JP works for the recognition, investigation, and prosecution of these violations as crimes under national and international law.

For further information on 1JP, visit [www.onejusticeproject.org](http://www.onejusticeproject.org) or contact Sébastien Jodoin ([sebastien.jodoin@onejusticeproject.org](mailto:sebastien.jodoin@onejusticeproject.org)), Katherine Lofts ([katherine.lofts@onejusticeproject.org](mailto:katherine.lofts@onejusticeproject.org)), or Yolanda Saito ([yolanda.saito@onejusticeproject.org](mailto:yolanda.saito@onejusticeproject.org)).

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## ONG Colombiana Corporacion Jovenes De Ambiente

**Nit. 900296806-4**

Elaborado por miembros

***Ambiente:***

de la ***ONG Colombiana Corporación***

***Jóvenes de***

**PAULA GISSELL ROJAS**

**REY - Coordinadora Rio + 20 jóvenes Colombo-**

**latinoamericanos y Jóvenes Rurales Colombianos**

**DIANA RODRIGUEZ - Vicepresidenta**

Aportes al documento cero de los jóvenes Colombianos a la Conferencia de las Naciones

Unidas Sobre Desarrollo Sostenible Rio + 20, Rio de Janeiro Brasil 4 - 6 de Junio de 2012

### **1. Presentación:**

La Corporación Jóvenes de Ambiente es una corporación sin fines de lucro que por medio del trabajo con jóvenes tiene como objetivo principal la gestión, la formulación, la elaboración, la ejecución, la evaluación, el control y el seguimiento de los estudios, los planes, los programas, las actividades y los proyectos, encaminados a la protección,

la conservación, el mejoramiento y el aprovechamiento sustentable del ambiente y los recursos naturales en un ámbito local, regional, nacional e internacional, con una visión

holística interdisciplinaria,

que permita dar soluciones acordes a los problemas

ambientales, con el fin de asegurar la calidad de vida de las diferentes poblaciones del planeta tierra, desde el enfoque infanto juvenil Colombiano.

## **2. Antecedentes:**

Como actores de la sociedad civil, participamos en este proceso

adolescentes,

jóvenes y mujeres principalmente, haciendo efectivo nuestros derechos

constitucionales consagrados en la Constitución Política de 1991,

así como la

legislación establecida a

nivel internacional. Como ejemplo de

este último

contexto, se puede mencionar la Agenda 21 que en su capítulo 25, establece en

su numeral 25.2, lo siguiente: "Es una necesidad imperiosa que la

juventud de

todas partes del mundo participe activamente en todos los niveles pertinentes de los procesos de adopción de decisiones, *ya que ello afecta su vida actual y tiene repercusiones para su futuro. Además de la contribución intelectual y de la*

*capacidad de movilizar apoyo que tiene la juventud, los jóvenes*

*tienen una*

*manera particular de analizar las cosas que es menester tener en cuenta."*

Así mismo, en la agenda 21 en sus capítulos, 23, 24, 26, 27, 29, 30 y 32, se propone que

las mujeres participen en la

toma de decisiones, la planeación y la ciencia, establecer

comunicación entre ONGs y gobiernos, asegurar la libertad de expresar y promover ideas

de las ONGs, a pesar de

que no gusten a gobiernos e industrias,

garantizar la

participación de los indígenas en las decisiones políticas que los afecten así como

#### **Nit. 900296806-4**

respetar y proteger su cultura, entre otros temas internacionales ratificados por el gobierno nacional.

Lo anterior, muestra la legalidad del presente documento y la legitimidad otorgada con la aprobación y participación de estos grupos poblacionales en las iniciativas, encuentros, redes sociales y demás formas, medios de comunicación e instrumentos utilizados para la participación de los jóvenes colombianos en la Cumbre de Rio + 20, Brasil 2012.

### **3. Metodología**

A partir de la metodología

descriptiva<sup>1</sup> se revisó la bibliografía pertinente al tema de

juventud, ambiente, participación, economía verde, desarrollo sustentable, declaraciones nacionales e internacionales. Seguidamente, se utilizó la metodología exploratoria con un formulario on line a través del siguiente link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dG1OUUR3LTliUDJXdjEzamlwcmFXbEE6MQ> el cual fue publicado en la página de facebook de la ONG, en las redes sociales a las que pertenece, y en la página de la Cumbre de los Pueblos: <http://jovenes-colombia.rio20.net/> dando cumplimiento al principio de transparencia con la población juvenil Colombiana e internacional.

Finalmente, las dos etapas anteriores se unificaron, utilizando la

metodología

correlacional a través de la cual se dio análisis a la información obtenida para responder las preguntas planteadas en la Resolución 64/236 de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas y en el documento del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Colombia sobre Rio + 20.

### **4. Qué resultados quieren los jóvenes Colombianos de la Cumbre de Rio + 20?**

#### **4.1 Resolución 64/236 de la Asamblea General de las Naciones Unidas:**

##### **4.1.1 ¿Cuáles son las expectativas en relación con los resultados de Rio+20, y qué**

**propuestas concretas hay**

**a este respecto, incluidas las opiniones sobre una**

**posible estructura del documento final?.**

Como ONG ambiental es relevante aclarar que nuestros países latinoamericanos son los que tienen en su escala poblacional un número mayoritario de jóvenes que no están representados equitativamente en las entidades internacionales de la

<sup>1</sup> La metodología descriptiva busca determinar las características, propiedades o rasgos significativos del fenómeno objeto de estudio, mientras que la metodología

*exploratoria busca estudiar un tema poco estudiado*

*respecto aun contexto particular, identificar conceptos promisorios, establecer*

*rioridades para*

*investigaciones futuras, así como*

*proponer afirmaciones o postulados. En cuanto a*

*la metodología*

*p*

*correlacional, busca estudiar la relación de categorías o variables en un contexto particular, lo que aporta información explicativa de la forma en que se comporta un concepto al conocer la conducta de otras variables relacionadas.*

HERNANDEZ SAMPIERI, Roberto. Metodología de la investigación. Mc Graw Hill. 2003

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ONU y nacionales, ya que hay pocos puestos al momento de tomar decisiones,

por lo que solicitamos **mayor representatividad de niños latinoamericanos.**

**y jóvenes**

Los países en vía de desarrollo son ricos en recursos naturales, por lo que sus

cuentas ambientales

deberían reflejar esta realidad en el PIB

nacional, sin

embargo existen deudas internacionales que desvían los recursos producidos para pagar interés y capital de la deuda, por lo que proponemos un **pago de trabajo social ambiental y servicios ambientales prestados en los países en vía de desarrollo, como pago de la deuda externa y sus intereses**, así poder

terminarla en máximo 7 años, y empezar a invertir en los propios p

íses contra la

pobreza, el hambre y los desastres naturales cuyas víctimas principales son los niños y jóvenes.

**La educación** de niños y jóvenes debe ser un **derecho inviolable y sin**

**restricciones**, por lo que debe ser la prioridad para alcanzar



el desarrollo

sustentable, con leyes de educación gratuita en colegios y universidades públicos

con vacantes de sostenimiento para jóvenes rurales e indígenas, abandonen su territorio de origen.

para que no

La explotación **Minera** incluye combustibles fósiles, oro, plata, piedras preciosas y coltán etc, que se ubican en ecosistemas estrategicos para el equilibrio ecológico,

o en nacimientos de

agua como páramos, una vez inician las actividades de

exploración y explotación minera deterioran completamente

estos frágiles

ecosistemas perdiendo especies de vital importancia y otras jamás descubiertas,

lo que evidencia la

no aplicabilidad del principio de “**Precaución**”. Como han

aplicado los Países, la Banca y las Naciones Unidas este principio?

En materia de desarrollo tecnológico y energías renovables proponemos se

incrementen significativamente los incentivos e inversión en

infraestructura

sostenible y energías renovables, disminuyendo como medida urgente y prioritaria

la inversión en energías no renovables o de alto impacto en el

ambiente. es

imprescindible que se respeten, protejan y revaloricen los conocimientos de tecnologías ancestrales, reconociendo la propiedad intelectual de las comunidades nativas. y se desarrolle un protocolo para la evaluación y aprobación de las nuevas tecnologías como requisito previo a su implementación y difusión.

Se debe evaluar los incentivos y castigos internacionales a las **multinacionales**

que sancionadas en algunos países se trasladan con sus problemáticas a otros,

empeorando en los

nuevos territorios la situación social, económica y política

nacional. En especial se deben acordar los impactos de la

**minería y la**

**exportación de agua embotellada** que afecta los caudales y ecológicos, evidenciándose en cambios climáticos locales.

ecosistemas

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En materia de Agricultura se deben reducir las producciones transgénicas y sus derivados a fin de contribuir a la mejora en la calidad de vida de las personas. se

rescaten, revaloricen

y protejan los cultivos tradicionales de sus

pueblos. Se

destinen fondos y generen incentivos para el desarrollo de proyectos de agricultura sostenible que ayuden a mejorar las producciones y dignifiquen el trabajo de las comunidades campesinas. Es muy importante que se definan fondos y generen incentivos para el desarrollo de proyectos de agricultura sostenible que ayuden a mejorar las producciones y dignifiquen el trabajo de las comunidades campesinas.

En materia de Economía Verde se deben impulsar proyectos inclusivos para la juventud y todos los sectores de la población tanto urbana como rural, generando empleos verdes dignos, así como espacios de participación.

También es indispensable promover el consumo responsable

Se financien y/o acepten como parte de pago de deuda externa recuperación y conservación de la biodiversidad.

proyectos de

En materia de Participación y Acceso a la información, se debe producir y difundir información accesible en términos técnicos, en distintos lenguajes e idiomas para asegurar la participación informada de la comunidad y aumentar la efectividad del derecho al acceso a la información. Es necesario que se produzcan reportes de sustentabilidad para medir y comunicar su impacto económico, social y ambiental y dar cuenta del cumplimiento de los compromisos internacionales asumidos. Adicionalmente se propone la creación de Consejos Juveniles a nivel local para monitorear los compromisos asumidos por los estados en todos los niveles, asegurando de esta manera la participación de los jóvenes en espacios de toma de decisión y procesos de construcción de políticas públicas, sobre todo en relación a la administración de recursos naturales.

En materia de residuos sólidos, el concepto de basura cero se debe adoptar como objetivo para toda la comunidad, todo proceso productivo y toda actividad económica. Se debe garantizar el cumplimiento del principio de "precaución" en el desarrollo y comercialización de nuevos productos por parte de las empresas y se promueva la creación e implementación de leyes de residuos sólidos urbanos y

rurales que involucren a las empresas y las haga responsables del los mismos.

ratamiento de

En materia de educación ambiental es muy importante asumir de manera obligatoria y responsable la planeación, implementación, evaluación y seguimiento de la educación ambiental en todos los niveles educativos, de manera diversa, transversal, pluricultural, incluyente, universal y gratuita. la Educación Ambiental se debe adoptar como proceso y espacio de recuperación de tradiciones

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culturales, un alto respeto por la identidad territorial, incluyendo y empoderando a grupos vulnerables.

En materia de ciudades y comunidades sustentables, es necesario que se adopte el concepto de "ciudades para personas", basadas en la integración social y espacial, incorporando principios de ordenamiento territorial, zonificación ecológica y gestión ambiental, a su vez fomentar la inversión público-privada en infraestructura, medios de transporte y programas de concienciación. Se esencial

impulsar un acuerdo internacional para promover medios

de transporte

sustentables, incluyendo a la bicicleta como forma de transporte preferente en las ciudades. también es preciso que se promuevan las prácticas y tendencias de la cultura urbana sustentable como ferias, colectores solares, recolectores de agua de lluvia, agricultura urbana, procesos domésticos de reciclado de aguas grises, diseño y arquitectura sustentable.

En materia de Legislación, es vital que: se ratifiquen y cumplan en los tiempos acordados los protocolos y tratados firmados a nivel internacional. Se dé jerarquía

institucional de máximo nivel a la autoridad ambiental nacional,

incluyendo la

transversalidad y amplitud de competencias. Se Instrumenten de forma efectiva los

tratados y acuerdos

ambientales internacionales firmados, a

través de la

formulación y reglamentación de leyes nacionales.

**4.1.2 ¿Cuáles son las observaciones, en caso de que las haya, en relación con las propuestas existentes? (por ejemplo, una hoja de ruta para la economía verde, un marco de acción, unos objetivos de desarrollo sostenible, una asociación mundial revitalizada para el desarrollo sostenible, u otras?).**

La economía verde

debe apoyar el mercado de productos naturales, más

saludables, reconociendo económicamente la propiedad nativa de los productos del país de origen (en vía de desarrollado), además debe incentivar el cultivo de alimentos orgánicos y hacerlos accesibles a los diferentes grupos sociales.

El mercado energético debe ser coherente con el enfoque ambiental, disminuyendo el consumo de combustibles fósiles que liberan el carbono

capturado en el subsuelo, generando problemas mundiales de

calentamiento

global, o la inundación de zonas de alto valor ambiental ricas en Flora y Fauna para generar hidroeléctricas, queremos soluciones energéticas que al terminar su

m

vida útil no generen

ás problemas que la usencia de energía, como ejemplo de

estos planteamos la

pregunta *¿Qué países tienen tecnología*

*para disponer*

*residuos de celdas solares, o residuos nucleares, si los países como Colombia no tienen tecnología para disponerlos, a donde llegarían estos residuos (convenio de*

*Basilea)? ¿Por qué no se han masificado los vehículos con energí alternativas?*

*solar u otras*

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Los transgénicos tienen implicaciones adversas para la biodiversidad por cuanto la estructura genética de plantas "mejoradas", disminuye la posibilidad natural de la diversidad de una misma especie, así como la resistencia a plagas distintas, sin

necesidad de químicos. Si la excusa es por la seguridad alimentaria, es bien sabido que el problema actual es de la redistribución de los alimentos y demás recursos y del consumo inadecuado que se vive.

Queremos que la economía verde no nos aleje de nuestra mamá y papá porque

deban ir a trabajar

a lugares lejanos, por largo tiempo y con

poco dinero,

queremos crecer con nuestras familias, para que exista un verdadero desarrollo.

Se debe garantizar a las mujeres del mundo oportunidades tanto educativas como laborales dignas, que permitan el libre y completo desarrollo personal e intelectual

de cada una, para generar hogares equitativos, felices y con las suficientes para formar mejores seres humanos.

herramientas

Necesitamos que los

países desarrollados comprendan que la calidad de los

productos, alimentos y demás recursos naturales no se pueden homogenizar en

características como clasificación obligada

tamaño, sabor o color. es antinatural, anti-ecológico, esa para los productores al momento de negociar en los

mercados internacionales, ocasiona desperdicio de demasiados recursos y alimentos en un mundo donde los porcentajes de pobreza y desnutrición son inmanejables. Las reglas de mercados deben ser más justas.

Se debe garantizar el cumplimiento de la normatividad vigente especialmente en temas como los niveles de sustancias nocivas vertidas a las fuentes hídricas, el manejo de los residuos sólidos, las emisiones de sustancias química que afectan

la calidad del aire y prácticas industriales entorno natural.

demás impactos ambientales ocasionados

o tecnologías sucias que afectan la salud

por las malas humana y el

El acceso de agua potable debe ser equitativo para todas las p mundo como derecho fundamental garantizando un mínimo vital cada habitante.

blaciones del de agua para

Se debe promover

el consumo responsable encabezado por los países

desarrollados que consumen más por persona.

Financien y/o acepten como parte de pago de deuda externa

proyectos de

investigación, recuperación y conservación de la biodiversidad, sin embargo los

estados deben asegurar la conservación de la biodiversidad

nativa y los

ecosistemas, haciendo partícipe de este proceso a las comunidades que conviven con flora y fauna de vital importancia.

#### **NIt. 900296806-4**

Controlar de manera efectiva y eficaz la deforestación de los bosques y las riveras de fuentes hídricas, así como garantizar la compensación y/o restauración de los recursos explotados indiscriminadamente.

Fomenten la responsabilidad y control en la producción minera y de hidrocarburos.

Produzcan y difundan

información accesible en términos técnico, de lenguaje e

idioma para asegurar la participación informada de los niños y garantizar el derecho al acceso a la información.

Garanticen el cumplimiento del principio de precaución en el comercialización de nuevos productos por parte de las empresas.

jóvenes para

desarrollo y

Desarrollen sistemas de administración de residuos sólidos urbanos sostenibles, con la implementación de políticas públicas de educación y concienciación para reducir la producción de residuos.

Generen un Plan de

Acción Global en donde se definan estrategias, principios,

metas e indicadores

en materia de educación ambiental tanto

en espacios

formales como no formales, contando con la participación y experiencia de las

Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil.

Adopten la Educación Ambiental como proceso y espacio de recuperación de

tradiciones culturales

y el respeto por la identidad territorial,

incluyendo y

empoderando a grupos vulnerables.

Apoyar, promover y difundir el uso de tecnologías de producción más limpia en todas las industrias.

Aumentar la vigilancia y sancionar fuertemente la industria de la construcción al

momento de generan

proyectos de vivienda, vías, zonas recreativas, etc, que

afecten áreas de gran valor ambiental o donde las características ambientales o del suelo no garanticen la viabilidad de estos proyectos.

**4.1.3 ¿Qué opiniones existen sobre la implementación y sobre cómo reducir los desfases al respecto? ¿Cuáles son los agentes pertinentes cuya participación se**

contempla (gobiernos, grupos principales específicos, sistema de  
Unidas, instituciones financieras internacionales, etc.)?.

Las Naciones Unidas deben apoyar al fortalecimiento de ONGs de j

**las Naciones**

venes que no

tienen experiencia pero si muchas ideas sencillas para cambiar al mundo,

deberían hacer convenios con industrias y gobiernos para incluir

el trabajo de

estas ONGs con las

instituciones financieras internacionales que conocen y

promover las redes de trabajo para potencializar ideas y esfuerzos.

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Es necesario el apoyo económico y logístico a las ONG que trabajan por la

sociedad en pro del recursos.

desarrollo sustentable, así como facilidades

para obtener

Los gobiernos deben crear políticas de juventud, ambiente y empleo articuladas, con jóvenes calificados para elaborar proyectos y hacer seguimiento adecuado desde las instituciones públicas.

Actualmente no hay

áreas específicas en las instituciones gubernamentales y

privadas de jóvenes que promuevan un trabajo intergeneracional en la sociedad, por lo que se deben crear en principio en los Ministerios de Ambiente y del Interior, así como en las agencias internacionales.

Disminuir las restricciones en la entrada de productos perecederos por apariencia.

Elaborar convenios investigación.

para la generación y el uso de energías

alternativas e

Incrementar significativamente los incentivos y la inversión en

infraestructura

sostenible y energías renovables, disminuyendo como medida urgente y prioritaria la inversión en energías no renovables o de alto impacto en el ambiente.

Los desastres naturales son un problema grande en los países

de desarrollo,

debido a la poca planificación con recursos escasos de los entes públicos y a la corrupción, por lo que deben aumentar las ayudas internacionales a los países para estos temas ambientales, y para la fiscalización de recursos.

Las ayudas internacionales no deben apropiarse de los recursos do

ados a través

del pago de profesionales extranjeros que desconocen las realidades locales y gastan gran parte de los recursos.

**4.1.4 ¿Qué mecanismos de cooperación específicos, arreglos de asociación u otros medios de implementación están previstos utilizar y cuál es el plazo pertinente para que se adopten las decisiones propuestas y se apliquen las medidas?**

Para lograr el desarrollo sustentable es necesario involucrar a los actores sociales locales con respeto de sus creencias y apropiación de recursos territoriales, por lo que se debe evaluar el tema de las patentes dándole reconocimiento a los derechos de las comunidades locales ya que gracias a ellos los recursos naturales patentables existentes. De ser lo contrario las poblaciones locales deslegitiman las patentes y crea violencia y pobreza.

Los países desarrollados deben reconocer con respeto la autonomía de los países en vía de desarrollo, ya que los primeros llegaron invasivamente a matar y hacer atrocidades a estos países en épocas antiguas, y nunca han solicitado perdón lo

que se observa con

un maltrato actual entre las sociedades extranjeras, con

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políticas discriminación y de inmigración que repiten la historia

y lesiona los

derechos humanos de todos independientemente de la clasificación que de por sí es discriminatoria. Esto se debe solucionar para que exista una cooperación real entre países.

Reconocer el papel

de las ONGs como acercamiento entre las instituciones y

organizaciones con la sociedad civil, asignando presupuestos anuales.

En países en vía de



desarrollo se observa que las Naciones Unidas realizan

convocatorias para proyectos en los que no se publican transparentemente los resultados, ya que los encargados de las asignaciones ceden los contratos a sus propios familiares, haciendo corrupta la organización. Es necesario reglas contra

estas conductas que

impiden la actuación de las Naciones Unidas

s real con la

sociedad civil. Tiempo: Inmediato y permanente.

La cooperación sería más ágil e impactante si aumentarán el número de población beneficiada y los proyectos fueran ejecutados por ONGs locales que conocen a la sociedad civil.

Respeten, protejan y

revaloricen los conocimientos de tecnologías ancestrales,

reconociendo la propiedad intelectual de las comunidades originarias.

Impulsen un acuerdo internacional para promover medios

de transporte

sustentables, incluyendo a la bicicleta como forma de transporte preferente en las ciudades.

Se observa de lo

anterior que muchos temas ya habían

sido tratados

anteriormente en Cumbres, foros, encuentros y otros, posiblemente porque la

sociedad civil ha sido

no participativo, por lo que solicitamos que las cumbres no

sean a puerta cerrada, sino SEAN ABIERTAS Y TRANSMITIDAS

EN VIVO EN

CADA IDIOMA, se ratifiquen y cumplan en los tiempos acordados los protocolos y tratados firmados a nivel internacional.

Den jerarquía institucional de máximo nivel a la autoridad ambiental nacional, incluyendo la transversalidad y amplitud de competencias, ya que los interés

económicos prevalecen sobre los socioambientales, lesionando

juventud.

a la niñez y

***Agradecemos a todos los jóvenes, ONGs, y demás organizaciones***

***Colombianas e Internacionales que colaboraron con la suministrada, el apoyo y la difusión de este documento.***

***información***

**CORDIALMENTE: CORPORACIÓN JÓVENES DE AMBIENTE**

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## Oregon State Bar Sustainable Future Section

Rio + 20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

October 30, 2011

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Subject: Input for the Rio 20 Compilation Document

As the Executive Committee of the Sustainable Future Section ("the Section") of the Oregon State Bar<sup>1</sup>

Law is an essential element when addressing the two themes of Rio 20: "green economy" and "the institutional framework of sustainable development". As Our Common Future explains, in the United States of America, we write to request that the Rio 20 Compilation Document include the reasons and the manner in which the legal profession can join forces with other economic and social actors to promote sustainability. Lawyers can educate clients by including sustainability as an aspect of legal counseling, and lawyers can, and must, change their own practices to make them more sustainable.

"Sustainability requires the enforcement of wider responsibilities for the impacts of decisions. This requires changes in the legal and institutional frameworks that will enforce the common interest. Some necessary changes in the legal framework start from the proposition that an environment adequate for health and well-being is essential for all human beings including future generations. Such a view places the right to use public and private resources in its proper social context and provides a goal for more specific measures." Our Common Future Art. 76, available at <http://www.un-documents.net/ocf-02.htm>.

Indeed, Annex 1 of Our Common Future is a "Summary of Proposed Legal Principles for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development Adopted by the WCED Experts Group on Environmental Law". <http://www.un-documents.net/ocf-a1.htm>. Notwithstanding the key interaction between law and sustainability, lawyers in general have not yet played a significant role in the sustainability movement and its growing impact on social goals and behaviors.

We feel it is essential to examine the important role lawyers can play regarding sustainability in the Rio 20 Compilation Document. Traditionally, law as a profession has been regarded by many as reactive, that is, lawyers follow their clients in the decision-making process. Yet lawyers help clients make fully informed decisions. A lawyer educated about sustainability is able to provide clients with information on the impact of clients' decisions in terms of advancing or hindering a green economy and operating within an effective institutional framework for sustainable development. The Oregon State Bar provides a model that can be applied to other professional lawyers organizations, and the Sustainable Future Section provides a model to educate lawyers in sustainability and to facilitate integrating sustainability into the practice of law. This paper explains specific actions that were effective in creating the Oregon model so that they can be imitated.

Oregon State Bar Task Force on Sustainability

After years of growing interest among individual Oregon attorneys and attorney groups, in 2008 the Oregon State Bar Board of Governors ("the Board") commissioned a task force of Oregon lawyers to review and make recommendations to the Board relating to sustainability. The charge required the task force to consider the Bar's internal operations and carbon footprint, consider how to educate and encourage lawyers and law firms in sustainability, consider how the Bar should integrate sustainability

into the Bar structure and whether, and how, the Bar should be concerned about the rights and opportunities of future generations, consider the judiciary's and the administration's use of resources, and make recommendations regarding all of the above. The task force fulfilled its charge and submitted a Sustainability Task Force Report in 2009 recommending a framework by which the Bar and individual lawyers could incorporate sustainability into the legal profession and individual law practice. The report recommended that the Bar's governing body adopt a bylaw that would include considerations of sustainability principles, form a "Sustainable Future Section" for lawyers to study and educate lawyers in the application of sustainability to law and law practice, and evaluate the Bar's carbon footprint and determine how to lessen that impact.

1. Bylaw:

In October 2009, the Board added Article 26 to the Oregon State Bar Bylaws:

"The Bar supports the goal of sustainability, generally defined as meeting present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Because Bar operations and the practice of law impact the environment and society generally, the Bar will be cognizant of sustainability in its internal operating practices as well as in its service to members. Internally, the Executive Director will designate a sustainability coordinator for Bar operations, will encourage continuous sustainability improvement in Bar operations, and will report to the Board of Governors at least annually on progress and impediments. In the practice of law, principles of sustainability may

be important in addressing competing economic, social and environmental priorities that impact future generations. The Bar will encourage education and dialogue on how law impacts the needs and interests of future generations relative to the advancement of the science of jurisprudence and improvement of the administration of justice."

## 2. Sustainable Future Section:

With approximately 290 lawyer members, the Section is devoted to the relationship between sustainability and law. The Section supports sustainability by providing institutional expertise to the Oregon State Bar and its members, educating attorneys and other legal professionals on sustainability and its integration into the law and on best office practices, and promoting dialogue on how law interfaces with the needs and interests of future generations. The Section provides opportunities for the judicial branch and Bar to engage in constructive dialogues about creating new legal frameworks around sustainability and in facing the daunting challenges of climate change.

Among the Section's activities, it has begun study groups focusing on topics such as emerging sustainability criteria in requests for proposals involving legal services, and the feasibility and effect of creating a state office of legal guardian to analyze how proposed legislation and administrative rules might impact the environmental interests of future generations. A 2009 report exploring this latter topic in depth is "Recalibrating the Law of Humans with the Laws of Nature: Climate Change, Human Rights, and Intergenerational Justice".

To educate lawyers, the Section maintains a website (<http://osbsustainablefuture.org/>), produces a quarterly newsletter, and organizes one- to two-hour legal education programs on a variety of topics directly related to sustainability. Examples of topics covered in the newsletter include: "The Law Office Sustainability Policy", "The Ethical Dimensions of Sustainability", and "The Precautionary Principle". Program topics have included "How Sustainability is Transforming the Practice of Law", "Should the Oregon Constitution be Amended to Protect the Environmental Rights of Future Generations?", "The Paperless Office", "Human Right to Water", and "Ecosystem Services". Continuing legal education credits are available for most programs sponsored by the Section. In addition, in 2010, the Section created Sustainable Leadership Awards to recognize the exceptional contributions of lawyers and law firms in advancing sustainability. The Section is in the process of creating a Partnership in Sustainability program to recognize law firms implementing and maintaining sustainable office practices that satisfy criteria established by the Section.

## 3. Carbon footprint:

The Oregon State Bar office operates for 60 hours a week with 135 workers on the main shift and 135 personal computers, serving approximately 17,500 members in Oregon, other states, Washington D.C., U.S. territories, and other countries. The Sustainability Task Force Report and subsequent carbon footprint reports provide the Bar information on the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions result from its operations and key actions the Bar can take to conserve resources and reduce this impact.

## Conclusion

Lawyers may assist their clients in two ways to advance the themes of Rio 20 and sustainable development: we can educate clients, and we can reflect sustainability values in our own operations as individual professionals and as a profession as a whole. The example of the Oregon State Bar demonstrates how lawyers can do this. With information and awareness of the relationship between law and sustainability, lawyers can further sustainable development by helping craft legally sound frameworks for the private and public sectors to implement the steps that will undoubtedly be a product of Rio 20.

Thank you for considering this input.

Sincerely,

Oregon State Bar Sustainable Future Section, Executive Committee

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## Oxfam

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

1. Oxfam expects governments to make the Rio+20 outcomes a cornerstone, marking an unequivocal change of course towards an era of more sustainable and inclusive economic development in which the struggle to end poverty is a central concern of all. Governments should view Rio+20 as an opportunity to:

Set the vision for 21st century development, and agree to establish the measures, goals and institutions required at national and international levels to shift economies and, more broadly, our model of development, onto more sustainable, equitable pathways.

Identify areas where on-going multilateral action is needed to manage shocks and scarcities so as to minimise their impacts on poor and vulnerable communities.

Engage and inspire citizens and civil society both to contribute directly to sustainable consumption and production patterns, and to support strong governmental and intergovernmental action necessary to achieve these.

#### 2. Specific proposals that could help deliver such an outcome include:

Development of, and agreement on, new indicators of economic progress, additional to GDP, focused on well-being and equality, on building social, human and economic wealth, and preserving natural resources.

Replacing the existing, broken food system, with one that is equitable, sustainable and resilient by focusing on key hotspots of: food and nutritional security; land grabbing; the impacts of food price volatility; patterns of distribution and consumption; investment in smallholder agriculture, and in women producers in particular, and; agro-ecological approaches that value and invest in soil, water, forest and biodiversity conservation.

Establishment of new energy goals that expand affordable energy access by the poorest people, and incentivise renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Introduction of measures to raise resources for sustainable development-related issues from new and additional sources such as a fair carbon charge on international transport and/or a financial transactions tax to generate financial flows to combat climate change and poverty eradication.

Reforms geared towards enhancing global institutional co-ordination and coherence – in particular to mitigate, and respond to, resource-related crises and risks, such as food and climate shocks, while increasing transparency and expanding civil society participation.

More detailed proposals that Oxfam believes merit special attention as part of the Rio+20 outcomes are described in the Annex to this document (below). The Rio+20 outcome document needs to provide space for tried and tested policies which will ensure a just transition to sustainability, as well as innovations. Both will require a special focus on international and national policies to protect poor people's rights and interests, especially rules to improve secure access to natural resources, such as land, water, and other critical resources.

3. In order to deliver expected outcomes, the structure of the outcome document will need to include:

Overarching principles for a new prosperity in which resources are shared, resilience is built, and wealth and power are distributed to the many, including a re-affirmation of the Rio Principles agreed in 1992.

Time-bound goals and targets, including related economic estimates, to give meaning to the intentions expressed by governments.

A place for action-oriented proposals, such as those mentioned under #2 (above), including specific provisions for means of implementation and follow-up.

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

**Green Economy Roadmaps**

Poverty eradication, equity, and resilience must be central – not supplementary – to any vision of and/or approach to more sustainable and inclusive economies, no matter how they are described. Oxfam believes that it is critical to ensure key principles of fairness are at the heart of the vision. In particular, this includes:

Expanding access and protecting poor people's rights to natural resources. People in rural communities are especially reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods and resilience, yet their access to, and rights over, these resources are often inadequate and insecure. Rio should endorse an approach, which ensures effective regulation to protect people's rights to these assets, and creates benefits.

Promoting gender equity. Rural women in developing countries have long experienced unequal and insecure access to natural resources, while depending disproportionately on them. Supportive policies include, for example, securing women's land rights or designing energy services to meet women's needs.

Ensuring a just, resilient transition to cope with industrial change and increased shocks and stresses from volatile commodity prices (oil, food) and as climate change gathers pace. Policies need to ensure the transition is fair and increases resilience (e.g. promoting jobs for low-income workers, using social protection measures effectively).

Ensuring fairness in global efforts to manage natural resources. Equitable burden-sharing between countries has long been accepted as both ethically just and politically necessary for a global climate deal. As the world starts to hit limits for other key resources (e.g. land, water), the issue of „fair shares" in consumption may become relevant to these as well.

Voice and participation. Ending poverty will remain elusive so long as people living in poverty are excluded from the decisions their lives depend upon. Participation and accountability have long been emphasised as critical for sustainable development, but in many countries these remain weak. For instance, discussions on new low-carbon strategies can be highly technical, skewed by elite interests or focused on technology solutions not suited to poor people's needs. Roadmaps should make a specific effort to include marginalised groups, build their understanding of the issues and their capacity to hold governments to account. Global institutions must also open themselves to the same principles.

Roadmaps will need a clear destination for what they are trying to achieve. There is no coincidence in the fact that crises of sustainability and equity are occurring after decades in which economic growth has been almost universally pursued as a goal in and of itself. Any new roadmaps must begin by setting course for a destination in which economies are managed to both respect the biophysical limits of the planet's natural resource base and deliver a set of social development goals – including universal access to health and education, progressive taxation, gender equity, expanding access to productive agricultural land. Both aspects are critical to ensuring equity, and end to poverty.

Any roadmaps need to point in the direction of absolute decoupling of resource use from economic growth, while equitably expanding access for people living in poverty. A key marker for the sustainability of a country's economic development path is, in the first instance, the extent to which it has decoupled economic growth from resource use in

absolute terms. That is, in order to achieve environmentally sustainable economic growth at the global scale, global use of natural resources must fall while GDP continues to rise (relative decoupling, where GDP grows faster than growth in resource use, is insufficient). Given that the planet's renewable resources are already being used far beyond sustainable levels, absolute decoupling is needed quickly in order to prevent irreversible environmental damage.

## Sustainable Development Goals

Discussion of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) must not divert political attention delivering and investing in achieving the MDGs between now and 2015.

To serve as meaningful indicators of progress, any sustainable development goals will need to address the absence in the MDGs of measures to address inequity, as well as the absence of targets and policies that ensure environmental sustainability. Over the next decade we need a very rapid transition to a new model of prosperity, which delivers growth that both respects planetary boundaries and has equity at its heart.

Rather than adding a new set of indicators in parallel to the existing Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), new proposals for sustainable development goals should aim to serve as a comprehensive framework for the post-2015 period, ensuring that the issues covered by the existing MDGs feature prominently in the coming period.

There are a range of options for defining the scope and content of any SDGs. One option which appears to merit further examination may be to structure these around two critical, inter-locking principles: planetary boundaries, and a social development threshold. In other words, taken as a whole, the selection of goals and objectives could define a safe and socially just operating space for humanity and help measure progress towards that end.

Experience shows that global goals need to be rooted in national indicators and developed through comprehensive participatory processes. To help ensure accountability, any global goals or objectives defined would need to be enmeshed within a set of national indicators. Such indicators could also be used to complement Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and transform the current (limited) understanding of economic progress. Information must also be made public, and widely accessible.

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### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

Innovative finance for climate change and poverty reduction

A fair green transition will require a mobilisation of public finance on a massive scale to leverage private investment and so help "close the implementation gap." As well encouraging rich nations to meet their commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on development aid, Rio+20 is an opportunity to get agreement and backing for innovative finance mechanisms. Two mechanisms that are gaining political momentum among governments (in the EU, G20, UNFCCC) and are supported by many expert reports are:

Revenue-raising from tackling international transport emissions. Schemes to cut air and shipping emissions, which are currently unregulated, could raise more than US\$15bn each year. This should be used to address climate change adaptation and mitigation in poor countries.

A tax on financial transactions. An average tax of 0.05% on all transactions between financial institutions could generate US\$400 billion worldwide for poverty-reduction and climate change – and help address the risks of high frequency trading. Several countries already levy certain types of financial transactions tax.

What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

Reforming institutions, rules and processes is vital, since „unsustainability“ is largely a result of weak governance at all levels (global, regional, national, local). The existing ideas for a minor reconfiguration of the UN system being discussed by governments for Rio+20 fall short of what is needed to achieve the transformational changes sustainability requires. Governments need to:

Assert firm backing for stronger multilateral governance needed to a) assess and regulate resource use so these remain within safe environmental limits and are shared fairly; b) mobilize investment to public goods and shift the behaviours of business and consumers; and c) protect vulnerable people by limiting risks and building resilience to shocks. Specifically, establishment of a global framework with robust international standards and accountability mechanisms to help regulate transboundary access to land, water, and other critical resources is important.

Prioritise the need to build resilience to shocks and stresses as a new challenge for the international system. The frequency and intensity of shocks (financial, economic, food, environmental, weather-related etc) experienced by poor communities are increasing, but without any major advances in resilience. At an international level, a resilience agenda would involve, for example, more leadership and investment on Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction and exploring a multi-stakeholder initiative to develop a Common Resilience Framework – needed to harmonise currently un-aligned interventions across development, risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

Focus on improving co-ordination and coherence in the short-term. Institutional silos and fragmentation between different parts of the international systems continues to be a key problem – leading to wasted resources, lower impacts and short-lived or conflicting outcomes. More joint work between agencies on cross-cutting issues, like food or energy security, to create shared goals, develop and share data, and build common analysis and responses is vital.

Play the „pathfinding“ role to see where future deals are needed in the long-term. There are some areas where future agreements and co-operation will be needed, but

understanding of the issues or solutions may be limited, or political consensus does not yet exist (e.g. food price volatility, soil degradation, water grabs, „fair shares“, conflict-related resource shocks etc). Rio+20 provides a space to identify these gaps and tensions, the different interests at stake, and agree initial steps to address these – for instance, by commissioning assessments of the readiness of existing institutions and agreements to handle future stresses.

Formalize means by which civil society can contribute to international decision-making processes relevant to sustainable development.

Ensure global institutional support for the future that already exists, in the form of innovative solutions that are sustainably growing greater prosperity today. Organizations, businesses, movements, and networks for a new prosperity are appearing, growing, and connecting up all over the world. Poor farmers" organisations demanding fair shares from national budgets and market chains. Development NGOs working on sustainable agriculture. Environmental organizations calling for a sustainable future. Women"s groups claiming their rights to resources. Communities leading low-carbon lifestyles. Movements, such as Fair Trade, which link ethical consumers and the private sector. Grassroots campaigns calling for the right to food to be respected. The list is long and growing. Mechanisms dedicated to incubating, cross-fertilizing, and disseminating sustainable solutions globally in the coming decade will be essential to realizing sustainable development.

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

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### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Oxfam submission to UNCSD with inputs for the Rio+20 compilation document

Oxfam works with partners around the world to find lasting solutions to poverty and injustice. Currently, we work in more than 70 countries and respond to an average of 30 humanitarian emergencies each year. Our efforts aim to help people realize their fundamental rights to a sustainable livelihood, including decent jobs and access to – and protection of – the natural resources upon which livelihoods depend; to health, education and other essential services; to life and security; to participate fully in the decisions that affect their lives; and to equity, for women, ethnic minorities and others suffering discrimination. We fight poverty and suffering through campaigning, long-term development work, and emergency response. Oxfam is a confederation of 15 different affiliates from around the world (<http://www.oxfam.org/en/about>).

With the 20th Anniversary of the 1992 Earth Summit just months away, Oxfam observes important progress over the past two decades – on reducing poverty, and mainstreaming concerns about climate change and other sustainable development issues – but also a global model of economic development that is still failing to result in more inclusive or sustainable societies. Progress on sustainable development since 1992 has been weak and, overall, threats have worsened.

Whilst millions of people have been lifted out of poverty, the benefits of growth have been unevenly distributed and global income inequality is rising. Hunger levels are almost unchanged from 40 years ago, despite gains in income and agricultural productivity. We have faced two food price crises within 3 years and now a famine in Somalia. A weight of evidence demonstrates that inequality leads to instability, prevents productive investment, undermines institutions of government, and contributed to the financial crisis from which the world is still suffering. Protests now emerging around the world show the extent to which citizens are concerned about this corrosive power of inequality. But only a handful of the world"s leading economies have reduced income inequality since 1990. Women continue to be systematically excluded from economic opportunities across the world.

Life depends on the planet"s natural resources, those we use for food, water and energy, and yet the current trajectory of resource use is appalling. Humanity"s ecological footprint has more than doubled since 1966 and we are using nature"s services 50 per cent faster than Earth can renew them. We have transgressed 3 out of 9 critical planetary boundaries (biodiversity, greenhouse gases, nitrate use). Further natural resource depletion threatens to widen the gross inequalities of today, whereby most resources are consumed by a well-off minority. No country has yet demonstrated that it is possible to achieve high average income with sustainable natural resource use. Only four of the world"s leading economies have reduced their carbon emissions since 1992.

The world"s broken food system shows what happens when policies work only for the few and fail the many, when policies both undermine the natural resources we depend on and fail to address resulting vulnerabilities. Another 20 years of the same won"t only be bad for people living in poverty; it will be bad for everyone. Rio+20 must begin to reverse these trends. It is a rare chance to restore credibility, by getting serious about implementing the solutions that exist already, and concentrating efforts on key sectors that can help catalyse transformational change on a global scale.

What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

1. Oxfam expects governments to make the Rio+20 outcomes a cornerstone, marking an unequivocal change of course towards an era of more sustainable and inclusive economic development in which the struggle to end poverty is a central concern of all. Governments should view Rio+20 as an opportunity to:

Set the vision for 21st century development, and agree to establish the measures, goals and institutions required at national and international levels to shift economies and, more broadly, our model of development, onto more sustainable, equitable pathways.

Identify areas where on-going multilateral action is needed to manage shocks and scarcities so as to minimise their impacts on poor and vulnerable communities.

Engage and inspire citizens and civil society both to contribute directly to sustainable consumption and production patterns, and to support strong governmental and intergovernmental action necessary to achieve these.

2. Specific proposals that could help deliver such an outcome include:

Development of, and agreement on, new indicators of economic progress, additional to GDP, focused on well-being and equality, on building social, human and economic wealth, and preserving natural resources.

Replacing the existing, broken food system, with one that is equitable, sustainable and resilient by focusing on key hotspots of: food and nutritional security; land grabbing; the impacts of food price volatility; patterns of distribution and consumption; investment in smallholder agriculture, and in women producers in particular, and; agro-ecological approaches that value and invest in soil, water, forest and biodiversity conservation.

Establishment of new energy goals that expand affordable energy access by the poorest people, and incentivise renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Introduction of measures to raise resources for sustainable development-related issues from new and additional sources such as a fair carbon charge on international transport and/or a financial transactions tax to generate financial flows to combat climate change and poverty eradication.

Reforms geared towards enhancing global institutional co-ordination and coherence – in particular to mitigate, and respond to, resource-related crises and risks, such as food and climate shocks, while increasing transparency and expanding civil society participation.

More detailed proposals that Oxfam believes merit special attention as part of the Rio+20 outcomes are described in the Annex to this document (below). The Rio+20 outcome document needs to provide space for tried and tested policies which will ensure a just transition to sustainability, as well as innovations. Both will require a special focus on international and national policies to protect poor people's rights and interests, especially rules to improve secure access to natural resources, such as land, water, and other critical resources.

3. In order to deliver expected outcomes, the structure of the outcome document will need to include:

Overarching principles for a new prosperity in which resources are shared, resilience is built, and wealth and power are distributed to the many, including a re-affirmation of the Rio Principles agreed in 1992.

Time-bound goals and targets, including related economic estimates, to give meaning to the intentions expressed by governments.

A place for action-oriented proposals, such as those mentioned under #2 (above), including specific provisions for means of implementation and follow-up.

What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

#### Green Economy Roadmaps

Poverty eradication, equity, and resilience must be central – not supplementary – to any vision of and/or approach to more sustainable and inclusive economies, no matter how they are described. Oxfam believes that it is critical to ensure key principles of fairness are at the heart of the vision. In particular, this includes:

Expanding access and protecting poor people's rights to natural resources. People in rural communities are especially reliant on natural resources for their livelihoods and resilience, yet their access to, and rights over, these resources are often inadequate and insecure. Rio should endorse an approach, which ensures effective regulation to protect people's rights to these assets, and creates benefits.

Promoting gender equity. Rural women in developing countries have long experienced unequal and insecure access to natural resources, while depending disproportionately on them. Supportive policies include, for example, securing women's land rights or designing energy services to meet women's needs.

Ensuring a just, resilient transition to cope with industrial change and increased shocks and stresses from volatile commodity prices (oil, food) and as climate change gathers pace. Policies need to ensure the transition is fair and increases resilience (e.g. promoting jobs for low-income workers, using social protection measures effectively).

Ensuring fairness in global efforts to manage natural resources. Equitable burden-sharing between countries has long been accepted as both ethically just and politically necessary for a global climate deal. As the world starts to hit limits for other key resources (e.g. land, water), the issue of „fair shares“ in consumption may become relevant to these as well.

Voice and participation. Ending poverty will remain elusive so long as people living in poverty are excluded from the decisions their lives depend upon. Participation and accountability have long been emphasised as critical for sustainable development, but in many countries these remain weak. For instance, discussions on new low-carbon strategies can be highly technical, skewed by elite interests or focused on technology solutions not suited to poor people's needs. Roadmaps should make a specific effort to include marginalised groups, build their understanding of the issues and their capacity to hold governments to account. Global institutions must also open themselves to the same principles.

Roadmaps will need a clear destination for what they are trying to achieve. There is no coincidence in the fact that crises of sustainability and equity are occurring after decades in which economic growth has been almost universally pursued as a goal in and of itself. Any new roadmaps must begin by setting course for a destination in which economies are managed to both respect the biophysical limits of the planet's natural resource base and deliver a set of social development goals – including universal access to health and education, progressive taxation, gender equity, expanding access to productive agricultural land. Both aspects are critical to ensuring equity, and end to poverty.

Any roadmaps need to point in the direction of absolute decoupling of resource use from economic growth, while equitably expanding access for people living in poverty. A key marker for the sustainability of a country's economic development path is, in the first instance, the extent to which it has decoupled economic growth from resource use in absolute terms. That is, in order to achieve environmentally sustainable economic growth at the global scale, global use of natural resources must fall while GDP continues to rise (relative decoupling, where GDP grows faster than growth in resource use, is insufficient). Given that the planet's renewable resources are already being used far beyond sustainable levels, absolute decoupling is needed quickly in order to prevent irreversible environmental damage.

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To serve as meaningful indicators of progress, any sustainable development goals will need to address the absence in the MDGs of measures to address inequity, as well as the absence of targets and policies that ensure environmental sustainability. Over the next decade we need a very rapid transition to a new model of prosperity, which delivers growth that both respects planetary boundaries and has equity at its heart.

Rather than adding a new set of indicators in parallel to the existing Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), new proposals for sustainable development goals should aim to serve as a comprehensive framework for the post-2015 period, ensuring that the issues covered by the existing MDGs feature prominently in the coming period.

There are a range of options for defining the scope and content of any SDGs. One option which appears to merit further examination may be to structure these around two critical, inter-locking principles: planetary boundaries, and a social development threshold. In other words, taken as a whole, the selection of goals and objectives could define a safe and socially just operating space for humanity and help measure progress towards that end.

Experience shows that global goals need to be rooted in national indicators and developed through comprehensive participatory processes. To help ensure accountability, any global goals or objectives defined would need to be enmeshed within a set of national indicators. Such indicators could also be used to complement Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and transform the current (limited) understanding of economic progress. Information must also be made public, and widely accessible.

What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.).

Innovative finance for climate change and poverty reduction

A fair green transition will require a mobilisation of public finance on a massive scale to leverage private investment and so help "close the implementation gap." As well encouraging rich nations to meet their commitment to spend 0.7% of GNI on development aid, Rio+20 is an opportunity to get agreement and backing for innovative finance mechanisms. Two mechanisms that are gaining political momentum among governments (in the EU, G20, UNFCCC) and are supported by many expert reports are:

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What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

Reforming institutions, rules and processes is vital, since „unsustainability“ is largely a result of weak governance at all levels (global, regional, national, local). The existing ideas for a minor reconfiguration of the UN system being discussed by governments for Rio+20 fall short of what is needed to achieve the transformational changes sustainability requires. Governments need to:

Assert firm backing for stronger multilateral governance needed to a) assess and regulate resource use so these remain within safe environmental limits and are shared fairly; b) mobilize investment to public goods and shift the behaviours of business and consumers; and c) protect vulnerable people by limiting risks and building resilience to shocks. Specifically, establishment of a global framework with robust international standards and accountability mechanisms to help regulate transboundary access to land, water, and other critical resources is important.

Prioritise the need to build resilience to shocks and stresses as a new challenge for the international system. The frequency and intensity of shocks (financial, economic, food, environmental, weather-related etc) experienced by poor communities are increasing, but without any major advances in resilience. At an international level, a resilience agenda would involve, for example, more leadership and investment on Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction and exploring a multi-stakeholder initiative to develop a Common Resilience Framework – needed to harmonise currently un-aligned interventions across development, risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

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Play the „pathfinding“ role to see where future deals are needed in the long-term. There are some areas where future agreements and co-operation will be needed, but understanding of the issues or solutions may be limited, or political consensus does not yet exist (e.g. food price volatility, soil degradation, water grabs, „fair shares“, conflict-related resource shocks etc). Rio+20 provides a space to identify these gaps and tensions, the different interests at stake, and agree initial steps to address these – for instance, by commissioning assessments of the readiness of existing institutions and agreements to handle future stresses.

Formalize means by which civil society can contribute to international decision-making processes relevant to sustainable development.

Ensure global institutional support for the future that already exists, in the form of innovative solutions that are sustainably growing greater prosperity today. Organizations, businesses, movements, and networks for a new prosperity are appearing, growing, and connecting up all over the world. Poor farmers“ organisations demanding fair shares from national budgets and market chains. Development NGOs working on sustainable agriculture. Environmental organizations calling for a sustainable future. Women’s groups claiming their rights to resources. Communities leading low-carbon lifestyles. Movements, such as Fair Trade, which link ethical consumers and the private sector. Grassroots campaigns calling for the right to food to be respected. The list is long and growing. Mechanisms dedicated to incubating, cross-fertilizing, and disseminating sustainable solutions globally in the coming decade will be essential to realizing sustainable development.

Annex: What are the issues that need to be urgently addressed through the Rio+20 process?

Rio needs to go beyond defining a vision and green economy principles by agreeing concrete measures, which can catalyse the shift to a sustainable, equitable economy. Whilst precise goals and actions require further thought and definition, three areas Oxfam already sees as important are: food and agriculture, energy, and alternate economic indicators.

Food security and sustainable agriculture

The food system is under intense pressure to meet demand for a growing population in a world of resource-constraints. Arable land and water resources are being degraded and squeezed by demands for other uses. Climate change is an additional threat. Women farmers“ livelihood security is undermined by highly unequal access to productive resources technologies and services. Investing in smallholders, rural economies and sustainable agricultural practices in developing countries can boost poor people’s incomes, food availability and environmental protection - and provide the „growth spark“ for development. Inclusion in decision-making and ensuring access to land and water, new technologies, agricultural extension, credit, markets and social capital can significantly increase women’s productivity and the food security of their communities. Setting a new course for global agriculture requires multiple interventions and a much stronger role for governments. Some key priorities for action in developing countries, which Rio+20 can support, are to:

Change the terms of debate toward an “ecosystems approach”. Despite significant developments in agriculture, policy remains dominated by an interventionist approach



focused on specific techno-fixes and inputs, such as agrochemical application. However, there is huge potential for low-input, agro-ecological farming techniques to raise yields, improve soil fertility, conserve natural resources and reduce dependence on expensive inputs (e.g. System of Rice Intensification). Several expert agencies and reports advocate these approaches (the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food, UNEP, UNCTAD, FAO and the IAASTD).

Increase and re-align finance flows to sustainable smallholder agriculture. Donors, governments and companies need to increase investment in smallholders, agriculture extension services, conservation agriculture and rural infrastructure. R&D should be redirected toward „technologies of practices" (not just specific products or inputs). All governments should massively increase incentives and support to farmers willing to adopt agro-ecological farming methods. Donors should: (1) commit to invest in food security and sustainable small-scale food production past the I"quila commitment period, outline a clear strategy for spending the money to enable the scaling up of proven sustainable approaches, and measure and report on progress against commitments, specifically in support of smallholders, women, and country-led plans; and (2) set out plans to allocate a minimum of 10% of their ODA to agriculture and food security in order to match the commitments of African governments in the 2003 Maputo Declaration. Perverse subsidies should be dismantled, including biofuels mandates and trade-distorting agricultural subsidies in the EU and North America.

Champion the needs and contribution of women producers. Women produce much of the food consumed in developing countries, yet receive just 7% of total aid to agriculture, forestry and fishing. Inclusion in decision-making and ensuring access to land and water, new technologies, agricultural extension, credit, markets and social capital will dramatically increase women"s productivity and the food security of their communities. Governments should commit to: provide women food producers equal access to inputs, credit, and extension services; implement and enforce existing gender-equitable policies on land rights and tenure; and enact policies that substantially increase access to land and water resources for women.

Refocus agricultural research on food security and sustainability Governments must task the CGIAR research institutions with R&D improvements to orphan crops, robust research on improving agro-ecological practices and food processing technologies, and both quantitatively and qualitatively assessing their impacts on livelihoods and food security. Research institutions must have measurable targets established by local- and country-level needs assessments. They must support research partnerships involving collaboration among poor women and men farmers, extension services, and agricultural scientists.

Rebuild extension services prioritising women smallholder food producers. Governments and donors should commit to support scaling-up of national extension services and focus on capacity building of extensionists, innovations, best practices, participatory processes, and peer-to-peer learning. Developing country governments should commit to an unprecedented push to rebuild agricultural extension services to small-scale food producers to help achieve widespread uptake of agro-ecological practices to address key threats to soil, water, biodiversity and food security including specific approaches and measurable targets to provide services for women food producers.

Focus on key threats to soil, water and biodiversity. Soil health, water availability, and biodiversity are three pillars for a productive agro-ecosystem, yet these are under threat. For instance around a quarter of vegetated land on earth has already been affected by human-induced soil degradation and three-quarters of plant genetic resources – vital to make production resilient to pests and weather shocks - have been lost over the last century.

Promote smallholder access to land, water, other natural resources, markets and information – with a strong role for governments. Smallholder food producers, who know how to produce under the most variable conditions, are being pressured to migrate to cities. Cultural diversity and knowledge about local conditions are declining, as is agro-biodiversity. This wide agenda encompasses, for example, improving access to finance (credit, insurance) and information (market prices, weather forecasting), supporting producer organisations to strengthen their links into value chains, improving land tenure systems and water rights, and investing in on-farm and rural infrastructure (storage facilities, roads, access to basic services) as well as access to social nets and incentives for the youth to remain in their communities. This agenda must have a special focus on women"s needs in rural areas.

#### Energy access and clean energy

There is already strong interest in making the energy sector a focus for Rio+20, which Oxfam welcomes. Transforming our energy systems is essential to cut poverty, meet the Millennium Development Goals, boost growth and help countries cope with rising fossil fuel prices while also limiting the increase in global average temperature to 1.5°C, which is critical to achieving the objective of the UN Climate Change Convention.

Rio+20 should build political commitment by agreeing new energy goals. The UN"s 2012 campaign of Sustainable Energy for All provides a starting point for defining what those goals could be. This aims for, by 2030, universal access to modern energy services, a 40% reduction in global energy intensity and increase of renewable energy use globally to 30%.

Increasing poor people"s energy access should be the priority. On current projections, the numbers of people using traditional biomass for cooking will be higher in 2030 than today and those without electricity access will only fall by a small margin. New goals and investments must focus on the full range of energy services that poor people need, such as energy for lighting, cooking, heating and cooling, access to information and communications, and mechanical power. Achieving universal access will require additional finance of \$35-40 billion per year by 2030, with at least \$15 billion of that needed in the form of grants for the least developed countries.

#### Measures of Progress Beyond GDP

Governments at Rio should champion the development and systematic use of new indicators of economic progress, which can „measure what matters" in the 21st century, far better than GDP has done. A fair green economy will require new measures of economic progress. These can provide a new compass to steer economies and targets for governments and policy-makers. Leading, credible experts and institutions are throwing their weight behind this agenda – from the 2009 Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission, to the work of OECD and UNEP.

New indicators could draw on the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi proposals to: shift from focusing on economic output to measuring income, including its distribution across households; recognise the value of unpaid goods and services, particularly in the care economy and in environmental service provision; and give value not just to the current stream of goods and services but to changes in the underlying stock of assets from which all wealth is generated – a nation"s natural assets (ecosystems, renewable resources), human assets (people"s knowledge and skills), social assets (institutions and community), and physical assets (infrastructure and machinery). Measures and goals on inequality should be a particular focus, given the link between equality, social cohesion, resource use and development. Economies, defined in these broad terms, can grow and progress substantially from where they are today.

## Pachamama Alliance, Four Years.Go and 4YG Media

### Submission to the Delegates to

### Rio + 20 Earth Summit 2012

**From:**

**The Four Years.Go. Campaign**

**The Pachamama Alliance**

**4YG Media, LLC**

**PLEASE READ THIS!**

This submission has been developed collaboratively by the three organizations listed above and represents input from an NGO, a public awareness campaign and a social benefit "for profit" entity.

**Act With Absolute Urgency** In the 20 years since the originally Earth Summit in Rio, **governments have almost universally failed** to meet their commitments and/or accomplish the goals laid forth in Agenda 21 and following documents. This is well documented in many other submissions and reports. (see attachment A – Where we Stand as a Global Family)

The irony is that total wealth is growing, longevity is increasing, more people are healthier than ever before. Deaths due to violent conflicts have dropped to levels unimagined just a few years ago.

And yet, the gap between the elite holders of power and money (the 1% or .1% or .01%) and everybody else is staggering and growing. The evidence mounts daily that while the path we are on may look rosy for now, there are cracks that are on the verge of breaking wide open, producing a global collapse of monumental proportions.

Despite the agreements made in Rio in 1990, humanity remains on a completely unsustainable course. In the best models of future economic activity, as examined by MIT, anything like business as usual leads to atmospheric carbon levels that would almost certainly trigger catastrophic climate tipping points. (MIT published a paper assessing influence on climate change of different scenarios from IPCC, US Govt. Climate Change Science Program and Shell. See report 163, <http://web.mit.edu/globalchange/www>) The "best possible scenario" of smooth transition to existing technologies and almost seamless cooperation of governments outcome produces 650 ppm carbon dioxide equivalent, well beyond any reputable "safe levels" of 350 or 450 or even the old conventional wisdom of 550.

The time for a complete "Remake" of humanity's operating manual is NOW. There will never be a better window of opportunity. In fact we may never get the chance again.

We have the technology, the resources and working examples of the processes, industries, and economic and social systems that will avert these crises, as well as lay the groundwork for a global system in which everyone will prosper, while restoring the vital capacity of the natural ecosystems that we all depend upon for our food, water, and every aspect of robust commerce.

The window of time to implement these solutions is very short. Conservative estimates suggest that we have less than one decade to transcend the irreversible tipping points that "business as usual" has us accelerating toward. The time to confront the finite nature of the living systems of the planet to support a wasteful development paradigm is upon us.

WE DEMAND THAT **YOU** ACT WITH THE URGENCY THAT COMES WITH KNOWING THAT THE WELL-BEING OF ALL FUTURE GENERATIONS OF ALL SPECIES HANGS IN THE BALANCE.

#### **Adopt a NEW WORLDVIEW**

When we say "urgency" we do not suggest a frantic, fear induced, automatically reactive attempt to "do more or better or different" things. What is called for are genuinely transformative measures. As delegates entrusted with the fate of humanity (yes that's the mandate you have been given!) we suggest that you consider that the view of the world that we have inherited from the last 400 to 500 years of reductive science and engineering has led us astray. The world is not a "clock" or a machine. It is not merely a vast materialistic puzzle to be figured out. Nature is not a realm separate from the idealized human realm which exists to do our bidding. We do not live in the insanely inaccurate model of unlimited resources and an unlimited waste depository that current economics assumes. We live in a real, live, vibrantly thriving eco-logy of life. Economy is, in fact Ecology.

Looking from the whole we can see that the life-giving systems have been thrown out of balance by human activity. We now need to restore that balance. It will take a truly restorative approach to act on behalf of the whole.

The perspective that we are asking that you, and we all, take is that of the whole. What we are asking is that you use one principle to judge the policies and agreements that you discuss, debate, support and adopt:

**"Do I, in my deepest heart, from my highest self, believe this policy will lead toward a just, thriving, sustainable way of life for all?"**

WE DEMAND THAT YOU TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE WHOLE – ALL OF HUMANITY, ALL OF LIFE, ALL OF TIME – TO THE VERY BEST OF YOUR ABILITY.

#### **Listen to the best of "Civil Society"**

There is a groundswell of small-scale, autonomous activity to address the issues we face. The existence of over 2 million NGO's, each addressing some aspect of the crises we face and the stunning opportunity before us is but one testimonial that a sea-change is underway. A phenomenon with no central guidance, the imperative to take on our world as it is - and as it could be - has no parallel in history.

This massively self-organized civil uprising is exploring the positive tipping points on our horizon – generating the collective and collaborative awareness and activities that in their aggregate will result in a transformation of how we live and do commerce on this planet. Government must do everything it can to encourage, empower and support these emerging movements. As we write this the "Occupy Movement" is gaining momentum, but government is acting to suppress it. Government is supposed to act on behalf of ALL people, but it is attempting to suppress those who are giving voice to the 99%.

Another source of wisdom that can serve us now is the voices of indigenous groups that have not been tainted by the mechanistic worldview. We are not suggesting a "return to the stone age", by any means. The insights gained by modern science and engineering must be woven into one fabric with the indigenous recognition that we live in a world of connected communion with all beings.

WE INVITE YOU TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE VOICES OF THE PEOPLE, NGO'S AND TO REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DELEGATIONS THAN TO THE SMALL SUBSET OF HUMANITY THAT IS REPRESENTED BY CORPORATE BOARDS OR HEADS OF STATE.

### Adopt These Policies:

We support all of the measures put forth by GreenPeace and many of the measures put forth by other stakeholder groups. At the same time these measures mostly do not go to the core. They do not embody a sustainable worldview.

This is a time for the most unusual expression of courage that humanity as a whole has ever been called upon to make. We must act in cooperation, and toleration, with the greatest of alacrity. We must do something that has never been done before.

ON BEHALF OF THE WHOLE, WE REQUEST THAT THESE MEASURES BE ADOPTED AND INCLUDED IN THE AGREEMENTS MADE AT RIO+20:

- Adopt as a fundamental principle the legal distinction of the Rights of Nature: the recognition that every eco-system, and the natural populations of all species that comprise them, have the right to exist, to persist, and to thrive. A model for this can be found in the constitutions of Ecuador and Bolivia.
- Make Ecocide, the environmental equivalent of Genocide, the 5th International Crime Against Peace alongside Genocide, Crimes Against Humanity, Crimes of Aggression and War Crimes. A proposal has been put forward that defines ecocide as "The extensive destruction, damage to or loss of ecosystem(s) of a given territory, whether by human agency or by other causes, to such an extent that peaceful enjoyment by the inhabitants of that territory has been severely diminished." Include in the criminal activity governments that engage in subsidizing ecocidal activities.
- Embrace and codify the recognition that the healthy natural living environment is a commons. From this commons all economic and commercial activity is afforded. It is a resource to be shared and stewarded by all nations and industries, all peoples and all markets. This commons we all share, and that shares itself with us is to be maintained and enhanced for the benefit of all.
- Create the legal structures that will require all commercial activity to be accountable for its impact on all communities that it affects, and for their operations that do affect us to be transparent.
- Create a new community-based money system that is not based on debt, and does not automatically accumulate wealth in the hands of those who issue currency. Follow the models put forth by BALLE and local alternative currencies.
- Adopt an enforceable policy granting indigenous communities the right of consent for development projects in their territories. The current "right of consultation" has proven ineffective.
- Mandate a transition to an equitable distribution of social goods – the wealth that is produced by all of us working together. Specifically limit the size of the gap between those who have the most and those who have the least. It may take time to achieve a restored balance in wealth around the world, but the current trend must be reversed.
- Transform the World Bank, IMF and UNDP into a new set of governance bodies that represent all people of earth equally to allocate the necessary resources to meet all of the millennium development goals. Put in place criteria to measure whether any proposed and ongoing activity is actually producing a thriving, just and sustainable way of life for all.
- Demand that the UN Security Council be replaced by a body of governance in the United Nations that represents Earth's people.

The above prescriptions are more than ambitious. They require us as a world community to act in concert and concern for one another as never before. The good news is that humanity is actually in the process of turning toward a thriving, just, sustainable way of life for all. There are two pathways, we can either go through collapse, or we can shift and thrive.

The opportunity you have is accelerate that process so that we take the high road of creative design, of collaboration and communion with Earth and our fellow creatures.

We are nowhere near plumbing the depths of the human soul, and our capacity to do what needs to be done, when it is clear that we must act. We have no idea how powerful we may be as human community. An unprecedented awareness that our fates are connected, and that the success of any one of us depends on the success of all, is arising. Information travels faster, and in more channels now than ever before, than ever though possible in our wildest dreams. And before lies the distinct possibility of truly creating a heaven on earth – a world that works for everybody.

Anyone participating in this Earth Summit has the opportunity to be part of making this possibility a reality.

As delegates participating in the decision-making bodies of this Summit, you have a chance to make history that will be celebrated for centuries to come. It is time to transform how we live with one another, and with all life on this one, irreplaceable home we call Earth.

Please refer questions, and correspondence to:

The Pachamama Alliance - Jon Love ([jon@pachamama.org](mailto:jon@pachamama.org))

Four Years. Go. – Mark Bachelder ([markbachelder@fouryearsago.org](mailto:markbachelder@fouryearsago.org))

4YG Media - Jim Kiles ([jimkiles@gmail.com](mailto:jimkiles@gmail.com))

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## Park City

I write to you as an elected representative of a mountain community in the United States, and as a member of the international Mountain Partnership organization. Through local efforts as well as partnerships with communities from around the world, Park City strives to be a leader in forging a more sustainable development path. From declining snowpack levels to widespread anthropogenic threats facing surrounding forest ecosystems, we represent an early indicator of challenges to come for the global community. We also represent the potential, and strong desire for, a reorientation towards true sustainability for mountainous regions.

The City of Park City has taken a number of tangible actions to reduce our carbon footprint and engage our citizenry to do the same. Amidst growing concern about climate change and its impact on our local identity, community members in Park City banded together to support the Save Our Snow initiative. Determined not to let their economic and cultural livelihoods melt away, community leaders have joined together to address the local carbon footprint and promote sustainable development. A "Save Our Snow Action Plan" was completed in 2010 and acts as a guiding document for carbon reduction strategies.

Despite local successes and best intentions, it is clear that much more is needed to enhance the sustainability of communities like ours worldwide. The majority of mountain communities face pressing, near-term ecological threats which harbor dramatic implications for economies and social structures. It is in the face of these challenges that I urge you to position mountain communities as a key part of the agenda for Rio 2012.

Whether in the form of carbon mitigation strategies, climate adaptation, or poverty alleviation, mountain regions deserve a distinct voice at the landmark event in Rio next year.

Sincerely,

Mayor Dana Williams Park City Municipal Corporation P.O. Box 1480 Park City, UT 84060 USA

## Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport

On behalf of the Partnership for Sustainable Low Carbon Transport<sup>1</sup> and various undersigned agencies, multilateral development banks, non-governmental organizations, associations, and businesses, the following statement is submitted for consideration as input to the compilation document which helps to develop the zero draft of the declaration for the Rio+20 Global Conference on Sustainable Development.

Many recent statements recognize the vital importance of transportation in advancing sustainable development, including the Bangkok 2020 Declaration, endorsed by 22 Asian countries,<sup>2</sup> the Bogota Declaration, endorsed by 9 Latin American nations,<sup>3</sup> as well as the Report of the Secretary General to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development 19th Session on Policy Options and Actions for Expediting Progress in Implementation: Transport.<sup>4</sup> Building on these declarations, we urge the CSD, governments, and others to recognize sustainable transport as a sustainable development goal, in and of itself, and to:

1. Adopt a Sustainable Development Goal specific to transportation: Achieve sustainable transport that enables universal access to safe, clean, and affordable mobility.
2. Adopt targets and indicators to measure progress towards sustainable transport and promote the development and adoption of control plans for transport-related pollution:
  - A. Ensure global transport greenhouse gas emissions and transport sector fossil fuel consumption peak by 2020 and are cut by at least 40 percent by 2050 compared to 2005 levels,<sup>5</sup> while ensuring transport contributes to timely attainment of healthful air quality in all cities; Indicator A1: Annual fossil fuel consumption per person for personal transport and annual fossil fuel consumption per ton for freight Indicator A2: Annual transport fossil fuel consumption by mode and related greenhouse gases Indicator A3: Transport-related pollution contributions and number of days cities are in non-attainment of World Health Organization Air Quality Guidelines for key pollutants including Particulate Matter (PM)-10 and PM-2.5, Nitrogen Dioxide, and Ozone Indicator A4: Share of passengers and freight trips and passenger kilometers and ton kilometers by mode and distance-averaged vehicle load factors by mode Indicator A5: Vehicle fleet size, average fuel efficiency and total vehicle-km traveled by mode
  - B. Support the Decade of Action for Road Safety (2011-20) and cut traffic-related deaths in half by 2025
  - C. Ensure universal access to sustainable transport through support for safe, affordable public transport and safe, attractive facilities for walking and bicycling. Indicator C1: Share of passenger trips and passenger kilometers traveled by public transport, walking, cycling, paratransit, car, motorcycle Indicator C2: Daily time spent in travel and share of household income spent on transport by poorest 20% Indicator C3: Proportion of urban roadways with safe walking & cycling facilities Indicator C4: Proportion of population within 1 km of public transport Indicator C5: Ratio of traffic deaths amongst wealthiest 20% to poorest 20% of population
3. Strengthen institutional arrangements to advance sustainable transport: A. United Nations: Enhance UN agency coordination around critical sustainable transport tasks to improve effectiveness in global agenda setting, capacity building, data collection and monitoring of progress, technology transfer, regional development, and cooperation with other sectors: this includes amongst others UNDP, UNEP, UN-HABITAT, UN-DESA, UNCRD and the UN regional commissions. Following the examples of UN-Energy and UN-Water, consider the establishment of UN Transport. B. Development Agencies and Banks: Adopt and monitor (a) sustainable transport targets, (b) goals to advance equitable access for all, and report on these targets and goals. Increase support for sustainable transport capacity building and transport sector climate resilience and adaptation. C. Multi-lateral Carbon Finance Instruments: Foster transport sector contributions to CO2 mitigation roughly equal to its 23% of energy-related carbon burden by improving transport sector access to carbon finance with sector-appropriate appraisal requirements for CDM, GEF, and CIF funds, and a transport sector window to the Green Climate Fund.<sup>7</sup> D. Enhance Private Sector Participation: Foster public private partnerships and implement new business models in support of sustainable transport. E. Capacity Development: Strengthen both current voluntary multi-stakeholder partnerships on sustainable transport as well as intergovernmental processes on transport.
4. Endorse and encourage voluntary country actions for sustainable transport:
  - A. Double the mode share of urban public transport by 2025 relative to 2010<sup>8</sup>; boost walking, cycling, and ridesharing; and aim for a drive-alone light-duty motor vehicle mode share of one-fourth or less.
  - B. Expand and improve bus rapid transit, mass transit, bike lanes, sidewalks, urban public space, information and logistics systems, ridesharing, and regional freight and intermodal facilities.
  - C. Prioritize the provision of avoid-shift-improve strategies, including bus rapid transit, mass transit, bike lanes, sidewalks, urban public space, information and logistics systems, traffic operations and management, transit-oriented development, and regional freight and intermodal facilities over the construction of additional elevated or high-speed surface urban roads.
  - D. Mitigate adverse impacts caused by the provision of improved transport and fairly compensate those displaced by transport infrastructure improvements.
  - E. Adopt new road and urban design standards to prioritize safety, universal design, and use of sustainable transport modes, with incentives, requirements, and funding to spur timely implementation of standards by municipalities. F. Encourage and help fund implementation of sustainable transport and land-use plans for all cities emphasizing transit-oriented development G. Foster institutional capacity building related to sustainable transport and urban development H. Foster opportunities for public-private partnerships and innovative financing for sustainable transport and urban development.
  - I. Shift subsidies and financing priorities from fossil fuels, roads, and private motor vehicles to instead support sustainable transport, targeted user-side-subsidies, and pro-poor development.
  - J. Adopt the polluter pays principle, ensuring revenues from road use fees, parking and congestion charges, and fuel taxes at least fully cover road expenditures and related externality costs.
  - K. Identify and invest in strategies to enhance transport sector climate adaptation and resilience. The Need for Action in the Global Transport Sector at Rio +20: Rapid global economic development and urbanization are fueling massive growth in the demand for transportation. Current practices of meeting increased transport demand mostly by growing automobile fleets and road network capacity are unsustainable. A study for the UN Environment Program estimates that transport-related externality costs in developing countries may range as high as 10% of GDP.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>[8]</sup> Some 1.3 million people die in road accidents annually. Of those who die, 9 in 10 are from low- and middle-income countries and about half are pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists, drawn disproportionately from among the poor. Fatalities are projected to rise 80 percent by 2020 in low- and middle-income countries (just as they fall by 30 percent in high-income countries), 10 at an economic cost to the developing world of up to US \$100 billion a year (equivalent to all current annual overseas aid from OECD countries).<sup>11</sup>

<sup>[9]</sup> Transport accounts for one-fourth to more than 80 percent of various local air pollutants in cities that cause and exacerbate respiratory illness, heart disease, premature death, and cancer. Air pollution is estimated to cause approximately 2 million premature deaths worldwide per year, with more than half of this burden borne by people in developing countries.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>[10]</sup> Studies by the IPCC have suggested that cuts of greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 50 to 85 percent below year 2000 levels will be needed to limit the potential for catastrophic climate change.<sup>13</sup> Yet unless comprehensive changes in policy are made, car ownership will triple to over 2 billion, trucking will quadruple, and transport-related greenhouse gases will grow by 80 percent.<sup>14</sup> A 2-degree Celsius climate protection goal certainly cannot be met without a considerable contribution to CO2 mitigation by the transport sector.

A study by the United Nations Environment Programme shows that sustainable, low carbon, transport initiatives that reallocate just 0.34 per cent of global GDP in support of public transport infrastructure and efficiency improvements to road vehicles have the potential to cut the volume of road vehicles required to support equal economic activity by about a third, diminish the use of fossil fuel by up to a third, and boost transport sector employment by 10 percent.<sup>15</sup> As the transport sector already directly provides 5 to 8 percent of a typical country's total paid employment, with much higher indirect value added and employment in related sectors, there is significant economic development potential from pursuit of such initiatives.<sup>16</sup> The impact of these changes in the structure of transport services on climate change would be to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 by 68 percent below business as usual trends (and about 36 percent below 2010 levels. 16 percent more jobs per unit of investment than new road and bridge construction.

The technologies and policies needed to obtain these sustainable transport benefits are well known, have proven to be effective, and often come at a small or even net-negative cost when accounting for such factors as fuel cost savings and other co-benefits. Yet they do require a commitment to concerted action. Because the transport sector is uniquely critical to all the three pillars of sustainable development – economy, society, and environment – it must be addressed by a sector-specific SDG developed around the above targets. Lacking such a goal, neither development assistance nor carbon-finance programs have focused effectively on many available low-cost opportunities for progress in the transport sector.

The Broader Outcomes of an Agreement on the Proposed Transport-Specific SDG: Achieving the proposed SDG necessitates a global commitment to a set of best practices and strategies contained in new sustainable transport paradigm, known collectively as “Avoid, Shift, Improve” (ASI). The ASI Best Practices focus on avoiding unnecessary motorized trips with smarter planning, pricing, and technology; shifting trips to more sustainable modes through price incentives, better information, and improved service quality; and improving vehicle efficiency with cleaner fuels, improved network management, and more efficient vehicle technology. All the elements of ASI have been demonstrated at scale. Successful examples of this include Bus Rapid Transit, bicycle-sharing and bikeway networks, integrated land-use/transport planning, parking limitations and management, smart parking and car-sharing, vehicle registration quotas, congestion pricing, vehicle emission standards, and intermodal freight and logistics systems.

Prepared by the Partnership on Sustainable Low Carbon Transport in Consultation with and Endorsed by: <sup>[11]</sup> Asian Development Bank <sup>[12]</sup> Bridging the Gap Initiative <sup>[13]</sup> Centro de Transport Sostenable, Mexico

<sup>[14]</sup> Corporación Andina de Fomento (Latin American Development Bank)

<sup>[15]</sup> Clean Air Initiative for Asian Cities

<sup>[16]</sup> Energy Research Center for the Netherlands

<sup>[17]</sup> European Cyclists' Federation <sup>[18]</sup> German International Cooperation (GIZ) Transport Policy Advisory Services <sup>[19]</sup> Global Urban Development

<sup>[20]</sup> Inter-American Development Bank <sup>[21]</sup> International Energy Agency

<sup>[22]</sup> Interface for Cycling Expertise <sup>[23]</sup> Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

<sup>[24]</sup> Stockholm Environmental Institute <sup>[25]</sup> Transport Research Laboratory

<sup>[26]</sup> UITP - International Association of Public Transport

<sup>[27]</sup> University of Twente

<sup>[28]</sup> Veolia Transdev This submission is also endorsed by:

<sup>[29]</sup> International Council on Clean Transportation

## People and Ecosystems Program - World Resources Institute

### Purpose of this Framework Document

One of the two major themes of the 2012 Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) is the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. In preparation for the conference, many countries have moved forward with developing national strategies or roadmaps to guide the transition. There is no one size fits all strategy for making the green economy transition because countries differ greatly in national capacities for economic governance, existing per capita consumption levels, states of technological and industrial development, economic composition, and incidence and severity of poverty.

Nonetheless, a significant outcome at Rio +20 would be broad consensus that the transition to a green economy is a global imperative complemented by commitments from governments at every level to move forward with making that transition happen. To expedite that process, stakeholders at the Rio +20 conferences could agree on a general framework document that provides guidance on what national or sub-national green economy roadmaps should look like so as to foster international coordination and policy coherence. This paper presents suggestions on how that framework document could be structured, and what content it may contain.

Roadmap documents should be prepared with transparent, multi-stakeholder participatory processes that develop evidence-based policy prescriptions. In preparing green economy roadmap documents, it would be useful to include at least seven major elements:

1. Imperative to act
2. Defining the green economy
3. Guiding principles
4. Pathways to the green economy
5. Policy toolkit
6. Financing strategy
7. Enabling conditions

#### I. Imperative to Act – An Economy Out of Balance

An effective way to introduce roadmap documents is by asking “What problems are green economy reforms trying to solve?” and, as a corollary, “What opportunities for economic growth and prosperity do green economy reforms seek to leverage?” Clearly identifying worrisome economic conditions and trends and how the pattern of economic growth has failed to advance the environmental and social pillars of sustainable development is key. Providing a remedy for these conditions and thereby opening the door to new opportunities for simultaneously advancing all three pillars thus becomes the key motivation for undertaking green economy reforms.

##### Problems with the prevailing economy

At the global level, conventional economic development pathways that have been followed for most of the last century have improved lives for billions of people but have generated a number of worrisome conditions and trends that can be synthesized into three fundamental aspects: (1) inefficiency, (2) unsustainability, and (3) inequity.

Inefficiency is manifested in tremendous quantities of waste, in products with short life spans, in production processes that consume far more energy, water, and materials than necessary, in prices that do not reflect true environmental and social costs, in economic activity that does not advance human well-being and in misallocation of capital by public and private actors to investments that fail to yield sustainable development returns. Inefficiency is also manifested in vulnerability and volatility of economies that are overly specialized and trade dependent and thus exposed to price and supply shocks and international financial, economic, and political crises on a regular basis.

Sustainability is jeopardized by the depletion or degradation of the stocks of natural, human, built and social capital on which all economic activity ultimately depends. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment found that approximately 60% of the world’s ecosystem services are being degraded or used unsustainably.<sup>6</sup> Our ability to produce food from the land and food from the sea faces multiple threats in the form of nutrient pollution, climate change, urban sprawl and harmful agricultural and fishery practices.

Local and indigenous ecological knowledge is being eroded as nature-based cultures and language disappear. Proliferating slums are a stark indication of underinvestment in the built capital of cities – vital sanitation, water, energy, and transportation infrastructure on which an increasingly urbanized world must depend. The number of people living in slum conditions has risen from 657 to 828 million since 1990. Investment in all types of capital is hindered by extraordinary levels of both consumer and public debt.

Gross inequalities in income, wealth, and opportunity have steadily worsened for several decades. The U.N.’s World Institute for Development and Economics Research finds that the richest 2 percent of adults now own more than half of all global wealth, with the richest 1 percent alone accounting for 40 per cent of global assets. The vast bulk of the world’s wealth, the study concludes, sits “highly concentrated” in the pockets of a relative few. Persistent poverty, measured through a multi-dimensional lens affects nearly 3 billion.

##### Underlying causes

Roadmap documents should also strive to identify the root causes of inefficiency, unsustainability, and inequity. Some have traced these shortcomings to a series of market and institutional failures inherent to the neo-classical growth models such as externalities, inadequate investment in public goods, competitive barriers, and asymmetrical access to information. Others cite key barriers in the areas of finance, fiscal policy, skills, innovation, public procurement, and planning. Others trace the origins of economic crises to the lack of democratic oversight in the institutions of global and national economic governance.<sup>13</sup> Still others assert that an economy which requires growth in its physical dimensions is doomed to fail on a planet with finite resources.

All or perhaps just a few of these shortcomings and causes may be relevant for any particular country, state, or city. The important point, however, is for roadmap documents to begin with an articulation of the problems green economy reforms are designed to address.

#### II. The Green Economy – What It Is, and What It Is Not

What is the green economy? In the run-up to Rio +20 there has been a wide divergence of opinion on what the green economy actually is and whether or not it provides a useful basis for collective action. To dispel these concerns, roadmap documents should clearly articulate what the green economy is and is not. The United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) defines the green economy in functional terms: “one that results in improved human well-being and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities.” The green economy has also been described in terms of an overall strategy for growth, one that fosters economic growth and development, “while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies.” The green economy has also been described in relation to sustainable development, as an economy that corrects the market and institutional failures of the prevailing economic model and thereby makes the economy a more efficient vehicle for advancing the neglected pillars of sustainable development.

##### Key attributes of the green economy

Regardless of the varying definitions, perhaps the most important task of roadmaps is to draw a distinction between the green economy and the prevailing economy that currently exists. In contrast with the prevailing economy the green economy can be described in terms of three overriding attributes:

1. Efficient – an economy whose growth is decoupled from use of energy, water, and materials in production, includes social and environmental costs in pricing, allocates investment to its highest and best use, and minimizes the stream of harmful wastes and pollutants, including greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Sustainable – an economy that builds rather than depletes natural, human, built and social capital and that is resilient to natural disasters, climate change, political strife, and financial and economic volatility.
3. Equitable – an economy that significantly reduces inequalities in the distribution of wealth, income, and opportunity and ensures that the benefits of growth are distributed fairly and leave future generations as least as well off as the current one.

Characterizing green economy attributes in terms of these three overriding themes would help advance a consistent vision of what a successfully greened economy looks like.

## Safeguards

In roadmaps, it is also important to identify what the green economy is not, and what risks green economy reforms seek to avoid. The green economy is not a new playing field for competition amongst nations, rather, a framework for cooperative action. The green economy is a pathway to and not a substitute for sustainable development. Green economy reforms are not tools for further increasing disparities in technological capacity, concentration of wealth, income, or market share. The green economy is not a one size fits all solution but a framework for solutions appropriate to particular country situations. Nor is the green economy a new basis for conditionalities on aid or international investment or for trade barriers against developing world products. By articulating these safeguards in roadmap documents, countries can help alleviate concerns about business-as-usual strategies disguised as green economy reforms.

## III. Guiding Principles of the Green Economy

What are the principles of the green economy? To establish a basis for evaluating policy and holding decision makers accountable it may be useful for roadmap documents to articulate a concise set of guiding principles of the green economy. The forty year history of major summits and conferences on sustainable development provide a rich body of literature from which to draw, and include principles related to beneficial management of both renewable and non-renewable resources, improving quality of life through economic and social development, protecting natural habitats for their economic values, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, sustainable production and consumption, fair trade, liability for environmental damages, full-cost accounting and many others green economy roadmaps can reiterate.

More recently, the Earth Charter and proposed green economy principles by various civil society organizations also provide guidance. Some common principles address:

- Economic democracy – The green economy transition should be planned and implemented through inclusive and transparent participatory processes consistent with Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration.
- Full cost accounting – Prices, public investments, and policy decisions should fully account for all market and non-market benefits and costs so as to promote decisions that maximize net public benefits.
- Qualitative growth – Growth in the green economy is more about growing the qualitative dimensions of well-being rather than economic activity for its own sake.
- Restoring capital – Stocks of natural, human, social and built capital should be restored rather than depleted to maintain quality of life for the next generation.
- Cooperation – Greater cooperation amongst nations, corporations, workers and communities is key to ensuring that green economy benefits are broad based.
- Resiliency – Diversifying production processes, sources of supply, and employment opportunities is critical for maintaining adaptability in the face of change.
- Fair distribution of benefits – The green economy should place a priority on improving quality of life for those least well off.

## IV. Green Economy Pathways

What are the pathways to the green economy? The core of green economy roadmaps are the pathways countries adopt to make the transition from brown<sup>21</sup> to green. Green economy pathways are cohesive sets of policies and practices implemented to achieve specific green economy goals like replacing inefficient processes with resource efficient ones. Pathways can be sector specific or economy-wide in nature or based on geography or critical issues. Examples include:

- Eco-efficiency
- Low-carbon development
- Livable, walkable cities
- Transforming agriculture
- Investing in natural capital and ecosystem services
- Sustainable production
- Sustainable consumption

Appendix 1 provides a template for describing major attributes of some green economy pathways referenced in roadmap documents and the green economy literature. Differences in initial technological conditions, stage of industrial development, economic composition, geographies, and political systems all make the selection of which pathways to adopt or prioritize somewhat unique to each country. For each pathway selected, roadmap documents should:

### 1. Define the nature of the transition

For each pathway, the precise nature of the transition – or what needs to change – may vary greatly from country to country. For example, for low-carbon development, the amount of renewable energy in a country's electrical generating mix may already be at a maximum, so low-carbon development may mean transitioning predominant transportation fuels from petroleum to biofuels or electricity or significantly reducing personal vehicle use.

Small island developing states may have limited capacity for local agricultural production, so the transition to food security may be more about securing local benefits of commercial fisheries and reducing overfishing rather than replacing a certain amount of crops for export with crops for local consumption.

### 2. Set goals, targets and timelines

An important step in further refining the nature of the desired transition along any particular pathway is to express that pathway in terms of goals, targets, and timelines. To foster accountability, quantitative targets should be developed rather than qualitative goals if possible. The final declaration issued at the 64th annual UN DPI/NGO conference in Bonn contains examples of both quantitative targets and qualitative goals for the green economy that may prove useful in preparing roadmap documents. These include goals and targets for 2020 or 2030 related to sustainable consumption and production, sustainable livelihoods, climate sustainability, clean energy, biodiversity, water, healthy seas and oceans, healthy forests, sustainable agriculture, green cities, subsidies and investment, and indicators.

### 3. Describe current conditions

Pathways have beginning points and end points. End points consist of goals and targets with specific dates for attainment. As beginning points, roadmap documents should characterize current conditions with respect to those same goals and targets. For example, in its Green Economy Report, UNEP noted a current rate of recycling for e-waste of 15% but suggested a worthwhile green economy target of 100%. Qualitative descriptions may also serve as benchmarks for evaluating improvement. For each pathway in

its national green growth roadmap, for instance, the Kingdom of Cambodia explains current conditions qualitatively in terms of challenges the green economy transition seeks to address. With respect to transportation, these current challenges include “increase of vehicles on the streets leading to traffic congestion; lack of affordable and convenient public transport options; violation of traffic rules; little or no control over the number of vehicles; high single occupancy and insufficient provision of facilities for pedestrians (sidewalks, traffic lights, etc.).”

#### 4. Identify, prioritize, and sequence policy interventions

For each pathway, roadmaps should identify policy interventions and how those interventions will be sequenced over time. It may be useful to rank and prioritize policy interventions based on cost and impact. Take low-carbon development as an example. Conservation and efficiency improvements may present high impact options that can be implemented at a low cost, while carbon capture and storage or new biomass plants may have much less impact and cost far more. It would make sense, then, to sequence policies to implement low cost-high impact solutions first.

#### V. Policy Toolkit

What policies could help shift a country toward a green economy? Stimulating the green economy may require a major overhaul of economic policies and incentives. Roadmaps can include an in-depth evaluation of current policies to identify those that promote economic activity that is inefficient, unsustainable, and/or inequitable. Roadmaps could then discuss a strategy for phasing out or converting those policies into ones that foster resource efficiency, more sustainable use of natural resources, and more equitable distribution of income and wealth. Policy options can generally be grouped into four major categories – regulatory based, taxation based, expenditure based, and institutional based.

Regulatory-based approaches rely on the authority of governments to set standards, control land use, and issue permits and authorizations through legislation or administrative actions. Taxation-based approaches include income, sales, property, value added and other traditional taxes but also taxes on resource use and pollution, tariffs, and impact fees. Expenditure-based approaches include all forms of government investments, loans, subsidies, contracting, procurement as well as expenditures on programs that affect economic development such as research and development. Institutional-based approaches are ones related to government and corporate accountability, public participation, and property rights.

The table below identifies some policy tools that roadmap documents can identify and discuss in each major category. As with other roadmap elements, such policies will vary with initial technological conditions, stage of industrial development, economic composition, geographies, and political systems. Policy tools can be mapped into green economy pathways to provide clarity on how the green economy transition will actually be implemented over a specified time period.

#### Sample of Policy Options in the Green Economy Toolkit

(Please reference full submission for Sample)

VI. Financing Strategy How can the green economy transition be financed? Transitioning to the green economy along any particular pathway will necessitate changes in how governments, banks, pension funds, corporations, and even individuals spend, loan, and invest money to build capital and create quality green jobs. It will also require changes in how money raised so that taxes, tariffs, and fees provide disincentives for wasteful, polluting, and unsustainable forms of economic activity. Roadmap documents should specify what those changes should be for both internal (i.e. raised through taxes or tariffs) and externally (i.e. borrowed or invested from abroad) leveraged funds. UNEP recently reported that roughly 2 percent of global GDP per year between 2010 and 2050 would be needed to finance a transition to a global green economy. There are many innovative financing strategies countries are pursuing to achieve their specific green economy financing goals. For example:

##### Redirect harmful subsidies

Subsidies play a significant role in perpetuating dependence on unsustainable goods and services by artificially depressing their prices relative to more sustainable alternatives. Subsidies fall into two major categories – production and consumption - and come in a variety of forms, including preferential access rights, public spending on research, development and infrastructure, import and export restrictions, preferential lending, price controls, tax exemptions, and mitigation of risks. Redirecting subsidies has been widely noted as a promising strategy because it requires no new sources of revenue. Globally, fossil fuel subsidies are estimated to run \$US 640 billion per year, so redirecting even a share of these towards renewable energy solutions may have a major impact. Roadmap documents could identify all the ways harmful activities are now subsidized and propose long-term strategies for redirecting them to promote the green economy transition.

##### Implement ecological tax reform

Eco-taxes are a strategy for internalizing the externalities associated with pollution, waste, and unsustainable consumption and resource use. Roadmap documents can identify priorities for policy experimentation. The number of successful eco-tax programs that have yielded broad sustainable development benefits is growing. In 1999, Germany introduced its Ökosteuer or ecotax which shifted the tax burden away from labor costs to tax the consumption of oil and electricity use. The revenue from the tax is used to lower pension contributions and promote renewable energy. The ecotax has led to reduced fuel usage, lower emissions, growth in renewable energy and the creation of new jobs.

##### Collaborate with patient capital

Pension funds, insurance companies, and mutual funds are often regarded as holders of “patient capital” that could be an invaluable source of investment for the green economy. In the OECD alone, these investors held over \$65 trillion as of the end of 2009. These entities are also sensitive to environmental risks, and have a business interest in reducing it. For example, in response to climate concerns, HSBC Insurance established a “green insurance” program in Brazil, Argentina and Mexico that put a segment of the premium paid by insurance policy holders towards forest preservation. With an emphasis on the long-term, institutional investors are more open to investments that reap sustainable development benefits and not simply the highest financial return. Roadmap documents could identify ways policy-makers could collaborate with these investors to match patient capital with opportunities for green growth and sustainable development.

##### Develop micro-finance and micro-insurance programs

Green economy finance does not always need to be in large installments. Micro-finance and micro-insurance programs are often more appropriate and effective in improving economic conditions in impoverished areas and supporting clean drinking water, sanitation and energy access. For example, the Grameen Shakti bank in Bangladesh has successfully granted loans supporting solar home systems. The system has also helped to create new jobs (due to improved energy access for businesses) and improve income security for villagers.

##### Prepare green stimulus packages

In the wake of the 2008 economic crisis, many countries opted for stimulus packages that emphasized green technologies, green jobs, and ecological restoration. Globally, it is estimated that \$US 512 billion out of \$3.3 trillion in public stimulus funds were allocated to low-carbon and environmental infrastructure investments. Japan, for example,



announced a \$US 15.4 billion stimulus package in 2009 to foster environmentally-friendly technologies. Roadmap documents could include a long-term needs assessment that would serve as the basis for future stimulus spending.

## VII. Enabling Conditions

What enabling conditions should be in place to expedite the transition to a green economy? Enabling conditions establish a general economic environment that makes green economy reforms possible, and effective. Key enabling conditions may include good governance, compatible trade regimes, technology transfer, regulatory authority, new indicators of progress, innovation, green workforce skills, education, and policy coherence. For state and local governments, the most important enabling conditions may be provided by national governments – for example, the authority to implement certain kinds of taxes or impose certain regulatory constraints. For national governments, the most important enabling conditions may relate to supportive trade regimes or international programs for transfer and dissemination of green technologies. There has been a wealth of research on enabling conditions for the green economy that could be incorporated into roadmap documents.

For example, good governance is critical, and has been well addressed in the green economy literature. If a green economy is to be a tool for achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication governments need to highlight the importance of improving national environmental governance. Roadmap documents provide a forum for doing so. Achieving sustainable development will require making policy decisions that involve balancing competing interests and reaching environmentally sustainable, economically sound and socially equitable outcomes. If decision making processes are secret, non-participatory and unaccountable, a few selected and powerful interests will influence policy and developmental decisions. Principle 10 and good national environmental governance which recognizes coordination, efficiency, transparency, engagement and accountability becomes a foundational and enabling requirement for the success of a green economy and sustainable development.

As another example, research on new sustainable development and green economy indicators has been ongoing for decades and provides a basis for roadmap documents to establish metrics that “measure what matters” and hold decision makers accountable for monitoring the effectiveness of green economy reforms. The OECD has proposed a set of indicators capturing major aspects of green growth. These include socio-economic attributes, environmental and resource productivity, natural asset base, environmental quality of life, and economic opportunities and policy responses. The World Bank has launched an ambitious initiative on wealth accounting that incorporates changes in stocks and flows of natural capital and ecosystem services. In the U.S., the State of Maryland recently adopted a Genuine Progress Indicator to supplement GDP, guide policy and provide an indication of how well the state was growing with respect to sustainable development by taking economic costs associated with depleting natural capital, carbon emissions, and inequality into account.

Fostering green innovative capacity is another enabling condition that is considered a high priority. Innovative capacity is defined as how well entrepreneurs are supported in their efforts to find new business models, create new technologies and develop new processes. The key is to find ways to create an environment that maximizes the potential for innovations in either products or processes that result in an environmental gain by way of reduced material, water, or energy use. Policymakers and international agreements are critical for setting the stage for innovation as they can support targets for energy and resource efficiency as well as waste reduction. An innovation is more likely to succeed when the rules of the game are clear and consistent. These rules tell the innovator the bounds within which they must work and the characteristics his solution must include. For example, efficiency standards drive innovators to create and provide products that meet a set of criteria. Japan's Top-Runner program sets energy-efficiency standards for appliances and vehicles higher than the best performance value of each product currently on sale in the market.<sup>40</sup> By encouraging a global “race to the top”, the international community can challenge innovators and entrepreneurs to think outside the box.

By explaining the imperative to act, what the green economy is and is not, what principles on which it operates, pathways, policies, financing approaches and enabling conditions, green economy roadmap documents will provide clear signals that governments are making long-term commitments to make the green economy transition occur. This, in turn, will provide a measure of certainty with respect to future regulatory and policy environments that may help motivate equally longer-term investments by both public and private actors. Preparing roadmaps through inclusive, transparent, and participatory processes will ensure that the transition to a green economy receives widespread public support. For these reasons, a global framework for preparation of green economy roadmaps should be a priority outcome for the Rio +20 process.

Please reference full submission for Appendix

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## People for Solidarity, Ecology and Lifestyle (SOL)

Contribution to Outcome Document of the Rio+20 Conference agreed on by the signing Austrian NGOs

Despite some progress made since the UN Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, human-induced loss of biodiversity, global climate change, desertification, deforestation, acidification of the oceans, overuse of resources, unequal access to resources and many other problems continue. The recent economic crisis and the upcoming shortage of natural resources increase the threat of poverty and human rights abuse especially to the poorest and most vulnerable segments of the world's population - mainly in the global south.

The current economic model promotes unsustainable consumption and production patterns, facilitates an inequitable trading system, has failed to eradicate poverty, assists exploitation of natural resources towards the verge of extinction, and has induced multiple crises on Earth. The urgency to change the roots of our economic model has to be stressed. As civil society we promote fair and equitable sustainable development for all with respect for the limits of our common ecological and social capital.

Emerging countries are in the process of copying the unsustainable development model of industrialised countries and industrialised countries try to secure their already declining economic and political positions. Thereby unsustainable practices are perpetuated while developing countries are relegated to being suppliers of raw materials and confronted with endemic poverty and the effects of climate change.

The current growth-led development paradigm has proven to be unsustainable. It does not need reform but replacement. A true 'green' economy within a sustainable society requires policies that include efficiency and sufficiency and equity. So far there is little sign that the technology and efficiency approach still including the growth-paradigm alone can lead to more equal access to resources and to the reductions in the use and waste of both renewable and non-renewable resources on the scale that is needed to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss, detoxifying our environment and enable us to live within global limits.

Despite agreements at Rio 1992 and Johannesburg 2002 there has been a clear failure to integrate environmental, social and development priorities into economic policies. Social engagement and other elements of “well-being” that are at the core of sustainable human development are still not taken into account when making economic policy. We have to shift from economic growth and increasing consumption to enhancing well-being and equal opportunities for all, within the limits set by nature.

We urge the governments to:

 Establish national roadmaps for a radical transformation towards a zero carbon economy by 2050 that is fully respectful of planetary limitations and the human rights for

current and future generations, based on the fair share of natural resources and CO2 emissions. The necessary changes must be proportionate to a country's contribution to the current problems and its capability to take action.

<sup>14</sup> Establish on a global scale a set of Millennium Consumption Goals (MCGs) for the period 2012-2031 towards establishing an intergenerational right to equitable consumption opportunities. Over-consumption needs to be capped and gradually lowered in order to give the necessary environmental space for under-consumers to meet their basic needs.

<sup>15</sup> Rethink the financing of social security systems currently based on continuous economic growth, which perpetuate the crisis, and with this rethinking start to move towards an economic model that is grounded in sustainable development principles.

## People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty

Greening the Economy in Agriculture: Greening the Economy for Whom?

People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty Input document to the Rio+20 Summit

1 November 2011

Two decades after the Earth Summit, the world is nowhere near its avowed goal of achieving sustainable development for the people. The unbridled extraction and exploitation of resources mainly of developing countries to suit the profit-driven interests of industrialized countries is pushing marginalized peoples, including small farmer holders, pastoralists, women and indigenous peoples, into deeper poverty and misery. The crisis of capitalism has exacerbated the situation of over a billion hungry people in the world while a few take control of the world's resources.

The People's Coalition on Food Sovereignty (PCFS), a growing network of various grassroots groups of small food producers particularly of peasant-farmer organizations and their support non-government organizations, advocates food sovereignty which refers to the inalienable right of peoples, communities and countries to define their own agricultural, labor, fishing, food and land policies which are ecologically, socially, economically and culturally appropriate to their unique circumstances.

PCFS stands for the attainment of a sustainable economy both in the social and environmental sense that allows people to live under an environment that allows, among others, for the determination of their own food and agricultural systems. In this sense, sustainable development as enunciated in the Rio Declarations should mirror food sovereignty.

UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Food Olivier De Schutter in a recent UN assembly hit the nail in the head when he stated that "farmers must not be disempowered labourers in their own land" and that the failure to help small-scale farmers to live decently in farming is a key cause of hunger. De Schutter stressed the need to reverse the thinking that "agricultural development can only occur through large-scale, top-down investments", and emphasized that with "the right support and encouragement, farmers can drive the change themselves." He called on governments "not to shirk their responsibilities...to equip smallholders to rise up the value chain."

The Rio+20 Summit provides an opportunity to do away with production systems that have caused irreversible and irreparable environmental destruction and push for genuinely sustainable systems.

In the agriculture sector, the Greening the Economy in Agriculture (GEA) has been introduced by various development actors, most notably the UNEP in 2008 at the height of the financial crisis. GEA posits two "unique opportunities" on the part of governments, i.e., a significant slice of the multi-trillion dollar stimulus package to revive the global economy by placing these in environmental investments, and that such investments along with domestic policy reforms and development of international policy and market infrastructure can "set the stage for a transition to a truly Green Economy."

The "Green Economy" buzzword that has since been used has been generally described as "one which achieves increasing wealth, provides decent employment, successfully tackles inequities and persistent poverty, and reduces ecological scarcities and climate risks."

While there is as no single definition of GEA yet, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) states that GEA refers to "increasing food security (in terms of availability, access, stability and utilization) while using less natural resources, through improved efficiencies throughout the food value chain. This can be achieved by applying an ecosystem approach to agriculture, forestry, fisheries management in a manner that addresses the multiplicity of societal needs and desires, without jeopardizing the options for future generations to benefit from a full range of goods and services provided by terrestrial and marine ecosystems."

FAO adds that GEA "strives to balance diverse societal objectives, by taking account of the knowledge and uncertainties about biotic, abiotic and human components of ecosystems and their interactions and applying an integrated approach to agriculture, forestry, fisheries and food chains within ecologically meaningful boundaries."

Dissecting the GEA initiative, however, reveals inherent flaws on how its stated goals can be achieved. Continue control by corporate giants and industrialized nations over those in the south are evident using the cloak of environmental protection. For instance, proposed enabling conditions such as tariff imposition and taxes on processes and products deemed not green enough can easily turn into finance conditionalities by northern countries on southern countries.

PCFS thus forwards the following proposals, primarily on the GEA initiative, based on the zero draft guidelines:

1. Food sovereignty is a fundamental principle that should be reflected not only in Rio+20 documents pertaining to agriculture and fisheries but as an overall framework for the genuine sustainability of the world's resources especially for the benefit of developing countries. Food sovereignty embodies self-reliance and self-sufficiency; local and collective methods of production; biodiversity-based, ecologically sound, sustainable methods of production; economic democracy (rights to decent livelihood, food, health, shelter and other basic necessities); rejection of patenting of life and genetic resources; and rejection of chemical intensive, large-scale industrial farming.
2. The Rio+20 outcome document must strive for poverty eradication and not mere poverty alleviation. Doing so must first entail the recognition that the depletion and plunder of the world's resources have been carried out primarily by industrialized countries and their giant companies at the expense of developing countries faced with massive poverty. Poverty eradication therefore needs to be addressed at the structural level. The trickle-down approach has long been proven to be ineffective.
3. The framework of the Rio+20 Summit should be Agenda 21 and other Rio agreements, as well as the Rio Declaration and Rio Conventions. The summit should be a comprehensive assessment and evaluation of these agreements vis-a-vis various sectors. The particular principles of the Rio Declaration that must be given primary focus are the precautionary principle, the principle of prevention, the polluter pays principle and principle 10 on access to information, and participation of civil society. The role of civil society organizations (CSOs) must be accorded due recognition and their recommendations reflected in the outcome document.
4. The Green Economy Agenda as presently crafted is patently corporatized and should be reworked. The target for the world's farmers to "scale up adoption of green

agriculture by partnering with leading agribusinesses" and for the world's top 40 agribusinesses to play this leading role indicate that no fundamental change in development strategy is being carried out. This even gives added justification for agribusiness giants to deepen their stronghold on global agriculture. People-based and biodiversity-based food production systems over corporate industrial agriculture and fisheries must be developed. In the same vein, public enterprises should remain in public control. Privatization must be stopped.

5. Multilateral and bilateral trade policies in agriculture by the World Trade Organization, international financial institutions, and those initiated by industrialized countries that have further opened up developing countries' already weak economies to the world market (which is in tight control by industrialized countries and their corporations) must be reversed. The liberalization of agriculture has made southern countries more food insecure today than in the past and violate their peoples' right to food. The international framework for sustainable development (IFSD) should ensure that multilateral finance institutions and other related bodies respect the right to development.

6. The IFSD should also be translated into the creation of a broad inclusive multi-stakeholder consultative body which shall work for the implementation of Rio+20 resolutions and Agenda 21. It is important for this body to be democratic and participatory, and gives due accord to the important role of civil society organizations.

7. Policies supporting genuine agrarian, aquatic, pastoralist and forestry reforms must be implemented. Biodiverse ecological agriculture that benefits small producers must be promoted.

8. Promotion and commercialization of agrofuels must be rejected.

9. The rights of small farmers holders, pastoralists, women and especially of indigenous peoples must at all times be respected, promoted and upheld.

10. Large-scale, destructive mining must be opposed. As a major industry in manufacturing, major policy reversal is needed to abate the wanton destruction of non-renewable resources that have caused the destruction of indigenous peoples' and small farmers' communities.

11. Serious policy and legislative changes in sectors hardest hit by symptoms of the crisis of global capitalism such as food crisis and climate change must be advanced. Control over natural resources and land tenure by peasants, women and indigenous peoples must be translated into policies for genuine implementation.

12. The GEA initiative should not eclipse and overwrite the intent of the Rio Declaration for sustainable development for the people. The Rio+20 outcome document must reflect the genuine interest of marginalized peoples, especially the small farmers holders, pastoralists, indigenous peoples, and women to have control over the land from which they depend on to live.

Food security and agriculture are integral to sustainable development and must be defined according to the interests and welfare of those who are at the frontline of food production beginning from the grassroots level. Community-based, cooperative farming that use sustainable methods must be promoted. Government subsidies for the promotion of such must be prioritized.

The problems hounding agriculture today – food crisis, high food prices, rural poverty, hunger, malnutrition, large-scale foreign land acquisitions and landlessness, among others – are symptoms of a system that fails to address the needs of a growing global population. The different economic development aspirations of rich and poor countries in the midst of worsening environmental problems can only be addressed by delving into conflicting issues such as trade and debt. The opportunity provided by the Rio+20 summit to address these maladies must not be lost on these basic realities.

Global efforts to green the economy must primarily provide an environment for those hardest hit by the environmental crisis – the marginalized peoples of the world -- to better their socio-economic conditions. It is this yardstick that should serve as blueprint for all multi-stakeholders involved in global efforts for genuine sustainable development. #

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## People's Movement for Climate Change (PMCC)

### PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

#### Submission to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development

Climate change is the result of unsustainable development, and threatens to keep the poor especially in the South to realize their right to develop. Climate change and its impacts are quickly getting worse. Rio+20 must tackle this challenge squarely along with other sustainable development challenges.

The Peoples' Movement of Climate Change (PMCC) is a network of individuals and organizations in the South asserting that solutions to the climate crisis lie in the hands of the people. This submission focuses on elements expected to be included in Rio+20 outcome document. The outcome document should:

- Be guided by the following principles:

- o Sovereignty. People must ultimately have stewardship, access and control over natural resources and the wealth accruing from their use. Nations, communities, and sectors should be able to utilize their resources to meet their social needs, and pursue independent and ecologically sustainable paths to development.

- o Respect for the environment. In using environmental resources, the needs of the people and the planet must take precedence over the pursuit of profits.

- o Social justice and human rights. Unsustainable development is a social justice issue. It entails unjust environmental, social and economic outcomes and human rights violations. Efforts to achieve sustainable development should also achieve social justice and uphold human rights.

- o Responsibility. The environmental and human well-being is our shared responsibility, but the burden to act must be commensurate to one's contribution to causing unsustainable development.

- Put social justice, human rights, and human development at its heart. Ending poverty, inequality and other forms of injustice must not be afterthoughts to sustainable development strategies. At the core of sustainable development is creating societies and forms of development in which all human rights are realized and economic and development benefits are fairly shared leading to human and environmental well-being.

- Recommit countries to the principle of common but differentiated responsibility (CBDR). Recent years have seen attempts to redefine, weaken, or reject CBDR. All countries should reaffirm CBDR in Rio.

- Commit countries to adequate global action. Efforts of countries should not be a patchwork of individual actions that ultimately fall short of what is needed, but must add up to the magnitude of change required at the global level to achieve sustainable development.

- Commit Northern economies and corporations to radically alter production and consumption patterns in order to shrink their ecological footprints to fair and sustainable

levels.

- Commit Southern economies to shift to low-carbon and equitable development paths with the support of compensatory financial and technology transfers from the North and a coherent international economic environment.
- Set a roadmap for the rapid transition away from fossil fuels as energy sources and towards new, renewable energy sources and systems such as wind, solar, geothermal, sustainable micro-hydro, and so on.
- Promote local, ecologically-sound farming led by small farmers that prioritizes achieving food security and self-sufficiency.
- Commit countries to halt deforestation, stop large-scale mining and commercial logging activities by TNCs in the South, and the encroachment of export cash-crop plantations into forests.
- Call for an immediate end of all subsidies and investments by governments and international public financial institutions to fossil fuel projects that will lock the world with carbon-dependent energy, production, and transportation systems far into the future. Redirect public funds to research and investments in developing environmentally-friendly technologies, renewable energy systems, sustainable mass transportation, and so on.
- Commit countries to review, renegotiate, or repudiate unequal multilateral and bilateral trading and investment arrangements that undermine environmental regulations and allow for the unrestricted exploitation, pollution, and destruction of Southern resources by Northern corporations.
- Commit Northern states to deeper international cooperation to support sustainable development in the South through greater sharing of resources (finance, technologies, capacity-building) and coherent trade, investment, finance, aid and technology policies.
- Commit countries to reject false solutions that allow corporations mainly from the North to continue harming the environment and communities, provide new and greater opportunities for profit, and reinforce and expand corporate control over natural resources and technologies including carbon market, carbon offsetting, geo-engineering, nuclear power, megadams, and genetically modified crops.
- Ensure that sustainable development governance is democratic, participatory, and equitable, allowing for the representation and participation of social sectors and marginalized groups.
- Support the institutionalization of democratic planning and participatory management in the use and conservation of resources for present and future production, consumption, and other social uses.
- Call for greater public investment on research and development (R&D) of ecologically sustainable energy, production, and transportation systems, emphasizing participatory approaches and combining formal science with local knowledge.

## Pesticide Action Network Asia and the Pacific (PAN AP)

### CONTRIBUTION OF THE PESTICIDE ACTION NETWORK ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (PAN AP) TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2012 (RIO+20)

#### Assessing the 20 years of Rio

Rio's twin failures 20 years after the Agenda 21 – an unprecedented ecological crisis and the global economy sinking into a protracted depression manifesting in a worst jobs crisis, poverty and hunger, and poor social outcomes – are telling that the direction of Rio+20 should be more than institutional reforms. Global leaders must recognize at this point that the concept of sustainable development has only been a weak undercurrent to the mainstream of neoliberal globalization. Today's global problems – food crisis, climate crisis, ecological crisis and economic crisis – are all brought about by the reckless, profit-oriented patterns of production and consumption that neoliberal globalization has intensified for decades. **Rio+20 is expected thus to extricate itself from the same policies of open multilateral trading system, privatization, capital liberalization and the like on which Rio was originally based.**

This also entails the **rejection of growth indicators such as international trade and development aid, fiscal reforms, market infrastructure, financial mobilization and the like, and market-based solutions such as carbon trading, carbon market, pricing of and investments in natural resources.**

#### Food Sovereignty as a mechanism for sustainable development

**Rio+20 is expected to be framed within food sovereignty**, a progressive concept that represents basic human rights, since sustainable development after all is about the right to self-determination and sovereignty over natural wealth and resources and embodies the whole range of economic and social rights. **Rio+20 is also expected to put premium on ecological limits first instead of aiming for growth and setting limits to growth later – limits that are always applied on people's well-being but not on profits.**

Following these calls for framework thus entails **global policy-making placing due emphasis on the role of agriculture in ensuring that basic human rights and sovereignty are respected. Rio+20 must recognize the role of small-scale, biodiversity-based and ecological agriculture that is being practiced by millions of food producers round the world in achieving both food security and environmental soundness.** This should be the core and foundation of any economy that is aimed at replacing the current one that is in crisis.

#### "Greening" the same old roadmap

The proposal of a "green economy" has many pitfalls for those aspiring for food sovereignty. One of these is the explicit proposal to price natural resources and all other resources of the economy including human knowledge, assuming it would discourage transnational corporations (TNC) plunder, but actually introducing the complete commodification of nature and ecosystem services. The green economy treats nature and ecosystems as tradeable assets, thereby completing the privatization of commons.

It openly proposes the privatization of knowledge, whether common or indigenous, promoting intellectual property rights (IPRs) and patents by citing that such investments in R&D and innovation may generate "innovation rents", which are nothing but royalties. It even assumes that innovations have "global marketability" thus can be patented, licensed and marketed widely. One way thus to curtail this tendency is to **avoid altogether in Rio+20 the discussion of World Trade Organisation (WTO)-plus issues such as IPRs, innovation and resource pricing that remained contentious up to the collapse of WTO talks.**

The green economy is not only picking up lost causes in the failed negotiations in the multilateral trading system but also **pushing for the contentious issues in the climate conferences, including REDD+ (reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation including conservation, sustainable management of**

**forests and enhancement of forest stocks**), which is a mechanism to allow industrialized countries to continue their emissions as long as they pay some forest sector somewhere in the Third World. **This should not be the content of Rio+20 and not extended to ocean carbon or even soil carbon as the green economy proposes.**

**Renewable energy and low-carbon technologies should be promoted and supported. But it should not be within the framework of a carbon market and pricing just to entice investors.** One positive mechanism is the **phase-out of fossil fuel subsidies and replacement by government incentives such as feed-in tariffs, direct subsidies and tax credits** to make renewable energy attractive to investors. Yet, the green economy also proposes these incentives to be attached to the emissions trading scheme, which basically is a system that allows heavy CO2 emitters to just pay for their excess emissions. **Non-market-based solutions and community-managed renewable energies should be explored by Rio+20.**

In agriculture, the green economy relies correctly on the development of smallholder farming, which however is incorrectly pegged at global investments, trade and agri-business.

**Various issues that may have been overlooked or downplayed in the proposal to green agriculture must be the content of Rio+20 discussions. These include trading cartels that control production and trade, ownership and access structures that can get in the way of its goals of increasing productivity and farm yields, shifting farmers' incomes from rents and loan interests to basic commodities and services by freeing them from tenancy and usury.**

**The bottomline of action and outcome indicators of green economy in agriculture must also be reviewed** as these are quite problematic. **These are policy measures that include trade and export policies and payments for ecosystem services through agriculture, whereas a review on the impact of decades-long agricultural trade liberalization and privatization of irrigation and agricultural infrastructure on poor farmers is yet to be done.**

The green economy is also looking at government support where there is none to begin with for farmers to convert to green agriculture and to achieve environmental targets. It is endorsing the IPR regime and liberalization of services by proposing to eliminate barriers to trade in technologies and services needed for the transition to green agriculture.

There is also danger in relying on donor support, specifically official development assistance (ODA), and in openly endorsing the Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investments (RAI) by the World Bank and others, which has served as the license for the continuation of the massive, global foreign land acquisitions that are happening. The green economy is enticing private funds, institutional investors and speculators to invest in agriculture, specifically in corporations that manufacture and market agricultural products and inputs and those that provide services. The "enabling environment" of the green economy itself is problematic as private and public investments are emphasised and, without reservations, invites leading agribusiness corporations and financial institutions to cash in on green economy, with IPRs, prices and other market mechanisms as appeal. In the words of the UNEP, "... these companies have the power to determine, to a large extent, how the global agriculture sector could endorse and encourage green and sustainable farming practices."

This is problematic as these food and agri-chemical TNCs and financial institutions do not have record of sustainable farming practices and genuine support to smallholder agriculture, in the same way that ODA carries conditionalities that are not specific on biodiversity-based, ecological agriculture but rather on technology, capital, micro credit and government legislation to facilitate the corporations. **Instead of funding and investments, Rio+20 must prioritize the broader participation of the communities and basic sectors, paying close attention to economic democracy, gender justice and ecological sustainability.**

The calls for the rejection of commodification and commercialization of nature, carbon trading, market-based solutions, TNC technology and biotechnology, foreign land acquisitions as well as setting aside food production for the sake of "alternative" energy production should reverberate on the road to Rio. **Policies should focus on food sovereignty as the overarching framework to deal with the food crisis; prioritizing small-scale agriculture based on biodiversity and ecology and putting an end to the entire wasteful and unsustainable chain of corporate agriculture; promoting a consumption and lifestyle pattern that covers the basic food and water needs for everyone's well-being; and supporting research for community conservation and management.**

**Ultimately the discussions should focus on revolutionizing the growth indicators with priority on broader social goals such as food security, education for all, health, gainful employment and ecological sustainability. Growth indicators should be guided by ecological limits and the correct application of human knowledge and technology, which incorporates ecological integrity and health, gender justice, and cultural diversity.**

Pesticide Action Network (PAN) is a global network working to eliminate the human and environmental harm caused by pesticides and to promote biodiversity-based ecological agriculture. PAN Asia and the Pacific (PAN AP) is committed to the empowerment of people especially women, agricultural workers, peasant and indigenous farmers. We believe in a people-centred, pro-women development through food sovereignty, ecological agriculture and sustainable lifestyles.

Comments and suggestions should be addressed to Sarojeni Rengam, Executive Director (sarojeni.rengam@panap.net, panap@panap.net), Telephone Nos. 604-6570271 or 604-6560381.

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## Pew Environment Group

For more detailed background and analysis regarding ocean issues and Rio+20 please visit the links to our supporting materials below or visit our website [www.pewenvironment.org/ip](http://www.pewenvironment.org/ip).

Ocean Earth: How Rio+20 Can and Must Turn the Tide

<http://www.pewenvironment.org/news-room/reports/ocean-earth-how-rio20-can-and-must-turn-the-tide-85899365240>

Rio+20: Time to Turn Back the Tide

An analysis of the gaps in the implementation of the ocean-related outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development

<http://www.pewenvironment.org/news-room/other-resources/rio20-time-to-turn-back-the-tide-85899361026>

Introduction

As the global population continues to rise, humanity's dependence on healthy and productive ocean ecosystems will increase. Despite this dependence, governments continue to authorize activities that threaten the health and productivity of the ocean. Overexploitation of fish stocks, destruction of marine ecosystems and a steady trend in biodiversity loss threaten the food security, economic stability and livelihoods of tens of millions. In spite of some fisheries management efforts, global fish stocks continue to experience serious declines, with some stocks on the high seas particularly at risk. Various measures to promote the protection of biodiversity on the high seas have been agreed to at the international level; however, the international community has largely failed to implement these measures. The international community must take urgent action to reform ocean governance to ensure the sustainability of global fish stocks and to ensure legal instruments are in place to facilitate the protection and long term sustainable

use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. This would include action at all levels as set out below:

#### Implement Previous Commitments

To address global gaps in ocean governance, the international community must recommit political will to implementing the commitments of the previous Earth Summits, the Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Biodiversity Targets (CBD) and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). (Please refer to our analysis of the gaps in the implementation of the ocean-related outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development, at <http://www.pewenvironment.org/news-room/other-resources/rio20-time-to-turn-back-the-tide-85899361026>.)

In particular, action must be taken at all levels to implement:

- (a) The Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) target to maintain or restore fish stocks to sustainable (MSY) levels by 2015; Page 2 of 4
- (b) The JPOI target to address overcapacity by 2005;
- (c) The JPOI target to address Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported (IUU) fishing by 2004;
- (d) The JPOI and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) targets to eliminate harmful subsidies that contribute to overcapacity and overfishing by 2020;
- (e) Principle 3 of the Rio Declaration to ensure that the right to development must be fulfilled as to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations;
- (f) Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration to ensure that precautionary management is utilized to avoid significant damage to the environment before it takes place;
- (g) Principle 17 of the Rio Declaration to undertake Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs);
- (h) The JPOI and Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets to reduce global biodiversity loss;
- (i) The JPOI and CBD targets to establish Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), including in particular marine reserves.

#### IUU Fishing

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing continues to undermine efforts to sustainably manage global fisheries. Countries heavily dependent on marine fisheries for food security and economic revenue, in particular small island developing States and coastal States, are impacted the greatest. In 2002 through the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI), States committed to address IUU fishing by 2004. However, IUU fishing continues to be a significant issue threatening global fish stocks today. A 2011 report by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has recognized the possible connections between international organized crime and illegal fishing. The UN General Assembly (UNGA) has also noted this possible connection and UNODC recognizes illegal fishing as 'environmental crime.' States must combat IUU fishing by taking action at all levels to:

- (a) Implement effective monitoring, control, surveillance, compliance and enforcement measures to ensure that conservation and management measures are implemented and enforced;
- (b) Recognize that illegal fishing is a criminal activity and often linked to organized crime; and ensure that appropriate resources are deployed to combat this form of crime; and
- (c) Combat IUU fishing through the use of flag State, port State, national and market measures, particularly by encouraging States to become parties to the FAO agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, and by promoting timely implementation of this Agreement.

#### Shark Conservation

Shark populations have plummeted globally over the past several decades primarily due to overfishing and an unsustainable international trade in shark fins. Sharks' life history characteristics make them particularly susceptible to overexploitation and depletion. States agreed in Nagoya at the CBD Conference of the Parties in 2010 to sustainably harvest and manage fish stocks so that overfishing is avoided. States also committed to ensure that fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species. Recognizing these commitments and the depleted state of many shark populations, States should agree to take action at all levels to:

- (a) Prohibit the take of threatened or endangered species of sharks that are listed as such by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) or in national legislation.

#### Destructive Fishing Practices

Destructive fishing practices threaten deep sea fish stocks and vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) occurring in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Deep sea species are often slow growing, long lived and have low reproductive potential. These characteristics make them highly vulnerable to depletion by deep-sea fleets. Bottom trawling is particularly destructive to these ecosystems and species. Recognizing the devastation to deep sea ecosystems and fish stocks caused by bottom fishing practices, a number of international fora including the UNGA and the CBD have called on States to take action to prevent significant adverse impacts on biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. However, some countries continue to authorize their vessels to fish even though they have not effectively implemented the measures associated with these resolutions. Under the Rio Declaration, States recognized their responsibility to ensure that activities under their jurisdiction or control should not cause damage to the environment in areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. To promote the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction States must take action at all levels to:

- (a) End destructive fishing practices which damage vulnerable marine ecosystems and recognize that bottom fishing in violation of previous UNGA resolutions is IUU fishing and should cease immediately;
- (b) Recognize that deep sea bottom trawling is the single most destructive fishing method on the high seas and agree to phase out this practice by 2015.

#### Science-Based Fisheries Management

In Johannesburg in 2002, States agreed to restore global fish stocks to sustainable levels by 2015. However, stocks continue to be targeted at unsustainable rates. The FAO reported in 2010 that 85% of global fish stocks are fully exploited, over-exploited, depleted or recovering from depletion, --the highest percentage ever. Fisheries managers have all too frequently ignored scientific advice and failed to effectively implement internationally agreed precautionary management measures. This has contributed to a system of international fisheries management which continues to prove unable to reverse the precipitous decline in global fish stocks. States must take action at all levels to address these declines by agreeing to:

(a) Prohibit fishing in a given area or on a given stock if the fishery is not fully in accordance with relevant international commitments and resolutions and if precautionary, science-based management measures are not in place. These measures should include adequate bycatch mitigation measures.

#### RFMO Accountability and Transparency

Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) are tasked with managing a significant proportion of commercial fishing operations occurring on the high seas. Despite having mandates to ensure the conservation of biological resources occurring within their areas of remit, RFMOs have often failed to implement sustainable management practices. RFMOs should be held accountable for their responsibilities. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has the responsibility to oversee international cooperation and development under the UN Charter. In the past, the UNGA has influenced progress towards achieving fisheries management goals associated with large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and deep sea bottom fishing. This precedent should serve as a model for future action. To promote the conservation and long-term sustainable management of marine resources, States should take action to:

(a) Ensure transparency and accountability of RFMOs through UNGA oversight.

#### Marine Biodiversity Conservation

Under the Rio Declaration, States committed to implement precautionary management measures and to ensure the right to development is fulfilled as to equitably meet developmental and environmental needs of present and future generations. However, marine biodiversity loss driven by anthropogenic activities is increasingly harming the ocean's ability to provide vital services to humanity. Under the JPOI and MDGs, States agreed to targets to reduce global biodiversity loss. The rate of biodiversity loss is not slowing, but the tools to combat this problem have been identified by the international community and committed to in the Rio Declaration, JPOI and CBD targets. However, an adequate legal framework to effectively implement these tools is absent. In order to address these gaps in ocean governance, States should:

(a) Initiate a process towards a new implementing agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea for the protection and conservation of high seas biodiversity. Current gaps which could be specifically addressed through an implementing agreement include:

- Comprehensive prior EIAs and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEAs), together with ongoing monitoring of the marine environment;
- Identification, designation and management of a global network of high seas MPAs, including in particular no-take reserves;
- Implementation of the precautionary principle and ecosystem approach in decision making and fisheries management;
- The reform of RFMOs to incorporate a broader ecosystem conservation focus;
- Provision of access to and dissemination of information and transparency in decision making processes.

## Planet Under Pressure

### Interconnected risks and solutions for a planet under pressure

#### Transition to sustainability in the context of a green economy and institutional frameworks for sustainable development

Rio+20 Policy Brief produced by the scientific community to inform the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). These briefs were commissioned by the international conference Planet Under Pressure: New Knowledge Towards Solutions ([www.planetunderpressure2012.net](http://www.planetunderpressure2012.net)). The conference is sponsored by the International Geosphere Biosphere Programme, DIVERSITAS, the International Human Dimensions Programme and the World Climate Research Programme. Email [owen.gaffney@igbp.kva.se](mailto:owen.gaffney@igbp.kva.se) for full document.

The 2012 United Nations Rio+20 Summit must be seen in the context of a significant expansion of the scientific knowledge base since the 1992 Rio Earth Summit.

We now know definitively that humans have become a prime driver of change at the planetary level, significantly altering Earth's biological, chemical and physical processes. There is increasing evidence that humans are driving the Earth system towards dangerous thresholds or tipping points. The functioning of the Earth system as we know it is at risk. We know that solutions exist, but, as the international community contemplates action, the natural resource in shortest supply is time.

The urgent global risks and challenges facing all nations are interconnected: poverty alleviation; the financial crisis; economic development; political stability; pollution; food, water and energy security; health; wellbeing; climate change; ocean acidification; and loss of biodiversity, to name just some. Understanding this interconnectedness is crucial for tackling these challenges and improving the wellbeing of all societies.

This policy brief outlines key interconnections at a global level and makes six recommendations for lowering the risk of catastrophic change to the Earth system, achieving sustainable prosperity and wellbeing for all, and protecting natural capital (land, water, soil, biodiversity and ecosystem services). These actions underpin the shift to a green economy and the transformation of the world's institutional frameworks for sustainable development.

#### Summary of key points and policy recommendations from the Planet Under Pressure policy brief on interconnected risks and solution.

1 Reduce risk. Concerted, global and immediate action is needed to reduce the risk of fundamentally disrupting the stability of the Earth system, with consequences for global economic and political systems. The immediate priority is to stabilize the global climate at a temperature of no more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels. We must reduce the carbon intensity of the global economy, undertake a massive decarbonisation of the energy sector and effectively manage Earth's carbon and radiant energy budgets. Other immediate challenges include: massive biodiversity loss, ocean acidification and disruption of the nitrogen cycle, all of which need coordinated action.

2 Transform global governance to address the interconnected nature of today's challenges. While our global societal systems are increasingly interconnected, our governance systems often act independently and are slow to respond. Nations must work together to devise effective ways of protecting such globally common resources as the atmosphere, oceans, freshwater, biodiversity, the ice sheets and natural cycles for the benefit of all societies, present and future.

3 Engender strong leadership. Leadership is a powerful catalyst for action. This includes:

Broaden accountability and empowerment from global to local levels to improve all people's access to and participation in international decision making.

Establish an international high-level consultative body on global sustainability. Such a body would include a chief scientific advisor or "planetary ecologist" and broad representation from the UN General Assembly, UN system, G20, International Monetary Fund, World Bank, World Trade Organization, business and civil society, as well as science and technology organizations. Part of its role would be to review regular global sustainability assessments.

Strengthen and upgrade the Commission on Sustainable Development; upgrade the UN Environment Programme to agency status and strengthen its links to sustainable development policy and the global economic system.

4 Halt unsustainable production and consumption and value natural capital. Economic systems ignore global-scale costs and benefits to humanity (e.g. the cost of disrupting the climate system). The world's biggest market failure is to exclude the value of the stable functioning of the Earth system. Nations must adopt new measures of well-being that go beyond financial metrics to include quality of life. The successor to the Millennium Development Goals must have global sustainability at its foundation.

5 Develop global knowledge systems for interconnected challenges. This includes:

Deploy modern communications infrastructure across all nations. Communications infrastructure has become as important to quality of life and prosperity as our transport, water and power infrastructures.

Launch a major international research initiative for global sustainability. This collaborative endeavour will challenge the research, policy and business communities to provide the resources, knowledge and tools required to manage global risks and navigate an increasingly interconnected world.

Bring cohesion to the international science–policy interface. Establish an Intergovernmental Panel on Global Sustainability to ensure scientific coherence. This would produce a regular 'State of the Planet' assessment that includes socio-economic dimensions and brings together and expands upon existing assessments, strengthening links between science and policy.

Develop an international approach for tackling emerging technologies eg. synthetic biology, geoengineering and nanotechnology.

Ensure international treaties are dynamic enough to respond to new information effectively.

Invest in tertiary education in developing countries. Education builds endogenous capacity to address global challenges, improves well-being and generates economic growth.

Create a global integrated monitoring system for global sustainability.

6 Build resilience and prepare for unavoidable changes. The great acceleration in human activity, seen largely since the 1950s, has committed the Earth system to substantial change, some of which is not reversible on human timescales. All nations must be ready to adapt to inevitable environmental and social changes.

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## Planetary Boundaries Initiative

UN Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio de Janeiro, 4 – 6 June 2012

Input for Compilation Document Submission by the Planetary Boundaries Initiative

This submission is made on behalf of the newly-formed Planetary Boundaries Initiative, which includes amongst its aims the promotion of a Declaration on Planetary Boundaries.

We submit that States at the Rio Conference should adopt a Declaration on Planetary Boundaries, along the lines of the draft Declaration which is set out at the end of this submission.

If this is not possible, then the outcome document should:

- prominently reflect its Principles;
- contain a commitment by States to develop a legal instrument which would reflect its Principles; and
- pending development of such an instrument, contain a commitment to confer the function of promoting and developing the Principles, and development of such an instrument, on an over-arching international body.

Why a Declaration on Planetary Boundaries?

In 2009, 29 scientists published a paper putting forward the planetary boundaries concept. The concept posits that there are nine critical Earth-system processes and associated thresholds that we need to respect and keep within, in order to protect against the risk of irreversible or even catastrophic environmental change at continental to global scales. Doing so would create a safe operating space for humanity, within which human economy and society would be able to play out. According to the concept's authors, three of the nine suggested thresholds have already been crossed (for climate change, biodiversity and the nitrogen cycle).<sup>1</sup> The threshold for the phosphorus cycle (linked, within the concept, to the nitrogen cycle) has also been crossed, according to a scientific paper earlier this year.<sup>2</sup>

What is new about the concept is that, rather than understanding environment, economy and society as three pillars of sustainable development, it makes clear that sustainable

<sup>1</sup> Rockström, J et al. Planetary boundaries: Exploring the safe operating space for humanity. *Ecology and Society* [online] 14, 32 (2009). Available online at [www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol14/iss2/art32](http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol14/iss2/art32)

<sup>2</sup> The paper is entitled 'Reconsideration of the planetary boundary for phosphorus', authored by Carpenter and Bennett, was published in February 2011 in *Environmental Research Letters* and is available here:

[http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-9326/6/1/014009/pdf/1748-9326\\_6\\_1\\_014009.pdf](http://iopscience.iop.org/1748-9326/6/1/014009/pdf/1748-9326_6_1_014009.pdf)

development can only take place within the safe operating space identified by the biophysical realities of critical natural thresholds.

The idea has been acknowledged by the Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on Global Sustainability: the overall goal for its report later this year and input into Rio+20 is "To eradicate poverty and reduce inequality, make growth inclusive, and production and consumption more sustainable while combating climate change and respecting the range of other planetary boundaries."

The planetary boundaries concept has important implications for future governance systems. Current systems, including international laws, have not yet developed sustainability principles that ensure stable and resilient ecological systems for protecting human health and well being. Instead our institutions are often caught in conflict



between short-term financial gains and long-term sustainability.

The draft Declaration on Planetary Boundaries is intended as a statement of first principles that lay the institutional framework for such planetary boundary thinking. It calls for humanity to recognize, respect and be responsible for not transgressing planetary boundaries – internationally, regionally, nationally and locally. It sets out general requirements under each of these three heads, and provides for an over-arching institutional home which cooperates with current institutions and actors across the range of human activities that affect planetary boundaries. In time, such an institution could become -under a UN Convention on Planetary Boundaries -an over-arching Planetary Boundaries Commission.

Rio +20 is an obvious opportunity to explore this innovative approach to sustainable development, including in order to develop ideas around Sustainable Development Goals and/or Millennium Consumption Goals.

Those behind this Declaration believe there is an urgent need to take action on this governance issue to ensure that everyone, including present and future generations and particularly the vulnerable and marginalised, have the protections and rights necessary to live in a social and physical environment that provides for their health and well being.

The draft Declaration follows. It is available, along with a Commentary, here:

<http://planetaryboundariesinitiative.org/>

Funding for the draft declaration was provided by WWF-UK:

[http://www.wwf.org.uk/wwf\\_articles.cfm?unewsid=5382](http://www.wwf.org.uk/wwf_articles.cfm?unewsid=5382)

Peter Roderick and Debbie Tripley

Planetary Boundaries Initiative

1st

November 2011

Draft Declaration on Planetary Boundaries

We, the peoples and nations of our planet, Earth,

Cherishing its beauty, diversity, vitality and community of life,

Recognising the innate linkages between components of the ecosystems that sustain life, and valuing their fundamental role for human existence, development and wellbeing,

Conscious of facing a critical period in the history of our planet,

Concerned that rapidly growing dependence on fossil fuels, industrialised forms of agriculture and escalating demands on natural resources have reached a level that could damage the biogeochemical feedback systems that maintain a habitable planet, resulting in irreversible and, in some cases, abrupt environmental change, which could profoundly undermine long-term human existence and that of other forms of life,

Recalling commitments made at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in respect of sustainable development and future generations, and in particular, Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration concerning application of the precautionary principle,

Determined to respond to the strong scientific consensus and growing evidence base that there are identifiable Earth-system processes on which human existence, development and well-being depend, and which must be safeguarded from the threats of serious or irreversible damage as a result of human activities,

Recognising that safeguarding those processes from such threats is necessary in order to promote sustainable human development and social justice, and likewise that promoting sustainable human development and social justice is necessary for safeguarding those processes,

NOW DECLARE AS FOLLOWS:

Principle 1 – The Fundamental Principle

Earth-system processes that are necessary for ensuring a safe operating space for humanity should be recognised and respected. We are all responsible for safeguarding those processes from the threats of serious or irreversible damage as a result of human activities.

Principle 2 – Recognition

Recognition of necessary Earth-system processes means:

- (1) acknowledging that such processes exist;
- (2) acknowledging the need to act in order to safeguard such processes from the threats of serious or irreversible damage as a result of human activities;
- (3) researching and developing our understanding of the nature and vulnerabilities of such processes, including of the thresholds at which they could shift into new states and of where boundaries at a safe distance from such thresholds would lie; (4) identifying the human activities that affect such processes, and monitoring the effects of such activities, including collecting, collating and presenting scientific data and information by reference to such processes and the human activities which affect them; and
- (5) developing and communicating information about such processes in ways which are transparent and designed to encourage public engagement, trust, common understanding and acceptance of shared responsibility for safeguarding them.

Principle 3 -Respect

Respect for necessary Earth-system processes means:

- (1) using scientific information to understand their thresholds;
- (2) determining their boundaries transparently on the basis of scientific advice, having taken into account social and economic considerations, public opinion and having

assessed the risk of crossing the boundaries;

(3) making decisions, across the range of human activities which affect such processes, to minimise the risk of crossing the boundaries;

(4) designing appropriate public and private sector institutions in order to safeguard such thresholds and boundaries.

#### Principle 4 -Responsibility

Being responsible for safeguarding necessary Earth-system processes means:

(1) establishing over-arching legal principles and duties to recognise and respect such processes across the range of human activities that affect them;

(2) ensuring people have the right to have them recognised and respected;

(3) guaranteeing rights to information, participation and access to justice, including appropriate and effective remedies; and

(4) creating an independent public enforcement body with appropriate and effective legal powers and duties.

#### Principle 5 -Institutions

(1) The function of promoting and developing these Principles should be conferred on an over-arching international body (the Planetary Boundaries Institution (PBI)), coordinating a network of regional, national, and sub-national bodies.

(2) The function of promoting and developing these Principles involves cooperation among the PBI and the network, and institutions and organisations with responsibilities across the range of human activities that affect necessary Earth-system processes, at the appropriate levels, as well as engagement and communication with the public.

(3) The PBI and network will also have the function at the appropriate level of providing scientific information and advice for the purposes of Principle 3(1) and (2), based on coordination of the evidence available from research on the thresholds and boundaries of necessary Earth-system processes.

(4) The PBI and network will be assisted in its work by independent, transparent and participative panels at international, regional and national levels, especially in relation to scientific and other research evidence, socioeconomic considerations and public engagement.

#### Principle 6 -Commitments

(1) UN bodies and agencies, other international institutions and inter-governmental organisations with responsibilities for activities that affect necessary Earth-system processes, regional economic integration organisations and States will:

(a) review the laws, policies, strategies and arrangements they have in place for recognising, respecting and being responsible for safeguarding necessary Earth-system processes from the threats of serious or irreversible damage as a result of human activities in accordance with these Principles;

(b) make any improvements necessary to apply these Principles;

(c) cooperate with, provide to and exchange data and information with the PBI and network at the appropriate level; and

(d) report periodically to the PBI and the network at the appropriate level and the independent enforcement body under Principle 4(4) on the effects of activities on such processes and on the extent to which they are applying these Principles.

2. In reviewing and improving their laws, policies, strategies and arrangements, States and regional economic integration organisations will, in conjunction with the PBI and network at the appropriate level, consider:

(a) the impact of their activities on Earth-system processes that are necessary for ensuring a safe operating space for humanity, and

(b) how they can ensure that their activities do not exceed their fair share of that safe operating space.

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## Plant-for-the-Planet Children's Initiative

### Plant-for-the-Planet Children's Initiative Children's Declaration

Our „3-Point-Plan to save our future“

We, young people – 3 billion of the world population – are concerned and frustrated that our governments and business leaders are not doing enough to save our future. We feel that radical and holistic measures are needed urgently from us all.

We now need more actions and less talking. Climate crisis and poverty are interlinked and affect us all. We need to find efficient ways to cope with it, adapt to it and take action to stop it.

We note that climate change is leading to loss of natural resources and makes it difficult to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Climate change has serious consequences not only for ecosystems, but also for human health, job security and social development. Together we can make a difference.

We, the children, are leaders of the next generation, will take action, and urge the people all over the world to take action as well with our “3-Point Plan to Save Our Future.”

1. Put carbon in the museum.

We absolutely need to get our CO2 emissions levels down to zero by 2050. The technology for such a CO2-free future already exists. With today's engineering capabilities we can easily make the transition to 100% renewable energy (without the need for nuclear power) by 2050.

2. Put poverty into the museum through climate justice.

In order to stop the predicated warming of 2°C, which the heads of government already promised to do in Copenhagen, a maximum of just 600 billion tons of CO2 can be emitted until the year 2050. If we emit more than this, the temperature will rise higher than 2°C thus causing the ice on Greenland to melt and mean sea levels to rise by as much as 7 meters. 600 billion tons divided by 40 years leaves an allowance of 15 billion tons per year. In 2010, 31 billion tons of CO2 were emitted, more than double the

allowance! One of the major problems as we kids see is that it is often the people in the poorer regions who suffer most from the consequences of climate change. This is despite the fact that they have done the least to cause it. Considering this, we believe that the 15 billion tons allowance of CO2 per year must be fairly shared amongst all the worlds' citizens. For us children there is only one solution: everybody gets the same. This would mean 1.5 tons of CO2 per person, per year.

But how does this help to solve the problem of global poverty? On average an American citizen emits around 20 tons of CO2 per year and a European citizen emits around 9 tons. In comparison, people in Africa emit on average only 0.25 tons per year. Our proposal: The people in the rich countries, who want to emit more CO2, must buy the rights from those who emit less. This is our principle for climate justice. With the money that the people in the poorer countries earn they can then invest in agriculture, education, health and more. They will also have an incentive to invest in renewable energy technologies so that they can maintain the right to sell their CO2 emission allowance. This will also stop them from making the same senseless mistakes that we in the West have.

3. Planting 1,000 billion trees.

As both a symbolic and a practical action for climate justice it is our goal to plant 1,000 billion trees, or 1 trillion trees, around the world. These trees will absorb an additional 10 billion tons of CO2 every year! While this may sound like an enormous amount, we know that if we work together it is achievable!

In China alone 2.7 billion trees were planted in 2009 as a contribution to the UNEP-Billion Tree Campaign. If every person on our earth would plant 150 trees over the next ten years we would reach our target of 1,000 billion trees by 2020. And if it's not possible for a country to plant trees in its own area, it can support the planting of trees in southern countries. With a bit of effort our target is definitely achievable.

Of course we know that we can't stop climate change just by planting trees. But by planting 1,000 billion trees in the next 10 years this will help to absorb more CO2 and give us a kind of 'time-joker' or buffer so that we have a bit more time to get our act together and really start reducing our carbon emissions. Considering that from 2009 to 2010 we actually increased emissions by 5%, instead of decreasing them, it is clear that we still have a lot to do. If we continue to increase our carbon emissions by 5% every year we will have used up our 600 tons budget, and caused the climate to rise by 2C, by 2024. Alternatively if we continue with the same rate of emissions as in 2010, we will have hit the 600 billion tons mark by 2029. These statistics are highly concerning and this is why we also consider each tree that we plant to be a symbolic action sending a clear message that we need to take action against climate change today.

While Plant-for-the-Planet is essentially a children's initiative we know that we will need some help from the adults if we are going to achieve our goals. This is why we have sent our "3- point-plan" to the heads of governments all around the world.

1,000 billion trees we children cannot manage alone we need help of the adults. But we children have already started and are planting one million trees in every country on earth.

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## Plataforma Montanhas Vales Vida

Text not available.

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## Population and Climate Change Alliance (PCCA)

### Submission of the Population and Climate Change Alliance (PCCA) to the Rio+20 Zero Draft Outcome Document Preparations

#### Mission Statement

The Population and Climate Change Alliance (PCCA) is a network of Non-Profit Organisations that works together on population and climate change issues through a loose umbrella coalition.

PCCA strives to advance Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) through active awareness raising and advocacy work on the linkages between population and climate change, and believe that increasing (universal) access to voluntary family planning can make a significant contribution to climate change both in adaptation and mitigation strategies and programmes.

#### The PCCA includes the following organisations:

[Danish Family Planning Association](#) (Sex & Samfund)

[International Planned Parenthood Federation](#) (IPPF)

[Marie Stopes International](#) (MSI)

[Population Action International](#) (PAI)

[Population and Sustainability Network](#) (PSN)

[Population Health Environment \(PHE\) Ethiopia Consortium](#)

#### The following additional organisations are signatories to this submission from the PCCA:

[Action for Global Health](#)

[AIDOS - The Italian Association for Women in Development](#)

[Association of Youth Organizations Nepal](#) (AYON)

[BioRegional](#)

[Blue Ventures](#)

[Change Mob, Brazil](#)

[Community Health Africa Trust](#) (CHAT), Kenya

[DSW \(Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung\)](#)

[Ecopop, Switzerland](#)

[Family Health Options Kenya \(FHOK\)](#)

[French Family Planning Movement](#)

[Institute for Global Health, University College London \(IGH, UCL\)](#)

[Interact Worldwide](#)

[Partners in Population and Development, African Regional Office \(PPD ARO\)](#)

[Pathfinder International](#)

[Population Matters](#)

[Portuguese Family Planning Association \(APF\)](#)

[RFSU - The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education](#)

[Rutgers WPF](#)

[Sex og Politikk – The Norwegian Association for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights](#)

[Shirkat Gah- Women's Resource Centre, Pakistan](#)

[The Irish Family Planning Association \(IFPA\)](#)

[The Sustainable World Initiative](#)

[Väestöliitto – Family Federation of Finland](#)

[Women's Center, Georgia](#)

The PCCA welcomes the opportunity to contribute input to the preparation of the zero draft of the Rio+20 outcome document. In this submission we contribute predominantly to 'Specific Elements: Objectives of the Conference' and 'Sectoral priorities and initiatives that could contribute to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development that could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20.' We focus on the linkages between population dynamics and sustainable development, and the opportunities that must be seized to advance sustainable development through achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health and rights; a cross-cutting theme significant to each of the three pillars of sustainable development.

1.

## **Summary**

1.1

Population dynamics, including growth, urbanisation and migration, interact with the environment to influence availability of natural resources, biodiversity, climate change and other key Rio+20 priorities.

1.2

Unsustainable population growth and lack of access to reproductive health services undermine development and poverty alleviation efforts, with implications for governments' capacities to make a transition to a green and fair economy.

1.3

Between now and 2100 the world population is expected to increase from 7 billion to over 10 billion. Consideration of population dynamics with a sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) focus must be included among other sustainable development initiatives, including those that address unsustainable and inequitable consumption, and will increase their effectiveness.

1.4

Addressing unmet need for contraception to enable all women and couples to plan and space their children as they wish offers scope to achieve population stabilisation and contribute to poverty alleviation, gender equality, environmental sustainability and other important aspects of sustainable development.

*Focus for policy recommendations and Rio+20 outcomes:*

1.5

Global population dynamics can and must be addressed in ways that respect and protect human rights.

1.6

Human health and well-being, including SRHR, are central components of sustainable development.

1.7

Integrated population, health and environment approaches have synergistic effects.

1.8

Population dynamics, including population growth, density, urbanization, migration and ageing, must be integrated into development strategies and environmental planning,

with systematic use of population data and projections.

1.9

Rights-based sexual and reproductive health programmes, including family planning services, should be recognized as essential components of new global initiatives to increase resources for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change.

1.10

Rights-based sexual and reproductive health programmes, including family planning services, should be recognized as legitimate components of national climate change adaptation programmes and funding mechanisms, to increase the resilience of the communities most vulnerable to climate change.

1.11

Renewed commitment and greater investment is necessary to achieve the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and the Millennium Development Goals.

1.12

Recognizing the links between population dynamics and sustainable development, governments should ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health, including family planning, empowerment of women, and investment in education, particularly of disadvantaged children and youth, and girls and young women, with programmes that respect and protect human rights.

2.

## Introduction

2.1

The UN Earth Summit in 1992 was a momentous international event, that stated “to achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate demographic policies”.<sup>1</sup> Recognising the significance of population dynamics and SRHR for sustainable development, Agenda 21 called for “programmes that promote demographic trends and factors towards sustainability”.<sup>2</sup> This included reproductive health programmes and services to “enable women and men to fulfil their personal aspirations in terms of family size, in a way in keeping with their freedom and dignity and personal held values”.

2.2

In accord with the 1992 Summit, the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) in Cairo in 1994 recognised the interrelationships between population, development, the environment, and human rights, including the right to health.<sup>3</sup> Moving away from demographic targets, the paradigm that emerged from Cairo endorsed a progressive vision of comprehensive sexual and reproductive health programmes, placing human rights and the individual needs and wishes of women at the centre of this approach. Empowering women and realising universal reproductive health and rights was recognised as a goal in its own right, as well as critical to achieving sustainable development.

2.3

These principles agreed at the 1992 Earth Summit and the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development are even more relevant today, yet over the last two decades they have not commanded the necessary attention at both the national and international level. While global environmental and sustainability issues are more pressing than before, particularly with the onset of climate change, both the vision of the ICPD Programme of Action (PoA) and Millennium Development Goal 5b to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015 are far from realization. Since 1994 the world’s population has increased from 5.5 billion to 7 billion, and until recently was expected to stabilize at 9 billion but is now expected to exceed 10 billion by the end of the century.<sup>4</sup> Ninety-seven per cent of the growth in the world’s population before 2050 will be in the developing nations.<sup>5</sup> With these countries already struggling to meet their citizens’ basic needs, such rapid population growth threatens to further undermine progress towards sustainable development.

2.4

Sustainable development will not be achieved until women’s right to plan and space their pregnancies, enabling them to choose the number of children they have, is realized. Yet an estimated 215 million women in developing countries have an unmet need for contraception, meaning that they are at risk of an unwanted pregnancy and say that they do not want to get pregnant during the next two years, but are not using contraception, often because they do not have access to reproductive health services.<sup>6</sup> Donor investment in family planning has actually decreased dramatically since the mid-to-late 1990s, at the same time that demand is increasing.<sup>6</sup> In this submission the PCCA sets out the important links between population dynamics, sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and sustainable development. We call for population dynamics and SRHR to be recognised as a critical aspect of sustainable development, and make recommendations for Rio+20 outcomes which have synergistic effects for the three economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development.

3.

## Population, consumption and sustainable development

3.1

Agenda 21, the Action Plan for 1992 Rio summit calls for “integrated environmental and development approaches at the local level, taking into account demographic trends and factors”.<sup>2</sup> This approach acknowledges that population size, as a key determinant of use of the planet’s finite resources, is a critical component of sustainability, and that additional demographic trends are also significant. As well as population size, density, migration, urbanisation and ageing influence are relevant to sustainable development as they influence consumption rates and have implications for economic growth, poverty reduction and governments’ capacities to make the transition to a green and fair economy and adapt to climate change. We outlined above the rate and scale of population growth that has taken place since 1992, and that projected for the future. Given such growth, the success of sustainable development initiatives which fail to address the consequences of demographic change for sustainability and do not encompass the necessary focus on SRHR, will be considerably limited.

3.2

We welcome the recognition in the May 2010 report of the Preparatory Committee for Rio+20 that addressing both population and consumptions issues is critical to achieving

sustainable development. The report acknowledges that demographic transition must be achieved in the global South in order to raise living standards in poor countries, at the same time as addressing the impact of inequitable and unsustainable patterns of consumption, particularly in the global North. 7 We strongly support this approach which we hope will be advanced at Rio+20. It is sometimes perceived that consideration of the role of population dynamics in determining environmental sustainability distracts from the pressing problems of unsustainable and inequitable patterns of consumption by developed countries. We believe, however, that this either / or approach to 'population' and 'consumption' issues is simplistic and the absence of population dynamics from sustainable development approaches will significantly compromise the effectiveness of other interventions. It is important therefore, that the summit holistically addresses the whole range of factors relevant to sustainable development.

3.3

It is sometimes assumed that addressing population growth requires coercion and restrictions on individual rights and freedoms. On the contrary, global population dynamics can and must be addressed in ways that respect and protect human rights, through advancing SRHR to fulfil women's rights to plan and space their pregnancies according to their wishes. Our submission recommendations focus on this approach. Many of our messages and recommendations echo the recent Civil Society Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/ NGO Conference focusing on preparations for Rio+20.8 This demonstrates the considerable support that exists from civil society for advancing SRHR, gender equality and empowerment of youth as vital strategies for achieving sustainable development and the transition to a green and fair economy.

4.

#### **Population, environment and biodiversity**

4.1

A focus on demographic trends and SRHR is critical to sustainable development, because it is the ways that population and society interact with the natural environment which determine environmental sustainability. Population growth, density and migration can place extreme pressures upon the natural environment. Acting in tandem with climate change in many developing countries, rapid population growth increases demand for natural resources and results in intensified agriculture and use of land and water supplies. This in turn can exacerbate environmental problems, including deforestation, land and water shortages and degradation, and loss of biodiversity due to habitat destruction, depleting the natural resource base upon which the health and wellbeing of populations, and overall sustainability, depend.9 Demographic trends are increasingly being identified as significant for the global conservation of biodiversity, with high rates of population growth contributing to loss of biodiversity. A study found that population growth rates in twenty-five areas of the world identified as 'biodiversity hotspots', are significantly higher than the population growth rate of the world as a whole, and above the average for developing countries.10

4.2

The detrimental impacts of population dynamics upon the environment are felt the greatest by society's poorest populations, including women and children, deepening poverty and increasing their vulnerability to climate change. As a result of rapid population growth, overcrowding and increasingly climate change, poor communities can be forced to inhabit or migrate to the most ecologically fragile areas which are particularly vulnerable to environmental degradation. The need to feed growing populations is causing deforestation and more intensive use of natural resources, further jeopardising food security. This issue is particularly critical in some parts of Africa, where the population is set to more than triple by the end of the century, at the same time as communities and governments will be struggling to cope with the effects of climate change upon agricultural output. Given the links between demographic pressures, environmental degradation, conflict situations and vulnerability to climate change and natural disaster, integrated approaches to population, health and environment issues have synergistic effects, benefiting the health and well-being of communities, and the ecosystems upon which they depend. Ensuring that women have the means to plan and space their pregnancies as they wish is critical for increasing the resilience of poor communities, in the face of scarcity of natural resources, climate change and increasing frequency of natural disaster. SRHR programmes must also be considered a vital component of the response to emergency situations, including natural disaster and conflict situations.

5.

#### **Population dynamics and climate change**

5.1

Consideration of the links between population dynamics and climate change is complex and sensitive, because it is consumption rates and patterns in the global North that is driving climate change, yet it is the countries of the South, where the majority of population growth is taking place, that are the most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. While discussion of the links must acknowledge these complexities, as well as the responsibilities of the global North to address the unsustainable consumption patterns driving climate change, the links are too important to ignore. Population growth and lack of access to reproductive health in many of the poorest communities hardest hit by climate change is exacerbating their vulnerability and undermining adaptation capacity, meaning that advancing SRHR offers opportunities to increase climate resilience. These links are increasingly being recognized by developing countries themselves.

5.2

In the National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA) reports in which the forty least developed countries set out their most pressing climate change adaptation issues and priorities as part of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, ninety- three per cent of the countries identified population growth as one of the factors confounding their attempts to adapt to the effects of climate change. The most frequently mentioned climate change adaptation issues identified as being exacerbated by population growth are: soil degradation and erosion, fresh water scarcity, migration, deforestation and shortages of farm land. Additional vulnerabilities linked to population growth include loss of biodiversity and natural habitat, desertification and diminishing fish stocks.11

5.3

As recognised by the recent Civil Society Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/ NGO Conference focusing on preparations for Rio+20, attainment of MDG 5, including universal access to reproductive health, offers opportunities to strengthen the resilience of people and communities to the consequences of climate change and environment degradation.8 Integrating SRHR programmes into climate change adaptation plans would enable women to determine the size of their families and make adapting to the effects of climate change easier. It would increase resilience at the individual household level, and have wider effects for society as the resulting prevention of unplanned pregnancies would lead to reductions in population growth and the associated pressures upon resources.9

5.4

One analysis determined that globally there are 26 population and climate change "hotspots." These are countries with low climate change resilience that are experiencing rapid population growth and high projected declines in agricultural production.i In hotspot countries, an average of one in four married women would like to avoid pregnancy, but is not using modern family planning. The average number of children born to each woman in hotspot countries is 4.6, and the average population growth rate is 2.2 percent. If unchanged, this rate of growth would result in a doubling of the population in 31 years.12

5.5

Migration presents another important adaptation issue, both in terms of migration resulting from scarcity of natural resources, and the mass migration that is likely to take place in the future due to the sea level rises expected to result from climate change. One third of the world's population lives within 60 miles of a coast, and 13 of the world's 20 largest cities are on a coast.<sup>13</sup> The necessary migration will be easier to achieve if women and men are able to exercise their right to plan and space their pregnancies, both because of reductions in the average family size and greater per capita availability of land due to reduced population growth. Achieving universal reproductive health is also a critical intervention for promoting gender equality and reducing the particular vulnerabilities of women and girls to the impacts of climate change.

6

## Population dynamics, poverty and a green and fair economy

6.1

The Rio Earth Summit recognised that "human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development."<sup>1</sup> This recognition is important because it acknowledges that without ensuring human well-being and rights, sustainable development will not be achieved. As well as being significant to the environmental pillar, population dynamics and SRHR are critical to the social pillar of sustainable development, and a focus on these aspects of sustainable development also has synergistic effects for the economic pillar, with implications for transition to a green and fair economy.

6.2

We use the term 'green and fair economy', because the current economic model that promotes growth at all costs must be replaced by a new model based on fairness and equity, thereby both promoting environmental sustainability and addressing the social inequalities inherent in the current model. It is crucial that the term "economic growth" is not simply replaced with "green growth" or a "green economy", with business as usual. Strengthening the social pillar of sustainable development at Rio+20 is vital for ensuring progress towards a truly green and fair model of development, and one which values, and measures dimensions of, both human and environmental well-being.

6.3

Population dynamics and SRHR are linked to key determinants of poverty and other critical aspects for sustainable development, including health, education, gender and economic development. Increasing access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services that respect and protect human rights, is critical to realizing the human right to health. These services include not only family planning programmes but the full range of services and information necessary for individuals to enjoy sexual and reproductive health and well-being, including those benefiting maternal and infant health, as well as HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention. At the individual level, the agency, equity, health and resilience of women are strongly influenced by women's ability to exercise reproductive choices. Increasing access to education, particularly of girls and women, must also be a strong focus for advancing the social pillar of sustainable development, and will have synergistic effects with health and gender equality. Empowering women to plan and space their pregnancies as they wish increases women's opportunities for education, employment and political engagement, and resilience, in turn contributing to prospects for a green and fair economy.

6.4

Rapid population growth is associated with high levels of poverty and low levels of human development. In countries with low levels of economic development it places pressure on national resources and public services, reducing governments' capacity to meet the basic needs of their citizens and undermining development.<sup>14</sup> By the end of the century the population of the countries in the world with the highest fertility rates (concentrated in the poorest countries) is set to triple.<sup>4</sup> Without urgent investment in SRHR programmes, including voluntary family planning, this rate of growth will outpace poverty alleviation and undermine other sustainable goals, at the same time as reducing the capacity of governments to undertake initiatives aimed at making a transition to a green and fair economy.

6.5

Due to the links between high rates of population growth and poverty, achieving demographic transition in developing countries has been recognised as an "urgent goal" for Rio+20.<sup>7</sup> We fully support this goal, which offers considerable opportunities to advance the social goals of sustainable development. These include poverty alleviation, health, education and empowerment of women, and other issues of social inequality which must be addressed for a successful transition to a green and fair economy which offers development prospects for all. But we urge that it will not be achieved without advancing SRHR and ensuring that voluntary family planning services are available to all. We also emphasize that while the increased number of young people entering productive years that results from demographic transition offers opportunities to drive growth and development, if this potential is to be realized governments must increase investments in basic services, including health and education, and other means for empowering youth.

6.6

Demographic transition is also an urgent sustainable development goal because of the environmental limits humanity faces, at the same time as seeking to promote prosperity for all human beings now and in the future. Taking population dynamics into account will help to focus the sustainable development agenda on planning for the composition, distribution and movement of the population in the long-term, which in turn shapes areas vital to the green economy, including food security, employment, health, social protection and environmental protection.<sup>15</sup>

i Analysis based on Population Action International's *Mapping Population and Climate Change* website: [http://www.populationaction.org/Publications/Interactive\\_Databases/climate\\_map.shtml](http://www.populationaction.org/Publications/Interactive_Databases/climate_map.shtml). "Low resilience countries" are those in the lower two quartiles of the Vulnerability-Resilience Indicators Model. "High population growth" is defined as above the median population growth rate of 1.33%. "High projected decline in agricultural production" are those where the projected declines in relative terms are above the median of all countries expected to experience decline between 1990 and 2020.

1.

## Conclusion: Advancing sustainability through sexual and reproductive health and rights

7.1

In this submission we have outlined the many reasons why advancing SRHR is essential for achieving sustainable development and the need for a focus upon population dynamics if the effectiveness of other sustainable development initiatives is not to be undermined. In conclusion we wish to bring to the attention of the international community the substantial opportunities that exist to advance a wide-range of sustainable development goals, by meeting the need for sexual and reproductive health programmes that respect and protect human rights; a proven and highly cost-effective development intervention.

7.2

Worldwide there is a vast unmet need for contraception in developing countries, meaning that real opportunities do exist to reduce world population growth, by reducing unplanned pregnancies. As discussed, 215 million women in developing countries have an unmet need for contraception, meaning they are at risk of an unwanted pregnancy, say they do not want to have a child in the next two years, but are not using contraception, often because they do not have access to reproductive health services.<sup>6</sup> Women who have an unmet need for effective contraception account for 82 per cent of all unintended pregnancies in developing countries.<sup>16</sup> At the same time as demand for contraception is increasing, donor investment in family planning is decreasing, despite international commitments made to achieving universal reproductive health as part of the ICPD PoA and MDGs.<sup>6</sup>

7.3

Meeting the unmet need for family planning in developing countries while simultaneously fulfilling unmet need for maternal and newborn services would require an estimated doubling of current global investments. This investment would deliver dramatic achievements for maternal and infant health: averting an estimated half of all newborn deaths and two-thirds of all maternal deaths in developing countries. Furthermore it would support considerable progress towards other development goals, averting two-thirds of all unwanted pregnancies and easing population pressures.<sup>6</sup> Cost-benefit analysis shows just how cost-effective investing in family planning is. For every dollar spent in family planning, between 2 and 6 U.S. dollars can be saved in interventions aimed at achieving other development goals, including education, maternal and child health, HIV/AIDs and environmental sustainability.<sup>17</sup>

8.

## Recommendations

8.1

Global population dynamics can and must be addressed in ways that respect and protect human rights.

8.2

Population dynamics, including population growth, density, urbanization, migration and ageing, must be integrated into development strategies and environmental planning, with systematic use of population data and projections.

8.3

Rights-based sexual and reproductive health programmes, including family planning services, should be recognized as essential components of new global initiatives to increase resources for sustainable development and adaptation to climate change.

8.4

Rights-based sexual and reproductive health programmes, including family planning services, should be recognized as legitimate components of national climate change adaptation programmes and funding mechanisms, to increase the resilience of the communities most vulnerable to climate change.

8.5

Renewed commitment and greater investment is necessary to achieve the International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action and the Millennium Development Goals.

8.6

Recognizing the links between population dynamics and sustainable development, governments should ensure universal access to sexual and reproductive health, including family planning, empowerment of women, and investment in education, particularly of disadvantaged children and youth, and girls and young women, with programmes that respect and protect human rights.

9.

## Response to additional questions

9.1

*General content question a): Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20 and the Outcome document*

Rio+20 presents a critical opportunity for international leaders to agree and commit to urgent action required to promote a new, sustainable model of development which reflects environmental limits and seeks to deliver prosperity for all. We wish to see international agreement on a politically-binding outcome document that commits governments to wide-ranging actions aimed at strengthening each of the three pillars of sustainable development, ensuring that the social pillar is not neglected, and that human rights including sexual and reproductive health and rights are at the centre of sustainable development initiatives.

9.2

*General content question b): Comments on existing proposals, including a green economy roadmap and sustainable development goals (SDGs).*

Regarding the proposals for SDGs, we believe it is important that there is a greater focus upon environmental and sustainability issues by the international development agenda, and one which reflects the responsibilities of the global North to address unsustainable and inequitable patterns of consumption. At the same time the important focus on poverty reduction must not be lost, and for this reason we recommend that the MDGs are encompassed within the SDGs or any other possible post-2015 international development framework. For the reasons outlined in this submission, achieving MDG 5 on reproductive health must be considered central to the achievement of sustainable development. We support the recommendation of the Civil Society Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/ NGO that an SDG on health includes "achieving universal access to health care and services, and wherever feasible free at the point of use for women and children, and including sexual and reproductive health."<sup>8</sup> Furthermore, in 2014 the original deadline for implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action will be reached, which provides a more detailed framework for achieving universal SRHR, and one which acknowledges that its realization is critical for sustainable development. Reflecting the importance of achieving the ICPD PoA, its timeframe has already been extended by the UN,<sup>18</sup> and we recommend that the goals it sets are also encompassed with the SDGs. Please refer to section 6, particularly para. 6.2 for views on the green economy.

9.3

*General content question c and d): Implementation and Cooperation Mechanisms*



We endorse the calls in the Civil Society Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/ NGO, for full engagement and involvement of all stakeholders, and with particular attention to the views and participation of civil society in the global South, including girls, women, young people and other marginalised social groups.<sup>8</sup> This includes preparation for the summit, involvement in the summit and full participation in implementation of the agreed outcomes and sustainable development governance.

9.4

*Specific elements question a): Sectoral priorities and initiatives*

Our overall submission focuses on the sectoral priority of population dynamics and SRHR, and one which as a cross-cutting issue offers important scope for integration of the three pillars of sustainable development.

9.5

*Specific elements question b): Green economy*

Please refer to section 6.

9.6

*Specific elements question c): Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development*

Please refer to section 6 in particular for proposals to strengthen the social pillar, and throughout this submission we have focused on the synergistic benefits of a focus on population dynamics and SRHR across each of the three pillars of sustainable development.

9.7

*Specific elements question d): Refinement of the two themes*

We urge that sufficient space is awarded at Rio+20 for population dynamics and sexual and reproductive health and rights as a thematic issue and a cross cutting theme, within the focus upon a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

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## Population Matters (UK)

### Population Growth: the Neglected 'Green' Issue

## A Text for Rio+20

*"Population stabilization should be a priority for sustainable development": Kofi Annan, former UN SecretaryGeneral. (Key Recommendation of GHF 2009).*

*"Either we reduce our numbers voluntarily, or nature will do it for us brutally": Maurice Strong, SecretaryGeneral first Earth Summit, Rio, 1992.*

*"It's no reducing your footprint if you keep increasing the number of feet": popular saying.*

use

**1. Population Growth as a Multiplier of all Other Environmental Problems:** Each additional person: needs **more food, water, energy**, land, timber and minerals; and produces more waste, CO2 and pollution; the rich consuming and polluting more than the poor. Thus rising populations: increase soil exhaustion, erosion, desertification, habitat destruction, deforestation, aquifer depletion, CO2 emissions, sea level rise, climate change and chemical pollution; and reduce the finite and dwindling natural resources available per person, increasing long term **poverty**. Thus all environmental, and most economic problems become harder, and ultimately impossible, to solve with ever more people. **Population stabilisation is a necessary, but not sufficient, condition for sustainability.**

2

**. The 'Sustainable Development Goal':** Impact (on the environment) = Population x Affluence (resource consumption) x Technology – the 'IPAT function. Thus long-term biophysical sustainability requires: improved technology, giving greater **resource efficiency**; and reduced resource-consumption by the rich; and stable or reducing populations. Smaller populations can sustainably consume more resources per person than larger ones, while remaining within the biophysical limits of a finite planet; and indefinite growth being physically impossible, it is certain that population growth will end in any case at some point. This can only happen: either (preferably) sooner by fewer births; or later by more deaths, overwhelming any attempt at a '**Green Economy**'.

**3. Population Growth as a Variable, not a 'Given':** As the global population passes 7 billion in 2011, its growth (at 80 million per year, 10,000 per hour) is clearly **a driver of all the new and emerging challenges**. The UN now project the population for 2050 between 8.1 and 10.6 billion – a range of 2.5 billion, or the Earth's entire population in 1950. Clearly sustainable prosperity will be far easier to achieve, the nearer to 8.1 bn the population stabilizes. This will need priority, and resources: in developing countries for non-coercive family planning and women's education and empowerment programmes; in developed countries for public information programmes/incentives, aiming to balance reproductive rights with social and environmental responsibilities to current and future generations.

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**4. Resources for Family Planning:** There are currently 215 million women (and rising) with an unmet need for family planning (FP). Total world aid for FP is only 10% of the Goldman Sachs bonus pot – a derisory figure. EU aid for FP is 0.4% of total EU aid. Priority for FP is low, partly because the 'population' problem has in recent years been marginalised as one largely of sexual and reproductive health and women's rights; whereas in reality it affects the long-term prospects of success for all programmes across all Departments. Some 40% of all pregnancies world-wide remain unintended. The cost of meeting the unmet need for FP, some \$6.7 bn per year, is less than Americans spend on Halloween.

ry

**5. Action at Rio+20 a draft Text:** Ignoring the population multiplier guarantees ultimate failure for all sustainable development initiatives, since ever-rising populations will overwhelm any . To address this, the following draft text for Rio is proposed:

d

development gains [The Conference]

**Recognises: that all population growth, especially in developed countries, increases impacts on the environment, and reduces the natural resources available per person; that population stabilization in all countries is therefore a necessary condition of biophysical sustainability; that prospects for sustainable development will thus improve, the sooner population can be stabilized within ecologically sustainable limits; and that this can best be achieved by noncoercive population stabilization/reduction policies in all countries, comprising the provision of family planning and women's education and empowerment programmes to meet all unmet need for contraception, and the promotion of a cultural shift in favour of smaller families;**

**Calls on:**

**All Governments to give priority to the introduction, promotion and resourcing of such programmes;**

**All Governments to implement a programme of assessment and evaluation, both of their resources relevant to the wellbeing of their people, and of the impact of population growth on it;**

**se programmes.**

**• Donor countries to give priority to support of th**

opulation Matters (UK) [www.populationmatters.org](http://www.populationmatters.org)

Pw

**On behalf of the European Population Alliance:** Demographie Responsable (France); Herbert Gruhl Society (Germany); BOCS (Hungary); cale Rientrodolce (Italy); ECOPOP (Switzerland).

Associazione Radi 9 October 2011

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Programme for South-South Cooperation between Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica

Programme for South-South Cooperation between Benin, Bhutan, Costa Rica.

In the framework of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (1992) in Rio de Janeiro, Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica separately entered into bilateral Sustainable Development Agreements (SDA) with the Kingdom of Netherlands being formalized in 1994. The Programme for South-South Cooperation between Benin, Bhutan, Costa Rica and the Kingdom of the Netherlands (henceforth PSC) grew out of those Bilateral Sustainable Development Agreements, in 2002, at the Rio+10, World Summit for Sustainable Development (Johannesburg). In the framework of this decision however, Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica realized the enormous potential for South-South cooperation and sustainable development that their past collaborations presented. In 2005, based on the priorities agreed in Johannesburg and the Millennium Development Goals, Costa Rica, Benin and Bhutan came under the umbrella of South-South Cooperation, with a US\$13.2 million grant from the Kingdom of Netherlands. PSC was adopted into the foreign policy and national plans of each partner country by the respective High Level representatives. This set the stage for each government to incorporate SSC into their international relations agendas. In Bhutan this agenda was included in the 5-year Development Plan, Benin adopted it into its national policy and Costa Rica incorporated SSC into its National Development Plan and state policy in 2007. Aiming to convert ideas exposed in the Strategic Partnership Agreements and the Millennium Development Goals into concrete results, the four countries attended a multi-stakeholder workshop, a reunion where priorities, common challenges, and opportunities for collaboration were identified. Specifically, PSC identified four development goals that it would work towards.

- 1) Develop reciprocal projects on the ground that will generate knowledge and empower stakeholders. The results of these projects would be used as inputs for sector strategies and policy making.
- 2) Mobilize national governments, the civil society, and the academic and private sectors in partner countries to renew and reinforce commitment to sustainable development.
- 3) Contribute to sustainable development and poverty reduction in partner countries, taking into account environmental, economic and cultural idiosyncrasies.
- 4) Explore the potential of South-South partnership to promote international commitments and mutual cooperation for sustainable development and experiment with a new North – South – South model of development cooperation.

These goals were set around four thematic areas which included: 1) sustainable tourism, 2) sustainable production and consumption chains, 3) conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, 4) access to sustainable energy and efficient energy use. Gender equity and women empowerment was a cross-cutting theme emphasized in all PSC projects. The PSC was meant to execute reciprocal projects of common interest between 2007 and 2011.

*PSC ensures sustainability:*

PSC recognized that the participation of private sector, local and community organizations ensures projects continuation in the medium and long run, by creating a strong sense of ownership among the stakeholders. In order to be eligible for PSC funding, the projects had to establish their sustainability in three ways:

- **Organizational:** each project described the organizational structure in place when the contractual relationship (between the PSC and the organization) would end. Roles and responsibilities, and the authority and control that will be exercised over the operations in each participating country were clarified at the onset.
- **Economic:** each project was expected to develop mechanisms that allowed actions to continue once the funding from PSC ended. These mechanisms included the development of new commercial products and services, income generation, new jobs options, improvement of efficiency in micro enterprises, development of new microenterprises.
- **Environmental:** each of the projects intended to efficiently manage water resources, energy, solid and liquid

waste, and CO2 emissions during project implementation." PSC catalyses the transition to sustainability by supporting innovation in policies, seeding initiatives, replicating successes, establishing new partnerships with civil society organizations between the partner countries, and disseminating information.

**Impressive Results** The value of allowing the Southern partners take ownership is reflected in the impressive results achieved by PSC to date. Only 5 years in running, and with a relatively small fund, PSC has involved over 180 organizations to achieve the following results:

- 26.706 direct beneficiaries
- More than 2500 new jobs
- 374 new microenterprise
- 1.280 people participating in productive activities
- 1.227 people that are working in a productive activity related to the training
- 477 communities benefited
- 1.533 indigenous people trained
- 673 new products and 179 new services developed.
- 1160 women involved in decision making
- Microenterprises generated \$250.000, 00 of incomes on 2010, by the sales of products and services made by

the project. The results obtained by each of the projects over-achieved the indicators that were planned since the beginning of the programme. PSC has incredible results on agricultural production, sustainable and efficient production schemes, green microenterprises and green jobs, products and services; a national and international impact that transferred technologies and knowledge among developing countries, and an important advance to sustainable development efforts and an example of how this kind of partnerships can generate green economies.

Given the commendable results that PSC has achieved over the years, efforts are currently underway to find a new source of funding showcasing PSC as a successful model of cooperation that can be easily replicated and improved with the participation of more partner countries of the South, PSC evolved into Partners for South-South Cooperation (PSSC), with the intention of including new partner countries.

***PSC partnership, a replicable and scaling up model:***

One of the most attractive features of PSC has been its transferability and sustainability. The ease and success of these adaptations can be attributed to the simple but ingenious methodology of PSC, that allows efficient standardized training and technology transfer, while remaining flexible and responsive to varied contexts. It is reflected in the verifiably positive impact that it has had on the stakeholders at both the local and national level on the three countries.

A recent UNDP report on scaling up MDGs argues that local actors play a pivotal role in achieving MDGs. These local actors include the government, local communities, the

private sector and the civil society (UNDP, 2010). National and local leadership efforts are wasted if the stakeholders of these initiatives do not develop a sense of ownership. Without

this sense of local and national ownership among the different stakeholders, the actors involved will not put in an effort into the Project. The sense of ownership on the micro level can best be illustrated through the experience of the PSC, it is a good example of how local and national partnerships work together to achieve success.

The government continues to pass legislation, fund and implement initiatives, make declarations and set national goals to ensure persistence in conservation. The PSC is a good example of how local leadership can make an impact at the national level and international level. As a local action, had the advantage of knowing precisely the gaps in environmental context, it also had an easier time entering the communities, something that is always a problem for outside North-South partnership.

However, neither the scale up of each of the 36 projects, nor the successful implementation of sustainable development policies, would have been possible without the support created by the comprehensive institutional structures. PSC illustrates the importance of national institutions to environmental protection. Ownership at the micro-level feeds ownership at the macro-level where the government takes responsibility for sustainability. It's important to outline that government has taken on the onus of the overall management of sustainability efforts. Inspired by and working together with international actors, the government should create a comprehensive framework of policy, institutions and incentives that both support local ideas and promote national and international efforts.

***PSC a successful partnership seeks for international support.***

SSC is an innovative approach to development, an approach promoting effective development by learning and sharing knowledge, best practices, resources and technical know-how among developing countries (reciprocal learning). PSC were expected to generate results that would empower local communities but also provide inputs for national policies. In areas where grassroots initiatives were already well developed, PSC hoped to start second phase projects that would form the bridge between the micro and macro level implementation. PSC was aiming to initiate grassroots and micro-level projects the results of which would inform multi-stakeholder policy dialogue in the three partner countries. PSC projects were also expected to facilitate policy dialogue between the private and public sectors. PSC would also streamline and systematize knowledge transfer and best practices generated by the projects to allow for ease of transfer to beneficiaries within and outside of the projects.

The success formula of PSC was independence from donors, emphasis on real reciprocity and equality between members. Through PSC the three countries have come together sharing skills and knowledge on agriculture, environmental issues, efficient use of energy and much more. The reciprocal knowledge exchange and mutual learning had strengthened sectors such as academic, governmental, non-governmental organizations, private and civil society, and at the same time had increased cost effectiveness, promotes transfer of appropriate technologies and ensures local ownership, leadership and capacity building. This experience has shown that south-south countries can learn best practices from each other, by working closely together countries were able to tap into the diverse knowledge of each partner. The contributions of the 36 projects, to more than 25.000 beneficiaries in the three countries, have been not only financial but also technical, including services (training, technical assistance, information and business development services), market access, technology transfer, research and others. This was possible by adapting to the national reality of each of the partners, the knowledge and the techniques exchanged.

With the PSC experience and the ideal of "Thinking globally, acting locally" the program introduces a new perspective on cooperation, and invites development countries to establish strategic partnerships that allow them a unique development process to face similar needs, interests and challenges by supporting South-South Cooperation. As it was mentioned, one of the main lessons learned through PSC is that the exchange of experiences between countries allows and improves the

capacity building of all the participating partners. The exchange of knowledge, technologies and culture represents a new way to achieve sustainable development.

So in accordance to this experience, developing-country partners can support this process by:

- Increasing the scale of engagement, by enhancing technology transfer and learning, enact effective financial and political compromise to developing partners programs and initiatives. It's also important to encourage reciprocal actions (SSC) that focuses on relevant topics like:
  - Environmental protection through the sustainable use of biodiversity and the efficient use of energy.
  - Establishment of gender equity as a cross-cutting theme on every action.
  - Development of productive initiatives in order to generate employments and increase incomes (reduce poverty).
  - Enhancing people's access to sufficient food through organic agricultural production and commercialization.
  - Climate change as a result of implementation of low-cost effective technologies, organic production, etc. among many other themes for sustainable development.
- Cooperation through the implementation and support of partnerships as an essential model to eradicate poverty (an indispensable requirement for sustainable development).
- To give special priority to ALL developing countries, as the most vulnerable actors. Adaptation and mitigation actions that seeks for environmental improvement and development of all developing countries.

Additionally, the triangular cooperation like the one developed on the PSC Program (between the Kingdom of Netherlands, Benin, Bhutan and Costa Rica) demonstrates how countries from the South with the economical help of the North can co-operate in a spirit of "global partnership", were everyone is aware of their responsibilities and take part of a common action to improve the quality of life of the people. The North, representative by development countries and international organization, has a vital role to play in SSC provided this role permits the South partners the autonomy needed to carve out their own paths towards development. It is important to support through South-South Cooperation a more cost effective type of cooperation, since developing partner countries have similar societies, economies values and visions when compared with northern partners.

From the other hand, it's also valuable the support of international organizations, as mechanism that support South-South Cooperation mainly through programs, networks, and information systems that promote cooperation among developing countries.

***PSC partnership important lessons for Rio+20 and: future SSC activity:***

- **South-South Cooperation can and has produced very impressive results** despite possible skepticism surrounding the idea. At the start of PSC many were worried that the overhead and management of a program between three vastly different Southern nations would be too complicated for a successful development initiative. 3 years and more than 26.000 direct beneficiaries later, the PSC results speak for themselves. The program has indisputably shown that once momentum is gathered, the running of SSC is neither complicated, nor expensive.
- **PSC can generate green economies** through the implementation of a model that look to transfer technologies and knowledge among developing countries, and the

promotion of social development by agricultural production, sustainable and efficient production schemes, green microenterprises and green jobs, products and services

• **Language, culture, religion and geography are not barriers to cooperation.** Although language and culture may establish a first start problem, these problems were long forgotten. If anything, experiences from PSC projects have showed that language ceases to be an issue at the grassroots level where beneficiaries learn through

hands on experience. All interviewees were eager to learn about the culture of their partners and most project involved cultural learning along with technology and skill transfers.

• **Permitting greater autonomy and responsibility among the Southern partners leads to a strong sense of ownership and accountability and hence more efficient results.** Traditional North-South relationships had engendered an expectation of the beneficiaries that the North will always give them money as a "gift". So when the funding ran out, projects would stop because the beneficiaries were expecting the donor to give them more money and to tell them what to do with it. The PSC has done a lot to change this attitude. PSC has shown that when the providing partner is willing to allow the receiving partners make their own decisions, the receiving partners take on responsibility for the project's success, by creating a sense of ownership; SSC has made the Southern partners a lot more active in their projects. PSC went from one partner only giving and the other partner only taking to a relationship of give-and-take. They become accountable not only to their constituencies and to the provider, but also to each other.

• **Technology and knowledge transfer is most efficient when counterparts identify with each other.** Being able to see firsthand the success of other farmers or producers using the same techniques that they were teaching proved to be a lot more convincing for beneficiaries than any set of empirical evidence would.

• **South-South Cooperation has to be based on reciprocity, equality, and participation in order to succeed.**

The absence of any one of these pillar would distort the SSC, hampering the comfortable and conducive environment that allows partners to freely express their views. This ensures that all partners are on the same page and everyone ones that they have the right to complain if they feel that one of these principles is violated.

• **International actors and pressures can play a role in conservation** but only as motivators for national actions. Many important conservation efforts were initiated and the indispensability of international funding cannot be denied, but these efforts would have been wasted had they not been matched by national creativity, local enthusiasm and hard work. This sort of interaction between international and national actors is noted on PSC.

• **SSC will not replace North-South Cooperation.** PSC's North-South-South collaboration shows that development will only be possible if both the North and the South come together under a respectful and reciprocal partnership that makes the best of each other's comparative advantages and allows each partner to put in the greatest effort. Each partner has a lot to learn from the other and achieving development goals without help from the North would be impossible.

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**Developed and developing countries lacks of sufficient high-level political support to carry on international climate change commitments.** PSC's experience provide the impetus, results and necessary lessons for the introduction of a new model of development cooperation, based on mutual respect, reciprocity, participation and the willingness to teach and be taught, to improved path towards achieving global development goals. This made possible the effective implementation of PSC on the development of each of the 36 reciprocal projects. **Developed countries play a key role as a financial support of SSC;** this kind of cooperation and results are possible with the financial support of North countries.

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## Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) International

Contribution by PEFC to the Outcomes of the Rio+20 Conferences

PEFC, the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification and world's largest forest certification, recalls the 2011 UNEP "Forests in a Green Economy" report.

"Forests are a critical link in the transition to a green economy – one that promotes sustainable development and poverty eradication as we move towards a low-carbon and more equitable future," writes Achim Steiner, UNEP Executive Director. "Biologically-rich forest ecosystems provide shelter, food, jobs, water, medicine and security to more than 1 billion people, as well as regulate our global climate."

Mr. Steiner emphasizes that "[w]hile we have a suite of proven sustainable forestry practices and policies that work, they must now be scaled up and enforced to safeguard these natural assets."

PEFC supports these important messages.

Over the past 20 years, forest certification has become one of the most important tools for global society to promote sustainable forest management. Yet despite major strides in certification, only nine percent of the world's forests have been certified and ninety percent of these are in Europe and North America. Similarly, despite some progress in alleviating poverty around the world, population growth means that in real terms the number of people living below the poverty line remains high – poverty is a major reason for deforestation and illegal logging. This situation is further complicated in rapidly emerging economies where land tenure rights have to date been ill-defined or may be weak and evolving.

Forest certification system such as PEFC are an important mechanism that offer potential to contribute to improving livelihoods, particularly in developing countries, and to assist in lifting people out of poverty. Forest certification is also important in assisting us in moving towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including that by that by 2020, forests are managed sustainably and forest loss is halved. This, however, requires us to mainstream forest certification throughout the world and especially in the Global South. To achieve this, all forest certification systems and stakeholders must seek to ensure that our efforts to expand forest certification are additive and not duplicative, contributing to an expansion of the overall total certified forest area. In a world where deforestation continues unabated in many nations, stakeholder must collaborate whenever possible. While PEFC – the Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification – is the larger of the two global forest certification systems, we must utilize the different approaches offered for the best of society as a whole. We must agree on a common framework to guide forest certification and its stakeholders in their actions.

The Rio Forest Certification Declaration ([www.rfcd.org](http://www.rfcd.org)), supported by PEFC, the world's largest forest certification system and by hundreds of people who have signed the Declaration online, represents such a common framework. PEFC calls for the inclusion of the "Rio Forest Certification Declaration" in the outcomes of the Rio+20 conference.

## The Rio Forest Certification Declaration

### Preamble

The challenge of safeguarding the environmental, social and economic benefits that the world's forests provide is critical for life on Earth. It requires a world in which people manage forests sustainably, a world that recognizes the integral and interdependent nature of our planet, a world that acknowledges and values the significance of rural communities, indigenous peoples, and families that depend on forests for their livelihoods.

### Principle 1: Human beings are at the centre of sustainable forest management

Public and private policies designed to promote sustainable forest management can only succeed if they enhance the quality of life of people who live in and/or depend upon forests.

Application: Forest certification systems and all stakeholders must act to protect and promote forest-dependent populations, local communities, smallholder forest owners, workers, family foresters, women, youth and children, and indigenous peoples all of whom are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with the forests on which they depend.

### Principle 2: Recognize and respect national sovereignty in the design and implementation of sustainable forest management policies and standards

In accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Rio Forest Principles, and the principles of international law, all states have both the sovereign right and obligation to develop their own sustainable forest management objectives. States must act to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause environmental, social, or economic damage to areas and people beyond the limits of their national jurisdiction or violate international protocols and conventions.

Application: Forest certification systems, forest stakeholders, especially Major Groups and OECD countries, must respect each nation's chosen path to promote sustainable development, the Millennium Development Goals, and sustainably managed forests in their actions, policies and guidelines.

### Principle 3: Protect the complexity of forest ecosystems, forest-dependent economies, and rural culture by adopting integrated forest management plans and policies

In order to promote sustainable forest management, forest certification standards, national forest policy, and private and public procurement guidelines must meet the needs of present and future generations by promoting economically viable, ecologically sound, and socially just outcomes based on the national and/or local context.

Application: Forest certification standards, public policy and procurement guidelines must integrate competing demands in order to meet the needs of all stakeholders to deliver balanced socially, economically and environmentally sustainable solutions.

### Principle 4: Contribute to poverty reduction through empowerment of the poor

Peace, social justice, global economic equity, and environmental protection are interdependent and indivisible. Poverty reduction is an indispensable requirement for sustainable forest management; it is an integral part of the development process and cannot be considered in isolation from it. The linkage between deforestation and poverty is strong, compelling, and in need of specific attention. Measures diminishing forest resources to increase agricultural resources to contribute to food security must directly contribute to the sustainable livelihoods of those affected.

Application: Forest certification systems, Major Groups and governments may contribute to mitigate deforestation and promote afforestation within their boundaries and jurisdictions and seek to safeguard forest resources. Standards and policies must promote the efficient use of forest resources, good forest management, and provide for increased wealth retention in rural communities through partnerships with smallholders, community-owned forests, and indigenous peoples' organizations, in addition to maximizing formal employment opportunities.

### Principle 5: Open and accessible stakeholder processes are essential

Sustainable forest management is best achieved through the empowerment of all stakeholders in open and accessible processes. Special outreach must occur for those groups lacking a tradition of involvement or lacking the resources required.

Application: Forest certification governance systems, private and public procurement entities, and standards development processes must seek to ensure the involvement of Major Groups and governments in a multistakeholder, consensus-driven process, respecting the right to self-identification and self-determination while avoiding governance systems and decision-making processes designed to restrict the voice or participation of any stakeholder.

### Principle 6: Transparency, inclusiveness, and collaboration are fundamental prerequisites for global sustainability

Expanding sustainable forest management to all of the world's forest requires cooperative and transparent processes among all stakeholders and governments. Promoting division, competition, and exclusivity among and between different approaches to sustainable forest management wastes limited resources, encroaches on stakeholder-driven processes, diverts attention from areas where deforestation and unsustainable forest management are still common practices, and fails to expand the total volume of global well-managed forest area.

Application: Certification schemes, procurement guidelines, and those seeking to protect forests must promote standards, policies, and practices, which are inclusive and recognize the superiority of all types of sustainably managed forests and certification systems as a tool to promote sustainable development.

### Principle 7: Utilize the benefits of renewable and climate-smart forest-based products

Sustainable forest management must adapt to complex societal challenges such as climate change, population growth and increasing resource shortages caused by unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, especially those that are high-carbon emitting. Recognizing the unique attributes of forest products from sustainably managed forests both in terms of carbon sequestration, other ecosystem services, and development values is critical for public and private policy makers, including climate policy negotiators. Application: Forest certification systems, governments, and procurement entities must recognize and use all tools available to support forests to adapt and thrive with these challenges including adaptive silvicultural practices, promotion of recycled and forest-based products for their unique attributes in terms of carbon sequestration, other ecosystem services, and development values.

### Principle 8: Rely on science, local experience, and traditional forest-related knowledge to advance sustainable forest management

Sustainable forest management will be most successful when it is based on scientific, local experience and traditional forest knowledge, as well as international protocols and

processes. Improving scientific understanding through exchanges of scientific, local and traditional forest-related and technological knowledge, and the development, adaptation, diffusion and transfer of technologies, is critical to the delivery of a balanced approach to sustainable forest management. Indigenous peoples have a vital role in sustainable forest management because of their knowledge and traditional practices.

Application: Forest certification systems, governments and procurement entities must develop standards based on the best available science, local and traditional knowledge and be structured such that developing countries, communities and small forest landowners have a clear path to meet the forest management standards. These approaches must be independently verifiable, using guidelines and requirements in compliance with internationally respected organizations such as ISO. Conflicts of interests between governmental procurement entities, standard-setting bodies, certification organizations, accreditation bodies, and auditors must be handled accordingly in order to provide legitimacy to the process.

Principle 9: Use a precautionary approach to prevent irreversible damage

In order to best safeguard forest resources, precautionary approaches must be widely applied by all stakeholders where there are imminent threats of serious or irreversible damage. Application: Forest certification systems, governments, and procurement entities must strive for continuous improvement while remaining aware of the consequences of their programmes and standards for all stakeholders.

Principle 10: Promoting global acceptance of sustainable forest management through voluntary programmes and education is the fastest path to healthy forests and vibrant rural communities Achieving sustainable forest management is a major challenge in many parts of the world. Voluntary forest certification and private and public procurement policies are important tools to protect forests and forestdependent populations.

Application: Forest certification systems, Major Groups and governments have an obligation to make available and use, for the advancement of sustainable forest management, their respective areas of expertise, influence and power. Policies, standards and tactics that negatively affect forest-dependent people, deny markets to sustainably managed forests, and create development obstacles, lead to inefficiencies in the allocation of resources, and are a barrier to advancing sustainable forest management globally and locally

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## Progressio

Progressio Submission to the UNCSD Rio+20 Conference Zero Draft Compilation Document

1 November 2011

Executive summary

Progressio recognises the importance of Rio+20 for reigniting progress towards sustainable development, in the context of increased environmental degradation, competition over scarce resources and climate change.

Rio+20 should not be seen as the end of a journey, but a catalyst to start off new initiatives and processes that builds on outcomes of previous 'Earth Summits', coupled with new awareness, learning and knowledge. Given the particular impact of environmental stress on poor people and communities, a clear poverty and equity focus must be at the heart of Rio+20.

Water should be a key focus area under the Rio+20 process, as a fundamental resource that underpins both life and livelihoods and therefore represents an essential part of sustainable development. This should build on experiences, knowledge and outcomes from previous 'Earth Summits', as well as other relevant processes and new research, including the impacts of climate change on the water cycle.

A Green Economy cannot function without water. Water is not a 'sector', and its cross cutting nature makes it a fundamental part of many important aspects of a Green Economy, such as agriculture and energy. Green Economy policies therefore need to include recognition of water to ensure water related impacts are fully acknowledged and accounted for, in particular where usage can have direct or indirect impacts on other sectors or users.

Water insecurity and scarcity affects a large proportion of the world's population, with a particular impact on the world's poorest people, who are often put at further disadvantage where there is competition over water resources. A core focus on sustainable and equitable water resources management is therefore essential, with clear poverty and equity objectives, and active involvement of key stakeholders.

A strong gender approach must also be included. Women are generally the main water managers on a household level in developing countries, both for consumptive and productive use, and their knowledge and participation should be acknowledged, and they should be provided with adequate support according to their needs.

### 1. Introduction

Progressio welcomes the opportunity to submit our views to the UNCSD Rio+20 Zero Draft process. Progressio aims in this submission to draw particular attention to the significance of water as an urgent issue for Rio+20, including its vital role for sustainable development and poverty eradication.

#### 1.1 About Progressio

Progressio is an international development charity that enables poor communities to solve their own problems through support from skilled workers. We work in partnership with civil society organisations in 11 countries around the world and we also lobby decision-makers to change policies that keep people poor. Our work is guided by three themes: Participation and effective governance, Sustainable environment; and HIV and AIDS. Progressio is the working name of the Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIIR).

#### 1.2 The importance of Rio+20

The UNCSD Rio Earth Summit in 1992 was a landmark event in terms of sustainable development, however, there has been a considerable lack of progress in many areas since, and there is an urgent need to speed up progress, in particular in the light of growing challenges of environmental degradation, competition over scarce resources and climate change. Given the precarious state of our planet, a failure at Rio would come at a high cost. The challenges of natural resource degradation and climate change are not only detrimental for the future of this planet, but also interlinked and fundamental for the global economic system and development challenges, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Progressio believes that the Rio+20 Conference presents a vital opportunity to get progress back on track.

### 2. Expectations of Rio+20

#### 2.1 Outcomes of Rio+20

Rio+20 should not be seen as the end of a journey, but rather as a catalyst to start off new initiatives and processes. It is fundamental that these build on the outcomes and learning from previous Earth Summits, including the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, coupled with recognition of new challenges and knowledge. Key challenges should be identified and dealt with through concrete measures that are based on principles of long term sustainability and a pro-poor approach.

Viable propositions that deserve further attention and elaboration include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs would address the Agenda 21 aims, and could be used as a possible foundation for building international political commitment at Rio, providing measurable 'tangible goals' for the sustainable development debate. The SDGs would apply in all countries, and therefore act as a complementary, successor framework to the MDGs, which end in 2015 and focuses mainly on the Global South. However, the SDGs should not detract from the urgent need for a post-2015 framework that focuses on poverty or from funding for that agenda.

### 3. Water

"Water problems will figure prominently at the forthcoming UN Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, in 2012 – Rio + 20." UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, World Water Day, 22 March 2011

#### 3.1 The water crisis

Only 2.63 per cent of global water is freshwater, which includes a large part that is tied up in snow and ice. Despite this, there is currently no overall global water scarcity, but a number of regions are chronically short of water, and climate change is expected to make this worse. In addition, further complexities surround water scarcity issues. It has been estimated that out of the 2.8 billion people that live in areas facing water scarcity, 1.2 billion live in 'physical water scarcity' and 1.6 billion in 'economic water scarcity', meaning that water access is not limited by supply, but constrained by financial, human or institutional capacity. To solve the water crisis, focus must therefore not just be on managing supply and demand, but also on access constraints in broader terms, such as governance and equity aspects.

Increased attention is being given to the cross cutting nature of water for many different uses and tension around availability and prioritisation, for example, in the so called 'water, food and energy nexus'. To ensure equitable access and environmental sustainability both in the short and long term, an interlinked approach is fundamental, which also needs to include the impacts of climate change, in particular given the predicted severe impact on water resources.

In addition to the basic need of water, food production is particularly important given that 70 per cent of freshwater withdrawals are for agriculture, highlighting direct linkages between water availability and food security concerns. There are also direct linkages to the rural poor, recognising that smallholder farms feed one-third of the world's population. Furthermore, increased reliance on water intensive sources of energy is raising questions around long term sustainability even for many renewable energy sources, a concern that also needs to be recognised within climate change mitigation policies.

Poor people are often hit hardest and despite progress on the MDG 7 target on access to water, almost 900 million people still lack access to safe drinking water and even if the target is met, 672 million will be left without. Women are often particularly affected, since they are often responsible for water management on a household level, both for consumptive and productive use. Furthermore, population increase, changes in consumption and production patterns, environmental degradation, pollution and a number of other factors implicate on water availability. Lack of progress on access to water also often has fallback effects on other MDGs, such as gender equality, hunger, health and education.

#### 3.2 Water and the Rio process

Water is not a new concern within the UN 'Earth Summit' framework. Outcomes of both the 1972, 1992 and 2002 conferences include direct references and recommendations in relation to water, and are complemented by the Millennium Development Goals. Most importantly, Agenda 21: Chapter 18 is dedicated to water 'Protection of the Quality & Supply of Freshwater Resources: Application of Integrated Approaches to the Development, Management & Use of Water Resources'. This comprehensive chapter proposes six programme areas for the freshwater sector:

- (a) Integrated water resources development and management;
- (b) Water resources assessment;
- (c) Protection of water resources, water quality and aquatic ecosystems;
- (d) Drinking-water supply and sanitation;
- (e) Water and sustainable urban development;
- (f) Water for sustainable food production and rural development;
- (g) Impacts of climate change on water resources.

To facilitate implementation, each programme area is divided into Basis for action, Objectives, Activities, Means of implementation, including Financing and cost evaluation, Scientific and technological means, Human resource development, and Capacity-development.

Furthermore, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation includes several references to water, many with particular reference to the Millennium Development Goals. This includes the launch of a programme of actions, with financial and technical assistance, including actions to 'promote priority action by Governments, with the support of all stakeholders, in water management and capacity-building at the national level and, where appropriate, at the regional level, and promote and provide new and additional financial resources and innovative technologies to implement chapter 18 of Agenda 21' (see Appendix III).

In the Rio+20 context the challenge of access to clean water and sanitation is one of the main concerns, but also water availability more generally, noting that "increased action is imperative". Furthermore, water is being recognised in broader terms than before with a focus on its role as a cross cutting resource, included as an essential part of the 'Green Economy' and the so called 'water, food and energy nexus'. As a consequence suggested solutions have largely moved away from a primary focus on management issues, towards market based approaches, including full cost valuation and pricing, to solve the problems around supply and demand.

### 4. Green Economy and Water

#### 4.1 Rio+20 and the Green Economy

The 'Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication' is one of the main focus areas of Rio+20. While the Green Economy has been set in a broader concept of the intersection between environment and economy, to highlight synergies rather than trade-offs, coupled with social issues, no clear definition has been agreed within this context, partly due to some resistance to the concept in itself. UNEP's definition is therefore sometimes used, "A Green Economy is one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental and ecological scarcities."



Outside of Rio+20, Green Economy is often used more or less interchangeably with Green Growth. OECD has identified Green Growth as “fostering economic growth and development, while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies”. The most significant difference to UNEP’s definition is the lack of reference to social equity, a key fundamental for achieving sustainable poverty reduction.

Despite a clear definition, the Rio+20 process has identified different green economy policies that indicates a general direction: green stimulus packages; eco-efficiency; greening markets and public procurement; investment in sustainable infrastructure; restoration and enhancement of natural capital; getting prices right; and eco-tax reform. ‘Getting prices right’ is defined as better reflecting environmental externalities in market prices, especially for natural resources. A consultative bottom-up approach is also recommended, with government leadership and multi-stakeholder engagement, with careful design to ensure social equity.

Furthermore, it is acknowledged that there is no simple one-size-fits-all for poverty reduction, and that poverty eradication and enhancement of the livelihoods of the most vulnerable deserve priority in measures promoting a green economy transition. In the long term, a development path limiting environmental impacts would be more conducive to prosperity and poverty alleviation. The poor are generally most affected by trends, such as climate change and environmental degradation and shocks such as food scarcity and shifts of the economy that decrease such risks will benefit the poor. Production and consumption systems that are compatible with sustainable development play a key part in this.

#### 4.2 Water and the Green Economy

The Stockholm Statement to Rio+20 from World Water Week 2011 argues that water is “the bloodstream of the Green Economy”, and recognises the interconnectedness of water, food and energy as a fundamental priority. It also calls for universal access to water and sanitation by 2030, over and above current MDG aspirations.

UNEP’s report ‘Towards a Green Economy’ identifies investment in clean water and sanitation services to the poor as one of the biggest opportunities to speed up the transition to a green economy in many developing countries. Not having access to water is costly, since either large amounts of their disposable income have to be spent on purchasing water from vendors or large amounts of time, in particular from women and children, have to be devoted to carting it. In addition, the cost of water-borne diseases is high. UNEP estimates that under a scenario of an investment of around 0.16 per cent of global GDP per year, water use at the global level could be kept within sustainable limits and the MDG for water could be achieved by 2015.

UNEP argues that a green economy should acknowledge where water is scarce, and manage it carefully, to ensure use is kept within sustainable limits. The role of water in both maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services should be recognised, valued and paid for, and the use of technologies that encourage efficient forms of recycling and reuse is encouraged. To progress towards the pursuit of green objectives various tools can be used, such as the redesign of governance arrangements, the improved specification of property rights, the adoption of policies that reflect the full costs of use including the costs of adverse impacts on the environment, and through improved regulation. The suggested indicators for tracking progress include the number of people without access to reliable supplies of clean water and sanitation, as well as the volume available per person in a region.

The report recognises that the complex flow of water resources affects its availability and opportunities to manage it. Given the high level of water used by agriculture, one of the biggest challenges is to find a way to significantly increase the productivity of irrigated agriculture, so that water can be transferred to other sectors without adversely affecting the environment or food security. The report argues that gauging the true value of ecosystems, including water, is a key part of the movement towards a green economy, coupled with market-based approaches, as well as consumer driven accreditation and certification schemes. Water entitlement and allocation systems are other options, however, the environment should have rights that are either equal or superior to those of other users of a water resource.

To reduce the cost of a transition to a green economy, the report recommends improvements in governance arrangements, reform of water policies and the development of partnerships with the private sector. Other key recommendations include the phasing out of perverse subsidies and adopting freer trading arrangements, which are believed to bring benefits to many sectors. In terms of water and sanitation, the report remains decisive on the importance of full cost accounting, but inconclusive on ‘how best to charge poor households for access to water and sanitation services’. It concludes that green economies should include commitment to factoring social equity into the transition to arrangements that influence investment and decisions by people and industry, but how this is done largely depends on the context.

#### 4.3 A water and poverty analysis

The lack of a clear definition of a Green Economy within the Rio+20 context presents a potential hazard in that what is considered ‘green’ becomes a very broad concept that primarily responds to short term concerns, without adequate analysis of cross cutting issues or social and environmental impacts in the long term. If not managed carefully this could ultimately lead to negative impacts on sustainable development and poverty reduction, including from a water perspective.

The Green Economy needs to be a fair one, where the social dimension of sustainable development needs to be given greater emphasis, and one that acknowledges key environmental limits and planetary boundaries. It will therefore be essential to comprehensively analyse potential effects on environmental, social and economic levels, both on short and long term, and across sectors and including the impacts of climate change. Core sustainability and equity principles must guide the process, including strong environmental and social safeguards, with a clear focus on cross cutting water related impacts.

As described above, the UNEP report argues that shifting to a green economy usually involves a commitment to begin charging for the full costs of resource use. The main tension is how to include principles on social equity, including how to charge for water and sanitation services, also recognising that this is now a human right. While market based approaches, including a full cost valuation of water, could provide benefits in terms of discouraging over usage, social equity principles are essential to ensure poor communities are not put at considerable disadvantage, in particular in a context of increased environmental degradation, competition over water resources and climate change. Furthermore, while some argue that there is little practical difference between private or public provision of water, attention need to be paid to the private sector’s mandate to maximise profit and implications for poor communities, as this could undermine poor communities’ ability to pay. From another perspective, profit maximisation could also lead to encouragement to consume more.

Progressio, CEPES and Water Witness International’s report ‘Drop by drop: Understanding the impact of the UK’s water footprint through a case study of Peruvian asparagus’ highlights tensions between large scale agribusiness and water for local communities, which can serve as an illustrative example of the importance of recognition of water related impacts and lessons for a Green Economy. The report illustrates a number of far reaching impacts of the growth of agribusiness, largely supported by international investment, including rapid depletion of the aquifer, and with negative fallbacks for poor and marginalised communities in the Ica Valley and beyond, such as lack of water for drinking and for irrigation.

Green Economy policies should avoid moving into a ‘new paradigm’ on water, without proper recognition of lessons learned through other water related processes, in particular in terms of poverty related aspects. Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and other similar approaches, including community and ecosystems based management, have come through as viable strategies from the Rio and other processes. Implementation has been slow, partly due to lack of political will, but it is essential that they still form a key part of the Green Economy process. The important role of poor communities and other key stakeholders need to be recognised, not just as beneficiaries, but as key agents and co-creators of positive change. The Rio Declaration and Agenda put local communities, with particular emphasis on women, as a key component of sustainable development and it is essential that this recognition is also reflected in Green Economy policies.

To avoid negative fallbacks of Green Economy policies, principles of social equity must therefore be included, including principles of development through a human rights framework. Adequate and efficient regulation is also important, as well as ensuring poor people are involved in decision making, to ensure sustainability and that their knowledge and needs are recognised. This should include women, who are often responsible for water management on a domestic level and therefore hold vital information on water availability and access, and therefore must play a key part for any solution to be sustainable. The cultural aspects of water must also be recognised, including the management functions ritual and beliefs can entail, in particular for indigenous groups.

The linkages to other poverty related processes must also be recognised. Sustainable and equitable access to water has impacts on other development related issues, such as gender equality, health, education, food production and work opportunities, all key elements of the MDGs. Furthermore, the potential impact of climate change must be recognised, given that the water cycle will be particularly affected, and could therefore severely undermine any progress if not taken into account. Again, poor people are likely to be hit the hardest.

#### 5. Recommendations

- Rio+20 represents a vital opportunity to reignite progress towards sustainable development that should be seen as a catalyst to start off new initiatives and processes that builds on outcomes of previous 'Earth Summits', coupled with new awareness, learning and knowledge.
- Given the particular impact of environmental stress on poor people and communities, a clear poverty and equity focus must be at the heart of Rio+20, including gender considerations.
- The impacts of climate change must be taken into consideration at all times, both from a mitigation and adaptation perspective.
- Viable propositions that deserve further attention and elaboration include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Water should be a key focus area of Rio+20, as a fundamental resource that underpins both life and livelihoods, that is also cross cutting and impacts on multiple sectors and users. It therefore also represents an essential part of the Green Economy.
- This includes a core focus on sustainable and equitable water resources management, with clear poverty and equity objectives, and active involvement of key stakeholders, including a gender perspective.
- The Green Economy must be a fair one, where the social dimension of sustainable development is given greater emphasis, and one that acknowledges key environmental limits and planetary boundaries.

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## Progressio Ireland

### 1. Introduction

There is no doubt as to the importance of the 1992 UNCED Rio Earth Summit. Since the summit, however, there has been a disappointing lack of progress, particularly with respect to the issues of environmental degradation, competition over scarce resources and climate change. This revisit to Rio signifies a major opportunity to attempt to speed up the progress on these areas.

Water has been recognised as essential for sustainable development as highlighted in Agenda 21. However, it very much remains a key concern and this commitment to Agenda 21 needs to be reiterated and strengthened. For Progressio Ireland, water is an area of concentration and expertise. In particular, we look at the issues of fair and sustainable access to water for poor and marginalised communities. In this submission, therefore, Progressio Ireland will draw particular attention to the significance of water as an urgent issue for Rio+20, including its vital role for poverty eradication.

Progressio Ireland is an independent Irish organisation that is part of the Progressio family. The Progressio family works internationally to enable people in developing countries to challenge and change the situations that keep them poor. We work in partnership with civil society organisations in 11 countries around the world and we also work within Ireland and the wider European context to push decision-makers to change policies that support inequality and keep people poor. Our work is guided by two themes: participation and effective governance and sustainable environment.

The summary of the submission is outlined below. Later in the document there is a more detailed explanation around these issues.

### 2. Summary

a. Progressio Ireland recognises the importance of Rio+20 for reigniting progress and commitment to sustainable development on a domestic and global scale, in the context of increased environmental degradation, competition and conflict over scarce resources, and climate change, and urges the secretariat to ensure that these concerns are put at the heart of the agenda.

b. Water should be a key focus area under the Rio+20 process, as a fundamental element that underpins both life and livelihoods, and therefore represents an essential part of sustainable development and human development. This should build on experiences, knowledge and conclusions from previous Earth Summits, as well as other relevant processes and new research, including the impacts of climate change on the water cycle and the importance of water as a development issue.

c. Water insecurity and scarcity affects a large proportion of the world's population, with a particular impact on the world's poorest people. Environmental degradation and competition over water resources is increasing and, furthermore, climate change is expected to have a substantial impact on the hydrological cycle, with follow on effects on people and ecosystems. A clear poverty and equity focus must therefore be at the heart of Rio+20.

d. A Green Economy cannot function without water, as recognised by both UNEP and many water experts, such as in the World Water Week statement on Rio+20. Water is not a 'sector', and its cross cutting nature makes it a fundamental part of many important aspects of a Green Economy, such as agriculture and energy. Green Economy policies therefore need to include recognition of the importance of water to ensure water related impacts are fully acknowledged and accounted for, in particular where usage can have direct or indirect impacts on other sectors.

e. A Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty reduction must be underpinned by principles of social equity, including on water. This includes a core focus on sustainable and equitable water resources management, with clear poverty and equity objectives, and active involvement of key stakeholders.

f. A strong gender approach must also be included. Women are generally the main water managers on a household level in developing countries, both for consumptive and productive use, and their knowledge and participation should be acknowledged, and they should be provided with adequate support according to their needs.

### 3. THE WATER CRISIS

Only 2.63% of global water is freshwater, which includes a large part that is tied up in snow and ice. Despite this, there is currently no overall global water scarcity, but a number of regions are chronically short of water, and climate change is expected to make this worse. It has been estimated that out of the 2.8 billion people that live in areas facing water scarcity, 1.2 billion live in "physical water scarcity" and 1.6 billion in "economic water scarcity", meaning that water access is not limited by supply, but constrained by financial, human or institutional capacity.

Water is a resource that has many uses. Frequently tension arises around the availability and prioritisation of these uses (e.g. the "water, food and energy nexus"). Looking at freshwater supply alone is therefore not sufficient if we aim to ensure sustainable access of water for all, which also caters for other vital needs, such as for food production, energy provision and ecosystems, which also needs to be assessed in terms of impacts of climate change.

In addition to the basic need of water, food production is particularly important given that 70% of freshwater withdrawals are for agricultural purposes, highlighting direct linkages between water availability and food security concerns. There are also direct linkages to the rural poor, recognising that smallholder farms feed one-third of the world's population. Furthermore, increased reliance on water intensive sources of energy is raising questions around long term sustainability even for many renewable energy sources, a concern that also needs to be recognised within climate change mitigation policies and water management policies.

Poor people are often hit hardest and despite progress on the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7 on access to water, 900 million people still lack access to safe drinking water. Large private companies in developing countries often monopolise water use, leaving very little access to water for the poorer residents. The UN Human Development Report (2010) also claims that those living in slums in Sub Saharan Africa actually pay more for drinking water than residents in New York or Paris. Women are often particularly affected, since they are often responsible for water management on a household level, both for consumptive and productive use. Furthermore, as the world population reaches 7 billion and continues to increase, changes in consumption and production patterns, environmental degradation, pollution and a number of other factors will have implications for water availability. Lack of progress on access to water also often has fallback effects on other MDGs, such as gender equality, hunger, health and education.

### 4. RIO +20 AND THE GREEN ECONOMY

The 'Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication' is one of the main focus areas of Rio+20. The Green Economy has been set in a broader concept of the intersection between environment and economy, to highlight synergies rather than trade-offs, coupled with social issues. However, no clear definition has been agreed within this context, partly due to some resistance to the concept itself. UNEP's definition is therefore sometimes used, "A Green Economy is one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental and ecological scarcities."

Outside of Rio+20, Green Economy is often used more or less interchangeably with Green Growth. OECD has identified Green Growth as "fostering economic growth and development, while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our well-being relies". The most significant difference to UNEP's definition is the lack of reference to social equity, a key fundamental for achieving sustainable poverty reduction.

Despite a clear definition, the Rio+20 process has identified different green economy policies that indicates a general direction: green stimulus packages; eco-efficiency; greening markets and public procurement; investment in sustainable infrastructure; restoration and enhancement of natural capital; getting prices right; and eco-tax reform. "Getting prices right" is defined as better reflecting environmental externalities in market prices, especially for natural resources. A consultative bottom-up approach is also recommended, with government leadership and multi-stakeholder engagement, with careful design to ensure social equity.

Furthermore, it is acknowledged that there is no simple one-size-fits-all for poverty reduction, and that poverty eradication and enhancement of the human rights, living standards and livelihoods of the most vulnerable, deserve priority in measures promoting a green economy transition. In the long term, a development path limiting environmental impacts would be more conducive to prosperity and poverty alleviation, especially now that population growth has highlighted the limits of our planet, and the desperate need for development and growth that is sustainable. The UNHCR (2010) reiterates this, arguing that human development and sustainable development are inseparable. The poor are generally most affected by trends like climate change, environmental degradation and food scarcity, and shifts of the economy that decrease such risks will benefit the poor. Production and consumption systems that are compatible with sustainable development play a key part in this.

### 5. WATER AND THE GREEN ECONOMY

Water is not a new concern within the UN "Earth Summit" framework. Outcomes of both the 1972, 1992 and 2002 conferences include direct references and recommendations in relation to water, and are complemented by the MDGs. Most importantly, Agenda 21: Chapter 18 is dedicated to water- "Protection of the Quality & Supply of Freshwater Resources: Application of Integrated Approaches to the Development, Management & Use of Water Resources". Furthermore, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation includes several references to water, many with particular reference to the MDGs, included the added target on access to sanitation.

In the Rio+20 context the challenge of access to clean water and sanitation is one of the main concerns, but also water availability more generally, noting that "increased action is imperative". Furthermore, water is being recognised in broader terms than before with a focus on its role as a cross cutting resource, including as an essential part of the 'Green Economy' and the so called 'water, food and energy nexus'. Within this context suggested solutions have largely moved away from a primary focus on management issues, towards market based approaches, including full cost valuation and pricing, to solve problems around supply and demand.

Furthermore, the Stockholm Statement to Rio+20 from World Water Week 2011 argues that water is "the bloodstream of the Green Economy", and recognises the interconnectedness of water, food and energy as a fundamental priority. It also calls for universal access to water and sanitation by 2030, over and above current MDG aspirations.

UNEP's report "Towards a Green Economy" identifies investment in clean water and sanitation services to the poor as one of the biggest opportunities to speed up the transition to a green economy in many developing countries. Not having access to water is costly, since large amounts of their disposable income have to be spent on purchasing water from vendors, or large amounts of time, in particular from women and children, have to be devoted to collecting and transporting it. In addition, the cost of water-borne diseases, like cholera and malaria, for example, is high. It is estimated that in developing countries, 80% of all illnesses are caused by water-borne diseases. UNEP estimates that under a scenario of an investment of around 0.16% of global GDP per year, water use at the global level could be kept within sustainable limits and the MDG for water could be achieved by 2015.

UNEP argues that a green economy should acknowledge where water is scarce, and manage it carefully, to ensure that use is kept within sustainable limits. The role of water in both maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services should be recognised, valued and paid for, and the use of technologies that encourage efficient forms of recycling and use/reuse are encouraged. To progress towards the pursuit of green objectives various tools can be used, such as the redesign of governance arrangements, the improved specification of property rights, the adoption of policies that reflect the full costs of use including the costs of adverse impacts on the environment, and through improved regulation. The suggested indicators for tracking progress include the number of people without access to reliable supplies of clean water and sanitation, as well as the volume available per person in a region.

The report recognises that the complex flow of water resources affects water availability and opportunities to manage it. Given the high level of water used by agriculture, while also considering the importance of agriculture, particularly in developing countries, one of the biggest challenges is to find a way to significantly increase the productivity of irrigated agriculture, so that water can be transferred to other sectors without adversely affecting the environment, food security or people's livelihoods. The report argues that gauging the true value of ecosystems, including water, is a key part of the movement towards a green economy, coupled with market-based approaches, as well as consumer driven accreditation and certification schemes. Water entitlement and allocation systems are other options. However, the environment should have rights that are either equal or superior to those of other users of a water resource.

To reduce the cost of a transition to a green economy, the report recommends improvements in governance arrangements, reform of water policies and regulations and the development of partnerships with the private sector. Other key recommendations include the phasing out of perverse subsidies and adopting freer trading arrangements, which are believed to bring benefits to many sectors. In terms of water and sanitation, the report remains decisive on the importance of full cost accounting, but inconclusive on how best to charge poor households for access to water and sanitation services. It concludes that green economies should include commitment to factoring social equity into the transition to arrangements that influence investment and decisions by people and industry, but how this is done largely depends on the context.

## 6. GREEN ECONOMY, WATER AND POVERTY ANALYSIS

The lack of a clear definition of a Green Economy within the Rio+20 context presents a potential hazard in that what is considered 'green' becomes a very broad concept that primarily responds to short term concerns, without adequate analysis of cross cutting issues or social and environmental impacts in the long term. If not managed carefully this could ultimately lead to negative impacts on sustainable development and poverty reduction, including from a water perspective. It is therefore essential to comprehensively analyse potential effects on environmental, social and economic levels, both on short and long term, and across sectors and including the impacts of climate change. This includes strong environmental and social safeguards, with a clear focus on cross cutting water related impacts, as an essential part of a Green Economy.

Green Economy policies should avoid moving into a 'new paradigm' on water, without proper recognition of lessons learned through other water related processes, particularly in terms of poverty related aspects. Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and other similar approaches came through as viable strategies from the Rio process, and other pertinent processes. Implementation has been slow, partly due to lack of political will. However it is essential that they still form a key part of the Green Economy process. The important role of poor communities and other key stakeholders also need to be recognised, not just as beneficiaries, but as key agents and co-creators of positive change. The Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 put local communities, with particular emphasis on women, as a key component of sustainable development and it is essential that this recognition is also reflected in Green Economy policies.

As described above, the UNEP report argues that shifting to a green economy usually involves a commitment to begin charging for the full costs of resource use. The main tension is how to include principles of social equity, including how and what to charge for water and sanitation services, also recognising that this is now a human right. While market based approaches, including a full cost valuation of water, could provide benefits in terms of discouraging over usage, social equity principles are essential to ensure poor communities are not placed at a considerable disadvantage, particularly in a context of increased environmental degradation, competition and conflict over water resources and climate change. Furthermore, while some argue that there is little practical difference between private or public provision of water, attention needs to be paid to the private sector's mandate to maximise profit and implications for poor communities, as this could undermine poor communities' ability to pay. From another perspective, profit maximisation could also lead to encouragement to consume more.

To avoid negative fallbacks of Green Economy policies, principles of social equity must therefore be included, including principles of sustainable development and growth through a human rights framework. Adequate and efficient regulation is also important, as well as ensuring that poor people are involved in decision making processes in order to ensure sustainability and that their knowledge and needs are recognised. This should include women, who are often responsible for water management at a domestic level. The linkages to other poverty related processes must also be recognised. Sustainable and equitable access to water also has impacts on other development related issues, such as gender equality, health, education, food production and work opportunities, all key elements of the MDGs. Furthermore, the potential impact of climate change must be recognised, given that the water cycle will be particularly affected, and could therefore severely undermine any progress if not taken into account. Again, poor people who are the least able to cope or mitigate the effects of climate change and water shortage are likely to be the worst affected.

Progressio Ireland's sister organisation Progressio recently worked with CEPES and Water Witness International to research and publish the report 'Drop by drop: Understanding the impact of the UK's water footprint through a case study of Peruvian asparagus'. The report highlights tensions between large scale agribusiness and water for local communities, which can serve as an illustrative example of the importance of recognition of water related impacts and lessons for a Green Economy. The report illustrates a number of far reaching impacts of the growth of agribusiness, largely supported by international investment, including rapid depletion of the aquifer, and with negative fallbacks for poor and marginalised communities in the Ica Valley and beyond, such as lack of water for drinking and for irrigation.

## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Rio+20 process presents a vital opportunity to reignite progress towards sustainable development, particularly in the light of increased environmental degradation, competition over scarce resources and climate change. The Rio+20 process should be used to strengthen the commitment to the issue of sustainable development.

Water represents a cross cutting and urgent issue that should be at the heart of the Rio+20 process, including as a fundamental aspect of the Green Economy or Green Growth.

Water is not a unique or singular 'sector' and its cross cutting nature must be acknowledged, including the current and potential impacts on poor and vulnerable communities, and with a gender focus. This includes linkages to agriculture and energy, where both short and long term effects must be taken into account, as well as the impacts of climate change.

Social equity and participation must be at the heart of the Rio+20 and Green Economy process, with a focus on sustainable and equitable water resource management. This is also crucial for achieving the MDGs, and should recognise the human right to water, sanitation and a standard of living dependent on access to clean water.

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## Province of San Luis, Argentina

Province of San Luis, Argentina

RIO+20 Declaration Statement

Major Group: Local Authorities

2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

The province of San Luis in Argentina considers RIO+20 as a crucial opportunity to reaffirm and renew commitments towards achieving sustainable development, the eradication of poverty and integrating economic, social and environmental pillars.

Whilst it is essential that delegates of RIO+20 provide concrete actions and deliverable targets it must be emphasized that the objective should not be to create new goals. Instead we would like to see a focused agreement that assists the implementation of programs needed to turn existing commitments into reality (the Millennium Development Goals and Agenda 21). With this in mind, and from the perspective of a local government, the following proposals must be considered:

Recognize that local authorities are often under-resourced, under-financed and hence can lack the necessary skills and capacity to develop sustainably despite having the most potential to provide responsive action that is best suited to their local economic and social circumstances;

Recognize the need for a more efficient UN system of reporting and monitoring to remove the administrative and financial burden on local government authorities;

Recognize that with satisfactory resources and training local authorities have the potential to implement concrete solutions to combat poverty and abandon unsustainable practices whilst providing effective environmental governance;

Recognize that the capabilities of local governments must be strengthened to enable the adoption of responsibility and the delivery of policies;

Reaffirm that the green economy is not limited to national policies and/or agendas but instead local authorities have the opportunity to create autonomous regional green economies that provide new jobs, new markets, technological innovation and social empowerment;

Encourage the sharing of knowledge, best practices and technological innovation between local authorities through the development of partnerships between industrialized and developing countries, plus, establishing stronger South-South collaboration;

Encourage better cross-border cooperation between local authorities in trans-boundary resource management, particularly concerning forest and river basin environments;

Emphasize the implementation of long sighted policy-making to ensure a path towards low carbon development and a green economy;

Recognize the importance of collaboration between businesses, local governments, and universities in low carbon development;

Support formalized local private-public sector partnerships that coordinate, finance, and implement shared initiatives and objectives;

Encourage local economic incentives as a mechanism to provide cost-effective investment in green technology and solutions, including energy efficiency and renewable energy;

Emphasize the role of local authorities in the effective enforcement and monitoring of toxic chemicals, using a combination of regulatory and voluntary measures including the removal of environmentally harmful subsidies and the penalization of environmentally contaminating companies;

Emphasize the importance of youth education programs as a tool to create opportunities for social entrepreneurship;

Recognize environmental education as an interdisciplinary study of scientific and social academic subjects and encourage making it a cross component of school curriculums;

Design educational initiatives to develop children as Environmental Natives, recognizing their intuitive physical and cognitive connection towards the environment including their awareness, perception, reasoning, and judgment;

Recognize the importance of citizen empowerment in environmental resource management, governance and monitoring;

Emphasize the role of Information Communication & Technology as an effective tool to:

- Contribute to the monitoring of local resource protection and management;
- Provide adequate access to information regarding the rights and responsibilities of natural resource use;
- Transfer of inter-generational and inter-group cultural knowledge, values and practices;
- Deliver formal and informal citizen education and participation through digital inclusion;
- Strengthen community identity, supporting and empowering self-organizing networks;
- Foster leadership and active engagement in democratic, political processes;
- Encourage South-South local authority collaboration and communication;
- Strengthen the mobilization and training of citizens, in particular, youth groups and marginalized communities;

Promote the use of information technology as a cost effective solution for the coordination and development of infrastructure initiatives;

Ensure City Municipalities prioritize reducing their ecological footprint focusing on waste reduction and recycling, energy efficiency, water preservation, sanitation, sustainable procurement, sustainable consumption and behavior, sustainable planning and design, sustainable public transport, biodiversity conservation, plus, the equal distribution of natural resources;

Recognize the essential role of urban authorities in the reduction of poverty, plus, enhancing public health and quality of life;

Encourage local, sustainable agricultural production to provide better food security and local rural employment;

Recommend that local authorities allocate 2% of the total cost of any publicly funded project towards environmental and social initiatives, and incorporate this method of accounting into their decision making process.

## Provincial Government of Teruel

From Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond: 20 years of Sustainable Mountain Development - What have we learnt and where should we go?

### Key messages

Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the demand for goods and services from mountains has grown considerably. We assert that mountains are territories with a future and opportunities for Europe and the world. They have much to deliver to society at large and have great potential for smarter, greener and more inclusive development. They are also distinctive areas, because of their altitude, their steep slopes, their low population density, their challenges and their opportunities, and consequently should be addressed specifically. We call for public and private investment in these areas. The return on investment might indeed take longer in these areas than in urban areas or lowlands, but the

investment itself will undeniably be more sustainable.

At the same time, these mountain territories are faced with a number of challenges. Indeed, the ability of mountain systems to provide essential goods and services for all of humanity is increasingly under threat from climate change, globalization, a chronic lack of investment, ongoing land degradation in some areas, the absence of an integrated approach to territorial development in many countries, and increasing trends to the concentration of population in ever bigger agglomerations. We recognize that, despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development in many mountain regions, most national and international development agendas still tend to treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments. On the basis of its experience in the field of sustainable mountain development, its role in development of mountain policies at European, national and regional level, and its specific economic, environmental and social contexts, EUROMONTANA recommends that the United Nations, in the discussion at UNCSD, to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012: recognise the specific role of mountains and the corresponding need for integrated mountain development policies and targeted investment;

recognise in particular the role provided by mountain ecosystems in providing services that support and enhance the Earth's sustainability, and the key role that mountain communities play in delivering these services, by developing concepts of payment and compensation for ecosystem services, and implementing such concepts, and considering the economic value of services provided in the general interest (green accounting), integrate the assets of mountain regions in processes leading to sustainable development and green Economies, recognising that a geographical differentiation is needed; to identify therefore the conditions required to fully unleash mountain development potential and invest to secure that these conditions exist; adopt a multi-sectoral, multi-level and multi-stakeholder approach enabling the UN to direct its Sustainable Development policy towards concrete areas of interest and to identify and strengthen entities for cooperation and the implementation of such policies at the appropriate levels, whether regional, local or mountain range, promote networks and partnerships of mountain stakeholders at all levels (governmental, civil society, private sector) and encourage the relevant national and international organisations to consider mountain-related concerns. to support mountain-specific observation, research, knowledge development and awareness on environmental, economic and social aspects of mountain areas.

### Mountains can deliver green growth

Mountains and their economies are particularly well placed to deliver green growth, due to their rich natural and cultural heritage. They are the water towers of the world and major reservoirs of biodiversity and natural resources. Due to their topography, altitude and large forest areas, the renewable energy potential in mountain regions is superior to that of many lowland areas; though this also represents a challenge for landscape and biodiversity. As mountain agriculture provides many high-quality products and services, including organic or environmentally friendly farming and extensive rangelands, this sector, often in cooperation with others, can serve as a laboratory for the conservation of biodiversity in balance with human use of resources and interest.

Mountains are also among the most exposed to global change. This means that greening the economy is important for mountain economies to reduce their vulnerability and to increase local added value and employment as well as secure synergy between economic growth, environmental protection and social progress.

With their natural and cultural diversity and importance for downstream regions in terms of resources and ecosystem services, mountain areas are important innovation motors in Green Economies, particularly in sectors where they are ideally placed to invent new and promising solutions, such as green transport, renewable energy supplies, life sciences, new forms of food supply chains, sustainable tourism, or remote service delivery.

However, innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to foster governance models and decision support systems aiming at both the integration of the social, ecological and economic capital at all scales in mountain regions, and the mainstreaming of mountains into overall national development and conservation processes.

This requires in particular:

major investments to assemble the conditions allowing these areas to fully and sustainably exploit their potential, notably in the sectors of environmentally-friendly transport, energy, ICT and services of general interest; a multi-sectoral approach aiming, inter alia, at adequately rewarding the provision of ecosystem services from mountain areas in the general interest, where necessary by correcting market failures related to the specificities of mountain territories. Land managers such as farmers and foresters should, in particular, be equitably remunerated for the provision of public goods resulting from their economic activities .

general support to the development of initiatives adding value to mountain products (food, crafts) and services (tourism...) in relation to their specific cultural and environmental features.

Euromontana has elaborated, in relation to these issues, recommendations on how to remunerate positive externalities provided by mountain land managers; foster the innovation potential of mountain areas; support development of sustainable tourism renewable energies, and services of general interest in mountain areas. It also has developed the European Charter for Mountain Quality Food products, launched at the European Parliament in 2005 and signed by almost 70 governments and organisations. This should lead to the adoption soon of specific protection for mountain food products at European level, opening the way to a specific market segment for mountain quality products, expected by many consumers.

Mountain development can contribute to a more inclusive global development

Enhancing global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit mountain communities, some of which are very poor, and indirectly humanity as a whole. Mountain regions are likely to contribute widely to social innovation, thanks to their intense community life. Their governance and cooperation models are often unique, but may also provide valuable models for other regions. Furthermore, sustainable mountain development is a component of a more balanced territorial and place-based development which is highly needed and likely to contribute to a more even and socially sustainable distribution of population and wealth on Earth. A more inclusive and place-based approach to development requires the adoption of a multi-stakeholder approach and a multi-level governance approach. Across the world's mountains, the numerous networking entities active at different (governmental, NGO, research level, development agencies...) demonstrate a strong identification in the search for sustainable development solutions for mountains. The dynamism of the Euromontana network, bringing together different sorts of actors at different levels, since its creation in 1996, is a good demonstration of this. The UN can build on the European expertise in this respect – including European networks, inter-governmental conventions such as Alpine or Carpathian conventions, as well as emerging institutions in mountain research and policy development. The UN must also promote the development of multi-level governance. Mountain ranges are functional areas whose geographical extent often overlaps multiple administrative boundaries. Euromontana is convinced that a focus on functional areas such as mountain ranges can help UN Sustainable Development policies to approach environmental and Green Economy challenges on a regional level, according to the Local Agenda 21 concept (thinking globally, acting locally). Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, as well as low carbon technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends, strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

\*\*\*\*

Provincial Government of Teruel (PGT) is the main actor responsible for carrying out a policy of development on the territory it represents. The province of Teruel is an area of 14.809 km<sup>2</sup>, composed by 236 municipalities. It elaborates and implements policies for the sustainable management and development of the territory. Province of Teruel is a low density populated rural territory- 9,8 inhabitants/km<sup>2</sup>- and a high environmental and landscape value that has been notably preserved

## Quercus

6

7

proponents

QUERCUS - Associação Nacional de Conservação da Natureza

FCSH - Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas da Universidade Nova de Lisboa

UTAD - Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e Alto Douro

CEDOUA - Centro de Estudos de Direito do Ordenamento, do Urbanismo  
e do Ambiente da Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de Coimbra

CIGEST - Centro de Investigação em Gestão ISG/INP

CRE Porto - Centro Regional de Excelência

- Educação para o Desenvolvimento Sustentável, Área Metropolitana do Porto

UNEB - Universidade do Estado da Bahia, Centro de Pesquisa em Ecologia  
e Conservação da Natureza, Condomínio da Terra

Câmara Municipal da Guarda

Câmara Municipal de Baião

The proposal is still signed

individually by:

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**Alexandra Aragão**, Faculdade de Direito da Universidade de Coimbra

**Alexandre Júlio Machado Leite**, Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto

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**Maria Amélia Martins-Loução**, Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade de Lisboa

**Maria Cristina da Costa Vila**, Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto

**Maria João Burnay**, Fundo para a Conservação da Natureza e da Biodiversidade

**Maria Manuel Pedrosa**, Steinbeis University Berlin

**Maria Raquel de Almeida Graça Silva Guimarães**, Faculdade de Direito da Univ. do Porto

**Martí Boada i Juncà**, Institut de Ciència i Tecnologia Ambientals (ICTA)-UAB

**Nuno Gaspar de Oliveira**, Instituto Superior de Gestão

**Viriato Soromenho-Marques**, Faculdade de Letras da Universidade de Lisboa

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abstract

The proposal of thinking the Earth as an immense condominium, mainly aims to take advantage of that already widely tested legal tool of individual and collective interests conciliation, in order to supply a global legal basis capable of globally placing and contextualising instruments and structures that can sustain a new framework of harmonisation between the individual interests of each State and the superior claims of all Humanity.

To achieve a green economy, the constitution of a global common heritage is proposed, which would be managed by an entity capable of accounting for each State's contributions towards the maintenance of the global natural systems. These contributions must be evaluated by a common metric, translatable into a common monetary value.

Using, as a starting point, the proposal to make the climatic system a Common Heritage of Humanity, the intention is to build a global juridic support from which will spring rights and duties that can sustain the construction of a green economy capable of producing environmental services.

The setting up of this heritage aims to solve several complex structural and operational problems, such as the dispersion of benefits and obligations throughout the planet, which originates the 'market gap.' In order to make the settlement of accounts and the institutionalisation of a common interest management operational, an agreement must be reached as to the use of a metric that will translate into units the consumption and supply of collective benefits, also deciding on the common value of each unit.

01

Global Juridic Support

#### 01.1 The need to evolve from the concept of *Common Concern of Mankind*

The UN General Assembly Resolution 43/53 of 6/12/1988, "recognizes that climate change is a common concern of mankind, since climate is an essential condition which sustains life on Earth." The Resolution appeared as a response to the impossibility of applying the classic solution of the 'tragedy of the commons' on this subject, usually obtained by dividing the common assets and privatisation. It indicated a new approach to the Common Heritage of Humanity regime through the concept Common Concern of Mankind. This concept has common roots with the concepts *common interest*, *global commons*, and even *intergeneration equity/responsibility/rights*.

The option of juridic consecration of a problem or concern, such as the *Common Concern of Mankind*, simultaneously means the identification of the problem and the official appeal to its resolution, but it is still not an instrument able to implement solutions. The need to truly address this concern, demands a definition of the generic and undetermined concept of *Common Concern of Mankind*, something rather more palpable than a mere concern existing only in the spirit of human beings.

The evolutionary transformation from a simple proclamation of concern or interest to the construction of juridic objects capable of managing the rights and duties related to the pursuit of the common interests of Humanity has become a pressing need, without which the Law cannot fulfil its primary duty of organisation.

#### 01.2 A Common Heritage to overcome the 'market gap'

The dispersion of the majority of environmental benefits and costs throughout Humanity is identified by the economy as a market gap, since "there is no trade institution where one affecting positively another (or others) receives compensation for it or one affecting negatively another (or others) pays the respective cost." <sup>1</sup>

Concerning the common assets, and specially the global ones, the rights of property are under-defined. The existence of many agents using one resource in these conditions, leads to a market gap, to the inefficient use of that resource and to a special propensity to the excessive use of it.

Carbon or biodiversity green markets are interesting conceptual and experimental labs for the construction of a green economy, but do not respond to the global dimension of benefits and costs diffusely spread throughout the global natural systems. "One global solution to the challenge of sustainability is a prerequisite to a sustainable life, locally and regionally."<sup>2</sup> From the UNGA Resolution 43/53's recognition of climate change as a common interest, we may apprehend that the system where these changes take place, in this case, the climatic system, can no longer be consider *res nullius*, i.e., it no longer has an absence of interest over it and, therefore, it can no longer be freely used.

"The notion of common interest leads to the creation of a legal system whose rules impose duties on society as a whole and on each individual member of the community."<sup>3</sup>

In this context, the Common Heritage of Humanity regime remains the only one capable of supplying an international legal framework suitable to the regulation of goods, which summon us to other dimensions of the Human condition, no longer in the strictly material sense but rather in the qualitative sense, concerning Humanity's well-being.

José Manuel Sobrino comes forward with a concrete proposal: "A formal legal approach to the notion of Common Heritage of Humanity would certainly exclude the vital resources as well as the climatic system itself. However, in my opinion, the evolution of the international community, the patrimonial dimension of these goods, the need for transmission, would allow the application of the fundamental principles of Common Heritage of Humanity, and thus, make them free from any private or State appropriation, accessible to all and managed by an international institution, particularly taking into account the unequal development of the States. In this sense, it can be argued that the climatic system has the dimension of a legacy for Humanity, which involves the idea of transmission of a climate suitable to life, to our generation and future generations."<sup>4</sup>

This option of configuring a global natural system as a *res communis omnium*, i.e., as a common property extended to all Humanity, may become the ground work that will allow the resolution of a series of complex problems, such as the space-time inadequacy of the Law to the new global phenomena and the inevitable 'market gaps' resulting from the undefined property of these global environmental goods. It may also allow the quantification of this common interest, opening doors to the creation of an accounting system of the rights and duties related to this common heritage.

"The environmental wellness is not suitable to a function of exchange and alienation, but rather a function of collective fruition."<sup>5</sup> Many attempts have been made to use market tools to promote the organisation of a function of 'exchange and alienation,' aiming to reach optimum ecological and social levels, integrating the economy and the environment. The fact that no one can be excluded from this 'global collective fruition,' means that all will have access to the improvements introduced in the global common system without paying. In the same way, all are faced with the possibility of bearing with the usage costs of the global natural systems incurred by others. This fact precludes the 'function of exchange and alienation' of a traditional market. The solution lies elsewhere. What is then the part played by the Law in this context? One of the main functions of the Law ought to be organising the collective fruition of goods or global natural systems, which several agents are entitled to use, without any right of excluding other agents.

### 01.3 Immaterial Natural Heritage?

The difficulty of delineating a juridic object related to the interest/concern of Humanity, does not lie with the natural asset intended to be preserved, but rather with the difficulty of defining that asset without clashing with the physical and geographical spaces of the different sovereignties. On the one hand, it is known that the 'laws of nature' exist, that the natural cycles and the global natural systems work, but the discoveries that revealed their global functioning are recent and the mental shift needed to separate these systems from the sovereign spaces has not yet been achieved. On the other hand, there is no juridic object, suitable to the characteristics of that 'environmental wellness' of diffuse and intangible character, that can go beyond concern without overstepping sovereignty. As a result of the chemical composition changes of the atmosphere, changes occur in the oceans; from the interaction between these two systems, changes occur in the dynamics of temperature and energy transmission and distribution and in all the complex network of balances and unbalances that ensure the environmental conditions needed for human well-being. This notion of functional processes in the chemical composition of the atmosphere or the oceans, is never to be confused with the geographical notions of national territory, airspace, exclusive economical zone or even the geographical space of an ecosystem.

Therefore, we are not in the spatial dimension of the State territories, but rather of 'functional systems' whose dimension is always global. The maintenance of these equilibriums, which are the support of human welfare, is the so-called *Common Interest of Mankind*, and its unbalance the so-called *Common Concern of Mankind*. Simone Borg<sup>6</sup> identifies this common interest as a legal status of an intangible common resource encompassing the global common goods.

Thus it seems an immaterial dimension of nature exists, which although existing within a geographical space of the planet, is beyond the physical space of the sovereignties and of the physically appropriable material goods.

The assignment of a patrimonial dimension to the climatic system, as proposed by Sobrino<sup>7</sup>, not only allows the deterritorialisation of nature, but also the individualisation of the natural function, isolating it from the concept of sovereignty, since the functional dimension goes beyond the notion of aerial, maritime or terrestrial space and enters the intangible realm of nature, which, for all effects and purposes, is where we find the Common Concern of Mankind. This 'immaterial' nature, because it unites us all, is the essence and the true Common Heritage of Humanity.

1 Cit. por Soares, C.A Dias – O imposto ecológico. Contributo para o estudo dos instrumentos económicos de defesa do ambiente.

Coimbra: Universidade de Coimbra/Coimbra Editora, 2001.

2 Costanza, R. *et al.* 2011. *How Defining Planetary Boundaries Can Transform Our Approach to Growth*, The Solutions Journal.

Available at: <http://www.thesolutionsjournal.com/node/935> (consulted on 06/06/2011).

3 Shelton, Dinah, Common Concern of Humanity, *Iustum Aequum Salutare*, V2009/1.33-40

4 Sobrino, José Manuel, "Hácia um património ecológico comum de la humanidad", 4 fev.2011, 21ª Jornal Estado de Direito.

5 Reported by, Amado Gomes, Carla, *Textos Dispersos de Direito do Ambiente*, Associação Académica da Faculdade Direito de Lisboa, Lisboa 2005, p 22.

6 Borg, Simone, *Climate Change as a Common Concern of Humankind, Twenty Years Later... From UNGA to UNSC*

<http://www.diplomacy.edu/conferences/climatechange/papers/borg.pdf>

7 Sobrino, José Manuel, "Hácia um património ecológico comum de la humanidad", 4 fev.2011, 21ª Jornal Estado de Direito.

02

Common metric

### 02.1 The need for a common metric

The first step towards this integrated management will be finding a measure, acceptable to all, that can translate into units the consumption and the availability of the collective welfare achieved through the several global natural systems. For that, it is fundamental to previously solve the problems of using various methodologies, of the biological and spatial differences between distinct geographical units, and of the differences between the several ecological services provided by the different ecosystems. A system is also needed that can solve the problems of the services appropriation impossibility and of the free access and non-exclusion with regard to the whole human community.

### 02.2 The global hectare, the ecological footprint and the biocapacity

The Global Hectare, by the Global Footprint Network, has not only the virtue of including, in the same metric, the different impacts on the ecological system through the ecological footprint (debit), but also of incorporating the benefits of the ecological services through biocapacity (credit). This tool is already accepted and recognised today as a metric being used internationally. It is already being used as a tool for the implementation of public policies, as it happens in the European Union. It is a metric usable on the local, regional or global scale, allowing the interchange of information. The global hectare, as the measuring concept it is, has not only the advantage of compatibility with an Immaterial Natural Heritage of Humanity, but it can also obtain balances that may enable the settlement of accounts.

### 02.3 A green economy that produces biocapacity

In this factual process of globalisation, it is pressing to reach a consensus on the need to develop an economy that can operate in harmony with the 'common home,' thus serving human beings. It is expected that the Rio+20 Summit will be the beginning of an accelerated but thorough process of global transition towards an economy that generates growth, generates employment and eradicates poverty, by investing on and preserving the natural capital upon which our long-term survival is based.

"Considering, however, the state of degradation the environment has reached, intergenerational responsibility should go further: it is no longer sufficient to leave the environment to future generations as it was received, it is necessary to recover the quality of the environment, reaching close to optimal levels." 8

Ultimately, building a green economy is more than reducing pollution, developing green technologies, improving ecoefficiency and trying to organise the 'function of exchange and alienation' of the rights of pollution, with all its perverse effects. Building a green economy is also maintaining and recovering the natural capital, introducing in the international relations accounting and in the GDPs, the positive contributions of each intervener in the global system, allowing, in this way, the existence of incentives to the recovery of the planet's biodiversity to sustain human life.

We know that, at this point, we would need 1.5 planets to ensure the replenishment of resources consumed, which means that the demand for these environmental services is 0.5 times higher than the supply. If the environmental services are vital for Humanity's welfare, why is this economy incapable of producing and distributing them according to demand?

8 Aragão, Maria Alexandra de Sousa, O princípio do poluidor pagador, pedra angular da política comunitária do ambiente, Boletim da Faculdade de Direito, Universidade de Coimbra, Coimbra Editora, Coimbra 1997, p-31

03

Common value

### 03.1 The need for a common value

The option of using the same metric for demand and supply, which allows a reading of the local contributions to the planet, makes it possible to declare that each biocapacity unit (global hectare) made available by the common natural systems, provides equal benefits to all Humanity. Therefore, the economic compensation awarded to cover the provision costs of each global hectare must be identical all over the planet. This is also key for the building up of trust and reciprocity.

While it is true that a value for the vital services is being sought after, despite its incalculable value, it is also true that "the perception of the lack of correspondence between the derisory market value and the supreme real value, must be seen as an incentive to reach a value closer to reality, rather than as a hindrance towards valuation, for fear that the calculated value will fall short of the real one. (...) In short, the timidity in assigning a monetary value to the elements of nature has as consequence the continued exploitation of resources at zero or close to zero cost, which, from a resource preservation point of view, is certainly worst than the assignment of a price, no matter how low or sloppy it may be." 9

How can a value be found to compensate those who provide ecological services of common interest?

Concerning the supply of environmental services, what is proposed is the quantification of the provision costs for the indirect benefits performed by the common natural systems. We wish to know how much it costs to offer a biocapacity unit, which is a benefit used by all at a global level, and that is directly related with the maintenance/recovery of the ecosystem's good condition.

As a starting point, that value should be obtained from several ecosystems in different countries, and that should be the key data for the political process of reaching a price. Since we understand from the start that the payment of the ecosystem's services will never cover their real value, what must be aimed at, is finding a more adequate value to perform a compensation for the services of common interest.

Plus, given the economic and exchange differences between countries, the common value may also be an appropriate tool to respond to the historical differences between countries with regard to the consumption and use of the global natural systems. It may also provide a more balanced distribution of the financial resources between the rural and the urban worlds.

### 03.2 The Ecological Fiscal Reform

The compensation for the benefits performed in the common natural systems, implies a broader view on economy and on the tax system itself, since this new financial compensation cannot be achieved by adding new taxes to the existing ones. The transition to a green economy entails the construction of a fiscal system that ensures a redistribution of profits based on each one's positive and negative contributions towards the common interest. In other words, that on the one hand, it penalises the impacts on the environment, on the other hand, it encourages the performance of collective benefits. These proposals are based on the conviction that there must be a decrease of taxes on labour and an increase of taxes on the impacts on the environment, i.e., on the consumption which translates into the ecological footprint.

9 Aragão, Alexandra, A natureza não tem preço... mas devia. O dever de valorar e pagar os serviços de ecossistemas. Estudos de

Homenagem ao Professor Jorge Miranda. Outubro 2011.

04

Governance of a Common Heritage

When speaking of assigning an economic value to the ecological services, the immediate association is that it will be necessary to transform them into tradable products and that a conventional market will have to be created. This is not the correct approach because we are speaking of free-access goods and a conventional market cannot be used to manage goods of which consumption no one can be excluded. Since all countries consume and provide ecological services that are reflected on the global natural systems, only by obtaining the balance between the total supply and consumption, can an agreement be reached where everyone's interests are safeguarded. A permanent supply and demand management will be necessary, and it ought to be performed by an institution within the United Nations. The environment is not a tradable product, but rather an asset to be maintained.

### 04.1 Settlement of accounts of a limitless common heritage

Nowadays it is already possible to define those limits within which the conditions for human life are maintained and which boundaries should not be overcome. This limit of the Earth's natural system itself must be understood as "a specific point related to a global-scale environmental process beyond which humanity should not go."<sup>10</sup> This notion of boundary will be a normative judgement, informed by science, but greatly based on the human awareness of risk. If the value of this heritage is measured by the capacity of the Earth's natural system to ensure human living conditions for the future generations, in this case the climatic system, the safe and proper value of the inherited heritage would correspond to the CO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the atmosphere. A heritage with an appropriate value would be 350ppm.

The Earth Condominium, by juridically separating the sovereignty of each State from the common natural systems, proposes a global juridic support that will allow the creation of an accounting of each one's contributions towards the regular functioning of these systems and the creation of a management system, which we consider to be the best structural conditions to overcome this 'social trap.'

With this theoretical/conceptual scenario as a starting point, we propose the structured combination of the various existing solutions, to which some improvements and adaptations would be made, giving them the integrated dimension of a necessary path of structural reform to build a human green economy.

10 COSTANZA, R. et al. 2011. *How Defining Planetary Boundaries Can Transform Our Approach to Growth*, The Solutions Journal.

Available at: <http://www.thesolutionsjournal.com/node/935> (consulted on 06/06/2011)

## Rat für Nachhaltige Entwicklung

### Preamble

The German Sustainability Code is a standard offering transparency as to a company's sustainability performance. It creates a scope of validity by applying benchmarking to corporate social responsibility. Its application is voluntary. The commentary provides details on the application of the GSC.

The German Council for Sustainable Development strives to see the German Sustainability Code applied well beyond the group of companies already actively engaged in sustainability reporting. It will critically monitor the application of the GSC.

The German Sustainability Code arose during a dialogue process involving numerous stakeholders. Representatives from the financial markets, businesses and civil society actively participated in the dialogue process. Businesses have field-tested the German Sustainability Code and found it to be highly practicable.

### Content of the German Sustainability Code

#### STRATEGY

##### Strategic Analysis, Strategy and Goals

1 The company discloses how, for its main activities, it analyses the opportunities and risks related to sustainable development. The company outlines what measures it is taking in order to operate in line with the main and recognised sector-specific, national and international standards.

2 The company discloses how the strategy devised for its main activities and the systematic implementation of the strategy takes into account all aspects of sustainability which have a substantial impact on the company, for example strategic competition-based positioning, innovation management, business activities that conserve the climate, environment and resources; demographic developments, the value-added chain, the product life cycle, the product portfolio, etc.

3 The company discloses what qualitative and/or quantitative as well as temporal sustainability goals are set and operationalised, and how their level of achievement is monitored. The company discloses how the main suppliers, employees, capital markets, customers and main stakeholder groups are included on a regular basis.

4 The company states how deep into the value-added chain the sustainability criteria are verified and what significance sustainability has for added value.

*Key performance indicators (KPI) GRI 1,2 Description of key impacts, risks, and opportunities*

or

*EFFAS 1.5.1. The company should outline the importance of ESG for the corporate strategy and explain how ESG aspects are taken into account when implementing the strategy.*

#### PROCESS MANAGEMENT

##### Rules and Processes

1 Within the company, accountability for the sustainability of the company is specified in corporate management.

2 The company discloses whether the sustainability strategy is implemented using rules and processes. The company depicts specific circumstances from purchasing, production, services, human resources, investment, research and development as well as logistics/transport and marketing and describes how suppliers, customers as well as other stakeholder groups (e.g. employees) are taken into account.

3 The company discloses how, along the lines of financial parameters, key performance indicators on sustainability are integrated into periodical internal planning and control and how the reliability, comparability and consistency of data applied to internal controls and external communication are safeguarded through appropriate processes.

##### Incentive Schemes

8. The company discloses how target agreements and remuneration schemes for executives are also geared to achieving the sustainability goals and how these are geared towards lasting value creation. It discloses the extent to which sustainability performance forms part of the evaluation of the top management (board/managing directors) conducted by the monitoring body (supervisory board/advisory board).

##### Stakeholder Engagement

9. The company discloses how the relevant stakeholders are identified, how a dialogue takes place with them on a regular basis and how they are systematically integrated into the sustainability process.

place with them on a regular basis and how they are systematically integrated into the sustainability process.

**Innovation and Product Management** 10. The company discloses how innovations in products and services are enhanced through processes which improve sustainability with respect to the company's utilisation of resources and to the user. A further statement is made as to whether the economic, social and ecological effects of the company's main products and services are currently or will be assessed and improved through its value-added chain and product life cycle.

*Key performance indicators (KPI)*

*GRI EN6 Initiatives to provide energy-efficient or renewable energy based products and services, and reductions in energy requirements as a result of these initiatives.*

*GRI EN26 Initiatives to mitigate environmental impacts of products and services, and extent of impact mitigation.*

*GRI FS11 Percentage of assets subject to positive and negative environmental or social screening.*

or

*EFFAS E13-01 Improvement rate of product energy efficiency compared to previous year.*

*EFFAS V04-12 Total investments in research on ESG-relevant aspects of business such as*

*e.g. eco-design, eco-efficient production processes, decreasing impact on biodiversity, improving health and safety conditions of employees or supply chain partners, consulting on integration of ESG aspects in change management, development of products to exploit ESG opportunities etc. in monetary terms*

*i.e. currency as a percentage of revenue.*

*EFFAS V04-13 Percentage of products or services for -increasing eco-efficiency of client applications or operations, -developing and using clean technologies, -increasing fuel-efficiency, -offsetting climate change, carbon emissions, resource depletion, -making ESG-relevant products operable, -financing of ESG-relevant products or services.*

## ENVIRONMENT

### Usage of natural resources

11.The company discloses the extent to which natural resources are used for the company's business activities (input and output of e.g. materials, water, soil, waste, energy, emissions, land, biodiversity). It discloses in what way the sustainability management system incorporates the entire product life cycle into the analysis.

12.The company discloses what qualitative and quantitative goals it has set itself with respect to the efficient use of resources, the use of renewable energy sources, the increase in raw material productivity and the reduction in the usage of natural resources and how these goals have been met.

## Reality of Aid Asia Pacific

**Asia Pacific CSO Statement on Development Cooperation for Sustainable Development** 15-17 August 2011 Bangkok, Thailand

### Introduction

Poverty and marginalization have increased significantly through multiple crises in food, employment, environment and economy, fundamentally exposing the failure of the free market model of development. The systemic proportions of these crises have not only aggravated the situation of the poor and marginalized but also threatens to further worsen their conditions as the financial crisis centered in the advanced countries continues to unravel with severe consequences for the rest of the world.

Rather than seize the opportunity presented by the current crisis to break from the failed neoliberal development strategy that has dominated official policies and programs for over three decades, political leaders are making a renewed push for corporate-led growth of the global economy. We in civil society urge our governments and international institutions to abandon the current model of development in favor of new approaches that are people-focused, rights-based, democratic and ecologically sustainable. In simple terms this means a model of development that directly responds to the people's needs – including realizing their right to food, land, free education, and access to health services and overall human development. A radical transformation of existing power relations within and among countries lies at the very basis of such a new system.

The 4th HLF in Busan presents an opportunity to reform the existing aid architecture to embrace sustainable and people-centered development approaches, which is essential in pursuing a new development path and abandoning the failed models of the neo-liberal era. Only by empowering the poor and marginalized to claim their rights can a development path be built that is both successful in alleviating poverty and sustainable in the long term.

Reforming the ODA regime requires strong political will, drive and leadership to take on entrenched interests and inertia. Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) play a crucial part in the reform process representing the voices and carrying the demands of the impoverished and marginalized. Consequently, if Busan is to achieve any meaningful result there is a need to first reaffirm the crucial role of civil society as development actors in their own right, while strengthening their roles and increasing their space in development processes through institutional changes.

In fulfilling these roles and claiming their space, CSOs around the world are calling on donors and governments gathering at Busan to:

1.

Fully evaluate and deepen the Paris and Accra commitments through reforms based on democratic ownership.

Strengthen development effectiveness through development cooperation practices that promote human rights standards and focus on the eradication of the causes of poverty and inequality.

Affirm and ensure the participation of the full diversity of CSOs as independent development actors in their own right.

Promote equitable and just development cooperation architecture.

In addition to these CSO Key Asks, civil society from the Asia Pacific that gathered during the Regional Conference on Development Models: Promoting a Transformative Agenda on Sustainable Development in Bangkok, Thailand from August 15- 16, 2011 are also calling for the following:

### On Private Sector for Development

The current thrust towards inviting private sector participation in development – including through private-public partnerships (PPP) – must not erode government's obligation to ensure the right to development of the people.

Private sector involvement in ODA-funded programs and projects should be development effective. At the minimum, private sector actors in development should abide by existing standards on human rights, accountability and transparency.

PPPs should focus on public goals including poverty eradication, social equity and environmental protection rather than the pursuit of private profits.

Private sector participation in development should be subjected to public scrutiny and accountability. There should be democratic people's participation at every stage from needs identification, risk assessment to project or program implementation and evaluation.

Public funds and aid money that go to the private sector should promote sustainable livelihoods and catalyze productive economic development of small-scale enterprises and cooperatives that provide direct and immediate benefits for the poor and marginalized.

#### **On Climate Finance (CF)**

CF must be development effective. The parameters for financing for climate justice and environmental justice must be defined within the frame of genuine sustainable development, biodiverse ecological agriculture, human rights and genuine peoples' participation especially of marginalized sectors including indigenous peoples.

CF should be over and above traditional aid flows (development aid) and it should be adequate and predictable

The World Bank should not be allowed as manager/trustee of the Green Climate Fund. The greening process should not be used as a tool to impose policy prescriptions.

No to market-based mechanisms, including carbon trading and ODA-financing for large scale biofuel production that adversely impacts the environment

Governance of CF should be democratic, participatory, transparent and focused on the global South.

#### **On South – South Cooperation (SSC)**

South-south cooperation or cooperation among developing countries should: 1) ensure the well-being and development of the people of cooperating countries; 2) follow existing international frameworks and conventions on human rights; 3) observe transparency and accountability and ensure people's meaningful participation throughout the undertaking.

Strengthen the UN's role in monitoring and setting norms for SSC. The role of other stakeholders including parliaments and other elected bodies should also be strengthened.

SSC should prioritize cooperation on common issues and problems of peoples of the South such as hunger, poverty, migration and climate crisis, among others.

People's cooperation and people's solidarity efforts should be supported by governments as part of South-south cooperation (SSC)

#### **Conclusion**

There is an urgent need for a development model that would provide enduring solutions to the systemic crisis that beset us today. Development policies in the past have been guided by the free market paradigm, evade redistribution of wealth and ignore the social dimensions of development. Its failure to deal with recent crises has emphasized the need for a development model that prioritizes people's well-being.

Given these challenges, the HLF in Busan must advance to development effectiveness, and tackle other urgent development challenges confronting the world today. To have lasting relevance, Busan should usher in a new development cooperation architecture that is inclusive, democratic, equitable, sustainable and just. CSOs have a crucial role in ensuring that these calls are heard and that Busan truly contributes to eliminating the causes of poverty and promotes people's sustainable development.

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## **Research Program on Law and the Environment - (PDMA)**

### **NORMATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RIO + 20**

The recommendations in this document are the result of preparatory meetings and online public consultations conducted and organized by the Research Program on Law and the Environment - (PDMA) at Getulio Vargas Foundation School of Law in Rio de Janeiro (FGV DIREITO RIO). These initiatives include: the Rio+20 International Preparatory Meeting, held on 24 and 25 June 2011. This preparatory meeting was entitled: "Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development: Governance of Public and Private Stakeholders", and resulted in a book compiled by Carina Costa de Oliveira and Rômulo S. R. Sampaio. Two other initiatives included: the Online Forum for Sustainability regarding Rio+20 (<http://riomais20.direitorio.fgv.br/>), which received contributions from around the world debating issues relating to governance and green economy divided in 70 topics. Lastly, it is worth mentioning PDMA's participation in The Access Initiative - a network of nongovernmental organizations that works with the implementation of Principle 10 of Agenda 21 designed to address the issues of access to information and public participation.

Several partnerships were crucial to organizing those initiatives and continue to be important as we get closer to the official debates during the Rio+20. The organizations participating with PDMA in these endeavors are: Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement, Pace University and Brazilian American Institute for Law and the Environmental (BAILE), the The Access Initiative, Núcleo de Estudos e Pesquisas do Senado Federal Consultoria do Senado, Escola da Magistratura do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, Academia Paranaense de Direito Ambiental, Ministério Público da União, PUC-Goiás, Universidade Católica de Brasília, Uniceub, Universidade Federal do Pará, IEDC - Instituto Estudos Direito e Cidadania, Mackenzie-SP, Prefeitura do Rio, CEDA, NKF Advogados, Tribuna Animal, CEDAM, FEMPERJ, PUC-São Paulo, IBRADA, and Universidade Estadual do Amazonas. In addition, professors, researchers, and professionals, who are not part of the above mentioned institutions above mentioned, participated in the development of the set of proposals. They are all cited at the end of this document.

Some recommendations are made on the general topics of the conference based on the following major subjects: 1) Definitions, 2) Sustainable Trade and Investments, 3) National and International Governance, 4) National Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development, 5) International Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development. In each topic recommendations are divided in of national and international scope.

### **GREEN ECONOMY IN THE CONTEXT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ERADICATION**

#### **1)Definitions**

##### **a) Important aspects for Green Economy concept**

1) The need for internalization of social and environmental negative externalities. Policies promoting internalization of negative externalities include, but are not limited to, building reliable methodologies for natural resources valuation and working with tax incentives to encourage sustainable practices (PDMA).

2) Defining social goals and creating objective criteria to achieve them within the context of a "green economy". These goals include: job expansion, consumption decline, promoting more sustainable and housing guarantees. Relevant policies would promote sustainable public expenditure, enable green regulation and encourage public investment in priority areas (PDMA).

3) In relation to green economy, it is observed that the more this analysis is divided into sectors, the easier policies that could encourage the construction of "green" perspective can be identified. Each specific area, such as construction, tourism, biodiversity, energy, cities, enjoys its own set of peculiarities. The concept of green economy

could be taken from the sustainable progress of each economic sector (PDMA).

4) "There should be an environmental concern on the macroeconomic policy design. The decisions related to interest rate, trade balance and the adjustments to be made in the trade balance are used to induce the production / import / export of certain products. Each of these products contributes differently to maintain an ecologically balanced environment. So we must be concerned with the regulation of microeconomic aspects such as the internalization of externalities through tax incentives or parafiscal taxes, but also, and perhaps with even greater force, we should be concerned with the macroeconomic aspects of regulation as the establishment of mandatory parameters that prevent the adoption of macroeconomic policies potentially harmful to the environment "(Arivaldo de Souza).

#### b) Important aspects for sustainable development concept

1) Identifying general criteria for sustainability from a definition given by each country. Each country can send to the UN Secretariat for the Rio+20 its definition of sustainable development. This proposal stems from disparities between economic, social and environmental development of each state. Each one must identify how it can contribute to the present and the future of those from the following generations.

#### 2) Opinion on the relevance of the concept of each State:

"A concept is an abstraction that is used to intellectualize a complex issue. Thus, it is possible to explain the complexity of reality that becomes more accessible. However, the risk that comes with the use of a concept is the simplifying and trivializing of it. It can be regarded as the perfect mirror of reality. It is a methodological and scientific error. Many times the same happens to the concept of sustainable development. People who work on this issue want to universalize and standardize the concept. As a result, they destroy the content of sustainable development. The principles of sustainable development must be implemented by each state. Each State has its own level of development, its economies and its society. Therefore, they are different and have neither the same goals, nor the same means to accomplish their goals. Environmental considerations, for instance, do not have the same value in each state. In this sense, what is sustainable development for a State is not necessarily the same thing to another State. So in this sense, it is not useful to have a single definition of the concept of sustainable development. In practice, every State knows its needs within its development. Thus, it can decide its policies according to its reality. Finally, it is useful to emphasize a last point. The final receptors of development and sustainable development theories – humans – are sometimes forgotten and neglected by those working on these issues. Their realities are so complex, so different that it is difficult to understand how a theory of sustainable development can be created without some practical studies. Moreover, these theories are often built in offices, in few hours. This is one reason why sustainable development has little practical effect "(Nitish Monebhurrin).

#### 3) Opinion on the debate:

"Ultimately, Planet Earth is bearing the benefits or the burden of how effective a theory of sustainable development is built". The Planet's environment must be balanced in order to provide for a harmonized relationship between humans and other creatures that, combined, form the biota. That is the question of sustainable development. Furthermore, sustainable development is a political concept which aims to establish the grounds for dialogue between different stakeholders. The answer for sustainable development is "Shall we all talk? What are the terms? The question that may be asked is what are the parameters to developing each political entity and what are the parameters of sustainability?" (Arivaldo de Souza).

#### 2) Investments and Sustainable Trade

##### a) Forests

##### International Recommendations

1) Adopting a treaty dealing with forests (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

2) Increasing the input of financial resources in order to provide for the recognition and payments for environmental services, using the Global Environmental Facility as a model. (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

3) Strengthening and harmonizing existing environmental certifications (José Antônio Tietzmann Silva).

4) Including recommendations for environmental damage under the Human Rights Council and UN Councils or Commissions of the Regional System of Protection of Human Rights (José Antônio Tietzmann Silva).

##### National Recommendations

1) Implementing monitoring mechanisms and instruments through voluntary and coercive measures. (Fernando Meneguim).

2) Implementing policies and measures to combat deforestation (Fernando Meneguim).

3) Implementing state incentives for environmental preservation, and opening up the process for public and private participation (Fernando Meneguim).

##### REDD:

4) Use annual fluctuations in the opportunity costs in forested areas, rather than carbon stocks (Virgílio Gibbon).

5) Unifying the credit registries of all the states into a single registry office to avoid double valuations of credits on the national level (Virgílio Gibbon).

6) The need to incorporate the concept of opportunity cost in the search for solutions to the issue of native forests deforestation (Virgílio Gibbon).

7) Establishing a REDD+ regime demands that the rights and duties are clear not only in national but also in international levels (PDMA).

8) Local participation and transparent processes of defining access to benefits and allocation of REDD+ resources are crucial for guaranteeing effective governance (PDMA).

##### b) Renewable energy

##### International Recommendations

1) Specifically, a framework convention on renewable energy could include: a) Establishing a renewable energy list classified according to economic criteria (cost of production, levels of energy demand, the necessary resources for its production, levels of importation, exportation, capacity to create jobs, etc) and environmental (rate of substitution of fossil fuels, environmental impact, carbon balance of the production process, etc.) (Meryem Deffairi).

b) Establishing a binding target, "a minimum" of renewable energy in 10 years for developed countries and in 15 or 20 years for developing countries (obligation of result,

leaving the states free of the means used to achieve this) and finally integrate the planning requirements for each state. (Meryem Deffairi).

c) Providing a mechanism for financial sanctions applicable in 10 years, and every five years, depending on the level of renewable energy in each state, by paying a fine to an independent international institution responsible for "re-injection" of funds in development projects of technology for renewable energy production. (Meryem Deffairi).

2) Instead of discussing a new institutional framework, we should question the function and capacity of action undertaken by the International Agency for Renewable Energy established in January 2009 (IRENA <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>) (Priscila Pereira de Andrade).

#### National Recommendations

1) States should be Memberships in the International Agency for Renewable Energy established in January 2009 (IRENA - <http://www.irena.org/home/index.aspx?PriMenuID=12&mnu=Pri>) (Priscila Pereira de Andrade).

2) Regulating ethanol in Brazil - implement the Regulation on Conformity Assessment for Ethanol Fuel, signed by Brazil, the purpose of which is to define criteria for evaluating the intrinsic properties of ethanol, considering established technical standards, and assessing social and environmental requirements applicable to the production process, based on labor and environmental laws in Brazil and abroad (PDMA).

3) Adopting government policies to encourage transition from energy sources based on fossil fuels to renewable energies (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

4) Implementing, through local government, legislation and regulations that promote the use of renewable energy (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

5) Giving preferences in the process of granting intellectual property rights to renewable energies that would favor developing countries (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

6) Facilitating the acquisition of patents, given the need for investment in renewable energies precipitated by recent weather events (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

7) Reducing tariffs and establish subsidies in order to implement technologies used to produce renewable energies as well as to reduce their cost and increase production (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

8) Promoting public policies aimed at reducing consumption in order to reduce consumer power demand (Luciane Martins de Araújo).

#### c) Biodiversity and compensation mechanisms

#### International Recommendations

1) Producing a judicially manageable definition of biodiversity and give it legal standing in the international arena (Jessica Makowiak).

2) Creating international compensation mechanisms for loss of biodiversity and their criteria (Jessica Makowiak).

3) Bolstering the notion of compensation with recognized principles of international and environmental law (the precautionary principle, "polluter-pays" principle). Such relief or compensation may also be injunctive (Jessica Makowiak).

4) Ranking priorities in order of the intensity of the threat to biodiversity, the possibility of preventing losses, and of compensation. (Jessica Makowiak).

5) Limiting compensation actions where projects do not cause major or irreversible reduction of biodiversity (Jessica Makowiak).

6) Defining, classifying and prioritizing compensation arrangements in the context of biodiversity (Jessica Makowiak).

7) Providing in the texts of such laws or agreements means of compensation and provisions for monitoring, surveillance and control (Jessica Makowiak).

8) Imposing sanctions for instances of noncompliance with measures for monitoring and their effects (Jessica Makowiak).

9) Accessing compensation practices at the institutional level (which actors are appointed to decide, implement and monitor compensation measures) (Jessica Makowiak).

10) Identifying means of channeling economic resources allocated to biodiversity conservation towards biodiversity-rich developing states (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

#### d) Green Private Contracts

#### International Recommendations

1) Promoting the inclusion of social-environmental clauses and prohibit "stabilization" clauses in order to enable the adoption of standards in the area of private law for human and environmental rights ratified after the signing of agreements (Sílvia Pinheiro).

#### e) Technology Transfers

#### International Recommendations

1) Promoting funding mechanisms for the acquisition of clean technology in developing countries (Renata Calsing, Maria Marinho and Carlos Henrique Rubens Tomé Silva).

2) Establishing a fund that allows the purchase of clean technologies considered relevant to environmental protection (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).

3) Recognizing the need to stimulate the creation of collaborative platforms for clean technology licenses (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).

4) Promoting discussion on the adaptability of a mandatory license allowing access to clean technologies and discuss other mechanisms of transfer (if the invention improves upon existing technology or reduces production costs, the company holding the license will exercise its exclusive right in order to differentiate itself in the market. Therefore, the incentive to transfer technology through licensing will only be effective if states establish mechanisms to compensate the private sector holder or co-holder of protected technologies that impact environmental protection) (Renata Calsing and Maria Marinho).

#### f) National and international trade systems

1) Investing U.S. bonds certificates that comprise the international reserves of BRICS members (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) in funds managed by the shareholders (Virgilio Gibbon).

2) Developing rules for the Investment Fund regarding the possibility of issuing a "Green Currency" up to value of its assets. The Green Money shall only be applied to actions or funding of sustainable projects of countries that agree to be beneficiaries of the Fund (Virgilio Gibbon).



3) Accede to a Shareholders Agreement that accords the Green Currency the same treatment given to the U.S. dollar today. In other words, it is computed as international reserve and gives rise to the issuance of corresponding domestic currency (Virgilio Gibbon).

4) Adopting social and environmental indicators on the stock market. Examples: Domini 400 Social Index (DSI), Dow Jones Sustainable Index (PDMA).

#### g) Sustainable Production

1) Creating a coordinated consumer products policy based on the evaluation of the environmental impact of products throughout their life cycle. Fostering discussion between the public and private sectors on the subject of producing more effective measures and lowering costs (PDMA).

2) Promoting the idea of corporate social responsibility throughout the entire production cycle, including: local communities, paid employees, shareholders, business partners, suppliers, consumers, and public authorities (PDMA).

3) Sustainable financing - direct funding for specific areas: such funding would benefit some communities or disadvantaged municipalities by granting loans through local development banks in deposits, with rates equal to or below the market price (PDMA).

#### h) Sustainable Consumption

1) Responsibility of individuals and companies for their sustainable consumption (PDMA).

2) Consumer protection against misleading advertising by companies through notices that detail environmental protection or certifications related to Corporate Social Responsibility in their Codes of Conduct (PDMA).

3) Creation of a website specializing in the exchange of information and tips on environmentally friendly products and companies (NKLF Lawyers Association).

#### i) Sustainable Construction

##### International Recommendations

1) Adopting of a statement of principles for sustainable construction at the Rio +20 Conference (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

##### National recommendations

1) Creating financial incentives (benefits and tax exemptions) for sustainable products and technologies to be used in construction (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

2) Creating a government website for the commercialization of sustainable technologies and products (Luiz Gustavo Bezerra).

#### j) Exploitation of Genetic Resources

##### International Recommendations

1) Ratification of the Nagoya Protocol and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Protocol, ensuring the implementation of the ABS regime and the liability regime for damages in the case of transnational movement of GMOs (Solange Telles da Silva and Tarin Frota Mont'Alverne).

2) The Right to access information on biotechnology and nanotechnology (Solange Telles da Silva).

3) Requirements for independent studies on the risks and adverse effects on human health and the environment before genetically modified organisms are made available for human and animal consumption (Solange Telles da Silva).

4) Requirements for monitoring after such GMOs are made available on the market and for the publication of these studies (Solange Telles da Silva).

##### National recommendations

1) It is important that countries have the legal tools necessary to access these resources effectively and benefit from sharing in a fair and equitable manner, especially after the adoption of the Protocol of Nagoya (Tarin Frota Mont'Alverne).

3) Green Economy in the Sustainable Development context: Governance and Institutional Framework

#### a) State Liability

##### International Recommendations

1) All Signatories shall promote sustainable management, especially within the government administration (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

2) Sustainable management means one that is conducted with transparency, accountability, and in an ethical manner, with public participation and respect for the concerns of interested parties (stakeholders – employees, customers, suppliers, society, and government), human rights, and the environment (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

3) Respect for the environment in public administration is founded on the following pillars: environmental education, sensible use of resources, proper disposal of waste, sustainable public procurement, and a healthy work environment (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

##### National Recommendations

1) The environmental responsibility of federal, state and local entities includes, beyond liability for damages, a responsibility to prevent damages by reducing the environmental impact of state activities, through the adoption of sustainable management practices (Maria Augusta Ferreira).

#### b) Companies Liability

##### International Recommendations

1) Creating guidelines that impose strict liability on companies for environmental damages caused by those companies, with joint and several liability between both parent companies and their subsidiaries (Carole Peychaud).

2) Having an Agreement on "Rights and responsibilities of market players" with guidelines such as: (PDMA)

a) Minimum criteria, which would constitute the basis for the Code of Conduct for Companies (obligations and their subjects must be precise and clear) (PDMA).

b) Creating an obligation to produce annual statements that consider environmental and social criteria; (PDMA).

c) Promoting imperatives for voluntary certifications obtained according to the standards of ISO, for example (PDMA).

3) Environmental conventions containing provisions for conflict of laws and jurisdictional conflicts, giving preference to the laws and courts that could best grant relief. Examples of rules (PDMA):

a) Conflict of laws:

1) In the case of compensation for environmental damage, the rule most favorable to the victim and to environmental protection should be applied; 2) if there exists environmental insurance, the law on the rights of the insured should be applied, 3) in case of environmental damage, the law of the jurisdiction of the parent company may be applied if it has control over the activities of its subsidiary.

b) Conflict of jurisdictions: (PDMA)

1) The victims of environmental damage may choose the court most expedient for the granting of relief, for example: based on the proximity of the evidence;

2) If the parent company has control over the activities of its subsidiary, the jurisdiction of the parent company will be competent to hear the case;

3) A multinational corporation may be sued in the court of the domicile of the defendant. If the defendant is a corporation, the domicile of the defendant may be found in any of three places: a) where the company has been incorporated, b) the location of its headquarters, or c) its principal place of business.

#### Specific Recommendations for International Law of Investments

1) The integration of clear environment protection provisions in international investment agreements: the future investment agreements or the renegotiation of existing agreements should include specific provisions on environment protection. These provisions can consider (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) The definition of an investment activity: The activities of those companies which are constituted without knowledge of domestic environmental laws should not be qualified as an investment and therefore should not benefit from the protection of the investment agreement. The international investment agreement provision on the definition of the investment must underscore this point. The agreement must state that the investor has a duty to check, examine and understand the legal framework of the host state, especially the one applicable to the environment, so that it shall start and conduct its activity accordingly.

(ii) The definition of the environment: Environment is not an abstraction and in the vein of the previous proposition, some details must be available to define or to identify what is to be understood by environment. It might be a complex task to give an exhaustive definition but it is not impossible to give a list of indicators. These indicators may vary from one state to another.

(iii) Affirming the right of states to regulate according to their environmental concerns: compensation is usually provided in case of exploitation. For example, expropriation with environmental motives should have a specific status and the compensation for this kind of expropriation should be designed to give legitimacy to the objective of environment protection.

(iv) The legitimate expectations of States: The agreement must declare that States have a legitimate expectation that private companies investing on its territory will always act in good faith in order to collaborate with them, whenever environmental goals are concerned. Therefore, private companies have a duty to act accordingly and must not frustrate these expectations.

2) The integration of clear rules of conflict in international investment agreements: emphasizing the prevalence of environment protection norms over investment protection norms (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) The principle: Whenever there is a potential conflict between the investor's or the investment's protection and the environment protection, the investment agreements must present clear rules of conflict. The investment agreement can assert that whenever an investment protection provision is in conflict with an environmental norm, the latter shall prevail over the former. As environment protection is a unanimous goal which is fundamental, it must be a priority.

3) Promoting the use of the systemic integration principle (Nitish Monebhurrn):

(i) The principle: Hereby, agreements should declare that international investment law is not isolated from the rest of international law and that the interpretation of an international investment treaty does not exclude references to other non-investment norms, like environmental norms. This is in agreement with article 31(1)(c) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Hence, environmental norms can be integrated in international investment dispute settlements. They can be invoked by states and will have to be taken into consideration by arbitral tribunals.

#### National Recommendations

1) Implementing and publicizing the system of National Contact Points in the OECD so that companies can be questioned about their actions by society (PDMA).

2) Controlling the private activities through: 1) creation of precise sustainability criteria which companies should present; 2) mandatory presentation of these criteria, and

3) Government oversight of the information published. These criteria may be based on the GRI (PDMA).

c) Financial Institutions Liability

1) Organizations, whether public or private, national or international, which finance or support activities or projects which pollute the environment or may potentially pollute the environment shall require the submission of all documents relating to the environmental licensing of the project financed by them and issued by responsible controlling agencies, under penalty of becoming jointly liable for any effects arising from the violation of this Act or its regulations (Bruna Acerbi).

2) In addition, an environmental cost-benefit analysis must be taken into consideration, defining the aims of a project and identifying its impacts, defining them according to their relevance and measurement in physical units, as well as appraising them in monetary terms. (Luiz Borges)

3) Experience from a Brazilian financial institution on incorporating socio-environmental criteria into institutional and management policies of credit allocation: "Itaú Unibanco has a Socio- Environmental Risk Policy which sets out the internal guidelines for the identification of socio- environmental risks of the projects<sup>1</sup> to be financed. Consequently, Itaú Unibanco has a specialized multidisciplinary team, which (i) accesses the socioenvironmental conformity of the project and that of the potential corporate client, (ii) issues

an opinion which is taken into account in the credit approval process, and (iii), as the case maybe, monitors the projects and respective clients. To check socio-environmental conformity, this team: a) verifies if the potential corporate client is involved in activities related to forced labor, child labor and prostitution. Should such activities come to light, the request for credit will be turned down; b) verifies if the potential client operates in sectors which have a significant socio-environmental impact, such as: (i) extraction and production of wood, firewood and charcoal from native forest areas; (ii) mining and industrialization of asbestos; (iii) fisheries; or (iv) production and sale of firearms, munitions and explosives. In these cases, Itaú Unibanco conducts specific investigations in accordance with the activity involved: i) investigates the potential customer's socio-environmental management and the existence of any legal or administrative actions or news items which might cast the client in an unfavorable light; ii) solicits socio-environmental documentation with respect to the potential client and the project itself, among which, the environmental license; iii) undertakes technical visits, as required; and (iv) requests a technical analysis of the project where necessary. Once the financing is approved, the contract is drawn up to include environmental clauses allowing Itaú Unibanco to suspend with immediate effect the liberation of funds and to require early repayment of the operation in the event of the financed entity's non-compliance with the socio-environmental legislation and regulations. There are also specific contractual provisions for such cases, among others, genetically modified organisms (GMO) research, compliance with legal forest reserve norms, permanent preservation areas and lands declared as pertaining to indigenous peoples' reservations. Where a transaction is collateralized with real estate, Itaú Unibanco checks as to whether the property given in guarantee carries any environmental liabilities through an examination to be performed by an appropriate expert" (Itaú Unibanco).

#### d) The liability of non-governmental organizations

1) Consolidate Chapter 27 of Agenda 21, in particular: "27.1. (...)The credibility of nongovernmental organizations lies in the responsible and constructive role they play in society. Formal and informal organizations, as well as popular movements, should be recognized as partners in the implementation of the Agenda 21. The nature of the independent role played by non-governmental organizations within a society calls for real participation (...); 27.5. Society, Governments and international bodies should develop mechanisms that allow non-governmental organizations to play their partnership role in a responsible manner and effectively in the process of environmentally sound and sustainable development. 27.6. In order to strengthen the role of non-governmental organizations as social partners, the United Nations System and Governments should begin a process of reviewing formal procedures and mechanisms for the involvement of these organizations at all levels from policy-making and decision-making to implementation, in consultation with non-governmental organizations (Erico Mabellini).

#### e) Information Access and Public Participation

##### International Recommendations

- 1) It is necessary to define the meaning of the right of access to information at both the international and national levels (PDMA).
- 2) Signing a Regional Convention in Latin America in order that the principle of information access may be implemented, under the control of an institution, such as ECLAC (The TAI Network).
- 3) Ratifying of the Aarhus Convention (PDMA).
- 4) Establishing the right to access information on biotechnology and nanotechnology as well as nuclear and other advanced technologies (Solange Telles da Silva).

##### National Recommendations

- 1) Establishing publication deadlines for all documents related to environmental decisions (PDMA).
- 2) Imposing financial penalties in the case of noncompliance with publication deadlines (PDMA).
- 3) Ratifying of the Aarhus Convention (PDMA).
- 4) Signing a Regional Convention in Latin America to be implemented the access to information in the region under control of a regional institution (PDMA).
- 5) Establishing a fully detailed decree of often imprecise terms, with some examples of articles (PDMA):
  - a) Public audiences may be conducted, for instance, by sector, population or community, in order not to allow domination of the audience by people who have greater chance to express themselves (Colin Crawford).
  - b) Requiring effective mechanisms of access to all relevant documents to public audiences by population and interested communities, as well as access to versions with comprehensible language of details of the proposed projects (PDMA).
  - c) Providing training courses for community leaders and mediation techniques in order to qualify the ones who need to access the public audience procedures (PDMA).
  - d) Requiring public participation from the beginning of the procedure or process that will affect a specific community (PDMA).
- 6) Requiring the preparation of Environmental Impact Report (EIR) linked to the Preliminary Study Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) (PDMA).
- 7) Environmental documents shall be available on the Internet (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

#### f) Oversight and Accountability

- 1) Implementation of the monitoring system such as the GRI in the States (PDMA).
- 2) Controlling of information provided by the companies in their annual reports by the state through a government agency (PDMA).
- 3) Disclosure of corporate balance sheets on the Internet (with compatible data set by States) (PDMA).
- 4) Rule on the requirement of social balance, with the prediction of environmental and social aspects (PDMA).
- 5) Issuing a decree stipulating the criteria that should be in the company's annual social report in order to make that information comparable (PDMA).

#### g) Green Public Procurement

##### International Recommendations

- 1) Writing more specific guidelines on the green bidding topic at Rio +20 (Teresa Villac P Barki).
- 2) Strengthening of the sustainable Public Procurement in the MERCOSUL (Teresa Villac P Barki).

#### National Recommendations

1) Insertion of sustainable hiring in the planning activities of public entities (Teresa Villac P Barki).

#### h) Water: The Creation of Protected Areas on the High Seas

1) In order to achieve sustainable development, States should create marine protected areas (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

2) Marine Protected Areas should be considered as areas of full protection, essential for the conservation of biodiversity and for the maintenance of essential ecological marine processes (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

3) Any activity affecting or potentially affecting the ecological balance and biodiversity conservation in marine protected areas should be considered prohibited in respect of the right to an ecologically balanced environment for the present and future generations (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

4) Marine Protected Areas should ensure the protection of biodiversity and the quality of marine waters, to avoid acidification and death of organisms for biotic and abiotic necessary to capture carbon from the atmosphere, responsible for mitigating global warming and climate changes (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

5) Marine Protected Areas should ensure the preservation of natural fisheries resources, required for food security of present and future generations (Fernanda Salgueiro Borges).

#### i) Water: The Management of Aquifers Located under the Territories of Several Countries

1) Reduce asymmetric information (specific case of Guarani Aquifer) (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

2) Increase regional and local engagement (awareness, capacity-building and traditional knowledge) (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

3) Harmonization of national legislation (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

4) Regulatory structures (environmental services) (David Cassuto and Romulo Sampaio).

#### j) Taxation as a Means of Environmental Management

International Recommendations 1) Establish a limit (cap) for each country of carbon emissions. The initial cap will be the result of the average carbon emissions over the past three to five years. A transition rule might be created (more lenient rule) for developing countries and LDCs (Least Developed Countries – according to WTO classification) - so that these countries are not disadvantaged because of their low level of current development, and so they can still develop despite the targets for carbon reduction (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

2) The carbon emitted in each country shall be taxed in order to encourage companies to use resources in developing new technologies for clean energy production. The tax rates should be the same in each country (we suggest the establishment of a maximum rate and minimum rate), so that they are not created "carbon tax havens" (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

3) Establishing maximum and minimum rates that will also prevent the adoption of tariff adjustments on products importation (Border Tax Adjustments "BTA") (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

4) Creating a treaty that establishes a origin for the carbon emitted as a result of international activities (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

5) Creating a new international body with police power in order to monitor and eventually penalize those who do not comply to the limits imposed by the treaty (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

#### National Recommendations

##### 1) Green tax:

a) Establishing a less onerous form for the final consumer, for fuel tax, so as to encourage the consumption of cleaner fuels (such as biodiesel and alcohol) in order to reduce the consumption of high carbon concentration fuels, which are more pollutant, such as diesel and coal burning (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

b) Establishing a green contribution (purposing the creation of a fund to combat climate change and reduce the harmful effects of global warming) on fuel. The contribution would be progressive, more burdensome to diesel fuel and less to biodiesel, for example (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

c) The funds raised with the contribution should be used in development of green Brazilian technology for the production of electric cars, development of new forms of biodiesel (for instance, it is possible to transform peel potatoes and other vegetables into fuel) and even for the promotion of "green" initiatives such as increased efficiency in the recycling project, replanting of forests (which are also internationally known as "carbon sinks" as we consume and re-absorb carbon from the atmosphere), construction of bike lanes to encourage bicycle use by local people, etc (Tatiana Falcão Octaviano).

##### k) The Non-Regression Principle in Environmental Law

#### International Recommendations

1) Integration of the principles of non-regression of the human rights area into environmental law (Michel Prieur).

2) In order to preserve the sustainable development and ensure the necessary protection of the environment, states may not take legislative, administrative or judicial measures importing an unlawful reduction of their protection levels granting by laws that protect the environment except in public interest prevalent case (Maria Morelli).

3) If states adopt a legislative, administrative or judicial measure which reduces levels of environmental protection in force, they shall justify the reasonableness and proportionality of the measure (Maria Morelli).

#### National Recommendations

1) The environmental goals should be achieved in a gradual manner, through provisional and final targets, on the basis of a state planning that facilitates the implementation of activities related to these goals (Maria Morelli).

2) Efforts to ensure environment protection and conservation cannot decrease. So in this sense, it is forbidden to adopt legislative, administrative or judicial measures that

illegitimately reduce levels of environmental protection legislation, except in case of public interest, which must prevail (Maria Morelli).

#### l) The definition and criteria for local sustainability

##### National recommendations

1) Definition and promotion of sustainability indicators that can be used for the formulation of local environmental policies. Indicators should reconcile the protection and preservation of goods, services and environmental and cultural resources with economic and social development needs (PDMA).

#### m) Policies and standards for the protection of animals

1) Review: As founder and director of an NGO for the animal and environment, I would like to emphasize, that the animal protection associations also have great value to the conservation of the natural environment, which is "habitat" of wild animals from all over the world. The claims of the Animal Rights Movement will allow the Rio + 20 Conference to transcend the anthropocentric world view, by citing that not only humans, but also many non-human life forms that inhabit this planet with us, as the non-human animals are subjects of rights. Another important role of the third sector aimed at the protection of animals is the constituted authorities to help in the fight against wildlife trafficking, criminal activity that destroys the environment in a completely unsustainable and unacceptable way, in all respects (Erico Mabellini).

#### 4) Green Economy on Sustainable Development context: eradication of poverty

##### a) Regularization

1) Establishing property rights in forested areas and biomes in order to prevent illegal deforestation. (Fernando Meneguín).

2) The concession of rights to public lands to ensure better monitoring of national resources and to facilitate land regularization (Fernando Meneguín).

3) Imposing limits on land use; the concession of land rights, which are not absolute, but provide benefits to the title holder and to the state though terms and restrictions on the use of the land (Fernando Meneguín).

4) Establishing an effective policy and a coordinated regional planning (Jose Heder Benatti).

a) The State must be proactive and coordinate the process of regional planning for public policies that are effective, because the lack of a public goods allocation policy may leave space for the chaotic land occupation of public areas, through land invasion and deforestation, which often happens when there is no such policy.

b) So in this sense, it is necessary to establish a regional planning policy to include: land regularization; environmental licensing of rural properties; obedience to the social function of ownership; control, enforcement and economic instruments capable of stimulating the sustainable management of natural resources, especially forests.

i) For example, the economic or tax incentives can stimulate private spending in certain areas, discourage bad behavior, and correct the market trends that can encourage actions against nature conservation and the natural resources protection.

5) Land regularization in order to ensure control and define property rights, allowing the public power to know who is occupying land and how they are being used (Jose Heder Benatti).

a) Firstly, to overcome the current land chaos, land ownership must be determined - who is the owner of the land, public or private sector? If public, which federative entity?

b) Official recognition of the different existing forms of occupation should allow the state and society to have the control over the use of land and other natural resources. Therefore, the regularization will be positive and not negative, since it prioritizes family occupation.

c) Another positive effect of land regularization policy is the fight against illegal occupation of public lands.

6) There are several necessary steps to implement a land use (José Heder Benatti):

d) To overcome the limited management capacity of agencies responsible for planning land, whether in its technical or staff.

e) Understand that the consolidation of rural property, respecting the social and environmental assumptions, represents an important step towards the strengthening of citizenship and environmental protection.

7) The process of regularization of land occupation should (José Heder Benatti):

f) Be accompanied by a survey and a descriptive, georeferenced memorandum. The financial costs for its preparation should be the responsibility of recipient of legitimacy, with exception of the processes of regularization of small properties.

g) Include in the title deeds issued by the land agency clauses requiring the beneficiary to maintain, conserve and, if appropriate, restore the permanent preservation areas and legal reserves.

8) Other necessary and complementary actions to the regularization (Jose Heder Benatti).

h) Scanning of land acquis.

i) Modernization of access to registry information of rural land in order to increase the effectiveness of the real estate property registration processes records and ensure that information can be obtained quickly and from a distance by public authorities relating to questions of federal land.

#### b) Environmental Education

##### International Recommendations

1) Making investment in education a priority in developing countries and underdeveloped countries, since the lack of education contributes to unemployment which results in crime and poverty. In addition, ensure that education serves as a tool for public awareness of the current problems in the world, such as politics, health and environmental preservation. The unequal distribution of wealth is also a consequence of poor education (Patricia Pellanda).

##### National Recommendations

1) Environmental education, at all levels, is everyone's responsibility because it contributes to the reduction of social inequalities. The principle of transversality should be followed in schools (Maria Collares).

- 2) Government should be able to train teachers to teach environmental education at all levels of government and to monitor the effectiveness of the method adopted (Maria Collares).
- 3) Information on Environmental education requires transparency to public in order to contribute to the protection of natural resources, the public health and to the poverty eradication (Maria Collares).
- 4) Environmental education propels sustainable development. It should be compulsory in schools, social, professional and public activities (Maria Collares).
- 5) The inclusion of Environmental Law as a mandatory subject in law schools in order to contribute to educate professionals to apply effectively environmental legislation in all activities (Maria Collares).

c) The fundamental right to land and food

International Recommendations

- 1) Regarding the right to food, the focus of debates is on hunger eradication of people. This problem cannot be based on instruments that aim at increasing food production in the world, but on appropriate means to combat social inequalities and unequal distribution of wealth (Patricia Pellanda).
- 2) Cooperation and mobilization of all countries is necessary to fight against poverty and social exclusion. It is necessary to decentralize poverty policies in order to enforce cooperation, based on the premise that resources should be made available by the richest countries for the poorest countries (Alexceia Ferreira).
- 3) Encouraging the application of a "Solidarity Economy", warning private sector that their donations and supportive attitudes may contribute to the results of the company itself (Patricia Pellanda).

National Recommendations

- 4) Guarantee of land and territories granted to indigenous people and traditional communities as a collective right, transcending the idea of merely individual property (Patricia Pellanda).
- 5) Prevent State's domestic law equating indigenous lands to family farms. On this perspective it is important to achieve an international commitment and recognition of specific features of indigenous people and their cultural practices. This measure will prevent the high development of agribusiness lands and other explorations that have been occurring frequently on these populations' lands (Patricia Pellanda).
- 3) The commitment of States to reduce/eliminate corruption in politics. In addition to this, States shall punish those who: divert funds, individually enrich and "forget" their real function towards government and social obligations. Corruption can be reduced by strengthening social bases and basic education (Patricia Pellanda).
- 4) Public awareness that many problems can be solved in the short term through measures introduced by them and taken by the population itself, independent from the government. Problems such as hunger and environmental devastation belong to everyone. In long term, the eradication of poverty can be solved through an alliance between civil society and government. Since it is a problem that concerns everybody, it is the essential to engage various sectors of society (Patricia Pellanda).
- 5) Besides sufficient quantity of food to fulfill basic human needs, the quality of food and water should be prioritized, in order to achieve international food security intended. Quantitatively and qualitatively appropriate nutrition result in positive consequences for the health sector such as diseases reduction, especially those arising from the use and the consumption of pesticides and new technologies (transgenic) (Patricia Pellanda).

d) Definition and Criteria for a Sustainable City

National Recommendations

- 1) Definition and promotion of sustainability indicators that may be used for the development of local environmental policies. These indicators must reconcile the protection and the preservation of goods, services, environmental and cultural resources with the needs of economic and social development (PDMA).

e) The rights of indigenous people and of traditional communities

International Recommendations

- 1) A Protocol is necessary to precise definitions, obligations and rights of indigenous people and traditional communities with provisions such as (PDMA):
  - a) Prior, free and informed consent in relation to any activity held in indigenous areas;
  - b) Participation in the implementation of projects that can affect their lives;
  - c) Protection and guarantee to land access, natural resources and to benefits derived from their use;
  - d) Recognition of traditional knowledge of indigenous people and protection of people relocating to other territories;
  - e) Monitoring mechanism should be created at the international and national levels to ensure transparency and effectiveness of these rights.
- 2) Indigenous people may be impacted from the consequences of global climate change. It is necessary to ensure that such impacts are mitigated and that training and adaptation to climate change are rights of these peoples (PDMA).
- 3) Indigenous people have a crucial role in the conservation of environmental resources. This role should be recognized for compensation for environmental services and distribution of REDD benefits (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) (PDMA).

National Recommendations

- 1) Better access to information and participation of indigenous people in the implementation and development of projects that affect them directly or indirectly (PDMA).
- 2) Recognition of land and territories granted to indigenous people and traditional communities as a collective right, transcending the idea of merely individual property (Patricia Pellanda).
- 3) More precise definitions of terms such as traditional communities (Colin Crawford).

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

5) National Institutional Framework

a) Legal and Procedural instruments

International Recommendations: procedural instruments

- 1) Acceptance of civil society participation through representative entities such as amicus curiae in international environmental dispute settlement (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).
- 2) Establishing a right to sue, the lack of implementation of environmental treaties in national tribunals (Gérard Monédaire).
- 3) Creation of Regional Integrations, provided with a distinct legal personality from the Member States, competent to sign Environmental Treaties (Gérard Monédaire).
- 4) Right of petition, so that the society can intervene in the Legislative Assemblies or Commissions (Gérard Monédaire).
- 5) Imposition of financial sanctions to disobedience or incomplete compliance with Tribunals decisions or laws concerning environment (Gérard Monédaire).
- 6) Reversal of the burden of the proofs in environmental disputes (Carole Peychaud).

International Recommendations: legal instruments

- 1) A treaty on the reparation of environmental transnational damage affecting citizens of other countries (Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva).

National Recommendations: procedural instruments

- 1) Disclosure of condemnation of environmental damage with destination of these values to international public funds. Publicity of the application of these values to environmental protection (Larissa Pochmann Clare da Silva)

b) Analytical methods to measure the effectiveness of law enforcement

International Recommendations

- 1) The Secretariats of the Conventions must require States to designate national institutions to be National Points of Contact responsible for identifying the implementation of environmental treaties (PDMA).
- 2) The priority must not be the creation of new laws and treaties, but the political and legal commitment to the implementation of existing standards (Patricia Pellanda).

National Recommendations

- 1) Application of environmental quality standards such as agricultural pesticides eradication that have occurred in Europe (Solange Teles).
- 2) Creation of legal environmental sustainability indicators of environmental governance (Solange Teles).

6) International Institutional Framework

a) Existing Institutions

International Recommendations

- 1) Creating a new international agency within the United Nations to discuss sustainable development, which would incorporate the UNEP and the committee within the ECOSOC responsible for sustainable development (PDMA).
- 2) Creating a committee inside this new body that would represent international NGO's selected according to their performances (PDMA).
- 3) Focus on UNEP (PDMA).
- 4) The transformation of the UN Economic and Social Council to the Economic, Social, and Environmental Council (PDMA).
- 5) Reforming of the Commission on Sustainable Development in the General Assembly (PDMA).

b) The Necessity of new institutions: the World Environmental Court

International Recommendations

Considering the International Court of Justice (ICJ) importance in the international community - we propose the reform of the ICJ or the foundation of a World Environment Court, based on the following proposals (Rafael Prado):

- 1) Increase flexibility of the ICJ Environmental Chamber, and encourage the use of principle of the public participation principle and the access of stakeholders to justice (not just government but also civil society). The public participation principle is fundamental principle in International Environmental Law and was recognized by the ICJ Judgment in the same case of the Pulp Mills on the Uruguay River (Rafael Prado).

- 2) ICJ shall demonstrate its wide jurisdiction over environmental matters involving Member States, not by modifying its Statute inserted in the UN Charter, but materializing the public participation principle and access to information and to justice, in case of environmental issues that directly affect national populations of litigants countries (Rafael Prado).

c) The necessity of new Institutions: World Environmental Organization

International Recommendations

- 1) Environmental conventions Secretariats, as technical instances of conventions, would be specialized organs in the new International Organization (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

2) There would be a Settlement Body, according to the model of WTO, which would also be a consulting and arbitration body on violations of International Environmental Law. This body would also be composed of a Commission with competencies similar to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

3) Three would be the new organization sources of income: the quota-share from the participant countries, major financial penalties for environmental damage, and fees obtained from carbon credits certification and environmental economics in general (Sandro Schmitz dos Santos).

Moderators of the Forum Rio + 20, researchers and institutions that have contributed for the recommendations

PDMA: Fernando Penteado, Carina Costa de Oliveira, Rômulo Sampaio, Feliciano Guimarães, Mariana Monjardim, Maria Fernanda Gebara, Mariana Campos, Renata Staudoar, Catarina Freitas; Academia Paranaense de Direito Ambiental: Alessandra Galli, Daniela Slongo; Membros da AGU: Erika Pires Ramos, Maria Augusta Ferreira, Teresa Villac Pinheiro Barki; Marcos Weiss Bliacheris; CEDA – Daniel Barragan; CEDAM- Patrícia Précoma Pellanda, Alexceia Ferreira, Antonio Araujo, Felipe Iubel Belao, Fernando Cesar Pellanda, Herik Chaves, João Renato Lima Paulon, Juliana Correa Tuji, Liana Amin Lima da Silva e Patrícia Précoma Pellanda; Centre International de Droit Comparé de l'Environnement-CIDCE – Michel Prieur, Gerard Monédiaire, Frédérique Bouin, Jessica Makoviac ; EMERJ – Escola da Magistratura do Estado do Rio de Janeiro: Maria Collares Sidney Hartung Buarque, Leila Mariano; FGV Direito Rio : Luiz Ferreira Xavier Borges, Silvia Pinheiro; IBRADA: Flávia Frangetto e Ricardo Stanzola; IEDC - Sandra Kish; Instituto de Direito e Meio Ambiente Brasil-Estados-Unidos – BAILE –David Cassuto; Mackenzi-SP: Fernanda Salgueiro Borges, Solange Telles; Moderadores Site Forum de Sustentabilidade Rio + 20: Maisa Nazario, Carol Manzoli, Lucas Noura, Larissa Clare Pochmann da Silva, Sandro Schmitz dos Santos, Arivaldo de Souza, João Renato Paulon, Maria Paula Morelli, Eldis Camargo, Leandro Eustáquio, Marcio Dias Lopes; Daniela Stump, Luiz Gustavo Bezerra, Rafael Prado, Claudio Lourenço Franco, Guilhardes de Jesus Júnior, Bruna Lagreca Acerbi, Humberto Moura, Carolina Claro, Sandro Schmitz, Tatiana Falcão Octaviano, Tarín Frota Mont'Alverne; MP Rio Grande do Sul: Eduardo Viegas; NKF advogados – Luciana Lima, Cláudia Aleixo, Gisele Kakazu; Núcleo de Estudos e Pesquisas do Senado Federal Carlos Henrique R. Tomé Silva, Tarciso Del Maso, Fernando Meneguín, Luisa Cardoso e Mateus Brasileiro; Prefeitura do Rio de Janeiro: Eduardo Rosa; PUC Brasília: Renata Calsing; PUC Goiás: Luciane Martins de Araújo Mascarenhas, Luiz Antônio Tietzmann e Silva, Dimas Pereira Duarte Júnior; Professores da PUC-SP: Consuelo Yoshida, Erika Bechara; SUDEMA: Helena Telino Neves; Tribuna Animal: Erico Mabellini; Tulane University Colin Crawford, Marcus Gatto; Uniceub: Marcelo Dias Varela, Maria Marinho, Lucas Noura; Universidade do Estado do Amazonas – UEA – Joelson Cavalcante; Universidade Federal do Pará José Benatti. Um agradecimento especial também aos seguintes juristas: Priscila Pereira de Andrade, Carole Peychaud, Meryem Deffairi, Virgilio Gibbon, Nitish Monebhurrun, Grace Ladeira. Um agradecimento ainda a todos que fizeram comentários no FORUM FGV Direito Rio + 20

## Réseau des Agences Régionales de l'Energie et de l'Environnement (RARE)

Contribution du Réseau des Agences Régionales de l'Energie et de l'Environnement (RARE) à RIO +20

VERS UNE NOUVELLE GENERATION D'AGENDAS 21 LOCAUX

Quelques années seulement après RIO le réseau des agences régionales de l'énergie et de l'environnement (RARE) ont progressivement investi le champ du développement durable en France. Cette implication s'est notamment faite sur le terrain, en accompagnement direct de collectivités territoriales volontaires. D'abord peu nombreuses et pionnières, ces expériences se sont multipliées pour impliquer aujourd'hui l'essentiel des acteurs publics.

L'accompagnement au quotidien des Agendas 21 s'est également concrétisé par un apprentissage constant de tous les acteurs et par la diffusion d'outils méthodologiques et pratiques conçus par les agences du RARE.

Cette mutualisation de la compréhension du développement durable et des outils a généré et renforcé les réseaux régionaux d'échanges créés par les agences régionales avec d'autres acteurs publics.

Après plusieurs décennies d'existence, ces réseaux perdurent, les plus anciens forment les plus récents, ils se spécialisent en mettant l'accent sur certaines thématiques (éco-responsabilité, commande publique durable, énergie-climat...) et la participation est de plus en plus forte. Le développement durable bénéficie d'une reconnaissance de plus en plus grande mais se heurte à de nombreuses résistances au changement.

Le RARE souhaite faire part de son retour d'expériences pour renforcer encore la diffusion du concept de développement durable et contribuer à RIO +20 autour de sept propositions :

- 1) Passer de l'incantation à l'action,
- 2) De l'artisanat à la prise en compte réglementaire,
- 3) La valorisation de la diversité des agendas 21 et des modes de concertation,
- 4) Gommer les ambiguïtés et réaffirmer le développement comme axe structurant des politiques,
- 5) Du plan à l'action, maintenir la dynamique,
- 6) Des points clés incontournables au service de la qualité des démarches,
- 7) L'importance de l'implication et la formation des agents des collectivités.

VERS UNE NOUVELLE GENERATION D'AGENDAS 21 LOCAUX

1. Passer de l'incantation à l'action

Les premiers Agendas 21 se sont engagés en France au milieu des années 90, quelques années seulement après RIO. Le temps de l'élaboration de ces premiers Agendas 21 a été une période où la notion même de développement durable a dû faire ses preuves. C'était le temps de la présentation du concept et de sa démonstration de sa pertinence. À l'époque, l'idée était complètement neuve en France et la question de l'intérêt même d'une démarche de développement durable n'était pas acquise.

Aujourd'hui, la perception a changé et le concept a désormais fait ses preuves : il est possible de mener sur la durée l'élaboration d'un Agenda 21 en concertation avec la population. Après cette toute première génération de défricheurs, les acteurs publics s'interrogent sur le « comment faire » du développement durable et non plus sur « pourquoi faire du développement durable » comme à l'origine.

Proposition du RARE : Le RARE propose de poursuivre l'accompagnement des Agendas 21 jusque dans le suivi de la mise en oeuvre opérationnelle pour contribuer à la qualité des résultats. Les partenaires financiers des collectivités territoriales sont pour leur part invités à conditionner leurs aides financières à des objectifs de



développement durable.

## 2. De l'artisanat à la prise en compte réglementaire

Les pionniers du développement durable des années 90 ont contribué à la rédaction de ce qui allait progressivement devenir la référence en matière de développement durable. En 2006, après les premières initiatives en matière d'Agenda 21 en France, l'Etat, grâce à un large travail partenarial national, s'est doté d'un cadre de référence des démarches territoriales de développement durable.

Progressivement l'arsenal juridique français a également intégré le développement durable dans la plupart des nouveaux textes réglementaires. Le Grenelle de l'environnement renforce la place du développement durable sans toutefois lui donner une dimension obligatoire de façon générale. Seul un rapport développement durable est désormais exigé des plus grosses collectivités territoriales françaises.

Proposition du RARE : le RARE propose de rendre obligatoire pour chaque Etablissement Public de Coopération Intercommunale (EPCI) la réalisation des Agendas 21 au même titre que les règlements d'urbanisme ou les Plans Locaux d'Urbanisme (PLU).. En effet, la publication de ce document devrait être aussi stratégique que l'aménagement urbain, ou le logement.

Le RARE propose par ailleurs que chaque EPCI dispose d'un Conseil économique, social et environnemental, outil de base d'une concertation locale.

## 3. La valorisation de la diversité des Agendas 21 et des modes de concertation

Le cadre de référence français pour les Agendas 21 s'est appuyé sur les initiatives de toutes les collectivités territoriales, quelle que soit leur échelle. En effet, les territoires ont rapidement adapté la démarche à leurs spécificités, en expérimentant tant dans leurs actions que dans leurs méthodes.

Coeur du développement durable, la concertation a fait l'objet de diversification et d'innovation : les publics concernés, les formes, les lieux, les outils de concertation sont énormément diversifiés avec une recherche d'adaptation aux réalités du territoire.

Proposition du RARE : le RARE propose qu'un bilan global des Agendas 21 ainsi qu'un recensement des outils de concertation soit tiré de toute cette richesse d'expériences pour en assurer une large diffusion au plus grand nombre.

Le RARE rappelle également le caractère essentiel d'une co-construction réelle avec la population et l'ensemble des acteurs socio-économiques des programmes d'actions en matière de développement durable qui permet de conforter son contenu et assure sa réussite et sa diffusion.

## 4. Gommer les ambiguïtés et réaffirmer le développement durable comme axe structurant des politiques

Malgré le cadre de référence et parce qu'il est de plus en plus difficile de se soustraire à une approche de développement durable, l'absence de conditionnalité des aides ainsi que l'absence d'obligation réglementaire, permettent à chacun une approche « à la carte » en matière de développement durable.

Proposition du RARE : Le RARE propose que les Etats rappellent avec force la nécessité de la transversalité et de l'intégration du développement durable dans toutes les politiques. Une politique sociale, économique et environnementale, même réunies dans un même document ne saurait en aucune façon apporter une réponse en matière de développement durable.

Le RARE souhaite rappeler l'importance stratégique et structurante des Agendas 21 qui visent à organiser et à articuler entre elles l'ensemble des politiques, sans restreindre leurs champ d'action.

## 5. Du plan à l'action, maintenir la dynamique

La multiplication des expériences en matière de développement durable et des échanges entre acteurs régionaux et nationaux a permis la construction d'une culture commune. Il ressort de toutes ces démarches que le temps de l'élaboration des Agendas 21 est une période de très forte implication qui peut se terminer brutalement par la publication de l'Agenda 21 en tant que tel. Bien souvent la question de la pérennité de cette dynamique créatrice n'a pas été anticipée.

Proposition du RARE : le RARE propose d'intégrer, dès la conception de ces démarches territoriales, une réflexion sur la mise en oeuvre et les changements de comportement qu'elle implique. Une organisation pour la mise en oeuvre opérationnelle doit être structurée afin d'assurer le maintien de la dynamique initiale et l'association des parties concernées après la publication de l'Agenda 21.

## 6. Des points clés incontournables au service de la qualité des démarches

Une volonté politique forte, une équipe autour du porteur de projet, une reconnaissance et des moyens, le temps de la concertation, la recherche d'une diversification des partenaires, une programmation progressive mais opiniâtre sont autant d'éléments relevés au travers des très nombreux exemples d'Agendas 21 locaux.

Proposition du RARE : le RARE souhaite insister sur ces éléments de qualité indispensables à la réussite des Agendas 21. On assiste depuis quelques années à la tentation d'une banalisation des démarches de développement durable avec une baisse de la qualité finale par manque notamment de moyens, et/ou de temps et un défaut de concertation. Le RARE propose que les Agendas 21 soient évalués par des organismes indépendants. Par souci de cohérence, le RARE propose des outils déclinables à chaque échelle pour orienter une convergence des objectifs de l'échelle internationale à l'échelle locale.

## 7. L'importance de l'implication et de la formation des agents des collectivités

Les démarches territoriales de développement durable ne doivent pas apparaître comme un objet déconnecté de la réalité des services et porté seulement par les politiques. L'ensemble des services doit être étroitement associé à son élaboration et bénéficier des formations nécessaires à sa mise en oeuvre quotidienne.

Proposition du RARE : le RARE propose de faire du développement durable un élément de formation de base des agents, également intégré dans leur déroulé de carrière.

## CONCLUSION :

Les Agendas 21 sont des outils opérationnels et pratiques qui contribuent à la mise en place d'une économie verte et à la lutte contre la pauvreté, dans le cadre d'une co-construction avec l'ensemble des parties concernées. A ce titre, 20 ans après RIO, les agendas 21 locaux, sont des outils privilégiés à renforcer pour la mise en oeuvre du développement durable.










Le Réseau des Agences Régionales de l'Energie et de l'Environnement (RARE), propose en ce sens de les rendre obligatoires pour toutes les intercommunalités en les dotant d'outils de concertation locale, et en les évaluant pour s'assurer de leur qualité.

Le RARE s'engage à continuer activement l'accompagnement des Agendas 21 locaux dans le cadre de ses missions et compétences.

## PRESENTATION du RARE

Le Réseau national des Agences Régionales de l'Energie et de l'Environnement (RARE) regroupe 11 opérateurs qui interviennent, à l'échelle des régions et auprès des acteurs locaux. Elles élaborent des réflexions et des outils au niveau national et européen pour agir efficacement en faveur de la réduction de la consommation d'énergie et de la promotion du développement durable des territoires.

Les domaines d'intervention sont variés mais ceux rencontrés le plus souvent sont :

-  Les applications territoriales du développement durable;
-  Les outils et méthodes de travail pour l'animation de réseaux, l'observation et l'expérimentation...
-  L'animation des Observatoires Régionaux de l'Energie et des GES;
-  La mobilité, la qualité de l'air
-  La maîtrise de l'énergie et le développement des énergies renouvelables, et le changement climatique;
-  L'utilisation rationnelle et économe des matières premières (eau...);
-  La mise en valeur des espaces naturels;
-  L'éducation à l'environnement et l'emploi formation
-  Le management environnemental et les démarches de responsabilité sociétale;

### Les agences régionales

Acteurs de terrains depuis plus de 30 ans pour certaines d'entre elles, les agences régionales de l'énergie et de l'environnement, ont accumulé un capital unique de connaissances et d'expériences pour agir auprès des collectivités locales, des entreprises, des acteurs professionnels, des associations, de la communauté scolaire et du grand public.

Les formes d'interventions sont multiples : information, sensibilisation, animation de réseaux, observation, transfert de savoir, accompagnement de démarches et de projets, programmes européens et coopération décentralisée...

Chiffres clés : - 1995 : naissance du RARE

- 2011 : 11 organismes partenaires, 11 régions représentées dont 2 dans les départements et territoires d'outre mer, 230 collaborateurs

- 42% des régions disposent d'une agence régionale et représentent les 2/3 de la population française.

- La présence des agences dynamise l'activité sur le développement durable dans de nombreuses régions (Midi-Pyrénées, Rhône-Alpes, Bourgogne, Nord Pas de Calais, Ile de France, Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur, Haute-Normandie etc....)

Elles animent notamment des réseaux de territoires autour du développement durable :

-  Ile de France : <http://teddif.org/> et <http://www.areneidf.org/>
-  Midi-Pyrénées : <http://www.territoiresdurables.fr>
-  Rhône-Alpes : <http://www.ddrhonealpesraee.org/>
-  Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur : <http://www.territoires-durables-paca.org/>
-  Nord Pas de Calais : <http://www.cerdd.org>
-  Bourgogne : <http://www.alterre-bourgogne.fr/le-reseau-des-relais.html>
-  Haute-Normandie : <http://www.arehn.asso.fr/>

Les dernières publications du RARE sur le développement durable :

Le Manifeste : Agenda 21, Plan Climat... N'hésitez plus ! 2011

Guide PLU et DD : publication décembre 2011

Le livret « Action ! Réalisez votre politique de développement durable » 2007

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## Reseau des Organisations de la Societe Civile Camerounaise sur les Changements Climatiques (Network of Cameroorian Civil Society Organization on Climate Changes) - RESO-Climat Cameroun/ROS4C

Summary of the Preparatory Work of ROS4C towards COP 17 and RIO+20

### CONTEXT

In preparation of the Conference of the Parties in Durban (COP 17) from November 28 to December 9, 2011, ROS4C, a network of about 150 Civil Society Organisations (CSO) in Cameroon, has been actively working for effective participation in COP 17.

The purpose of COP 17 is based on Climate Change (CC) and sustainable development. In addition to the polluting industrial practices of developed countries, CC is equally related to the abusive exploitation of tropical and temperate forests which influences and degrades the life cycle of all living organisms and human being.

The topics in the agenda of RIO+20 are Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication and Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development and could open great opportunities for the consolidation of the cornerstones towards effective greening of the economy of African countries which are the most vulnerable to the effects of Climate Change (CC).

#### CLIMATE CHANGE: CHALLENGES AND THREATS TO CAMEROON AND AFRICA AT LARGE

Africa severely suffers from the outcomes of climate change. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Africa's land mass and geo- physical characteristics shows it will warm one and a half more times compared to global average. Although Cameroon as well as countries of the Congo Basin currently contributes negligibly to CC, the country suffers the consequences of this phenomenon including; scarcity of water resources, decline in crops production, decreasing farming activities, scarcity of pasture lands, land degradation, rapid deforestation and desertification, coastal erosion, loss of biodiversity, imminent discrimination and violent against women, force migration, loss of sovereignty of natural resources, the burden of struggle to continue the existence of African communities living in harmony with nature, temporary and spatial disturbances of rainfalls patterns with negative impacts on the different sectors of development, drought and floods, increase in conflicts related to scarcity of resources, increase in waterborne diseases such as repeating cholera epidemics, long dry seasons (leading to decrease in streams flow) specifically in the Sahelian part of the country, degradation of mangroves etc.

In view of the above mentioned consequences and considering the following:

☞The failures of previous negotiations (the unsuccessfulness of the Framework Convention on CC, Convention on Biodiversity, lack of funding for the convention on desertification, increasing loss of certain species) which neither considered the urgency of CC , its causes and implementation on the African people and their livelihood,

☞The constraints attached to all the funds that were available to mitigate the effects of climate change like the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) fund which did not benefit developing countries, especially Africa;

☞The land issues - in the framework of REDD+ and Green economy millions of hectares are in the process to be conceded to multinational companies for agricultural purpose, bio-fuels and carbon offsets to the detriment of the indigenous people at the level of Cameroon and Congo Basin countries,

We, ROS4C expect effective and efficient participation of Congo Basin CSO at the negotiations of COP17 to effectively tackle the issue of vulnerability, poverty as well as the poor commitment of Annex1 (A1) countries and emerging economies for CO2 emission reduction through fair and binding agreements in Durban. We hope that Durban will be the occasion to extend the commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol (KP) and to reach a good agreement on green climate fund and other fast climate fundings.

#### DEMANDS FOR DURBAN AND RIO+20

The negotiations in Durban should be addressed with respect to the two track of the BALI Road Map approach to protect the Congo Basin interests. We expect actions in the following domain in line with those of Pan African Climate Change Justice Alliance (PACJA), Climate Action Network International (CAN International), UN Conference on Sustainable Development, African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN), Climate Justice Now, ACCRA Caucus, Francimat etc.

☞Developed countries must agree to reduce their CO2 emission to 25-40% below the level of 1990 by 2020, become carbon neutral before 2050 and adopt a second commitment period of KP by 2013. More so, the call of over 100 countries and civil societies to keep temperature increase below 1,5°C should be considered and developing countries should have equitable access to global atmospheric space;

☞Measures to stop massive deforestation leading to increase desertification in the Congo Basin will be considered and the international community will reinforce their support to African states in sectors such as sustainable management of forests through implementation of mechanisms of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC);

☞Real opportunities for financing CSO and Government projects related to climate, capacity building, transfer of green technology and linking the science-policy interface for environmental sustainability will be accessible considering the specific needs of Africa for addressing implementation gaps;

☞Development models for efficient, inclusive and sustainable economic growth through resource efficiency will be reoriented while recognizing Africa's interests on the Green Economy within the context of sustainable development, poverty eradication, institutional frameworks, needs and challenges faced by countries emerging from conflict. To this African countries must close all loopholes related market mechanism;

☞All obstacles to the full implementation of sustainable industrial growth that limits the environmental, social and economic costs of industrialization should be removed;

☞A1 Countries should provide non-A1 Countries with appropriate additional and long-term financing, technology and capacity-building support;

☞Emphasis should be put on renewable technology transfer in Congo Basin Region and their role in Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Green Economy;

#### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COP 17

To the International Community

☞Kyoto Protocol (KP): the commitment period should be extended. This protocol is the only binding with clauses that could effectively lead to reduction and mitigation of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by A1 countries;

☞A long-term structure for fair and effective international action on climate change by supporting civil society in building capacities of local communities to adapt to climate change should be developed;

☞Adequate, predictable and sustainable finance for REDD+ should be ensured to deliver the substantial reductions of CO2 and Measuring Reporting and Verification (MRV) should be clearly defined;

☞The final commitment of developing countries for REDD+ should be linked to that of developed countries to continue the Kyoto Protocol;

☞REDD+ and as well as Green Economy should not be an occasion of alienation of people land and forests rights;

☞Safeguards in relation to REDD+ should be clearly defined while taking into account the rights of the indigenous and local people and lay more emphasis on gender mainstreaming;

☞A1 countries and emerging countries should agree to change the lifestyle - extravagant energy consumption, excess waste production and consumption models - of their population in order to reduce CO2 emissions;

☞A1 countries and emerging countries should be involved in the development of clean technology transfer, promote low carbon industries and clearly define the MRV;

☞Criteria for the Climate Technology Center host should be clearly defined and the clauses should be favorable to developing countries;

☞Funding and financing based on green funds should be finalised and that the modalities for funds acquisition should be clearly defined;

☞These funds should be under the supervision of the UNFCCC;

☞Solution/agreement should arise to mobilize innovative funds (transaction taxes on air, sea transportation), in view of making up the public budget's shortfall observed in several donor countries;

☞Develop clear, just and equitable policies, clauses and mechanisms for REDD+ and Green Economy to avoid what could appear as a possible future climate world war;

To Cameroon and Congo Basin Countries Governments

☞A national framework for consultation on the management of the thematic of land tenure should be established so that together we could identify the opportunities and threats posed by the granting of extensive land to large multinationals for agriculture and the production of bioenergy in the context of Green Economy and REDD+;

☞The government should communicate its opinions on the different points on the Durban agenda and have a preparatory meeting with members of CSO;

☞The government should establish a consultation platform with the CSO on the different points on the Durban agenda and Rio+20;

☞Promote laws that guarantee the development of renewable energies and Green Economy;

☞Promote REDD+ governance and clear mechanism for the benefit by the communities of REDD+ fundings;

☞Clearly develop institutional responsibilities and networking on the different pillars of climate change negotiation at national level;

To the Civil Society

☞A pressure group should be established on the land tenure system in Cameroon and Congo Basin countries in order to preserve population's rights and the right of young people to have access to land for the creation of sustainable and Green employments;

☞Oppose to geo-engineering, which could be disastrous to humanity;

☞Avoid Soil Carbon Markets at Agricultural level;

☞Encourage market carbon for peat soil in order to protect mangroves and raffia wetlands in high land regions;

☞The members of the Congo Basin CSO who will attend COP 17 should be attached to the regional network committee to prepare their effective participation not only at the negotiations but also in side-events as discussed in Douala among some members;

To COMIFAC (The Commission for the Central African Forest)

☞COMIFAC and all negotiators be prepared to strongly defend the challenges/ interests of the Congo Basin;

☞COMIFAC should communicate their opinions on the various items on the Durban agenda especially about the REDD+ issue, land tenure and none market option for REDD+;

☞A framework for consultation between the Congo Basin CSO and COMIFAC should be established to better exploit the opportunities that will be opened in Durban;

☞A schedule for strategic meetings should be prepared between COMIFAC negotiators and Congo Basin CSO representatives present in Durban for regular consultations;

To ECCAS (Economic Community of Central African States)

☞ECCAS should transparently establish funds for the support of Civil Society on climate actions both on the field in terms of projects and their participation in international negotiations;

☞Open a window for Congo Basin CSO projects on REDD+, Adaptation, Renewable energies and Green Economy for direct access for funds;

☞Support Congo Basin CSO independent observatory of REDD+, Green Economy and land tenure;

ROS4C expectations for RIO+20 At Rio de Janeiro, 4-6 June 2012

Towards Green Economy for the Emergency of African Nations

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RIO+20

Governance

☞Agreement should be established for the development of a global instrument that ensures full liability for any social or environmental damage global corporation causes;

☞Solutions should be arisen to mobilize innovative funds (Financial transaction taxes, taxes on air and sea transportation), in view of making up the public budget's shortfall observed in several donor countries;

☞Agreement should be established to commit developed and developing Countries to bring the absolute consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources in a fair and equitable manner;

CO2 Emission Reduction

☞Adequate, predictable and sustainable finance for Green Economy should be ensured to deliver the substantial reductions of CO2 and Measuring Reporting and Verification (MRV) should be clearly defined;

☞Implementation of guidelines for Green Economy should lead to maintain low CO2 emission and to develop green technologies in economic sectors in Africa;

☞Policies, subsidies to combat corruption that drive deforestation should be established to achieve zero deforestation economy and stop the production, trade, import and

consumption of goods stemming from deforestation and degradation such as unsustainable timber and palm oil;

#### Rights of Indigenous and Vulnerable Peoples

¶Safeguards in relation to Green Economy should be clearly defined while taking into account the rights of the indigenous and local people and lay more emphasis on gender mainstreaming;

¶Safeguards in relation to Green Economy should ensure the involvement of citizens at all levels of decisions making at national and international level concerning their land;

¶Support for the establishment of national frameworks for consultation on the management of the thematic of land tenure should be established in the aim to identify the opportunities and threats posed by the granting of extensive land to large multinationals for agriculture and the production of bio-energy in the context of green economy;

#### Agricultural Sector

¶A long-term structure should be developed for fair and effective international action for Green Economy by supporting civil society in capacities building of local communities and groups to adapt to climate change through green technology;

¶Green Economy as well as REDD+ should not be an occasion of alienation of people land and forests rights;

¶Measure to avoid Soil Carbon Markets for large scale agriculture should be established;

¶Market carbon for ecosystem services should be encouraged;

#### Energy Sector

¶Commitment to providing access to clean and green modern energy for all by 2020, with clear and comprehensive implementation measures, adequate funding provisions should be established;

¶An acknowledgment that decentralised renewable energy is the best way to meet the needs of the poor while preserving the environment should be consolidated;

¶More funds for implementation of local projects for renewable energy systems in Cameroon and African countries should be make available;

¶Commitment to complete the pathway outlined by the IPCC Special Report on Renewable Energy enabling 80% of the world's energy needs to be met by renewable energy by 2050 should be established;

#### Capacity Building & Technology Transfer

¶Developed countries and emerging countries should be involved in the development of clean technology transfer for African nations in the context of Green Economy;

¶Criteria for the Climate Technology Center host should be clearly defined and the clauses should be favorable to developing countries;

¶Commitment increasing support in the capacity building of small scale food producers and farming communities in income generating activities and post harvest losses reduction in relation to renewable energy and energy efficiency facilities should be established;

#### Green Economy, Local Councils and MDG

¶Capacity building of local authorities and regional government should be strengthen in Green Economy;

¶Council development plans should be greened;

¶Women capacities to develop Green Businesses should be enhanced and their access to Green Fund guaranteed;

¶Green Technology needs assessment should be carried out at the council level as well as the potential of renewable energies as an engine for local Green Economy;

¶Renewable Energy programs should be promoted in order to develop Green Jobs for young and avoid climate conflicts at local and national level as observed some years back in some African countries.

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## RESEAU NATIONAL DES ASSOCIATIONS ET DES ONGS CAMEROUNAISES (RENASONGCAM)

### PRESENTATION DU MESSAGE DU RESEAU AU SOMMET DE RIO + 20 DE LA CNUDD

#### I- CONTEXTE DU MESSAGE DU RESEAU AU SOMMET DE RIO + 20 CNUDD

Depuis que les activités marquant l'Année Internationale de la Montagne ont commencé en l'an 2002, le Cameroun y a toujours pris une part active. C'est ainsi qu'il a mis en place un Comité d'Organisation avec des membres pour assurer la réalisation desdites activités. Il a organisé le 17 Octobre 2002 un séminaire de lancement desdites activités. Il a, par la suite, réalisé la collecte d'informations relatives aux zones de montagnes. Tous ces événements et activités ont donné lieu à l'élaboration des rapports par le Point Focal National Politique du Comité, rapports communiqués à la FAO.

Notre pays a participé aussi à diverses rencontres internationales entre autres : la Réunion de Quito (Equateur) en septembre 2002 ; la Réunion des Points Focaux Nationaux tenue à Chambéry (France) du 30 Juin au 1er Juillet 2003, et enfin la Première Conférence Mondiale sur le Partenariat International pour la Mise en Valeur Durable des Régions de Montagne tenue à Merano en Italie les 05 et 06 Octobre 2003. Ensemble avec l'ONG SOS Catastrophes et Calamités Sans Frontières, Membre du Partenariat.

Bien avant la Conférence de Merano (Italie), le Cameroun a manifesté son intention d'adhésion au Partenariat International pour la mise en Valeur Durable des régions de Montagne depuis le 29 Août 2003, ce qui traduit bien les résultats de la réunion de Chambéry (France). L'organisation de ce séminaire qui a connu l'appui financier du Gouvernement Italien traduit dans les faits les résultats concrets du Partenariat International pour la Mise en Valeur durable des Régions de Montagne.

#### OBJECTIFS

L'objectif que poursuit le Cameroun à travers cette activité qu'il voudrait mener à savoir «Organisation du Séminaire atelier sur le renforcement des Capacités Institutionnelles» est le « Renforcement des capacités Institutionnelle sur la Mise en valeur Durable des Régions de Montagne au Cameroun ».

Actuellement seul le Point Focal National Politique détient toute l'information concernant et l'Année Internationale de la Montagne et les données sur le Partenariat International pour la Mise en Valeur Durable des Régions de Montagne. Il est temps de communiquer ces informations à d'autres acteurs qui oeuvrent dans ce domaine.

Le Point Focal ayant participé à toutes ces rencontres citées plus haut se doit, avec d'autres experts choisis selon leurs spécificités de former, en vue de renforcer leurs capacités, les différents acteurs. Ces acteurs sont les personnels de l'Environnement et de l'Administration Forestière, le personnel en activité dans les Conventions (Biodiversité, Changements Climatiques, Lutte contre la désertification, etc .... ) ; les autres Administrations que sont: l'Administration Territoriale et la Décentralisation, l'Agriculture; l'Elevage, les Pêches et les Industries Animales; les Mines, l'Eau et l'Energie; les Affaires Economiques, la Programmation et l'Aménagement du Territoire; les Finances et le Budget; le Tourisme; l'Urbanisme et l'Habitat; la Ville; la Recherche Scientifique et Technique; la Communauté Scientifique et Universitaire. Il sera également tenu compte de la Société civile et des Organisations Non Gouvernementales exerçant dans le domaine.

## II- MESSAGE DE RENASONGCAM AU SOMMET DE RIO + 20 CNUDD

C'est pour nous, Réseau National des Associations et des ONGs Camerounaises du Partenariat de la Montagne, un réel plaisir d'adresser ce message à tous les participants au Sommet de Rio + 20 de la CNUDD en notre qualité non seulement de membre du Partenariat de la Montagne, Point Focal Technique du Partenariat de la Montagne au Cameroun du réseau National des Associations et ONGs du Partenariat de la Montagne. Je vous rappelle que nous sommes au lendemain de la célébration de l'Année Internationale de la Montagne, dont l'objectif à la fois simple et ambitieux était de « veiller au bien être des communautés Montagnardes en encourageant la mise en valeur durable de leurs écosystèmes. L'atteinte de cet objectif était doublement conditionnée par la Paix et la Sécurité Alimentaire ».

Au Cameroun, nous avons constitué et mis sur pied, du retour de la conférence de Merano-Italie, un Réseau National des Associations et des ONGs Camerounaises du Partenariat de la Montagne pour veiller au bien être des communautés montagnardes et promouvoir également la mise en valeur durable des écosystèmes de Montagnes. Ce Réseau a pour principaux objectifs :

- 1- Sensibiliser le public sur l'importance des écosystèmes de montagnes ;
- 2- Identifier et répertorier les écosystèmes de montagnes et leurs caractéristiques ;
- 3- Elaborer un Plan d'Action National des ONGs et Associations pour promotion et Gestion Durable des Ecosystèmes de Montagnes
- 4- Organiser des actions non seulement pour célébrer l'Année Internationale de la Montagne, mais aussi surtout, visant au bien être des communautés montagnardes dans le cadre de mise en oeuvre et d'atteinte des objectifs du millénaire pour le Développement dans les communautés Montagnardes pour un développement durable.

Parmi les possibilités de diversification et d'amélioration des systèmes de production et des moyens d'existence en Montagne, il y a lieu de citer entre autres : le tourisme, les forêts et les parcours, et enfin l'industrie. De toutes ces possibilités, il nous semble opportun d'examiner les points concernant l'eau, l'agriculture et l'industrie.

- a) En ce qui concerne l'eau, étant donné qu'une grande partie de l'eau douce de la planète provient des zones montagneuses, il convient de noter que la valeur de cette ressource stratégique pourrait apporter d'importants avantages économiques aux montagnards ;
- b) S'agissant de l'agriculture, l'adoption d'une intégration de l'agriculture et de la transformation locale » pourrait aider à la diversification et au renforcement des écosystèmes vivriers en montagne ;
- c) A propos enfin de l'industrie et des services un développement harmonieux des villes de montagnes et des centres semi-urbains pourrait aider à maintenir l'équilibre entre la population qui continue d'augmenter la capacité de charge de la base de ressources naturelles, tout en fournissant des services aux communautés rurales. Les petites exploitations agricoles et agroalimentaires ajouteraient une valeur aux produits locaux et réduisant le volume avant les expéditions coûteuses vers les marchés.

Cependant, en raison du caractère transfrontalier des régions de montagnes, la coopération régionale est un instrument important pour mettre en oeuvre les objectifs du développement durable. Des liaisons avec de nombreux instruments multilatéraux. Comme la convention sur la Diversité Biologique, la convention sur la lutte contre la désertification, la convention sur les changements climatiques, la stratégie Internationale pour la réduction des désastres et les autres instruments appropriés devraient être mis en Valeur, en prenant en exemple l'attention spéciale sur les écosystèmes des montagnes et leurs communautés montagnardes.

Nous ne saurions terminer ce message sans toutefois lancer un très vibrant appel à tous les bailleurs de fonds membres ou non membres du partenariat de la Montagne au premier rang desquels la FAO, le Gouvernement Italien, aux bonnes Volontés des gouvernements locaux et bienfaiteurs, à nous venir en aide financièrement et multiformes dans la mise en oeuvre et en application de notre programme de mise en Valeur durable des montagnes au Cameroun aux fins d'améliorer les conditions d'existence des communautés montagnardes. Nous ne saurions terminer ce message sans faire quelques propositions à ce sommet de Rio + 20 allant dans le sens d'amélioration des conditions d'existence des communautés montagnardes à savoir :

## III- PROPOSITIONS

La création d'un :

- 1- Fonds Mondial pour la Mise en Valeur Durable des régions de Montagnes en assurant le bien être et les conditions d'existence des communautés montagnardes pour l'appui et l'assistance au développement économique, social et culturel des régions de montagnes ;
  - 2- La création des mutuelles communautaires des populations de montagnes pour le développement des régions locales de montagnes, taxes devant également servir pour les femmes dans leurs petits projets de lutte contre la pauvreté en zones de montagnes ;
  - 3- La création des taxes supplémentaires à prélever sur tous les produits de montagnes qui serviront à promouvoir l'éducation et les soins de santé des jeunes et des enfants et l'établissement des actes de naissances des enfants des régions de montagnes ;
  - 4- Aux pouvoirs publics locaux, régionaux et nationaux de redoubler des efforts et de leurs engagements afin de mettre en place des programmes pour prendre en compte la déforestation, l'érosion, la dégradation des terres et de la biodiversité, l'interruption des cours d'eau ;
  - 5- De développer et mettre en oeuvre, des politiques relatives au genre et des programmes incluant des investissements publics et privés qui encouragent ou éliminent les iniquités auxquelles sont confrontées les communautés de montagnes.
- Mettre en oeuvre des programmes en promouvant la diversification et les économies traditionnelles de montagne, des moyens de subsistance durables et des systèmes de production au niveau local ;

Enfin promouvoir la participation et l'implication des communautés de montagnes dans les décisions qui les touchent, et intègrent leurs savoirs traditionnels, leurs patrimoines et leurs valeurs dans toutes les initiatives de développement.

Toutes ces initiatives viseraient à améliorer le cadre de vie des populations montagnardes et la mise en valeur durable des écosystèmes de montagnes.

A Yaoundé, le 25 octobre 2011

Pour le Réseau National des

Associations et des ONGs

Camerounaises du Partenariat de la

Montagne (RENASONGCAM)

Jean Marie TSALA MESSINGA

Coordonnateur National du RENASONGCAM

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## Rights of Mother Earth

Rights of Mother Earth

Proposal Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth

Preamble

We, the peoples and nations of Earth:

considering that we are all part of Mother Earth, an indivisible, living community of interrelated and interdependent beings with a common destiny;

gratefully acknowledging that Mother Earth is the source of life, nourishment and learning and provides everything we need to live well;

recognizing that the capitalist system and all forms of depredation, exploitation, abuse and contamination have caused great destruction, degradation and disruption of Mother Earth, putting life as we know it today at risk through phenomena such as climate change;

convinced that in an interdependent living community it is not possible to recognize the rights of only human beings without causing an imbalance within Mother Earth;

affirming that to guarantee human rights it is necessary to recognize and defend the rights of Mother Earth and all beings in her and that there are existing cultures, practices and laws that do so;

conscious of the urgency of taking decisive, collective action to transform structures and systems that cause climate change and other threats to Mother Earth;

proclaim this Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, and call on the General Assembly of the United Nation to adopt it, as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations of the world, and to the end that every individual and institution takes responsibility for promoting through teaching, education, and consciousness raising, respect for the rights recognized in this Declaration and ensure through prompt and progressive measures and mechanisms, national and international, their universal and effective recognition and observance among all peoples and States in the world.

Article 1. Mother Earth

(1) Mother Earth is a living being.

(2) Mother Earth is a unique, indivisible, self-regulating community of interrelated beings that sustains, contains and reproduces all beings.

(3) Each being is defined by its relationships as an integral part of Mother Earth.

(4) The inherent rights of Mother Earth are inalienable in that they arise from the same source as existence.

(5) Mother Earth and all beings are entitled to all the inherent rights recognized in this Declaration without distinction of any kind, such as may be made between organic and inorganic beings, species, origin, use to human beings, or any other status.

(6) Just as human beings have human rights, all other beings also have rights which are specific to their species or kind and appropriate for their role and function within the communities within which they exist.

(7) The rights of each being are limited by the rights of other beings and any conflict between their rights must be resolved in a way that maintains the integrity, balance and health of Mother Earth.

Article 2. Inherent Rights of Mother Earth

(1) Mother Earth and all beings of which she is composed have the following inherent rights:

(a) the right to life and to exist;

(b) the right to be respected;

(c) the right to regenerate its bio-capacity and to continue its vital cycles and processes free from human disruptions;

(d) the right to maintain its identity and integrity as a distinct, self-regulating and interrelated being;

(e) the right to water as a source of life;

(f) the right to clean air;

- (g) the right to integral health;
- (h) the right to be free from contamination, pollution and toxic or radioactive waste;
- (i) the right to not have its genetic structure modified or disrupted in a manner that threatens its integrity or vital and healthy functioning;
- (j) the right to full and prompt restoration the violation of the rights recognized in this Declaration caused by human activities;
- (2) Each being has the right to a place and to play its role in Mother Earth for her harmonious functioning.
- (3) Every being has the right to wellbeing and to live free from torture or cruel treatment by human beings.

#### Article 3. Obligations of human beings to Mother Earth

- (1) Every human being is responsible for respecting and living in harmony with Mother Earth.
- (2) Human beings, all States, and all public and private institutions must:
  - (a) act in accordance with the rights and obligations recognized in this Declaration;
  - (b) recognize and promote the full implementation and enforcement of the rights and obligations recognized in this Declaration;
  - (c) promote and participate in learning, analysis, interpretation and communication about how to live in harmony with Mother Earth in accordance with this Declaration;
  - (d) ensure that the pursuit of human wellbeing contributes to the wellbeing of Mother Earth, now and in the future;
  - (e) establish and apply effective norms and laws for the defence, protection and conservation of the rights of Mother Earth;
  - (f) respect, protect, conserve and where necessary, restore the integrity, of the vital ecological cycles, processes and balances of Mother Earth;
  - (g) guarantee that the damages caused by human violations of the inherent rights recognized in this Declaration are rectified and that those responsible are held accountable for restoring the integrity and health of Mother Earth;
  - (h) empower human beings and institutions to defend the rights of Mother Earth and of all beings;
  - (i) establish precautionary and restrictive measures to prevent human activities from causing species extinction, the destruction of ecosystems or the disruption of ecological cycles;
  - (j) guarantee peace and eliminate nuclear, chemical and biological weapons;
  - (k) promote and support practices of respect for Mother Earth and all beings, in accordance with their own cultures, traditions and customs;
  - (l) promote economic systems that are in harmony with Mother Earth and in accordance with the rights recognized in this Declaration.

#### Article 4. Definitions

- (1) The term "being" includes ecosystems, natural communities, species and all other natural entities which exist as part of Mother Earth.
- (2) Nothing in this Declaration restricts the recognition of other inherent rights of all beings or specified beings.

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#### Projet de Déclaration Universelle des Droits de la Terre Mère

#### Droits de la Terre Mère

##### Préambule

Nous, les peuples de la Terre :

Considérant que nous faisons tous partie de la Terre Mère, communauté de vie indivisible composée d'êtres interdépendants et intimement liés entre eux par un destin commun ;

Reconnaissant avec gratitude que notre Terre Mère est source de vie, de subsistance, d'enseignement et qu'elle nous prodigue tout ce dont nous avons besoin pour bien vivre ;

Reconnaissant que le système capitaliste ainsi que toutes les formes de prédation, d'exploitation et de pollution ont causé d'importantes destructions, dégradations et modifications de la Terre Mère qui mettent en danger la vie telle que nous la connaissons de nos jours avec des phénomènes tels que le changement climatique ;

Convaincus de ce que dans une communauté de vie impliquant des relations d'interdépendance, il est impossible de reconnaître des droits aux seuls êtres humains sans provoquer de déséquilibre au sein de la Terre Mère ;

Affirmant que pour garantir les droits humains il est nécessaire de reconnaître et de défendre les droits de la Terre Mère et de tous les êtres vivants qui la composent et qu'il existe des cultures oeuvrant déjà en ce sens ;

Conscients de l'urgence à entreprendre des actions collectives décisives pour transformer les structures et les systèmes qui génèrent le changement climatique et qui font peser d'autres menaces sur la Terre Mère ;

Nous proclamons cette Déclaration Universelle des Droits de la Terre Mère et nous appelons l'Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies à l'adopter comme objectif commun pour tous les peuples et nations du monde afin que les personnes prennent la responsabilité de promouvoir, au moyen de l'enseignement, de l'éducation et de la prise de conscience, le respect des droits reconnus dans cette Déclaration, et à garantir sa reconnaissance et son application universelles et effectives par des mesures et des procédures diligentes et progressives à caractère national et international et ce, par tous les peuples et États du monde.

#### Article 1: La Terre Mère

- 1) La Terre Mère est un être vivant



- 2) La Terre Mère est une communauté unique, indivisible et autorégulée, composée d'êtres intimement liés entre eux, qui soutient, contient et renouvelle tous les êtres qui la composent.
- 3) Chaque être est défini par ses relations comme constitutif de la Terre Mère.
- 4) Les droits inhérents de la Terre Mère sont inaliénables puisqu'ils découlent de sa propre existence.
- 5) La Terre Mère et tous les êtres qui la composent sont titulaires de tous les droits inhérents et reconnus dans cette Déclaration, sans aucune distinction, telle qu'on pourrait l'établir entre des êtres biologiques et non-biologiques, selon les espèces, l'origine, l'utilité pour les êtres humains ou toute autre catégorie.
- 6) Tout comme les êtres humains jouissent des droits humains, tous les autres êtres de la Terre Mère ont également des droits spécifiques à leurs conditions et propres au rôle et à la fonction qu'ils exercent au sein des communautés dans lesquelles ils existent.
- 7) Les droits de chaque être sont limités par les droits des autres êtres, et tout conflit impliquant ces droits doit être résolu de façon à ce qu'on préserve l'intégrité, l'équilibre et la santé de la Terre Mère.

#### Article 2 : Les Droits Inhérents de la Terre Mère

- 1) La Terre Mère et tous les êtres qui la composent possèdent les droits inhérents suivants :

- le droit de vivre et d'exister ;
- le droit au respect ;
- le droit à la régénération de leur biocapacité et à la bonne continuité de leurs cycles et processus vitaux, libres de toute modification humaine ;
- le droit de maintenir leur identité et leur intégrité comme êtres distincts, autorégulés et intimement liés entre eux ;
- le droit à l'eau comme source de vie ;
- le droit à la pureté de l'air ;
- le droit à la pleine santé ;
- le droit à être libres de contamination, de pollution et de déchets toxiques ou radioactifs ;
- le droit de ne pas être génétiquement modifiés et transformés dans sa structure, ce qui menacerait leur intégrité et leur fonctionnement vital et sain ;
- le droit à une entière et prompte réparation suite aux violations occasionnées par l'activité humaine des droits reconnus dans cette Déclaration.

- 2) Chaque être a le droit à une place au sein de la Terre Mère et à accomplir son rôle en faveur de son fonctionnement harmonieux.

- 3) Tous les êtres ont le droit au bien-être et à vivre libres de tortures ou de traitements cruels infligés par les êtres humains.

#### Article 3 : Obligations des êtres humains envers la Terre Mère

Tous les êtres humains ont la responsabilité du respect de la Terre Mère et de vivre en harmonie avec elle.

- 1) Les êtres humains, tous les États et toutes les institutions publiques et privées ont le devoir :

- d'agir en accord avec les droits et les obligations reconnus dans cette Déclaration ;
- de reconnaître et de promouvoir l'application et l'entière mise en oeuvre des droits et des obligations établis dans cette Déclaration ;
- de promouvoir et de prendre part à l'apprentissage, à l'analyse, à l'interprétation et à la transmission des modes de vie en harmonie avec la Terre Mère en accord avec cette Déclaration ;
- de s'assurer que la recherche du bien-être humain contribue au bien-être de la Terre Mère, à présent et à l'avenir ;
- d'établir et de rendre effective l'application des normes et des lois pour la défense, la protection et la préservation des Droits de la Terre Mère ;
- de respecter, de protéger, de préserver et là où ce sera nécessaire, de restaurer l'intégrité des cycles et équilibres vitaux de la Terre Mère ;
- de garantir la réparation des dommages causés par les violations humaines des droits inhérents reconnus dans la présente Déclaration et de veiller à ce que les responsables rendent des comptes en vue de la restauration de l'intégrité et de la santé de la Terre Mère ;
- d'investir les êtres humains et les institutions d'un pouvoir de défense des droits de la Terre Mère et de tous les êtres qui la composent ;
- de mettre en place des mesures de précaution et de restriction pour éviter que les activités humaines ne conduisent à l'extinction d'espèces, à la destruction d'écosystèmes ou à la modification des cycles écologiques ;
- de garantir la paix et d'éliminer les armes nucléaires, chimiques et biologiques ;
- de promouvoir et d'encourager les actions visant au respect de la Terre Mère et de tous les êtres qui la composent en accord avec leurs propres cultures, traditions et coutumes ;
- de promouvoir des systèmes économiques qui soient en harmonie avec la Terre Mère et accordés aux droits reconnus dans cette Déclaration.

#### Article 4 : Définitions

Le terme "être" comprend les écosystèmes, les communautés de nature, les espèces et toutes les autres entités naturelles qui existent comme partie de la Terre Mère.

Rien dans cette Déclaration ne pourra entamer la reconnaissance des autres droits inhérents de tous les êtres ou de n'importe quel être en particulier.

## Rio+20 Earth Summit Sustainable Cities Working Group

Submission to the Secretariat for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for the Zero Draft of the Rio+20 Outcome Document from the Rio+20 Earth Summit Sustainable Cities Working Group

The Rio+20 Earth Summit Sustainable Cities Working Group (the "Working Group") is pleased to provide this input "for inclusion in a compilation document to serve as basis for the preparation of zero draft of the outcome document" from the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development ("Rio+20"). The Working Group consists of a diverse group of leading civil society organizations and experts. Working Group members are listed in the Table of Contents.

The Working Group believes that it is essential for Rio+20 to give high priority to the challenges and opportunities presented by urban development worldwide. Cities are critical to the planet's transition to a green economy that will increase opportunities, reduce poverty, and foster a more sustainable future. Since the first Earth Summit in Rio in 1992, urban populations have increased by more than one billion and now for the first time in history more people live in cities than in rural areas. By 2050, the world's population is projected to increase from 7 billion to over 9 billion, with roughly 70 percent of people residing in urban areas.

Growth and migration patterns represent a set of critical opportunities and challenges for sustainable development. On one hand, cities are the centers of social and economic activity and attract people seeking to attain a better life. Indeed, the world's top 50 metropolitan regions are economic powerhouses, accounting for just 12 percent of the planet's population, yet generating roughly 46 percent of global GDP. However, cities also consume more than 75 percent of the world's natural resources, use approximately 75 percent of the world's energy, and are responsible for 75 percent of its carbon emissions. As cities experience rapid growth, they struggle mightily to provide adequate infrastructure—housing, water, sanitation, and transportation—for their citizens. Many are largely avoiding these responsibilities. Since the first Earth Summit, the number of slum dwellers worldwide has grown from roughly 660 million to nearly one billion. If cities shrink from their obligations, it will put all of us at risk. The way we collectively address urbanization will define the fate of billions of people and the sustainability of human society.

The need for local action was recognized at the 1992 Earth Summit with the acknowledgement in Agenda 21 that many global challenges "have their roots in local activities." A number of mayors and local authorities have shown real leadership, including through the adoption of local Agenda 21s and other sustainability plans. However, most cities still have not fully embraced their vital role in "educating, mobilizing, and responding to the public to promote sustainable development" (Agenda 21, Chapter 28). Rio+20 offers an opportunity to harness widespread interest in sustainable and inclusive urbanization to produce specific commitments and scalable action.

This document contains recommendations and findings from members of the Working Group in six subject areas. These recommendations reflect the views of their identified authors and are not necessarily the position of their affiliated organization or of the Working Group. The authors identify three types of outputs from the Rio+20 Earth Summit:

1. Sustainable Development Goals - negotiated global objectives or targets similar to the Millennium Development Goals.
2. Institutional Arrangements - new international bodies, structures, or networks to facilitate and enhance efforts by governments and other stakeholders on urban sustainability.
3. Commitments - specific actions to be undertaken individually or collectively by governments and other stakeholders.

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Additional Working Group Members: Don Chen, Ford Foundation; Cheryl Derricotte, Julie Roberts, and Philip Bump, Green for All; Leslie Moody and Kathleen Mulligan-Hansel, Partnership for Working Families

Working Group Coordinator: S. Jacob Scherr, Natural Resources Defense Council

### I. Green Jobs in a Green Economy

Michael Renner, Worldwatch Institute

#### Recommendations

##### 1. Sustainable Development Goals

- To assure that the creation of green and decent jobs is a central objective of a green economy
- To tailor green jobs development to the varying needs of industrialized, emerging, and developing economies

##### 2. Institutional Arrangements

- Create a UN Green Jobs Coordinating Group, assisted by a stakeholder and expert Advisory Council
- Establish a UN Green Jobs Best Practices Unit

##### 3. Commitments

- National governments promise to advance green skill-building, social protections, and job standards.

#### Need for Action

A green economy must address the intersection of environmental sustainability, economic development, and social equity. A change in trade, tax, and subsidy policies is needed to make greater use of an abundant yet underemployed resource—people—and reduce reliance on limited and polluting resources, such as fossil fuels. The best way to ensure that a green economy works for the great majority of people on this planet is to pursue the creation of good quality green jobs.

Green jobs contribute substantially to preserving or restoring environmental quality. This includes measures to reduce energy, materials, and water consumption; protect biodiversity and restore ecosystems like wetlands and forests; and minimize or avoid the generation of waste and pollution. Some green jobs will be new, such as those in the expanding field of renewable energy. But the bulk of green employment will be in existing jobs—which requires that skill sets, work methods, and occupational profiles are brought into accord with sustainability principles.

Technological, infrastructural, and behavioral choices offer varying degrees of environmental benefit and associated green employment impacts. Climate mitigation has different implications than adaptation, as does the pursuit of new building standards vis-à-vis retrofits, public transport versus fuel-efficient automobiles, or materials recycling or reuse compared with landfilling. These choices for the transition to a green economy suggest that there are varying “shades of green” in employment: some are more far-reaching and transformational than others.

- **Energy:** Carbon capture may render the fossil fuel industry somewhat less damaging. But renewable energy offers a greener choice, and can help overcome energy poverty. The current number of renewable energy jobs worldwide surpasses 4 million, double the number in 2008.
- **Transportation:** Greater fuel efficiency, smart traffic management, alternative fuels, and propulsion systems can reduce the motor vehicle industry’s footprint and green its workforce. But public transport (railways employ 7 million people and urban mass transit systems 7.6 million) is a more affordable option for many people, and permits greener and more equitable mobility. Millions more jobs are associated with the manufacture of 110 million bicycles and 22 million electric bicycles each year and their ongoing maintenance.
- **Buildings:** Performance standards and retrofitting have the potential for greening many of the world’s 110 million construction jobs. Paired with measures to make housing more decent and affordable, they would improve the lives of the world’s 1 billion slum inhabitants.
- **Waste:** Recycling and reuse offer more jobs than landfilling and waste incineration do, and are preferable from an environmental and health perspective. In industrialized countries, poor communities suffer from low-quality waste handling, and workers are exposed to dangerous and low-paying work. In developing countries, millions of informal waste-pickers confront hazardous conditions, but play a much bigger role in collecting recyclables than formal waste management. Organizing and formalizing informal recyclers would lift their incomes, reduce poverty, and ameliorate hazardous work conditions.

#### More Details on Recommended Outcomes

##### Institutional Arrangements

Policy cohesion should be accomplished via a UN Green Jobs Coordinating Group. This collaboration effort would integrate the work of relevant agencies such as UNEP, ILO, UNDP, UNIDO, UN Habitat, etc. An advisory council, drawn from businesses, labor, community groups, and relevant experts, could assist in analyzing key developments, opportunities, and challenges.

Facilitating the spread of green technologies and methods, and providing broad access to them, will be critical to the transition to a green economy. Successful policy innovations and green roadmaps will need to be shared as widely as possible. Some examples are renewable energy feed-in tariffs, micro-credit for solar home systems, green-building standards, and Bus Rapid Transit systems. The Rio+20 Earth Summit 2012 can create a repository for lessons learned by establishing a UN Green Jobs Best Practices Unit.

##### Commitments

Governments should improve knowledge of green jobs trends and developments, and integrate relevant data into national economic statistics, by:

- Crafting detailed definitions and sector-by-sector criteria for what constitutes green jobs (as the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics is currently doing);
- Generating regular annual reporting and data (via surveys, or via input-output modeling as the German environment ministry has done in the renewable energy sector for several years)

Governments should address potential skills shortages that could hamper the emergence of the green economy, by:

- Undertaking a national skills mapping exercise with the following aims: create skill profiles in each industry; identify strengths and gaps in existing skills patterns; create a plan for building the needed skill base (as the regional government of Navarra, Spain, has done);
- Setting up green training centers and programs, and encourage private sector companies and educational institutions to incorporate green jobs skills into their courses and apprenticeship and other workplace training, as appropriate. Ensure gender-balance and access by disadvantaged communities.

##### Social protections

- Governments should assure that Green jobs are “decent” jobs through effective social dialogue, collective bargaining arrangements, and partnerships for “high-road” strategies.
- Establishing and enforcing decent wage standards, occupational health and safety standards, and prohibitions against employers with a documented history of violating such standards from receiving public funds.
- Passing social-inclusion legislation (as Brazil has done with regard to informal waste pickers: offering legal recognition, requiring that municipalities work with recycling cooperatives, setting up pathways to formalization and poverty reduction)
- Creating and funding “fair transition” programs for workers in “brown” industries who are affected by the transition to a green economy, including retraining and relocation provisions.

##### Author and Contributors

Michael Renner is a Senior Researcher at the Worldwatch Institute, a research organization focused on global sustainability. This text has benefited from review comments by Philip Bump, Cheryl P. Derricotte, and Julie Roberts of Green for All, Michael Replogle of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy, and Kathleen Mulligan-Hansel of the Partnership for Working Families, and feedback from Don Chen of the Ford Foundation.

## II. Strengthening Local Institutions and Empowering People for Sustainable Development Governance Joseph Foti and Jacob Werksman, World Resources Institute

### Recommendations

#### 1. Sustainable Development Goal

- Every nation will pass a freedom of information act, will put in place environmental impact assessment and other decision-making procedures with participation, and will have multiple means for citizens to enforce environmental laws by 2020.

#### 2. Institutional Arrangements

- There should be improved coordination and enhancement of existing networks promoting transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness at the local level through a new multi-sector partnership.
- There should be the expansion of international legal mechanisms, including but not limited to the Aarhus Convention, to improve accountability at all levels of government.

#### 3. Commitments

- Governments of all levels should advance concrete, measureable commitments to improve transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness in decision-making, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities.
- All major local authorities worldwide should declare their intent to pass and implement laws, share best practices, and subject themselves to independent monitoring for open governance by 2015. Mayors and local executives will commit to take specific action to implement Principle 10.
- National governments will commit to decentralize to democratic local institutions and to accelerate the adoption of the above reforms.

### Need for Action

The indispensable role of good local-level governance is made clear in existing sustainable development declarations. Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration states that, "Environmental issues are best handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, at the relevant level." Similarly, Agenda 21, Chapter 28, says that local authorities "construct, operate and maintain economic, social and environmental infrastructure, oversee planning processes, establish local environmental policies and regulations, and assist in implementing national and sub-national environmental policies. As the level of governance closest to the people, they play a vital role in educating, mobilizing and responding to the public to promote sustainable development."

We have worked with non-governmental organizations who are members and affiliates of The Access Initiative, to gather more than 20 case studies on urban governance from 10 countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Cameroon, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Hungary, Mexico, Thailand, and the United States). These case studies demonstrated a number of barriers to transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness at the local level. Problems included:

- The public was unable to identify the agency responsible for the issue at hand.
- Services promised were not delivered and the public could not trace how allocated funds had been spent.
- Decisions were made in secret or the public was brought into a decision-making process well after all decisions had already been made.
- Decisions were made at the national level and local authorities and local residents had little say in their design and implementation.
- The public lacked the data to participate in complicated decisions such as river basin management.

Our contributors also pointed out a number of innovative approaches to bring local communities into the decision-making process such as participatory budgeting, social audits, and citizen suits. These approaches are already in place in many local jurisdictions. These case studies provide a solid basis for the our recommended Rio+20 outcomes

### More Details on Recommended Outcomes

We call on governments of all levels to come to Rio with concrete, measureable commitments to improve transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness in decision-making, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. By 2015, all major local authorities worldwide should pass laws, share best practices, and subject themselves to independent monitoring for the following:

- Making available and usable information on all agency jurisdictions, information on budgeting and revenue, and contracting;
- Accepting and promoting use mechanisms for public accountability in service delivery such as public social audits and report cards of agency performance;
- Passing open meeting laws for all local authorities;
- Adopting reforms for early, meaningful public participation in policy and planning by a broad range of stakeholders;
- Adoption of local Access to Information laws;
- Providing proactive information on land use, development planning, waste disposal, utilities, and regular environmental quality monitoring data;
- Building the capacity of stakeholders to participate by integrating the rights and means to access information and participation into educational curriculums.

Mayors and local executives should commit to begin these reforms by the time of the Rio+20 Earth Summit

### Authors and Contributors

These recommendations were developed by Joseph Foti and Jacob Werksman of the Institutions and Governance Program at the World Resources Institute. WRI serves as the Secretariat for the Access Initiative, the largest global network dedicated to ensuring that citizens have the right and ability to influence decisions about the natural resources that sustain their communities. Access Initiative members from around the world carry out evidence-based advocacy to encourage collaboration and innovation advancing transparency, accountability, and inclusiveness in decision-making at all levels. In preparation for Rio+20, national coalitions from the Access Initiative have called on our respective national governments to make public commitments to advance Principle 10, through the "Three Demands" campaign. For our research on urban governance, we received case studies and other input from: The Bolivian Society for the Defense of Nature (PRODNA), The Center for Human Rights and Environment

(CEDHA), CoopeSolidar (Costa Rica), The Ecuadoran Center for Environmental Law (CEDA), Environmental Management and Law Center (Hungary), The Foundation for Development and Environment (Cameroon), The Mexican Center for Environmental Law (CEMDA), OMB Watch (USA), Participa (Chile), and the Thailand Environment Institute.

### III. Planning and Housing Strategies for Sustainable and Inclusive Urban Development

Eric S. Belsky, Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University

#### Recommendations

##### 1. Commitments

National governments should:

- Create National Incentive Funds for Integrated Urban Region and Municipal Planning
- Create Financing Innovation Funds to Invest in Innovative Financing Models for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development
- Establish National Urban Sustainable Planning and Development Commissions

#### Need for Action

There are three frequently encountered failures of urban governance and planning capacity that must be addressed. First is the failure to coordinate urban planning at the metropolitan level across different administrative boundaries (city, county, service districts, and state/provincial). Second is the failure to integrate multiple sectors into a systems approach to urban planning (housing, traditional infrastructure, economic development and infrastructure, social development and infrastructure, and natural resources and environment). Third is the failure to involve the urban poor and their organizations as genuine partners in urban planning processes intended to build upon their assets, ensure their participation, improve their living conditions, and reduce their environmental impacts. Given the large share of the urban population that are poor, the difficult and often environmentally vulnerable conditions in which they live, and the economic functions they serve, it is essential to make planning for the urban poor and their communities central to the urban development process.

#### More Details on Recommended Outcomes

Tackling these failures is not easy, and efforts to do so are constrained by limited public resources and challenges of mobilizing private investment and finance. While the solutions to these failures and resource constraints will vary across nations and urban areas within regions, there is a cross-national need to address these failures and constraints. There are three actions that could be taken by national governments to correct these failures and begin to ease the intensity of these constraints. The goal of these is to create the political commitment, institutional capacity, and financing to engage the public, private, NGO, and community-based civic sectors in developing concrete and integrated plans and investment incentives to promote inclusive and sustainable urbanism.

- Create National Incentive Funds for Integrated Urban Region and Municipal Planning. Since most metro regions and individual cities have generally failed to create a long-run vision and plan for inclusive and sustainable urban development, an incentive is needed to get more of them to do so. A national fund that would cover the costs of setting up the appropriate regional and local governance structures and build the capacity for integrated planning would allow more metro regions and cities to undertake such planning and give them the resources to do so. This would not only result in improved planning, but also establish more examples that can be studied and evaluated so that over time efforts to create coordinated and integrated sustainable and inclusive urban plans could be continuously improved. This incentive fund could require some degree of local matching funds and/or a competition for the funds with benchmarks for additional draws to encourage accountability and transparency. There is already a model for such funds operating at the international level called Cities Alliance, which is funded by member cities as well as multilaterals including the UN and the World Bank.
- Create Financing Innovation Funds to Invest in Innovative Financing Models for Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development. The best planning for inclusive and sustainable urban development will fail to produce results without funds and financing models to support them. National governments should identify, invest in, and export successful financing models for slum improvements and sustainable development. Again, these funds could involve competitions with benchmarks for additional draws.

Governments especially should give consideration to establishing innovation funds that will seed new innovations and be used to scale-up 1) promising innovations in the financing of housing and infrastructure for the poor and 2) more comprehensive and integrated financing tools for sustainable urban development. Special attention should be paid to housing finance because housing is not only an important platform for health, safety, and economic opportunity but the financing needs of the urban poor to improve their housing falls between microfinance and conventional finance.

o Establish National Urban Sustainable Planning and Development Commissions. National governments 1) set the context in which urban governments make decisions and create the authority for urban governments to take action, 2) have capacity to get attention and drive change at the local level where many of the ultimate decisions are made and all the action takes place, and 3) can create incentives and provide legal and regulatory frameworks to drive inclusive and sustainable development at the local level. Therefore, establishing national urban planning commissions would be an important step toward achieving the goal of inclusive and sustainable urban development. This step would result in the development of regional and urban plans and strategies aimed at fostering sustainable urbanism. Establishing these commissions will help elevate the issue of inclusive and sustainable urban development both domestically and internationally, bring a much needed planning focus to efforts to address the complexities of moving towards a more inclusive and sustainable pattern of urbanism, bring transparency to the discussion, and allow learning to be shared cross-nationally. Each country commission would be expected to develop plans that take into account its own resource constraints, political system, culture, current conditions, and market potential. However, all commissions would have a common charge to be agreed upon at Rio+20 to ensure that all cover the same critical subjects. While national in scope, the central aim of each commission will be to: a) establish national urban development policies and b) work out and modify laws to produce an optimal division of responsibilities and authorities among levels of government, as well as provide models of how the public, civic, and private sectors can work together to meet plan goals.

#### Author and Reviewers

Eric S. Belsky is the managing director of the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University and lecturer in urban planning and design at the Harvard Graduate School of Design. The Joint Center is a collaborative venture of the Harvard Graduate School of Design and the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. The author would like to thank the following reviewers for their helpful comments: Christopher W. Williams, UN-HABITAT; Don Chen, Ford Foundation; Michael Replogle, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy; and Jacob Scherr, Natural Resources Defense Council.

### IV. Transport as Critical Element of Sustainable Development

Michael Replogle and Colin Hughes, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

#### Recommendations

## 1. Sustainable Development Goals

- Ensure universal access to sustainable transport through support for safe, affordable public transport and safe, attractive facilities for walking and bicycling.
- Ensure global transport greenhouse gas emissions and transport sector fossil fuel consumption peak by 2020 and are cut by at least 40 percent by 2050 compared to 2005 levels, while ensuring transport contributes to timely attainment of healthful air quality.
- Cut traffic-related deaths in half by 2025.

## 2. Institutional Arrangements

- United Nations: Enhance UN agency coordination around critical sustainable transport tasks to improve effectiveness in global agenda setting, capacity building, data collection, monitoring of progress, technology transfer, regional development, and cooperation with other sectors.
- Development Agencies and Banks: Adopt and monitor (1) sustainable transport targets, (2) goals to advance equitable access for all, and report on these targets and goals. Increase support for sustainable transport capacity building and transport sector climate resilience and adaptation.
- Multi-lateral Carbon Finance Instruments: Foster transport sector contributions to CO2 mitigation roughly equal to its 23 percent of energy-related carbon burden by improving transport sector access to carbon finance with sector-appropriate appraisal requirements for CDM, GEF, and CIF funds, and a transport sector window to the Green Climate Fund.
- Enhance Private Sector Participation: Foster public private partnerships and implement new business models in support of sustainable transport.
- Capacity Development: Strengthen both current voluntary multi-stakeholder partnerships on sustainable transport as well as intergovernmental processes on transport.

## 3. Commitments

- National governments should take actions, such as setting goals to boost the share of travel by low carbon sustainable transport modes, adopting street and urban design standards to promote sustainable transport and urban development, and encouraging and funding implementation of sustainable transport and land-use plans for cities

### The Need for Action

Transportation is key to providing access to opportunities, jobs, and prosperity. Many recent statements recognize the importance of sustainable transport to advance sustainable development, including:

- Bangkok 2020 Declaration, endorsed by 22 Asian countries (UNCRD (2010), Bangkok Declaration for 2020: Sustainable Transport Goals for 2010-2020
- Bogota Declaration, endorsed by 9 Latin American nations (UNCRD (2011), Bogota Declaration Sustainable Transport Objectives)
- Report of the Secretary General to the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) 19th Session on Policy Options and Actions for Expediting Progress in Implementation: Transport.

Rapid economic development and urbanization are fueling massive growth in transport demand. Current practices of meeting increased transport demand mostly by growing car fleets and road capacity are unsustainable. Transport-related externality costs in developing countries are soaring. Road accident deaths top 1.3 million annually. Of those who die, 9 in 10 are from low- and middle-income countries; half are pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists; victims disproportionately are poor. Fatalities are projected to rise 80 percent by 2020 in low- and middle-income countries (while falling 30 percent in high-income countries), at a cost to the developing world of US \$100 billion a year (equal to all current overseas aid from OECD countries).

Transport accounts for 25-80 percent of urban air pollution that leads to respiratory and heart disease and cancer. Air pollution causes approximately 2 million premature deaths worldwide per year, with more than half of this burden borne by people in developing countries. Studies by the IPCC suggest that cuts to greenhouse gas emissions by 50-85 percent below year 2000 levels are needed to limit catastrophic climate change. Yet unless comprehensive changes in policy are made, car ownership will triple to 2 billion, trucking will quadruple, and transport-related greenhouse gases will grow by 80 percent. A 2-degree Celsius climate protection goal cannot be met without a considerable contribution to CO2 mitigation by the transport sector.

A study by the UNEP shows that sustainable, low carbon, transport initiatives that reallocate just 0.34 percent of global GDP in support of public transport infrastructure and efficiency improvements to road vehicles could cut the volume of road vehicles required to support equal economic activity by one third, cut use of oil-based fuel by up to a third and boost transport sector employment by 10 percent. As the transport sector already directly provides 5-8 percent of a typical country's total paid employment, with much higher indirect value added and employment in related sectors, there is significant economic development potential from pursuit of such initiatives. The impact of these changes in the structure of transport services on climate change would be to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 by 68 percent below business as usual trends (and about 36 percent below 2010 levels).

Fuel cost savings and reduced traffic congestion from a sustainable transport program can support added sustainable economic development while boosting access for the poor to opportunities. Such strategies would also cut the huge public health costs of unmanaged motorization – accidents, pollution-related disease, and rising levels of obesity related to physical inactivity. With sustainable transport strategies, transport sector jobs will increasingly be generated through investment in low-carbon transport infrastructure and vehicles, alternative fuels, and telecommunications and other technologies. A study found public transport spurs 70 percent more jobs per unit of investment than building new roads; road and bridge maintenance creates 16 percent more jobs than new construction.

The technologies and policies needed to obtain these sustainable transport benefits are well known, proven to be effective, and often come at a small or net-negative cost when accounting for fuel cost savings and other co-benefits. Yet they do require a commitment to concerted action. In the absence of a transport sector specific Sustainable Development Goal, neither development assistance nor carbon-finance have focused effectively on many available low-cost opportunities for progress in transport.

### More Detail on the Proposed Outcomes

Achieving the proposed Sustainable Development Goal necessitates a global commitment to a set of best practices and strategies contained in new sustainable transport paradigm, known collectively as "Avoid, Shift, Improve" (ASI). The ASI Best Practices focus on avoiding unnecessary motorized trips with smarter planning, pricing, and technology; shifting trips to more sustainable modes through price incentives, better information, and improved service quality; and improving vehicle efficiency with cleaner fuels, improved network management, and more efficient vehicle technology. All the elements of ASI have been demonstrated at scale. Successful examples of this include Bus Rapid Transit, bicycle-sharing and bikeway networks, integrated land-use/transport planning, parking limitations and management, smart parking and car-sharing, vehicle registration quotas, congestion pricing, vehicle emission standards, and intermodal freight efficiency and logistics systems.

Potential national actions may involve institutional capacity building, expanding use of public-private partnerships, innovative financing, and integration of multiple sectors into a systems approach to urban planning. It also includes shifting subsidies and investments from fossil fuels, roads, and private motor vehicles to instead favor sustainable transport, targeted user-side-subsidies, climate resilient transport, and pro-poor development, with sound transport pricing.

#### Author and Reviewers

These recommendations were prepared by Michael Replogle and Colin Hughes of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), a non-profit group that works with cities worldwide to bring about sustainable transport solutions that cut greenhouse gas emissions, reduce poverty, and improve the quality of urban life. The authors thank the Partnership for Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport (SLoCaT) and several of its members who actively reviewed and commented on earlier drafts of this statement.

#### V. The Role of Information & Communications Technologies (ICTs) in Creating Smart Sustainable Cities

Diana Lind, Next American City

##### Recommendations

##### 1. Sustainable Development Goal

- By 2020, every major city should become a "smart" city that enables all of its residents to have electronic access to sustainability data and governmental decision-making.

##### 2. Institutional Arrangements

- A new global smart cities initiative should be established to assist local governments to access and implement best practices for using ICT to achieve sustainability

##### 3. Commitments

Governments at all levels should:

- Create databases of critical information on transport, housing, waste, sanitation, and other urban sustainability issues. These databases should be readily available to the public;
- Develop and expand programs to enable the public to provide information electronically on sustainability issues, such as pollution and transportation needs, to governmental decision makers;
- Ensure that ICTs are available to poor and disenfranchised groups and people.

#### Need for Action

As cities today grow in size and complexity, their governments are tasked with becoming more environmentally sustainable, livable, and economically vibrant. In an effort to become more effective and efficient in this competitive environment, governments are increasingly turning to information and communications technologies (ICTs) to maximize their natural and financial resources. City governments may not have much cash but collect a wealth of data on a range of civic issues, such as transportation and energy use, housing, and crime and health statistics. Some tech-savvy cities have been quick to analyze this data to better inform decisions on where to build a hospital, allocate police presence, add transportation routes, or locate a public park. But many more cities still lack the ability to analyze their data, engage the public in the decision-making process and become more sustainable as a result.

A variety of actors, including governments, corporations, non-profit organizations, and individual citizens are using ICTs to improve the quality of urban life. Here are interesting examples:

- The cities of New York and Washington, D.C. created competitions to develop apps that make the use of public transportation and public spaces more convenient, make it easier to avoid restaurants with health code violations and enable people to sign local petitions on a cell phone.
- Singapore uses real-time traffic data gathered from smart phones to locate and predict traffic congestion, inform individual drivers and suggest alternate travel routes. This data can also be used to improve traffic engineering.
- In India, a non-profit organization uses a text-message program to notify residents about local piped water delivery, making it easier for citizens to access clean water.
- Near Fukushima, Japan, citizens who lack trust in the government's information have used their own Geiger counters and open-source software to compile their own map of radiation hotspots around the crippled nuclear power plants there.

#### More Details on Proposed Outcomes

While ICTs have the potential to improve cities' sustainability, to increase civic engagement, and to support governance decisions, many cities are unaware of or unable to harness these technologies. A new global initiative that engages the United Nations, The World Bank, leading national and local governments, corporations and key non-profit organizations should work together to determine best practices in this field, fund the expansion of ICTs for sustainability purposes, and ensure broader public access to public data.

#### Author and Reviewers:

Diana Lind is Executive Director of Next American City, a Philadelphia-based national nonprofit organization helping to improve the social, economic and environmental character of cities by reporting on best practices in areas such as transportation, housing, governance, and sustainability. The following reviewers contributed ideas and commentary on these recommendations: Nick Grossman, Civic Commons; Colin Maclay, Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University; Benjamin de la Pena, Rockefeller Foundation; Anthony Townsend, Institute for the Future; Ethan Zuckerman, Center for Civic Media, MIT.

#### VI. Putting Urban Metrics into Sustainable Development Indicator Systems

Eugenie L. Birch and Amy Lynch, University of Pennsylvania

##### Recommendations

##### 1. Sustainable Development Goal

- By 2020, all countries will adopt sustainable development indicator systems that include urban metrics scaled to national, provincial/regional and local goals as appropriate, measure their progress regularly, and report the findings publicly.

## 2. Institutional Arrangements

- The United Nations should create and maintain a dedicated database of nations' sustainable development indicator systems and of urban sustainability indicator systems.

## 3. Commitments

- National government should include and support the creation of urban metrics in their sustainability indicator systems.

### Need for Action

Failure to include urban concerns and related indicators (e.g. presence of services in peri-urban settlements, the availability of affordable urban housing and accessible transport, the percent city development on vulnerable or polluted land), in setting goals, policies, and programs will result in failure to achieve sustainable development. Information about sustainable urban development is widely available – we know how to engage in land suitability analysis, to build compact cities that have “smart” transportation, affordable housing. In addition, we understand that urban sustainable development requires regional actions (e.g. supporting green infrastructure investment to protect the water supply and assure food security) and national policy (e.g. carbon pricing or other environmental protection or sound fiscal and monetary policies) Through advances in information technology, we have the ability to build consensus around sustainable development goals and to monitor quickly the results of particular policies and programs. What we lack is the management capacity and political will to apply and manage these policies. We also lack a central repository that collects already accomplished and ongoing work in this area. The UN Division of Sustainable Development (DSD) has created a website ([http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd\\_aofw\\_ni/ni\\_index.shtml](http://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_ni/ni_index.shtml)) to track sustainable development efforts, but it is out of date as the last entries were in May 2010.

### More Details on Recommended Outcomes

While not a panacea, indicators that include urban metrics are an important tool to be used in forging the political will and measuring performance on sustainability that in the next decades is inextricably associated with cities. There are a number of successful systems, including in cities such as Vienna, New York, and organizations, such as ICLEI. The creation of a centrally located, easily accessed database of demonstration and best practices processes and associated materials within the United Nations will promote global knowledge-sharing and advance the work.

### Authors and Collaborators

These recommendations were developed by Eugenie L. Birch, Nussdorf Professor of Urban Research and co-Director, Penn Institute for Urban Research, University of Pennsylvania, and Amy Lynch, PhD candidate, University of Pennsylvania. Birch and Lynch have been working with the Office of International Affairs and Philanthropy, U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development and others on understanding and developing sustainable urban development indicators for the United States. Birch's most recent books are *Global Urbanization* (2011), *Women's Health* (2011), *Growing Greener Cities* (2008) and *Rebuilding Urban Places after Disaster, Lessons from Hurricane Katrina* (2006). Lynch is completing a dissertation on green infrastructure.

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## Rio+20 Global Youth Music Contest Group

The Rio+20 GYMC is a global competition for youth organized by the International Association for the Advancement of Innovative Approaches to Global Challenges (IAAI) aimed to inspire, engage and mobilize youth to support sustainable development through music as an universal language that facilitates dialogue, bring global people together and strengthen effective global governance as well as the work of the United Nations system.

Launched on 15th September 2011 in Klagenfurt at the international conference “Knowledge, Youth and Global Commons” by 30 participants from over 25 different countries and on 05 October 2011 at the United Nations Vienna Austria, the Rio+20 GYMC encourages youth to communicate to a global audience, innovative and specific ideas regarding environmental protection, sustainable development and international cooperation.

The successful launch of Rio+20 GYMC was a clear testimony to youth unquestionable commitment and unwavering willingness to take a leading role in tackling global challenges. However, due to a lack of resources, youth participation in sustainable development is limited. As a result youth turn to other markets in the economy other than the green economy. For example; youth looking to work on sustainable issues in their summer vacation may be thwarted in their efforts, because these programmes are often unaffordable. If they or their parents cannot afford them, then youth turn elsewhere (e.g. media companies offering paid participation in mindless consumer-fueled reporting at summer vacations for teenagers camps of beaches). In order to fully engage youth, the Rio+20 GYMC would like to see the following outcomes from Rio+20 UN Conference:

### Green Economy

A Green and Sustainable Economy should be an economy that has an infrastructure that is open enough to include the youth participation.

### Institutional framework

Governments need to provide sustainable conditions for youth work by aiming to create youth opportunities. Youth participation needs to be operated on global governance and policy-making levels.

<sup>[4]</sup> Governments, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to renew efforts to implementing General Assembly Resolution A/RES/56/38 and subsequent resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly on measures to support volunteerism and look forward to further actions by the UNGA to commemorate IYV+10 and to continue to call for global recognition, support, and advocacy for volunteerism for sustainable peace and development

<sup>[4]</sup> There should be strategies that engage young people as agents for sustainable development and peace.

<sup>[4]</sup> Educational Institutions and Academia should integrate volunteerism, youth activities and an understanding of civil society into curricula and similar structures to promote a deeper and more universal understanding of civic service and volunteering.

<sup>[4]</sup> The Media should communicate to the public the value of volunteerism and youth and join as a stakeholder in promoting a supportive environment for community engagement and volunteerism.

<sup>[4]</sup> The Civil Society should mainstream volunteerism and civic engagement strategies into sustainable peace and development programming.



- ☞ Corporations should engage youth to make sustainable development initiatives a key part of their work, taking local communities into consideration.
- ☞ All stakeholders should be open to new ways to volunteer by connecting and engaging people through internet and other new technologies.
- ☞ There should be promotion of youth volunteering strategies that engage young people as agents for sustainable development and peace.
- ☞ All stakeholders should ensure equal opportunity for female and male young people not only in leadership positions within sustainable development, but also equal pay for these responsibilities. While encouraging volunteerism, common good oriented activities that provide resources for youth should be supported by governments.

#### Project examples

Jean Paul Brice Affana – Cameroon: With his youth-led NGO, Vital Actions for Sustainable Development (AVD), Jean Paul organized a press conference on the national launch of Rio+20 GYM in Cameroon on the 04th October, 2011 parallel to the launch of the "I Vote for Climate" campaign (video): ([http://www.voxafrica.com/vod/videos/&v=0\\_k58i9d62&p](http://www.voxafrica.com/vod/videos/&v=0_k58i9d62&p)). Jean Paul also established collaboration with the French Cultural Centre in Yaoundé city to mobilize youth in Cameroon to get involved in contest. The contest is announced in the centre's weekly newsletter. Furthermore, the French Cooperation included the contest in a series of activities that will start in January 2012 until December and will aim at promoting access to renewable energy for all. The Direction of Youth at the French Speaking Countries Organization, Francophonie, has published the contest announcement in its website visited everyday by more than one million youth. Finally, Jean Paul promoted the contest at various events he attended between September and October 2011, among them the One Young World Summit 2011 in Zurich, the 12th University on Youth and Development in Malaga and the 8th Commonwealth Youth Forum in Perth, Australia. The government can help Jean Paul by providing him with enough resources so that he can continue to effectively promote the project.

Jessica White - Austria: Based on the GYM, as a youth facilitator I raised sponsorship from the local government to facilitate the making of music and videos with disadvantaged youth who do not normally have access to resources such as music training, a recording studio and instruments and provided them with these resources and facilitated lyrics with the themes that they were interested in and related to Rio+20 objectives such as Governmental Debt, Wasting money, War, Oil Business / economy, Faith, Greed, and atomic energy. The workshops shall be over a series of six weeks, twice a week 2 hours each, the result shall be submitted to Rio+20 GYM that is part of the youth contribution of Rio + 20 UNCSD.

Anam Gill - Pakistan: For mobilizing young people in Pakistan, an article on Rio+20 GYM was published in two mainstream, highly circulated dailies Dawn International and The News International; the Dawn and the News. This initiative will also be aired on FM 91 Radio and talked about during the Freedom Songs show which is aired Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad. The main hindrances are security issues. Mobilizing resources to bring people to this initiative from other sectors like the government has been a challenge. The governments can support us in making this initiative a success. It is not only centred on funding but also guidance which we need to deter the challenges being faced locally.

Jones Llewelyn – United Kingdom: Helping a group of homeless young people from England and Wales along with young refugee and asylum seekers in the UK to make entries for the competition. In this case, the government can assist by communicating the results of the project to relevant government bodies such as DFID and them taking the results onboard.

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## Rio+20 Network of Women's NGOs in Finland

1 November 2011

Rio+20 Network of Women's NGOs in Finland email. [paasihteeri@naisunioni.fi](mailto:paasihteeri@naisunioni.fi)

Rio+20 Network of Women's NGOs in Finland Contribution to the Compilation Document United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development 2012

Rio+20 process should address very clearly women as key actors of change both in poverty eradication and advancing sustainable development. It is essential to make gender equality and women's rights perspective an integral part of the global transition to green economy.

Special attention should be given to the following points:

#### Green economy and women's participation

In order to achieve the Rio+20 objectives of sustainable development and poverty eradication, green economy should be used as an instrument to promote gender equality. To maximise human contributions to sustainable economic growth, it is essential to

- ensure women's participation in environmental decision making at all levels
- increase women's participation in income-generating activities
- ensure women's access to clean and renewable energy
- invest in renewable energy and labour-saving technologies to reduce the amount of women's unpaid household and care work
- incorporate the idea of gender equality in all green economy investments and activities

#### Women's sexual and reproductive health and rights

Advancing sexual rights and reproductive health and rights is closely connected to resolving other development challenges, such as reaching balanced population development, adaptation to climate change, poverty eradication, promoting sustainable economic growth and social development.

Therefore it is crucial to ensure that every woman and girl around the world has -right to sexual self determination

- right to voluntarily marry and establish a family
- right to decide the number, timing and spacing of children
- access to accurate sexual and reproductive health information
- access to quality sexual and reproductive health services and modern contraceptive methods

## Women in rural areas

Environmental degradation and extreme poverty affect particularly women in rural areas in developing countries, as they are often highly dependent on local natural resources for their livelihood.

An effective way to increase agricultural productivity and sustainable economic growth in rural areas is to advance women's opportunities, for example by

- securing women's land and property rights -ensuring women's access to and control over productive resources

- investing in labour-saving clean technologies for female farmers to boost agricultural production

- ensuring that there is a greater gender equality focus in the aid directed to the agricultural sector

Additionally, as half of the world's population lives now in towns and cities, it is important to ensure that global transition to green economy promotes also women's position and opportunities in urban areas, for example equal access to less polluted, safe urban environments and their planning, transport, public spaces and information, and on the other hand to production and finance by ensuring inclusion of socio-economic networks.

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## RiverWay South Organization

Local, Meso-level and Micro-level NGOs form partnerships for "Grass roots" initiatives on Sustainable Economic Development

By Judy R. Van Doorn, Ph.D.

Troy University

Submitted to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for RIO+20.

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Phone: 334-448-5189 Email: [jvandoorn@troy.edu](mailto:jvandoorn@troy.edu) "Grass Roots" Sustainability

Local, meso-level and micro-level NGOs form partnerships for "Grass roots" initiatives on sustainable economic development

An existing sustainability approach that is attempting to address the "social, economic, and environmental" components of sustainable development (Sha Zukang, 2011) is found with "grass roots", meso-level NGOs who are partnering with tri-state river stakeholders like the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint rivers stakeholders (ACFS) organization found in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida USA. A present goal of ACFS is to have a cooperative research-based, sustainable water management plan for better water resource usage (Van Doorn, Taylor, Tonsmeire, Davis, & Rooks, 2011; ACFS, 2011). On a more local, micro-level, the RiverWay South Institute – a "grass roots" community NGO (RiverWay South, 2011) – is cooperatively initiating a team-based approach to economic development sustainability through ecotourism. RiverWay South works along with tri-state university faculty and students to mediate and build community relationships to enhance environmental sustainability through education, ecotourism, and action plans for sustainable economic development.

The RiverWay South NGO is supported through membership dues, strategic marketing plans (Randall, 2005), grant funding through USDA rural development and business opportunity grants, local community investments and endorsements for sustainable economic development which are designed around the mission for protecting the watersheds' natural environmental resources (Champion & Rutland, 2005). Rural and local river community partnerships are encouraged with the goal of sustainable ecotourism to help stimulate local economies and, in turn, fit with the preservation and protection of the watershed environment which helps to save endangered species (UN report, 2011). The RiverWay South approach is one of sharing and cooperation between 4 or more regional university institutions, chambers of commerce, Rotary International, Riverkeepers' organizations, Visitor tourism bureaus, City councils, departments of wildlife, parks and recreation, and arts organizations. Regional university faculty and students partner together and look past their competitive interests by cooperating on better plans for economic development – a cohesive "win-win" sharing of environmental sustainability education and action-based plans for sustainable economic development on the ACF watershed rivers.

RiverWay-sponsored Projects have been contracted with University Institutes for continuing education along the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint river watershed and coordinated with regional town hall meetings for ideas and sharing of development needs assessments – a "grass roots and up" approach from the first project in Apalachicola, Florida to the present Project Riverway – Phenix City, Alabama (Elkins & Bivins, 2011; Culligan, Van Doorn, Rutland, & Brannen, 2010). There are four universities – University of Georgia, Troy University, Auburn University, and Columbus State University – working together on Project RiverWay – Phenix City, Alabama USA which brings faculty and students, city leaders, and volunteers together from different bordering states to build sustainable development plans and action-based projects. Regional towns with depressed economies in need of economic development for job creation and sustainable growth will benefit most from these projects. The projects follow community visions and are conducted through surveying community members' ideas in town hall meetings and selecting top needs for short-term and long-term development projects. Initial project implementation is completed through the esprit de corps that surfaces from volunteerism, community pride, student learning opportunities, and cooperative team-based approaches. Examples of short-term projects have included tree plantings, town park gardens, cultural heritage trails and museums, nature walking trails with new signage, environmental learning centers, and ecotourism projects including boat ramps that support whitewater outdoor sports on the rivers.

With the city of Freiburg, Germany taking sustainability initiatives to a new level of high energy efficiency and its vision to be the "greenest city," other communities may decide to develop local resolutions to encourage industry incentives for sustainable development and education (Business Insights, 2010; Purvis, 2008). Some sustainability case study programs include King County, Washington (Harrington, 2011) and the City of Tucson, Arizona (Lancaster, 2010). Additionally, the "agroecosystem" approach

presented at Stockholm's World Water Week suggests that tree plantings in fields and better livestock maintenance helps water conservation and higher food security (Simonsen, 2011). Federal laws like the U. S. Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 may need reconsideration and reviewing on the waterways and certain parts of rivers and nature preserves that need better protection (Bourne, 2011).

The idea of a "grass roots and up" micro and meso-level networking approach may be a key complement to the macro-level sustainability charges made by the United Nations' Brundtland Commission report entitled Our Common Future (1987), United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) Agenda 21 (1992), United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) biosphere reserve designations, and European Union energy efficiency targets. Graham and Bertels (2008) suggest that businesses create sustainability portfolios in order to build stewardship legitimacy and action for waste prevention. Foremost, education remains important to learning about the balance between sustainability, conservation, and economic development. The cooperative RiverWay South approach helps to bridge community sustainability efforts through hands-on projects and learning opportunities on sharing natural resources, protecting the environment, and quests for better economic development sustainability (Mabry, 2011; Littledyke & Manolas, 2010).

The planning and action-oriented approaches that NGO RiverWay South has contributed to the ACF river watershed region is presented for consideration by the board for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development for Rio+20. RiverWay South and its university approach is a positive, cooperative strategy for encouraging better economic sustainability at the individual, micro-based and team-based, meso- levels of organizations within small and rural communities that plan to initiate sustainable economic development through smart ecotourism and educational outreach balanced with environmental integrity.

## Romanian Mountain Forum

### ROMANIAN MOUNTAIN FORUM

To the  
Secretariat of RIO + 20 UNCSD

Romanian Mountain Forum is a non-governmental organization of national level, created as a result of IYM-2002, active member of the International Mountain Partnership and Euromontana, which brings together over 400 representatives of mountain territories from 27 counties, farmers, forest workers, communities and mountain NGOs, personalities from the circles of science, academic and university specialists in rural development and environment protection, as well as administrative and political factors - senators and deputies from the Romanian Parliament; Considering that the UNCDS - Rio +20 Summit will take place in 2012;

Based on the experience gathered between 1990 and 2011 in Romania and the lucrative relationships with European (EUROMONTANA, AEM, European Commission, Council of Europe, MF), international (Mountain Partnership, FAO, World Association of Mountain People, the World Bank) and national bodies;

In order to ensure that the specificity of the protection and sustainable development of the Carpathian mountain region of Romania (and of the mountains from South-Eastern Europe, with similar needs) will be safeguarded from degradation and supported within international negotiations, we address the following

#### CALL

In the vast area of the Romanian Carpathians, with ~ 90,000 km<sup>2</sup>, 824 administrative municipalities and 3560 villages, 3.6 million people and agri-zootechnics millennial traditions, 20 years after the international event Rio - 1992, which included Agenda 21, Chapter 13 - "Mountains" as fragile ecosystems, the demand for mountain goods, services and infrastructure has increased significantly. But in spite of all the efforts that have been made by some institutions and NGOs, by personalities with high responsibilities, with some notable results (agri-tourism and mountain tourism, pilot farms, training, scientific research, infrastructure, environment protection, etc.) including support measures, not enough compared to the pressing needs, in the year 2011 there is a very deep degradation of the mountain environment and the mountain rural economy, especially the private agriculture / animal husbandry, with very serious consequences, such as: Irrational cutting of forests, especially in the higher areas, such as conifers, with consequences on the environment and society (floods, landslides, etc.);

Degradation of the natural flora of mountain pastures with crucial feeding importance for ruminant livestock (cattle, sheep / goats), which are not competing with man for food (they eat grass, not grain).

This occurred as a consequence of the dramatic decrease of livestock (50-80 %.... depending on the micro-areas) and hence the volume of organic fertilizer, an essential factor for maintaining the natural flora of mountain meadows, flora which is of great social value - for food, absorption of carbon, biodiversity, landscapes, etc..

Main causes:

1. The focus of governments, local administrations and some agricultural producers on the big agriculture from areas with high fertility, such as plains and hills, based on crops and marginalization of smaller mountain agriculture and animal husbandry;
2. The monopoly installed by food industries, the lack of competition and the extremely low prices for raw materials, especially milk and meat, as organic products, of high biological quality, due to floral polymorphism. There are disappointing prices (e.g. 7-8 liters of milk for 1 euro!) and the consumer pays 1.2 to 1.4 euros / liter, a situation that was reported by RMF to all the factors of national responsibility and the highest institutions of the European Union (European Parliament, European Commission, Council of Europe).
3. The lack of effective protective intervention from the State, national or multinational the pressure of national or multi-national owners' structures on the administrative and political structures to maintain such a system, which is very harmful for the small mountain farmers, led to agri-zootechnics not being profitable anymore, with the effect of intense decrease of poverty for most of the producers, discouragement and hopeless future for the younger generations living in the mountain countryside;
4. The appearance of a very serious phenomenon, the lack of interest for modernizing the mountain farms and the massive agricultural abandonment (abandoned lands, tens of thousands of hectares of grassland which are no longer harvested, invasion of useless plants, etc.);
5. Mass exodus of youth from the 3560 mountain villages, to cities or abroad, where the unemployment rate increases, excessive aging of the population which is still agriculturally active;
6. Very serious for environment and economy: in the absence of organic fertilizers a natural phenomenon takes place, the mountain fodder polyflora will turn wild again, in just 8-10 years. This flora, a wealth of mountain areas, which generates food for many millions of people, has been selected, with hard efforts, by dozens of generations of people, in more than 2,000 years of continuous use of organic fertilizers, with sustainable traditional technology and best practices that have been preserved in the Romanian Carpathians and the Carpathians and Balkans elsewhere.

The natural flora will be lost in less than a generation, by human negligence, a loss that will be permanent under the circumstances of the twentyfirst century – such as globalization, free movement of people and many of today's agricultural alternatives for mountain young generations, which did not exist in the past centuries. The intimate connection and interdependence between MAN-ANIMALS-ORGANIC FERTILIZERS-FODDER FLORA is essential and irreplaceable in mountain agricultural economy, which is not a green economy and any harm to this fragile ecosystem is not only harmful but also it can not be recovered (the mountain punishes. ...)

For these reasons comes the necessity of giving priority to mountain agriculture, in order to avoid huge, irrecoverable losses.

7. A cause with negative effects can also be found in the misapprehension of the notion of "biodiversity", by interest groups that have generated attitudes and even rules for the conservation of invading plants, with no forage value, to the detriment of flora with high social value (ex. Nardus s.) or financial stimulation of late cutting of grass or excessive breeding of wild animals, such as predators, with discouraging consequences for mountain farmers.

8. The specialized institutional system, created in 1990, namely Romanian Mountain Area Commission, turned, by reduction, into the National Agency of Romanian Mountain Areas (Ministry of Agriculture) and the mountain research and vocational training institutions, have not been supported and developed but after 20 years of proven fertile activity, have been dissolved in 2010!

9. A project partnership between the Romanian and Austrian ministries of education and agriculture and the Romanian Mountain Forum, establishing the first nine professional schools of mountain agriculture, a government-funded project started in 2008 that was discontinued in 2009, under the pretext of economic crisis.

In conclusion,

In the Romanian Carpathians, which were not and are not using chemicals, there is food, quality protein, ensuring food security for more than 3 million people.

With a good management and support, ecological food could be produced, by using technologies that do not require oil, for more than 6 million people.

A sustainable alternative to "green economy", for the benefit of the whole society is still possible, but dependent on a general effort, the existence of distinct specific government policies and programs for mountain areas, with more intense interventions in the areas most vulnerable. Such a strategy is necessary at the level of the European Commission as well, where mixing mountain areas with "other disadvantaged areas" is an outdated type of approach, which did not bring the necessary balance in mountain economy, especially in emerging countries like Romania and others.

Romanian Mountain Forum, based on the national and international experience with governmental and non-governmental institutions, on the results of the scientific research from the last 20 years, under the pressure from the new challenges and threats posed by climate change and major population growth to more than 9 billion people in 2050, believes that:

The importance of mountain areas increases considerably in this century in terms of human food production and new habitat areas. It is extremely important for the food security of both the mountain people and the mankind that the mountains continue to produce quality food, by sustainable methods.

Mountain agriculture and animal husbandry are extremely fragile and bear, especially in less developed or emerging countries, but with tradition, such as Romania, the consequences of lack of strategies and programs. Mountain agriculture, as the "engine" of economic, social and cultural activities of mountain communities should be treated as priority by governments, because, as different from the case of fertile plain / hill areas, based on agricultural crops, in the mountain areas the natural fodder flora is turning wild again, in a very short period of time.

An entire mountain economy, created during centuries of human efforts, can be lost in a single decade of negligence, because under the deeply changed conditions of XXI century, abandonment of agriculture and traditions and the young generations leaving the mountain communities, is an irreversible phenomenon.

In the XXI century humanity can not afford to lose a large economic segment that produces food and many other goods.

On the contrary, a conscious attitude is necessary, imperative and urgent, in order to improve the overall effort to increase the investment adapted to the needs and diversity of mountain specificities, with direct beneficial effects on mountain populations, especially on poor communities and, indirectly, on the whole mankind.

We believe that it is in the interest of humanity that within the global and regional policies for mountain areas, as well as within the national policies, the two largest economies of the mountains - sustainable agriculture and forests - should coexist, in balanced ecosystems.

#### PROPOSALS

1. To be mandatory for regions, states and governments to protect, by strategies, legislation and special programs, the populations of mountain farmers, in order to avoid human desertification, loss of their economies and cultures, which are fragile.
2. The creation and availability of financial resources able to provide effective motivating support for small mountain farmers, especially for young agricultural population, for breeding ruminants in extensive systems and producing healthy human food in ecological conditions.
3. Creating and supporting a more efficient and stable governmental institutional system, specialized on mountain areas and government's support of mountain research and of a specific program for training of specialists and practitioners. Different provisions in the annual budgets for the financial resources meant for mountain agricultural economy.
4. Support of the establishment and operation of NGOs, especially of cooperative types of associations (Western) of mountain agricultural producers, at the level of traditional mountain basins, able to withstand market conditions. Endowing them with means of processing ecologic animal and vegetable raw materials, facilitation of selling these organic (mountain eco-bio) products on the national and international markets. The potential value added can be expressed by considering the mountain eco-bio-food products as "niche" products for a category of 'niche' consumers, interested and capable to pay an additional price for high quality and health guarantees, as a source that may become important for supporting mountain agri-food eco-bio-economy, increasing family incomes and investment potential of small farmers, fighting against poverty and gradually reducing the support needed from specific grants - uncertain on long-term - linked to demographic growth.
5. Establishment of non-exclusive rational rules to ensure a balance between agriculture and forests in the mountain areas, in the spirit of mutual acceptance.
6. To ensure the high value of perennality of high social value biodiversity, represented by the polymorphic natural fodder flora of mountain pastures and grasslands.
7. Giving up exaggerated guidelines and provisions, worthless or that may affect mountain food production.
8. Recognition, by governments, of the mountain populations' right to "being different", the right to being compensated for natural handicaps and to be provided with tax incentives and other types of effective support.

9. Establishment/strengthening and development of an educational and vocational training system, adapted to the specificity of mountain agriculture and animal husbandry, mountain environment and living.

10. In parallel with the protection and encouragement of mountain agriforestry economy, the creation of new job opportunities in the mountain countryside, part time or full time pluri-activity representing a characteristic for most mountain communities.

11. International financial institutions to create a special fund intended to safeguard mountain agri-livestock economies with traditions, that are in danger of degradation. Mountain Partnership should have an "intervention fund" specifically designed to support specialized non-governmental organizations with pro-mountain activity.

12. UN should boost the establishment of an International pro-mountain Convention which would be joined by the governments that are members of the Mountain Partnership – with a strong commitment from each government to take effective medium-term measures to prevent degradation of traditional agrilivestock economy and mountain environment, poverty and exodus of young generations and to foster sustainable development.

13. UN should develop the activity of Mountain Partnership, by establishing continental departments with the primary role to support mountain regions capable of producing human food - taking into account the specific elements (geo-climate, economics, traditions, etc.). Example: Europe with the regions of Carpathians and Balkans, Asia, Africa, South America.

Romanian Mountain Forum hopes that the considerations and proposals made will come to the attention of the Secretariat of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development and will be a contribution to Rio-2012 Agenda and the Final Declaration\*, respectively for the future UNCSD negotiations in favor of mountain issues.

President of R. M. F.

Radu Rey

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## Romontana

National Association for Mountains Rural Development "ROMONTANA"

[www.romontana.org](http://www.romontana.org)

From Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond: 20 years of Sustainable Mountain Development - What have we learnt and where should we go?

Key messages:

Since 1992, when chapter 13 on mountains as fragile ecosystems was introduced in Agenda 21, the demand for goods and services from mountains has grown considerably. We assert that mountains are territories with a future and opportunities for Europe and the world. They have much to deliver to society at large and have great potential for smarter, greener and more inclusive development. They are also distinctive areas, because of their altitude, their steep slopes, their low population density, their challenges and their opportunities, and consequently should be addressed specifically. We call for public and private investment in these areas. The return on investment might indeed take longer in these areas than in urban areas or lowlands, but the investment itself will undeniably be more sustainable.

At the same time, these mountain territories are faced with a number of challenges. Indeed, the ability of mountain systems to provide essential goods and services for all of humanity is increasingly under threat from climate change, globalization, a chronic lack of investment, ongoing land degradation in some areas, the absence of an integrated approach to territorial development in many countries, and increasing trends to the concentration of population in ever bigger agglomerations. We recognize that, despite the progress that has been made in promoting sustainable development in many mountain regions, most national and international development agendas still tend to treat mountains, if at all, as marginal environments. On the basis of its experience in the field of sustainable mountain development, its role in development of mountain policies at European, national and regional level, and its specific economic, environmental and social contexts, ROMONTANA recommends that the United Nations, in the discussion at UNCSD, to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012:

- recognise the specific role of mountains and the corresponding need for integrated mountain development policies and targeted investment;
- recognise in particular the role provided by mountain ecosystems in providing services that support and enhance the Earth's sustainability, and the key role that mountain communities play in delivering these services, by developing concepts of payment and compensation for ecosystem services, and implementing such concepts, and considering the economic value of services provided in the general interest (green accounting),
- integrate the assets of mountain regions in processes leading to sustainable development and green Economies, recognising that a geographical differentiation is needed; to identify therefore the conditions required to fully unleash mountain development potential and invest to secure that these conditions exist;
- adopt a multi-sectoral, multi-level and multi-stakeholder approach enabling the UN to direct its Sustainable Development policy towards concrete areas of interest and to identify and strengthen entities for cooperation and the implementation of such policies at the appropriate levels, whether regional, local or mountain range,
- promote networks and partnerships of mountain stakeholders at all levels (governmental, civil society, private sector) and encourage the relevant national and international organisations to consider mountain-related concerns.
- to support mountain-specific observation, research, knowledge development and awareness on environmental, economic and social aspects of mountain areas.

Mountains can deliver green growth.

Mountains and their economies are particularly well placed to deliver green growth, due to their rich natural and cultural heritage. They are the water towers of the world and major reservoirs of biodiversity and natural resources. Due to their topography, altitude and large forest areas, the renewable energy potential in mountain regions is superior to that of many lowland areas; though this also represents a challenge for landscape and biodiversity. As mountain agriculture provides many high-quality products and services, including organic or environmentally friendly farming and extensive rangelands, this sector, often in cooperation with others, can serve as a laboratory for the conservation of biodiversity in balance with human use of resources and interest.

Mountains are also among the most exposed to global change. This means that greening the economy is important for mountain economies to reduce their vulnerability and to increase local added value and employment as well as secure synergy between economic growth, environmental protection and social progress.

With their natural and cultural diversity and importance for downstream regions in terms of resources and ecosystem services, mountain areas are important innovation

motors in Green Economies, particularly in sectors where they are ideally placed to invent new and promising solutions, such as green transport, renewable energy supplies, life sciences, new forms of food supply chains, sustainable tourism, or remote service delivery.

However, innovative institutional arrangements are urgently required to foster governance models and decision support systems aiming at both the integration of the social, ecological and economic capital at all scales in mountain regions, and the mainstreaming of mountains into overall national development and conservation processes.

This requires in particular:

- major investments to assemble the conditions allowing these areas to fully and sustainably exploit their potential, notably in the sectors of environmentally-friendly transport, energy, ICT and services of general interest;
- a multi-sectoral approach aiming, inter alia, at adequately rewarding the provision of ecosystem services from mountain areas in the general interest, where necessary by correcting market failures related to the specificities of mountain territories. Land managers such as farmers and foresters should, in particular, be equitably remunerated for the provision of public goods resulting from their economic activities .
- general support to the development of initiatives adding value to mountain products (food, crafts) and services (tourism...) in relation to their specific cultural and environmental features.

Romontana is member of the European Association for Mountain Regions "Euromontana" and has elaborated together with "Euromontana", in relation to these issues, recommendations on how to remunerate positive externalities provided by mountain land managers; foster the innovation potential of mountain areas; support development of sustainable tourism renewable energies, and services of general interest in mountain areas. It also has developed the European Charter for Mountain Quality Food products, launched at the European Parliament in 2005 and signed by almost 70 governments and organisations. This should lead to the adoption soon of specific protection for mountain food products at European level, opening the way to a specific market segment for mountain quality products, expected by many consumers.

Mountain development can contribute to a more inclusive global development

Enhancing global political commitment that translates into increased investments tailored to mountain regions will directly benefit mountain communities, some of which are very poor, and indirectly humanity as a whole. Mountain regions are likely to contribute widely to social innovation, thanks to their intense community life. Their governance and cooperation models are often unique, but may also provide valuable models for other regions. Furthermore, sustainable mountain development is a component of a more balanced territorial and placebased development which is highly needed and likely to contribute to a more even and socially sustainable distribution of population and wealth on Earth.

A more inclusive and place-based approach to development requires the adoption of a multistakeholder approach and a multi-level governance approach.

Across the world's mountains, the numerous networking entities active at different (governmental, NGO, research level, development agencies...) demonstrate a strong identification in the search for sustainable development solutions for mountains. The dynamism of the Euromontana network, bringing together different sorts of actors at different levels, since its creation in 1996, is a good demonstration of this. The UN can build on the European expertise in this respect – including European networks, inter-governmental conventions such as Alpine or Carpathian conventions, as well as emerging institutions in mountain research and policy development.

The UN must also promote the development of multi-level governance. Mountain ranges are functional areas whose geographical extent often overlaps multiple administrative boundaries. Euromontana is convinced that a focus on functional areas such as mountain ranges can help UN Sustainable Development policies to approach environmental and Green Economy challenges on a regional level, according to the Local Agenda 21 concept (thinking globally, acting locally).

Hence, sustainable mountain development, notably through integrated and socially inclusive policies, as well as low carbon technologies, should have a prominent place in the Rio 2012 agenda and in particular in its final declaration. To achieve these ends, strong and united advocacy for mountain issues with tangible results in future UNCSD negotiations is essential.

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"ROMONTANA" - National Association for Mountains Rural Development has been established in 2000 as a non-profit, non-governmental association, with no patrimonial purpose with the main purpose of supporting the general development of the Romanian mountain rural areas. Romontana is based in Romania, Suceava county, city of Vatra Dornei and has 6 branches established in the mountain counties of Alba, Brasov, Cluj, Hunedoara, Harghita and Gorj, gathering together institutions, organizations, universities, public and private bodies that are active in the best interest of the durable development of the mountain regions.

Objectives and activities: sustainable development of the mountain rural tourism and agritourism, specific training and education for the general development of the mountain rural areas of Romania, support for the economical development of the mountain communities, promotion of mountain quality products and services, supporting and promoting the interests of the mountain producers, protection of the mountain environment and cultural traditions, facilitating experience exchanges and partnership building between public authorities and private entities, national and international organizations involved in the sustainable development of the mountain area, lobby and informing the public regarding the realities and problems of the Romanian mountain area.

"ROMONTANA" has a wide experience and played an important role to the sustainable development of the mountain rural tourism in Romania, being one of the first and most representative rural tourism and rural development associations in Romania since it has been established in 2000 with the support of the Swiss government through SDC (Swiss Cooperation and Development Agency) and Euromontana. In over 10 years of activity it has organized a very experienced staff, experts in all the aspects of the rural areas, starting from rural tourism, rural economy to climate change and protection of the mountain environment. Romontana is member of the Mountain Partnership, Euromontana, World Rural Forum and Romanian Mountain Forum. Romontana has been involved in projects and common actions together with UNEP Vienna (Interim Secretariate of the Carpathian Convention) in the framework of the Carpathian Convention.

Rey Adrian - Radu 31'st October, 2011

Director

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## Roots for Equity

The Earth Summit in 1992 based on the realizations and developments of the past decades had pointed out a new direction with respect to humanity: an important concept that the world learnt was of sustainable development which had taken into account the immensely harmful environmental practices encapsulated in a fossil fuel, for-profit production system. The Rio Summit had taken serious count of the degradation, extraction and exploitation of natural resources which was being carried out at the cost of the

poorest and most marginalized sections of Earth's population. The climate crises of even just the past few years including the super floods faced by Pakistan in 2010, and then in this year again floods in various parts of Asia and other parts of the continent, as well as other climatic disasters such as soaring temperatures and erupting blazing fires, freezing temperatures and snow storms in different parts of the globe are indicative that the Earth is now rebounding under the onslaught of global warming.

However, in the context of Globalization, the past 20 years have shown that the world's market-based production system has learnt no lessons. The multiple crises of the past decades ranging from economic, to ecological and food price escalations has shown very effectively though tragically the consequences of a capitalist mode of production.

In the years after the Rio Summit the advanced industrial countries have unheedingly operated to intensify imperialist practices pursuing a free market doctrine at the cost of the poor third world countries. This has been clearly the practice for agricultural production systems. The encroachment of agricultural lands in third world countries for production of agro-fuels as well as other export-oriented agricultural products has severely impacted the poorest segments of the global population, especially the small and landless farmers. The demand of agro-chemical and biotechnology firms to push for the acceptance and production of genetically modified organisms has further resulted in the contamination of highly sensitive food chain and food web systems eroding biodiversity. The result of multiple chemical-based industrial agricultural production methods has of course been constant rise in hunger and poverty; the FAO itself has agreed to the failure in decreasing hunger. The food price escalation in 2008 and then again in 2011 is ample evidence.

In light of failure of development model pushed through globalization, the Rio+20 has immense importance for the well being of the vast humanity and all life on the planet Earth. It gives us space to pause and rethink what the past 20 years have delivered in the context of sustainable development.

However, the thematic concerns of Rio+20 force human society especially in the context of Green Economy :Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication give much reason for urgent critical concern. It is indeed extremely disturbing to see that the context of Green Economy though looking very carefully for solutions based on renewable sustainable methods of production, has chosen the market as the base for delivery of a sustainable development pathway.

If the past 150 years of unsustainable development have shown us one thing clearly, it is that a market-based for profit oriented system of production cannot deliver a sustainable production system. The free market economy is based on a fault line which can only lead to overproduction and hence destruction, depletion and degradation of the Earth's natural resources which can only result in increasing the present economic and social injustices for the poorest segments of society. The constant push for capturing markets will only lead to further exploitation and extraction of resources. There is an underlying message in the Green Economy context that builds on the belief that maintaining status quo in the context of economic development paradigm is acceptable and eventually technology will find a path. Instead of decreasing production, getting away from carbon emitting and trading systems, changing life styles and development paradigms there is a constant thrust in finding technological fixes which would allow capitalist industries to continue their environmentally degrading path.

The immense inequality in distribution of wealth which is the cause and effect of a free market system has not been taken into account. Even after the immensely damaging impacts of globalization, a failure to meet the millennium development goals, further marginalizing vulnerable communities facing discrimination based on class, caste and gender, there is no push to change the direction in the context of Green Economy.

Communities which represent indigenous peoples, women, peasants, fisher folk, urban poor among others demand systems of production which are decentralized, with control over decision making and implementing in their hands. Solutions for various forms of crisis may they be of food, energy or climatic, need to be resolved with the participation of the people, especially those who are most vulnerable at the hands of multiple levels of crisis. Especially for farming communities, the principles of rights based approach and the anti imperialist context enshrined in food sovereignty is of utmost importance. Food sovereignty, a demand of the rural communities across the globe has built on the concept of local self sufficiency and self-reliance. These must be respected and implemented in deliberations arising through the Rio+20 Summit. It needs no emphasis, that Rio+20 cannot bypass the principled agreements of the Earth Summit well articulated in Agenda 21. Policies for both urban and rural development would have to be based on close loop manufacturing systems which would rely on renewable energy production systems owned by local communities in public interest rather than for private corporate controlled enterprises. Science in the service of the people rather than for free market profit reaping systems has to be the basis of technology development for delivering sustainable systems.

The Rio+20 has another important thematic concern and that is of IFSD (Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development). As has been said above, no institutional set up for sustainable development that is not premised on peoples genuine democratic participation is acceptable. The models of decision making and implementation which are hall marks of institutions such as the Bretton Woods, the World Trade Organization, and the bilateral trade agreements built on secrecy, coercion and negation of people's rights are unacceptable.

Institutional framework will have to be inclusive of local communities, building on principles of cooperation rather than competition, collective ownership rather than monopoly control and use of resources based on intergenerational considerations truly leading to a model of sustainable development.

It needs to be emphasized that the institutional framework has to build on critical pillars of social justice, gender justice and ecological justice. No doubt, for the success of such a system, a legal mechanism has to be engaged which could hold violators' accountable, allowing for a just and fair global governance for sustainable development.

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## Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN)

For Compilation Document

Rural Reconstruction Nepal (RRN) is a Nepali NGO having special consultative status with Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations. Remaining within the center of Credo of the International Rural Reconstruction Movement, RRN has been working with the poor and disadvantaged rural communities for the last two decades, focusing on the four-fold approach of rural reconstruction - education, health, livelihood and self-government.

Expectation for the outcome of Rio +20

3a.

- We are fast approaching to the deadline of 2015 for accomplishing the Millennium Development Goals set in 2000. But in most Least Developed (including Nepal) and some developing countries it has been found that most targets will not be achieved within the time-frame if the current pace of implementation continues. Therefore, this conference should give priority and be focused on contributing to the MDG targets by enhancing the linkages of socio-economic, political and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Poverty, hunger, gender inequality, lower degree of women empowerment, insufficient health facilities, inadequate education services, climate change and its disproportionately adverse impacts on the poor and vulnerable, and lack of sustainable livelihoods interventions have remained as characteristics of our part of the world. Overcoming these situations is important achieving sustainable development to improve the status of people living in these countries.

- Enforceable systems and country based as well as international mechanisms be developed and put into action for achieving sustainable development and minimizing the impacts on environment.

- Full commitment from the parties to Rio+20 for effective implementation of the Rio commitments and declarations.

Comment on existing proposals: e.g. a green economy roadmap, framework for action.....

3b.

- Green economy will be the one among other issues during conference. We have some reservations supporting this idea, because we are not very much sure whether the focus on the sustainable development will get diluted due to disproportionate emphasis on green economy by ignoring other dimensions of sustainable development. We do have fear of governments that, focus on green economy will minimize the importance and target of sustainable development. Therefore, without dismantling the idea of sustainable development, the concern of green economy can be addressed and incorporated. By considering green economy as one of the overriding objectives of sustainable development and way out for poverty eradication, the social, economic and environmental consideration must remain balanced.

- It is said that green economy is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive; which encourages public and private investments that reduces carbon emissions and pollution, enhance energy and resource efficiency and prevent the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services. It is claimed that the Green Economy is the way out of the ongoing economic, climate, energy, water and food crises, by restructuring our economies to encourage and sustain green energy, green growth and green jobs. However, our goal is not only getting the green economy but to a sustainable world for all.

- There are some issues which the concept of green economy may not address adequately. Inequality in incomes, quality of life, and access to resources are some issues which are not the serious concerns under the concept of green economy. Similarly, it has not defined approach to tackle the pollution from existing industries and environmental degradation.

Views on implementation

3c. We suggest to build mechanisms for developing partnership arrangement and other implementation tools under the direct supervision and participatory decision of any specified UN agency. While implementation in countries is concerned, this must adhere to the Accra Agenda for Action and Paris Declaration of the Aid Effectiveness mechanisms. Independent country systems, processes and mechanisms must be respected.

Suggestion on cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools

3d. Collective effort can bring change which will be sustainable in essence. Therefore, we suggest for building mechanisms for implementing tools identified after conference by involving all the actors of the society viz. Civil Society Organizations, Farmers, Indigenous peoples, Community Based Organizations, NGOs, local authorities, youth, private sector and others in each country.

Suggestions on possible sectoral priorities include

4a. Environmental management, employment generation, natural resources management and agricultural development based on the fundamental principles of human rights, democracy and sustainable development.

Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

4b.

We already discussed that the current concept of green economy does not address the status of inequality in incomes. Similarly access to resources is also one of the concerns in poverty eradication. Therefore, we cannot depend solely on green economy by introducing it as an important means for poverty eradication and sustainable development.

Institutional Framework

4c. We strongly believe that including civil society/non-government sector in the process of negotiations and discussions as equal members will further make decisions collective and effective.

Possible themes which can be focused during conference

4d. the focus of the conference may include

- Poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development



Special focus should be given for poverty eradication with time bound targets.

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## Rwandan farmers group INGABO

Our view on sustainable development

As known, we also analyze sustainable development according to its three aspects which are social, economic and environmental.

The social aspect

Social aspects on development have to be considered on its real value:

- Firstly we have to know and analyze practices and the knowledge of farmers from the area we want to develop;
- Policies practices we introduce on those farmers have to consider those aspects;
- Researches made have to be participative in aim of considering farmers needs and practices;
- Strategic review, execution and evaluation have to be based on farmer centered approaches and this one have to be implicated at each level;
- New politics, practices and technologies have to be popularized to beneficiaries in their languages and considering the farmers level of comprehension;
- Investments made with states and particular investors must be benefic on local communities;
- Special programs for dropout groups have to be developed;
- To engage youth in current social and economic transformation;
- To fight against all kinds of social inequalities.

The economic aspect

Farmers make the highest proportion of the earth inhabitants. Considering the fact that they feed the planet, contribute on world economy, it is unbelievable to understand that they are the first victims of food insecurity and chronic poverty. According to this, we suppose to:

- Empowering farmers in organizational framework;
- Not to evaluate the agricultural improvement in only terms of production but also in terms of farmer's income indicators;
- Politics makers have to analyze and take care of their decisions' impact on local farmers;
- Considering the impact of agricultural sector on national economies, the budget allocated to this sector have to match with its real value;
- The part of the budget allocated to the agricultural sector which is used in administration have to be reduced so that beneficiaries could benefit from it;
- The international and regional markets mustn't be restricting local ones;
- To develop infrastructures in rural areas where agriculture is done.

The environmental aspect

To have a sustainable development, the earth needs a safe and clean source of raw materials. As the economic growth tends to endanger our ecosystem, it is vital to safeguard our natural resources such as land, water, air, forests, animals and others. So, the human beings have to:

- Control exploitation of natural resources;
- Create a better collaboration with the scientific world and environmental policy makers;
- Implement and use accordingly practices which improve our biodiversity;
- Focussing our forces on researches on new technologies which go with the climate change;
- Clearly explaining environmental issues in easy terms understandable by a small farmer;
- Regularly inform producers on weather conditions to allow them to plan their farming activities accordingly;
- Respect equity and equality principles on natural resources use and benefits;

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## São Paulo State

São Paulo State's Contribution to Rio+20:

Targets for Energy Sector (Summary)

The 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development will address three main topics (Poverty Reduction, Green Economy and Governance), in connection to the previous decisions, specially those concerned with the 1992 Rio and the 2002 WSSD.

This proposal from São Paulo State focuses the global Energy sector, revisiting the 2002 Brazilian Initiative for a global target on renewable energy (10% by 2010) and the Millennium Development Goals.

## TARGET 1: MINIMUM LEVELS OF PER CAPITA RESIDENTIAL ELECTRICITY SUPPLY

The first target proposed is

TARGET 1: "All countries should provide a minimum per capita residential electricity of 600 kWh by 2030, through cleaner technologies and technical/financial support from the international community."

This is based on the rationale that

- (i) electricity is a versatile energy carrier, providing basic services that other types cannot achieve - communications, lighting, basic refrigeration etc. Figure 1);
- (ii) this basic prerequisite for development is still out of reach for most of the population in the poorer countries (Figure 2)
- (iii) good quality energy services provide women empowerment and thus control population in an ethically acceptable way (Figure 3).
- (iv) good quality energy services provide women empowerment and thus control population in an ethically acceptable way (Figure 3).
- (v) all countries with a "Low" HDI - Human Development Index (i.e. below 0.5, Figure 4) have a per capita residential electricity consumption below 200 kWh/yr, below a minimum level necessary for development;
- (vi) countries with a per capita residential electricity consumption above 600 kWh/yr have a minimally reasonable HDI;
- (vii) the HDI is still one of the best indicators of development, encompassing income, mortality and education;
- (viii) Access to modern energy services support the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), specially to around 1.4 billion people without electricity and more 1.3 people utilizing traditional biomass;

Population in countries with low HDI (below 0.5) is around 1.02 billion people. To supply all these people with 600 kWh by 2030 it would be necessary to generate additional 531 TWh, through 242 GW of installed capacity, at a cost of US\$ 53 billion over 18 years. Average annual growth (12%) is ambitious, although acceptable considering the rapid evolution of technologies and access to development strategies.

## TARGET 2: INCREMENTAL SHARE OF RENEWABLES IN THE PRIMARY ENERGY MATRIXES OF ALL COUNTRIES

The other target revisits the Brazilian proposal at the WSSD (a 10% global target on renewables by 2010) and is stated as:

TARGET 2: "All countries should increase the share of renewables in each country's total primary energy supply, taking as a base the levels of year 2008 (ie 13%), in additional 4% (ie 17% of total) by 2030 and in additional 14% (ie 27% of total) by 2050"

The rationale is the following:

- (i) the proposal for a global target on renewables was in practice misunderstood by many delegates at the WSSD: many countries with RE shares above 10% perceived that they should not act; some countries with RE below 10% perceived that would be a huge and uneven task; moreover, the number 10% was considered arbitrary by some;
- (ii) although the proposal for a numeric target could not reach a consensus, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI) has recognized the importance of renewable energy (RE) sources for all of the three pillars of sustainable development (SD);
- (iii) JPOI also recognizes the importance of targets and timetables in the energy sector;
- (iv) Increasing the share of RE in all matrixes also encompasses the implicit idea of Energy Efficiency and Conservation (EE&C), perfectly connected to any objective concerning the concept of Green Economy;
- (v) The recent Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Special Report on Renewable Energy (IPCC SRREN), approved under consensus by around 200 countries, recognizes the relationship RE-SD;
- (vi) The IPCC SRREN also provides scenarios (Figure 5) with the relationship between levels of RE and greenhouse gas concentration pathways – a condition to have average global temperatures stabilized at safe levels, addressing one of the major environmental threats mankind is facing today (as well as being in connection with the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, proposed at the UNCED 1992);
- (vii) The window of opportunity is closing; delayed climate action is likely to entail additional costs to economy, as shown in reports such as the Stern Review.

According to the IPCC (2011), renewable energy sources (hydro, biomass, solar, wind, ocean, geothermal, marine) represented 12.9% (63.5 EJ) of world primary energy in 2008. The IPCC SRREN, a compilation of existing scientific information, shows ranges of RE supply consistent to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) levels below 400 parts per million (ppm), based on 164 literature scenarios. Such compilation provides the following median levels<sup>2</sup> of (i) 139 EJ/year in 2030 (17% of total primary energy supply) and (ii) year 248 EJ/ in 2050 (27% of total). This requires growths in RE of approximately 3.6%/yr in the period 2008-2030 and 2.9%/yr between 2030 and 2050. Such high rates require integrated policies with energy efficiency and conservation. Countries with low HDI could be exempted from this rule while such condition lasts, but with a commitment towards long-term convergence to this end.

## Conclusion

Such proposals entail the third topic to be discussed at Rio+20: governance. Under the present financial crisis, leveraging the electricity consumption would add to the consumption market more than 1 billion people. An economy driven by renewables and energy efficiency is much likely to be labeled as "Green", in a dynamic and sustainable process.

## ANNEX

Figure 1. Evolution in Energy Services (IEA, 2010a)

Figure 2 Population without access to electricity by country, 2009 (IEA, 2010a)

Figure 3. Reduction in birth rates, access to electricity and empowerment through television programs in Brazil (Gorney, 2011)

Figure 4. Human Development Index as a function of per capita residential electricity consumption by country (UNDP, 2011 and IEA, 2010)

Figure 5. Synthesis of 164 scenarios (IPCC, 2011), considering RE supply, CO2 emissions and CO2 concentration pathways in the atmosphere. Central thick lines correspond to the statistical medians.

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

## Save the Children

Submission by Save the Children, Plan International and World Vision (for the Children in a Changing Climate coalition) for Zero Draft of the outcomes document of UNCSD Rio+20, 2012

Children in a Changing Climate (CCC) is a coalition of leading child-centred development and humanitarian agencies calling for investment in children as agents of change for resilient, sustainable development. CCC welcomes the dual track of Rio+20 to i) develop a roadmap for the green economy, and ii) develop a new institutional framework for sustainable development. These are two areas that are crucial for building a green, environmentally safe world for current and future generations. This submission outlines the key issues for children that must be considered in the development of a new institutional framework for sustainable development.

### The Role of Children and Young People in Sustainable Development

Children and young people every day demonstrate their important role in achieving and raising awareness about environmental safety and sustainability. The involvement of youth in environment and development decisionmaking and in the implementation of programmes is critical to successful sustainable development the world over.

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. In order to successfully and equitably achieve this aim, we must put today's children and future generations at the heart of any sustainable development plans.

Girls and boys under the age of 18 make up half the population in some of the world's poorest countries, and over a third of the population of the world as a whole. They are some of the most vulnerable people requiring protection in the face of environmental risks, in particular the immediate and long-term impacts of climate change and disasters. Their children will inherit the world we leave behind.

Through our education, disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation programmes, we have seen children advancing the principles of sustainability in school, at social clubs, and at home – effecting real change in their communities, and their countries, right up to the global level.

Education for sustainable development (ESD), as part of the formal curriculum as well as informal education activities, ensures that children are well informed about environmental degradation and environmental risks. With this knowledge and suitable encouragement young people are able to contribute fully to policymaking and action to address environment and development issues. ESD should be a central part of a strategy for sustainable development for the 21st century.

In order to secure a sustainable future for the world:

- Education and awareness for sustainable development must be prioritised in planning and implementation for sustainable development.

Education and awareness raising are the foundation of sustainability, safety and resilience-building in development. Through formal and informal education activities, children can raise one another's awareness and that of their duty-bearers: parents, teachers, community leaders, local governments. The principles and options for sustainable development will then be understood, supported and acted upon.

- The active involvement of children and young people in planning, decision-making and implementation of sustainable development activities must be encouraged and supported, financially and technically, by national governments and the international system.

Girls and boys of all ages must be given equitable access to information and opportunities to meaningfully take part in ensuring sustainability in their futures, and for their children. Their unique insight and contribution are crucial, from the local level to the international; and their role as implementers of sustainable development activities is pivotal to the success of those activities.

### It's already happening

Stepping up to the challenge, in 2011 around 2000 children from Africa, Asia and Latin America took part in two global consultations calling for the increased involvement of communities, in particular children, in decision making and action to identify and reduce environmental risks. One of these culminated in the production of the Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction which has been translated into multiple languages and dialects and has been signed up to by more than 200 representatives from civil society and 26 governments to date.

In the Philippines, children made short films to successfully lobby their local government to ban chromite mining, which was poisoning a river and exacerbating floods. In Bihar, India, children across 50 villages played a major role in community risk mapping and leading village taskforces for flood risk reduction, including developing community plans for child protection in emergencies. Child-centred education training builds the skills of local governments to engage with children and introduces teachers to new participatory teaching methods, including for risk reduction lessons. In Laos, children themselves have reported higher school attendance after the teachers began to use new methods in other classes.

Children and young people are increasing their knowledge and stepping up their action for sustainable, resilient development in communities across Asia, Latin America and Africa. With regular, specific and systematic support ESD can continue to generate in this vast and relatively untapped stakeholder group the knowledge, motivation and wherewithal to achieve a sustainable world for the future.

### It's already supported

Multiple international agreements and campaigns have already emphasised, acknowledged, and committed to the importance of children's role in building a sustainable future for the world. The outcome of the Rio+20 meeting should echo and advance Agenda 21: It must continue to advance education for sustainable development, and support children's meaningful participation in decision making which will affect them, and their world – and the future of both.

The outcome document from Rio+20, must put children and future generations at the heart of any new sustainable development initiatives, recognising their centrality to the creation and success of sustainability.

This submission is based upon and supported through several international agreements and campaigns, including

- UNDESA Agenda 21, chapters 3 (poverty), 24 (women), 25 (children and youth), 36 (education and awareness)

- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, articles 3 (best interests of the child), 6 (survival and development), 12 (right to participate), 28 and 29 (right to

education)

- . United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, articles 4 (commitments), 6 (education and awareness)
- . Millennium Development Goals, especially 1 (poverty), 2 (primary education), 4 (reduce child mortality), 7 (environmental sustainability)
- . Hyogo Framework for Action, especially priorities 1 (governance), 3 (knowledge and education)
- . SAARC Declaration, article III.B.4 (education, awareness and training for disaster management)
- . Incheon REMAP, article I.E. (child-centred and people-centred education for risk reduction)
- . Beijing Declaration on South-South Cooperation for Child Rights, paragraphs 15-17 (equity) and 18-20 (environment and disaster risk reduction)
- . Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction, signed up to by 200+ individuals including representatives from civil society, the UN and 26 national Governments
- . UNISDR Step Up! for Disaster Risk Reduction campaign, supported by UN Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon

Children's Charter

an action plan for disaster risk reduction

for children by children

The Children's Charter for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) has been developed through consultations with more than 600 children in 21 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Children were asked about the impacts of disasters on their lives, the networks that exist in their communities to tackle disasters and their priorities for DRR going forward.

The following abbreviated version of the charter presents five points selected based on the priorities identified by children themselves, grouped together according to the most common themes.

The aim of this charter is to raise awareness of the need for a child - centred approach to DRR and for stronger commitment from governments, donors and agencies to take appropriate steps to protect children and utilise their energy and knowledge to engage in DRR and climate change adaptation.

1.) Schools must be safe and education must not be interrupted

"I felt unhappy when I saw the school destroyed by the storm. I did not go to school because the school was destroyed. It happened at night and in the morning my friend and I went to school and found it had been destroyed."

child from Laos

2.) Child protection must be a priority before, during and after a disaster

"We do not feel protected by anyone in our community" child from Mozambique. In India, children suggested training in life - skills which they feel would "enable them to protect themselves from risks and troubles" and that they be provided special care when they are traumatised by disasters.

3.) Children have the right to participate and to access the information they need

"I am part of the Emergency Committee that has been created in the community. Our goal is to reduce the disaster risk by implementing the principles of the Community Emergency Plan." child from

Dominican Republic.

4.) Community infrastructure must be safe, and relief and reconstruction must help reduce future risk.

"Build bridges because every year children miss school in the rainy season when they have to cross gullies, rivers and water channels huge enough to drown them."

child from Lesotho

5.) Disaster Risk Reduction must reach the most vulnerable

"In my area, there were three children about - 5 years old. Once they went on the river dyke to avoid the flood water which could make them wet on the street, but they slipped and fell in the river and were drowned because they could not swim."

child from Philippines

Children's Charter Pledge

By signing up to the pledge below, you can show your support to make this important Children's Charter a reality to improve the situation for children around the world.

"I/We pledge to prioritise and include children in DRR programming. I/We will report on progress at the Global Platform in 2013."

For more information and to sign up to the Children's Charter please visit our website [www.childreninachangingclimate.org](http://www.childreninachangingclimate.org)

1.) Schools must be safe and education must not be interrupted

Education was the most commonly occurring theme and prioritised by all children during the consultations. Children want access to information and training in DRR, they want DRR and climate change to be included in the curriculum and for their schools to be safe and built on higher ground. " We want to learn about DRR through outdoor activities; you can find truth from practice" ( child from China ). They also want their learning materials to be protected and for safe play areas to be identified before a disaster so they can continue as normal a life as possible. If safe play areas are not identified before a disaster, children report that their movement is restricted and they end up either staying in their homes or playing in unsafe environments such as rubbish dumps or flood waters.

2.) Child protection must be a priority before, during and after a disaster

The consultations raised a number of child protection issues which deeply affect children's security and sense of well - being. Children want protection from harmful behaviours and practices and state that after a disaster, especially if they are forced to move away from their homes as a result, they feel insecure, at risk and unsafe. " We left our houses to come here when the floods happened. We live in tents; we do not feel safe here" ( child from Mozambique ). Children also report increased child

- trafficking, child labour and dropping out of school as a result of disasters. Clearly, children's psycho

- social well

- being as well as their physical security is being routinely affected by disasters, and the 'normal channels' are insufficient to protect children.

3.) Children have the right to participate and to access the information they need

Children are ready and willing to participate in measures to tackle disaster risks and climate change – they want to help disseminate key messages and protect their communities as well as themselves.

Whilst some children acknowledge that measures are been taken to disseminate awareness and information through the radio, village gatherings and school visits, the majority of children feel completely cut off from any information regarding disasters. Children expect and are asking for help to raise their awareness and level of preparedness. Rather than children feeling that "adults do not listen to what we say" ( child from Mozambique ) children need to be given the opportunity as citizens in their own right to contribute and engage in DRR activities within their communities.

4.) Community infrastructure must be safe, and relief and reconstruction must help reduce future risk

Children are sensitive to the continual erosion of development in their communities. For instance, to enable continued access to health care and thereby to reduce illness during a disaster, children highlighted the importance of safe hospitals and health centres. They also identified the need to maintain access through improved roads and bridges as when these are damaged and not repaired, children are unable to travel safely to school and are often forced to stay at home. Children also report that in times of disaster, a range of services are cut off and reconstruction efforts are often insufficient in bringing them back to a reasonable standard. Children have a strong awareness of the need to clean up and care for the environment and the way in which unsafe and dirty environments are impacting them. Finally, they understand safeguarding livelihoods will help them remain children - "The dam water can be used for irrigation and this will help us get food and learn better." ( child from Kenya )

5.) Disaster Risk Reduction must reach the most vulnerable people

Children recognise that people are affected differently by disasters. They felt that some people are more vulnerable than others and require special attention; yet such groups are often ignored and isolated. The children identified a range of factors including disability, age, gender, social status and proximity (specifically communities living in remote locations) as determining levels of inclusion.

" To me, there is a big difference because many disabled children are not treated properly by providing them the necessary information since they are not being taken into account due to the fact of being disabled." ( child from the Philippines ). The children also felt that orphans and young children below the age of five needed particular attention. 1. The consultations were conducted: by Save the Children in Cambodia, China, Dominican Republic, East Timor, Ethiopia, India, Laos, Mozambique, Philippines and Vanuatu; by World Vision in Bangladesh, Brazil, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mexico, Nicaragua, Philippines, Tanzania and Vietnam; and by Plan in Indonesia

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## Seas At Risk

UNCSD Rio+20

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Rio de Janeiro, 4-6th June 2012

Seas At Risk

Contribution to the Rio+20 Zero Draft

Seas At Risk is a Brussels-based independent association of European environmental organisations working to protect the marine environment and restore it to health. It is concerned with the full range of marine environmental issues, but at present its resources are focussed on the promotion of climate-friendly low impact fisheries, reducing the climate impact of the shipping industry, marine litter, offshore oil & gas drilling, and a number of more general marine-related EU policy processes. Seas At Risk progresses its objectives by representing its members at international political and regulatory meetings of government and by raising awareness amongst decision makers of the importance of marine issues. In this role Seas At Risk is active in a number of international bodies including the UNFCCC, the International Maritime Organisation, the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, and the major EU institutions. It hopes to participate in Rio+20.

As an organisation with a focus on marine and oceans issues our contribution here will be restricted to these areas, although we see the perilous state of the oceans, and the failings in oceans governance as symptomatic and illustrative of the wider environmental and developmental problems that must be addressed at Rio+20.

Stopping the Collapse of Oceanic Systems A theme for Rio+20

In the past, including at previous UNCSDs, oceans conservation has tended to play second fiddle to terrestrial environmental concerns. The threats posed to the oceans have always been serious, but other issues were perhaps seen as more pressing. This we believe is now changing, and Seas At Risk agrees with UNEP's identification of the "potential collapse of oceanic systems" as a key emerging issue for Rio+20. The "perfect storm" of overfishing, habitat destruction, pollution and ocean acidification should on its own place oceans issues at the very top of the Rio+20 agenda, but add to this the significance of the green economy and governance issues to solving these problems and you have a substantial argument for making oceans a key overarching theme of the Rio+20 conference.

Under this theme, Seas At Risk believes the following issues should be addressed at Rio+20.

Overfishing & oceans governance

The protein derived from fish, crustaceans and molluscs accounts for around 15% of the animal protein intake of the human population. Seafood is an essential major world-wide protein source, yet around 50% of fish stocks are fully depleted and another 25% are either overexploited or depleted. The further collapse of key fish stocks

would have devastating effects not just on the environment but on the nutrition, development and economics of many countries around the world, including some of the most vulnerable.

More generally, the biodiversity and productivity of the world's oceans are diminishing at an increasing and alarming rate. Globally some 90% of large fish species, like sharks, tuna and swordfish, have disappeared in the last few decades. Once abundant species such as Atlantic cod and the common skate are now considered globally threatened. Many marine habitats, ranging from the species-rich rocky reefs of Europe and coral reefs of the tropics, to the fragile creatures and ecosystems found in the deep sea, have already been fundamentally altered by destructive fishing techniques and other anthropogenic activities. And international commitments to-date have resulted in only around 1.5% of the world's oceans being nominally protected as "Marine Protected Areas" and less than 0.5% having full protection as "Marine Reserves". Many observers believe that only by fully protecting a third of our oceans will marine biodiversity and fish stocks have a chance of recovery.

The deep seas are a particular concern. Recognised as regions of extreme vulnerability to human impacts, the deep seas are subject to numerous harmful practices which threaten long-term sustainability. High seas bottom trawling in particular not only directly removes vulnerable longlived species from the deep sea, but also damages sensitive habitats such as deep sea coral. Without a healthy marine environment there cannot be healthy fish stocks and without healthy fish stocks the fisheries and the communities they support have no future. In respect of overfishing and oceans governance Seas At Risk would like to see a Rio+20 agreement that includes:

1. A global plan of action to ensure that all fisheries are exploited sustainably, and in compliance with and not exceeding scientific advice.
2. An agreement to upgrade oceans governance and start a negotiating process towards a new implementing agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for the protection and conservation of high seas biodiversity and the management of human activity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. This to include provisions on monitoring, the use of environmental assessment, and implementation of the precautionary principle and ecosystem-based approach in decision-making.
3. A global mechanism for the establishment of an extensive and representative system of Marine Protected Areas in the high seas including no-take zones. A target of full protection for at least 30% of the world's seas and oceans should be set.

#### Pollution and marine litter

Seas At Risk and its members are concerned about all forms of marine pollution but believe that marine litter and plastic marine litter in particular poses a huge, growing and previously underestimated problem.

Marine debris is a widespread pollution problem with plastics making up approximately threequarters of all litter floating in the ocean. During the 25th International Coastal Clean-up in 2010 some 615,407 volunteers from 114 countries picked up nearly 4,000 tonnes of litter. Over three quarters of this debris was plastic. Scientists estimate there to be 250 billion pieces floating in the Mediterranean Sea alone. Almost all North Sea fulmars, a bird that exclusively feeds in the marine environment, are found with plastics in their stomachs. Beaches in the North East Atlantic have on average 712 pieces of plastic per 100m, and plastic bags make up around 10% of all marine litter. Huge floating oceanic "garbage patches" have been found in both the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

The marine environment has become engulfed in plastics and they are of special environmental concern as they may never completely disappear from the environment, and could persist for many hundreds if not thousands of years. Larger items will eventually break down into small plastic particles and microscopic dust, which can be consumed by filter-feeding animals such as barnacles. Toxic pollutants can be attracted onto the surface of plastic pieces so may pose a previously unrecognised threat to marine animals once ingested. Ultimately these pollutants may then be passed up the food chain to fish and to human consumers. Items of fishing litter which are also composed of plastic are also of particular concern as these are the items most likely to entangle wildlife. Marine litter affects multiple areas of the marine environment across the globe and the underlying causes are multi-dimensional, multi-sectoral and multi-geographical.

Although the problem has recently received some much needed publicity, action to solve it has been slow and so far ineffective. Both of the central themes of the Rio+20 conference – governance and the green economy - have very clear links to tackling this serious problem.

In respect of marine litter Seas At Risk would like to see a Rio+20 agreement that includes:

1. An international Action Plan and targets for tackling the rising tide of marine litter. This is necessary in itself and to compliment and encourage more bottom-up, national and regional strategies. Marine litter is an excellent example of the kind of pressing global marine issue that would benefit from enhanced international governance and stronger implementation, compliance and enforcement mechanisms. The United Nations Environment Programme upgraded to the status of a UN "specialised agency" could perform this role.
2. An international commitment to use green economic instruments to favour and incentivise the use of long life, fully biodegradable and sustainably sourced goods and packaging. Such an initiative would fit well with the green economy agenda, and would protect our oceans from the flood of disposable and single use goods that are ending up in the marine environment. It would also benefit the terrestrial environment, and have far reaching positive resource, economic and social impacts.

#### Ocean acidification & climate change

Ocean acidification, caused when CO2 dissolves in seawater, has been called the "evil twin" of climate change and while much less well known or understood, its implications for the marine environment are equally if not more profound and long-lasting.

Corals are in the frontline of rising marine pH levels but the impact will reach far beyond the reefs to associated marine life and the social and economic activities that depend on them. Impacts on shell forming organisms are also already being felt and this holds the potential to undermine whole marine ecosystems. If key elements in a food web are removed as a result of the inability of organisms to build shells then the food web itself can collapse with unimaginable consequences for the world's oceans and those that depend on them for their livelihood.

The only way to tackle ocean acidification is to reduce CO2 emissions. All sectors have to play a part in this, but Seas At Risk believes that a special responsibility lies with the marine industries whose future is so intertwined with a healthy marine environment.

In respect of ocean acidification and climate change Seas At Risk would like to see a Rio+20 agreement that includes:

1. A coordinated international push to raise awareness and understanding about the threat of ocean acidification.
2. As part of the push for a green economy, an international agreement to eliminate harmful subsidies that have the effect of keeping marine fuel prices lower than they would otherwise be. At present these work against fuel efficiencies of the shipping sector and allow harmful and fuel-intensive fishing practices that would otherwise be uneconomic.
3. An international commitment to a package of measures to reduce CO2 emissions from the shipping sector including market-based measures, incentives for renewable technical developments, and speed limits. The latter is especially important as emissions are predicted to double or triple by 2050 and speed limits are the only option available that can result in fast deep cuts in emissions.

4. A commitment to cease the search for new marine oil & gas reserves, accepting that the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions that will result are unsustainable and that drilling in deep and otherwise hazardous environments will always pose unacceptable Deep Water Horizon-style risks to the marine environment.

Seas At Risk

[www.seas-at-risk.org](http://www.seas-at-risk.org)

1st November 2011

## SEED Initiative

RIO+20 COMPILATION DOCUMENT: SEED SUBMISSION

a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document? The outcome document should:

<sup>84</sup> acknowledge the contribution of grassroots social and environmental entrepreneurs in delivering the green economy

<sup>84</sup> include commitments from governments, multilateral including financial institutions to put into place policies, incentives and programmes to facilitate strong growth of social green enterprises and to encourage 'conventional' small and micro enterprises to move towards a triple bottom line

<sup>84</sup> provide for the development of targets and indicators, including on the growth of social and environmental entrepreneurship at the local level, and an ongoing process for evaluation of progress.

b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

i) On a green economy roadmap: Such a roadmap should be developed at the international level and then mirrored in national and regional strategies and plans. It would benefit from an explicit inclusion of the role of social and environmental SMMEs, and of the different institutions that could support them.; The roadmap also needs targets, milestones and indicators; and a mechanism for reporting.

ii) On Sustainable Development Goals: Development is crucially dependent on access by the poor to affordable energy, both in rural and urban environments, and on food security through strengthening smallholder farmers, assisting them to implement sustainable agriculture and providing them with access to finance, to appropriate technology, and to markets. SMMEs have a crucial role to play in delivering both of these, and SD goals should include targets in these areas and ways of measuring progress towards the goals.

iii) On a revitalized global partnership: Governments and stakeholder institutions at the local level will need to take action to realise many elements of the green economy. However, a revitalised global partnership between the relevant bodies of the UN, governments and major groups will be needed to steer the process and monitor progress towards the various targets and goals. In particular, business should be a major player in the partnership, given that without its full participation, the green economy cannot become a reality. National business associations and institutions such as the UN Global Compact and World Business Council on Sustainable Development should reach out to local entrepreneurs to ensure their concerns are taken up.

c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);

Action will be required by all – the UN and financial institutions, governments, private sector, academia, civil society and community groups - if the green economy is to become reality. Implementation needs to be from the grassroots upwards, as well as through major policy levers downwards and needs to be coherent. Therefore actors at local, national, regional and international levels need to be integrated into the development of implementation plans.

d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

Cooperation mechanisms and partnership arrangements that would help to accelerate the transition to the green economy are needed with regard to:

i) SMMEs: In order to ensure that the contribution of SMMEs to the green economy is stimulated and measured, we propose that:

<sup>84</sup> government departments responsible for small business development become more directly involved in green economy;

<sup>84</sup> partnership arrangements with institutions doing global research on SMMEs (eg Global Entrepreneurship Monitor; OECD; etc.) take on the challenge of economic analysis of the contribution of social and environmental SMMEs;

<sup>84</sup> the experience of institutions working on the reporting of social and environmental impacts of SMMEs is reviewed with a view to developing a common framework;

<sup>84</sup> government departments work in partnership with business associations to put in place simple reporting mechanisms that could provide opportunities to SMMEs for enhancing their profiles and attracting finance; and that

<sup>84</sup> these actions be taken over the next two years.

ii) Implementation of Rio+20 agreements:

SEED was registered as a Type II partnership at WSSD. Its successes since then in stimulating and supporting start-up social and environmental entrepreneurs in developing countries have been in no small part due to the partnership between UNEP, UNDP and IUCN, and supporting governments and institutions (Germany, India, the Netherlands, Spain, South Africa, the UK and the USA, Conservation International, and Hisense). At the same time, it has championed those start-ups that have themselves started their activities in a partnership structure. This often involves two or more of a national or international NGO, a community-based organisation, a local or national government body, a company, and a research institution. Again, the use of partnership, coupled with careful partnership management, is a critical success factor for the establishment and scale up of such enterprises.

On the basis of this experience, partnerships, particularly between different types of stakeholders, should feature as one of the implementation tools for Rio+20. While the

post-WSSD partnership experience has been mixed for some, it has been an important implementation modality for SEED, and SEED would recommend that an emphasis on effectiveness of partnerships be continued in the Rio+20 document. Where possible, the output document should highlight the potential role of existing partnerships in taking forward the Rio+20 outcomes. All current and future partnership arrangements should be time bound and measurable, so that progress can be assessed and gaps in implementation more readily identified.

Partnerships need to change over time to reflect the changing circumstances and needs of any initiative. They may complete their objective and then be wound up, or it may be necessary to discontinue them because they are not working as partnerships or cannot successfully deliver their original objectives. Good discipline is needed in dealing with each of these circumstances. It should not be seen as a sign of failure to wind up a collaboration, but rather a willingness to adapt, change and find new ways to solve problems.

Specific Elements:

Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication How the green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication, and its potential added value The green economy is not just about new sectors of economic opportunity; it is also about the need (and opportunity) to build social and environmental dimensions into existing sectors and jobs. Since the global economy is driven very largely by small, micro- and medium-sized enterprises<sup>1</sup>, putting in place incentives for them to move towards a triple bottom line and introducing mechanisms to stimulate and facilitate the emergence of enterprises that integrate social, economic and environmental benefits into their business model should be a central plank of efforts to transition to the green economy. The challenge is enormous and will require efforts by all stakeholders, at all levels. But success would certainly lead to sustainable alleviation of poverty, improved community resilience, to better management of natural resources, and to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities The SEED Initiative was founded by UNEP, UNDP and IUCN at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development to further social and environmental entrepreneurship, alleviate poverty and promote the sound management of natural resources; it is hosted by UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Centre.

Through the SEED Awards scheme, SEED has since 2005 assisted over 70 innovative local social and environmental entrepreneurs working in partnership in developing countries to establish and scale-up. The Winners have been rewarded with a package of tailored capacity building, networking and profiling nationally and internationally.

Information from over 1000 applicants and Winners has been included in a series of studies to reveal the barriers and enabling factors. The main findings of the baseline<sup>2</sup> were that small social and environmental enterprises:

- <sup>14</sup> have social targets relating to job and revenue creation in communities to alleviate poverty
- <sup>15</sup> focus on strengthening the social structure and resilience of communities
- <sup>16</sup> invest a significant amount into training in local communities and that they need assistance with:
  - <sup>17</sup> skills to adopt more business-oriented approaches for managing and financing their work
  - <sup>18</sup> access to technology
  - <sup>19</sup> partnership management
  - <sup>20</sup> setting measurable social, environmental and business targets, and monitoring and evaluation against those targets.

SEED hosted a high level Symposium on the Green Economy: Accelerating the Transition, in South Africa in April 2011, addressed by the Deputy Minister for Economic Development and attended by a wide range of stakeholders from government, the private sector, academia, and local entrepreneurs and communities. The aim was to explore linkages between policy frameworks and local entrepreneurs. Relevant findings<sup>3</sup> were:

- <sup>21</sup> Partnerships across institutions, sectors and states are essential to achieve the necessary policy coherence and implementation on the ground. In most countries, there is a need to strengthen capacity for policy development at the environment and economy nexus both within and between states and institutions. Policy coherence at the national level is an important enabling factor for the success of local enterprises.
- <sup>22</sup> The green economy should be people-centred, aimed at poverty alleviation and with a pro poor approach, supported by research and aid coordination. Indicators for the green economy should be sensitive to measuring pro poor outcomes.
- <sup>23</sup> Innovative approaches and incentives are needed to build capacities that meet the immediate needs of green economy entrepreneurs.
- <sup>24</sup> Innovation and investment are essential components for moving to the green economy. Research into new processes, the development of intellectual property and the use of IP as an asset to attract investment need to be part of the enabling policy environment. The value chain of research, IP development, entrepreneurship and investment is essential for the implementation of the green economy.
- <sup>25</sup> The green economy can and should have its roots at the local level, in small, micro and medium-sized socio-environmental enterprises. Governments play a central role in setting policy, creating skills development programmes, supporting research, addressing policy coherence and building institutional relationships. Added to this is their responsibility for policies, regulations and programmes for support to the SMME sector so that social and environmental enterprises can thrive and build the green economy from the ground up.


Together these reports provide evidence of the urgent need for access to technologies, skills development and training opportunities for both entrepreneurs and local communities. Without these, there will not be the capacities on the ground to absorb the financial flows and the transition to a Green Economy will not take place as rapidly as it might. While there is no shortage of good and innovative ideas, translating and consolidating these into solutions and opportunities at the local level requires solid financial and business skills and discipline which are often in short supply. Without these, there will not be the capacity at local level effectively to absorb monetary flows from investments in the green economy. At the same time, direct action to provide incentives to drive the green economy at the local level is an imperative.


Possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

The range of sectors contained within the green economy and of stakeholders who need to be involved in its implementation in order to deliver poverty alleviation and the sound management of natural resources demands action at all levels. Building on the points made above, the outcome document should spell out that governments and other stakeholders need to:

- <sup>26</sup> introduce financial assistance and incentives, enabling and coherent regulatory frameworks, access to technology, and related capacity building measures, into national strategies and plans to secure the rapid growth of social and environmental small, micro and medium-sized enterprises that will drive the green economy from the ground up.



 develop indicators and reporting mechanisms for SMEs to demonstrate pro-poor and environmentally beneficial outcomes as a result of their activities

 stimulate and support green social innovation particularly in sustainable agriculture, access to low-carbon energy and climate change adaptation and mitigation at the local level, including through entrepreneurship and capacity building, in order to address local problems and poverty and build economic and social resilience. Institutions which work across local, national and international levels can play a major role in bringing this about.

SEED Secretariat

October 2011

## Ship and Ocean Foundation

Proposal for Rio+20

Ocean Policy Research Foundation

<Proposal background>

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), adopted in 1982, came into effect in 1994; and in 1992, at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the Sustainable Development Principle and the Plan of Action Agenda 21 necessary for its implementation was adopted. These made clear an international policy framework for comprehensive management and sustainable development of the ocean, which covers 70% of the earth's surface. Also, at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), UNCLOS and Chapter 17 of Agenda 21 were recognized as fundamental documents concerning the ocean, and concrete goals and time schedules for their related measures were agreed upon. It is a fact that over the past 20 years many places around the world have added to this momentum and made great progress in environmental protection and conservation of the ocean and coastal zones and in sustainable development. UNCED and WSSD, along with the coming into effect of UNCLOS, have thus had tremendous impacts. However, there are many problems that remain unsolved concerning the ocean, existing problems that have worsened over time, and unexpected ones that continue to arise. In order for international society to formulate appropriate responses to the problems of comprehensive ocean management and sustainable development, including issues concerning jurisdictional water delimitation, conservation of the marine environment, appropriate fisheries management, securing of maritime transport safety, and adaptation to global warming, each country must address the closely interrelated problems of the ocean and of maritime affairs, and, under the auspices of UNCLOS and Agenda 21, respond to them in a comprehensive fashion.

The Ocean Policy Research Foundation is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with ECOSOC and makes "Promoting Co-existence between Man and the Ocean" its guiding philosophy. Thus, recognizing the importance of sustainable development and comprehensive management of the ocean, as put forth by UNCLOS and Agenda 21, it has adopted an integrated approach in carrying out surveys, research, and implementation on a variety of ocean problems facing mankind. Of the seven programme areas in Chapter 17 of Agenda 21, we have placed special emphasis on "Integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas, including exclusive economic zones," "Marine environmental protection," "Strengthening international, including regional cooperation and coordination," and "Sustainable development of small islands," carrying out a variety of activities in our capacity as an NGO. We view Rio+20 as an extremely important conference for discussing an Action Plan for the next ten years. Thus, we call for "comprehensive ocean management" and "sustainable ocean development" to be considered main pillars of the Agenda and included in concrete terms in the Programme of Action. To this end, we offer the following proposal:

<Proposal 1>

In order to secure the survival of the human race in the face of an ever-expanding population, it is indispensable that the ocean and coastal zones are effectively developed and used while conserving them under the concepts of comprehensive ocean management and sustainable ocean development. As humanity sets its Programme of Action for the next ten years, we must remain keenly aware that "the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole," as stated in the foreword to UNCLOS. To achieve this, OPRF would like to express its strong desire that an independent chapter be devoted to the Ocean Agenda, ensuring that the importance of the oceans are clearly understood by international society. If a separate chapter is not possible, we strongly call for the Ocean Agenda to be presented in such a way as to be clearly understood in its entirety by governments and the general public.

<Proposal 2>

We propose that the Ocean Agenda referred to above include the following five measures:

1) promotion of comprehensive ocean policy 2) management of islands and their surrounding ocean areas 3) sustainable development of maritime industries 4) education of the public and 5) responses to marine disasters. The measures are discussed in detail below:

1) Promotion of Comprehensive Ocean Policy

Comprehensive management of the vast ocean that covers 70% of the planet requires that all countries share in a common legal and international framework. Each country needs therefore to establish an ocean policy system at the national level, coordinate its basic legal framework on the ocean, and make changes in its administrative organization necessary to implement ocean policy (e.g., a government-wide coordinating body and/or designation of a lead agency), thus allowing a comprehensive approach to ocean problems. We believe such a comprehensive approach to be extremely effective, as can be seen in the experience of those countries that have already made much progress in these initiatives; unfortunately, however, it is still not yet the universal practice. In Japan, a framework for comprehensively addressing ocean problems was created in 2007 with the passing of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy, which set out the basic philosophy, 12 basic measures requiring comprehensive initiatives, and the creation of an organization to comprehensively promote ocean policy. In order to manage the world's oceans both comprehensively and appropriately, we believe it necessary that in future each country establish at the national level such a system for implementing comprehensive ocean policy. To accomplish this, the sharing of knowledge and experience concerning each country's ocean policy is needed, along with the promoting of technological cooperation for developing countries as they set out to adopt comprehensive ocean policies.

→Specific Elements: c. Institutional framework for sustainable development

2) Management of Islands and Their Surrounding Ocean Areas

Today, islands are faced with various conservation and management challenges due to local environmental problems, global climate change and variability, and concerns about the submersion of islands caused by sea level rise. In order to respond to the various issues in the three areas of 1) Conservation and Management of Islands 2) Management of the Surrounding Ocean Areas and 3) Response to Climate Change and Variability, there is a need to acknowledge islands and their surrounding ocean areas as unified areas and implement sustainable development of island societies, as they carry out appropriate development, exploitation and conservation of the ocean through

cooperation and collaboration between island States and the international community. In other words, regarding the Conservation and Management of Islands, there is a need to promote measures for developing island management strategies, improving the security and resilience of island societies, implementing waste management strategies, and developing renewable energy. For Management of the Surrounding Ocean Areas, there is a need to promote the establishment of baselines and maritime limits, implementation of practical fisheries management policy, the maintenance and securing of shipping services, exploitation of marine minerals in accordance with preservation of the ocean environment, and conservation and sustainable use of the marine environment and marine biodiversity. As for responses by island societies to Climate Change and Variability, adaptive measures must be promoted and relevant international law issues discussed.

Island States are being called upon to develop and adopt integrated policies and plans for oceans, coasts, and islands based on their respective social and cultural backgrounds, and then establish implementing institutions and organizations to address these issues. International society also has a responsibility to support the development and adoption of the policies and plans that result from island States' initiatives. (For more details, see the policy proposal "For the Better Conservation and Management of Islands and Their Surrounding Ocean Areas" in Appendix 1)

→Specific Elements: d. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes

### 3) Sustainable Development of Maritime Industries

For the sustainable growth and development of the global economy, increased economic activity among countries, including developing States, is indispensable. Maritime industries center on maritime transport, which provides the fundamental infrastructure for these trading activities and is thus an important industry that must continue to develop. At the same time, increases in maritime transport will require more ships, resulting in congested seaways and greater risk to the global environment. Maritime industries must therefore rapidly transform themselves to become clean industries of low-carbon and reduced environmental impact, though to do so new technologies and international guidelines will have to be developed through coordination and cooperation among international organizations, national governments, businesses, and research institutes. While regulations for emissions from ships, better training for seafarers, and other concrete initiatives are already underway, an industry-wide carbon footprint reduction initiative that takes into consideration the acceptable use of energy and emissions is urgently needed. Thought should be given to applying these initiatives to government ships as well as to commercial ones.

Also, from the standpoint of security, international society must stand firm in its response to the recent frequent occurrences of piracy and armed robbery, but there is also a need to create an anti-piracy and judicial framework to eliminate these threats. When doing so, there is also a need for clear guidelines on issues where States may have differing opinions, such as regarding what obligations foreign vessels, including government ships, have when operating in ocean areas under the sovereign and jurisdictional right of another State and what rules are necessary in these areas. (For more details, see the policy proposal "Guidelines for Navigation and Overflight in the Exclusive Economic Zone" in Appendix 2)

→Specific Elements: d. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes

### 4) Education of the Public

Effective response to the closely interrelated problems of the ocean requires action not only at the national and governmental levels but by all the citizens of a State, thus making the increase of understanding and knowledge on the part of each citizen a necessity.

As put forth in Agenda 21, Chapter 36, education of the general public should be carried out both formally and informally, though formal schooling is potentially a highly effective means of impressing upon tomorrow's leaders the importance of the ocean. This need to expand ocean education in formal curriculums should thus be recognized and promoted in each country's ocean policy. However, care must be taken that implementation of this integration of ocean education into each country's educational system proceed in harmony with existing educational policies, and its expansion calls for cross-sectional coordination within relevant ministries and agencies. In Japan, as Article 28 of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy advocates the "Enhancement of Citizens' Understanding of the Oceans" and the Basic Plan on Ocean Policy includes measures on the "Enhancement of Citizen's Understanding of the Sea and Fostering of Human Resources," these goals now have a firm place in Japan's ocean policy. To implement them however, requires coordination with the education administration, which is now underway in cooperative efforts among universities, research institutes, industry, NGOs, and the private sector.

Also, as ocean problems imply a variety of subject matter to be addressed by many disciplines, an interdisciplinary approach to ocean education must be developed that is not limited to the natural sciences but includes the humanities and social sciences, and promotes research from an educational perspective. Towards that end, there is an urgent need to create a platform on which countries can share their advanced educational practices and knowledge.

→Specific Elements: d. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes

### 5) Responses to Marine Disasters

Upon the recent Great Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami, tremendous damage was incurred due to the tsunami, in spite of all past efforts invested in scientific research and disaster preparedness. We would like here to sincerely thank the many people around the world for their generous support for the relief efforts. By way of gratitude, we would also like to share with the international community what we have learned from our experience, in the hopes that such damage might be reduced in future. As population density is high along the coasts and a great variety of human activities takes place there, and as the coastal zone and ocean areas are home to complex yet delicate ecosystems, when a natural disaster occurs it can have enormous effects on the society, economy, and environment of the area.

Although Agenda 21 and the WSSD Plan of Implementation confirmed the need for systematic natural disaster precautions in order to fully realize sustainable development, in many areas such as coastal zones and ocean areas that would most benefit from systematic disaster prevention its implementation is still insufficient. We should follow the wisdom of science in adopting precaution as a pre-condition and, with the ocean in mind, reconsider disaster prevention systems to increase the resilience of coastal countries in the face of natural disasters.

From our recent experience, Japan learned that even if severe damage is incurred the utmost priority must be given to preventing the loss of human life, and that a combination of "hard" and "soft" measures for "disaster reduction" is necessary. We are now setting policies for comprehensive town reconstruction plans oriented to "disaster reduction," such as relocation of towns to higher ground or more effective evacuation routes and facilities if relocation is not feasible. It is also necessary to create early tsunami detection, prediction, and warning systems and view activities on land and ocean areas as an interdependent continuum in planning for town reconstruction. Along with these, we propose the sharing and examination, within international frameworks, of the knowledge on tsunamis accumulated by individual countries and international society at large for creation, improvement and expansion of disaster action plans and guidelines.

→Specific Elements: d. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes

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## Sobrevivencia and Global Forest Coalition (GFC)

about the Diversion of Existing Forest Conservation and Development Funding to REDD+

We the undersigned NGOs and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs) want to express our profound concern about the way funds for forest conservation and restoration, and poverty eradication, are being misdirected toward REDD+ projects and policy processes (ostensibly to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and to enhance forest carbon stocks). Our organizations are working to halt the continued loss of the world's forests, and to address the impacts this forest loss has on the rights and needs of forest-dependent peoples and on the climate. As such, it is our considered opinion that REDD+ as a mechanism suffers from a large number of inherent risks and problems which cannot be remedied

1) REDD+-type projects are already having severe negative impacts on the environment and on economically and politically marginalized groups in society, particularly Indigenous Peoples, small farmers, other forest dependent communities, and women.<sup>1</sup> Most of the world's remaining forests are found in areas that are relatively unattractive for industrial agriculture, cattle ranching or other land uses and are inhabited by Indigenous Peoples, small peasant communities and other groups. Many of these groups have insecure title over their land, yet due to their social, economic and cultural circumstances, the resources found in forests play a major role in sustaining their livelihoods. A sudden increase in the economic value of forest land due to the introduction of performance payments for forest conservation will definitely lead to an increased risk of conflict over land between these communities and more economically and politically influential groups that see an opportunity to profit from these payments. For this reason, increased conflicts over land, elite resource capture, forced displacements, involuntary resettlements and human rights violations are inherent outcomes to REDD+ as a forest conservation approach.

2) Performance-based payments for forest carbon storage address only one presumed driver of forest loss: the lack of proper economic valuation of the role of forest carbon storage in overall carbon sequestration. This approach fails to address other direct and indirect drivers of forest loss. Such drivers include lack of recognition of the land rights of Indigenous Peoples and the rights and role of customary caretakers of forest areas; overconsumption of and trade in forest products and products that directly or indirectly impact on forests; and perverse incentives such as subsidies for export crops and monoculture tree plantations. Other important drivers that are ignored by REDD+ include mineral, oil, gas or coal exploration and extraction activities, shrimp farming and large-scale infrastructure projects such as hydroelectric dams, as well as incoherent government policies in general.

3) Performance-based payments for forest carbon will by definition lead to a situation where one value of forests dominates forest policy decision-making, thus undermining what the Executive Director of the UN Forum on Forests has called a "360 degree" approach to forests, an approach in which all functions and values of forests are taken into account in a balanced manner. This deficiency will not only lead to a marginalization of the social and cultural values of forests in forest policy-making, but also to a marginalization of biodiversity values. Already, there has been a strong tendency in forest carbon offset projects to support growing monoculture plantations of rapidly growing tree species, despite their negative impacts on biodiversity.<sup>3</sup> This problem is exacerbated by the flawed forest definition that has been used by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) process, which includes monoculture tree plantations as well as "temporarily unstocked areas", and allows the use of Genetically Engineered (GE) trees.

4) Forest carbon cannot be equated to carbon stored in fossil fuel deposits. There will always be a high risk of non-permanence in forest carbon offset projects, yet it is broadly recognized that no satisfactory solutions for this problem have been developed.

In fact, this problem cannot be resolved as non-permanence is an inherent feature of forest or tree plantation carbon.

5) Another inherent problem with REDD+ is that performance-based payments will require a significant investment in monitoring,

verification and reporting (MRV) systems that can claim to ensure that the forest carbon benefits of a certain initiative are real and additional. Such MRV systems could take up more than half of the overall budget of REDD+ initiatives. As a group of international market specialists have noted:

"Assuming that forest carbon requires a quantification process similar to the one used today, there is no reason to expect that the market for REDD forest carbon will behave any differently. The expertise, travel requirements and operational scale required to follow IPCC-like standards almost certainly requires a multinational organization, one that is well-capitalized and capable of managing many clients at once. Will these organizations be numerous? Unlikely. Will they be domiciled in developing countries? It seems improbable. These skills and scale will cost money to deploy, and that – far more than avarice or inefficiency – explains why REDD projects are likely to spend so much on MRV... Forest carbon is likely to behave as any commodities market would, which implies that producers will derive only marginal benefits from the market as a whole. Moreover, the unique logistical challenges posed by counting carbon to IPCC-like standards imply a very limited population of providers willing to do this for projects."

This is an unacceptable waste of money in times when resources are scarce and funding for REDD+ is likely to come from the same sources that could also finance other sorely needed real climate change mitigation and adaptation initiatives.

Moreover, these costs make it impossible for economically marginalized groups including Indigenous Peoples, forest dependent communities and women, as well as poor countries, to participate in an equitable manner in REDD+ projects.

6) All these problems will be exacerbated if, as is virtually certain, REDD+ is financed through carbon offset markets. This is the funding option supported by many influential countries and other major stakeholders including the World Bank; even those REDD+ initiatives currently being supported through philanthropy and public monies are generally designed to help jump-start forest carbon markets.<sup>6</sup> In addition to undermining forest conservation, such markets can only make climate change worse, due to irresolvable problems relating to permanence, additionality and leakage, while continuing pollution in the North and creating toxic hotspots in vulnerable community areas already disproportionately impacted by toxic exposures and environmental injustices.

7) REDD+ is inherently about commodifying and privatizing air, forests, trees and land. This approach runs counter to the cultural and traditional value systems of many Indigenous Peoples and other forest-dependent communities.<sup>7</sup> There is a severe risk the market-oriented approach inherent to REDD+ will undermine value systems that are an essential element of successful community-driven conservation of forest areas, and Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge and conservation practices. In numerous places in the world, REDD+ projects and policies are being implemented in violation of the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). In Ecuador, the government continues to develop a REDD+ program despite the fact that the most representative organization of Indigenous Peoples, the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador, (CONAIE), has explicitly rejected REDD+ policies in the country.<sup>8</sup> As Kenya's Mau Forest is made "ready" for a UNEP-funded REDD+ project, members of the Ogiek People continue to suffer evictions, and Ogiek activists are attacked for protesting land grabs.<sup>9</sup> In Indonesia, the Mantir Adat (traditional authorities) of Kadamangan Mantangai, district of Kapuas in the province of Central Kalimantan, "reject REDD projects because it is a threat to the rights and the livelihoods of the Dayak community in the REDD project area", and have called for the cancellation of a project that has "violated our rights and threatened the basis of survival for the Dayak community."<sup>10</sup> Many companies and organizations which have historically caused pollution and deforestation are promoting REDD+ as a profitable opportunity to "offset" their ongoing pillaging of the planet, including the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, Dow, Rio Tinto, Shell, Statoil, BP Amoco, American Electric Power- AEP, BHB Billiton and the International Tropical Timber Organization.

In Brazil, Chevron-Texaco, infamous for causing significant forest loss in the Ecuadorian Amazon and threatening Indigenous Peoples in voluntary isolation, which might lead to genocide, backs a REDD+ project in the Atlantic Forest which uses uniformed armed guards called Força Verde who shoot at people and jail them if they go into the forest.<sup>11</sup> In Bolivia, BP, whose oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico was the biggest environmental disaster in the history of the United States, participates in the biggest REDD+-type project in the world, which helps it to greenwash its destruction of biodiversity and communities' livelihoods.<sup>12</sup> As noted in the New York Times, "...programs to pay for forest preservation could merely serve as a cash cow for the very people who are destroying them."<sup>13</sup> In Papua New Guinea, Colombia, Peru and elsewhere, "carbon cowboys" are running amok, conning communities into signing away their land rights with fake contracts.<sup>14</sup> In the words of one Indigenous leader, REDD+ may be "the biggest land grab of all time" REDD+ is inherently about commodifying and privatizing air, forests, trees and land and corrupts everything that Indigenous Peoples hold sacred, including their traditional knowledge systems.<sup>15</sup> Where REDD+ projects target the territories of Indigenous Peoples living in voluntary isolation, as in the Peruvian Amazon or the Paraguayan Chaco, they might even threaten the very survival of these Peoples.<sup>16</sup> These risks and problems have been recognized by a large number of UN organizations and other international institutions, as well as by the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change themselves.<sup>17</sup> The so-called "safeguards" adopted by a majority of Parties to the UNFCCC show that they are already concerned about the potential negative environmental and social impacts of REDD+. However, these REDD+ "safeguards" will not save forests from being converted into plantations, or Indigenous Peoples' rights from being violated in REDD+ projects. Nor can they prevent the damage that REDD+ carbon offsets would do to genuine efforts to address climate change. Voluntary, weak and relegated to an annex, they are unsupported by any consensus to make them legally binding, let alone establish a compliance and redress mechanism. In the past, such voluntary safeguards schemes have usually proven to be ineffective, many even serving as greenwash for corporate malpractice. For that reason, many institutions have emphasized that all land tenure conflicts have to be resolved and that rights of Indigenous Peoples, local communities and women have to be secured, before REDD+ projects and policies are implemented.<sup>18</sup> However, this is not a realistic proposition. We strongly support any policy efforts to address land tenure conflicts and human rights violations, especially as far as the rights of Indigenous Peoples are concerned. But land tenure problems and human rights violations in forest areas are far too complicated to be fully resolved in a foreseeable timeframe, and REDD+ will not help. On the contrary, as stated above, the promise of potential performance-based payments would make it more instead of less difficult to resolve these issues, and would tend to weaken instead of strengthen communities' struggles for their rights.

Considering this long list of broadly acknowledged and inherent risks and negative impacts of REDD+, it is remarkable that an estimated \$7.7 billion US has already been committed to it by donor countries.<sup>19</sup> Still more remarkable is the fact that foundations formerly renowned for supporting human rights and justice work are adding millions of dollars to projects and initiatives that promote REDD+.<sup>20</sup> Meanwhile, there is a financial stranglehold on the often small and independent civil society and Indigenous Peoples organizations that denounce the growing list of human rights violations and environmental destruction caused by REDD+-type projects.

Unintentionally or not, this extreme, unjust funding disparity constitutes a form of de facto financial censorship, and this means that the right to Free, Prior, Informed Consent of the custodians of the majority of the world's forests, Indigenous Peoples, is being compromised.

If there is almost no funding to support detection, documentation and rejection of the negative social and environmental impacts of REDD+ projects, to say nothing of reasoned criticism of its underlying premises, it will be impossible to expose and disseminate all of the crucial information that remote communities need in order to make decisions about REDD+, and any consent they grant will not be thoroughly and fully "informed". It must be noted that REDD+ and its relationship to the world of carbon markets and offset regimes is a very complex area that many NGOs involved in climate policy do not fully understand. In this respect it should be taken into account that Indigenous Peoples' fundamental right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent is a pillar of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This right is also recognized in the REDD+ safeguards adopted by the majority of Parties to the Climate Convention, and by UN-REDD and other donors. Funding the painting of a rosy REDD+ picture in which communities get paid to take care of forests and share in the costs-benefits of REDD+ programs without showing the darker realities in the background is at best negligent and at worst implicates funders in a severe violation of one of the most important rights of Indigenous Peoples. This letter is intended both as a wakeup call to funders and an invitation to bridge this funding gap.

In this respect it is also important to ensure that community capacity-building and awareness-raising projects provide fair and unbiased information about the quite desolate state of the climate negotiations, and the unwillingness of large Northern polluters to agree to legally binding targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions or financial support for needed climate measures. In the eyes of many social movements, REDD+ is a paltry fig leaf in this respect. The \$100 billion US that was mentioned as possible climate finance in Copenhagen has not been concretized yet, and it is increasingly clear that some of the most important donor countries expect the bulk of this funding to come from carbon markets.<sup>21</sup> Already, carbon markets have proven to be a highly volatile and inequitable source of funding, and the current lack of political momentum for a legally binding successor to the Kyoto Protocol will only create more market uncertainty. It is important this information is shared with communities and Indigenous Peoples when they are informed about the "opportunities" of REDD+.

Although protecting forests is a critical piece of the climate mitigation puzzle, a market-oriented and corporate-driven system of performance-based payments comes with inherent risks that are both overwhelming and unavoidable. The irony is that at the same time REDD+ is being so aggressively promoted, there are numerous examples of Indigenous Peoples' territories and areas where forests have been conserved or restored successfully by communities without performance-based payments based on individual land titles and questionable carbon rights. Examples from countries like India, Gambia, Nepal, Brazil and Rwanda have demonstrated that recognizing community governance over forests and Indigenous Peoples' rights over their territories provides more effective and ethically sound incentives for forest conservation and restoration, while the Ecuadorian proposal to keep fossil fuels in the ground shows the way toward a more realistic approach to mitigating climate change. In addition to such direct approaches to the fossil fuel problem, it is essential to assure the necessary space for the empowerment of communities that have successfully conserved their forests, and to address the direct and underlying drivers of deforestation such as over-consumption and over-production for and by industrialized societies.

In conclusion, we believe that REDD+ is a fundamentally flawed symptom of a deeper problem, not a step forward. It is a distraction that the planet – our Mother Earth - does not have time for. We should build on the many existing examples of successful forest conservation and restoration rather than investing billions of dollars in an untested, uncertain and questionable REDD+ scheme that is likely to undermine the environmental and social goals of the climate regime rather than support them.

Addressing climate change and forest loss require measures that contribute to thorough economic, ecological and social transformation.

To present all sides of the REDD+ story as part of a larger effort to build the diverse and powerful global alliances that can support the transformation that our planet and peoples need, will require the full support of the charity, gift-giving and philanthropy community.

We're up for the task.

Are you?

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## Social Watch

Social Watch

October 31, 2011

Social Watch submission to the Rio 2012 Zero Draft Document

About Social Watch

Social Watch is an international network of citizens' organizations in the struggle to eradicate poverty and the causes of poverty, to end all forms of discrimination and racism, to ensure an equitable distribution of wealth and the realization of human rights. We are committed to peace, social, economic, environment and gender justice, and we emphasize the right of all people not to be poor.

The members of Social Watch, citizen coalitions in over 70 countries, hold governments, the UN system and international organizations accountable for the fulfillment of national, regional and international commitments to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development. The international secretariat of Social Watch is hosted by Instituto del Tercer Mundo (ITeM, an ONG in special consultative status with ECOSOC).

Economy, poverty and sustainable development

General Assembly Resolution 64/236 instructs the Rio 2012 Conference to discuss the economy "in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication". By monitoring antipoverty efforts and development strategies at national and international level, Social Watch has found that economic indicators and social well being indicators do not correlate and it is therefore urgent to revise economic strategies to achieve the internationally agreed goals and make the enjoyment of human rights a reality for all. Further, in spite of the recommendations formulated in 1992 by the Rio Summit to develop sustainable development indicators and all the work done in this area since then, the international community still lacks agreed indicators to measure the sustainability of the global public goods under its surveillance. Global public goods cannot be provided by any single state acting alone, and they include the preservation of the life supporting functions of the atmosphere and the oceans (threatened by global climate change) or the reliability and stability of a global financial system, indispensable for trade and development but threatened by unhindered speculation, currency volatility and debt crises. The failure to provide those public goods impacts the livelihoods of billions of people around the world and threatens the one public good that inspired the creation of the United Nations: global peace.

The evolution of key economic indicators has been extraordinary in the last two decades. The total world exports multiplied almost five times, growing from a total value of 781 billion dollars in 1990 to 3.7 trillion in 2010. Trade is indispensable for growth and development. There are even many programs of aid for trade. And trade has gone up and up.

Per capita GDP has been used for many years as the main indicator of development and countries are still ranked according to it by international organizations. Between 1990 and 2010 the average person in the world more than doubled her or his income from a little over four thousand dollars in 1990 to over nine thousand dollars per capita in 2010.

These indicators hint to an abundance of resources, which are far enough to guarantee that nobody should suffer from hunger in the world.

Yet, there is a dire reality of poverty and hunger in the world. To monitor deprivation without resorting to income related indicators, Social Watch has developed a Basic Capabilities Index, which is an average of infant mortality, births attended by specialized personnel and primary education. All these three are very basic indicators and they should have gone up to one hundred percent, meaning that no children should be out of school, no women should deliver their babies without assistance and no kids born alive, or at least less than one percent of them, should die before their fifth anniversary, when the major cause of those deaths is associated with malnutrition and poverty.

All these three indicators are part of the internationally agreed goals and of any concept of a social floor and of dignity. Dignity for all is what the UN Charter and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights want to achieve and what the leaders of the world committed themselves to achieve in the Millennium Declaration.

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

But the world is far from achieving these basic targets. BCI only moved up 7 points between 1990 and 2010, which is very little progress. And the progress was actually of over four percentage points between 1990 and 2000 and of barely three percentage points between 2000 and 2010. This is the opposite trend of the lines for trade and income, both of which grew faster after the year 2000 than in the decade before. But the social indicators progressed slower after the turn of the century, in spite of the excellent performance of the economy and in spite of the international commitment to accelerate social progress and achieve the MDGs.

Growing inequalities within and between countries is the obvious reason for that divergence of trends between the economy and social indicators. And the social indicators can only get worse as the impact of the global financial crisis started in Wall Street in 2008 start to be registered by internationally comparable statistics, a process that always lacks two to three years behind the processing of the economic indicators.

The hard numbers prove that prosperity does not trickle down. It used to be common sense that a growing economy benefits the poor, that a rising tide will lift all boats, big or small, or that the pie has to grow first before we can share it, but the indicators of social progress seem to show the opposite.

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

The graph above combines the BCI average of social indicators with per capita CO2 emissions. This graph2 shows that while 50 percent of carbon emissions are generated by 13 percent of the population, 45 countries with a total population of 1.2 billion people have managed to achieve social indicators that are better than the world average with per capita emissions of CO2 from fossil fuels below the world average. And none of them are labeled as "high income". Yet, the members of that group of the "clean and virtuous" have no recognition or compensation for their achievement. Quite to the contrary, similar to other middle-income countries and those considered as "least developed", they often find their space for making domestic policy choices to achieve sustainable development squeezed by external demands, conditionalities and impositions that press them to take steps such as to slash tax rates and spending on social services.

The fact remains that there are countries that have lowered their infant mortality to levels similar to those of the US with one tenth of the per capita CO2 emissions of North America demonstrates that a better quality of life is achievable without requiring consumption and production patterns that destroy the environment.

Between 1990 and 2000, the BCI (social indicators index) improved five points (from 79 to 84), while the world per capita emissions of carbon dioxide actually decreased from 4.3 tons to 4.1. But in the first decade of the 21st century, world CO2 emissions moved up to 4.6 tons per capita and social indicators only moved up three points. Although the economic boom of the first decade of the century failed to boost social indicators, it did accelerate environmental destruction.

At the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, the leaders of the world stated that "the major cause of the continued deterioration of the global environment is the unsustainable pattern of consumption and production, particularly in industrialized countries (...) aggravating poverty and imbalances". This is still true today.

Sustainable development goals

The 1992 Rio Summit demanded further work on the definition of indicators of sustainable development which would be the basis both for defining the concept and establishing common international goals. Two decades after, this is one of the areas where not enough progress has been done. The report of the Stiglitz-Sen-Fitoussi Commission clearly suggests that well-being indicators and sustainability indicators are of a different nature and compares them with the dashboard of a car, with separate displays for speed and remaining gas. One informs about the time needed to achieve a destination, the other one refers to a required resource that is being consumed and may reach a limit before the destination is reached.

The human rights framework sets clear goals for well-being indicators. The rights to food, to health, to education impose the mandate to achieve universal attendance of all girls and boys to education, the reduction of infant mortality to less than 10 per thousand children born alive (since all mortality above this figure is related to malnutrition and poverty), the universal attendance of all births by specialized personnel, the universal access to safe water and sanitation and even the universal access to phone and internet services.<sup>3</sup> Basically all of the six first goals of the MDGs can be read as a request to fulfill existing rights in accordance with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Plus other goals not listed in the MDGs, such as the right to social security (article 22 of the Universal Declaration), now recognized as the basis for a "social floor".

The national and international debate should not be about those goals, as they have already been agreed upon, but over when they will be progressively achieved. The realization of those rights is a responsibility of governments "individually and through international assistance and co-operation, especially economic and technical, to the maximum of available resources," according to the Covenant on ESCR. The prioritization of resources also applies to international assistance. In order to monitor the effective use of the maximum available resources (including those of international cooperation) the Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council should be strengthened to perform this task. Further, the Optional Protocol to the Covenant on ESCR should be ratified, so as to allow citizens to claim their rights in court, and the bilateral and multilateral development agencies have to be made accountable for their human rights impact.

Sustainability indicators, on the other hand, refer to the depletion of a certain non renewable stock or asset. When those are part of the global commons international agreements are required to ensure sustainability. Contrary to human well-being, which can be formulated in terms of goals, sustainability needs to be addressed in terms of limits. Limits can be an absolute ban on certain activities, such as the ban on whaling or on the emission of ozone depleting gases (Montreal Protocol), or they can establish quotas to ensure non depletion, which can be assigned to economic actors through different market and non-market mechanisms respecting the equity and solidarity principles. Internationally, more work needs to be done on fisheries, to avoid further depletion of species that are vital to feed millions of people. Above all, an ambitious agreement is needed on the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol that limits temperature rise to well below 1.5° to prevent catastrophic climate change and ensures just and fair sharing of drastic emission reductions, in accordance with common but differentiated responsibilities and historical responsibility.

Any formulation of "sustainable development goals" that does not include adequate climate change targets or does not address the human rights aspects and the sustainability aspects simultaneously and in a balanced way, risks derailing the comprehensive sustainable development agenda without any compensatory gains.

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## Soka Gakkai International

Proposals for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD)

Soka Gakkai International

The Soka Gakkai International (SGI) hereby submits its proposals in response to the invitation "to provide inputs and contributions for inclusion in a compilation document to serve as basis for the preparation of zero draft of the outcome document."

As a non-governmental organization with membership in 192 countries and territories and a decades-long record of activities promoting education, learning and civil society engagement, we focus on the following three action areas whereby education in all its forms can play a key role in achieving the objectives and addressing the themes of UNCSD. We also hope these action areas can serve to invigorate the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development, 2005-2014 (DESD) and encourage active follow-up efforts by diverse stakeholders.

- Lifelong learning for sustainable development
- Education and awareness-raising for a green economy
- Education targets in "Sustainable Development Goals"

Lifelong learning for sustainable development

Education and learning take place not only in schools but also in all aspects and areas of our lives. UNESCO's "ESD calls for lifelong learning and recognizes the fact that the educational needs of people change over their lifetime." Similarly, in the UNEP, "The strategy is also consistent with the environmental education principles which recognise environmental education as a continuous and lifelong process, based on interdisciplinary approaches, active participation and individual and group responsibility for the environment."

We propose a new program of lifelong learning for sustainable development to be launched in 2015 as follow-up to the DESD. It can serve to facilitate efforts in informal education while furthering work in formal education.

Such a program would profile existing educational/learning activities relevant to ESD and clarify what is best learnt at each life-stage, and in which venue or situation.

UNEP describes its mission as "Inspiring, Informing and Enabling." When we think about ESD, in addition to UNEP's mission above, it is crucial to take into consideration the importance of self-learning and applying knowledge gained to our own life and experiences. Therefore, we propose a formula of "Learn, Reflect, and Empower" (LRE) for promoting ESD.

This three-step formula is effective in ESD in our experience. The acquisition of knowledge alone is not only insufficient, but this approach can easily lead to the learner feeling overwhelmed by the extent and complexity of the problems, resulting in disempowerment. The LRE formula equips people for action and enables them to be confident that even one person's actions can make a difference.

Ideally, education should inspire the faith that each of us has both the power and the responsibility to effect positive change on a global scale. This LRE formula can be utilized in any type of ESD activity and at any stage of life. We will see the development of learning systems throughout society which enable people to learn, reflect, adapt and take appropriate action in response to complex, interrelated and everchanging circumstances.

As such a program involves all members of societies including the business sector and consumers, it would help lay foundations for efforts toward the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production.

#### Education and awareness-raising for a green economy

The aim is to inform ordinary people about successful approaches to a green economy and to encourage economic activities based on it. Efforts are also needed to achieve a paradigm shift in thinking about growth by utilizing and raising awareness of new indexes for measuring development and economic approaches which take visibly into account social and environmental costs. Poverty eradication must also be a central goal, with the provision that natural resources are not exploited to the detriment of future generations.

Education is vital so that evolving concepts of a green economy will be more familiar to ordinary people. More widespread understanding will enhance the quality of green economy initiatives and what the international community agrees at UNCED. This process will be ongoing.

The idea of a green economy, unlike other economic models, includes the aims of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty. A common purpose on a global scale is necessary, and education is important to this end.

In the first stage starting from 2015, we consider it to be desirable to establish a program and tools which can be used in secondary education and higher education. Also, the 10YFP SCP should mention an education program on green economy.

The LRE formula can be applied here as well, empowering learners to take concrete action and not only absorb past economic theories and knowledge. In order to realize this, the program should include case studies of both success and failure, and on-the-job- training courses.

Philosophical and ethical aspects must also be covered to promote an integrated way of thinking about sustainability issues, and the overarching rationale for a green economy.

Widely recognized documents such as the Earth Charter can be of use in this respect. Incorporating education targets in "Sustainable Development Goals" Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are being proposed to complement the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The education-related target among the MDGs is "Children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling." SDGs should be related to the life-long learning program we propose here, promoting the kind of education that encourages us to expand our vision, encouraging our openness to understand, appreciate and promote interlinkages. The LRE formula can be helpful in this respect. An SDG education goal would complement the MDG education goal.

To further the above proposal, we offer the following observations about the issues surrounding the use of nuclear-powered energy:

#### Reflection on the past 20 years

In Rio and Johannesburg, the international community agreed that natural resources are limited and that carbon emissions should be cut. Developing countries, with rising energy demands, have been faced with the pressure of reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

In response, aided by nuclear energy interests in developed countries, the export of nuclear technology has become widespread. Many countries are planning to develop the nuclear power option.

In March 2011, Japan was faced with the compound disasters of earthquake, tsunami and Fukushima nuclear power plant accident. Radioactive materials were scattered over a wide area. Residents around the plant have been forced to evacuate with no clear prospect of return.

#### Requested policies

##### a) Energy summit

In international negotiations about energy, the International Energy Agency (IEA) has been playing a key role. As the agency comprises only 28 countries, it has been inviting emerging countries like China and India, as well as transnational corporations to join its debates in recent years.

However, the Fukushima accident has highlighted the necessity of reflection of ordinary people's concerns in energy policies, as they are affected by the process of power generation not just as consumers. Even in oil producing countries, only a few corporations and governments benefit from the oil industry, while local residents often suffer from severe disruption to their local environment, causing political instability. It is essential to take people's concerns and views into consideration. In a world where increasing energy demand is inevitable, we are faced with the urgent task of how to secure energy supplies in a sustainable way. In order to solve this, we think a periodic summit is indispensable, one which decides global energy policies with the presence of governments, transnational corporations, and representatives of civil society, led by an inter-organizational bureau linking international organizations such as the UN Security Council, UNEP, CSD and IEA.

Nuclear power plants inevitably cause sacrifices and risks to future generations and the natural environment. From such summit debates, civil society can reasonably and urgently conclude whether the role of nuclear power should be limited to that of a transitional or bridging technology until alternative technologies mature.

##### b) Technology transfer of renewable energy to developing countries

In the meantime, we need to create a system which encourages technology transfer of renewable energy to developing countries. Promotion of this shift can be a driver of a green economy. The shift derives not only from the ethical undesirability of nuclear plants, but also from the prerogatives of a green economy that cannot ignore the negative costs and risks of nuclear power plants.

Finance will be a challenge, and the instrumentality of taxes imposed on actors who sacrifice others can be considered. Currently, an aviation tax has been implemented in a few countries, and ideas for a Tobin tax or taxation on weapons trade are being proposed. The trade of fissile materials, which is already internationally controlled and monitored, could be taxed more effectively than weapons. These, too, are subjects for summit debates through which civil society must become informed and engaged.

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## Solidaritas Perempuan (Women's Solidarity for Human Rights)

Sustainable Development Based On Ecological, Social And Gender Justice

A proposal to the Zero Draft of the Rio Summit in 2012

Submitted by Solidaritas Perempuan (Women's Solidarity for Human Rights)

Indonesia

Though the Rio Declaration will soon celebrate its 20th Anniversary but the world right now doesn't reflect its success in achieving sustainable development goals. The existing development model continuously ignores the pillars of social justice and of ecological justice. Hence, it strengthened the exploitation of natural resources and people; and on the other hand it strengthened the impoverishment and injustices to environment, social lives and women.

The Rio Summit, therefore, has to reaffirm the principles of Rio Declaration of 1992, to foster consistent implementation based on principles of ecological, social and gender justice.

#### Social And Gender Justice Based Green Economy

Sustainable development based Green Economy will only achieve welfare for people –women and men- whilst nurturing the environment and its natural resources if the principles of ecological, social and gender justice are integrated. The Green Economy concept should be provided in manner and languages accessible for local and indigenous peoples including the women. Those principles are as follows:

##### 1. Principles of Ecological Justice:

- Acknowledgement that natural resources are not trade or conservation commodities but an integral aspect of human's lives.
- Integration of local wisdom including local and indigenous women's wisdom into the development of Green Economy
- The utilization of natural resources have to take into account the sustaining relation between human kind and environment and impacts of the utilization to lives of women and men.

##### 2. Principles of Social Justice:

- Acknowledge and ensure the integration of principles of ecological and gender justice; democracy; accountability; transparency; welfare of peoples; respect and protect human rights including women's human rights and rights of indigenous peoples.
- Any utilization of natural resources has to go through processes of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) particularly from peoples –women and men- whose lives directly depending from those natural resources.

##### 3. Principles of Gender Justice:

- Protect women's human rights and particularly develop measures to involve women in decision makings in any development in their places
- Set-up objectives and measures to eradicate gender injustices such as discrimination, double burden, stereotype, violence, sub-ordination and marginalization against women
- Technology development for improvement of environment and fostering sustainable development should be people's driven and accessible to people, including the women.

#### Governance of Sustainable Development

The good governance of sustainable development can only be carried out by implementing principles and measures as follows:

- Consistent implementation of Agenda 21 based on principles of Rio Declaration, acknowledgement of the rights of indigenous peoples, precautionary principles, common but differentiated responsibility, polluter-pays principle and to include objectives of gender justice, and furthermore, strengthen access of people to information and for public participation.
- Involvement of peoples, including women, at all levels of decision-makings at local, national, regional and international level to implement sustainable development. Military is not allowed to intervene in the implementation of sustainable development and not allowed to be executor of sustainable development.
- Development of instruments and mechanism to protect rights of peoples including rights of indigenous peoples and women's human rights. These will include accountability mechanism for any policy, program and project of Green Economy that affect lives of peoples, their livelihood and living environment.
- Ensure that financing from International Financial Institutions such as the World Bank, IMF and the regional banks (ADB, AfDB et al) is excluded from the financing of sustainable development, nor the private sector financing.
- Ensure that organizations like World Trade Organization and the kind are not involved in the development of sustainable development of the countries.

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## South Asia Women's Network (SWAN)

### DHAKA DECLARATION:

#### SWAN (South Asia Women's Network)'s Positions on an emerging Green Economy

##### Preamble

We, the women of South Asia, gathered in Dhaka, Bangladesh on July 2 and 3, 2011, for the Third Annual Conference of SWAN (South Asia Women's Network), which was dedicated to the theme of "Women of South Asia and the Green Economy". We come from nine South Asian countries: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka.

The SWAN Annual Conference brings together eight individual SWAN networks, respectively on Arts and Literature; Women in Peacemaking; Health, Nutrition, and Food Security; Education; Crafts and Textiles; Microcredit, Livelihood, and Development; Environment; and Women in Media. Women working in each of these areas make vital contributions to the Green Economy. There can be no Green Economy without Arts and Literature that express our local traditions, and women play a central role in preserving and disseminating these traditions. There can be no Green Economy without Peace. Armed conflict, terrorism and all violent acts are destructive of the Green Economy. The peace we ask for cannot ever be at the expense of women's rights. A Green Economy is the only enduring basis for good health, and for ensuring adequate nutrition and food security. Education for an authentic Green Economy is our commitment. Our rich tradition of crafts and textiles does not just contribute to our rich culture; it is the very basis of green livelihoods. Facilitating local sustainable livelihoods is the real role of microcredit and financial systems. We will use the media to show to our region and the world that the women of South Asia bring solutions to the ecological and poverty crises. We will define the Green Economy on our terms, through our cultures and our lives.



South Asia is the region that bears a heavy burden of the global ecological crisis, including climate change and species extinction. The melting of the Himalayan glaciers, the intensification of droughts, floods, and cyclones and the rising sea level aggravate the already-serious ecological stresses in our region. Despite the differences and diversity within our region, we all share and depend on one geographical space. During periods of deep catastrophe and uncertainty, we need to recognize a multiplicity of perspectives that will offer diverse and plural solutions.

South Asia is one of the richest regions in terms of bio-cultural diversity, but this diversity is under threat of monocultures pushed through the Green Revolution and genetic engineering. These non-sustainable and failed technologies are being forced on our people, driving them deeper into debt and poverty. Our rich biodiversity and knowledge heritage is being patented and pirated, depriving our people of the benefits of their own heritage and resources. When environmental crises force us to migrate to cities, we also experience loss of livelihoods due to lack of access to urban space, materials and new forms of urban management. Our bodies are imprinted with toxics from unsustainable consumption of others.

The right to sustainable development should be inalienable. This is vital for women's empowerment and for preserving our planet for future generations. Women of South Asia bear the highest burden of climate change, biodiversity erosion and unsustainable forms of urbanization. But we also bring solutions to these global crises with our knowledge, skills, wisdom, and experience. We seek to work in harmony with nature, rather than resorting to geoengineering that could further aggravate the ecosystem balance. That is why we bring something unique to the global discussion on sustainable development and the Green Economy in the lead-up to Rio+20 and visions beyond.

#### Statement and Commitment

A Green Economy should be an economic system that ensures social justice and equity, protects the ecological balance and creates economic sufficiency. Such a Green Economy should replace the current economic order, which is based on inequity, environmental destruction and greed, which has resulted in keeping nearly half the world's population in poverty, and has brought the planet to the point of a severe environmental catastrophe through climate change. The core idea of a Green Economy must be poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability through maintaining biodiversity, and the well-being of all the people.

As SWANs, we embrace such a Green Economy. We commit ourselves to raising our collective voices for it. We will transcend the fragmenting boundaries that attempt to divide us, and will unify our energies to create a better world for all.

Our local economies have always been in harmony with nature. We have used resources prudently, and shared them equitably. SWAN believes that agriculturists and craftspeople around the world have always worked in tandem with the seasons and in harmony with nature. A craftswoman carries with her the wisdom of generations that did not pillage the planet for profit. She has a deep commitment towards nurturing the natural world for sustaining livelihoods. The only raw materials needed to keep millions employed is a thriving green environment with rich forests, wild grasses, clean waters, and unravaged hillsides. The dignity and creativity of hand-work greatly contributes towards sound rural economies. This work of women across the South Asian region must be acknowledged by all those who wish to build an inclusive and truly integrated, ecologically balanced world.

Today, those who have created the ecological crisis talk of the Green Economy. For them, the Green Economy means appropriating the remaining resources of the planet for profit — from seed and biodiversity to land and water as well as our skills, such as the environmental services we provide.

For us, the privatization and commodification of nature, her species, her ecosystems, and her ecosystem services cannot be part of a Green Economy, for such an approach cannot take into account our traditions. The resources of the Earth are for the welfare of all, not the profits of a few. Sharing our vital resources equitably and using them sustainably for livelihoods and basic needs is at the heart of our concept of a Green Economy. Our rich knowledge of biodiversity, our ecologically sustainable agriculture, and our crafts techniques are free of fossil fuels and toxics. They generate creative and dignified livelihoods and they provide the basis for poverty alleviation. We stand committed to strengthening these life-giving traditions.

It is of vital importance to spread awareness about these issues through the media and through the educational process, which reaches out to youth and children. Awareness about the Green Economy and the significance of its diverse impacts is essential in order to enable all segments of society to make informed choices. Recognizing the changing face of the media, SWAN encourages the use of new media, including social networking tools, to reach out and support the women of South Asia in their struggle to meet the challenges of ensuring the Green Economy for sustainable development.

Our Green Economies are diverse and decentralized and therefore are a path of empowerment for all. Women are the storehouse of knowledge and provide the cultural base to create and build economies that increase wellbeing and happiness, joy and beauty, sustainability and equity. It is from our region of South Asia that the concept of Gross National Happiness has spread worldwide. We will deepen this concept and make it the basis of the Green Economy.

We stand committed to peace in our region and to strengthening these life-giving traditions. We commit ourselves to defending the ecological integrity of our region — our mountains and rivers, our land and oceans, our natural forests, biodiversity and seeds. We commit ourselves to creating prosperity and peace through the Green Economy that protects and enriches our natural and cultural heritage. We commit ourselves to resisting those irresponsible policies and armed conflicts that directly harm women and children. We commit ourselves to equity and to defending vital resources, like forests, seed and biodiversity, rivers and water, as a commons. We recognize that the Green Economy we envisage will greatly facilitate and strengthen women's empowerment in South Asia and in other parts of the world.

We commit ourselves to working together to show that a better world is possible. We commit ourselves to making our voices heard at all important regional and multilateral forums where these issues are being discussed.

#### Signatories:

1. Ms Veena Sikri, Professor, Academy of Third World Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi (India) : Convener of SWAN and Coordinator of the SWAN on Arts and Literature
2. Dr Vandana Shiva, Navdanya (Research Foundation for Science, Technology & Ecology), New Delhi (India), Co-coordinator of the SWAN on the Environment
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29. Ms Kanak Champa Chakma, Contemporary Free Lance artist

30. Ms Jharna Dhara Chowdhury, Secretary, Gandhi Ashram Trust, Jayag, Noakhali

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31. Ms Kunzang Choden Tshering, Chief HR Officer, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Thimphu

32. Ms Roseleen Gurung, Microfinance Specialist, Tarayana Foundation, Thimphu.

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36. Professor Madhu Khanna, Director, Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilisations, Jamia Millia Islamia University

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65. Ms Tabinda Alkans Jaffery, CEO, Asasah Microfinance, Lahore
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68. Ms Vidyani Hettigoda, Chairperson, Women's Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Colombo.
69. Ms Nishani Jessica Marina Dissanayake, Foreign News Editor, Lakbima (Sinhala daily), and Editor, Samudra (Sinhala magazine)
70. Ms Mano Alles, Managing Director, Abans Financial Services, Colombo
71. Ms Rohini Nanayyakara, Chairperson and Board Member, Lanka Orix Leasing Company Ltd, and Lanka Orix Microcredit Limited, Colombo
72. Ms. Chandramali Liyanage, National Crafts Council of Sri Lanka, Colombo.

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## Southeast Indigenonus Peoples' Center

Text not available.

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## Spire

Submission by Spire (<http://Spireorg.no>), a Norwegian youth-led non-governmental organisation, to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Rio de Janeiro, 3 – 5 June 2012.

### Introduction

The Rio+20 summit must deliver an improved plan to solve the huge challenges we face in the area of development and environment. The plan should reflect the principle of common but different responsibility and the rights for young and future generations. The summit must acknowledge that in order to achieve sustainable development deep social changes need to take place. Short term economic growth can no longer be the measure of success. Spire opposes the commercialization of nature (as seen for example in the report "The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity"). The outcome of the Rio conference needs to promote that nature is the basis of our wealth and has a value beyond what can be measured in economic terms.

Education for sustainable development and youth participation

Children and youth should be an integrated aspect of all development and environmental policy in the same way as women and gender. In order to obtain the necessary social transformation all parties need to prioritise education for sustainable development. Young people need to prepare for having sustainable livelihoods and taking part in the new green economy.

- Education for sustainable development must be integrated in all levels and all subjects in primary and higher education.
- Youth-led informal education for sustainable development must be recognised in terms of training and financial support. Young people have the right to participate and to be heard in decision making concerning our future. States are responsible of removing economic barriers which hinder youth participation and of opening up decision making fora for youth.
- Actual and representative youth participation in international fora for sustainable development must be secured. Official youth delegates can promote meaningful youth participation at an international level.
- Mechanisms which secure youth participation in national decision processes must be developed at national levels.

Institutional framework ensuring the rights of young and future generations

To ensure the rights of young and future generations, there is a need of institutional changes that better protects the environment. These institutions needs to be mandated compliance mechanisms.

- Rio must strengthen international environmental law and establish an International Environmental Court.
- Appointing an Ombudsperson for future generations at international and national level can be a good institutional mechanism for promoting sustainable development .

Food security means food sovereignty and sustainable small-scale agriculture

The principle of food sovereignty should be the framework for achieving food security. All countries must have the right to produce enough food for their population. Food security depends on sustainable small-scale agriculture adapted to local ecological conditions. Sustainable small-scale agriculture provides employment and livelihoods, is less harmful to the environment and more resilient for climate change than large-scale farming.

- Rio+20 must promote sustainable and responsible food production which is climate resilient, nutritious and provide livelihood and employment opportunities.
- The knowledge of youth and women, and their rights to land ownership must be recognised.
- Rio must establish an action plan for implementing the conclusions in the report "International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development" (IAASTD).

Green energy for all

Energy access is essential in order to fight poverty. Small-scale production of renewable energy is an important part of the solution for ensuring energy access. At the same time, a transformation to renewable energy and reduced energy consumption in Western countries is needed. This can happen without negative consequences for living standards.

- Rio must promote an equal distribution of energy consumption globally, through increased access to green energy in developing countries and a dramatic reduction of energy consumption in developed countries.
- Direct and indirect subsidies on fossil fuel must be abolished.
- Rio must initiate a strong effort for developing green energy technology.
- Funding for green technology projects in developing countries must be in addition to traditional development aid.

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## Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

#### 1. Introduction

The total population of the world has just passed seven billion and is continuing to increase. Everywhere people aspire to higher living standards and higher levels of consumption. There is growing concern about the capacity of the world's natural resources to provide food, energy and other materials to sustain this growing demand. At the same time the growing scale of human activity is threatening to cause dangerous levels of climate change, increased levels of pollution, destruction of natural habitats and biodiversity.

Operating within planetary boundaries is a necessary precondition for sustainability. But at present the world is pressing harder against ecological limits and we have already breached the safe operating space or boundaries for three of nine key planetary systems (climate change, biodiversity loss and excess nitrogen and phosphorus production). To balance the discussion on planetary boundaries we welcome the initiative of Oxfam to start a discussion on social boundaries.

At present the global economy is not effective in addressing these emerging problems. The drivers of the global economy tend to amplify and exacerbate them. As some fossil fuels become scarcer, more effort is put into developing more marginal sources with more severe environmental and pollution impacts. As pressures on food resources become greater more marginal land is taken and threats to biodiversity become greater. As fish stocks are depleted, fleets travel ever further from their bases threatening collapse of stocks on an oceanic or global basis. The impacts of greenhouse gas emissions, waste and pollution are inadequately controlled and grow ever more severe.

Business as usual is also proving to be ineffective even in its own terms. Pursuit of the wrong kind of growth and the wrong kind of investment has led to economic crisis and stagnation, job losses on a massive scale, and sharply growing inequalities both within and between countries.

In order to avoid catastrophe the operation of the global economy needs to be transformed. All resources need to be used more efficiently, and renewable resources to be substituted for finite non-renewable ones. Renewable resources (e.g. marine fish stocks) need to be managed in a way that ensures that they are indeed renewed. Key habitats and biodiversity need to be conserved. Greenhouse gas emissions and other damaging pollution need to be cut back. Waste needs to be minimised, and reuse and recycling maximised. Vested interests, monopoly power and excessive rewards for the few need to be curbed, with greater equity within and between countries established.

Furthermore, we need to reform existing institutions and create new institutions to deliver this sustainable future. However, form must follow function and it is vital that any new institutional framework is fit for purpose.

All parts of society need to be engaged in the transition, as they will all be affected by the changes. So the transition must be managed in an open and co-operative way that ensures a just and fair transition to the sustainable green economy. We need common value and language and new politics to shape and guide the transition in a harmonious and equitable way. Only then will we create the trust required to build socio-environmental security and resilience, now and into the future.

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**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

6. Supplementary information

6.1. Bonn DPI Declaration – Sustainable Development Goals

To achieve the goals of Rio + 20 in an ambitious, time-bound and accountable manner, we call upon governments in accordance with human rights, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and respective capabilities to adopt the following draft Sustainable Development Goals together with the sub-goals, reasons and clarifications relating to each goal

The goals below are aspirational. While some of these are based on commitments already made by governments and other stakeholders, others are proposed on the basis of advanced thinking among civil society organizations.

**SDG – SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION:** By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity ("CBD COP10"), the human ecological footprint is reduced so that it remains within the Earth's biological carrying capacity. In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, we call on nations and populations engaged in wasteful overconsumption to reduce their impacts and help increase the consumption of vital goods and services for impoverished nations and peoples, so they also can enjoy reasonably high standards of living that provide equitable access to health care, decent work opportunities and education.

By 2020, governments should promote production processes that reflect the best available technologies for eco-efficiency, recycling, remanufacturing, reuse of waste materials, product durability and longevity. Wasteful practices such as planned obsolescence are identified and eliminated. Public procurement standards and incentives reward leading corporations that share and disseminate best green practices worldwide. By 2020, the majority of the world's goods and services are procured by governments from sources certified by objective third parties as sustainably produced.

This goal is tied to the preparation and implementation of sustainability or green economy roadmaps, that consider and address commonly agreed sustainability principles, adopt sustainable development goals in critical areas, and implement governance reforms to foster the transition to a green economy and to improve the institutional framework for sustainable development.

Further, establish a set of Millennium Consumption Goals for the period 2012-2020 towards creating an intergenerational and internationally shared right to equitable consumption opportunities and ensuring quality of life and wellbeing of all people by 2020, while eradicating all kinds and levels of poverty, respecting animal welfare and embedding sufficiency based sustainable economies.

**SDG – SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS, YOUTH & EDUCATION:** By 2015, nations commit to the principle of sustainable livelihoods as a right for all people and implement monetary, fiscal and language policies to encourage full and decent work. By 2020, biodiversity and ecosystem service considerations are mainstreamed within existing rural development platforms and initiatives to conserve sustainable livelihoods in indigenous and local communities that depend on natural capital for survival.

By 2015, governments incorporate within development frameworks as a priority, investments in the education, health and employment of young people, who constitute a large proportion of the population of developing countries and face disproportionate levels of poverty, unemployment, gender discrimination and ill health. Governments should support comprehensive policies, youth participation and multisectoral programmes that empower present and future generations to fully and freely exercise their human rights, fulfil their aspirations and be productive citizens.

By 2030, national governments reorient all national aims and objectives towards achieving sustainable societies and will mainstream sustainable development into all national educational policies and curricula.

By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at CBD COP10, governments ensure that people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the step they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

**SDG - CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY:** By 2050, governments should have reached clear pathways towards climate sustainability that regulates the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees C. Emissions of greenhouse gases should be reduced to 25% of 1990 levels by 2020, 40% by 2030, 60% by 2040 and 80% by 2050. Carbon taxes and tariffs should be in place to provide incentives for low-carbon development and manufacturing, finance GHG emissions reduction projects, REDD+ and other offset mechanisms, and green infrastructure solutions to help vulnerable communities adapt to climate change.

Developed countries, as the main cause of climate change, in assuming their historical responsibility, must recognize and honor their climate debt in all of its dimensions as the basis for a just, effective, and scientific solution to climate change. The above goal shall include the equitable sharing of remaining atmospheric space, considering past use and consumption and mid and long-term emission reduction targets that are in line with what the science requires.

**SDG – CLEAN ENERGY:** By 2030, at least 50% of the world's energy supply comes from renewable sources. By 2020 energy demand is reduced through efficiency and conservation by at least 20%. By 2030 energy poverty is eliminated by providing universal access to modern energy services from renewable sources.

**SDG - BIODIVERSITY:** Governments are urged to honor their commitments to implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, in particular those related to the Green Economy such as Target 2: "By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems"; and Target 3: "By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts." We urge governments to support investments in natural infrastructure and ecological restoration and to facilitate the development of markets that value the regulatory services provided by ecosystems.

**SDG –WATER:** By 2030, governments will achieve universal availability of an acceptable quantity and quality of water for health, livelihoods, ecosystems and production, adequate sanitation, coupled with an acceptable level of water-related risks to people, environments and economies.

This goal is over and above the achievement of the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals. The right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation shall be recognized as a human right and it shall be the responsibility of all states to respect such right. As an interim goal, by 2015 the proportion of people unable to reach or afford safe drinking water, and without access to basic sanitation, shall be halved as agreed in the JPOI.

By 2020, local, municipal and national governments and all stakeholders commit to achieve the following intermediate targets:

20% increase in total food supply-chain efficiency – reducing losses and waste from field to fork;

20% increase in water efficiency in agriculture – more nutrition and crop per drop;

20% increase in water use efficiency in energy production – more kWh per drop;

20% increase in the quantity of water reused;

20% decrease in water pollution;

**SDG – HEALTHY SEAS AND OCEANS (BLUE ECONOMY):** By 2020, consistent with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, governments establish at least 10% coastal and marine areas. By 2030, oceanic dead zones will be recovered by reducing nitrogen runoff from land by 50% or more. By 2020, Marine Protected Areas will be established in at least 25% of each Exclusive Economic Zones (—EEZII) and the high seas in representative networks capable of restoring minimum viable populations of all at-risk stocks, protecting marine biological diversity, and maximizing benefits to commercial and subsistence fishers in surrounding waters. By 2015, the use of bottom trawling, dynamite fishing, electro-fishing, poisons and other unsustainable practices will be eliminated. By 2030, reverse the decline of fish stocks and create sustainable and diverse and abundant fish stocks, supported by healthy habitat to provide for the needs of all users, and by 2015, ban the practice of shark finning.

We also make the following policy recommendations: (a) reduce plastic pollution in the oceans, including by banning or taxing single-use plastics, supporting the use of recycled plastics in new products, and holding manufacturers responsible for plastics through their entire life cycle; (b) establish an international monitoring network for ocean acidification to enable the identification of vulnerable regions and industries and to provide an early warning system for industries already experiencing harm; (c) designate the high seas of the Central Arctic Ocean as a zone for international scientific cooperation, where extractive and polluting activities are suspended until we have a better understanding of the area and the potential effects of such activities; and (d) schedule, as a matter of urgency, an intergovernmental conference to address the multiplying threats to ocean areas beyond the jurisdiction of individual nations.

**SDG – HEALTHY FORESTS:** By 2020, all remaining frontier forests are protected from conversion and degradation, consistent with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity adopted at COP10, with a well-resourced and equably governed REDD+ mechanism in place, which respects the rights and knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities and other environmental and governance safeguards, to reward developing countries for protection and sustainable management of their forests, not only for carbon capture and storage but for their wider ecological services. A policy of no net loss of forestland, globally and nationally, is also achieved by 2020. At that time, all new forest areas cleared will be offset by ecologically sound restoration of forests in nearby areas. Restoration of over 150 million hectares of cleared or degraded forest landscapes is achieved by 2020, with the creation of millions of new jobs and enhanced livelihoods, improved security and adaptation to climate change.

Reduce deforestation emissions by key corporations and their supply chains committing to avoid the purchase of products that cause deforestation, such as soy or cattle from deforested lands in the Brazilian Amazon, palm oil from deforested agricultural land in Indonesia, or illegal wood and wood products throughout the world.

Additionally, for stakeholders everywhere to undertake and/or participate in large-scale, environmentally and socially responsible reforestation efforts.

Measures proposed under the Clean Development Mechanism (—CDMII) must be carefully examined by the communities depending on forests for their subsistence, as we see that they favor already important land-grabbing and the destruction of their livelihoods.

At Rio+20, we call on governments to pledge concrete and systematic support and promotion of multi stakeholder managed forest certification systems, in all parts of the world, with particular emphasis on tropical rainforests.

**SDG - SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE:** By 2030, global agricultural production is transformed from industrial to sustainable. Chemical inputs, herbicides, and pesticides are largely replaced with organic and biological alternatives. Interspersed natural areas are protected and restored as sources of pollination, pest control and soil fertility. Food for export is secondary to food for local consumption. Cultivated crop strains are diversified, as are production techniques and the mix of agricultural producers. Best management practices reduce erosion by 90% and nitrogen runoff by 50% or more. Local ecological knowledge of indigenous peoples, traditional, and local communities is utilized to identify resilient crops and cultivation practices that provide maximum protection against climate change.

This goal should also include sustainable and humane food systems that provide healthy food to meet current food needs while maintaining healthy ecosystems, farmer resilience, and ensure good animal health and welfare that can also provide food for generations to come with minimal negative impact to the environment, through agro-ecological farming systems. We consider the right to keep their own seeds as an important issue of farming.

A sustainable and humane food system should promote food sovereignty of communities, empower small-scale food producers in food and agricultural governance, and also encourage local production and distribution infrastructures with equal opportunities for men and women farmers, and the important role of youth in this area, and makes nutritious food available, accessible, and affordable to all, while at the same time providing sustainable livelihoods to producers through the payment of fair prices for their products. Sustainable food systems must be based on food sovereignty and the right for small-scale peasants, women's groups and local communities to plant and exchange their seeds and share their knowledge.

Give strong and increasing support to small scale farming, producing healthy foods through targeted research, extension services and enabling conditions, and wherever possible, vegetarian diets, and to ensure women's property and inheritance rights.

Recognize and support by all means possible, the important role and special needs of women as the primary producers and purchasers of food, along with the implementation of women's property and inheritance rights.

**SDG - GREEN CITIES:** By 2030, cities have developed and are implementing action plans to address transport, public health and environmental needs in a harmonious and integrated way. By 2030, from the local to national, government policies foster compact, mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented, urban development that minimizes energy use and maximizes residential health and that reflects the concept of a society for all ages. All new buildings meet green building standards by 2030. By 2030, city transport needs are or remain predominantly met by mass transport, walking and bicycling. Quality of life is also improved for residents by 2030, providing access to green buildings with urban rooftop gardens, clean water, clean energy, waste management systems and sustainable transport. By 2030, urban areas with significant storm water pollution issues reduce impervious surface area by 30% below 2012 levels.

**SDG - SUBSIDIES AND INVESTMENT:** By 2020 at the latest, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at CBD COP10, harmful incentives, including subsidies, for fossil fuel production, unsustainable agricultural, fisheries and forest practices, and those harmful to biodiversity, are eliminated, phased out or redirected to promote renewable energy, sustainable practices and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. By 2015, governments commit to a minimum investment of 2% of GDP per year to foster the transition to a green economy, taking into account national socio-economic conditions.

**SDG - NEW INDICATORS OF PROGRESS:** By 2020, nations supplement or replace GDP with a new measure of sustainable economic welfare based on best available information at that time. Economic performance and the forecasted effects of policy changes will be measured by this new metric. We encourage a process of continuous improvement and refinement of the new measure over time and an international process to set standards and make available common methods and data sources. We also encourage the adoption of several other headline indicators of environmental, economic, social, cultural and linguistic sustainability to provide a measure of progress towards the green economy transition, such as civic participation, improved well-being and achievement of sustainable development goals.

**SDG - ACCESS TO INFORMATION:** By 2022, governments will enact and implement Freedom of Information laws giving people the right to obtain accurate and truthful information held by their government, especially on the environment. Governments will actively make available to all stakeholders useful, accurate and truthful well-publicized data and information in appropriate formats and languages, including on the internet. These laws should include whistleblower protection and should extend to information disclosure by corporations.

**SDG - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** By 2022, governments need to ensure that voluntarism and citizen engagement are incorporated in all global, national and local action plans for implementation of sustainable development and human well-being, to commit to the creation of an enabling environment for citizen engagement and voluntary action, and will include mandatory public participation in (a) major development project approvals and environmental impact assessment procedures, (b) drafting of national level sustainable development policies, laws and regulations and (c) administrative decisions such as pollution permitting.

**SDG - ACCESS TO REDRESS AND REMEDY:** By 2022, governments will adopt and implement laws ensuring effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings concerning sustainable development, including redress and remedy. In particular, they will ensure that the costs of such proceedings are reasonable and affordable to affected people and that access to such proceedings is available through expansion of legal standing and other means to interested people and organizations.

**SDG - ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED:** By 2022, governments will adopt laws that obligate government agencies to take appropriate measures to provide information and engage affected people living in poverty, women and other disadvantaged groups when making sustainable development decisions.

**SDG – BASIC HEALTH:** By 2015, to support attainment of the health MDGs, and to contribute to health, well-being and sustainable development, ensure universal access to

health care and services, wherever feasible, free at the point of use for women and children, and including sexual and reproductive health, and thus strengthen the resilience of people and communities to the consequences of climate change and environmental degradation.

## 6.2. Principles of a Fair and Green Economy

For a full discussion on how the Principles were drawn together see: <http://www.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/Principles%20FINAL%20LAYOUT.pdf>

### 1. Equitable distribution of wealth

Promote the equitable distribution of wealth within nations and among nations, to reduce disparities between rich and poor, and achieve social and economic justice, within a sustainable and fair share of the world's resources and leaving sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness.

### 2. Economic equity and fairness

Guided by the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, create economic partnerships that would transfer substantial financial and technological assistance to less developed countries, to help minimize the gap between the developed and developing world and support the environmental sustainability of both.

### 3. Intergenerational Equity

Environmental resources and ecosystems must be carefully managed and safeguarded so as to enhance the value of environmental assets for future generations, thereby equitably meeting their needs and allowing them to flourish.

### 4. Precautionary Approach

Science should be utilized to enhance social and environmental outcomes, through the identification of environmental risk. Scientific uncertainty of environmental impacts shall not lead to avoidance of measures to prevent environmental degradation. The 'burden of proof' should lie with those claiming that there will not be significant environmental impacts

### 5. The Right to Human Development

In harmony with the environment is fundamental to the achievement of sustainable development, so that individuals and societies are empowered to achieve positive social and environmental outcomes.

### 6. Internalization of Externalities

Building true social and environmental value should be the central goal of policy. To this end, market prices must reflect real social and environmental costs and benefits, so that the polluter bears the cost of pollution. Tax regimes and regulatory frameworks should be used to 'tilt the playing field', making 'good' things cheap and 'bad' things very expensive.

### 7. International Cooperation

The application of environmental standards within nation States must be undertaken in a cooperative manner with the international community, based on an understanding of the possible impact on the development potential of other States. Environmental measures relating to trade should avoid unfair protectionism, but overall should ensure that trade supports sustainable resource use, environmental protection and progressive labor standards, promoting a 'race to the top' rather than the bottom.

### 8. International liability

Acknowledging that actions within national boundaries can cause environmental impacts beyond national jurisdictions, requiring cooperation in the development of international law that allows for independent judicial remedies in such cases.

### 9. Information, participation and accountability

All citizens should have access to information concerning the environment, as well as the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. To ensure that environmental issues are handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, institutions at all levels (national and international) must be democratic and accountable, and make use of tools that enable civil society to hold them to account. In this regard, the access to justice by citizens for redress and remedy in environmental matters is a cornerstone of enhancing accountability.

### 10. Sustainable Consumption and Production

Introduce sustainable production and consumption with sustainable and equitable resource use. Reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, i.e. reduce, reuse, and recycle the materials used, acknowledge the scarcity of the Earth resources and implement activities accordingly.

### 11. Strategic, co-ordinated and integrated planning to deliver sustainable development, the green economy and poverty alleviation.

An integrated approach must be adopted at all levels to expedite the achievement of socio-economic and environmental sustainability through strategic planning with civil society and stakeholders, and across all relevant government departments.

### 12. Just Transition

There will be costs in making the transition to a low carbon, green economy in the pursuit of sustainable development. Some States and actors are better able to bear those costs than others and are more resilient to transitional changes. In the process of change, the most vulnerable must be supported and protected – developing countries must have access to appropriate financial and technical assistance, citizens and communities must also have access to new skills and jobs.

### 13. Redefine Well-being

GDP is an inadequate tool for measuring social wellbeing and environmental integrity. Many socially and environmentally damaging activities enhance GDP – such as fossil fuel exploitation and financial speculation. Human wellbeing and quality of life, and environmental health should be the guiding objectives of economic development.

### 14. Gender Equality

Gender equality and equity are prerequisites to the transition to a green economy and the achievement of sustainable development. Women have a vital role to play as agents of change for environmental management and development – their actions must be rewarded accordingly and their skills enhanced.

### 15. Safeguard biodiversity and prevent pollution of any part of the environment

Protect and restore biodiversity and natural habitats as integral to development and human wellbeing, and develop a system of governance that protects the resilience of ecosystems to prevent irreversible damage.

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**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

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**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

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## 4. Continued Engagement of Stakeholders

Rio +20 is going to be a multi-stakeholder Summit. Partnerships between the many sectors in society can be developed, created and strengthened in the lead up to Rio+20 and during the conference itself. Each sector needs to recognise the contribution and potential of the others and to seek out new ways of helping and reinforcing each other's efforts for sustainability.

Governments assembled at Rio could help by recognising and endorsing the various high level declarations and commitments that will be made by the principal sectoral organisations or groupings also assembled at Rio, and annexing them to the final Rio declaration. Each Government should also commit itself at Rio to encouraging and promoting action for sustainable development by all the major groups working for sustainable development at national level in its own country, including regional and local governments, businesses and trade unions, and all the wide variety of non-governmental organisations and other groups.

As each Government develops or renews its own sustainable development implementation strategy after Rio it should also commit itself to working with all these other actors in an open, transparent and co-operative way so as to build effective partnerships for the sustainability transition, and to mobilise the human and financial resources needed to achieve it.

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

### 5. Sectoral Issues and Challenges

There are also specific sectoral and thematic issues that must be discussed at Rio+20. These issues have reached a point of urgency and require immediate attention. The issues include, but are not limited to:

- The water, energy and food securities nexus – Global trends such as population growth and rising economic prosperity are expected to increase demand for energy, food and water, which will further compromise the sustainable use of natural resources and equitable access. This pressure on resources could ultimately result in shortages which may put water, energy and food security for the people at further risk, hamper economic development and poverty reduction, lead to social and geopolitical tensions and cause lasting irreparable environmental damage.

Ensuring the resilience of basic ecosystems services through the integration of common challenges and solutions of these securities is vital; which should be coupled with principles of fair and secure access to water, energy and food for all people.

- The Blue Economy – Healthy oceans provide tremendous economic, social, and environmental benefits that directly support livelihoods around the globe, and further support life-sustaining processes for the planet. Consideration and inclusion of these services at Rio+20 is imperative to ensure the global community can continue to rely on the marine environment on which it so essentially depends.

Regulation of the marine ecosystems such as international and national standards should be established to ensure sustainability underpins the localized and wider blue economy. The proposed Sustainable Development Council, UNEP and proposed WEO could play a role in this. In particular, regulation could include: licensing for markets; access criteria that relate to conditions for access based on social, environmental and economic impacts could be developed; transparent allocation of fishing quotas; and independent and verifiable measures for quotas and the renewable and sustainable exploitation of marine resources.

Rio can set us on course to cease overfishing and restore fish stocks to ecosystem maximum health. In order to achieve this it is essential that all exploitation of renewable marine resources and commercial fishing must be environmentally, socially and economically sustainable (includes fish, water, coastal ecosystems and reefs); and that non-renewable resources such as oil and gas must have their subsidies phased out.

- Sustainable Agriculture and Food – There is a need for urgent reform of the global food system. This requires an understanding of the complexities of our planet's ecosystem services, the way in which they interact with one another and our impacts on them.

UN policies and programmes and Rio+20 provide an opportunity for global leaders to agree on humane and sustainable agriculture policy and practice, with a focus on agro ecological approaches and recognising the fundamental role of small scale farmers in providing food for those most in need, the majority of which are women. In addition to improving the efficiency of food systems and reducing waste, a focus should be on improving production. These goals can be achieved in part through sharing of knowledge, best practice and technology.

Resilient, healthy and localised food systems that are supported by a multi-functional and agro-ecological food production system can be created. Through re-orienting agricultural assistance to prioritise sustainable agriculture practices, by curbing food speculation and price volatility, and by ceasing no patenting of life forms, sustainable agricultural systems can be achieved.

- Renewable Energy - Addressing energy access through locally appropriate renewable technologies enables development and catalyses a global shift away from fossil fuels. UN initiatives and Rio+20 offer opportunities to build on the extensive research that exists on the most effective way to catalyse the uptake of renewable technology. Meanwhile, outcomes must ensure that the necessary energy transformation respects the principles of a green and fair economy. Communities and stakeholders must be central to all policies at each stage and on all levels (global, national and local level).

Policy enablers that increase the capacity of national governments to decentralize the energy system could be developed and international governance that supports the re-shifting of subsidies away from fossil and polluting fuels to clean and renewable fuels must be delivered. The High Level Commission on access to energy should be integrated into the new and existing framework for sustainable development governance.

Development of a Global Feed In Tariff to finance electrification programmes in the global south, would enable the transition to a low carbon energy system that is 100% renewable electricity and that provides fair and universal access for all from wind, water or solar sources; and universal access to modern energy services. Development and adoption of specific criteria to achieve this include, affordability, transparent and inclusive decision making, and inclusive ownership models (e.g. cooperatives).

- Green Skills and Jobs – Lifelong learning and skills that are environmentally sound; socially decent and reflective of the need to transition to the green and fair economy will underpin the development of the green job and skills industry. The employment sector can rapidly expand to allow for the expansion of the industry, goods and services and other related green jobs that is already underway.

National governments could support education and training programmes in the green jobs and skills sector and establish an international monitoring body for green skills and jobs. There is a significant role that investment of taxes into the sector can play, and establishing industrial policies that reflect the core values of green jobs.

Such initiatives can strengthen the drive for regeneration and re-skilling in the sector and create decent, environmentally friendly work creation to bring employment to the vast majority of unemployed across the globe.

- Urbanisation and Planning – Efficient and inclusive urban mobility is essential for economic and social development since it enables citizens to access goods, services, jobs, markets, education opportunities and social contacts. Yet, urban planning and management has been unable to either cope with the growth thus far or address urban challenges. So without improved capability for urban planning and greater political vision and support, this future increase is likely to cause significant socio-environmental problems for our cities and towns. The rapid urbanisation and growth of cities must be addressed so that there is fair access to resources as well as sustainable resource



use.

Through planning compact communities and directing development towards existing communities; providing sustainable transport choices; preserving open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas; and creating a range of housing opportunities and choice quality living for people of all income groups, ages and needs we can rethink the design of the urban landscape. Development decisions must be made in a fair and economically inclusive way to develop systems focussed on the delivery of sustainable development, operating within environmental limits and enabling social justice.

• Sustainable consumption and production - Consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity ("CBD COP10"), the human ecological footprint is reduced so that it remains within the Earth's biological carrying capacity. In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, we call on nations and populations engaged in wasteful overconsumption to reduce their impacts and help increase the consumption of vital goods and services for impoverished nations and peoples, so they also can enjoy reasonably high standards of living that provide equitable access to health care, decent work opportunities and education.

Governments should promote production processes that reflect the best available technologies for eco-efficiency, recycling, remanufacturing, reuse of waste materials, product durability and longevity. Wasteful practices such as planned obsolescence are identified and eliminated. Public procurement standards and incentives reward leading corporations that share and disseminate best green practices worldwide. By 2020, the majority of the world's goods and services are procured by governments from sources certified by objective third parties as sustainably produced.

Trade – Outsourced emissions are a major loophole in current efforts to tackle climate change and build a green economy. International flows of carbon embedded in trade have grown considerably since the original Rio summit, with developed northern nations benefiting unjustly from effectively outsourcing pollution to the global South, and in particular China and India.

Agree to the principle of Clean Trade Agreements. These arrangements, negotiated between states and regions, would come to replace Free Trade Areas and build mutually-agreed carbon constraints into the terms of trade. Clean Trade Agreements would aim to halt the 'race to the bottom' witnessed as globalization has unfolded – where industry invariably migrates to regions with the least stringent environmental regulations – and reverse the growth in outsourced emissions.

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**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

## 2. The Green and Fair Economy

The Green Economy needs to be a fair one, with all that this implies. To this end, the social dimension of sustainable development needs to be given greater emphasis. The basic preconditions for this are: social cohesion, fairness, including inter-generational fairness, fair redistribution and solutions for social problems such as growing inequality, lack of access to a whole range of resources, poverty and unemployment. The transition to a green economy will only be politically acceptable if it is pursued in an equitable way, both within and between countries.

The change needed is big and promising, but it will also be disruptive to some businesses and economic interests. It is therefore essential that everyone should be fully informed and should fully understand the reasons for the changes and be brought into a broad coalition and alliance for change; and that the interests of all those who may be adversely affected in the short-term are properly taken into account.

The work on planetary boundaries, biocapacity thresholds and One Planet Living offer important contributions to understanding the global ecological landscape within which Rio+20 is operating, and can offer compelling support for the need to embark on such a global transition.

The Summit should establish agreement and commitment on the following:

1. Principles to be embodied in the green and fair economy and to guide transition towards it;
2. Quantification of the various dimensions or aspects of a green economy and how to measure progress towards it;
3. Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and incremental targets with key dates by 2015 to act as a successor framework for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
4. Measures needed to promote green economy - a toolbox of green reforms;
5. Guiding principles and specific measures needed in key sectors;
6. The just transition - Ensuring fairness within and between countries;
7. Engaging and mobilising stakeholders in the transition;
8. Financing the transition; and
9. The institutions to govern and guide the transition, nationally and internationally.

### 2.1. Principles for a Green and Fair Economy

Recognising the challenges of this agenda, it is therefore critical that any global agreements that advance progress towards a green economy are governed by an over-arching set of principles that have common currency among governments and stakeholders alike.

There is range of literature that can be drawn upon in the identification of some common guiding principles for the green economy. Rio +20 should pay particular attention to strengthening existing and agreed Principles in such a way as to give a stronger impetus to the key requirements of the green economy. Fifteen in particular have been identified that draw on The Stockholm Declaration, the Johannesburg Declaration, The Earth Charter, The One Planet Living Principles, The Green Economy Coalition (GEC), the Trade Unions Congress' (TUC) 'Just Transition' principles, and nef's (the new economics foundation) work on the new economy and their Great Transition programme of work and campaign.

1. Equitable distribution of wealth
2. Economic equity and fairness
3. Intergenerational Equity
4. Precautionary Approach
5. The Right to Human Development
6. Internalization of Externalities

7. International Cooperation
8. International liability
9. Information, participation and accountability
10. Sustainable Consumption and Production
11. Strategic, co-ordinated and integrated planning to deliver sustainable development, the green economy and poverty alleviation.
12. Just Transition
13. Redefine Well-being
14. Gender Equality
15. Safeguard biodiversity and prevent pollution of any part of the environment

Section 6 below goes into more detail and gives full explanatory text on each of these principles.

## 2.2. Specific initiatives

Specific initiatives to enable and promote the Green and Fair Economy include:

- Beyond GDP - The current reliance on economic growth and GDP as an indicator of success has led to perverse outcomes. It has not delivered fair levels of well-being for society or individuals. GDP is an inadequate metric through which to gauge well-being over time. Instead we need to reassess our common values, making decisions that lead to a green and fair economy around what we really value. There is an important distinction between assessing current well-being and assessing sustainability.
- Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Capitals - The poor management and regulation of natural assets and ecosystems leads to increasingly frequent and severe regional and global crises, and is a major factor behind food, water and energy insecurity (see Section 3 below for further details on these securities). Outcomes from Rio+20 must ensure that national development strategies take full account of the state of natural assets and ecosystems, and their role in sustaining human and animal well-being and economic activity; actively investing in their conservation and enhancement to avoid a devastating and irreversible global crisis. National ecological wealth accounting should also be integrated into national accounts and sovereign credit rating in order to develop an economic system that maintains and enhances natural capital.
- Fiscal Reform - True environmental costs of production and consumption must be internalised into accounting models in order to address the causes rather than simply the symptoms of environmental degradation. The polluter pays principle should be adopted in practice in standard accounting and reporting practices for both business and governments, so that these costs can be reflected in market valuations and environmental impact assessments. Furthermore, green taxes should be used to incentivise positive behaviours and discourage harmful ones. For example, an internationally agreed mechanism to raise finance from international transport.

A global Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) should be implemented, with a significant proportion of the revenue raised used to support long-term efforts to fight climate change in developing countries and implementing sustainability programmes. Lastly, all subsidies that undermine sustainable development should be eliminated, particularly those underpinning fossil fuel use and unsustainable agricultural and fishery practices.

The Santiago Principles for sovereign wealth funds could be amended to direct funds to sustainable development activities and fiduciary responsibilities could be reformed to realign the systemic process driving short-termism. By shifting fund manager's incentives away from short-term gains by integrating these long-term principles and frameworks into the market system, sustainability can be built into the financial architecture, which drives investment decisions. In addition the credit rating system could integrate sustainability criteria in line with the principles of the green and fair economy.

- Sustainable Public Procurement – Governments must use public procurement as a leadership and leveraging tool to promote the Green and Fair Economy. All public procurement contracts should include specifications for labour, well-being and environmental sustainability standards. Regulation could also be implemented to ensure the reuse of waste as raw material for new products to maximize the lifecycle and take action through providing the right incentives for research and development and by driving a cradle-to-cradle approach to manufacturing and industry.
- Global Convention on Rio Declaration Principle 10 – Access to environmental information, participation in transparent decision-making processes, and access to judicial and administrative proceedings should be basic rights for all, at all levels of decision-making, including local, national and international processes. Rio+20 should support a proposal for a Global Convention on Access to Information based on Principle 10 of the 1992 Rio Declaration. There could also be regional replications of the Aarhus Convention in other parts of the world.
- Convention on Corporate Sustainability – The convention would operate under, four key principles:
  1. Transparency – companies should be required to integrate material sustainability issues within their report and accounts;
  2. Accountability – there should be effective mechanisms for investors to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including through an advisory vote at its All General Meeting (AGM);
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  4. Incentives – Companies should state in remuneration reports whether the remuneration committee consider ESG factors which are of material relevance to the sustainability and long term interests of the company when setting remuneration of executive directors; aligning remuneration with the interest of the shareholders, including customers and employees.

Companies should be required to present their Corporate Sustainability Strategy to a separate vote at its AGM. If no report is to be published a justification for this should be produced and this justification should also be put to a vote.

The future convention should draw on experiences and content from the Global Compact, Sustainable Stock Exchanges initiative, Carbon Disclosure Project and the OECD guidelines. Voluntary Initiatives such as the successful ISO 26000 and the Global Report Initiative can provide guidance on the framework necessary to ease the implementation of Sustainability Reporting.

Governments may wish to relook at the proposed Chapter 41 of Agenda 21 from 1991. This was called Transnational Corporations and Sustainable Development and submitted for consideration by the UN Center for Transnational Corporations.

- Roadmap or pathway to a green and fair economy – Such a roadmap or pathway should combine the elements of the core principles of the Green and Fair Economy with the sectoral goals and target integrated to develop a transition pathway that can be geographically, politically and culturally relevant to the diverse populations and societies across the globe. It is important that the recommendations are not too specific as to be alienating for different countries; but to offer enough of a 'map' or 'blueprint' that can be used globally.

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**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

### 3. Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development

There is growing acceptance of the need to strengthen and reform the institutions dealing with sustainable development at all levels of governance, local, national, regional and global. Rio+20 has been given a mandate by the UN General Assembly to take action to strengthen these institutions. However, it is vital that form must follow function for any reform of the institutional framework for sustainable development. Rio+20 should seek to improve the integration of the different elements on sustainable development; social, environment and economic.

#### 3.1. Integrating Sustainable Development Across the UN

Rio+20 should seek to establish a permanent Sustainable Development Council, on par with the Council on Human Rights as a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly.

The Council would address new and emerging issues such as the nexus of water, energy and food security, addressing climate change impacts, and consider the changes required in economy post Rio+20. It is vitally important for governments to consider the inter-linkages between these areas, most of which do not have a place in the UN system for discussion individually or collectively.

In order to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development, the Council should be given authority to request reports from the specialised agencies working on social, economic and environmental issues:

- Specialised agencies with a mandate focussing on social issues, such as ILO, WHO, UNESCO and others would report on social issues;
- Units working on economy and finance, such as IFCs, IMF, the World Bank Group would report on economic issues and on green economy;
- While a new and strengthened UN environment organisation (see below) with a specialised agency position, and specialised agencies with an environment portfolio (such as FAO, WMO, IMO, ICA and others) would all report on environmental issues.

To further develop the capacity of the Sustainable Development Council to function as the highest body of the United Nations to deal with sustainable development, Rio+20 should:

- Ask the UN General Assembly at its next session to establish a high level committee of experts to provide specific proposals regarding the structure, mandate, modalities and work-programme of this Council and how to provide the Council with the necessary authority within the UN system to effectively interact with all levels of the intergovernmental system;
- Further mandate the committee of experts to report to the General Assembly by December 2012, with either specific recommendations regarding function and modalities of the Sustainable Development Council. Or with a recommendation that at its first meeting, in 2013, the new Council should determine its own modalities;
- Ensure that this high level committee includes expert representatives from all relevant stakeholders, including governments, the intergovernmental system, the major groups and academia.

In order to ensure that the whole UN system operates effectively to support the work of the Sustainable Development Council, the following institutions should be explored in supporting the structure, mandate and modalities of the new Council:

- An Interagency Committee on Sustainable Development, building on the experiences from earlier and present interagency committees, now named appropriately the High Level Committee on Sustainable Development could be established to service the Chief Executive Board of the Council;
- A Sustainable Development Board - made up of the governing bodies of UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, WFP, UNEP and UN Habitat and other relevant and similar units - should be formed to meet once a year to coordinate their policies, and support sustainable development at the country level. This would focus on support for the UN Delivering as One process. It would be able to report to the Council on emerging threats at the country level.
- An Intergovernmental Panel on Sustainable Development should be set up to ensure that there was no fragmentation between scientific panels. The Panel should be given a specific mandate to ensure that the scientific bodies are able to integrate their findings and create a more coherent information base from which governments and other organisations can make better, more informed decisions. It should be modelled on experiences from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and be given oversight of IPCC and the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services (IPBES) and any future sectoral panels. It would also enable coherent scenario making across the area of sustainable development.

#### 3.2. Strengthening the Environment Pillar

There is an urgent need to strengthen the environmental pillar of sustainable development to give it equal political weight to social and economic pillars within the UN system. Rio+20 should strengthen UNEP and adopt a resolution calling for the UN General Assembly to give it an upgraded and authoritative status within the UN system to be the supreme UN organisation dealing with the environment. This could be accomplished either by establishing either:

- a World Environment Organisation (WEO) with universal membership, or
- a UN specialised agency, a UN Environment Organisation (UNEO).

The upgraded environment organisation should be given a new and strong mandate, which could be modelled on the World Health Organisation (WHO) mandate, but for the environment and sustainable development. The present functioning governance structures integrated into the new organisation in order to give space to the Major Groups at the same level as today. However, it must strive to strengthen its scientific base. The new organisation should also be headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya.

#### 3.3. Specific Initiatives

Specific initiatives and proposed framework conventions to enable and promote the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development include:

- Sustainable Development Goals – In August 2011, Colombia submitted a proposal to the UN to introduce Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It sees these as a possible foundation for building international political commitment at Rio, providing measurable 'tangible goals' for the sustainable development debate. Enclosed in Section 6 are suggestions from the UN DPI NGO Conference 'Chair's Text' on SD Goals as a contribution to this proposal. The SDGs would address the Agenda 21 aims produced at Rio 20 years ago. The SDGs would apply in all countries, and therefore act as a complementary, successor framework to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which end in 2015 and focuses mainly on the Global South. Furthermore, SDGs would also provide a more balanced approach between the economic (poverty reduction) pillar of the MDGs and the environmental and social pillars of sustainable development.

- Sustainable Consumption and Production Governance – To support the achievement of any new SDGs, a shift to more sustainable consumption and production (SCP) patterns is necessary. Improved SCP Governance must be a key part of the discussions at Rio+20. For example, a new agreement for an updated SCP Framework, building on the Marakesh Process and the 10-Year Framework of Programmes (10YFP), would be an important first step.
- Reform of International Financial Institutions – There must be better incorporation of sustainable development parameters in the existing International Financial Institutions, particularly in terms of funding, operations, strategic plans, objectives and implementation. Additionally, Rio+20 should pursue further reforms to strengthen the efficiency of the Global Environment Facility (GEF).
- Principle 10 – Rio+20 should agree to elevate Principle 10 of the Rio Principles on access information, participation and transparency to a framework convention. UN Regional Commissions should also explore the possibility to simultaneously develop Principle 10 Conventions for their regions based on existing experiences.
- New and emerging technologies - Rio+20 should agree to establishing a framework convention on new and emerging technologies, including geo-engineering, nano-technology, and incorporating the precautionary approach and principle into the work of such a framework convention.
- International Court for the Environment - Environmental problems extend across international boundaries, but there are few effective international institutions to deal with them properly. Strengthening international environmental law mechanisms are essential to securing sustainable development. The Rio+20 outcome document should accordingly recommend the establishment of an International Court for the Environment (ICE).
- A High Commissioner or Ombudsperson for Future generations – Rio+20 should agree to establish an office for a High Commissioner or Ombudsperson for Future Generations to ensure the needs of future generations are represented in the relevant decision-making processes.
- National Councils on Sustainable Development – Rio+20 must revisit the recommendations from the UN Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 and strongly recommend to the participating nations on the need to re-establish or further develop and strengthen National Council for Sustainable Development with appropriately developed national strategies, funding and governance structures where stakeholders/ the major groups are fully integrated. Such Councils could merge with any Economic Development Councils to strengthen the follow up to Rio+20.

Rio+20 should ask the UN General Assembly at its first session to mandate a high level group of experts, including representatives of the Major Groups, in line with the UN General Assembly resolution calling for major group participation in the Rio+20 process, and give the high level groups of experts a mandate to study the issues highlighted above, develop a framework convention covering these issues and report to the first scheduled meeting of the Council on Sustainable Development of its progress.

The concepts and initiatives on the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development presented above were developed as a part of the work of the Sustainable Development Governance 2012 Network managed by Stakeholder Forum, IUCN, ANPED and Climate and Sustainability Platform. This included think pieces from several different authors. For full details and to read the think pieces, please visit the website – [www.earthsummit2012.org/sdg2012](http://www.earthsummit2012.org/sdg2012)

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**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

The Green Economy should be always referred to as the Green and Fair Economy to also capture the social pillar of sustainable development.

Stakeholder Forum – Rio+20 Zero Draft Submission

Stakeholder Forum is an international organisation working to advance sustainable development and promote democracy at a global level. Our work aims to enhance open, accountable and participatory international decision-making on sustainable development through enhancing the involvement of stakeholders in intergovernmental processes.

## 1. Introduction

The total population of the world has just passed seven billion and is continuing to increase.

Everywhere people aspire to higher living standards and higher levels of consumption. There is growing concern about the capacity of the world's natural resources to provide food, energy and other materials to sustain this growing demand. At the same time the growing scale of human activity is threatening to cause dangerous levels of climate change, increased levels of pollution, destruction of natural habitats and biodiversity.

Operating within planetary boundaries is a necessary precondition for sustainability. But at present the world is pressing harder against ecological limits and we have already breached the safe operating space or boundaries for three of nine key planetary systems (climate change, biodiversity loss and excess nitrogen and phosphorus production).<sup>1</sup> To balance the discussion on planetary boundaries we welcome the initiative of Oxfam to start a discussion on social boundaries.

At present the global economy is not effective in addressing these emerging problems. The drivers of the global economy tend to amplify and exacerbate them. As some fossil fuels become scarcer, more effort is put into developing more marginal sources with more severe environmental and pollution impacts. As pressures on food resources become greater more marginal land is taken and threats to biodiversity become greater. As fish stocks are depleted, fleets travel ever further from their bases threatening collapse of stocks on an oceanic or global basis. The impacts of greenhouse gas emissions, waste and pollution are inadequately controlled and grow ever more severe.

Business as usual is also proving to be ineffective even in its own terms. Pursuit of the wrong kind of growth and the wrong kind of investment has led to economic crisis and stagnation, job losses on a massive scale, and sharply growing inequalities both within and between countries.

In order to avoid catastrophe the operation of the global economy needs to be transformed. All resources need to be used more efficiently, and renewable resources to be substituted for finite non-renewable ones. Renewable resources (e.g. marine fish stocks) need to be managed in a way that ensures that they are indeed renewed. Key habitats and biodiversity need to be conserved. Greenhouse gas emissions and other damaging pollution need to be cut back.

Waste needs to be minimised, and reuse and recycling maximised. Vested interests, monopoly power and excessive rewards for the few need to be curbed, with greater equity within and between countries established.

Furthermore, we need to reform existing institutions and create new institutions to deliver this sustainable future. However, form must follow function and it is vital that any new institutional framework is fit for purpose.

All parts of society need to be engaged in the transition, as they will all be affected by the changes. So the transition must be managed in an open and co-operative way that

ensures a just and fair transition to the sustainable green economy. We need common value and language and new politics to shape and guide the transition in a harmonious and equitable way.

Only then will we create the trust required to build socio-environmental security and resilience, now and into the future.

## 2. The Green and Fair Economy

The Green Economy needs to be a fair one, with all that this implies. To this end, the social dimension of sustainable development needs to be given greater emphasis. The basic preconditions for this are: social cohesion, fairness, including inter-generational fairness, fair redistribution and solutions for social problems such as growing inequality, lack of access to a whole range of resources, poverty and unemployment. The transition to a green economy will only be politically acceptable if it is pursued in an equitable way, both within and between countries.

The change needed is big and promising, but it will also be disruptive to some businesses and economic interests. It is therefore essential that everyone should be fully informed and should fully understand the reasons for the changes and be brought into a broad coalition and alliance for change; and that the interests of all those who may be adversely affected in the short-term are properly taken into account.

The work on planetary boundaries, biocapacity thresholds and One Planet Living offer important contributions to understanding the global ecological landscape within which Rio+20 is operating, and can offer compelling support for the need to embark on such a global transition. The Summit should establish agreement and commitment on the following:

1. Principles to be embodied in the green and fair economy and to guide transition towards it;
2. Quantification of the various dimensions or aspects of a green economy and how to measure progress towards it;
3. Progress on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and incremental targets with key dates by 2015 to act as a successor framework for the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs);
4. Measures needed to promote green economy - a toolbox of green reforms;
5. Guiding principles and specific measures needed in key sectors;
6. The just transition - Ensuring fairness within and between countries;
7. Engaging and mobilising stakeholders in the transition;
8. Financing the transition; and
9. The institutions to govern and guide the transition, nationally and internationally.

### 2.1. Principles for a Green and Fair Economy

Recognising the challenges of this agenda, it is therefore critical that any global agreements that advance progress towards a green economy are governed by an over-arching set of principles that have common currency among governments and stakeholders alike.

There is range of literature that can be drawn upon in the identification of some common guiding principles for the green economy.<sup>3</sup> Rio +20 should pay particular attention to strengthening existing and agreed Principles in such a way as to give a stronger impetus to the key requirements of the green economy. Fifteen in particular have been identified that draw on The Stockholm Declaration, the Johannesburg Declaration, The Earth Charter, The One Planet Living Principles, The Green Economy Coalition (GEC), the Trade Unions Congress' (TUC) 'Just Transition' principles, and nef's (the new economics foundation) work on the new economy and their Great Transition programme of work and campaign.

1. Equitable distribution of wealth
  2. Economic equity and fairness
  3. Intergenerational Equity
  4. Precautionary Approach
  5. The Right to Human Development
  6. Internalization of Externalities
  7. International Cooperation
  8. International liability
  9. Information, participation and accountability
  10. Sustainable Consumption and Production
  11. Strategic, co-ordinated and integrated planning to deliver sustainable development, the green economy and poverty alleviation.
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- Section 6 below goes into more detail and gives full explanatory text on each of these principles.

### 2.2. Specific initiatives

Specific initiatives to enable and promote the Green and Fair Economy include:

**Beyond GDP** - The current reliance on economic growth and GDP as an indicator of success has led to perverse outcomes. It has not delivered fair levels of well-being for society or individuals. GDP is an inadequate metric through which to gauge well-being over time. Instead we need to reassess our common values, making decisions that lead to a green and fair economy around what we really value. There is an important distinction between assessing current wellbeing and assessing sustainability.

**Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Capitals** - The poor management and regulation of natural assets and ecosystems leads to increasingly frequent and severe regional and global crises, and is a major factor behind food, water and energy insecurity (see Section 3 below for further details on these securities). Outcomes from Rio+20 must ensure that national development strategies take full account of the state of natural assets and ecosystems, and their role in sustaining human and animal well-being and economic activity; actively investing in their conservation and enhancement to avoid a devastating and irreversible global crisis. National ecological wealth accounting should also be integrated into national accounts and sovereign credit rating in order to develop an economic system that maintains and enhances natural capital.

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▣ Further mandate the committee of experts to report to the General Assembly by December 2012, with either specific recommendations regarding function and modalities of the Sustainable Development Council. Or with a recommendation that at its first meeting, in 2013, the new Council should determine its own modalities;

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▣ Principle 10 – Rio+20 should agree to elevate Principle 10 of the Rio Principles on access information, participation and transparency to a framework convention. UN Regional Commissions should also explore the possibility to simultaneously develop Principle 10 Conventions for their regions based on existing experiences.

☞New and emerging technologies - Rio+20 should agree to establishing a framework convention on new and emerging technologies, including geoengineering, nano-technology, and incorporating the precautionary approach and principle into the work of such a framework convention.

☞International Court for the Environment - Environmental problems extend across international boundaries, but there are few effective international institutions to deal with them properly. Strengthening international environmental law mechanisms are essential to securing sustainable development. The Rio+20 outcome document should accordingly recommend the establishment of an International Court for the Environment (ICE).

☞A High Commissioner or Ombudsperson for Future generations – Rio+20 should agree to establish an office for a High Commissioner or Ombudsperson for Future Generations to ensure the needs of future generations are represented in the relevant decision-making processes.

☞National Councils on Sustainable Development – Rio+20 must revisit the recommendations from the UN Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1992 and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002 and strongly recommend to the participating nations on the need to re-establish or further develop and strengthen National Council for Sustainable Development with appropriately developed national strategies, funding and governance structures where stakeholders/ the major groups are fully integrated. Such Councils could merge with any Economic Development Councils to strengthen the follow up to Rio+20.

Rio+20 should ask the UN General Assembly at its first session to mandate a high level group of experts, including representatives of the Major Groups, in line with the UN General Assembly resolution calling for major group participation in the Rio+20 process, and give the high level groups of experts a mandate to study the issues highlighted above, develop a framework convention covering these issues and report to the first scheduled meeting of the Council on Sustainable Development of its progress.

The concepts and initiatives on the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development presented above were developed as a part of the work of the Sustainable Development Governance 2012 Network managed by Stakeholder Forum, IUCN, ANPED and Climate and Sustainability Platform. This included think pieces from several different authors. For full details and to read the think pieces, please visit the website – [www.earthsummit2012.org/sdg2012](http://www.earthsummit2012.org/sdg2012)

#### 4. Continued Engagement of Stakeholders

Rio +20 is going to be a multi-stakeholder Summit. Partnerships between the many sectors in society can be developed, created and strengthened in the lead up to Rio+20 and during the conference itself. Each sector needs to recognise the contribution and potential of the others and to seek out new ways of helping and reinforcing each other's efforts for sustainability.

Governments assembled at Rio could help by recognising and endorsing the various high level declarations and commitments that will be made by the principal sectoral organisations or groupings also assembled at Rio, and annexing them to the final Rio declaration. Each Government should also commit itself at Rio to encouraging and promoting action for sustainable development by all the major groups working for sustainable development at national level in its own country, including regional and local governments, businesses and trade unions, and all the wide variety of non-governmental organisations and other groups.

As each Government develops or renews its own sustainable development implementation strategy after Rio it should also commit itself to working with all these other actors in an open, transparent and co-operative way so as to build effective partnerships for the sustainability transition, and to mobilise the human and financial resources needed to achieve it.

#### 5. Sectoral Issues and Challenges

There are also specific sectoral and thematic issues that must be discussed at Rio+20. These issues have reached a point of urgency and require immediate attention. The issues include, but are not limited to:

☞The water, energy and food securities nexus – Global trends such as population growth and rising economic prosperity are expected to increase demand for energy, food and water, which will further compromise the sustainable use of natural resources and equitable access. This pressure on resources could ultimately result in shortages which may put water, energy and food security for the people at further risk, hamper economic development and poverty reduction, lead to social and geopolitical tensions and cause lasting irreparable environmental damage.

Ensuring the resilience of basic ecosystems services through the integration of common challenges and solutions of these securities is vital; which should be coupled with principles of fair and secure access to water, energy and food for all people.

☞The Blue Economy – Healthy oceans provide tremendous economic, social, and environmental benefits that directly support livelihoods around the globe, and further support life-sustaining processes for the planet. Consideration and inclusion of these services at Rio+20 is imperative to ensure the global community can continue to rely on the marine environment on which it so essentially depends.

Regulation of the marine ecosystems such as international and national standards should be established to ensure sustainability underpins the localized and wider blue economy.

The proposed Sustainable Development Council, UNEP and proposed WEO could play a role in this. In particular, regulation could include: licensing for markets; access criteria that relate to conditions for access based on social, environmental and economic impacts could be developed; transparent allocation of fishing quotas; and independent and verifiable measures for quotas and the renewable and sustainable exploitation of marine resources.

Rio can set us on course to cease overfishing and restore fish stocks to ecosystem maximum health. In order to achieve this it is essential that all exploitation of renewable marine resources and commercial fishing must be environmentally, socially and economically sustainable (includes fish, water, coastal ecosystems and reefs); and that non-renewable resources such as oil and gas must have their subsidies phased out.

☞Sustainable Agriculture and Food – There is a need for urgent reform of the global food system. This requires an understanding of the complexities of our planet's ecosystem services, the way in which they interact with one another and our impacts on them. UN policies and programmes and Rio+20 provide an opportunity for global leaders to agree on humane and sustainable agriculture policy and practice, with a focus on agro ecological approaches and recognising the fundamental role of small scale farmers in providing food for those most in need, the majority of which are women. In addition to improving the efficiency of food systems and reducing waste, a focus should be on improving production.

These goals can be achieved in part through sharing of knowledge, best practice and technology.

Resilient, healthy and localised food systems that are supported by a multi-functional and agro-ecological food production system can be created. Through re-orienting agricultural assistance to prioritise sustainable agriculture practices, by curbing food speculation and price volatility, and by ceasing no patenting of life forms , sustainable agricultural systems can be achieved.

☞Renewable Energy - Addressing energy access through locally appropriate renewable technologies enables development and catalyses a global shift away from fossil fuels.



UN initiatives and Rio+20 offer opportunities to build on the extensive research that exists on the most effective way to catalyse the uptake of renewable technology. Meanwhile, outcomes must ensure that the necessary energy transformation respects the principles of a green and fair economy. Communities and stakeholders must be central to all policies at each stage and on all levels (global, national and local level).

Policy enablers that increase the capacity of national governments to decentralize the energy system could be developed and international governance that supports the reshifting of subsidies away from fossil and polluting fuels to clean and renewable fuels must be delivered. The High Level Commission on access to energy should be integrated into the new and existing framework for sustainable development governance.

Development of a Global Feed In Tariff to finance electrification programmes in the global south, would enable the transition to a low carbon energy system that is 100% renewable electricity and that provides fair and universal access for all from wind, water or solar sources; and universal access to modern energy services. Development and adoption of specific criteria to achieve this include, affordability, transparent and inclusive decision making, and inclusive ownership models (e.g. cooperatives).

**Green Skills and Jobs** – Lifelong learning and skills that are environmentally sound; socially decent and reflective of the need to transition to the green and fair economy will underpin the development of the green job and skills industry. The employment sector can rapidly expand to allow for the expansion of the industry, goods and services and other related green jobs that is already underway.

National governments could support education and training programmes in the green jobs and skills sector and establish an international monitoring body for green skills and jobs.

There is a significant role that investment of taxes into the sector can play, and establishing industrial policies that reflect the core values of green jobs.

Such initiatives can strengthen the drive for regeneration and re-skilling in the sector and create decent, environmentally friendly work creation to bring employment to the vast majority of unemployed across the globe.

**Urbanisation and Planning** – Efficient and inclusive urban mobility is essential for economic and social development since it enables citizens to access goods, services, jobs, markets, education opportunities and social contacts. Yet, urban planning and management has been unable to either cope with the growth thus far or address urban challenges. So without improved capability for urban planning and greater political vision and support, this future increase is likely to cause significant socio-environmental problems for our cities and towns. The rapid urbanisation and growth of cities must be addressed so that there is fair access to resources as well as sustainable resource use.

Through planning compact communities and directing development towards existing communities; providing sustainable transport choices; preserving open space, farmland, natural beauty, and critical environmental areas; and creating a range of housing opportunities and choice quality living for people of all income groups, ages and needs we can rethink the design of the urban landscape. Development decisions must be made in a fair and economically inclusive way to develop systems focussed on the delivery of sustainable development, operating within environmental limits and enabling social justice.

**Sustainable consumption and production** - Consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity ("CBD COP10"), the human ecological footprint is reduced so that it remains within the Earth's biological carrying capacity. In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, we call on nations and populations engaged in wasteful overconsumption to reduce their impacts and help increase the consumption of vital goods and services for impoverished nations and peoples, so they also can enjoy reasonably high standards of living that provide equitable access to health care, decent work opportunities and education.

Governments should promote production processes that reflect the best available technologies for eco-efficiency, recycling, remanufacturing, reuse of waste materials, product durability and longevity. Wasteful practices such as planned obsolescence are identified and eliminated. Public procurement standards and incentives reward leading corporations that share and disseminate best green practices worldwide. By 2020, the majority of the world's goods and services are procured by governments from sources certified by objective third parties as sustainably produced.

**Trade** – Outsourced emissions are a major loophole in current efforts to tackle climate change and build a green economy. International flows of carbon embedded in trade have grown considerably since the original Rio summit, with developed northern nations benefiting unjustly from effectively outsourcing pollution to the global South, and in particular China and India.

Agree to the principle of Clean Trade Agreements. These arrangements, negotiated between states and regions, would come to replace Free Trade Areas and build mutually-agreed carbon constraints into the terms of trade. Clean Trade Agreements would aim to halt the 'race to the bottom' witnessed as globalization has unfolded – where industry invariably migrates to regions with the least stringent environmental regulations – and reverse the growth in outsourced emissions.

## 6. Supplementary information

### 6.1. Bonn DPI Declaration – Sustainable Development Goals

To achieve the goals of Rio + 20 in an ambitious, time-bound and accountable manner, we call upon governments in accordance with human rights, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and respective capabilities to adopt the following draft Sustainable Development Goals together with the sub-goals, reasons and clarifications relating to each goal. The goals below are aspirational. While some of these are based on commitments already made by governments and other stakeholders, others are proposed on the basis of advanced thinking among civil society organizations.

**SDG – SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION:** By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at the 10th meeting of the Conference of Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity ("CBD COP10"), the human ecological footprint is reduced so that it remains within the Earth's biological carrying capacity. In accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, we call on nations and populations engaged in wasteful overconsumption to reduce their impacts and help increase the consumption of vital goods and services for impoverished nations and peoples, so they also can enjoy reasonably high standards of living that provide equitable access to health care, decent work opportunities and education.

By 2020, governments should promote production processes that reflect the best available technologies for eco-efficiency, recycling, remanufacturing, reuse of waste materials, product durability and longevity. Wasteful practices such as planned obsolescence are identified and eliminated. Public procurement standards and incentives reward leading corporations that share and disseminate best green practices worldwide. By 2020, the majority of the world's goods and services are procured by governments from sources certified by objective third parties as sustainably produced.

This goal is tied to the preparation and implementation of sustainability or green economy roadmaps, that consider and address commonly agreed sustainability principles, adopt sustainable development goals in critical areas, and implement governance reforms to foster the transition to a green economy and to improve the institutional framework for sustainable development.

Further, establish a set of Millennium Consumption Goals for the period 2012-2020 towards creating an intergenerational and internationally shared right to equitable consumption opportunities and ensuring quality of life and wellbeing of all people by 2020, while eradicating all kinds and levels of poverty, respecting animal welfare and embedding sufficiency based sustainable economies.

**SDG – SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS, YOUTH & EDUCATION:** By 2015, nations commit to the principle of sustainable livelihoods as a right for all people and implement monetary, fiscal and language policies to encourage full and decent work. By 2020, biodiversity and ecosystem service considerations are mainstreamed within existing rural development platforms and initiatives to conserve sustainable livelihoods in indigenous and local communities that depend on natural capital for survival.

By 2015, governments incorporate within development frameworks as a priority, investments in the education, health and employment of young people, who constitute a large proportion of the population of developing countries and face disproportionate levels of poverty, unemployment, gender discrimination and ill health. Governments should support comprehensive policies, youth participation and multisectoral programmes that empower present and future generations to fully and freely exercise their human rights, fulfil their aspirations and be productive citizens. By 2030, national governments reorient all national aims and objectives towards achieving sustainable societies and will mainstream sustainable development into all national educational policies and curricula.

By 2020, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at CBD COP10, governments ensure that people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the step they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

**SDG - CLIMATE SUSTAINABILITY:** By 2050, governments should have reached clear pathways towards climate sustainability that regulates the global temperature rise below 1.5 degrees C. Emissions of greenhouse gases should be reduced to 25% of 1990 levels by 2020, 40% by 2030, 60% by 2040 and 80% by 2050. Carbon taxes and tariffs should be in place to provide incentives for low-carbon development and manufacturing, finance GHG emissions reduction projects, REDD+ and other offset mechanisms, and green infrastructure solutions to help vulnerable communities adapt to climate change.

Developed countries, as the main cause of climate change, in assuming their historical responsibility, must recognize and honor their climate debt in all of its dimensions as the basis for a just, effective, and scientific solution to climate change. The above goal shall include the equitable sharing of remaining atmospheric space, considering past use and consumption and mid and long-term emission reduction targets that are in line with what the science requires.

**SDG – CLEAN ENERGY:** By 2030, at least 50% of the world's energy supply comes from renewable sources. By 2020 energy demand is reduced through efficiency and conservation by at least 20%. By 2030 energy poverty is eliminated by providing universal access to modern energy services from renewable sources.

**SDG - BIODIVERSITY:** Governments are urged to honor their commitments to implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, in particular those related to the Green Economy such as Target 2: "By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems"; and Target 3: "By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts." We urge governments to support investments in natural infrastructure and ecological restoration and to facilitate the development of markets that value the regulatory services provided by ecosystems.

**SDG –WATER:** By 2030, governments will achieve universal availability of an acceptable quantity and quality of water for health, livelihoods, ecosystems and production, adequate sanitation, coupled with an acceptable level of water-related risks to people, environments and economies.

This goal is over and above the achievement of the MDGs and other internationally agreed development goals. The right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation shall be recognized as a human right and it shall be the responsibility of all states to respect such right. As an interim goal, by 2015 the proportion of people unable to reach or afford safe drinking water, and without access to basic sanitation, shall be halved as agreed in the JPOI.

By 2020, local, municipal and national governments and all stakeholders commit to achieve the following intermediate targets:

20% increase in total food supply-chain efficiency – reducing losses and waste from field to fork;

20% increase in water efficiency in agriculture – more nutrition and crop per drop;

20% increase in water use efficiency in energy production – more kWh per drop;

20% increase in the quantity of water reused;

20% decrease in water pollution;

**SDG – HEALTHY SEAS AND OCEANS (BLUE ECONOMY):** By 2020, consistent with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, governments establish at least 10% coastal and marine areas. By 2030, oceanic dead zones will be recovered by reducing nitrogen runoff from land by 50% or more. By 2020, Marine Protected Areas will be established in at least 25% of each Exclusive Economic Zones (—EEZ||) and the high seas in representative networks capable of restoring minimum viable populations of all at-risk stocks, protecting marine biological diversity, and maximizing benefits to commercial and subsistence fishers in surrounding waters. By 2015, the use of bottom trawling, dynamite fishing, electro-fishing, poisons and other unsustainable practices will be eliminated. By 2030, reverse the decline of fish stocks and create sustainable and diverse and abundant fish stocks, supported by healthy habitat to provide for the needs of all users, and by 2015, ban the practice of shark finning.

We also make the following policy recommendations: (a) reduce plastic pollution in the oceans, including by banning or taxing single-use plastics, supporting the use of recycled plastics in new products, and holding manufacturers responsible for plastics through their entire life cycle; (b) establish an international monitoring network for ocean acidification to enable the identification of vulnerable regions and industries and to provide an early warning system for industries already experiencing harm; (c) designate the high seas of the Central Arctic Ocean as a zone for international scientific cooperation, where extractive and polluting activities are suspended until we have a better understanding of the area and the potential effects of such activities; and (d) schedule, as a matter of urgency, an intergovernmental conference to address the multiplying threats to ocean areas beyond the jurisdiction of individual nations.

**SDG – HEALTHY FORESTS:** By 2020, all remaining frontier forests are protected from conversion and degradation, consistent with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity adopted at COP10, with a well-resourced and equably governed REDD+ mechanism in place, which respects the rights and knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities and other environmental and governance safeguards, to reward developing countries for protection and sustainable management of their forests, not only for carbon capture and storage but for their wider ecological services. A policy of no net loss of forestland, globally and nationally, is also achieved by 2020. At that time, all new forest areas cleared will be offset by ecologically sound restoration of forests in nearby areas. Restoration of over 150 million hectares of cleared or degraded forest landscapes is achieved by 2020, with the creation of millions of new jobs and enhanced livelihoods, improved security and adaptation to climate change. Reduce deforestation emissions by key corporations and their supply chains committing to avoid the purchase of products that cause deforestation, such as soy or cattle from deforested lands in the Brazilian Amazon, palm oil from deforested agricultural land in Indonesia, or illegal wood and wood products throughout the world.

Additionally, for stakeholders everywhere to undertake and/or participate in largescale, environmentally and socially responsible reforestation efforts.

Measures proposed under the Clean Development Mechanism (—CDM—) must be carefully examined by the communities depending on forests for their subsistence, as we see that they favor already important land-grabbing and the destruction of their livelihoods.

At Rio+20, we call on governments to pledge concrete and systematic support and promotion of multi stakeholder managed forest certification systems, in all parts of the world, with particular emphasis on tropical rainforests.

**SDG - SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE:** By 2030, global agricultural production is transformed from industrial to sustainable. Chemical inputs, herbicides, and pesticides are largely replaced with organic and biological alternatives. Interspersed natural areas are protected and restored as sources of pollination, pest control and soil fertility. Food for export is secondary to food for local consumption. Cultivated crop strains are diversified, as are production techniques and the mix of agricultural producers. Best management practices reduce erosion by 90% and nitrogen runoff by 50% or more. Local ecological knowledge of indigenous peoples, traditional, and local communities is utilized to identify resilient crops and cultivation practices that provide maximum protection against climate change.

This goal should also include sustainable and humane food systems that provide healthy food to meet current food needs while maintaining healthy ecosystems, farmer resilience, and ensure good animal health and welfare that can also provide food for generations to come with minimal negative impact to the environment, through agro-ecological farming systems. We consider the right to keep their own seeds as an important issue of farming.

A sustainable and humane food system should promote food sovereignty of communities, empower small-scale food producers in food and agricultural governance, and also encourage local production and distribution infrastructures with equal opportunities for men and women farmers, and the important role of youth in this area, and makes nutritious food available, accessible, and affordable to all, while at the same time providing sustainable livelihoods to producers through the payment of fair prices for their products. Sustainable food systems must be based on food sovereignty and the right for small-scale peasants, women's groups and local communities to plant and exchange their seeds and share their knowledge. Give strong and increasing support to small scale farming, producing healthy foods through targeted research, extension services and enabling conditions, and wherever possible, vegetarian diets, and to ensure women's property and inheritance rights.

Recognize and support by all means possible, the important role and special needs of women as the primary producers and purchasers of food, along with the implementation of women's property and inheritance rights.

**SDG - GREEN CITIES:** By 2030, cities have developed and are implementing action plans to address transport, public health and environmental needs in a harmonious and integrated way. By 2030, from the local to national, government policies foster compact, mixed-use, pedestrian-oriented, urban development that minimizes energy use and maximizes residential health and that reflects the concept of a society for all ages. All new buildings meet green building standards by 2030. By 2030, city transport needs are or remain predominantly met by mass transport, walking and bicycling. Quality of life is also improved for residents by 2030, providing access to green buildings with urban rooftop gardens, clean water, clean energy, waste management systems and sustainable transport. By 2030, urban areas with significant storm water pollution issues reduce impervious surface area by 30% below 2012 levels.

**SDG - SUBSIDIES AND INVESTMENT:** By 2020 at the latest, consistent with the Biodiversity Strategic Plan adopted at CBD COP10, harmful incentives, including subsidies, for fossil fuel production, unsustainable agricultural, fisheries and forest practices, and those harmful to biodiversity, are eliminated, phased out or redirected to promote renewable energy, sustainable practices and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. By 2015, governments commit to a minimum investment of 2% of GDP per year to foster the transition to a green economy, taking into account national socio-economic conditions.

**SDG - NEW INDICATORS OF PROGRESS:** By 2020, nations supplement or replace GDP with a new measure of sustainable economic welfare based on best available information at that time. Economic performance and the forecasted effects of policy changes will be measured by this new metric. We encourage a process of continuous improvement and refinement of the new measure over time and an international process to set standards and make available common methods and data sources. We also encourage the adoption of several other headline indicators of environmental, economic, social, cultural and linguistic sustainability to provide a measure of progress towards the green economy transition, such as civic participation, improved well-being and achievement of sustainable development goals.

**SDG - ACCESS TO INFORMATION:** By 2022, governments will enact and implement Freedom of Information laws giving people the right to obtain accurate and truthful information held by their government, especially on the environment. Governments will actively make available to all stakeholders useful, accurate and truthful well-publicized data and information in appropriate formats and languages, including on the internet. These laws should include whistleblower protection and should extend to information disclosure by corporations.

**SDG - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** By 2022, governments need to ensure that voluntarism and citizen engagement are incorporated in all global, national and local action plans for implementation of sustainable development and human well-being, to commit to the creation of an enabling environment for citizen engagement and voluntary action, and will include mandatory public participation in (a) major development project approvals and environmental impact assessment procedures, (b) drafting of national level sustainable development policies, laws and regulations and (c) administrative decisions such as pollution permitting.

**SDG - ACCESS TO REDRESS AND REMEDY:** By 2022, governments will adopt and implement laws ensuring effective access to judicial and administrative proceedings concerning sustainable development, including redress and remedy. In particular, they will ensure that the costs of such proceedings are reasonable and affordable to affected people and that access to such proceedings is available through expansion of legal standing and other means to interested people and organizations.

**SDG - ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR THE POOR AND MARGINALIZED:** By 2022, governments will adopt laws that obligate government agencies to take appropriate measures to provide information and engage affected people living in poverty, women and other disadvantaged groups when making sustainable development decisions.

**SDG – BASIC HEALTH:** By 2015, to support attainment of the health MDGs, and to contribute to health, well-being and sustainable development, ensure universal access to health care and services, wherever feasible, free at the point of use for women and children, and including sexual and reproductive health, and thus strengthen the resilience of people and communities to the consequences of climate change and environmental degradation.

## 6.2. Principles of a Fair and Green Economy

For a full discussion on how the Principles were drawn together see:

<http://www.stakeholderforum.org/fileadmin/files/Principles%20FINAL%20LAYOUT.pdf>

### 1. Equitable distribution of wealth

Promote the equitable distribution of wealth within nations and among nations, to reduce disparities between rich and poor, and achieve social and economic justice, within a sustainable and fair share of the world's resources and leaving sufficient space for wildlife and wilderness.

### 2. Economic equity and fairness

Guided by the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, create economic partnerships that would transfer substantial financial and technological assistance to

less developed countries, to help minimize the gap between the developed and developing world and support the environmental sustainability of both.

### 3. Intergenerational Equity

Environmental resources and ecosystems must be carefully managed and safeguarded so as to enhance the value of environmental assets for future generations, thereby equitably meeting their needs and allowing them to flourish.

### 4. Precautionary Approach

Science should be utilized to enhance social and environmental outcomes, through the identification of environmental risk. Scientific uncertainty of environmental impacts shall not lead to avoidance of measures to prevent environmental degradation. The 'burden of proof' should lie with those claiming that there will not be significant environmental impacts

### 5. The Right to Human Development

In harmony with the environment is fundamental to the achievement of sustainable development, so that individuals and societies are empowered to achieve positive social and environmental outcomes.

### 6. Internalization of Externalities

Building true social and environmental value should be the central goal of policy. To this end, market prices must reflect real social and environmental costs and benefits, so that the polluter bears the cost of pollution. Tax regimes and regulatory frameworks should be used to 'tilt the playing field', making 'good' things cheap and 'bad' things very expensive.

### 7. International Cooperation

The application of environmental standards within nation States must be undertaken in a cooperative manner with the international community, based on an understanding of the possible impact on the development potential of other States. Environmental measures relating to trade should avoid unfair protectionism, but overall should ensure that trade supports sustainable resource use, environmental protection and progressive labor standards, promoting a 'race to the top' rather than the bottom.

### 8. International liability

Acknowledging that actions within national boundaries can cause environmental impacts beyond national jurisdictions, requiring cooperation in the development of international law that allows for independent judicial remedies in such cases.

### 9. Information, participation and accountability

All citizens should have access to information concerning the environment, as well as the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes. To ensure that environmental issues are handled with the participation of all concerned citizens, institutions at all levels (national and international) must be democratic and accountable, and make use of tools that enable civil society to hold them to account. In this regard, the access to justice by citizens for redress and remedy in environmental matters is a cornerstone of enhancing accountability.

### 10. Sustainable Consumption and Production

Introduce sustainable production and consumption with sustainable and equitable resource use. Reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, i.e. reduce, reuse, and recycle the materials used, acknowledge the scarcity of the Earth resources and implement activities accordingly.

### 11. Strategic, co-ordinated and integrated planning to deliver sustainable development, the green economy and poverty alleviation.

An integrated approach must be adopted at all levels to expedite the achievement of socio-economic and environmental sustainability through strategic planning with civil society and stakeholders, and across all relevant government departments.

### 12. Just Transition

There will be costs in making the transition to a low carbon, green economy in the pursuit of sustainable development. Some States and actors are better able to bear those costs than others and are more resilient to transitional changes. In the process of change, the most vulnerable must be supported and protected – developing countries must have access to appropriate financial and technical assistance, citizens and communities must also have access to new skills and jobs.

### 13. Redefine Well-being

GDP is an inadequate tool for measuring social wellbeing and environmental integrity. Many socially and environmentally damaging activities enhance GDP – such as fossil fuel exploitation and financial speculation. Human wellbeing and quality of life, and environmental health should be the guiding objectives of economic development.

### 14. Gender Equality

Gender equality and equity are prerequisites to the transition to a green economy and the achievement of sustainable development. Women have a vital role to play as agents of change for environmental management and development – their actions must be rewarded accordingly and their skills enhanced.

### 15. Safeguard biodiversity and prevent pollution of any part of the environment

Protect and restore biodiversity and natural habitats as integral to development and human wellbeing, and develop a system of governance that protects the resilience of ecosystems to prevent irreversible damage.

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## STEPS Centre

**Input to the compilation document to serve as basis for the preparation of the zero draft of the outcome document from the Rio+20 UNCSD**

**Contribution by the STEPS Centre (<http://www.steps-centre.org>), 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011**

The STEPS Centre on Social, Technological and Environmental Pathways to Sustainability (<http://www.steps-centre.org>) is grateful for this opportunity to engage in the

Rio+20 process. We are a global research and policy engagement centre, funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council, bringing together development studies with science and technology studies. We offer the following contribution to the outcome document of the Rio+20 conference, drawing on the products of our research over the past five years, which has focussed on the challenge of linking science and technology with poverty reduction, environmental sustainability and social justice. We see this as central to fostering a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

In particular, we draw on our project 'Innovation, Sustainability, Development: A New Manifesto' (<http://anewmanifesto.org>). The project involved a seminar series, a collection of 13 background papers, and conducted 20 roundtables with partners around the world. The Manifesto, which was launched at the Royal Society, London, in June 2010, was not a representative synthesis of the diverse views encountered during the project, but rather puts forward the STEPS Centre's perspective on these debates. It serves as the basis for much of this contribution, which is as a result largely confined to an account of the '3D agenda' and the 'areas for action' discussed in the Manifesto document.

This contribution is organised based on the structure outlined by the co-chairs guidance note on the UNCSD2012 website: <http://www.uncsd2012.org/rio20/documents/guidancenote.pdf>

## General Content

*a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?*

- The STEPS Centre (<http://www.steps-centre.org>) sees meeting the interlinked global challenges of poverty reduction, social justice and environmental sustainability as the great moral and political imperative of our age, and believes that science, technology and innovation of many kinds have essential roles to play in this. We hope to see a strong consensus emerging from Rio+20 that provides a global framework supporting different forms of innovation that address sustainable development challenges at local, national and global levels.

- In order to meet these challenges, we advocate a '3D agenda' - involving increased attention to three currently under-emphasized themes within innovation policy:

- The first D is about the technical, social and political *directions* for change: 'what is innovation for?'; 'which kinds of innovation, along which pathways?' and 'towards what goals?'

- Taking these questions seriously requires us to examine much more sharply questions of *distribution*. For any given problem: 'who is innovation for?'; 'whose innovation counts?' and 'who gains and who loses?'

- In turn, this raises further questions about *diversity*: 'what – and how many – kinds of innovation do we need to address any particular challenge?'

- We see an opportunity for the Rio+20 summit to recognise and enhance the role that science, technology and innovation can play in building a green economy at a global level, and to set a framework in which the questions associated with the 3D agenda above are discussed as matters for legitimate political argument.

- Scientifically-informed and democratically legitimate policy instruments are playing a vital role in forging a green economy, incentivising technological innovation towards sustainability goals. While governments, firms and scientific institutions can all contribute to the 3D agenda, civil society – both in the form of organised public-interest groups and, more importantly, spontaneous citizen-led movements - is often the real source of change. Approaches for including such actors in policy processes, as well as supporting and protecting their innovative activities and practical contributions towards sustainable development, are discussed further below.

*b. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?*

- Whilst green economy roadmaps are useful planning tools, they must respect cultural variety, regional diversity and democratic accountability. In imagining, articulating and implementing such plans, attention must be paid to the multitude of possible pathways to sustainability and especially the potential contributions of marginalised communities.

- The STEPS Centre advocates a framework based around five 'areas for action' - *agenda setting, funding, capacity building, organising and monitoring, evaluation and accountability*. These focus on the inclusion of broader networks of actors in processes for making innovation policy, and are outlined in more detail in response to question d, below.

- Sustainable development goals in the model of the MDGs should not neglect the need to build distributed innovation capabilities that enable continual locally-driven improvements at sub-national and national levels, rather than setting static endpoints to be obtained as a result of externally-driven programmes.

*c. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);*

- Governments, Major Groups, UN system, IFIs all have a vital role. Within the Major Groups, the scientific and technological community and those groups most often marginalised from policy processes – women, children and youth, indigenous people, NGOs, and farmers - are particularly important in their contributions to a '3D' innovation agenda.

*d. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?*

Our vision is a world where science and technology work more directly for social justice, poverty alleviation and the environment. What this means for particular contexts, places and people will be enormously varied – as will be the means to achieve it. Nevertheless, the following broad recommendations are offered in order to catalyse and provoke specific concrete actions in different places. They are organised around the different areas for action identified in the New Manifesto: *agenda setting, funding, capacity building, organising, monitoring, evaluation and accountability*. Each set of actions addresses contrasting dimensions of innovation systems. They are therefore targeted towards different people and organisations who bear responsibility in each of these areas.

## Agenda setting

The setting of agendas for science, technology and innovation policy and investment needs to be informed by an explicitly political consideration of innovation direction, distribution and diversity. The institutional architectures for the setting of innovation priorities at national and international levels therefore need reworking to enable diverse interests and new voices, including those of poorer and marginalised people, to be involved in inclusive debate. In some countries and settings this will involve building on existing institutional arrangements; in others it will require establishing new fora.

Within countries, we recommend that governments establish and support 'Strategic Innovation Fora'. Whatever they are called, these statutory bodies should be mandated to

review funding allocations, debate major investment decisions, deliberate on controversial areas of science and technology options and audit the distribution of risks and benefits from potential innovation pathways. These fora should also be inclusive: constituted by – and bringing together – diverse stakeholders with interests in science and technology futures, including citizens' groups and social movements representing the most marginalised interests. These fora would address both public and private sector innovation activity, holding legal powers to call evidence. They would report to parliaments (and through these, to wider civil society) on an annual basis.

At the international level, we recommend the establishment of a 'Global Innovation Commission'. Breaking the conventional model of a 'commission', this would be a broadly-constituted deliberative body, widely networked (among other areas) into global civil society and holding itself accountable to the most disempowered communities worldwide. It would operate under a United Nations umbrella, but with a formal role in trade bodies such as the World Trade Organisation. The Commission would facilitate open, transparent political debate about major investments with global or trans-boundary implications, north-south technology transfers, and public and philanthropic international aid geared to science, technology and innovation. In addition to annual reporting, each year a series of focused enquiries would be conducted on specific topics, including in response to national Strategic Innovation Fora or concerted representations by global civil society networks.

### **Funding**

The funding of science, technology and innovation – whether from public, private or philanthropic sources – needs to be geared much more strongly to the challenges of poverty alleviation, social justice and environmental sustainability. This requires that the needs and demands of poorer and marginalised women and men as potential users of technologies, as well as the outcomes of innovation, are addressed in funding allocations.

We recommend therefore that all science and technology funding agencies (individually or collectively), regularly review their portfolios to ensure that a significant and increasing proportion of their investments are directly focused on these challenges. Such agencies should also progressively improve the balance in investments across basic science, technology, engineering, design and science services. They should demonstrate a shift towards increasing support for the social, cultural and economic dimensions of innovation systems. Transparent accounts linked to these criteria should be produced and made available to public scrutiny, including by relevant Strategic Innovation Fora.

In order to encourage diversity in innovation pathways, we recommend specific funding allocations to support experimentation in niches, and networking and learning across these, involving the private sector, community groups and individual entrepreneurs. In order to help democratise the process of innovation we recommend that procedures are established directly to involve end users of science and technology – including poorer and marginalised people – in the allocation of funding. And we recommend that incentives for the private sector to invest in forms of innovation geared to poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability and social justice – such as advance purchase agreements, technology prizes or tax breaks – are enhanced. Achievements of this kind should be more deliberately recognised and widely publicised: nationally, regionally and globally.

### **Capacity building**

Capacity building for science, technology and innovation must move beyond a focus on elite science and so-called 'centres of excellence' to support science that works more directly for diverse social and environmental needs. As a vital complement to training scientists and technology experts, this means extending the scope of capacity building to other players in the innovation system, including local entrepreneurs, citizen groups, small businesses and others. A key challenge in improving innovation processes is linking between groups, and facilitating inclusion of otherwise excluded people.

We therefore urge an extension of capacity-building support towards 'bridging professionals' who are able to link technical expertise with particular social, ecological and economic contexts. We additionally recommend capacity building investments focused on enhancing the ability of citizens and users to engage actively in innovation processes, not just as passive recipients but as active users, creators and inventors. We recommend also the support of civil society networks and social movements to facilitate the sharing of technologies, practices and wider experiences and learning. Capacity support should further enable such groups to engage with national and international political debates about science, technology and innovation – for instance through memberships of Strategic Innovation Fora and the Global Innovation Commission.

This, in turn, will involve investment in new priorities for training, including key reforms to tertiary, further and higher education in the area of science, technology and development. These will require new institutions (or refashioned old ones) that actively link science and technology to located needs and demands, and the building of new learning platforms, virtual and face-to-face. They will also include greater provision for local community engagement in tertiary, further and higher education as well as wiki spaces for innovation support of a kind that enable more inclusive, networked and distributed forms of innovation.

### **Organising**

Organising for innovation requires identifying and supporting social and institutional arrangements that enable technologies to work in particular contexts, and to meet the needs of poorer and marginalised women and men. We recommend that firms, public and philanthropic organisations developing specific technological innovations invest in concrete plans to ensure that these social, cultural and institutional aspects of application are addressed. Further, local experiences with these organisational aspects of innovation need to be shared and learned from more widely. This requires an open, distributed and networked approach, with active investment in linkages between public, private and civil society groups.

We therefore recommend that future investments – by the public and private sectors – should especially highlight bridging functions, connecting formerly separate organisations and linking upstream and downstream research and development activity. While in many cases, new organisations will not be required, strategic investment in facilitating and coordinating bodies may be needed. Such bodies must be complemented by support for local organisations, networks and movements, and the ability for informal, lateral sharing of innovation. Overall, investment should extend its focus from basic science, to emphasise other aspects of the innovation system, including engineering, design, science services, and social entrepreneurship. Further, we recommend that support be increased for open source innovation platforms, with limits placed on narrowly-defined property-based systems which impede competition and constrain innovative activity.

We propose that at national level, and led by Strategic Innovation Fora, a broad framework for science and innovation policy is developed which puts poverty alleviation, social justice and environmental sustainability at its core. The legal underpinnings, regulatory rules and investment priorities that emerge from such a policy must explicitly reflect such priorities, and be overseen, reviewed and audited in a transparent and accountable way.

### **Monitoring, evaluation and accountability**

Increased accountability and full transparency must be at the centre of democratised innovation systems – across public and private sectors and at local, national and international levels. This requires active engagement by citizens in priority setting, monitoring and evaluating innovation activities.

We recommend that in all countries benchmark criteria, relating to the priorities of poverty alleviation, social justice and environmental sustainability, are set and so become the basis of indicators for monitoring innovation systems. At the international level, overseen by the Global Innovation Commission, similar criteria should be established for monitoring and annual reporting. Further, we recommend the improvement of data collection systems and methodologies, switching the focus from indicators such as

publications, patents and aggregate levels of expenditure, to assessments of the wider development outcomes of innovation efforts. All organisations – whether government departments, philanthropic foundations, non-government organisations and private sector firms registered in a particular country – investing in research and development above a certain amount should be required to report on expenditures in relation to these criteria. Such data should be freely available and open to public scrutiny.

Finally, we propose that the Strategic Innovation Fora (or similar bodies), should have a statutory obligation to report publicly both to national parliaments and the Global Innovation Commission on a regular basis concerning innovation direction, distribution and diversity, presenting full data from all research and development organisations.

For further information on the above, or about the ongoing activities of the STEPS Centre, please visit our website (<http://www.steps-centre.org>) or contact:

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## Stockholm Environment Institute

Position paper – Sustainable Energy for All SEI and FBDS

Position paper

"A Global Assessment on Sustainable Energy for All" Submitted to UNCSD2012 by Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) and Brazilian Foundation for Sustainable Development (FBDS) on behalf of the assessment partnership.

Stockholm and Rio de Janeiro, October 30th, 2011

Supporting the political preparations for Rio2012, the UNDESA secretariat's analytical preparations, and the high level group appointed to the official UN year of Sustainable Energy for All, leading research institutes have joined forces to produce a global assessment on sustainable energy for all. The assessment is supported by the Governments of Sweden and Brazil. The assessment builds on and integrates existing efforts in among partners such as the Global Energy Assessment (IIASA, PBL and SEI), Planetary Boundaries (SEI and PBL), Low carbon development (ACPC), energy access and clean energy (TERI), Electricity Governance (WRI), Brazilian Biofuels Programs from the water, energy and land nexus perspective" (COPPE), Guidelines for a Green Economy in Brazil (FBDS) and Integrated Sustainability Scenarios (PBL).

The assessment can be followed at [www.sei-international.org/Rio20](http://www.sei-international.org/Rio20). The final report will be published in March 2012. Contact: Måns Nilsson, Research Director, SEI, [mans.nilsson@sei.se](mailto:mans.nilsson@sei.se).

The global energy predicament

Energy is fundamental to human and economic development. Without reliable energy services, development is not possible. However, the debate about energy for all must go beyond current debates about basic access for poverty alleviation. Since the industrial revolution, people have relied on affordable energy to meet economic development aspirations. It is time to consider what energy services need to be available to enable all countries to reach an economic development equivalent to at least today's middle income segment.

Our planet is currently inhabited by 7 billion people, yet some three billion people still lack access to basic energy services. With the global population projected to reach ~9 billion people by 2050, an additional two billion people will require energy services by 2050. At the same time, energy is one key driver behind some of the troubling global environmental trends we are now experiencing. The combined pressures on the Earth system have now reached a point where we increasingly risk crossing a number of thresholds that could cause serious disruption and harm on societies across the world. We have entered a new era – the Anthropocene – where humans are now a dominant driving force of change at the planetary scale; we may be approaching, or in some instances have actually reached, an upper limit in terms of human pressures on the planet (Stockholm Memorandum, 2011). This means that meeting energy demands of a growing world economy and population must occur in a world that on aggregate bends the curves of current global environmental change.

Thus, human development will not be possible without an energy transition that responds to the demands of development and poverty alleviation as well as the constraints imposed by climate change. This energy transition needs to unfold in a new geopolitical and global economic context, with structural and geographical shifts in both economic and political power. On top of that, the global financial crisis brings into play additional challenges in terms of availability of resources but also can open new opportunities if used to implement anti-cyclic measures.

The need for a new sustainable energy based development strategy

Humanity thus faces a triple global energy challenge; (1) the urgent need for affordable energy services for all – both covering basic needs and income-generating productive activities, (2) the need for a rapid phase-out of fossil fuels (the cheap energy sources that have been key to historical wealth creation) to stabilize the global climate system, and (3) the necessity to meet this need within the "safe operating space" of Earth systems boundaries such as biodiversity, land use and freshwater use. All these are impacted by the energy choices we make.

Resolving this triple challenge will require an unprecedented energy transition over the coming 3-4 decades, backed up by strong political endorsement and financial resources. In order to assess the scope of such a global energy transition, our partnership is carrying out a scenario based global energy assessment on sustainable energy for all as a contribution to the Rio + 20 Earth Summit ( summary in Annex below). Our assessment urges nations in the world to recognize:

a) the fundamental importance of increasing energy demand in poor and emerging economies, from basic needs to energy services for income generation, as a precondition for attaining sustainable development. Energy is not only a fundamental building block for human development but the key to unleashing economic development. Securing energy for development is therefore a primary concern – and point of shared interest – across developing, emerging and developed countries.

b) that energy is a driver in the "Anthropocene" but also that a global energy transition within planetary boundaries is within reach, despite massive growth in energy demand, to meet basic energy needs and growing energy demands from economic development. The transition will require substantial investments but will generate co-benefits such as employment opportunities, enhanced security from diversification of supply, and better resource efficiency.

c) the urgent need to accelerate the energy transition. Key transformation pathways have been set in motion but must be accelerated at national and regional levels. Carbon pricing is necessary but not sufficient for driving the transition. Beyond this, governance responses need to be explored across levels to induce transitions through scaling up a diversity of supply and demand options.

The overarching recommendation for the world's nations to consider is the adoption of a set of strategic principles, translated into practical action in order to enable a global energy transition in time to avoid large scale crises for nations of the world:

1. Accelerate the implementation of national and international energy policies that drive efficiency enhancements and provide incentives for innovation and support scale-up of renewable energy sources (e.g., white and green certificates, feed-in tariffs, technology standards, and removal of subsidies for fossil energy sources).
2. Develop a transparent global investment fund for renewable energy systems for poor and emerging economies and couple this with technology sharing and learning platforms for sustainable energy. Investments and accelerated adoption of renewable energy technologies by developed countries can bring down the costs thereby reducing the size of the fund needed. Position paper – Sustainable Energy for All SEI and FBDS
3. Develop policy assessment frameworks for economic development policies and strategies that enable the management of Earth systems risks and vulnerabilities in relation to renewable and non-renewable energy expansion worldwide, and its linkages to other sectors such as water and agriculture. The planetary boundaries framework can be a basis for an integrated and systemic assessment framework for the world's energy systems, with due regard to issues of equity and justice.
4. Adopt sustainable energy supply and demand measures as a "currency" for measuring progress in development endeavors (e.g., for reaching the Millennium Development Goals) and for policy action on meeting global environmental goals. This means that sustainable energy provision or demand improvements are accounted for and credited within the global negotiating frameworks including UNFCCC and CBD.

ANNEX: A global assessment of a sustainable energy for all (Summary)

Our assessment complements the range of energy pathways previously examined in the recently launched Global Energy Assessment (GEA, 2011). Our assessment develops two key scenarios; (1) basic levels of energy access are met within a carbon constrained world (based on GEA pathways), and (2) an energy pathway is developed, which is consistent with much greater levels of development in the developing world and higher levels of convergence to the levels of well-being currently enjoyed in OECD nations, whilst still keeping within the planetary boundaries.

Energy for all: from basic access to pathways in a new development model

Worldwide, approximately 2.7 billion people today rely on traditional biomass for cooking and heating and about 1.3 billion have no access to electricity (IEA, 2011). Up to a billion more have access only to unreliable electricity networks (AGECC, 2010). Access of the poor to energy is a central concern for governments around the world. Providing clean and affordable energy reliably for poor households is an important prerequisite in the fight against poverty and to improve wellbeing, and widely regarded as a key to make advancements on the Millennium Development Goals (Ekholm, Krey et al. 2010).

However, there is an increasing consensus in the developing world that "energy for all" must go beyond basic access and should be understood as energy system development through electricity and modern fuels for productive and industrial uses everywhere in the world, compatible with income generation and economic development, in for instance agriculture, industrial processes, and fuel for transport. Our assessment therefore looks at the implications of a new global development model in energy terms, which in income terms shows a more rapid convergence over time in GDP per capita than is usually considered, and examines what energy end uses are required at these levels of GDP, taking into account potentials for efficiency improvements.

In the "new model" scenario, annual GDP per capita growth trajectories will average 0.5-1% for EU and US, 4-5% for emerging economic powers such as China, and 7-8% for the less developed countries (preliminary estimates). This means that by 2050, all countries in the world will have a GDP per capita which is at least at the level of current middle-income countries (ca 20,000 USD per capita).

Extrapolating the trends would imply converging income levels globally before 2100. The converging GDP trajectories is a development that has normative connotations, but it is also one that is already underway in several places. For example, while the EU has experienced growth rates of about 0-2% annually over the last decade, many countries in Latin America, Asia and Africa have registered growth rates of about 10% annually.

Achieving the three sets of objectives that we included in our operationalization of sustainable energy for all requires transformations in several energy subsystems, including, for instance: reorganization and modal shifts of urban and regional transport and infrastructure, enhancing energy efficiency in buildings and industry; expanding wind, solar and agro-bioenergy production, enabling consumption reductions and lifestyle change, expanding off grid solar energy, and new cooking and heating technologies and developing smart transmission networks and distribution grids. Such transformations and systems changes will unfold with specific patterns in each of the world regions, depending on demographic and income trajectories, natural resource constraints, and technical feasibility. They are examined in in-depth case studies from a socio-technical systems and innovation perspective.

Planetary boundaries: sustainable energy within a safe operating space

The growing scientific insights that we may have entered a new geological epoch, the Anthropocene, where humanity constitutes a global geological force through the aggregate human pressures on the Earth system, triggered the scientific development of a new framework for global sustainability – "the planetary boundaries concept" - building on recent advancements in Earth system science (Rockström et al., 2009). The planetary boundaries framework identifies Earth system processes that require active stewardship in order to avoid unwanted non-linear changes in the biophysical systems on Earth that in turn are likely to generate deleterious or even catastrophic outcomes for regions of nations or the world at large. Nine planetary boundaries have been identified, of which 7 have received proposed quantifications for safe boundary levels of key control variables (Table 1).

Table 1. Planetary boundaries (source: Rockström et al, 2009)

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

Energy systems are dependent, and impact upon, essentially all of the planetary boundaries. Energy systems based on fossil energy sources impact on the planetary boundaries for climate change, ozone depletion, aerosol loading, and chemical pollution. Hydropower affects the boundaries on freshwater use, rate of biodiversity loss, and land use change. Nuclear power affects the boundaries on chemical pollution risks and biodiversity. Renewable energy systems based on biomass systems impact the boundaries on land use change, freshwater use, interference with the nitrogen and phosphorus cycles, the rate of biodiversity loss, aerosol loading and climate change.

Energy access to service basic human needs will have a limited impact on our ability to stay within the planetary boundaries. According to the IEA (2011) basic universal electricity access would add around 1.3 per cent of total GHG emissions in 2030. However, more ambitious targets associated with productive uses of energy provide more of a challenge. On the climate change boundary, as an example, our assessment looks at the global energy pathways up to 2050 compatible with a 2 degrees target, based on



the most recent review of the global climate science (eg Rummukainen, Johansson et al. 2011 and GEA, 2011). The 2 degree target requires global emissions reductions of 50-60% from 2000 to 2050 (and close to 100% by 2100). At the same time, to enable the provision of energy for development requires a convergence in per capita emissions around the world. Preliminary estimates point to emissions reductions in the EU and US in the range of 75-90% compared with 2000 levels by 2050. Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa and many parts of Asia can instead increase emissions for a few decades more, but will ultimately have to bend the curves on emissions well before 2050.

Assessment Partners: Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Brazilian Foundation for Sustainable Development (FBDS), African Climate Policy Centre (ACPC), Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (COPPE), International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, (IIASA), Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency (PBL), World Resources Institute (WRI).

## Sustainable World Initiative

### Sustainability Evaluation and Reporting (SER)

Recommendation to fully incorporate SER into the "Zero Draft" of the Secretary General's Compilation Document for Rio 2012, and for its incorporation into the final 'plan of action' at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

Background: The nations of the world have already clearly acknowledged and endorsed our common responsibility to operate human civilization in harmony with the natural environment, so as to maximize human development potential, advance human well-being, and preserve all life on planet Earth. More specifically, as provided in Agenda 21, the relationships between population size, human societal activity, and environmental resources and between environmental degradation and the components of demographic change should be analyzed.<sup>1</sup> Moreover, assessments should be made of national population carrying capacities in the context of satisfaction of human needs, sustainable development and human rights, and special attention should be given to critical resources, such as water and land, and environmental factors, such as ecosystem health and biodiversity.<sup>2</sup>

In developing the final plan of action for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, it is important to reaffirm and build upon Agenda 21 by explicitly recognizing that:

1. All life on planet Earth is dependent on a highly complex and ubiquitous set of biological and geophysical resource systems;
2. Human life and all of our economic and societal activities require and rely on the goods and services of Earth's natural resource systems;
3. Economic and social development are dependent on adequate and healthy resource systems;
4. Human civilization for all practical purposes, must operate within the limits of one planet Earth (a closed system with finite resources);
5. A sustainable system is one that can continue to operate indefinitely without degrading the biophysical basis of its own existence;
6. Sustainability (or resource system integrity) can be measured by assessing the total amount of biophysical resource demands placed upon a system, and comparing these demands to the system's total capacity to supply needed resources;
7. Scientifically based accounting methodologies are available to do sustainability assessments as described in item 7 above;
8. Sustainability evaluation methodologies [also referred to as resource macro-balance assessments] can be used demonstrate unsustainable behavior long before such behavior causes severe and potentially irreparable damage to planetary resource systems;
9. Sizable human population increases and growth in the global economy over the past few decades have caused humanity's resource demands to exceed planetary natural resource limits. The world is now in a state of natural resource overshoot, an unstable drawdown condition that can lead to economic and societal breakdown;
10. Global warming, climate change, peak oil, fresh water shortages, toxicity increases in the global food chain, rapid biodiversity loss, coral reef degradation, and deforestation are all tangible signs that we are exceeding regional and global resource limits;
11. Human over-consumption (overshoot) of global resources, and the resulting endangerment to the health and well-being of many global resource systems, is a significant emerging issue that the world must address;
12. Earthly resources are, to a large extent, managed and controlled by individual sovereign nations. However, demands on resource goods and services can easily transcend national boundaries through international commerce and unequal exploitation of the global commons; and
13. Shortages of resources, degradation of global resource systems, and other deleterious conditions associated with resource overshoot such as global warming and climate change, pose a threat to global harmony, equity, and security. Recognizing these fundamental tenets, and desiring to promote global equity, maximize global security, preserve global resource systems, and protect the ability of future generations to adequately meet their needs, the Conference and the attending countries should:

1. Embrace the broad concept of sustainability (balanced living within our resource means) and commit to a program of action which defines, and ultimately will result in, continuous sustainability [resource macro-balance] improvement;
2. Acknowledge that the preservation of global resources and resource systems is the responsibility of individual nations, as well as all nations of the global community working together;
3. Declare that resource preservation and sound conservation practices are in the best interests of everyone in the world community;
4. Participate in international dialogs and initiatives that advance scientific, social, and political understanding of resource preservation issues;
5. Support the adoption of sustainability evaluation processes [resource macro-balance assessments] at the country level, and periodically determine our national resource sustainability position in accordance with the plan of action contained herein.
6. Commit to the public disclosure of national sustainability evaluations and the sharing of them with the United Nations Environmental Program, in accordance with the plan of action.
7. Encourage participating countries to adopt and commence work on a national strategic planning process that will ultimately define and advance viable alternative future sustainable living scenarios.

8. Call upon the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) to support national sustainability evaluation and reporting. Proposed Plan of Action Basis for action -

1.0 The global economy and total scale of human societal activity on the planet is not sustainable at current levels of population and consumption, and the global issue of resource over-use is becoming more severe with time. Our global 'business as usual' is leading us on a collision course with nature and undermining the resource assets of the planet that are foundationally necessary for social and economic development. The fundamental shift that has occurred in our relationship with the natural world is a significant emerging issue that the world must address.

2.0 The ongoing (and accelerating) human over-conscription of resources, sometimes referred to as ecological overshoot - but more generally referred to as resource overshoot - now jeopardizes the long-term viability of many earthly resource systems. As these overshoot threats compound in scale and duration, we place human well-being (for both current and future generations) in jeopardy.

3.0 In response to this emerging issue, and to the threat it represents, humanity must now pay close attention to the resource sustainability of our total economic and societal activities. We must begin to monitor our combined activities and to take appropriate steps to ensure that they are conducted within the finite limits of planetary resource capacity. To ensure a truly sustainable future for the world, we must address the total biological and geo-physical balance between what humans and other species demand of nature and what nature can provide. Creating and preserving an appropriate total resource demand vs. supply balance is a critical requirement of sustainability and the long-term viability of the planet. Objectives .

1.0 Make total resource sustainability central to our current and future thinking. Such a plan will require both national and international action and a new approach to international environmental governance.

2.0 Develop an internationally recognized process for conducting periodic sustainability assessments at the national governance level that would commit participating countries to:

2.1 Periodically reviewing their bio-physical resource demands;

2.2 Comparing these demands with their resource capacities; and

2.3 Developing future sustainable living scenarios for their countries which ultimately bring their resource demands into balance with their resource capacities. Activities -

1.0 National Action: Each nation must individually embrace the broad concept of sustainability (living within our means) and commit to a program of action which results in continuous macro[?]balance improvement. This commitment will require a robust scientifically-based sustainability planning effort, and for most countries this will mean creating a new national sustainability institution, or at least a new sustainability focus within an existing institution. It will require new evaluation processes, periodic reporting, and a commitment to adopting national policies that promote self-sufficiency within the natural resource limits of each respective sovereign territory.

1.1. Each nation, within the bounds of international law and human rights, enjoys full national sovereignty, knows its own societal and cultural needs, and has the right to determine its own unique path toward sustainability. Consequently it is at the aggregated level of national governance that most of the sustainability work must be done.

1.2 Each nation, with coordinating assistance from the new International Sustainability Program (ISP), should commit to annually evaluating its national resource sustainability position, and reporting the results of these evaluations to its citizens, policy makers, and to the ISP.

2.0 International Sustainability Program (ISP): A new international sustainability focus is required3 to accomplish the following:

2.1 Support of national sustainability efforts [?] Nations will require scientific, policy, and administrative support to evaluate, report progress, and move in the direction of macrobiophysical sustainability within their respective sovereign entities. An international sustainability institution is needed to provide scientific as well as policy guidance in support of these national sustainability efforts, and to provide universally acceptable sustainability standards.

2.2 Allocation of international resources - Certain resources are spatially outside of national boundaries and are considered part of the global commons, most notably ocean resources including international fisheries and the ocean's carbon sequestration capacity. All such international resources must be allocated to individual sovereign states so that they are realistically included in national sustainability plans and goal setting. If international resources are allocated in this manner, then national sustainability plans can be aggregated to produce a viable global sustainability scenario.

2.3 Global management of waste loadings . Toxic waste loadings cannot be managed within a national 'balance with nature' framework for a number of reasons. First, the long term capacity of the biosphere (along with the lithosphere) to assimilate toxic and other difficult anthropogenic waste streams is not clearly understood. Second, many (if not most) toxic wastes migrate beyond national boundaries, and we are not able to accurately account for this migration. Third, in order to manage by balancing it is essential that we are able to reasonably calculate an anthropogenic demand (human waste output), and compare it to the assimilation capacity of natural ecosystems. The former we can probably do by reporting and aggregating point source emissions, but the latter is virtually impossible. We simply do not know, and cannot calculate with the required degree of precision, nature's capacity to assimilate our toxic waste loadings. These realities make it clear that we must regulate toxic wastes at the international level and address the threats posed by them in much the same way that we dealt with threats to the world[?]s ozone layer, and in a manner consistent with the precautionary principal for the long-term benefit of all nations. [Note: This ISP function applies for persistent toxic wastes and does not apply to humanity's largest non-aqueous waste stream: CO2. CO2 emissions can be managed by individual nations within a renewable resources 'balancing framework,' because we are able to calculate CO2 demand (by aggregating point source emissions) and also calculate the carbon sequestration capacity for individual sovereign territories.]

2.4 International sustainability goal setting - Although each sovereign country will independently chart its own course toward the goal of national macro-sustainability, and achieve progress along its respective path (see section 2.1. above), progress for the world as a whole may be insufficient to reasonably ensure the future viability of global ecosystems (e.g. excessive planetary warming or ocean degradation). Therefore sustainability goal setting must also be done at the global level. The international sustainability institution must solicit appropriate scientific advice, and periodically develop sustainability goals and targets. This international body will also be responsible for overseeing international efforts or negotiations aimed at encouraging or facilitating international action on sustainability.

2.5 Global sustainability monitoring - Global sustainability can best be evaluated and achieved via aggregation of national sustainability efforts. The international sustainability institution, as an international watchdog, must monitor and ensure progress of individual national efforts, and report progress (or non-compliance) to appropriate international forums.

2.6 Forum for international resource agreements - Many nations will not be able to achieve balanced resource plans within the natural resource constraints of their sovereign territories. Therefore they will need, at least for some period of time, to acquire legitimate rights to resources from other nations. The international sustainability governance function should provide a forum for the negotiation of such resource treaties and agreements, and promote transparent international dialog about global resource demands, capacities, and sustainability trends.

The new international sustainability administrative focus (the ISP) will be initially formed and made operational by the end of 2012. UNEP will be the lead agency for the

creation of the ISP.

## SustainUS

Inputs: Rio+20 Compilation Document

November 1, 2011

As youth, we will live in a world shaped by the outcomes of the Rio+20 summit. Over the past century we have seen the needs of future generations neglected while ecosystems are abused and the people who depend on them ignored. Global ecological and economic crises are not distant possibilities; they are an immediate reality and require global collaboration. We call for a Rio+20 process that ensures bold and immediate action that protects the rights of future generations to lead meaningful and dignified lives.

### Expanding the Definition of Sustainable Development

Sustainability is a critical organizing concept for global action but vague and competing definitions pose a liability to successful outcomes. Current UN definitions are helpful but often fail to go far enough in capturing the full scope of work involved in meaningful sustainable development and a transition to a global green economy. We call on Member States to:

- Adopt a definition of sustainability that conveys underpinning ecological, social, cultural, and economic principles. We need to re-conceptualize development and prioritize the precautionary principle if we are to achieve sustainability.
- Adopt a definition of "green economy" that prioritizes the well-being and basic needs of people and recognizes that infinite material growth is impossible in a finite world. A green economy must minimize ecosystem degradation and move beyond GDP as the sole indicator of prosperity.

### Improving Institutions and Governance Systems

Achieving the goal of global sustainability depends on having an effective institutional framework based on commitment from sovereign governments. Rio+20 will be a unique opportunity to strengthen international environmental governance and to develop the necessary tools to mitigate and adapt to current world challenges.

- We call on Member States to strengthen the responsibilities and mandate of the UNEP. The strengthened institution needs to possess the financial support to fully streamline its monitoring, assessment and reporting responsibilities.
- We call on the Secretariat to initiate an extensive review of compliance mechanisms within existing international environmental agreements, identifying the most successful practices and supporting their use in future agreements.

### Creating Tools for the Green Economy

Our current global economic institutions and international economic system have failed to adequately support sustainable development – we need new policies to assist in the transition to a green economy. Youth need to be a central stakeholder of any such policies since we will be the ones to carry forward this new economy. We call on Member States to:

- Streamline green technology standards across all countries and international institutions to better facilitate the transfer and dissemination of green technology.
- Address the adverse impacts of structural adjustment programs (including austerity measures, privatization, and export-led growth) on sustainable development and poverty alleviation.
- Promote 'active labor market policies' including: subsidized or free primary, secondary, and post-secondary education; job training; and unemployment insurance in order to improve labor market flexibility and income mobility in the face of ecological changes and changes to industrial structure that may emerge due to environmental regulation.
- Establish international legal structures that recognize and protect the rights of 'benefit corporations' to pursue a 'triple bottom line' of economic, social, and environmental gains without undermining fiduciary responsibility.
- Recognize and address the need for a reform of the international banking and finance sector through the implementation of a Financial Transaction Tax (also known as a Tobin or Robin Hood Tax). The money collected through this tax should be put towards sustainable development initiatives.
- Call for a review and potential cancellation of third-world debt in appropriate circumstances where it will allow for further investment in sustainable development initiatives. Debt-for-nature swaps, with indigenous peoples as key stakeholders, should also be considered.
- Recognize, with regards to the green economy, that one size does not fit all and instead offer a range of ideas and possibilities for all countries on the path to sustainable development. These should be based on the sharing of best practices, lessons learned, and the robust transfer of knowledge and technology.

### Equity and Equality: The Foundation of Sustainable Development

The objective of any international policy should be to further promote equity and equality. Rio+20 needs to prioritize both of these concepts as it discusses ways to bring about sustainable development. We call on Member States to:

- Prioritize local control of resources, recognizing that the privatization of essential resources such as water – especially without robust public monitoring and oversight – risks restricting people's access to resources that have sustained them for generations. In the absence of resource management structures, states should build capacity for management rather than privatizing or managing resources directly. Indigenous peoples and their historical rights to resources, particularly land, must be explicitly protected.
- Address the inequities of development by establishing concrete planning mechanisms for the equitable distribution of benefits of international development projects. Development fundamentally implies a change in existing structures. As a result, we must actively mitigate harms to those who are adversely affected.
- Recognize that developing countries, local communities and individuals need stronger legal and economic institutions to maintain their sovereignty and freedom to develop along paths other than export-led growth.
- Establish a legal forum in which affected individuals can seek redress from parties facilitating trans-national development projects. Individuals need to be given space to legally defend themselves when their land and communities are threatened.

- Recognize and address the need for global protection of the commons. Land, sky, water, ecosystems, ores, public spaces, scientific knowledge and local customs all sprang from nature's abundance and/or the life's work of previous generations. We need international institutions to assist in protecting these shared resources.

#### Conflict and Disaster: Obstacles to Sustainable Development

In the Johannesburg Declaration (paragraph 19), Member States "reaffirm [their] pledge to place particular focus on, and give priority attention to, the fight against the worldwide conditions that pose severe threats to the sustainable development of our people, which include...armed conflict...[and] natural disasters..." We need a renewed commitment to closing implementation gaps and achieving progress on these critical issues. We call on Member States to:

- Address as a priority the impacts of armed conflict on local communities and the environment, with special consideration for related conditions that pose severe threats to children and youth, such as: disruption of basic services, endemic disease, intolerance, terrorism, and environmental hazards and degradation (e.g., landmines and medical waste).
- Strengthen international, national, and local partnerships to engage local stakeholders in support of integrated financial mechanisms, as well as post-conflict and environmental disaster assessments, cleanup and reconstruction, capacity building, victim assistance, and risk education.
- Actively foster, with the support of the Secretariat, intra-UN collaboration to effectively and comprehensively address the impacts of armed conflict and disaster on sustainable development. Civil society should also be actively involved in the development and implementation of innovative and robust policy measures.
- Recognize the unique needs of environmentally displaced peoples and consider establishing international procedures to assist them.
- Emphasize the crucial role of sustainable development in mitigating the economic, social, and environmental effects of armed conflict, and in promoting and sustaining peace.

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## Swedish International Centre of Education for Sustainable Development (SWEDESD)

Contribution to UNCSD2012 Compilation Document from the Swedish International Centre of Education for Sustainable Development (SWEDESD)

This contribution relates in particular to "specific element B" in the Co-Chairs' Guidance Note, i.e. to green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

On the importance of education for sustainable development (ESD) in the quest for a green economy

What is a green economy?

And what is the link between a green economy and ESD?

The first question partly answers the second one. Being a new concept without an established definition, there is some confusion on what green economy entails and implies. As the UN general secretary puts it (UN 2010):

"greater conceptual clarity is needed with regard to the links between a green economy and sustainable development. In particular, there is a need to be explicit on the practical implications of the approach, namely the menu of policies and actions proposed under the banner of the green economy"

Interpretations of the green economy cover disparate and sometimes contradictory ideas, and naturally different stakeholders bring different views to the discussion – spanning from promotion of innovation, green jobs and technology transfer to reformation of the way we think about progress and wellbeing; from changing incentive structures in global financial markets to advocating community-based small-scale banking; from the importance of food security to the importance to stop subsidizing the use of fossil fuels; and so on.

In this sense, the green economy concept is susceptible to the same critique that is raised against the sustainable development concept – that it is so inclusive that it runs the risk of becoming watered down and weak as a guide to policymaking. The topics mentioned above are certainly not new on the development agenda. So, is green economy old wine in new bottles?

The SWEDESD stand is that the green economy concept is a welcome addition to the box of tools available for ESD. It provides a useful lens through which the sustainable development agenda can be looked upon, better understood and advanced. Although discussions on green economy cover disparate ideas, they have in common a basic notion that the current economic system is generally not providing the most desirable social outcomes – be it in terms of margins to the physical boundaries of the planet (e.g. Rockström et al 2009), poverty (e.g. UNDP 2010) or inequality across and within nations (e.g. Wilkinson and Pickett 2009). In other words, the green economy concept implies that a fundamental part in finding paths towards sustainable development is analyzing how markets in a broad sense allocate limited resources. The importance of correcting market failures is indeed a key message in the most prominent policy documents on green economy (e.g. UNEP 2011; UN-DESA 2009; OECD 2009; European Commission 2011; UNEP, ILO, IOE & ITUC 2008 and Jackson 2009).

Focusing on market failures can help acknowledging social and environmental values that are currently not accounted for in conventional markets and policies. It can also reveal potential for unacknowledged synergies between different policy objectives. Ecosystem services for poverty alleviation (ESPA) approaches is one example (Millennium Ecosystem Assessment 2005). In ESPA, ecosystems services contributing to the livelihood, subsistence and/or resilience of people living in poverty as well as benefits for other parts of society are secured by investments that conventional markets fail to do.

By focusing on how markets tie together human activities and allocate resources that are limited, the green economy concept also has the potential of making short-term tradeoffs between different policy objectives explicit – perhaps more so than in previous development approaches where the characteristics of markets is not a focus area. Short-term tradeoffs between policy objectives are frequently evident when the three dimensions of sustainable development (social, ecological, economic) are considered together – e.g. when poverty because of unemployment increases when a business that harms ecosystems is shut down, or when there are conflicting interests in services from a particular ecosystem – e.g. recreation values in a forest versus commercial values such as timber.

So what role can ESD play in green economy?

Just as often stressed regarding sustainable development in general, a key for advancing the understanding of what a green economy is and how it should be implemented is creating platforms where different stakeholders can meet and learn in collaboration. Such platforms are needed both inside and outside the formal educational system, in accordance with ESD theory (UNESCO 2005). As mentioned above, a focus on resource allocation can help economists identify market failures, synergies and tradeoffs. However, arriving at an overall understanding of how relevant aspects fit together can be thought of as assembling a jigsaw puzzle where a multitude of disciplines within both natural and social science contribute with pieces of information. Natural scientists are trying to pin down the pressure from economic activity that ecosystems on which we depend can stand given the size of the population, demographers are trying to predict the population growth over the coming decades given expected GDP growth, engineers work on new technology that can increase human wellbeing and decrease environmental impact, behavioral economists, sociologists and psychologists try to complement the "rational agent" theory in order to better predict behavior in markets, and so on. Although the understanding of complex social-ecological relationships is continuously improved, the pieces are still too scattered for a coherent picture to emerge. The cross-sectoral approach inherent in the ESD concept can help in assembling the puzzle so that a this picture is discerned, although it will perhaps never be completed. Further, innovative ESD pedagogy and methodology can facilitate interaction and collaborative learning across scientific disciplines and scholarly traditions. In short: ESD can help in creating better-informed policy making, and in disseminating new understanding broadly in society – i.e. give input to the complex processes that shape social preferences upon which decisions in democracies are based.

As an illustration of this, one can think of environmental valuation. This is a method for revealing true preferences related to the environment that are not accurately expressed in markets because of imperfect information, ill-defined or lacking property rights, bounded rationality, moral hazard and/or free riding (e.g. TEEB 2010). The results from environmental valuation can guide policies aimed at correcting market failures through taxation, subsidies or command and control measures. While environmental valuation can capture certain values ignored in markets (in particular non-use values), techniques targeted at eliciting individual preferences are partly subject to the same phenomena that make markets fail – in particular imperfect information. We can never know the preferences of future generations, or the exact shape of ecosystem services supply curves including thresholds that can cause sudden collapses. There are further problems involved in aggregating expressions of individual ordinal utility (e.g. Arrow 1951). To tackle these issues, ESD institutions could play an important role by bringing together stakeholders with different expertise and diverging preferences and facilitate deliberation in accordance with group valuation techniques, thereby shaping and formulating social preferences (e.g. Jacobs 1997). This methodology is slowly emerging in academic settings, but it deserves more attention as a key tool for implementing the green economy concept.

In view of the above, SWEDESD calls for the explicit acknowledgment of the importance of ESD in pursuing the green economy agenda in the UNCSD2012 Compilation Document – certainly also beyond the end of the UN decade of ESD 2005-2014.

So what are the critical issues in the discussion on green economy?

To conclude this contribution and adhere to the UN general secretary's call for items on the menu of green economy policies, we list below a few issues that we think deserve particular attention in the continued discussions on green economy. To be solved they all require collaborative learning among different stakeholders and input from various scientific disciplines, which again highlights the importance of ESD.

- There is a need for large scale support to initiatives such as the Green Accounting for Indian States & Union Territories Project (GAISP) aimed at mapping environmental values currently not acknowledged by markets.
- There is a need for multilateral discussions on green economy to focus explicitly on the problem of leakage, i.e. that regional environmental regulations may have little effect as activities causing environmental costs move to regions where regulation is lacking.
- There is a need for a deeper understanding of how rebound effects hamper decoupling, i.e. how gains from greater efficiency in production are used to increase economic activity leaving overall environmental impact unaffected or even worsened. The discussion on shorter work hours should be considered in this regard (e.g. Rosnick & Weisbrod 2006).
- The risk of increasing poverty and inequality when economic activities causing environmental cost shut down following strengthened regulation needs to be thoroughly addressed. The "green jobs" discourse and role of public investments in "green" infrastructure and training should be considered (e.g. UNEP, ILO, IOE & ITUC 2009).
- The relationship between wellbeing and conventional economic growth needs to be understood better in order to see what role the GDP measurement or proposed alternatives should play in guiding policy.
- The role of the financial sector in creating credit that enhances conventional growth needs to be examined further in the light of market failures, along with the effect that moral hazard, bounded rationality and "animal spirits" (Akerlof & Shiller 2009) have on the function of capital and derivatives markets.
- The trade-off between securing intellectual property rights in order to spur innovation and quickly disseminate new "green" technologies needs to be better understood, in particular in view of government R & D funding.

## Swedish Society for Nature Conservation (SSNC)

SUBMISSION TO INPUT DOCUMENT FOR THE ZERO DRAFT OF OUTCOME DOCUMENT FOR THE UN CONFERENCE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (RIO+20)

A public investment programme to drive transformation to 100% renewable energy while ensuring universal access to affordable, renewable energy.

The case for establishing a global system of national feed-in tariffs/guarantee prices linked to a global fund

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1 November 2011

This document is a contribution to the negotiation process of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20) outcome document, and in particular provides concrete input to the operationalization of the conference theme "A Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication". It presents the core elements of a highly interesting approach to simultaneously tackle climate mitigation needs and the need to address development needs, in particular global energy poverty.

This approach has been developed by, among others, the Division for Sustainable Development at the UN Department for Social and Economic Affairs, and is gaining traction among both negotiators, policy makers and civil society organisations – in both developing and developed countries.

The scheme is one of the few mechanisms on the table that has a truly transformative potential, and that speaks clearly to why substantial public funds are needed for climate and development (e.g. through the UNFCCC Green Climate Fund or other new initiatives), and how a mechanism to effectively make use of a significant portion of these funds can be used to simultaneously tackle development and climate. The proposal is practical, doable and has the potential to evolve during the coming few years to become one of the most significant mechanisms to move the world towards sustainable development.

The following document<sup>1</sup> outlines the overall idea which we hope will be picked up by several governments in the lead up to Rio+20. One of the key strengths of the idea is its integrated approach which effectively transforms the current locked in, zero-sum logic of the climate negotiations to a win-win logic where mitigation and increased access to energy are no longer contradictory, but rather mutually reinforcing.

Furthermore, it speaks to the kinds and scope of funds that are needed, the potential to crowd in further investments, both public and private, and also shows some significant qualities in relation to governance, transparency and accountability. It provides a highly interesting framework where direct access to resources are ensured, while being output-based and thus ensuring that financial resources are only dispersed upon the delivery of clean, fossil-free and affordable energy. The proposal is framed as a cooperative, win-win effort, which would essentially have MRV built-in. In addition to the substantial transformative scope for both mitigation and provision of energy access for the 1.5 billion people currently lacking basic energy services, a major quality of the idea is its potential to help rebuild much eroded trust between developing and developed countries through true cooperation.

In addition to all of this, the approach would also constitute a true investment with significant returns also for the rich countries providing the public funds. With investments in renewable energy at the significant scale suggested, the actual costs of the technologies would be dramatically cut over a short period of time, thereby making the massive transition to 100% renewable energy also in the north in the decades ahead significantly cheaper. The proposal is a front-loaded public investment programme, which would at its end in 10-15 years time have achieved a radically new and favorable cost situation for renewable energy.

The recent IPCC report on renewable energy clearly shows the almost limitless technical potential for renewable energy, given the right economic context and political will. And as the IPCC report also points out, feed-in tariffs/guarantee prices are among the most effective mechanisms to quickly tap this potential and move the world towards 100% renewables and zero-carbon emissions. We hope the UNCSD process will take this idea into consideration, and clearly acknowledge the need for effective and substantial public investments in renewable energy through a global programme for feed-in tariffs/guarantee prices in the developing countries.

A green energy revolution for climate and development through a global system of feed-in tariffs for renewable energy

The climate crisis requires drastically reduced use of fossil fuels. At the same time at least two billion people need to increase their energy use to satisfy their basic needs.

With drastically increased investments in renewable energy through global feed-in tariffs both these challenges can be met simultaneously – while quickly making renewable energy competitive and reducing costs also in the rich countries.

A Marshall plan for climate and development where both South and North can gain.

Energy access – the need for affordable energy

Increased access to energy is essential in order for many of the world's poor people to improve their living conditions and exercise their right to live well. If poor people's needs are not taken seriously, any prospect for effectively tackling climate change also diminishes.

Two billion people – half the population in the developing countries – still need to rely on bioenergy, agricultural residues and dung for cooking. As many live with incomes of less than 2 dollars per person and day.

Access to energy is a decisive factor for people's well being. For example, countries with a low energy use score very low on the UN index for human development (HDI). For these countries even slightly higher energy use among the poor generally correlates to drastic improvements in HDI.

The double challenge

In order to promote a transition towards renewable energy, industrialized countries tend to favor the idea of increasing the prices of fossil energy relative to renewable alternatives, e.g through carbon trading schemes or taxes. But for poor people the main concern is cost, the availability of affordable energy – no matter what kind. For developing countries, a key challenge is therefore to make the renewable energy cheap enough.

This is the departure point for a UN proposal that has been called both "A Green Energy Revolution" and "A Global Green New Deal", launched in the 2009 UN report Promoting Development – Saving the Planet.

The Swedish Society for Nature Conservation sees this proposal as highly promising, and believes it has the potential to create a breakthrough in the climate negotiations. If the plan would be implemented, major positive changes to tackle the double challenge of tackling poverty while effectively reducing emissions would be achieved in a relatively short time, something which would rebuild some of the much eroded trust between developing and rich countries.

Global feed-in tariffs

The core idea in the proposal is to create a boom in demand for sustainable, renewable energy in developing countries. The key tool is to introduce guaranteed prices, or feed-in tariffs, for sustainable renewable energy. Feed-in tariffs have already been introduced in approximately 50 countries, and have contributed to significant increases in renewable energy in e.g. Germany and Spain. Many analysts have concluded that feed-in tariffs are by far the most effective policy tool/system for crowding in investments for renewable energy (see for example several Deutsche Bank reports<sup>3</sup>) The core principle is that those who invest in renewable energy are guaranteed to sell the energy at agreed prices that allows for a small margin. The price for consumers are then decided with consideration to what poor people can afford. The cost difference are covered by a subsidy financed by the rich countries through a global climate fund. According to the UN estimation, about USD 100 billion would be needed annually during 10-15 years – the time period needed in order to cut the production costs to a level where the subsidies are no longer needed and renewables have become cheaper than fossil fuels.

Financing and the Green Climate Fund

In the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), all industrialized countries have made a binding commitment to support poor countries through financing both a transition to low or zero-carbon societies and adaptation to the impacts of climate change. However, so far there have been very limited concrete contributions.

The proposal for subsidized feed-in tariffs have several qualities which speaks in favor of an ambitious global investment plan that could also gain traction among the industrialised countries.

- The system is output based, i.e payment (the subsidy) is only provided when the new, renewable energy is delivered. The energy will be metered in any case when it is sold, and the subsidy is then instantly provided through the national feed-in system, which in turn is coupled to the global climate fund. No money is dispersed for the actual construction of renewable energy projects – it is up to the investor to ensure that production costs are kept within the budget. There is thus little risk for corruption and misuse of funds.
- There is a time-limit for the program. The quicker the costs for new investments decreases, the quicker the need for the subsidies also diminishes. The program will not go on forever, but will last 10-15 years to take the world over the threshold to a renewable future.
- Diminishing costs and increased demand will create jobs, benefit progressive companies and facilitate/lower the costs for the necessary energy transition in both developing and industrialized countries.
- The proposal is fully compatible with the developing countries' demand for public financing through the creation of the Green Climate Fund, while at the same time tackling the rich countries' reluctance to provide funds with direct access. The proposal builds on mutual, cooperative agreements on how to use and disperse a substantial part of the money to meet clearly defined goals (promotion of renewable energy and improved access to affordable energy for the poor).
- The proposal breaks away from the climate negotiations current zero-sum logic to a positivesum, win-win approach where total energy availability increases, while emissions are cut – and energy access is tackled. The proposal can in a more general sense become an important stepping stone for rebuilding trust between north and south.

This proposal would have several direct implications on the way any financing body (e.g the new Green Climate Fund) would need to be set up.

☞ There is a need for real money. The feed-in tariff subsidies would be delivered on a continuous basis as renewable energy under the scheme is sold, i.e. the feed-in subsidy would be claimed by the producer from the national authority in charge of the feed-in tariff system at the very moment consumers pay their (affordably priced) energy bill. The national authority would in turn claim the subsidy from the specially established energy/feed-in tariff window of the global fund.

☞ This means that e.g. already existing aid flows, carbon credits or private investments, can not constitute sources of the Green Climate Fund – contributions must be new, additional and disbursable public money. However, the scheme will actively crowd in and enable both public and private investments in renewable energy that are manifold larger than the subsidies under the fund.

☞ There is a strong argument for front-loaded investments: early investments will drive the costs of renewable energy down quicker and thus reduce overall costs.

☞ A full fledged system involving most developing countries would require approximately USD 100 annually over at 10-15 year period, according to UN DESA. This clearly shows the need to significantly adjust upwards the Cancun figure for the Green Climate Fund of USD 100 billion and ensure this is public funding.

☞ It is also essential that the climate fund be governed in a way that guarantees participation and influence for both poor countries and civil society over how the money is allocated and that there is transparency in their spending.

#### Technology

The public investment proposal does not require new, uncertain technological breakthroughs. On contrary, the core idea is to mainly promote the refinement of and increase demand and cut costs for the kind of renewable energy solutions that already exist.

Steady demand is a very important driver for technological development and reduction of costs. The more ambitiously the world focuses on providing people with renewable energy, the quicker will the costs decrease.

But, there are more hurdles than high energy costs. The proposal also suggests actions to adapt both policy and the technologies to varying national and local conditions, and to support the developing countries with training and technological support.

It is also important to deal with the issue of patents, which enables companies to charge more for their technologies and leads to complicated procedures that often limits the availability of the desired technologies. These barriers must be effectively dealt with and removed.

A system of feed-in tariffs means that society are actively picking the winners, i.e actively promoting the kinds of energy solutions that are desirable. It is therefore essential that a system and procedures are designed, from the very beginning, that guarantees that technologies are assessed and scrutinized in a reliable and thorough manner, with participation of civil society and affected groups. Society must ensure that the technologies which are promoted do not lead to undesired, negative effects for people and the environment (i.e. no large hydro, biochar, biofuels, or nuclear energy should be eligible for feed-in tariffs). Assessments must be made at several levels, from the local to the global. It is particularly important to analyze how different technologies impact on the poorest and most vulnerable groups in society.

#### Energy efficiency and systems approaches

It is essential that any feed-in tariff system is designed so that they simultaneously promote energy efficiency and energy development that is appropriate for the local context. Requirements and support for energy efficiency should be integrated in the design of the scheme, so that the maximum amount of energy services is obtained from each invested kilowatt-hour. It is not appropriate to only promote the maximum amount of installed capacity – this would constitute a waste of public resources, weaken the benefits, and promote mega-projects at the expense of more appropriate, local and smallscale solutions. It is also important to ensure ways to promote and subsidize non-electricity energy solutions where more appropriate.

#### Bottom-up energy revolution

A global system of feed-in tariffs could and should encourage and enable a bottom-up, people-driven transition to renewable energy. For example, a cooperative, a municipality, or a group of communities could come together and decide they should construct their own solar energy system and set up a small, local grid. With a feed-in tariff law in place, they would be able to take a commercial loan, or obtain state grants to begin the construction process almost immediately, knowing they are guaranteed the feed-in subsidy over the whole 10-15 year period. The proposal thus has a potential to spur a massive true small-scale, bottom-up renewable energy revolution across the world.

At the same time, the scheme may allow for commercial actors to make investments with a guaranteed, modest profit margin. It is, however, essential that the various national feed-in laws and systems become promoters of local, people-based solutions and that measures are designed from the beginning to avoid crowding out and dominance by e.g. large, foreign corporations. A substantial share of the feed-in subsidies should be oriented to off-grid solutions (i.e. small, local grids rather than large national grids).

#### Part of the solution

A global action plan for climate must reach beyond the transition to renewable energy. And it must be clear that the quest is not about a copying of Western high energy use and overconsuming notion of development. Yet, there are unquestionable needs for much more energy among the poorer segments of society in developing countries.

The main message in this proposal is thus to take an integrated approach to climate and development and recognize the critical/essential need for major, front-loaded public investments to enable the necessary structural transformations that are needed. Responses to climate change and poverty must be bold, ambitious and visionary, and must manage to integrate the double challenges of climate and development. There is a need for ambitious public investments also in energy efficiency, new and efficient public transport systems, a transition to organic agriculture and ways to tackle deforestation. In addition, public investment must increase many times in order to deal with adaptation for those who are the poorest and most vulnerable.

Climate change is at the core an issue of climate and justice/equity.

The ideas for a global system of feed-in tariffs for renewable energy presented here is gaining major traction among a broad range of actors, including Parties, civil society organizations, social movements, researchers and others. The Swedish Society for Nature Conservation is working with partners to ensure that this promising scheme will be firmly placed on the agenda of both the UNFCCC and Rio +20 negotiations, and that simultaneously a constellation of countries from both the north and the south come together to set up an initial pilot scheme that can, as a following step, be scaled up as a formal UN structure. We strongly encourage the UNCSO to seriously consider this proposal.

An 92-page compilation of fact-sheets, reports, articles and other material from both SSNC, the UN, Deutsche Bank and other institutions speaking in favour of this idea can be downloaded at [http://www.naturskyddsforeningen.se/upload/Foreningsdokument/Klimat/Knackfragor/GER\\_feed-intariff\\_compilation.pdf](http://www.naturskyddsforeningen.se/upload/Foreningsdokument/Klimat/Knackfragor/GER_feed-intariff_compilation.pdf)

## TakingITGlobal

THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (UNCSO) 2012

### INPUTS OF TAKINGITGLOBAL

Population dynamics, education and sustainable development are linked. It is important to reaffirm role of sexual and reproductive health and rights, gender equality, poverty, transportation and food systems while achieving sustainable development. This means ensuring that policies and programmes that aim to achieve sustainable development should also promote the human rights of all people to the highest attainable standard of sexual and reproductive health and wellbeing, particularly for women, young people and those living in poverty.

Young people are the present and the future. There are over 1.8 billion people aged 10-24 years in the world today, the majority of whom live in developing countries. In most developing countries, this generation of young people comprises more than a third of their country's population. In 67 developing countries, young people aged 10-24 constitute more than 40% of the adult population above 10 years of age. Young people are the most significant demographic group today and will remain so for the coming decades.

Policies should take into account the drivers of population growth. As the world reaches 7 billion, it is projected to grow to 9.3 billion by 2050. In the context of a green economy, there is an urgent need for countries to incorporate policies and programmes that take these dynamics into account and effectively respond to the shifting sources of population growth, especially through access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and contraceptives.

Access to sexual and reproductive health and rights addresses high fertility and sustainability. Globally, an estimated 215 million women want to use family planning methods and services, but do not have access to them. Universal access to sexual and reproductive health including family planning should be one the key interventions needed to achieve sustainable, low-carbon development. If governments and other donors fund sexual and reproductive health services and supplies, we can advance environmental sustainability while also promoting social justice, development and human rights.

Gender equality and access to health will slow down population momentum. Putting in place approaches to increase the age at marriage and enhancing adolescents' sexual and reproductive health, educational levels, and income-generating potential can have significant effects on population growth rates. Where girls are able stay in school until secondary school and are empowered to decide on matters related to their sexuality and reproduction, there is a significant observed effect in delaying child birth and increasing spacing.

HIV prevention amongst young people ensures a sustainable workforce. Governments must recognize that the response to HIV is both a human rights issue and also an economic necessity crucial to eradicating poverty.

Access to sexual and reproductive health services promotes adaptation. Young women's health and well-being, their ability to choose if or when to have children and their risk or early pregnancy is affected by their lack of access to safe and stigma free sexual and reproductive health services, contraception and comprehensive sexuality education. Such access helps build resistance among individuals and communities and should be incorporated as a part of policies to promote sustainable development and adaptation strategies for climate change.

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

In the context of the Green Economy, member states should:

- Recognize that sustainable development entails empowering young people, particularly the most marginalized, by investing in their education, health including sustainability, sexual and reproductive health, employment and leadership.
- Prioritize their full and effective implementation of these commitments through multi-sectoral programmes that link social justice, access to health, gender equality and low carbon living with environmental sustainability.
- Effectively educate and communicate the social and environmental costs unsustainable lifestyles with an emphasis on food, meat consumption, food distribution costs and sustainable transportation.
- Take into account population dynamics in policies and expand rights-based programmes that effectively respond to the shifting sources of population growth through promotion of sexual and reproductive health and rights.
- Commit to achieve a society built upon gender equality which develops the capacities and empowerment of young people, particularly young women. Young women should be prioritized in the production and marketing of green technologies in the transition to a green economy, and there should be a focus on addressing the gendered impacts of climate change as a part of strategies to promote adaptation.
- Support gender-sensitive, age-appropriate, life-skills-based comprehensive sexuality education for young people both in and out of school based on international standards



as a way to empower young people, promote gender equality, human rights, prevent HIV and increase use of sexual and reproductive health services.

- Expand and support young people's choices and opportunities by ensuring and investing in access to youth friendly sexual and reproductive health services including family planning, particularly for marginalized adolescent girls and young women, those living with disabilities and in humanitarian situations.

- Reaffirm the goal of universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support, in line with the Declaration of Commitment on HIV (2001) and the Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS (2006).

- Embrace the vision of Zero New Infections, Zero AIDS Related Death and Zero Discrimination and support efforts to achieve the three Bold Results on HIV and Young People under the UNAIDS Strategy 2011-2015, namely, (1) Raising comprehensive knowledge to 80%, (2) Doubling condom use amongst young people and (3) Doubling HIV testing among young people - in order to reduce new HIV infections among young people by 30% by 2015.

- Support integrated approaches to sustainable development that build on people's expressed needs, and strengthen community-based strategies, including through the meaningful participation of young people. In the context of the Institutional Framework, member states should:

- Ensure the meaningful participation of young people in decision making processes, by putting in place enabling structures and supportive policies and through building the capacities of youth-led organizations.

- National development plans, poverty reduction strategies, sustainable development strategies, policies and programmes should be planned, implemented, monitored and evaluated in equal partnership with young people through a participatory approach.

- Renew a global focus upon resource management, and lifecycle accounting for products, supervised by an international body dependent on the United Nations, supported by an international fund and a sharing of knowledge. Establish a comprehensive international information and labeling systems to measure the hidden costs of global consumer products.

- Implement tax structures and incentives to promote sustainable behaviors and increase the costs of unsustainable living. Remove subsidies for extraction of fossil fuels, and instead economically promote global access renewable energy while investing and upgrading resource management and water treatment facilities. Increase protection to small farmer against the strong competition of bigger corporations.

- Young people and youth-led organizations should be empowered to hold their governments accountable for their commitments including through full transparency initiatives including monitoring budgets and participation in appropriate institutional mechanisms.

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## Thamesbank

Thamesbank

C/o Netherbury

Meadow Close

Bridge, Kent CT4 5AT

United Kingdom

Submission to Rio 20 on behalf of Thamesbank

### 1. Introduction

Thamesbank submits the following contributions to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, for inclusion in a compilation document to serve as a basis for the preparation of a zero draft of the outcome document. This submission sets out our views on how to make the United Nations Conference more effective in terms of addressing water issues. Although our group exists to better protect the Thames River from the current and future threats facing the river from pollution, over development and misuse of resources, our long term aim is to ensure that all water bodies under Rio 20 are given similar protection if true Sustainable Living is to be achieved.

Thamesbank was set up over 10 years ago to campaign for the sustainability of the River Thames' ecosystem. We have always applied the Rio 1992 sustainable principles and aim to create an international example to secure a genuinely sustainable future for the river, the communities that live and work around the river, and for the ecosystems which depend on it. However, sustainability of the River Thames has continued to deteriorate. We need effective and adequate measures from Rio to ensure water bodies like the River Thames become sustainable.

The river is facing unprecedented challenges . New riverside developments, longer-term plans for the Thames Gateway, are stresses likely to increase as a result from climate change, and the challenges posed by the 2012 Olympic Games are all going to impact on the river. In particular, we are concerned about the proposal to build a 22km long cesspit for rainwater (a vital resource) and sewage by the Thames when other recommended more sustainable approaches have not been adequately explored by the Government or its agencies.

### 2. "Sustainable Development" should be changed to "Sustainable Living"

"Sustainable Development" should be changed to "Sustainable Living". Sustainable Development is a misnomer and an inappropriate word because it suggests that development is something that has to be achieved in order to achieve sustainability whereas true sustainability is about changing all our existing living practices to become sustainable in a world with finite resources. Development in the developed world has gone too far - it is not sustaining our planet. We should not be advocating a similar mistaken journey for the so called undeveloped countries or for ourselves.

### 3. Planning and why Sustainable Living must be made to determine every planning application

In the UK, planning decisions are made across the land that adversely impact upon the natural environment and water on a continual and cumulative basis. Environmental laws and other planning considerations do not effectively mix. The environment usually loses to economic considerations, those considerations which are sadly still based on the failed and outdated growth domestic product theory. That is why Thamesbank wants to see the concept of Green Growth embedded within the concept of Sustainable Living as part of the outcome document. What we mean by Green Growth is illustrated in the paper by Peter Head entitled 'Total community retrofit - an accelerated model for the UK to reach its climate change obligations by 2050' (attached). Consequently, every planning decision must be based on Sustainable Living. The process, outcome and later operation of each and every planning permission must equate with Sustainable Living. This means in practice that each permission granted must be carbon negative for

the process, the outcome and for its operation. The consideration of water is obviously fundamental to this process.

#### 4. Case Study - The Thames -Why water bodies need an overarching integrated statutory sustainable management body to achieve sustainability

Thamesbank is concerned that the Rio 20 process may not give adequate consideration to water issues in developed countries where water issues may wrongly be considered less important. The River Thames is of vital importance and that is why we include it here as a case study. It is under strain from excess sewage, water extraction and development yet there is no overarching integrated body statutory or otherwise to ensure that all aspects of the Thames are properly managed to secure water cycle sustainability. We need such a body and other water bodies do too. We believe that without such a body, the River Thames will not achieve Sustainable Living. To illustrate our growing concerns, we attach the recently published Selborne Commission Report<sup>1</sup> on the 22km Thames sewage/rainwater cesspit proposal. The Report voices concerns about the sustainability of the proposal but how will these concerns be properly addressed without there being one overarching integrated statutory management body solely in charge of the River Thames ecosystem?

#### 5.Enforcement mechanisms

Parties, organisations and ordinary individuals need to be able to enforce environmental laws and agreements on an international level otherwise Rio 20 will fail and our water bodies will continue to deteriorate. We second and adopt the proposals submitted by Wildlaw UK below:

Working Group - Technical Subgroup

This Declaration could be enforced by:

- i) an international environmental court such as the proposed International Court for the Environment which advocates wider access to environmental justice.
- ii) adoption of domestic laws which recognise and protect the rights of nature, e.g. the Bolivian Law of Mother Earth and the Ecuadorian Constitution.
- iii) recognising the rights of individuals and civil society groups to enforce the rights of nature, e.g., by widening interpretation of the provisions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Aarhus Convention).
- iv) creating institutional mechanisms to promote and advocate the rights of nature such as Bolivia's proposal for an ombudsman for Mother Earth, or a Commission for Nature's Rights, similar to the Equality and Human Rights Commission in the U.K.
- v) Respecting the provisions of the World Charter and Earth Charter which set out duties and responsibilities for the respect and protection of Earth and the 'greater community of life and future generations'.

Dido Berkeley/ Emily Shirley/Graham Stevens of Thamesbank

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## The American Association for Health Education (AAHE)

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

During recent months, citizens around the globe have rallied to challenge practices they view as restricting personal growth and freedom. We value an inclusive process whereby all interested participants have the opportunity to review and comment within a timely manner on draft outcome documents, following the model used during annual UN NGO Conferences.

A possible structure for this document is presentation of main points and responsibilities related to three main audiences, i.e., Member States, Major Groups and UN System, followed by a section emphasizing opportunities for intersectoral collaboration. Contents of the outcome document must connect planned actions to achieve MDGs as related to sustainable development and healthy environments for all persons.

Of particular interest is MDG8: Develop a global partnership for development. Perhaps it would be useful to emphasize opportunities for active leadership by business/industry, major financial institutions and donors, indigenous people, women and children, and youth, particularly benefitting least developed countries. Which successful international partnerships are models illustrating donor and recipient accountability? (e.g., substantial work by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, researchers, Member States, and Civil Society to eradicate malaria and polio and develop new models of sustainable agriculture).

There are numerous opportunities for UNmultimedia.org to interface with Member States and their accredited press representatives to disseminate broadly the outcome document to Civil Society and the public in a variety of formats, printed, audio, and digital. The youth delegates will have creative ideas to interface with their peers through social media and other informal networks.

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#### **b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

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#### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

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#### **d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

### Specific Elements

#### **a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

We encourage ECOSOC, UN Commission on Sustainable Development, UN Forum on Forests, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity, and other conference organizers to provide an historical perspective detailing progress made on sustainable development and environmental protections since the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Environment. What major barriers remain? What promising practices are likely to overcome these barriers?

Further, we call for clearly articulated and succinct summaries of latest evidence revealing how current development practices lead to adverse effects on the health and

wellbeing of all beings. Misleading information not supported by scientific study appears to contradict calls for action to protect our planet issued by Member States and UN Secretary General. Some elected officials have taken a stand opposing sustainable development practices, likely confusing their populace.

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

What are challenges and successes related to micro-economies, including policies and lending practices supporting small and medium-sized businesses within communities that do not harm the environment and yield jobs with living wages? (e.g., supporting a "local foods movement"). How does movement toward a green environment contradict large industrial development, which is often supported by taxpayers and governments? What are effects on funding social protections if fewer jobs are created by small and medium-sized businesses? What are known and unknown effects on the health of our planet from development practices that taint air, land and water? Who is responsible to inform the public, pay for and monitor waste mitigation? How may partnerships between large, medium and small businesses be mutually beneficial? How may we diminish trade-restricting rules and practices? These topics seem well suited for panel presentation of multiple viewpoints (public policy, financial institution/investor, industry, small business owner, environmental advocate).

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Billions struggle to meet daily needs while unemployed and living in poverty. Poverty eradication is an issue that we strongly support. There is indisputable evidence that public health suffers in populations with limited access to preventive and clinical services. Women and children are disproportionately affected when there are few resources supporting healthy pregnancies, childbirth, child growth and development.

Health promotion activities extend beyond the traditional health care encounter. Aims are "to achieve the highest attainable standard of health" (WHO Constitution of 1948) by enhancing health-related knowledge, skills and abilities, and ensuring social protections for community residents who are at risk of disease and illness (i.e., very young, older adults, persons with chronic conditions, those living in poverty).

Desirable activities include: (a) teaching healthy habits; (b) providing access to clean and affordable water and sanitation; (c) ensuring food security for all; (d) offering assistance to build safe affordable housing; (e) providing opportunities for daily physical activity and family recreation; (f) ensuring access to essential health care services and medicines; (g) advocating for full employment at fair wages; (h) removing barriers to independence and full participation by persons with disabilities; (i) removing safety hazards from home, school and workplaces; and (j) assisting with disaster preparedness. These activities contradict movement in some Member States to restrict resources to those who can pay for these. We assert that proposed models of sustainable development show promise in improving health of all persons!

American Association for Health Education accredited to DPI/NGO

Inputs for Compilation Document, Rio+20

General Content: Contributions should endeavour to address the following questions:

a. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

Response: During recent months, citizens around the globe have rallied to challenge practices they view as restricting personal growth and freedom. We value an inclusive process whereby all interested participants have the opportunity to review and comment within a timely manner on draft outcome documents, following the model used during annual UN NGO Conferences.

A possible structure for this document is presentation of main points and responsibilities related to three main audiences, i.e., Member States, Major Groups and UN System, followed by a section emphasizing opportunities for intersectoral collaboration. Contents of the outcome document must connect planned actions to achieve MDGs as related to sustainable development and healthy environments for all persons.

Of particular interest is MDG8: Develop a global partnership for development. Perhaps it would be useful to emphasize opportunities for active leadership by business/industry, major financial institutions and donors, indigenous people, women and children, and youth, particularly benefitting least developed countries. Which successful international partnerships are models illustrating donor and recipient accountability? (e.g., substantial work by The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, researchers, Member States, and Civil Society to eradicate malaria and polio and develop new models of sustainable agriculture).

There are numerous opportunities for UNmultimedia.org to interface with Member States and their accredited press representatives to disseminate broadly the outcome document to Civil Society and the public in a variety of formats, printed, audio, and digital. The youth delegates will have creative ideas to interface with their peers through social media and other informal networks.

Specific Elements:

a. Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.

Contributions could include possible sectoral priorities (e.g., (e.g., energy, food security and sustainable agriculture, technology transfer, water, oceans, sustainable urbanization, sustainable consumption and production, natural disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation, biodiversity, etc.) and sectoral initiatives that contribute to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development could be launched and endorsed at Rio+20.

Response: We encourage ECOSOC, UN Commission on Sustainable Development, UN Forum on Forests, UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, Convention on Biological Diversity, and other conference organizers to provide an historical perspective detailing progress made on sustainable development and environmental protections since the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Environment. What major barriers remain? What promising practices are likely to overcome these barriers?

Further, we call for clearly articulated and succinct summaries of latest evidence revealing how current development practices lead to adverse effects on the health and wellbeing of all beings. Misleading information not supported by scientific study appears to contradict calls for action to protect our planet issued by Member States and UN Secretary General. Some elected officials have taken a stand opposing sustainable development practices, likely confusing their populace.

b. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

Response: What are challenges and successes related to micro-economies, including policies and lending practices supporting small and medium-sized businesses within communities that do not harm the environment and yield jobs with living wages? (e.g., supporting a "local foods movement"). How does movement toward a green environment contradict large industrial development, which is often supported by taxpayers and governments? What are effects on funding social protections if fewer jobs are created by small and medium-sized businesses? What are known and unknown effects on the health of our planet from development practices that taint air, land and water? Who is responsible to inform the public, pay for and monitor waste mitigation? How may partnerships between large, medium and small businesses be mutually beneficial? How may we diminish trade-restricting rules and practices? These topics seem well suited for panel presentation of multiple viewpoints (public policy, financial institution/investor, industry, small business owner, environmental advocate).

c. Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".

Response: Billions struggle to meet daily needs while unemployed and living in poverty. Poverty eradication is an issue that we strongly support. There is indisputable evidence that public health suffers in populations with limited access to preventive and clinical services. Women and children are disproportionately affected when there are few resources supporting healthy pregnancies, childbirth, child growth and development.

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Desirable activities include: (a) teaching healthy habits; (b) providing access to clean and affordable water and sanitation; (c) ensuring food security for all; (d) offering assistance to build safe affordable housing; (e) providing opportunities for daily physical activity and family recreation; (f) ensuring access to essential health care services and medicines; (g) advocating for full employment at fair wages; (h) removing barriers to independence and full participation by persons with disabilities; (i) removing safety hazards from home, school and workplaces; and (j) assisting with disaster preparedness. These activities contradict movement in some Member States to restrict resources to those who can pay for these. We assert that proposed models of sustainable development show promise in improving health of all persons!

Submitted 31Oct-11

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## The Arab Anti-Corruption Organization

Text not available.

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## The Euro-Mediterranean Center for Climate Change

Sustainable Development and Climate Policy: 20 years later

Climate policy is playing a first role in the political agenda of both developed and developing countries. Today the main concern of climate policy is focused on curbing greenhouse gas emissions with the purpose of limiting global warming.

However, at least 2 degrees of temperature increase are certainly unavoidable, which calls for investments and measures to adapt to forthcoming climate change. At the same time, the present difficult economic situation calls for measures that reduce GHG emissions without harming, rather fostering, economic development.

The Cancun Agreements while reaffirming the clear objectives for reducing human-generated greenhouse gas emissions over time to keep the global average temperature rise below two degrees, it encourages the participation of all countries in reducing these emissions (through their NAMAs - National Appropriate Mitigation Actions), in accordance with each country's different responsibilities and capabilities to do so.

A new principle seems emerging for a post-Kyoto environment: in order to achieve a new climate agreement we need both domestic and global policy, we need to actively involve developed and developing countries bearing in mind that social and economic development and poverty eradication are the first and overriding priorities of developing countries and that a low-carbon development strategy is indispensable to sustainable development.

There is no doubt that the outcome of different climate policies - if implemented effectively within a cooperative framework - will not only reduce the risks associated with climate change, but will also improve environmental sustainability. Nevertheless reaching an agreement and in particular the challenge of limiting GHG emissions causes social costs affecting developments needs and goals especially in developing countries. If the costs of climate policy fall back on society, especially where it is more vulnerable, it is not certain that climate policy will improve sustainability, as social costs can offset the improvement in the environmental sphere.

At the same time it's worth to be noticed that adaptation is called to play an active role in the climate international agreement settings. Economic research is now focusing on the assessment of the optimal mix of adaptation and mitigation expenditures in a cost-effective setting in which countries cooperate to achieve a long-term stabilisation target (AD-WITCH model developed at CMCC/FEEM).

Besides the NAMAs the Climate conference in Cancun also established a process for least developed countries (LDCs) and other interested developing countries to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs) to identify and address their medium and long-term adaptation needs.

One of the objectives of the Cancun Agreements is to assist the particularly vulnerable people in the world to adapt to the inevitable impacts of climate change.

Again the concept of sustainable development can be part of the solution.

A global climate policy will more likely lead to an overall improvement in sustainability if it is implemented together with policies aimed at improving social and economic welfare.

Low carbon development in the context of sustainable development, and development policies integrating national adaptation plans. This seems to be the recipe for

developing countries.

Further research is needed on how mitigation and adaptation policies can work together in the context of a sustainable development. At the same time further contribution is required in the definition of sustainable development in order to help governments to take concrete actions in the context of climate change.

A more holistic assessment of climate policy agreements would be desirable and we believe that Rio+20 could represent the ideal arena to further discuss the (climate) policy implications of the sustainable development concept.

#### REFERENCES

<http://cancun.unfccc.int/index.php%20title=>

<http://www.climate-scienceandpolicy.eu/>

FEEM Policy brief 09.2010, <http://www.feem.it/>

FEEM policy brief 08.2010 <http://www.feem.it/>

FEEM Note di lavoro 2011.069

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## The Federal Times (TFT)

An Input brief Compilation to RIO-20

An input brief Compilation document submitting to RIO+20 to build our common future pathways to a safer, more equitable, cleaner, greener and more prosperous world for all.

I, suggest to RIO+20 give an opportunity to sustainable green economy to improve every corner of the world that makes a evolutionary, revolutionary and metamorphosis changes the health and environment protection of the grass-root level people who lives corner of world. Simultaneously keep on eyes of RIO-20 successfully to achieve the Millennium Development Goals to improve the income of the poorest of the poor who lives at least developed countries, developing countries and poor who are in slums in developed countries, make a strategy to secure decent work for women and men everywhere, decent work is widespread need, shared by people, families and communities in every society. Decent work is a global demand today, confronting political and business leadership worldwide. Much of our common future depends on how we meet this challenge.

I request RIO-20 create a unity of purpose among the three constituents – Governments, workers and employers, give the right pathway to fundamental principles and rights at work, employment, social protection and social dialogue. I request RIO-20 provide clean water is an agent for change, most of the people in the least developed and developing countries are not getting clean water and most of the working poor are not getting clean water, hence, fallen in poverty line, at present it is need to provide clean water to eradicate poverty and reduce the poverty in the world.

I suggest “Clean, Accessible Water Makes a Big Difference”, and “Clean Water and Proper Sanitation is a Basic Human Right”, but, satisfactorily providing clean water in least developed and developing countries governments’ in the world. Most of the Governments’ unable to provide clean accessible water, hence, increases poverty in the world. Many countries in the world are neglect clean water, more than a billion people lack access to clean drinking water, and over 2.4 billion lack access to proper sanitary facilities. The result is that there are more people in the world’s hospitals today suffering from water-borne diseases than any other ailment; at any time, more than half of the hospital beds in the world are filled with people suffering from water-borne diseases. I request the RIO+20 identify and make a strategic survey those are poorly managed water resources countries, regions and rural areas in each and every country, make a strategic report to bring awareness among governments’, employers and employees.

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## The Feminist Task Force (FTF) from the Global Action Against Poverty(GCAP)

Natural disaster preparedness a climate change adaptation

Natural disasters don’t discriminate, but people do. Existing socio-economic conditions can lead to different outcomes in natural disasters even for demographically similar communities, but the most vulnerable groups suffer more than others. Natural disasters reinforce, perpetuate and increase gender inequality, making bad situations worse for women. Therefore in disaster preparedness it is imperative to promote a culture of participatory planning and implementation of disaster risk reduction initiatives. This can build local and national government and civil society partnerships and cooperation in support of local initiatives to dramatically reduce the costs of risk reduction, ensure local acceptance and build social capital.

Women and men experience different vulnerabilities and cope with natural disasters differently; therefore, an increase in the magnitude and frequency of natural disasters will have different implications for men and women. Therefore gender mainstreaming is essential to be considered in mitigation and adaptation policies, strategies and programs. For example, as women’s asset determine how they respond to climate change impacts it is necessary to provide them with education , resources and technology , promote their participating in decision making and others as fundamental issues that will enhance their livelihoods in mitigation and adaptation.

The effects of natural disaster, emergencies and climate change are multifaceted: social, political, and economic as well as environmental . While women are generally more vulnerable but not helpless they exhibit surprising resilience and are key agents of environmental transformation. Therefore there is a need to elaborate responses not imposed from above, but modeled on needs, aspirations, knowledge and capabilities of women and men that are then actively involved as crucial partners in Climate Change mitigation and adaptation efforts.

There are limitations to what household and community action can do to reduce disaster risk without government support, or without a broader infrastructure and service framework into which community provision can integrate. Gender considerations should be introduced in key critical issues on the climate change agenda, namely: mitigation, the Clean Development Mechanism, adaptation and capacity building. Efforts should be directed towards a wider application of a gendered approach even in other strategic sectors, including, for instance, technology transfer and vulnerability studies.

Innovative approaches and tools that exist and develop by several CSO should be applied creatively alt local governments using community based approaches- However, they need scaling up with support from national governments.. Improved local governance is usually built on partnership between competent and accountable local government and an active civil society that can articulate needs and priorities. Capacity building and t raining stakeholders on gender issues and link it to Natural disaster preparedness is crucial to have women voices heard, a necessary conditions for risk reduction.

To address a gender perspective in DRR and in line with international legal instruments and agreements, we as CSO request that Governments should :

- Implement a gender analysis and gender mainstreaming in coordination with all Ministries responsible for disaster risk reduction, climate change, poverty reduction and women/gender machineries;
  - Mainstream gender into national policies, strategies and plans and implement a gender approach in planning and programs;
  - Ensure women and men's equal access to natural hazard early warning systems;
  - Develop and produce statistics desegregated by sex on impact of disasters, carry out gender-sensitive vulnerability, risk and capacity assessments and develop gendersensitive indicators to monitor and measure progress;
  - Increase awareness of the public and media on the gender sensitive vulnerabilities and capacities in disasters and gender specific needs and concerns in disaster risk reduction and management;
  - Organize and develop research on cost-benefit and efficiency of gendersensitive policies and programs in disaster risk reduction, climate change adaptation and poverty reduction;
  - Link DRR and climate change adaptation from a gender perspective;
  - Support gender-sensitive financial risk-sharing mechanisms, including risk insurance and reinsurance;
  - Improve disaster preparedness, response and contingency planning from a gender perspective and make them respond to the specific needs and concerns of men and women;
  - Increase women's participation in disaster relief coordination and secure equal access to disaster relief assistance between men and women;
  - Build and enhance the capacities of professional communities and pertinent national institutions to enable gender mainstreaming into all development sectors.
- . guarantee trainings with gender perspective for preparedness and readiness with respect to risk management, mitigation and adaptation, including planning and resource management for programs and projects to this effect.
- . take steps to guarantee early and timely alert processes for the prevention and mitigation of risks..

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## The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI)

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

How can the world manage the transition to a "Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication"? GRI suggests that a Green Economy will only be achieved if organizational information on the three pillars of sustainable development - economic, social and environmental performance - is widely available to decision makers, together with information on organizational governance. This can be achieved by the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) adopting a policy framework on sustainability reporting based on the report or explain approach: this practical measure would make a positive impact.

Thousands of organizations now report on their economic, social and environmental performance, showing that sustainability reporting adds value. Research shows that in 2011, 95 percent of the largest 250 companies worldwide issued sustainability reports, up from around 80 percent in 2008 and 50 percent in 2005.

While the number of reporters is growing, including in emerging economies such as Brazil, China and India, and the quality of reporting is improving, sustainability reporting is yet to achieve its full potential: the adoption of the practice is too slow.

Mainstream financial analysts have already started to include sustainability information in their analyses. But a critical mass of sustainability information is needed to inform markets. In this respect, it can be argued that companies that do not report sustainability data withhold from the markets vital information needed for the assessment of medium to long term risk and value, thereby imposing a cost on the markets and undermining their effective functioning.

Regulators are understanding the importance of the issue. Governments, international organizations, stock exchanges and a number of private initiatives have developed a wide range of policy, regulation, requirements, and guidelines to promote sustainability reporting and environmental, social and governance (ESG) disclosure, while some others are currently considering doing the same.

Among others, Australia, China, Denmark, the European Union, France, India, Germany, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United States have developed policy initiatives to promote sustainability reporting and/or environmental, social and governance (ESG) disclosure, while stock exchanges in Brazil, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Pakistan and South Africa are playing a pivotal role in requiring or recommending listed companies to disclose sustainability/ESG information.

At the same time NGOs and investors are calling for more transparency in the corporate sector on sustainability impacts and performance.

There is a widespread movement which is building momentum and a global approach to the issue would be beneficial for the global economy. If sustainable development is to be reached, the world needs to move now from the innovative and pioneering approach of the estimated 4,500 companies that report their sustainability performance to a true global mainstream practice for all organizations.

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) can achieve this by adopting a policy framework on sustainability reporting based on the report or explain approach.

During the early development of sustainability reporting, the question was 'why do you report?'. As sustainability challenges grow, increasing the need for urgent action, the question is now becoming 'why don't you report?'. Regulators, managers, employees, investors and consumers all have a direct interest in knowing how companies and other

organizations are contributing to sustainable development. Where this information is missing, they have a right to be concerned.

There are many compelling reasons now for governments to adopt a report or explain approach to sustainability reporting by all companies. It would establish a level playing field, promote transparency, foster innovation, set the basis for good governance, leave space for flexibility of approach, and represent a smart regulation approach, being relatively simple to enact and implement. It would ultimately make more and better quality sustainability information available, enabling better measurement of progress towards sustainability.

The international principles and objectives for sustainable development agreed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and World Summit on Sustainable Development remain more important than ever. It is now urgent to make them reality. If the transition to a Green Economy on the path to sustainable development is to be made, all large businesses and other organizations must become engaged and contribute. Sustainability reporting is a practical way to achieve this goal.

For these reasons, the Global Reporting Initiative calls on the governments, international bodies and major groups, who will be involved in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to:

- a. Acknowledge the growing practice of sustainability reporting and recognize that, improving corporate management and performance, facilitating stakeholder engagement, driving innovation and competitiveness represents an essential contribution to the transition towards a Green Economy;
- b. Note that the increased quantity and quality of data available through sustainability reporting can be a powerful tool to help organizations and markets work more efficiently;
- c. Commit to develop a global policy framework requiring all listed and large private companies to consider sustainability issues and to integrate material sustainability information within the reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts – or explain why if they do not. The global policy framework (which can take the form of a Convention) should adhere to three key principles:
  - Report or Explain – establish a report or explain approach to sustainability reporting policy;
  - Transparency – enhance transparency by requiring national measures which would mandate the integration of material sustainability issues within the company reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts;
  - Accountability – provide effective mechanisms for investors and all stakeholders to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM); and
- d. Recognize the need for a process that builds on data available through sustainability reporting, leading to the development and adoption of macro-level metrics such as the Sustainable Development Indicators that, beyond GDP, would allow a more comprehensive measurement of well-being, environmental health and the progress made towards a Green Economy taking into consideration the use of already developed methodologies.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

## Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Report or Explain

A policy proposal for sustainability reporting to be adopted as a common practice for the advancement of a Green Economy

for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

Thousands of organisations now report on their economic, social and environmental performance, showing that sustainability reporting adds value. If sustainable development is to be reached, the time has now come for sustainability reporting to become standard practice. This can be achieved by the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) adopting a policy framework on sustainability reporting based on the report or explain approach. This proposal outlines the case for such policy approach and invites discussion.

International principles and objectives for sustainable development were agreed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Their implementation was elaborated on at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002. In 2012, the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) will provide an opportunity to realize these principles and objectives at a time when global sustainability challenges are ever more critical.

In practical terms, how can the world manage the transition to a "Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication" (hereafter Green Economy)? This proposal suggests that a Green Economy can only be achieved if organizational information on economic, social and environmental performance - the three pillars of sustainable development - as well as disclosure on organizations' governance is widely available to decision makers, including governments and private sector organizations. If businesses and all other organizations monitor and report data on their sustainability performance, they will have the vital information needed by executives to manage risk and identify sustainability opportunities. This would help them engage with stakeholders, and help financial markets work efficiently, in a shared effort to pave the

way to sustainable development worldwide. Importantly, this information is also needed to monitor the effectiveness of sustainability policies, and to help in the development of new macro-level metrics such as national Sustainable Development Indicators. By looking beyond traditional GDP, this would enable a more comprehensive measurement of wellbeing, environmental health and the progress made towards a Green Economy.

#### Background on sustainability reporting

Governments first referred to environmental reporting at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 1992. In Agenda 21 of the Conference, governments agreed that business and industry should be 'encouraged to adopt and report on their environmental records, as well as on the use of energy and natural resources'.<sup>1</sup> Building on this, the World Summit on Sustainable Development also underlined the importance of reporting by noting the need to enhance corporate environmental and social responsibility and accountability, including through actions such as 'public reporting on environmental and social issues'.

Since that time, many leading Organizations worldwide have begun to integrate sustainability into their overall strategy to ensure they operate responsibly and sustainably. A 2011 report by KPMG shows that 62 percent of the companies surveyed have sustainability strategies in place, compared to just over half in 2008.<sup>3</sup>

According to a recent McKinsey survey, more than 50 percent of executives consider sustainability "very" or "extremely" important in a wide range of areas, including overall corporate strategy.

Increasingly, sustainability reporting is seen as an important gauge of both the quality of an organizations' governance processes and on and of its long term business strategy. Transparency to a wide stakeholder group creates an impetus for improving performance and sustainability reporting practice, enabling companies to measure, monitor and manage their impact on society, the economy, and help contribute to a sustainable future.<sup>5</sup> Businesses generally seek to make a profit by pricing competitively and driving down costs. Costs are not just set against financial accounts, but also economic, social and environmental ones. The market for more sustainable products and services is also expanding. A growing number of organizations recognize these factors and are beginning to act on them.

The practice of sustainability reporting was advanced further in 1997 when the idea of creating a global framework for sustainability disclosure was conceived and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) was founded. Publicly inaugurated at the UN Headquarters in 2002, GRI produces what has become the leading global framework for sustainability reporting. Key features of GRI's Sustainability Reporting Framework include its:

- Comprehensive scope, covering the main sustainability issues
- Continuous development, reflecting user experience
- Multi-stakeholder developed framework and governance model
- Universal relevance, including for private sector, public agency and civil society organizations.

Using a common reporting framework can promote international comparability between reports.<sup>7</sup> Various regulations, standards and initiatives now recommend or require reporting. This is why GRI collaborates closely with other organizations that provide normative frameworks and principles complementary to GRI's Reporting Framework. Collaborations include:

- the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC): the Communications on Progress – COP – represent the mechanism through which UNGC participating companies demonstrate progress towards attainment of the ten UNGC Principles; GRI and UNGC joined forces to build a universal framework for corporate sustainability performance and disclosure, aiming to transform business practices on a global scale;
- the Organisation for Economic Cooperation Development (OECD): The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises recommend disclosure on social and environmental performance;
- the United Nations-backed Principles for Responsible Investment initiative (PRI), which specifically encourages use of the GRI Framework;
- the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), whose Standard on Social Responsibility encourages reporting.

By working together to harmonize with these organizations, current and potential reporters have clarity and consistency to make their respective contributions to a sustainable global economy.

#### The business case for sustainability reporting

Thousands of organizations worldwide now produce sustainability reports. Research shows that in 2011, 95 percent of the largest 250 companies worldwide issued sustainability reports, up from around 80 percent in 2008 and 50 percent in 2005.<sup>8</sup> In producing such reports, these companies assess the sustainability dimensions of their activities and report their policies and performance. Among these reporters are innovators, leaders and early adopters of sustainability reporting. These companies represent an enormous pool of experience and expertise that continues to contribute to better disclosure and transparency.

The internal and external value that companies have found in sustainability management and reporting is widely documented. Sustainability reporting increases innovation and competition, drives continuous performance improvement and at the same time makes organizations more accountable for their impacts.<sup>9</sup> The evidence for the business case is building as uptake of reporting increases.

"The business case for Sustainability Reporting has been proven by many leading companies around the world: hardly any that started reporting have discontinued. This means that these companies find value in sustainability reporting, otherwise they would not continue. Sustainability reporting is good business practice."

Ernst Ligteringen, GRI Chief Executive

Some organizations are now producing integrated reports, a new and still emerging form of corporate report that seeks to bring together financial performance data with material information about an organization's strategy, governance, performance and prospects in a way that reflects the economic, political, social and environmental context within which it operates. An integrated report is intended to provide a clear picture of how an organization creates value, both now and in the future. In August 2010, the International Integrated Reporting Committee (IIRC) was established to create a globally accepted framework for integrated reporting. The objective is that through integrated reporting many more companies and their stakeholders will become aware of sustainability performance measurement and disclosure and start acting on this information.

#### The market case for sustainability reporting

Recent years have seen an increasing interest from markets in sustainability performance data disclosed in reports. Investors look for positive returns, either by holding stock or by trading it, and study markets to see how they will develop. Markets are hindered by incomplete data, making it difficult for to assess risks or opportunities arising from sustainability issues. This is why information brokers such as Bloomberg now offer environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance data on thousands of



companies on more than 350,000 terminals worldwide. Bloomberg's competitor, Thomson Reuters, also offers ESG information to clients, while rating agencies such as Standard & Poors have created ESG indices for India, Egypt and the MENA region.

Sustainability reporting is increasing and mainstream financial analysts have already started to include sustainability information in their analyses. While the number of reporters is growing, including in emerging economies such as Brazil, China and India, and the quality of reporting improves, sustainability reporting is yet to achieve its full potential: the adoption of the practice is too slow. As an illustration, it took 12 years for the G250 to grow from 35% to 95% in the sustainability reporting practice. At the current rate it would take decades before sustainability reporting becomes common practice across global markets. An estimated 4,500 organizations are included in sustainability reporting databases, a fraction of the more than 45,000 publicly traded companies that are required to disclose their annual accounts and the estimated 82,000 corporations that do business across national borders in the world today. This means that regulators, investors and stakeholders know little or nothing of the sustainability practices and impacts of the vast majority of the world's large companies.

Markets, however, will not treat sustainability information seriously as long as only a minority of companies report. A critical mass of sustainability information is needed to inform markets and enable performance benchmarking and analysis. In this respect, it can be argued that companies that do not report sustainability data withhold from the markets vital information needed for the assessment of medium to long term risk and value. By leaving information gaps and creating asymmetries of information, non-reporting companies impose a cost on the markets and undermine their effective functioning.

At the same time a positive trend needs to be discerned: governments, international organizations, stock exchanges and a number of private initiatives have developed policy, regulation, requirements, and guidelines to promote sustainability reporting and disclosure, while some others are currently considering doing the same. Among others, Australia, China, Denmark, the European Union, France, India, Germany, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United States have developed policy initiatives to promote sustainability reporting and/or ESG disclosure, while stock exchanges in Brazil, China, Malaysia, Singapore, Pakistan and South Africa are playing a pivotal role in requiring or recommending listed companies to disclose sustainability/ESG information.

At the same time NGOs and investors are calling for more transparency in the corporate sector on sustainability impacts and performance<sup>12</sup>. Therefore, it is possible to recognize a widespread movement which is building momentum and a global approach to the issue would be beneficial for the global economy.

If there is to be a change, the world needs to move now from the innovative and pioneering approach of 4,500 companies to a true global mainstream practice for all companies.

"Companies do not operate in a vacuum. They operate in the triple context of commerce, the environment and society. Stakeholders cannot make an informed assessment about sustained value creation by a company from its financial report. Information is required on the governance of the company and how its operations impact on the environment and society. ESG disclosures are required and if not furnished the company should explain why not."

Prof. Mervyn King, GRI Honorary Chairman

The case for a report or explain approach

During the early development of sustainability reporting, the question was 'why do you report?'. Reporting on aspects of performance other than financial was not required by managers, regulators or investors. Pioneers of sustainability reporting started the process because they recognized its value to their operations. They recognized that better information was needed to improve the management of their companies, and its relationships with all stakeholders. Continued and growing sustainability reporting by companies demonstrates their assessment that the practice adds value.

As sustainability challenges grow, increasing the need for urgent action, the question is now becoming 'why don't you report?'. Regulators, managers, employees, investors and consumers all have a direct interest in knowing how companies and other organizations are contributing to sustainable development. Where this information is missing, they have a right to be concerned.

Landmark developments demonstrate the benefits of a report or explain approach to regulation.

In Denmark, large businesses (including state-owned companies) have been required by law to include information about their corporate social responsibility (CSR) policies and practices in their annual reports since 2009.<sup>13</sup> Companies must account for their CSR policies (or disclose if none are in place), how these policies are translated into actions, what the companies have achieved as a result, and what they expect in the future. An impact assessment study published by the government in 2010 concluded that the requirement to report was helping motivate more businesses to develop and report on sustainability.

In South Africa, the over 450 companies listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) are required to apply or explain the King Code of Governance (King III). The King Code recommends that organizations produce an integrated report in place of their annual financial and sustainability reports. As King III now falls within the listing requirements of the JSE, listed companies have to produce an integrated report, or explain why they have not. Underlying this requirement was the recognition that sustainability information was nowadays as important to company directors as it was to investors.

There are many reasons for governments to adopt a report or explain approach to sustainability reporting by all companies.

- **Level playing field:** By establishing the basic principle of report or explain, a common floor of practice would be established. While sustainability reporting would remain voluntary, companies would still be free to choose what information to disclose. A consistent reporting approach, applied across national boundaries, would make it easier for companies to operate more effectively in global markets and along transnational supply chains.
- **Transparency:** Markets can only be effective when relevant information is available. Information contained in sustainability reporting is essential for a Green Economy. A report or explain requirement would help ensure that the information needed by markets and society to assess a company's management and performance, is provided. This would be based either on reported data, or the explanation for not reporting. Investors and customers would then be able to make informed decisions regarding penalties, premiums or voting decisions they would attach to disclosures, or lack of disclosure.
- **Innovation:** By monitoring and reporting their sustainability performance, all organizations would be better placed to consider innovative ways to improve their performance and increase their contribution to sustainable development. Evidence from the last decade suggests that sustainability reporting is a powerful source of innovation and performance improvement. Reporting encourages businesses to engage with stakeholders, integrate sustainability into their business strategy and bring to market new products and services.
- **Governance:** As sustainability challenges mount, it is increasingly inconceivable that corporate governance can be considered responsible if it fails to take into account sustainable development issues. Whether from a perspective of risk prevention, the desire to develop products and services that help solve the world's problems, the intention to contribute to the development of a green economy, or the broader desire to ensure that the role of business in society is understood and trusted is a prerequisite of good governance.

- Flexibility: A report or explain approach would neither prescribe which measures should be taken at national level – leaving each Government to choose the policy approach depending on the peculiarities of the economic environment – nor how companies should report - leaving space for them to choose their preferred framework, sustainability indicators and standards. This would enable new reporters, including small and medium sized enterprises, to start at a basic level and improve quality and expertise over time.
- Smart regulation: A report or explain policy would be relatively simple to enact and implement. It does not require complex or excessively prescriptive regulation and is fully consistent with current financial reporting requirements. It could be required by governments and public authorities, and also by market actors, such as stock exchanges requiring listed companies to report or explain, or institutional investors requiring their investment targets to report or explain. Stakeholders would become engaged as part of the reporting process. The resulting democratization of sustainability information would see markets and society as whole would play a monitoring, assuring, promoting, and enforcing role.
- Progress towards sustainability: A common report or explain approach would ultimately make more and better quality sustainability information available. This would enable markets and policy makers to better monitor progress, provide support, and refine policies, thereby contributing the transition to a Green Economy and sustainable development.

#### GRI Proposal

The international principles and objectives for sustainable development agreed at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and World Summit on Sustainable Development remain more important than ever. It is now urgent to make them reality. If the transition to a Green Economy on the path to sustainable development is to be made, all large businesses and other organizations must become engaged and contribute. Sustainability reporting is a practical way to achieve this goal.

For these reasons, the Global Reporting Initiative calls on the governments, international bodies and major groups, who will be involved in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) to:

- a. Acknowledge the growing practice of sustainability reporting and recognize that, improving corporate management and performance, facilitating stakeholder engagement, driving innovation and competitiveness represents an essential contribution to the transition towards a Green Economy;
- b. Note that the increased quantity and quality of data available through sustainability reporting can be a powerful tool to help organizations and markets work more efficiently;
- c. Commit to develop a global policy framework requiring all listed and large private companies to consider sustainability issues and to integrate material sustainability information within the reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts – or explain why if they do not. The global policy framework (which can take the form of a Convention) should adhere to three key principles:
  - Report or Explain – establish a report or explain approach to sustainability reporting policy;
  - Transparency – enhance transparency by requiring national measures which would mandate the integration of material sustainability issues within the company reporting cycle, in their Annual Report and Accounts;
  - Accountability – provide effective mechanisms for investors and all stakeholders to hold companies to account on the quality of their disclosures, including for instance an advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM); and
- d. Recognize the need for a process that builds on data available through sustainability reporting, leading to the development and adoption of macro-level metrics such as the Sustainable Development Indicators that, beyond GDP, would allow a more comprehensive measurement of well-being, environmental health and the progress made towards a Green Economy taking into consideration the use of already developed methodologies.

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## The Natural Step

### PROPOSING A UNIFYING FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

#### The Natural Step Network

#### CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DRAFT ZERO

#### UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - RIO+20

##### Our vision:

“An application framework emerges from the Rio + 20 process which enables communication between sectors (public, private, civil society), social groups and regions. A Unifying Framework provides a practical definition of sustainability making it possible to get consensus on the gap between current situation and sustainability. This enables a systematic evaluation of policies, strategies and actions and their return on investment. The public is re-energized and galvanized into action, as happened with Local Agenda 21 and the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals). “

This document is the result of the collective wisdom of a community of around 1,000 sustainability practitioners from all over the world. They base their practice on a research that dedicated the last 20 years to develop, test, apply, and improve a robust, scientific-based framework which emerged in Sweden from a process of consensus building. The participants—scientists, policy makers, and business leaders—aimed to add value to the transition process of businesses, municipalities and organizations in general to move towards sustainability.

#### THE PILLARS OF THE RIO+20 CONFERENCE

This Unifying Framework proposes principles that address a “holist, equitable and far-sighted approach to decision making at all levels’. In complying with these principles we will ensure “intra- and intergenerational equity” enabling institutions to be in service of the goal of sustainable development. The Unifying Framework makes it practical to integrate economic, social, environmental goals and objectives. It will also be of service to the decisions and policies on both the first pillar “Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication” and the second pillar: “Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development”.

According to the Rio+20 guidelines, the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development pillar is mostly focused in proposing an institutional reform within the UN system, examining its governance model with the aim to address sustainable development. Although, it is absolutely needed and urgent that those discussions happen within the conference process and beyond, this is not enough to ensure that the UN system will be equipped appropriately to face all the governance challenges to implement strategies towards sustainable development.

Therefore we propose here that 'The Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development' discussions take one step further, as to besides agreeing on an effective UN governance model, also adopt and indicate in the Conference Final Report what we call the 'Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development', enabling the various stakeholders to be effective in making concrete steps towards sustainability.

## FRAMEWORKS, CONCEPTS AND STANDARDS

Throughout the last 40 years, most notably after Rio Earth Summit in 1992, a number of tools, concepts and standards have emerged for better ecological performance especially in businesses and industries. Many initiatives with general or specific applications have been developed, such as Life Cycle Assessment (LCA), the Ecological Footprint, Cradle-to-Cradle, Factor X, EMS, ISO 14001, among others. Likewise, many other tools and concepts which included the social and economic perspectives were developed and widely applied, to name a few: Agenda 21, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), The Earth Charter, Fair-Trade, Global Compact, TNS Framework, ISO 26001 and GRI.

The United Nations recognize the relevance of the tools, standards and concepts to establish a common knowledge which enables nations, municipalities, businesses, NGOs and UN bodies to standardize, create and measure policies, transnational agreements and strategic plans, to accelerate the process towards sustainable development.

Many tools and concepts for Sustainable Development created promising assemblies, networks and organizations using bits and pieces of those concepts and tools for their respective projects and programs. In fact, a systemic view of these tools shows them to be complementary, instead of competing with each other, as well as potentially beneficial for deciding on policies and actions that create economic benefit from both environmental and social wellbeing perspective. However, a vast resource still lies unexploited: the highest potential of using all tools, concepts and standards articulated within a unifying framework, brings needed clarity, enables actions as part of "fullpicture" strategic plans, and helps monitor complete processes to track true progress.

## PROPOSING A UNIFYING FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The proposal here is to guide sustainable solutions by systems thinking. Ever so well-intended decisions outside the realm of a systems perspective, often leads to sub-optimization or worse – blind alleys. By inviting the most accepted tools, concepts and standards to convene in evaluating and co-creating a Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development, already proven scientifically to be possible (Robèrt, K.-H. (2000), "Tools and concepts for sustainable development, how do they relate to a general framework for sustainable development, and to each other?" Journal of Cleaner Production 8(3): 243- 254), we envision:

"An application framework emerges from the Rio + 20 process which enables communication between sectors (public, private, civil society), social groups and regions. A Unifying Framework provides a practical definition of sustainability making it possible to get consensus on the gap between current situation and sustainability. This enables a systematic evaluation of policies, strategies and actions and their return on investment. The public is re-energized and galvanized into action, as happened with Local Agenda 21 and the MDGs (Millennium Development Goals). "

Tools, concepts and standards all convening to a common platform that we call "The Unifying Framework" to be applied on a collaborative and complementary basis to support UN system, nations, municipalities, businesses and NGOs to make concrete stepping stones towards sustainability; that is the most effective way to accelerate the journey towards sustainability ... through COLLABORATION. There is no more powerful word in actual days to tackle current worldwide challenges.

## WHAT A UNIFYING FRAMEWORK CONSISTS OF

Through a five level structure it is possible to understand how all the tools, concepts and standards can serve to a Unifying Framework:

### A Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

SYSTEMS LEVEL - Level 1 represents the overarching system that we are focusing on, i.e. the economy and society as a wholly owned subsidiary of the biosphere.

Sustainability has to do with society being able to perpetuate the cycles of nature and allow new generations of people to live and prosper on a healthy planet. The challenge society is facing today is that humankind is acting in a way that compromises the system's conditions—creating unbalances by dispersing extracts from the earth's crust & synthetic products foreign to nature, faster than it can assimilate them; by physically destroying eco-systems; and by hindering people's capacity to meet basic needs—since we live in a closed system in regard to matter, the only open element being the sun regenerating the system through photosynthesis".

### Biosphere within the Systems Level

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

SUCCESS LEVEL - Level 2 defines the shared goal, the vision of sustainability within the biosphere. This requires having a clear and practical definition of what sustainability means.

The 'Brundtland Report' defines sustainable development as development that 'meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs' (WCED, 1987, 8). This widely accepted definition describes what we have succeeded to accomplish when we have a sustainable society. However, this definition should be complemented with additional detail which makes it more operational and provides guidance for sustainable development planning.

A principle-based definition of sustainability, building-block of the methodology we propose here, gives us such guidance. The principles are derived by clustering known sustainability-related impacts to identify root cause mechanisms. By reversing those mechanisms, and then testing their creativity potential on out-of-the-box solutions & basic re-designs, it has been possible to derive basic principles for sustainability: "In a sustainable society nature is not subject to systematically increasing...

- I. concentrations of substances extracted from the Earth's crust, (such as fossil carbon or metals),
- II. concentrations of substances produced by society, (such as nitrogen compounds, CFC's, and endocrine disrupters),
- III. degradation by physical means (such as large scale clear-cutting of forests and over-fishing) And, in that society...
- IV. people are not subject to conditions that systematically undermine their capacity to meet their needs." (such as from the abuse of political and economic power)."

From: Holmberg, John and Karl-Henrik Robèrt. (2000). Backcasting from non-overlapping sustainability principles--a framework for strategic planning. International Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology, no. 7: 291-308. p>

These principles have been tested, and continuously refined in cooperation between researchers and scientists, business corporations and local governments with the objective of being (i) necessary to not confuse the picture with highly debatable values etc., (ii) sufficient to cover all aspects of sustainability, (iii) general to be easy to

understand in any area or on any arena to allow cooperation across sectors and disciplines, (iv) concrete to guide decisions and actions in real life, and (v) mutually exclusive to allow comprehension and development of indicators to monitor progress towards compliance with the principles.

STRATEGIC LEVEL - Level 3 focuses the process to reach the vision (level 2). Investments should be planned strategically. This implies a step-by-step approach towards the success level in a way that ensures that financial, social, and ecological resources continue to feed the process. Trade-offs are selected according to their capacity to serve as platforms towards complying with principles of success.

#### BACKCASTING FROM PRINCIPLES

To analyze outcomes and take strategic decisions with reference to a full systems perspective in the future, i.e. to seek smart development paths once it is made clear what we want to accomplish, we propose the Backcasting planning methodology. This approach begins by formulating a shared vision of an imagined future success. Keeping this goal in mind while examining the present situation, stakeholders may devise smart development paths to reach their shared vision (level 2).

We acknowledge that it is difficult to make many people agree on detailed images of a distant future since we have different values, while technical and cultural conditions keep developing and changing. What may be a smart solution today might appear as a hopelessly obsolete solution tomorrow. That is why the proposed methodology suggests that we apply backcasting based on principles, meaning that we can do anything, but constrained by the limits of a sustainable society - the Four Sustainability Principles (4 SPs).

Smart strategic pathways (i) lead in the direction of the vision, (ii) are flexible with regard to other possible measures and steps further ahead, and (iii) are likely to give good return on investment— financial, social, environmental, political—for further investments in new stepping stones towards sustainability.

ACTION LEVEL - Level 4 is about everything we do in concrete terms. We apply the strategic guidelines at level 3 to inspire, inform and scrutinize every action or investment.

TOOLS LEVEL - Level 5 relates to Tools, Concepts and Standards that are often required for decision support, in addition to monitoring and disclosures of the (level 4) actions to ensure they are chosen (level 3) strategically to arrive stepwise at the (level 2) objectives in the (level 1) system. An attempt to contribute to a visual understanding of the dynamics of 5 levels above is presented in the figure below:

#### ABCD Process

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

This is what we call the ABCD process: A) design and share visions of success that are informed by the sustainability principles; B) perform assessments of the current situation, using the envisioned future within sustainability principles as a lens; C) brainstorm actions potentially leading to the vision including the sustainability principles, and D) find smart strategic pathways that make use of the identified actions as stepping stones. The prioritized actions and measures are then clustered and formulated into clear targets.

#### AN INVITATION FOR COLLABORATION

The Tools, Concepts and Standards provide important contributions for Levels 4 (Actions) and 5 (Tools) by management, communication and monitoring processes and represent key pillars in the Unifying Framework. With this document we are specifically seeking cooperation with key tools-developer entities which developed and/or manage such concepts and approaches, to play a complementary role in crafting a strong Unifying Framework allowing different types of organizations to have a systemic perspective; envision a sustainable future; and create, implement & monitor a journey towards sustainability.

If chosen actions are guided by a system's perspective and a long term vision of sustainable development, following smart strategic pathways and using a toolkit which encompasses all the knowledge developed so far, we will most likely be on the right track to build the society we envision together.

In summary, we believe the Rio+20 Conference can be a key milestone in society's journey towards sustainability by creating the opportunity to bring together methodologies proven over the years to be effective for their own specific purpose, but that acquire a more powerful role in the broader context of the Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development - a new era of accelerated transformation towards sustainability.

#### CONCRETE ACTIONS OF THE PROJECT TOWARDS RIO+20

1) Invite the most accepted tools, concepts and standards to convene in evaluating and co-creating the Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development. Such coalition will be developed during the process towards Rio +20;

2) Participate in forums and conferences preparatory to Rio+20, in different parts of the world to present the Unifying Framework concept;

3) Pre-launch the Global Game for transformational social change (developed by the Brazilian Edgard Gouveia Jr – Ashoka fellow who developed the Oasis Game in Brazil). The pre-launch will take place in Rio during the Rio+20 Conference, inviting all participants and present audience to participate in the game—which envisions having 2 billion players in 4 years. Official launch is scheduled for December 2012. This game will integrate an online platform with the real world by connecting and challenging people around the world to play with and against each other to perform tasks that transform our world.

Through the game's online platform, players will be challenged to create individual, local, regional and global actions. The game is being developed with the conceptual basis of the Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development.

#### The Global Game Development Process

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

4) Build leadership capacity for sustainable development through transformative dialogues using the World Café format, combined with the ABCD process (which is part of the Unifying Framework) to build the Shared Vision for Sustainability. These Roundtables will take place in various parts of the world during the process towards Rio+20 (Dec – Jun, 2012), culminating in a huge event called "1000 Round Tables", in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during the days of the conference.

Pictures of the '1000 Round Tables' held in Tel Aviv, Israel in Sept, 2011

[Rio+20 Secretariat: Please refer to full submission document for graph]

The event will invite 10,000 people (10 people per table) to participate in an energizing and engaging dialogue calling for action to build the future of a sustainable society (which starts now!). This World Café model was inspired by the '1000 Round Tables' held in Tel Aviv, Israel last Sept, 2011.

The proposal of the Unifying Framework for Sustainable Development together with these powerful actions – The Global Game for Transformational Social Change and the

Round Tables process – will definitely inspire renewed commitment and increased actions towards sustainable development. We hope the Rio+20 Secretariat sees value in this initiative and give us full support to move it forward.

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The Natural Step Global Network

November 2011

## The Nature Conservancy

SUBMISSION FROM THE NATURE CONSERVANCY TO THE COMPILATION DOCUMENT, AS THE BASIS FOR PREPARATION FOR THE ZERO-DRAFT OUTCOME DOCUMENT FOR UNCSD 2012 (RIO+20)

### Context


In order to address new and emerging challenges, and plan for a future which allows all people to live sustainably, it is essential that natural resources are managed effectively. Healthy ecosystems are the very foundation upon which societies depend, through critical ecosystem services such as: food and water security; materials for shelter; income from tourism and sustainable use of terrestrial and marine resources; and protection from climate change impacts and natural disasters. We are, however, currently degrading that natural capital at a rate that threatens human development. In October 2011, global population reached 7 billion; by 2050, it is predicted to be over 9 billion. By that time, the world will likely add another 3 billion middle class consumers. Increasing demands on food and water, and the expansion of hard infrastructure have created a “nexus of need” for those with responsibility for, and expertise in, human development planning and environmental management to work cooperatively and, indeed, seamlessly, to adopt a holistic approach to future planning. The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity report estimated that under a business-as-usual scenario, “a year’s natural capital loss would lead to a loss of ecosystem services worth in the order of US\$2.0-4.5 trillion over a 50 year period” – as much or more than the total financial capital lost during the 2008 financial crisis. If we do not become more conscious of the impacts of our actions, and collectively change our practices accordingly, resource constraints, natural capital loss and climate change will produce negative feedbacks that could limit sustained and sustainable development and growth.

The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) provides a unique opportunity to address these challenges, particularly through the theme of “a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication”. A green economy is one that is ecologically and economically healthy and productive, which provides social benefits to improve people’s lives. The maintenance of healthy natural resources, which has been a theme running through international discourse and documents over the past few decades, including the legally-binding, as well as “soft” law outcomes from the 1992 UN Conference on the Environment and Development, and the targets and timetables in the 2002 Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, underpins our collective capacity to achieve a green economy. Addressing implementation of such commitments through appropriate enabling conditions, tools and policies that facilitate the development and “scaling up” of innovative approaches should be a core issue in the outcome document for Rio+20.

### Recommendations

With reference to a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the Rio+20 outcome document should refer to the following issues as necessary to create a new global development paradigm: • Recognizing the fundamental role of nature as a solution-provider to development challenges, such as food, water, and energy security, poverty alleviation and human health, further efforts to mainstream and integrate the values of ecosystem services as integral to development planning are necessary. In particular:

- o Improving valuations of natural capital as part of national accounting frameworks.
- o Scaling up payments for ecosystem services across sectors.
- o Creating supportive policies and incentives to mainstream the value of nature, and activities to maintain natural systems, into development planning processes.
- o Creating policies that position natural infrastructure as a building block for a new green economy, by integrating natural infrastructure into the processes of infrastructure planning and investment.
- o Creating policies which enable planning at whole river basin scales.

 Example: Through payments for ecosystem services mechanisms such as “water funds”, operational in Latin America, downstream water users, such as municipalities and corporations, are compensating upstream land managers to keep the watersheds clean and healthy. This public-private partnership for ecosystem services ensures continued water quality and availability for cities, and provides a more sustainable and cost-effective solution than the “gray” alternative: construction and maintenance of water treatment plants. Valuing natural capital, through payments for ecosystem services, should be included in the outcomes for Rio+20.

• Recognizing the importance of oceans and coasts to achieving economic and social development objectives (often referred to as a “blue economy”), it is imperative to catalyze action towards achieving sustainable management of oceans and coasts. Notably, sustaining the economic prosperity and welfare of coastal communities and states will require implementing and scaling up a suite of marine and coastal conservation tools and community planning initiatives. In particular:

- o Scaling up efforts to protect and restore critical ecosystems that provide important ecosystem services and social and economic benefits.
- o Mainstreaming the value and importance of marine and coastal ecosystem services and promoting ecosystem based approaches in adaptation to the impacts of climate change and disaster risk reduction strategies.
- o Integrating ecosystem considerations into marine and coastal development planning through the use of marine spatial planning and strategic environmental assessments.
- o Improving sustainability of fisheries, and in particular coastal fisheries, through leveraging community-based and rights-based approaches to fisheries management and galvanizing investments in, and market demand for, sustainable seafood that supports and facilitates reforms in fisheries management.
- o Promoting sustainability standards and increased sound investments in ocean businesses and technologies.

Example: Through the Micronesia Challenge, the Caribbean Challenge, the Coral Triangle Initiative, and the progression of the new Western Indian Ocean and Coastal Challenge, island and coastal states are responding to common challenges and working together to sustainably manage their natural resource base. In the Micronesian sub-region, the three independent states and two US trust territories are completing the process of valuing their ecosystem services and the financial cost to maintain them, and established the Micronesia Conservation Trust to fund sustainable development activities in perpetuity. By working collectively, these states are better able to share experiences, leverage their successes, and plan for the future. In order that these commitments to sustainable marine resource management become the effective building

blocks within the context of a new green economy, and so that the international community can learn from their respective challenges and innovative solutions, further efforts to integrate and invest in such experiences will be necessary.

- Recognizing the asset value of ecosystem services, all actors (states, private sector and civil society) need to cooperate in developing new and innovative finance mechanisms within a green economy to provide sustainable sources of funding for natural resource management and social development planning. Such mechanisms include debt-for-nature swaps; conservation trust funds; and compensation for reducing emissions from deforestation and degradation.

Example: Debt loads of developing countries are an ongoing burden which greatly limits their ability to implement effective development plans and reduce poverty. Recently, by forgiving a portion of such debt, the United States has increased Indonesia's capacity, both immediate and long-term, in relation to management of the forest sector. Increasing the use of debt swaps as a finance mechanism within the green economy, has the potential to accelerate the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

- Recognizing the contribution of all actors (public, private and civil society) in establishing a new holistic green economy, and noting that many are not formally represented in traditional international legal processes, the creation of international norms needs to further evolve, to one that includes a suite of more flexible and open approaches involving actors from a range of sectors and interests. The current nine major groups' framework does not allow the kind of collaborative and open exchange of ideas and lessons that will be required within a new sustainable development paradigm.

Example: The Nature Conservancy and Dow Chemical have embarked upon a collaboration to help Dow and other companies recognize, value and incorporate nature into global business goals, decisions and strategies. The aim of the collaboration is to advance the incorporation of the value of nature into business, and to take action to protect the earth's natural systems and the services they provide people, for the benefit of business and society. The lessons they learn will also help governments, at national and sub-national levels, as well as other corporations and organizations, to more accurately value their ecosystem services and plan both for the immediate and long-term. There is currently, however, no space within the international system for such lessons to be shared. Creating the space for non-state actors to interact more effectively with governments would help ensure that relevant expertise is available to assist societies in finding creative solutions to the challenges they face with regard to transitioning to a green economy within the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication.

- Recognizing that for the outcomes of Rio+20 to be effective, they will need to be integrated into a number of multilateral processes related to sustainable development. Of particular importance, the revision of the Millennium Development Goals provides a critical opportunity to learn from past experiences and include new and innovative approaches that have proven to be cost-effective, sustainable and have multiple benefits. Over the past few decades, there are a number of examples that demonstrate that nature-based solutions have contributed to solving key development challenges. Sustainable management of natural resources can, and should, be given a higher priority within the global development agenda and be further integrated in other development goals particularly in preparation for the post-2015 development framework.

#### Conclusion

The Rio+20 outcome document should focus on what is required to implement the commitments and pledges already delivered in previous sustainable development fora and documents, and include what we have learned, and what we need to focus on to improve our planning, as guided by science. We know that forest conservation is a low-cost solution to a significant part of the climate mitigation problem, comprising up to 40% of the cost-effective near-term measures to limit warming to 2 degrees. We know from experiences in New York City, Bogota and Quito that upper watershed conservation is a cost-effective solution to water quality and availability issues for cities, compared to building filtration plants. We know from Thailand and Vietnam and Louisiana that restoring mangroves and coastal estuaries is a cost-effective way to protect coastal communities and infrastructure.

The outcome document should provide a way forward to build upon these concepts, including in discussions across the financing for development, sustainable development, environment, climate change and biodiversity-related fora within the UN system. Rio+20 needs to commit to a global investment program in the planet's natural capital, because the earth's natural systems are cost-effective solution providers.

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## The Organizing Committee of 2011 Kubuqi International Desert Forum

### General Content

**a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

To Share our experiences of desertification control with more people who need it and learn from others.

**b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

**c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

**d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

### Specific Elements

**a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

**b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

**c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

**d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

Document from China Elion Resources Group

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Today, desertification has become one of the most serious ecological environment issues directly threatening people's survival and development. So far, 65% of land in the world has been facing desertification in varying degree and desertification is expanding at an annual rate of 50,000-70,000 square kilometers, which inflicts a dozen billion people with poverty and starvation. Desertification has received widespread attention from governments and international community of the world.

China is one of the countries encountering relatively severe desertification atrocity. Chinese government has been committed in long term to the undertaking of desertification prevention and control, organized series major ecology construction projects and promoted livelihood improvement for people living in desert area.

As one of the largest desert ecology enterprises in the world, Elion Resources Group of Inner Mongolia, in the last two decades, has persistently safeguarded Kubuqi Desert, afforested over 5000 square kilometers of deserts and rehabilitated 10000 square kilometers of desertified land, erecting an over-240-kilometer-long green ecological wall in north China, leaving a miracle print in Chinese desertification control history and creating a desertification control model with Chinese characteristics—"Kubuqi Model".

The great change of The Kubuqi Desert

The Kubuqi Desert is located at the north of Erdos highland in Inner Mongolia with a total land area of 18600 square kilometers; it is the seventh largest desert in the country. Back in the Tang Dynasty, this desert was recorded historically of "three feet deep sand here stops horse from travelling". The people lived here over generations suffered from pain and torture. Their security for life is constantly threatened by the changeable condition and ferity of the desert, their land, house and life could be destroyed any time. People around the desert periphery are forced into exile and their life is full of uncertainty.

Since the founding of New China, Chinese government pays great attention on desertification control. Under the influence of reform and open policy, as a non stated-owned enterprise, Elion Resources Group has determinedly and undoubtedly taken on the task of combating desertification for the enterprise itself and the local people based on their responsibility. Through perseverant efforts and faith over two decades, the Kubuqi Desert nowadays is no longer the barren land with terrible sand storms. Instead, it is a green oasis flowing with clean lake water, a favorable tourist area with groups of animals, ecological system and complex food chain. The great changes can be experienced from data as below:

1. The total land area of Kubuqi Desert is 18600 square kilometer and was known as "the barren land" two decades ago; nowadays, the afforestation in this desert has reached more than 5000 square kilometers, equivalent to the land area of seven Singapore, controlled desertification land is more than 10000 square kilometers, it is neither the barren land nor dead sea, instead it has turned into an green oasis overflowing with vigor and vitality. The tangible evidence of "more green, less yellow" can be shown from the satellite.
2. The frequency of sandstorm in Kubuqi desert is about 70—80 times per annual, and it would only take one night to blow into the capital compared with once or twice a year, great contributions are therefore made in improving the weather quality along Beijing and Tianjin, even Korea and Japan. Additionally, precipitation has increased to a few centimeters from the initial millimeters two decades ago. (accurate figures are better here)
3. Two decades ago, camel was the only transportation to carry all the living goods of six months on a journey of 50 kilometers with 2—3 days in return, and visiting doctor and getting educated was even an extravagant hope for the herdsmen. There are five spanning roads of total 500 kilometers long on Kubuqi desert nowadays, tight integration of international school and modern medical institute have also been promoted. The changes of two decades (accurate number is needed here) helped the herdsmen's annual income growing at two digit speed. Cars and modern house are no longer luxuries in the past.

The herdsmen were suffering, had a life of misery in the past, and now they are having a life of happiness and prosperity.

4. Desertification problem was regarded as the cancer of the earth two decades ago; people sacrificed countless time, effort, material and money for combating desertification. The Kubuqi today truly is an example reflecting the development of green desert economy, becoming pioneering green living space clarifying the direction of achieving sustainable development, even the model on turning desert disadvantage to advantage, turn negative to positive.

Who has been combating desertification?

Desert is a remote and threatening place to many people; however it is also the passion of life for those heroes who has dedicated in desertification control, especially for the vice president of All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, the Chairman of Elion Resources Group, Wang Wenbiao. Over twenty years ago, he was a teacher and Kubuqi government official before becoming the salt factory manager of Kubuqi desert, and this salt factory is the place of origin for Elion Resources Group today

In the late eighties last century, the desert was the biggest problem for the salt factory even it had a huge potential, less than a hundred kilometers distance was detoured to 330 kilometers, and the profit of tons of product was wasted on the way, and the factory was facing destruction any time. Facing the life challenge, the people who were raised up in the desert were bravely stepped on the journey of homeland-protection by afforesting under the leadership of Wang Wenbiao. The seeds were vastly taken care of in the barren land and now they have grown into rows of strong "green soldiers" guarding the lake permanently.

However, the small—scale of desert management was nothing compared with the ferity of the desert. Sandstorm stopped transportation and the enterprise was threatened to be broken down. In the early nineties, Elion Resources Group started the industrial desertification control, and eagerly exploring multiple win solutions of "desert, greenage, livelihood and industry". The first "green tunnel" on the Dead Sea was created in the hinterland in 1997. This had ultimately brought revival to the enterprise and people's

living was vastly improved as well. The desert value was therefore reconsidered while Elion was on the way of industrial desertification control. Gradually the long march is looking broader and brighter.

What made desert afforestation come true?

Firstly is science and technology bringing about afforestation, which means to strictly rely on science and technology, eagerly delving in sand prevention models suitable for local condition. During repeated experience and research, Elion has concluded the concept of sand prevention, which is "side-locking, hinterland penetrating, road division, separate management, technology support and industry driven", the desertification combating of "six in one" was also promoted by combining road, electricity, water, telecommunication, network and greenage." Thus three industries are formed there from. First of all, afforestation by road construction has helped reaching greenage of total 2000 square kilometers; five desert spanning roads of total 500 kilometers are constructed, and lots of salix and licorice are also planted on the sides of the roads. Secondly, 100 square kilometers of desert afforestation was also reached through green protection belt. Elion has also built a sand-prevention belt of total 242 kilometers, which is a green screen securely stabilized the desert. Thirdly desert greenage of 2000 square kilometers was achieved by desert hinterland ecological repair. Tree-planting has hugely improved the efficiency of desert afforestation combining ecological immigration, recovery based on aerial and mechanic planting.

Secondly is the utilization of desert resource through science and technology, turning desert disadvantage into advantage, developing and utilizing desert as a precious type of resource, expanding living space for human while enlarging desert green economy. Cleaning energy is the first industry which was invested by Elion with ten millions of dollars, almost equivalent to 20 trillion of Korean Won, the photovoltaic industry, biomass energy and new material industry were later on developed utilizing resources from desert land, sunshine and biomass. The second is natural medical industry. People of Elion also planted 1500 square kilometers of licorice on favorable locations, not only stabilizing the sand but also valuable in its medical purpose, created a win-win situation of "afforestation increased with profit" for the enterprise. Their licorice medical industry has reached a large scale of 40 billion RMB and they are now organizing natural medical industry to be on the market at full swing. The third is the industry of desert modern agriculture and tourism. Improving desert ecological environment is improving desertification and expanding the land for agriculture. With their help, more than 2000 square kilometers of desert area has turned into agricultural land, it is the new solution for sustainable utilization of global land. At the meanwhile, a unique industry of desert tourism also emerged by relying on natural landscape of the desert.

July, 8, 2011, 2011 Kubuqi International Desert Forum was successfully held in Kubuqi Desert's Seven-star Lake. Politicians, experts and scholars coming from more than 30 countries visited Kubuqi Desert. After their inspection, they regarded the Kubuqi Pattern as the contribution that Elion made to the whole world. "Kubuqi Pattern" is an innovative practice and successful example created by Elion Resources Group during its over 20 years' practice of Kubuqi Desert desertification control and speeding up sand industry development, which is based on available desert resources and supported by technology innovation, with enterprise development driven by science and technology, large-scale desertification control driven by the industry and people's livelihood improvement driven by ecology. "Kubuqi Pattern " embodies priority of ecology, development and people's livelihood, forming a new model of "rehabilitation to development to re-rehabilitation to re-development" which is a virtuous development cycle and realizing the multi-win structure of "desertification prevention and control, industry development, ecology improvement, social stability, national solidarity, farmer's prosperity and interaction".

The core connotation of "Kubuqi Model" is the so-called "three driving", which are enterprise development driven by science and technology, large-scale desertification control driven by industry and people's livelihood improvement driven by ecological zone.

Science and technology brings about enterprise development. Elion Resources Group always adheres to the concept of "science and technology are the primary production force", roundly depending on the advancement of science and technology to promote scientific enterprise development and green development. It also has successively, in a broad sense, cooperated with over 10 domestic and international scientific institutes, universities and enterprise, (such as Belgium's . Through synergized key difficulty tackling in major principles, various fields and involving in whole project process, technology introduction, independent research and development, it has promoted a robust enterprise development and provided support for Kubuqi Desert desertification control. Meanwhile, Elion Resources Group was named as "National Base of Desert New Energy Commercialization of Research Findings" and "International Technology Cooperation Base". National Tourism Bureau named Kubuqi Desert as "National Desert Tourism Experimental Base". National Forest Bureau named Kubuqi Desert as "The First Combat Convention of Desertification Experimental Base of China".

Industry brings about large-scale desertification control. In the last over 20 years, depending on the wealth accumulated by industry development, Elion Resources Group has been adhering to ecology construction of Kubuqi Desert. As of now, Elion Resources Group has invested over 3 billion RMBs on forming a development mechanism of virtuous cycle which is "desertification control driven by industry and industry promoted by desertification control". Generally speaking, the development of Elion's Desertification control can be divided into two parts. The 10 years before 1997 was just called small actions. The purpose was for the factory to survive. Industrialization started from the accomplishment of the first cross sand road. Construction of the first cross sand road made Elion to know the desert better. We found a point to break the ice by developing sand industry such as planting licorice. Elion Group programmed "one belt, for districts and one town" in Kubuqi Desert. One belt means Kubuqi desert stereoscopic combine type of afforesting belt, which consisted by four industry zones. Four Districts means the new material cycling industry district on the east side of Kubuqi desert, the new energy cycling district on the north, Kubuqi Seven-star Lake ecological tourism district and Modern desert agriculture demonstration district. One town is a 20 square kilometers ecology low carbon area. The formation of the industry brings about the development of desert economy and enriched local people.

Improving people's livelihood through ecological development. 20 years' effort, Elion has made significant efforts to improve the ecological environment in 5000 square kilometers' sandy areas, developed the ideology of all-inclusive, wide-covering and universal benefits to the people. There used to be more than 60-70 times sandstorm happened in this area every year, but after Elion's treatment, the number was reduced to one or two every year. Rainfall capacity was changed from dozens of mm every year to 300mm every year, which totally changed the bad weather condition of this area. And also protects Beijing, the capital city where closed to Kubuqi desert, from being influenced by the sandstorm. Besides, Elion Group vigorously implemented the project of "Helping people, enriching people and benefiting people through ecological construction". 1) Benefiting people through ecological construction. Besides improving the ecological environment, efforts have also been made to improve people's living environment, so that the local people wouldn't have to live the miserable life with sand. Under the support of local government, Elion Resources Group has gathered native dwellers and constructed a residential quarter for them, allowing them to get out of deep desert and live a life of intensified production. 2) Enriching people through ecological construction. The ecological industry developed in the desert has provided over 5000 employment opportunities for local peasants and herdsmen, while free professional training has also been provided to make them the new-generation ecological construction workers, tourist service staff and skilled workers of intensive breeding and planting. The ecological industry has increased the income of natives by over RMB 300 million per year. The per capita net income of herdsmen has increased from RMB 2,000 in the past to RMB 30,000 at present. Through desertification control and the development of sand industry, the native dwellers have migrated from the life of poverty and obsolete production mode to the road of affluence. Experiences show that desertification control and sand industry development are two important approaches to respond to climate change, improve ecological environment, address the food & clothing problem of the vulnerable groups in worldwide desertifying areas, and accomplish long-term development. 3) Benefiting people through ecological construction. Through the construction of sand-control afforestation highways, Elion has improved the production and living conditions of peasants and herdsmen in the desert. Elion invested RMB 100 million to build the desert school offering full-time nursery and free education, thus providing preferable elementary education for the children of local peasants and herdsmen.

Conclusion

Combating desertification is a long term project which may lasts for hundreds of years. As a private enterprise, Elion Resources Group develops economy in accordance with



the idea of "Green, Cycling, Clean and Low Carbon", holding a green flag of combating desertification and developing desert economy. 20 years accomplishment is not only afforesting, but to created a system with the meaning of combination of government's support, company's investment and people's participation, which is a great experience to the world. On 29th Aug, 2011, China's State leader, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, Chairman of CPPCC Mr. Jia Qinglin visited Kubuqi desert. He demanded Elion Group to continue the work in Kubuqi after his inspection. Elion Group was recognized as a representative of China's high level desertification control technology and a demonstration of China's ecology construction.

Kubuqi Pattern has brought the attention from the UN and the whole world. On 17th, Oct 2011, Chairman of the Board of Elion Resources Group Mr. Wang Wenbiao was invited to UNCCD's COP10 Business Forum held in Korea, and gave a key note speech as the creator and practitioner of Kubuqi Pattern. Mr. Wang introduced Kubuqi Pattern and shared his experiences on combating desertification with ministers, government officers and delegates from more than 44 countries all over the world. Mr. Sha Zukang, Deputy Secretary-general of the United Nations and Mr. Luc Gnacadja, Secretary of UNCCD and delegates from all over the world highly commended Kubuqi Pattern as one of the most successful case in desertification control field. Kubuqi Pattern is recognized as a devotion to combating desertification. It's not only belonging to China, and also the world. Kubuqi Pattern should be spreaded to accelerate the process of global desertification control. In his speech, Mr. Wang expressed himself sincerely that he would like to spread Kubuqi Pattern to the world where needed and to carry forward this green devotion from China, enriching more people live in desert.

One, we need a logical management system. We have a win-win management system in Kubuqi which includes the support from the government, the investment from the enterprise and the participation from local people. This system makes sure the success of today's Kubuqi desert.

Two, we must rely on technological innovation. For these years, Elion Group cooperated with more 10 scientific research institutes domestic and overseas, built a desert economy research institute, which brought couple of cooperation projects, exploited several patent technologies and developed the technologies such as watering sand willow, licorice translation, saccasoul willow grafting desert cistanche, Dicotyledoneae grafting cynomorium coccineum. These technologies provide strong support for our desert economy development.

Three, we must take the improvement of people's living condition as our own duty. The land owned by herdsmen can be valued as resource. They can use the land they have as capital and join our market. Elion Resources Group rents land from herdsmen, brought huge profit to them. For all these years, we provided thousands of working opportunities to local herdsmen, such as constructors of zoology construction project, which brings them more than 300 million RMBs income every year. As the development of Elion Group's sand industry, the income of local people raised 10 times in 7 years. Elion invested more than 100 million RMBs to build a free boarding nursery school to give the children better education. Fact shows that combating desertification is an important act of improving people's living condition. On the other hand, we can not develop our green economy in the desert without local people's support.

Four, we must have long term ambitions and firm spirit. Combating desertification and afforesting, including desert economy development, are complex projects with high investment, large scale, slow effect and long period. In the past 20 years, Elion Resources Group fights the desert with the spirit of firmness, persistence, perseverance, willingness of fight and sense of responsibility without complaining.

Desertification, land degradation and drought are the three main issues of global land sustainable management. The urbanization of developing countries makes land degradation unavoidable. Global warming makes drought a hardly solved issue. The practicing of Kubuqi Pattern indicates that combating desertification is the most hopeful issue of the three. Kubuqi pattern shows that the desert can be afforested, the soil of the desert can be improved and the solar energy of the desert can be powerful. As far as desertification trends gets better, the dilemma of land sustainable management could be broke.

We will rely on the abundant solar, land and biomass resources of Kubuqi desert. In the coming 3-5 years, basing on technological, system and pattern innovation, the afforested area in the desert will be reach 10,000 square meters, the income of desert clean energy and natural medicine will be reach 100 billion RMBs. Elion Resources Group will create more green space for mankind and create a whole new method of global desert green economy development.

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## The Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living

SUBMISSION TO THE BUREAU OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

by PERL (The Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living)

October 2011

PERL (The Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living) (<http://www.perlprojects.org>), is a partnership of educators and researchers from 130 institutions in 50 countries who work developing methods and materials to encourage people to contribute to constructive change through the way they choose to live. PERL offers the following proposal for the compilation of the zero draft outcome document for UNCSD June 2012.

Proposed text for the Rio+20 Outcome Document

Education for responsible, sustainable living

Sustainable lifestyles are central to overcoming poverty and conserving and protecting the natural resource base for all. Sustainable methods of production are needed; use of resources needs to be minimized; and pollution and waste reduced. In the current state of multiple global crisis, innovation in education is essential to tackle these challenges. Teaching people to better understand the problems we are currently facing, and to think differently in order to tackle them, is an important task for education systems, as are building skills for critical thinking and problem-solving.

Rationale

In a world threatened by economic crisis, environmental disaster, poverty, social unrest and conflict, there is growing global consensus that the international community must unite to prepare for a better common future. Education is at the centre of the development process; our ability to generate well-educated societies is critical in overcoming the challenges we face.

Thus, education is inextricably linked to well-balanced development that takes into consideration the social, environmental and economic dimensions of an improved quality of life for present and future generations. The global financial and economic crisis together with other crises linked to climate change, food and energy, have demonstrated the need for viable, long-term solutions. A system of production and consumption imposing significantly lower pressures on natural resource stocks and the environment while improving the quality of life and social well-being for all, is now widely recognised as necessary in order to move to sustainable development. This has given new relevance to debates on how education should respond to changing realities and contribute to a better future.

Education for SCP should not be understood in a narrow sense so that it simply means learning to consume and produce less. Instead, such education should serve to

empower consumers by making them aware of their rights and responsibilities as well as the needs of individuals throughout the world. It should equip them with critical thinking skills to be conscious consumers and active, compassionate citizens. Education for SCP should train people to support business practices and government policies that are ethically sound, seek eco-efficiency, provide a wide range of choices and alternatives, and supply reliable information to consumers. Changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production requires changes in attitudes and behaviours on a massive scale. Such education needs to be based on multi-stakeholder partnerships, research and activities which support sustainable lifestyles innovation in both developed and developing countries.

Regulations, new technology and material incentives alone cannot bring about significant attitude and behaviour changes. Education cannot do this alone either. Together, education, regulations and material incentives/new technology can provide the necessary knowledge, frameworks and motivation for constructive change to sustainable living. Together they can provide the foundations for the transitions needed to achieve a more equitable and sustainable economy.

#### Concrete measures / recommendations

- Encourage all countries to include a comprehensive program of value-based, holistic, interdisciplinary and practical education for sustainable living in their curricula, teacher training, school activities and informal education
- Endorse a 10-year framework of programs on sustainable consumption and production to support the development of education for sustainable living in formal and informal educational systems in all countries as well as dissemination of good practices, learning kits, guidelines and material. This Framework of programs would build upon the work of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development. It would encompass a variety of approaches but ensure focus on life skills and creative social learning processes.
- Provide the resources for carrying out the above-mentioned programs.
- Carry out a mid-way review after five years of the progress made.

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## The Royal Society

### Royal Society submission to Rio+20 consultation

#### Introduction

The Royal Society welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the preparatory process of the Rio+20 meeting. The Society believes that Rio+20 is a critical milestone for reinvigorating international political commitment and catalysing action for meeting the challenges the world now faces.

The Royal Society Science Policy Centre (SPC) has undertaken work on a wide range of issues relevant to sustainable development, most recently completing reports on Nuclear Fuel Stewardship<sup>1</sup>, the Governance of Solar Radiation Management methods of Geoengineering<sup>2</sup>, Geoengineering the Climate<sup>3</sup> and Ground-level Ozone<sup>4</sup>. The Society has also been central to the development of interacademy statements<sup>5</sup> – at both G8+5 and global (through the IAP global network of academies<sup>6</sup>) levels: these have set out clear consensus among the international scientific community on wide-ranging issues, such as global health, energy security, climate change, ocean acidification, tropical forests and water and sanitation. Currently the SPC is preparing a report entitled *People and the Planet*, which considers the dual contribution of population and consumption to sustainable development.

The Society's submission to the Rio+20 consultation is based exclusively on the content of the *People and the Planet* report which is expected to be published in early 2012.

This submission contains the following key messages:

The zero draft document must recognize the fundamental importance of population and consumption to achieving sustainable development. A failure to consider the close interactions between the two when identifying goals, desired outcomes and delivery mechanisms for Rio+20 will compromise efforts to achieve sustainable development. Unsustainable population growth, lack of access to reproductive health-care and continuing degradation of environmental services will compromise development and poverty eradication efforts across the world. Demographic changes present challenges and opportunities for sustainable development, and will influence the achievement of a global green economy. Planning for a transition to a green economy must take these dynamics into account.

#### Population and Consumption and Rio+20

The Rio+20 meeting provides a critical opportunity for reinvigorating international efforts to achieve sustainable development; for lifting the 1.4 billion people who live on less than \$1.25 a day out of poverty; for addressing the unsustainable consumption of natural resources and the environmental degradation that results; and for enhancing the health and wellbeing of all citizens around the world.

Since 1992 the progress made in achieving sustainable development has been limited despite previous statements of high-level political support, identification of goals, targets and action plans. Rio+20 must do better.

It is the Society's view that there are two main reasons for the poor progress made to date:

1. the reluctance of global leaders to integrate population dynamics and sexual and reproductive health rights into sustainable development strategies and mechanisms for delivery; and
2. the failure of market economies to confront the environmental and resource pressures created by an economic model based on the continual expansion of consumer demand, to capture the full value of environmental goods and services, and to address global disparities in the distribution of incomes, consumption levels and access to environmental resources.

Unless Rio+20 addresses each of these issues the Society is concerned that the transformation to a just, equitable, low carbon and environmentally resilient planet is unlikely to be realized.

In the hope that the Rio+20 Green Economy theme will address point 2 above, the emphasis of this submission is on point 1, as the Society is concerned by the low profile of population matters in the preparatory process to date. However, it is the Royal Society's view that both consumption and population are of fundamental importance to achieving sustainable development and must be addressed together in an internationally co-ordinated and politically integrated fashion.

Economic, social and environmental systems are all strongly influenced by population, especially rates of growth and demographic changes such as urbanisation, migration, and age structure change. The economic and environmental outcomes arising from population growth and demographic change are directly or indirectly a consequence of consumption of resources. Population and consumption are therefore inseparable factors in sustainable development. These linkages have been recognized by the international sustainable development community in the past – in the 1992 Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, the 1993 Population summit of the World's Scientific Academies, the 1994 Cairo International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (ICPD POA) and key actions subsequently agreed at ICPD+5, +10 and +15 (see Appendix 1). Although stabilization of global population growth was identified as important for achieving sustainable development in the report of the Secretary-General to the May 2010 Preparatory Committee<sup>7</sup>, population issues have otherwise had a notably low profile in the lead up to Rio+20. This is despite the known implications of population growth and demographic change for a world with finite natural resources, the obvious social equity implications for the many millions of women around the world without access to reproductive health care including contraception and safe abortion, and the social and economic development implications of high fertility levels in the poorest regions of the world and the rapid ageing of societies, which is now occurring in both developed and emerging economies.

In late October the global population reached 7 billion people. It is now larger, more urban and older than ever before and is characterized by gross disparities in rights, opportunities and standards of living. In some of the world's poorest countries high fertility rates hamper development and perpetuate poverty, while low fertility rates in both the richest countries and some of the emerging economies are raising concerns about prospects for economic growth and social security. Globally, current levels of consumption are unsustainable, and yet billions of people currently consume too little to meet their basic human needs. These economic, social and environmental interactions are expressed through the life choices made by individual people and communities, and are likely soon to limit the wellbeing potential of many more people in all parts of the world.

For these reasons it is difficult to see how progress can be made if the challenges and opportunities presented by population growth and demographic changes at the global, regional and national level for the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainable development, are overlooked.

To ensure that population is considered alongside consumption at the Rio+20 meeting and subsequent activities, the Royal Society would like to propose that the Principles, Objectives and Key Actions of the 1994 Cairo ICPD POA and subsequent ICPD meetings (see Appendix 1) be reflected in the zero draft document. The POA built on the actions and objectives agreed in Agenda 21 in relation to the interrelationships between population and development, and captured key issues which are just as relevant today as they were in 1994; for example; the important influence of population growth and structure on human wellbeing, the need to recognize reproductive rights and improve access to reproductive health care, to improve gender equality, equity and empowerment of women, to recognize the links between population, economic growth and poverty and population and environment, and the need to integrate population and (sustainable) development strategies.

In terms of specific expectations the Royal Society would like to see the dual importance of population and consumption reflected in any goals, targets and/or programmes of action to come out of the Rio+20 discussions. In this context the Royal Society is supportive in principle of the Colombian Government proposal for the development of Sustainable Development Goals and agrees that Agenda 21 provides a good starting point for identifying the key issues requiring action. However, any new goals developed must address population and consumption together in an integrated way, and should reflect the 1994 Cairo ICPD POA and actions agreed at subsequent ICPD meetings.

In the same context, the Royal Society agrees that the Green Economy concept should provide a useful mechanism for helping to achieve sustainable development, in particular through decarbonising consumption, reducing the other environmental impacts of consumption, and reducing consumption inequalities. However, the Society would like to see explicit consideration given to the challenges and opportunities presented by population size, growth rates, structure and distribution in these discussions. For example, how can the green economy agenda be used to ensure countries have the appropriate conditions in place (e.g. health and education infrastructure) to enable them to realize their potential demographic dividend as they approach this stage in their demographic transition? How can the green economy be applied so as to ensure that as countries grow economically they do so equitably and in a low-carbon and environmentally-sustainable way? How can current patterns and trends for increasing international migration be managed to support the growth of a green economy for the benefits of all? What are the implications of the rapid population growth forecast in some parts of the world for the delivery of their green economy, and what are the implications of population decline in areas with low fertility rates? What are the opportunities and challenges presented by an ageing population for a green economy? And, how can the green economy agenda be used to deliver patterns of urbanisation that meets sustainable development objectives? To this end the Royal Society strongly encourages the UN Rio+20 secretariat to work closely with its colleagues in the UN Population Division, UN Environment Programme and UN Development Programme and appropriate national authorities to develop these themes.

Finally, in terms of specific outcomes, the Royal Society would like to see Rio+20 result in a clear statement of intent and commitment to achieving sustainable development by global leaders. This must be accompanied by:

1. Outcome driven goals and measurable targets, based on the 1992 Rio Principles, Agenda 21 and the 1994 Cairo International Conference on Population and Development Programme of Action (and subsequent ICPD meeting agreed actions). These should complement and significantly strengthen the Millennium Development Goals;
2. Political commitment for the development of an international programme of action for enabling the delivery of the goals. This must contain challenging targets that reflect the size and urgency of the challenge. It should reflect the fundamental importance of population and consumption to sustainable development, the need for improved integration of economic, environmental and social policy making, the principle of common but differentiated responsibility, and the respective roles of the public and private sectors. This should not be an action plan aimed only at achieving the transition to a green economy, or, aimed only at increasing the profile of environmental sustainability. It must facilitate the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development.
3. Firm commitments from governments and the private sector to invest financially in the delivery of the action plan.

The Royal Society would be happy to provide assistance to the Rio+20 secretariat on the issues listed above, or on any of the other matters mentioned in the Introduction to this submission. Please contact

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1 November 2011.

#### 1. ICPD IPOA (1994) PRINCIPLES

The implementation of the recommendations contained in the Programme of Action is the sovereign right of each country, consistent with national laws and development priorities, with full respect for the various religious and ethical values and cultural backgrounds of its people, and in conformity with universally recognized international human rights. International cooperation and universal solidarity, guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and in a spirit of partnership, are crucial in order to improve the quality of life of the peoples of the world.

In addressing the mandate of the International Conference on Population and Development and its overall theme, the interrelationships between population, sustained economic growth and sustainable development, and in their deliberations, the participants were and will continue to be guided by the following set of principles:

Principle 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Principle 2

Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. People are the most important and valuable resource of any nation. Countries should ensure that all individuals are given the opportunity to make the most of their potential. They have the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their families, including adequate food, clothing, housing, water and sanitation.

Principle 3

The right to development is a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights, and the human person is the central subject of development. While development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights. The right to development must be fulfilled so as to equitably meet the population, development and environment needs of present and future generations.

Principle 4

Advancing gender equality and equity and the empowerment of women, and the elimination of all kinds of violence against women, and ensuring women's ability to control their own fertility, are cornerstones of population and development- related programmes.

The human rights of women and the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. The full and equal participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life, at the national, regional and international levels, and the eradication of all forms of discrimination on grounds of sex, are priority objectives of the international community.

Principle 5

Population-related goals and policies are integral parts of cultural, economic and social development, the principal aim of which is to improve the quality of life of all people.

Principle 6

Sustainable development as a means to ensure human well-being, equitably shared by all people today and in the future, requires that the interrelationships between population, resources, the environment and development should be fully recognized, properly managed and brought into harmonious, dynamic balance. To achieve sustainable development and a higher quality of life for all people, States should reduce and eliminate unsustainable patterns of production and consumption and promote appropriate policies, including population-related policies, in order to meet the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Principle 7

All States and all people shall cooperate in the essential task of eradicating poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in order to decrease the disparities in standards of living and better meet the needs of the majority of the people of the world. The special situation and needs of developing countries, particularly the least developed, shall be given special priority. Countries with economies in transition, as well as all other countries, need to be fully integrated into the world economy.

Principle 8

Everyone has the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health. States should take all appropriate measures to ensure, on a basis of equality of men and women, universal access to health-care services, including those related to reproductive health care, which includes family planning and sexual health. Reproductive health-care programmes should provide the widest range of services without any form of coercion. All couples and individuals have the basic right to decide freely and responsibly the number and spacing of their children and to have the information, education and means to do so.

Principle 9

The family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened. It is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support. In different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist. Marriage must be entered into with the free consent of the intending spouses, and husband and wife should be equal partners.

Principle 10

Everyone has the right to education, which shall be directed to the full development of human resources, and human dignity and potential, with particular attention to women and the girl child. Education should be designed to strengthen respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including those relating to population and development. The best interests of the child shall be the guiding principle of those responsible for his or her education and guidance; that responsibility lies in the first place with the parents.

Principle 11

All States and families should give the highest possible priority to children. The child has the right to standards of living adequate for its well-being and the right to the highest attainable standards of health, and the right to education. The child has the right to be cared for, guided and supported by parents, families and society and to be protected by appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sale, trafficking, sexual abuse, and trafficking in its organs.

Principle 12

Countries receiving documented migrants should provide proper treatment and adequate social welfare services for them and their families, and should ensure their physical safety and security, bearing in mind the special circumstances and needs of countries, in particular developing countries, attempting to meet these objectives or requirements with regard to undocumented migrants, in conformity with the provisions of relevant conventions and international instruments and documents. Countries should guarantee to

all migrants all basic human rights as included in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

#### Principle 13

Everyone has the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries asylum from persecution. States have responsibilities with respect to refugees as set forth in the Geneva Convention on the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol.

#### Principle 14

In considering the population and development needs of indigenous people, States should recognize and support their identity, culture and interests, and enable them to participate fully in the economic, political and social life of the country, particularly where their health, education and well-being are affected.

#### Principle 15

Sustained economic growth, in the context of sustainable development, and social progress require that growth be broadly based, offering equal opportunities to all people. All countries should recognize their common but differentiated responsibilities. The developed countries acknowledge the responsibility that they bear in the international pursuit of sustainable development, and should continue to improve their efforts to promote sustained economic growth and to narrow imbalances in a manner that can benefit all countries, particularly the developing countries.

### 2. Key Actions for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD -- ICPD+5 (1999)

Progress and challenges in the first five years of implementing the Cairo agreement were the focus of a series of meetings leading up to special session of the United Nations General Assembly (ICPD+5) in June 1999. The session identified Key Actions for the Further Implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action, including new benchmark indicators of progress in four key areas:

#### 1. Education and literacy

Governments and civil society, with the assistance of the international community, should, as quickly as possible, and in any case before 2015, meet the Conference's goal of achieving universal access to primary education; eliminate the gender gap in primary and secondary education by 2005; and strive to ensure that by 2010 the net primary school enrolment ratio for children of both sexes will be at least 90 per cent, compared with an estimated 85 per cent in 2000. Governments, in particular of developing countries, with the assistance of the international community, should: ... Reduce the rate of illiteracy of women and men, at least halving it for women and girls by 2005, compared with the rate in 1990"

#### 2. Reproductive health care and unmet need for contraception

"... Governments should strive to ensure that by 2015 all primary healthcare and family planning facilities are able to provide, directly or through referral, the widest achievable range of safe and effective family planning and contraceptive methods; essential obstetric care; prevention and management of reproductive tract infections, including sexually transmitted diseases, and barrier methods (such as male and female condoms and microbicides if available) to prevent infection. By 2005, 60 per cent of such facilities should be able to offer this range of services, and by 2010, 80 per cent of them should be able to offer such services."

"Where there is a gap between contraceptive use and the proportion of individuals expressing a desire to space or limit their families, countries should attempt to close this gap by at least 50 per cent by 2005, 75 per cent by 2010 and 100 per cent by 2050. In attempting to reach this benchmark, demographic goals, while legitimately the subject of government development strategies, should not be imposed on family planning providers in the form of targets or quotas for the recruitment of clients."

#### 3. Maternal mortality reduction

"By 2005, where the maternal mortality rate is very high, at least 40 per cent of all births should be assisted by skilled attendants; by 2010 this figure should be at least 50 per cent and by 2015, at least 60 per cent. All countries should continue their efforts so that globally, by 2005, 80 per cent of all births should be assisted by skilled attendants, by 2010, 85 per cent, and by 2015, 90 per cent."

#### 4. HIV/AIDS.

"Governments, with assistance from UNAIDS and donors, should, by 2005, ensure that at least 90 per cent, and by 2010 at least 95 per cent, of young men and women aged 15 to 24 have access to the information, education and services necessary to develop the life skills required to reduce their vulnerability to HIV infection. Services should include access to preventive methods such as female and male condoms, voluntary testing, counselling and follow-up. Governments should use, as a benchmark indicator, HIV infection rates in persons 15 to 24 years of age, with the goal of ensuring that by 2005 prevalence in this age group is reduced globally, and by 25 per cent in the most affected countries, and that by 2010 prevalence in this age group is reduced globally by 25 per cent."

### 3. ICPD+10 (2004) COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT Thirty- Seventh Session

Review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development 22-26 March and 6 May 2004.

Resolution 2004/2: Follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development\* 6 May 2004, New York \* E/CN.9/2004/9 The Commission on Population and Development,

Bearing in mind that 2004 marks the tenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994, and of the adoption of its Programme of Action,

Concerned that, based on current trends, many countries may fall short of achieving the agreed goals and commitments of the Programme of Action,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>2</sup> and the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained therein,

Reiterating the call to implement fully and build further on the commitments made and agreements reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, Bearing in mind the goals and objectives on population and development of the other major United Nations conferences and summits, and their reviews,

Welcoming the decision of the General Assembly to commemorate at its fiftyninth session the tenth anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the review and appraisal of the progress made in achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development: a 10-year review",

Noting that the current levels of financing, including levels of official development assistance, are still well below those needed to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Stressing the importance of population and reproductive health for development, Bearing in mind the report of the International Conference on Population and Development and on the key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action,<sup>6</sup> in their entirety,

1. Reaffirms the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>1</sup> and the key actions for its further implementation;
2. Stresses that the implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions makes an essential contribution to the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;
3. Recalls that it has been estimated that, in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition, the implementation of programmes in the area of reproductive health will cost, in 1993 United States dollars, \$18.5 billion in 2005 and \$21.7 billion in 2015,<sup>7</sup> and that it is tentatively estimated that up to two thirds of the costs will continue to be met by the countries themselves and approximately one third from external resources;
4. Reiterates that increased political will from all Governments and reaffirmation of the commitment for mobilization of international assistance, as agreed in Cairo, are urgently needed to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action, which will in turn contribute to the advancement of the broad population and development agenda;
5. Also reiterates that Governments should continue to commit themselves at the highest political level to achieving the goals and objectives of the Programme of Action, inter alia, through the integration of the Programme of Action in programmes and national policies for poverty eradication;
6. Recognizes that the effective implementation of the Programme of Action will require an increased commitment of financial resources, both domestically and externally, and in this context calls upon developed countries to complement the national financial efforts of developing countries related to population and development and intensify their efforts to transfer new and additional resources to the developing countries, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Programme of Action, in order to ensure that population and development objectives and goals are met;
7. Urges donor countries to fulfil their commitments with regard to their official development assistance for population assistance;
8. Calls upon both donors and developing countries to make every effort to strengthen their commitment to meet the estimated costs of the Programme of Action;
9. Encourages Governments, international organizations, including those of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other relevant stakeholders to assist developing countries in implementing the Programme of Action through technical assistance and capacity-building activities to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action;
10. Reiterates that international cooperation in the field of population and development is essential for the implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation and for the attainment of its goals by 2015, and calls upon the international community to continue to provide, both bilaterally and multilaterally, support and assistance for population and development activities in the developing countries;
11. Emphasizes the importance of building and sustaining partnerships among Governments and relevant civil society stakeholders, in accordance with section V of the key actions, so as to strengthen the capacity of developing countries for the successful implementation of the Programme of Action and the key actions for its further implementation, and invites all Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as the private sector and nongovernmental organizations, to continue to support these activities;
12. Calls upon the United Nations Population Fund to continue to play a crucial role, within its mandate, in helping recipient countries to achieve the goals and targets contained in the Programme of Action, the key actions for its further implementation and the United Nations Millennium Declaration, recognizing the strong and widespread support for the activities of the Fund.

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## The UN CSD Education Working Group

### CONCEPT NOTE

RIO 2012 and Beyond

FRAMING POLICY DIALOGUES: A Well-Prepared Society

Submitted by:

The UN CSD Education Working Group

November 1, 2011

URL: <http://www.un.org/esa/sustdev/csd/review.htm>

-UNCSD Education Working Group

Contact: P.J. Puntenney

The upcoming UN Conference on Sustainable Development is to be held in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, 20 years after the historic summit of 1992. According to its organizers, the summit's objectives are to secure renewed political commitment to sustainable development; to assess progress towards internationally agreed goals on sustainable development and to address new and emerging challenges. The Summit will also focus on two specific themes: a green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development, and an institutional framework for sustainable development. After 20 years of dramatically evolving changes, this concept note is an invitation to shape a briefing on Environmental Education for Sustainability as a key policy instrument with specific strategic recommendations in the lead-up to Rio+20 and the implementation of the outcomes post-Rio 2012.

Recognizing the number of global environmental challenges and security issues, there is a need to improve the knowledge base of all stakeholders, particularly decision-makers on the interplay of human and natural systems, with an understanding of new opportunities for investment, new technologies, and innovations, among others.

Environmental Education as a policy instrument enables the governance structures for Sustainable Development as “learning systems” to increase capacities so that knowledge may be translated into action-implementation and practices towards sustainable systems. Knowledge through Environmental Education effectively promotes action-based priorities in transitioning to a green economy and to implementing needed mechanisms that strengthen an Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD).

Broad support on multi-stakeholder engagement in environmental governance acknowledges the respective roles of each stakeholder, takes into account the Rio Declaration on the principle of “common but differentiated responsibilities”. The centrality of Environmental Education for Sustainability to the IFSD therefore emphasizes the need for supportive structures including a comprehensive and effective monitoring system of implementation of environmental education in the context of commitments to a Green Economy, poverty eradication and the IFSD.

A multi-stakeholder consultative process was conducted by the UN CSD Education Caucus from 2010 to 2011 in preparation for Rio+20. Concept Note 2012 and Beyond was launched during PrepCom II, seeking further input into the shaping of this document. The following is divided into Part I, Taking Stock of the successes, gaps, and challenges of the 21st century, followed by requirements that should be reflected in the Rio+20 outcome document. Part II, Confidence Building provides an overview

\* The UN CSD Education Caucus was formed as an intergenerational, multi-stakeholder platform during UNCED in 1992 to advance the work on Agenda 21. The Caucus currently has 600+ member organizations (formal and informal educators) with leaders in each of the World Regions. The Caucus facilitates input through a consultative process to create briefings, serve in an advisory capacity, lobbying, advocating, networking, and building working relationships to support the education agenda within the CSD Summary of Work, the MDGs, climate change, environmental governance, and more.

## PART I: Taking Stock

### Rio 1992, A Catalyst

For governments, institutions, and civil society, the first Earth Summit in 1992 (UNCED) created a significant learning environment, where knowledge led to understanding and action, and new strategies emerged. New visions of environment and development clearly linked social, cultural, economic and political spheres of human behavior with the nexus of interactions between the environment and society. Many more people who were unable to participate in Rio were inspired by what had happened in Rio, creating initiatives within their own work and communities. Governments and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) repeatedly pointed to education as a key policy instrument for bringing about a transition to sustainable development, an education that was defined as a life-long process of action-oriented and reflective learning, involving all citizens as informed environmental decision-makers. Environmental Education and Sustainability became part of the underlying foundation for UNCED, alongside the legal, planning, and financial components, integrated into the Rio Declaration and Principles, Agenda 21 and the mandates that followed.

Post-Rio in 1992 and into the policy preparations and outcomes from the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, the vision of linking cross-sectoral, cross-generational knowledge to understanding and action, within a broad multi-stakeholder platform-based strategy shifted within the policy world to a supportive function of building capacity. Education in the institutional sense, schooling, was well represented but less of a priority in the minds of the policy-makers. The understandings and implementation strategies gained from the series of conferences on Environmental Education and Sustainability in the 1970s lessened over time:

To develop a world population that is aware of, and concerned about, the environment and its associated problems, and which has the knowledge, skills, attitudes, motivations and commitment to work individually and collectively toward solutions of current problems and prevention of new ones.

(Belgrade 1975, “A Global Framework for Environmental Education”, <http://www.envir.ee/orb.aw/class=file/action=preview/id=1011467/The%2BBelgrade%2BCharter.pdf>)

From the pre-Rio meetings and subsequent follow-up UN CSD sessions, the Education Caucus has observed and experienced strong support from a majority of the delegations, the NGO community, and major groups for this broader policy concept of education. Yet, the dual nature of the term education still gets translated into schooling in people's minds and simply stated, “not relevant to my area of focus”. Consequently education is ignored or left out demonstrating a lack of understanding of the broader context that has been in play from the outset of Rio. This is where a majority of environmental educational opportunities regarding sustainability are occurring - outside of schooling. These dual realities are not separate but inter-related and are an important element of the policy process. More importantly, millions of people worldwide be they individuals, communities, organizations or governmental institutions are already creating initiatives to address sustainability challenges in their communities and regions. One challenge to a green economy strategy is an effective linking or integration of knowledge and understandings into UN sustainable development processes and outcomes.

### 21st Century Challenges

As global crises increase in pace, what we knew yesterday does not apply today. Supporting sustainable development requires knowledge of the interactions between human and natural systems, understanding of management levers as well as technological developments and innovations, economic analysis, political will, and a framework that creates a capacity throughout and across all areas of society to respond to evolving needs.

No longer can we seek solutions to problems one at a time. Global environmental policies transcend traditional boundaries between sectors, nationalities, cultures and generations. We all need to be able to recognize increasingly complex and inter-related issues where attempts to ameliorate one can alter or even exacerbate the impacts of another. New knowledge of how multiple stressors affect human and natural systems requires decision-makers to have an ability to translate knowledge and awareness into usable information to colleagues, enabling them to make wise short-term judgments as scientific and local, national, and regional information is improved.

The 21st century challenge to global environmental security will require an unprecedented solidarity of purpose and concert of action from a well-prepared global society. Yet under the current conditions of globalization, we are faced

with the challenge that the complexity of living systems remains beyond full human comprehension. Fragmentation, biodiversity loss, lack of adequate access to water and sanitation, food insecurity, environmental degradation, and increasing poverty are occurring simultaneously. It is not enough to focus singularly on technology, trade and finance, or economic development.

Policy-makers are in a position to decide what to do and when to act based upon available evidence and their beliefs about the risks and benefits of a green economy strategy. Currently, we are using 20th century approaches and models to address 21st century issues. In order to increase the responsive capacity of nation states based upon 21st century models to meet 21st century challenges, then, governance structures for sustainable development must be created as “learning systems.” This reality also brings to light that the success of outcomes from Rio 2012 depends upon ready engagement and communications within institutions, with the public and private sectors, across fields and new sources of knowledge, and simultaneously on effective, broad-based multi-stakeholder collaborations. More importantly, a successful outcome would be to develop an institutional responsiveness that engages the public as part of a systems-wide strategy to understand what's working, what's not, and potential options to address crises within the social-cultural and economic contexts and ecological conditions within each country.

Both at the global level and within nation states, environmental governance is evolving to meet these challenges but the gap between government priorities and what society urgently needs from the UN and the outcomes from Rio 2012 must be crossed more quickly. Only strong flexible mechanisms can bridge the gap leading to a well-informed polity and a well-prepared society.

Therefore at a minimum the new framework for sustainable development requires a vision of cooperative action from local to global and global to local, positioning Environmental Education for Sustainability as a visible action-based priority within the Rio 2012 strategies to greening the economy, eradicating poverty, and strengthening institutional structures to achieve sustainable development.

Issues:

- Narrow structural learning gaps in a global environmental governance framework
- Engage diverse stakeholders in sustainability
- Build and strengthen governmental capacities based on responsive models of learning
- Integrate "Knowledge to Action for All Levels of Decision-makers" into Rio+20 processes
- Strengthen and build active engagement and partnerships of all key stakeholders

Recommended Action:

- 1) Hold informal strategy meetings with delegations and related groups on Environmental Education for Sustainability to develop a clear vision, identify policy mechanisms, and create next steps leading to implementation within the final negotiated outcomes of Rio+20 in June 2012.
- 2) Ensure sufficient capacity (human, financial, technical, etc.) for efficient implementation of the provisions on Environmental Education for Sustainability in the final outcomes.
- 3) Craft a concise political declaration from Rio+20 that includes a statement on Environmental Education for Sustainability.
- 4) Reaffirm the principles in the Rio Declaration, Agenda 21, and the instruments subsequently adopted for implementing Agenda 21, including Chapter 36.1, and the JPOI.
- 5) Utilizing the points in this Concept Note, create a roadmap and global cooperative action integral to achieving the aims and objectives of Rio+20 and the IFSD that centralizes Environmental Education for Sustainability as an essential strategic component to the implementation and actions beyond 2012.
- 6) Draft new text on education, elaborating on the importance of Environmental Education for Sustainability throughout the final Rio 2012 text and related outcomes such as roadmap(s) and toolkits, and related policy options.

## PART II: Confidence Building

### Institutional Framework on Sustainable Development (IFSD)

#### Overview

There has been and will continue to be debate and dialogue on what an IFSD should entail. Given the extraordinary challenges and stakes involved in building consensus within UN negotiations on sustainable development [as well as in the successful implementation of negotiated outcomes and their review], it may be useful to consider measures of confidence building. It is with that in mind that the [UN CSD] education community, as in its Concept Note Rio 2012 and Beyond, continues to place emphasis on the framing of policy dialogues that will lead to a well-prepared society.

Thinking about the potential development of and/or setting the stage for furthering the discussion on an IFSD, we read this to mean the following as part of the future form and function of the framework.

The earlier work by the UN and its member states on Environmental Education led to the development of National Strategies, many of which have been revised and/or incorporated into NSDS and Plans of Action, national legislation, and other country-level policies and strategies. The roots of this policy work can be traced directly to the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1), expressed within the 2002 JPOI (A/CONF.199/20), and especially noting that Environmental Education within in the UNCED framework was positioned as part of the underlying foundation of the 1992 Rio Declaration, the Principles, Agenda 21 and the mandates that followed, in particular paragraph 36.1 of Chapter 36 (A/CONF.151/26 (vol.1)).

The original intent regarding Environmental Education as a key policy mechanism to advance Agenda 21 has been limited by a sectoral focus on schooling and formal education, training, and communications to transfer or disseminate knowledge. The results on the ground become limited while civil society moves forward creating a serious disconnect for the UN to stay informed and engaged with diverse stakeholders.

The aim: to develop informed political entities and an informed civil society able to participate in and act on principles of sustainability.

The issue: One of the greatest challenges facing the implementation of Agenda 21 within the UN is staying abreast of evolving, strategic approaches to achieving sustainability.

IFSD Challenge: Accordingly, requisites of an IFSD affirm the call for environmental education in its many forms to be built into a wide cross section of implementation strategies. A "learning systems" model of organization and the proviso that negotiations and agreements of understanding appropriately results in action within communities of decision-makers and practitioners at all levels.

The current approach is to think in terms of providing information, dissemination, creating a clearing house or knowledge exchange that does not engage people in sustainable development or meet the unique conditions of the stakeholders. Thus, reinforcing the twentieth century model of deficit development.

For example, within the negotiation processes on climate change, it is common knowledge the structure is in transition, what is not being discussed in these climate forums funnels back into the more substantive dialogues as resistance, which weakens specific recommendations leading to long-term cooperative action. If the IFSD is to function effectively for the next 3-4 decades to 2050, it will require a 21st century framework that is based upon informed environmental decision-makers within flexible, responsive structures. Questions to think about include, how do we create a framework to make those needed next steps? Examining the proposed institutional framework for Sustainable Development, what is the next step in confidence building? Who else should be engaged in the dialogue on developing a responsive framework to address current and future crises?



To achieve a major shift to a global green economy, long-term answers are needed in order to understand complex concepts such as poverty eradication and develop options based upon synergies. Consequently, three target audiences require strong support and sustained engagement: the business community, the government, and the public. How the framework for sustainable development is conceived to shape the leadership and areas of responsibility within the UN, relationships external to its proceedings are equally significant.

#### A) Private Sector - In a world of scarce resources

The primacy of sustainable development to management financiers, stockholders, bondholders, product engineers or productivity staff readily focuses on maintaining the ability to earn a living and jobs.

It is, on the other hand, the end-users, the customers, the consumers, the output laborers and service workers who are the primary points of sensitivity to an organization's environmental impacts, both global and local. Customers are the people who experience the reckless consumption of "shared resources" such as air, water, and natural habitats. Laborers are the people of the world who must suffer the impacts, both direct and indirect, of unsafe work environments, workplace pollution and degrading pay and lifestyles.

As our economies around the world are rapidly becoming more global, so is each organization's customer base and employee footprint, including that of the UN.

Historically, organizations (including businesses) have omitted their true consumption of "shared resources" by keeping pollution out of sight or remotely relocated. Today, in contrast, the Internet and millions of camera-equipped cell phones allow most of

the world's people to be "powerfully proximate" and "continuously connected." Suddenly, for the first time in human history there is no hiding place too remote to avoid being documented in near real-time on "the web." The seas of floating trash slowly circling in the Pacific are now viewable on YouTube, as are the melting glaciers of the Arctic.

IFSD Challenge: To encourage and interact with the monitors, observers and reports on the ground, only organizations and institutions of business and government will survive long-term (meaning multiple decades) will be those that are transparent to their customers about their REAL impacts, both economic and environmental. For the first time in history, customers are beginning to decide whether to trust and do business with an organization based upon the organization's integrity and observed behavior. Not what the company's advertising agency or "spin doctor" is pushing. The Internet is revealing the REAL cost of providing goods and services to a base of informed customers who can exercise free choice in how they spend their scarce resources.

#### B) IEG and SD - Effectively protecting Environmental Systems

The question here is who will ultimately control resource development and its benefits. Most developing country governments react strongly against meddling by international standard setters. Resource rich governments are interested in privatizing their responsibilities by requiring foreign companies to provide health care, education and other basic services to neighboring communities. Ultimately however, privatization does not build "government capacity" or strengthen the hand of disenfranchised people.

Increasingly, government employees responsible for environmental policy, initiatives, strategic planning, laws, finance, integration of sustainable development are less and less required to have the appropriate training and experience regarding ecosystems protection.

IFSD Challenge: To strengthen the move away from the 20th century models that support deficit development as a global strategy. In the lead up to Rio+20 and beyond, identify the next generation of strategies to reinforce development rights. These will require a more nuanced understanding of the political systems that govern resource development together with a deeper understanding of the industries themselves and the human and natural systems they impact. Social performance standards have reached their limitations. If we're serious about supporting global "sustainable development", then the need is to focus on improving economic governance, on strengthening civil society, on increasing government capacity within the context of the protection of ecosystems.

#### C) Public Engagement

The UN system is committed to public engagement. Therefore thought leaders within the UN will become more and more important as well as the use of evolving open source technologies to engage diverse stakeholders in sustainable development. If the aim of Environmental Education for Sustainability is to:

Create an enabling environment where society at all levels, whether governments, business, academia, civil society organizations, youth, or ordinary people, are knowledgeable concerning the biophysical environment and its associated problems, aware of how to actively participate as an informed environmental decision-maker and motivated to work toward achieving sustainable solutions.

IFSD Challenge: To turn the camera lens slightly to focus the framework on Environmental Education for Sustainability and build the support structures accordingly, including financial mechanisms to ensure a long-term view, which can't be couched in short-term and near term needs. Few programs emphasize the role of civil society in working, both individually and collectively, toward the solution of problems that affect our well being for planetary survival. There is a vital need for an educational approach within and external to the workings of the UN system regarding societies relationship to the total environment, strengthening the balance between the three pillars. The first benchmark for the IFSD will be the measure of Environmental Education for Sustainability as a top priority in terms of form and function.

Recommended Outcome:

- 1) Develop EE policy mechanisms to reinvigorate a "broad multi-stakeholder platform-based strategy", including a roundtable workshops format (like the 2008 IUCN Barcelona meeting on Environment and Security) to identify not only challenges but also synergies.
- 2) Build into the work of the policy dialogues on the IFSD, the integrated role of Environmental Education for Sustainability in achieving IEG, coherence, and unity, to advance as well as strengthen sustainable development within the UN.
- 3) Document and monitor the existing and future policies, legislation and strategies on Environmental Education for Sustainability. The strengths have been evolving and building since the 1972 Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, it is a simple matter of building upon this success worldwide.

-UNCSD Education Working Group

Contact: P.J. Puntenney

November 2011

1) Our expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and our concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

Since the Conference addresses issues of the whole worldwide community, we hope that the final declaration of Rio+20 will include recommendations regarding a language policy that can protect linguistic diversity and enable effective communication at the same time. Such recommendations should clearly condemn linguistic discrimination and policies that lead to language death and cultural dominance of larger languages over smaller languages.

2) Our comments on existing proposals:

a) We would like to express our support for the following recommendations in the Declaration of the 64th Annual UN DPI/NGO Conference in Bonn, Germany, 3-5 September 2011:

p.11, line 414

#### EDUCATION AND LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

p.11, lines 419-422:

We call for the respect and inclusion of ethnic languages in the educational system, as these languages comprise the complexity of their respective environments, and to take into consideration the potential of a neutral international language that combines ease of learning and clarity with neutrality, and therefore can be seen as inherently sustainable;

b) We would also like to express support for the commitment in the declaration of Ethical Commitments to Global Ecological Posture and Behaviour as one of the alternative treaties produced by the NGO community during the Rio Summit in 1992.

The commitment 14. states:

14. Contribute enthusiastically to surmounting artificial obstacles, be they political or religious, with the objective of formatting a universal human nation. We suggest the adoption of the international language Esperanto as the second language of all peoples, and we recommend that all NGOs participate in its diffusion.

3) Our views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.)

As with many aspects of sustainable development, a transition towards an effective and non-discriminatory language pallet in the world that safeguards linguistic diversity and makes access to worldwide communication attainable for everyone needs coordinated steps by many actors. The choices of which languages are learned by individuals are partly made by themselves, but also greatly influenced by their government's education policy. The choice of each government will depend on choices of others, and a prisoner's dilemma is likely to lead to suboptimal choices when central guidance is lacking. The UN institutions and NGO's should be positive examples of successful application of language policies within their organisation that combine effective communication with equal right for everyone regardless of native language, for example using a neutral international language, e.g. Esperanto.

4) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

The transition towards a language policy including the application of a neutral international language can start with relatively easy example decisions regarding the internal processes of UN institutions and NGO's. Adding a neutral international language to the existing arbitrary choice of official languages will not induce great costs on the short term and can generate considerable savings on the long term. The decision to include a neutral international language in member-states' education programmes might require more preparation time and a thoroughly worked out transition plan, as language skills in national languages currently applied widely in international communication will remain vital throughout the desirable transition.

Nevertheless, this transition could be eased by the experience in the Esperanto movement with the propaedeutic value of this neutral international language.

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## Third Planet

### THIRD PLANET

#### Engaging the Public • Finding Solutions

November 1, 2011,

The following brief observations are offered for consideration by Third Planet a non-governmental organization accredited as an observer organization to the UNFCCC (2000) and accredited to the WSSD (2002).

While both the Green Economy and an Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development are very necessary Third Planet's primary concerns today are driven by solutions for adaptation and building resiliency to climate change.

The document for the Green Economy should certainly state its overarching goal of mitigating greenhouse gases, among its many other benefits and the document on an Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development could present a vehicle for setting the agenda on capacity-building for adaptation to climate change.

The Issues Brief 3 "IFSD: Issues related to an intergovernmental body on SD", in its only reference to climate change, states that "CSD, or a similar body, can provide useful policy guidance and contribute towards setting the intergovernmental SD agenda on selected issues".

Our view however is that neither of these documents can contribute the strong voice now needed on adaptation to climate change. There is high level cooperation within the UNFCCC on this issue and certainly the role of the UN's Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) should not be understated. In fact CEB's role should be a flag for the importance attributed to the issue.

Our view is that the need for capacity-building for adaptation and resiliency, in both the north and south, now goes far beyond the objectives of the Nairobi Work Programme and needs to be the purview of a high visibility organization responsible exclusively for Adaptation to Climate Change. Certainly IPCC should continue to provide the scientific assessments and assert their role as the experts and SBSTA needs to be intimately involved but currently Adaptation, per se, is 'lost' to the world outside the United Nations. Adaptation must be elevated into the public consciousness. We can begin that process with a separate Adaptation-specific outcome at Rio+20 that draws attention to the fact

that sustainable development cannot exist without both mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

Adaptation to Global Climate Change is so important now that Rio+20 should include the high-level adaptation elements of the conventions and conferences on desertification, biological diversity, migratory species, wetlands, oceans, disaster reduction and sustainable development. How we best present their findings and undertakings to our communities, whether in a separate convention or not, might be worthy of consideration and development.

## Third World Network

THIRD WORLD NETWORK SUBMISSION FOR THE COMPILATION DOCUMENT OF THE UN CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2012 (RIO+20)

### A. Introduction

The expectations for the Rio+20 outcome are inextricably linked to the unfulfilled commitments and promises of the 1992 Rio Conference on Environment and Development, the accompanying three conventions and the subsequent United Nations agreements and action plans.

The paradigm shift from unsustainable economic growth models to sustainable development was a commitment at the highest political level but this has not taken place. Today income inequalities between and within States are pervasive. World exports have increased almost 5-fold while world per capita income has more than doubled. However, the top 20% of the population enjoys more than 70% of total income and those in the bottom quintile gets only 2% of global income.

The starkly unfair distribution of wealth from globalization and economic growth is epitomized in the United States as seen in a study released by the US Congressional Budget Office on 25 October 2011 that found that the average after-tax real income of the top 1% of the country's households grew by 275% between 1979 and 2007 - about seven times greater than the increase in income by the remaining 99% over the same period. Meanwhile the income of the poorest 20 percent of the earners in the US grew by only 18% during that period, less than 1% per year.

That distorted distribution of economic wealth is at the high price of a deregulated and destabilized international financial system, and a multilateral trade system that is largely characterized by rules that are not balanced, operating to the disadvantage of developing countries. This system favours transnational corporations and a minority of the population. When financial and economic crises hit, the majority especially the poor bear vastly disproportionate impacts.

At the same time, the ecological crisis from resource depletion to pollution and climate change has worsened since 1992. Social marginalization, and even exclusion, in on the rise despite some progress in the social dimension in several developing countries. In recent years and increasingly so, developed countries are also going through social tensions and upheavals.

Developed countries also agreed to take the lead in shifting from unsustainable consumption patterns but these have remained largely unchanged, and instead spread to developing countries with the wealthy adopting similar lifestyles while poverty eradication continues to be elusive. With income inequalities sharpening in all countries, over-consumption and unsustainable consumption dominates production choices (and hence natural resources use and financial resources allocation) while the poor and marginalised are deprived of a dignified standard of living.

The disenchantment of expectations on the part of young people, women, indigenous peoples, rural and urban poor and other marginalized populations across the world as well as a middle class under threat constitute perhaps an unprecedented challenge for governments and the UN in the next few months as we prepare for Rio+20.

### B. Reaffirm the Rio 1992 Principles and re-commit to implement the agreed sustainable development agenda

There are already sustainable development principles and frameworks adopted in 1992 followed by subsequent programmes, action plans and measures worked out at each session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, as well as the relevant treaties and conventions. Between 1992 and 1997 there was a high level of activity as a result of the high political commitment at Rio 1992 – many developing countries made efforts to formulate national sustainable development strategies and policies, a number established national sustainable development bodies and mechanisms, Local Agenda 21 was a framework undertaken by local governments in several countries and the CSD sessions themselves were engaging and productive.

The "Rio Conventions" on climate, biodiversity and combating desertification and land degradation are beyond environmental agreements but rather legally binding agreements that requires development paradigm shifts in accordance with the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, that is based on equity and the historical responsibility of developed countries.

Components of the sustainable agenda are also in the outcomes of the UN Summits and Conferences since 1992 including on social development, women, financing for development, the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on development, least developed countries, small island developing states etc.

There is also further evolution of human rights as a cross cutting dimension for sustainable development, in particular the adoption by the General Assembly of the UN Declaration on Human Rights, the contributions of the UN Special Rapporteurs on the Right to Food and on the Right to Health, and emerging work on indicators based on the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Rio+20 must therefore focus on implementation.

Today the implementation gaps of the sustainable development agenda are widely acknowledged and it is crucial for Rio+20 to acknowledge the fundamental causes for the implementation failure. These include:

- Overshadowing of the sustainable development agenda by globalisation characterized by economic liberalization that has created ecological and social crises, increased concentration of wealth in a handful of large corporations in each sector (industry and finance) and undermined the policy autonomy and space of States. Such globalization has itself created economic crises further exacerbating social tensions, conflicts and political destabilization;
- Weakening of multilateralism that is crucial for sustainable development by continuing unilateralism (such as trade protectionism and rejection of some of the Rio principles and even the Conventions by some countries);
- Disproportionate influence of global economic institutions and their lack of public accountability, including to the UN;
- Lack of implementation means (finance, technology and capacity building) that was an integral part of the 1992 Rio global sustainable development partnership with governments at the core of that partnership and developed countries committing to provide the implementation means;
- Lack of integration of the 3 pillars of sustainable development at all levels of policy and governance despite initial efforts in the 1990s and numerous UN commitments and programmes related to the 3 pillars.

Thus there is an urgent need to reaffirm the internationally agreed principles contained in the Rio de Janeiro Declaration on Environment and Development of 1992, in particular the fundamental principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as the political framework for sustainable development.

Secondly, political commitment must be renewed to implement the agreed sustainable development agenda, building on accumulated knowledge and experiences over the past 20 years, starting with Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Action.

Thirdly, a "revitalized global partnership for sustainable development" must be based on States resuming their responsible role and asserting policy autonomy as a counter to the unfettered market forces that are causing instabilities at all levels. Accordingly, Rio+20 must revive the work of the UN on a global framework for corporate accountability.

Fourthly, in any private-public sector collaboration there is a need to ensure independence of public policy and governance from undue influence by the private sector, especially transnational corporations and large enterprises. There is a need to distinguish these from family and community enterprises and small and medium sized enterprises that are often left out of consideration or not given their due recognition.

Fifthly, recognizing the importance of appropriate technology for sustainable development Rio+20 needs to establish an intergovernmental body on technology that facilitates technology transfer and innovation (and deals with barriers such as intellectual property rights) and builds capacity for technology assessment. The CSD in its first session in already stressed the need for technologies to be assessed for their health, safety, environmental, economic and social impact.

#### C. Rebuilding confidence and seeking consensus for post-2012 implementation

Confidence building is needed in the next few months due to the retreat by most developed countries of their international sustainable development commitments, and even rejection by some of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Since equity is the necessary framework for operationalising sustainable development at all levels, the emerging divergence of views on CBDR in various multilateral fora where decisions and commitments are being negotiated raises deep concerns.

UNGA Resolution 64/236 called for discussion and refinement of "a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication" as one of the 2 themes.

However, it is clear from the preparatory process and numerous related discussions that there is still no universally accepted definition or common understanding on the term "green economy". While parts of the UN system such as ESCAP has facilitated Member States in arriving at some common understanding of green growth, its details and operationalisation remain unclear to most governments.

At the level of national and local governments, communities and enterprises, and civil society organisations, a wide range of activities including policies, programmes, projects and measures are developed and implemented that all concerned term these "green" in accordance with their respective interpretations and descriptions.

At the same time concerns by many developing countries are being reiterated especially on the substitution of the sustainable development framework by an undefined concept of green economy, trade protectionism and new development assistance conditionality.

However, it is also emerging strongly from the preparatory process, especially the regional preparatory meetings (including those of civil society and Major Groups prior to each regional meeting), the Beijing Symposium and the Delhi Ministerial Dialogue that there is a growing consensus on reaffirming the Rio principles and sustainable development framework at the international level and allowing national strategies to be formulated that can refine the 3 pillars along the best principles, approaches and practices. In these efforts the best of "green economy" could be assimilated within the sustainability paradigm and the context of national and (sub)regional realities. Instead of a disproportionate focus on the green economy theme and on goals and roadmaps at this juncture that could undermine confidence building and consensus at Rio+20 the Outcome document could address the widely expressed concerns (this is gaining support from Member States) and reflect the above growing consensus.

#### D. Institutional framework for sustainable development

The UN is the primary forum for an Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) for the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development and the implementation of the sustainable development agenda. In this context, there is an urgent need to strengthen institutional arrangements on sustainable development at all levels in accordance with the Rio principles, especially common but differentiated responsibilities. The meaningful participation of developing countries in the IFSD is also a key principle.

Multilateral environmental agreements have increased in number in response to environmental challenges and effective leadership is needed to address policy fragmentation, and avoid overlapping and duplication. Major agreements such as the 3 "Rio Conventions" are in fact about sustainable development requiring fundamental shifts in all the 3 pillars to deal with climate change, biodiversity and land degradation. Accordingly the institutional framework needs to facilitate the interface and integration of the 3 pillars.

To accomplish this integration of the three pillars and achieve sustainable development, the IFSD should at least meet the following functions:

1. Identify specific actions to fulfil the sustainable development agenda, starting with the implementation Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Action
2. Provide support to regional structures and national mechanisms in developing and implementing their national sustainable development strategies
3. Provide support for developing countries to participate meaningfully at the international and regional levels of decision making
4. Provide guidance and identify specific actions in order to fulfil the sustainable development agenda
5. Monitor progress in the implementation, including commitments for provision of means of implementation and recommend actions to correct and address challenges
6. Assess the balanced integration of the 3 pillars in the international system and establishment necessary mechanism to follow up commitments on sustainable development and to identify weaknesses or gaps that affect the full implementation of the sustainable development agenda
7. Promote the participation of civil society in the sustainable development agenda. The IFSD requires adequate Secretariat actions and functions. These include: (a) Research, analysis and reports and recommendations, to alert governments and the public of trends and developments and to give alerts on emerging problems. (b) Provide technical assistance and advice in general; (c) To make arrangements for convening meetings, their reports and follow up on the outcomes.

The IFSD should take a balanced approach to the three pillars, so that each pillar is equitably developed in concepts, outcomes and actions. There should be cross-fertilisation and crossreferencing between the three pillars. For example, the social pillar has to take account of the economic and environmental dimensions; the economic pillar has to take account of the social and environmental dimensions; and the environment pillar has to take account of the social and economic dimensions. In some issues, the connections are even more obviously direct, for example, the management of energy and water resources have to link to access of the poor to energy and water resources.

Further, the following would enhance the IFSD:

1. Creation of a Council on Sustainable Development under the General Assembly: This would be the umbrella organization, building on the experience and roles of the Commission on Sustainable Development, with the core function of the Council is the integration of the three pillars, the development or updating of the general sustainable development principles, and the international cooperation components of finance, technology and capacity building. This general component could include mechanisms for coordinating among the agencies, committees or secretariats of the three pillars; the mobilizing and operations of finance and technology transfer; and the convening of high-level meetings of Ministers or Heads of Governments and States on "Sustainable Development" overall in which the issues of the three pillars are on the agenda. Under this umbrella architecture, there should be more time given for the convening of meetings on sustainable development pillars and issues, for example climate change, biodiversity, financial and economic issues, intellectually property and sustainable development issues where there is now a felt need for more time for intergovernmental discussion. There would be space to explore new mechanisms or better coordination for important but relatively neglected issues such as water or energy. There can be more time for more effective mobilizing of financial resources and technology development and transfer.
2. International financial architecture reform: the latest series of financial crises has not triggered the political momentum for the much needed reform of the international financial architecture largely due to the reluctance of the major developed countries to make this a priority at the UN and IFIs or to put in place a rigorous regulatory framework on the private financial sector. The UN has a legal mandate in its Charter to deal with financial issues and Member States have adopted far reaching recommendations in the wake of the 2008 financial/economic crisis. Rio+20 needs to provide political commitment for the needed reforms as the road to Rio continues to be paved with fresh financial scandals.
3. Fair and equitable trade rules: the current impasse at the World Trade Organisation largely reflects the rejection by many developing countries of further liberalization that undermines sustainable development and the imbalances in the existing agreements. For example, implementation of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights is violating the right to affordable medicines and access to information, facilitating private expropriation of seeds, plants, animals, microorganisms and traditional knowledge, and restricting technology transfer and innovation. The growing trade disputes over subsidies for renewable energy technologies and products and other climate related unilateral trade restrictions between developed and developing countries reveal the flaws in existing rules. At the same time there is a proliferation of bilateral free trade agreements (mostly between developed and developing countries) that go beyond trade to almost every aspect of a country's development and requires liberalization beyond WTO requirements, undermining sustainable development. Thus there is a need for the existing trade rules to be aligned with sustainability principles and norms, and for the push for "business-as-usual" economic liberalisation to be withdrawn.
4. ECOSOC to play its mandated role: the socio-economic policy role of ECOSOC and its coordination role vis-à-vis the various functional commissions have been discussed and refined over the years and its relationship with the proposed Council on Sustainable Development would need to be defined.
5. Broaden UNEP's mandate and increase its resources: UNEP should be enabled to function to support developing countries in the implementation of the sustainable development agenda, assisting countries with formulating their institutions, action plans, policies, laws and implementation mechanisms; assisting countries obtain information, knowledge, technologies, good practices, recovery from natural disasters, etc., and fostering more effective coordination and cooperation in implementation activities among policyformulating and implementing agencies, at international and regional levels, and national level.

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## Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG)

Input to the Rio+20 Outcome Document

Tokyo Metropolitan Government

November 1, 2011

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Tokyo Metropolitan Government Submission to Rio+20

Cities as a Key to Climate Actions

1) Today, people living in cities exceed half the world's population, and by 2050 this percentage is expected to reach 70%.<sup>1</sup> Due to their vibrant industrial and economic activities, urban areas are responsible for significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), cities are currently responsible for 67% of the energy-related GHG emissions, and this percentage will grow to 74% by 2030.<sup>2</sup> The world's 50 largest cities annually emit GHGs equivalent to 26 billion tons of CO<sub>2</sub> (tCO<sub>2</sub>e), a level comparable to being the world's third-largest emitter, following China and the United States.<sup>3</sup> Addressing GHG emissions from urban activities is therefore a major concern in relation to climate change, and an issue that will become even more important in the future.

2) By 2030, urban populations are expected to double, with the built-up area of cities expected to triple.<sup>4</sup> In emerging countries, including China and India, urban areas are expanding in keeping with economic growth and urbanization, and the construction of cities is rapidly advancing. If the buildings and infrastructure are built with conventional energy performance, current GHG emission levels would be locked-in over the decades to come. Therefore, the shift to low-carbon buildings and infrastructure in developing countries, especially in emerging countries, is an urgent issue for sustainable development and it should be the highest priority in promoting a green economy.

3) As places where people live, move about, and produce and consume, cities are locations of large-scale energy consumption. While efforts to reduce carbon emissions on energy supply side is certainly important, efforts on the demand side for a reduction in total energy consumption are also essential. The key to preventing global warming will be the minimization of energy demand and shifting all facets of human society – houses, transportation infrastructure, factories, office buildings, commercial facilities and other facilities – to low-carbon ones, and it is in cities that such facilities and activities are concentrated. Cities are the key to the climate change issue.

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government's Leading Actions

4) Recognizing the special characteristics of cities and the responsibilities that cities have in relation to the climate change issue, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government for more than ten years has been implementing measures ahead of national-level climate change efforts.

5) Examples of activities include:

Beginning with fiscal year 2002, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) has implemented the "Tokyo Green Building Program." Under this program, developers of new large-scale buildings must submit plans regarding environmental measures that will be implemented, including for CO2 reductions; these plans are evaluated and made public.

Also beginning in fiscal year 2002, TMG has been implementing the "Tokyo CO2 Reduction Program," which requires existing buildings having large emissions of GHGs (such as factories, office buildings, and commercial facilities) to establish voluntary targets for CO2 reduction and to submit emission reduction plans. Under this program, a 12.7% reduction in emissions was achieved over the five-year period from FY 2005 through FY 2009. Following the introduction of this program in Tokyo, similar mandatory reporting program have so far been introduced in 35 other prefectures and major cities throughout Japan.

- In April 2010, TMG also launched a cap-and-trade program that mandates reductions in emissions of 6% or 8% for those large facilities above. This is the world's first city-level cap-and-trade program that covers office buildings and commercial facilities. Saitama Prefecture, which is adjacent to Tokyo, also launched a cap-and-trade program in April 2011, following Tokyo's program.
- Tokyo's experience demonstrates that it is possible for cities to develop and implement their own low-carbon policies making use of regulations and market mechanisms. As a result of these efforts, a number of highly energy-efficient buildings have been built in Tokyo, and the city is ushering in an "era of green buildings."

World Cities Taking the Initiative

6) Numerous cities around the world are undertaking a variety of measures to address climate change.

At the C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group Mayors Summit held in São Paulo in June 2011, 55 case studies were presented in 16 different fields, including (1) Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings, (2) Bus Rapid Transit and Low Emission Buses, (3) Tree Planting, (4) Integrated Waste Management, (5) Sustainable New Construction, (6) Compact Cities, (7) Public Engagement, (8) Renewable Energy for Urban Environment, (9) District Heating and Cooling, (10) Bicycle Infrastructure, (11) Adaptation and Vulnerability, (12) Landfill Gas Capture, (13) Smart Cities, (14) Green Taxis, (15) Green Industry, and (16) Urban Drainage.

According to "Climate Action in Megacities,"<sup>6</sup> a report presented at the C40 São Paulo Summit by the engineering and consulting firm Arup, in the cities participating in the C40 initiative – home to 297 million people – 4,734 actions have already been taken to address climate change, with an additional 1,465 new measures being developed.

The Alternative Approach – Let Cities Go First

7) While international climate change negotiations are currently making little headway, cities are moving ahead of national-level policies by proactively undertaking efforts to contribute to reducing GHG emissions. While national governments should continue their negotiations aimed at swiftly concluding a framework for addressing climate change, in the meantime GHG emissions continue to increase, and global warming is progressing. Therefore, in addition to the ongoing approach of seeking agreement among nation states, international society should take an "Alternative Approach" to make cities go first with their low-carbon actions. Through demonstrating that low-carbon actions and economic growth can go hand-in-hand, progressive initiatives by cities can foster understanding among the governments and citizens of developing countries, thereby providing support for efforts to reach an international agreement.

8) Local governments have a special role.

Because they work most closely with citizens and businesses, local governments are able to undertake tailored measures, such as calling directly on households and business entities to make lifestyle changes and undertake energy conservation; promoting environmental education; conducting on-site energy efficiency audits and providing energy conservation advice; along with other efforts.

By having administrative authority in areas such as urban planning, transportation, water and sanitation and waste management, local governments are able to promote the "green economy" – through advancing low-carbon projects in these various fields, and by making use of regulatory measures or market mechanisms that promote low-carbon consumption and investments.

9) During Japan's rapid economic growth era during the 1960s and 1970s, the TMG and other city governments were the first to institute measures to address the problems of pollution – problems that were most pronounced in cities; these measures were later adopted at the national level. The solution to environmental problems requires bringing together the imperatives of the environment and the principles of economics, and Japan's history of addressing pollution illustrates how cities can lead this process, by serving as concrete examples of successful implementation, which is effective in increasing understanding on the part of society as a whole.

Cities' Cooperative Actions Lead the World

10) The TMG wishes to share with the cities of the world what it has learned so far in addressing climate change. We believe that promoting international cooperation – assisting the cities of the world to take progressive actions and to learn from one another's experiences – will lead to solutions to our global climate change challenges. However, accomplishing this will require the support of the international community for cooperative efforts among cities.

11) For these reasons, the Tokyo Metropolitan Government calls upon the international community to do the following:

Through the Rio+20 process, conduct deliberations regarding urbanization and how to shift cities to low-carbon paths, as these are key issues related to the climate change issue.

The Rio+20 outcome document should clearly spell out the important role played by cities and local governments, and should promote the "Alternative Approach" that makes cities go first.

International organizations and international financial institutions should develop programs to help share and disseminate the innovative efforts on the part of cities and local governments, and should financially support international city-to-city cooperative activities.

New governance structures for sustainable development should enhance the role of local governments.

12) This past summer, Tokyo was able to overcome a severe power shortage which occurred as a result of the March 11 Great East Japan Earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. By making use of energy conservation measures involving businesses and households that had previously been put in place, Tokyo was able to achieve an 18% reduction in peak energy demand compared to the previous year, allowing the city to deal with the summer peak demand period without the occurrence of any unplanned power outages. Moreover, this crisis has fundamentally transformed the consciousness of the people of Japan concerning energy; efforts on the part of citizens and businesses to promote energy conservation and renewable energy are now gaining pace. The movement in Japan toward a low-carbon society has received a strong boost. Tokyo will continue to step up its efforts to become a low-carbon city, and we hope to become a sustainable city that can be a model for

the world.

## Transformative Education Forum

**Fueling the great transition in education:** Rio+20 as the turning point for investing into the transformation of formal educational systems

### A. EXPECTATIONS FOR RIO+20

Our expectation for the outcome of Rio+20 is to make the conference the turning point for heavily investing into transforming formal educational systems. While the current proposals for Rio+20 are important for rethinking sustainable development, there must be a dedicated section in the outcome document that addresses the need for mainstreaming Education for Sustainable Development.

Education for sustainable development is necessarily an interdisciplinary approach to learning. The fragmentation of educational "disciplines" has separated the scientific from the natural world, and allowed us to create technological models that were ultimately destructive to larger economic, social and environmental systems. This resulted in creating great wealth for the very few, with ecological devastation to the planet. There are few who would dispute the need for a new approach to Education for Sustainable Development, given global climate change, environmental degradation and the death of

4.9 million a year from chemical exposure (World Health Organization 2011).

An education that reconnects learning goals to sustainable development must be one that creates the problem-solving actor who understand the critical environmental crises in their international contexts and the social-political and economic crises that define many of those contexts. You literally have to educate for a "world" thinker and doer. The essential paradigm shift then, is not just in minor curriculum and some added subject matter but a shift in the root understanding of the learner-thinker and engaged problem-solver that a sustainable society hopes to engender:

Education of the whole person - mind, body, animating spirit

Integration of traditional as well as modern, rational "ways of knowing"

100% inclusivity

Peer and participatory, experiential modes of learning are present alongside "teacher led" and delivered methods

Pedagogies that create the felt sensation and states of awareness of living systems principles

Validation of diverse and multiple intelligences including the key emotional, social and cultural intelligences

Balance STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) with sustainability, value systems, ethics, moralities and philosophy including examination of economic and social equity systems

Inclusion of groundbreaking new neuroscience and brain theory on how the integrated brain actually learns best

Intragenerational justice, human rights and peace education for a sustainable humanity as well as a sustainable planet

### COMMENTS ON EXISTING PROPOSALS

There is a wide number of initiatives which currently struggle to put into practice Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). The UN Decade for ESD helped tremendously in connecting grassroots initiatives with each other and building a collective conceptual framework. However, what all of these initiatives have in common is that they are still "drops in the ocean" and do not yet reach the critical mass leading to a paradigm change in education. As stated by the World ESD conference in Bonn in January 2009: despite huge progress in the conceptual framework for ESD in many countries, ESD is still in its infancy and we now need to put this knowledge into action.

Existing multilateral environmental agreements such as climate, chemical and waste conventions need to drastically change scale in their approach to education and public awareness. Not surprisingly, sustainable development is still predominantly hypocritical, leading to small alterations of overall unchanged curves. The drastic changes needed, first and foremost in industrialized countries, have not yet occurred. The challenges in achieving this change are deeply rooted in education.

### C. VIEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION

**We urgently need to make sustainability a core component of formal education. We need to enter a great transition in education** where the fundamentals - learning to read, count and write - also include learning the knowledge and skills needed to change the course of society, both locally and globally. **A genuinely sustainable world is one which ultimately has achieved:**

Global environmental sustainability: all resources used are renewable, all waste is either avoided or recycled, « zero emission » achieved (CO2 concentrations stabilised)

Global solidarity: millennium development goals achieved + human rights and fundamental public goods for all (education, health and justice)

Global justice: equity achieved for all people through mechanisms ensuring fair distribution of wealth

Global governance with the capacity to address global issues / global citizenship: democratic expression, control & participation from the local to global level.

### SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PARTNERSHIPS AND TIMELINES FOR DECISIONS

Addressing the real causes and raising the engagements at the level of the problems calls for: 1) large-scale solutions 2) new, different, daring approaches that have not yet been tried 3) visionary, long-term strategies 4) global integrated approaches able to reach daily educational practices everywhere in the world.

**We call upon the conference to :**

**make ESD one of the Rio+20 sustainable development goals**

**direct the Global Environment Facility to create a dedicated fund to accelerate the training of future citizens in sustainability**

• **At the global level:** network high-level training/r&d public centers in all regions of the world, with the best minds and resources for developing tools, curricula, training,

networking etc.

• **At the country/local level:**

• demonstrate sustainability in buildings, local transport, food, waste etc.

• curriculum change: knowledge + skills, values, ethics

-teacher training *in all aspects of sustainability: climate/environment + global citizenship, health, peace, development etc.*

Further recommendations for partnership timelines and decision-making are currently being addressed at the Transformational Education Forum (TEF) convening in Monterey, California from October 30<sup>th</sup> to November 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011, hosted by the Naval Post Graduate School. The Monterey TEF Forum is composed of 64 participants, representing 25 countries and 35 educators/directors/managers and community leaders directly involved in international education activities around the world. Over this four-day period, participants in this forum have addressed critical problems and needs in education, ranging from groundbreaking Neuroscience and Brain Theory to emerging IT educational technologies. Participants in the TEF are currently developing a set of twelve guiding principals for Education for Sustainable Development, which should be discussed at R+20 for future implementation.

More information:

[www.tef.nps.edu](http://www.tef.nps.edu)

Global Challenges Forum

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## Transparency International

Rio+20 and a roadmap for strengthening climate governance

Submission by Transparency International

Climate change poses untold challenges to green economy growth, sustainable development and poverty alleviation. Efforts to further these trajectories must therefore be allied to strong climate governance, which includes the disbursement and use of huge future investments. Currently the system of climate governance is diverse and fragmented, and lacks connectivity and accountability to those most affected by climate change. Attempts at strengthening this architecture will have to build in safeguards against risk, including corruption risks, to provide for collective ownership, legitimacy and meaningful effect at the international, national and local levels.

Drawing on lessons learned in areas that include development aid, the extractive industries, public procurement and emissions trading, Transparency International (TI) hereby outlines a number of recommendations for optimising sustainable development and driving green economy growth. We propose that these recommendations form the basis of a declaration at the Rio+20 conference which should outline a roadmap for governments to agree upon, implement and enforce measures to strengthen climate governance and guard climate finance against waste or abuse.

For the full version, please reference the Submission Document

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## Transport Research Foundation (TRF)

Submission of TRF (Transport Research Foundation) to RIO +20 – The United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development

### 1 Introduction

The transport sector has been an important topic at world summits and intermediate meetings of the CSD since Rio 1992, notably though 20 years later 95% of transport still uses fossil fuel. Several references were made to transport in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation such as promoting public transport but despite this, market share for public transport world-wide is decreasing<sup>1</sup>. Transport now counts for almost 25% of energy related CO2 emissions at global level, and very few countries are investing enough in public policies to substantially tackle climate change with low carbon transport strategies. The growth in land transport for passengers and freight is a concern for sustainable as well as climate change reasons.

Considering the present economic crisis, the development of green economies becomes even more important and sustainable transport is a key component of this. It is therefore vital to assist the developing countries in building institutional and technical capacity that will allow them to develop low carbon transport policies to combat climate change in the following years.

RIO+20 aims to reaffirm political commitment to sustainable development, evaluate the progress on agreed commitments and furthermore explore emerging challenges. Low carbon transport is not only directly linked to the major topics of the RIO+20 summit, but it can also be considered as a key element to strengthen green economies by providing better access to markets, creating new jobs, increasing energy security, improving human health and prosperity, reducing road accidents and improving overall well-being at regional and national level. Access to sustainable transport is also vital for giving equitable and affordable access to education and jobs to women, youth and children in particular, many of whom often do not have direct access to private transport.

### 2 What is sustainable low carbon transport?

Rapid economic growth generates significant pressures on mobility, environment and human development. Increasing - mobility has resulted in growing motorised fleets of private cars, motorcycles and trucks, in order to satisfy overall demand for passenger and freight transport activity. It is estimated that the global vehicle fleet is on a course now to multiply three or four-fold in the next few decades and the market share of pedestrian access and walking is decreasing. As the world has become significantly more urbanised in the past 20 years this is now hampering development and quality of life. The current trends are expected to have severe negative impacts for the environment and in respect to social and economic terms resulting in:

Exploitation of natural resources

Degradation of environment and loss of biodiversity

Increased numbers of fatalities and injuries from road accidents



Degradation of human health and increased respiratory and cardiovascular diseases

Reduction of accessibility and an increase of social exclusion as a result of excessive motorised traffic and congestion

Loss of productivity and competitiveness Larger externalities –as part of GDP- to the local and national economies

Efforts have been made internationally to tackle current unsustainable mobility patterns, aiming to reduce the need for transportation and also decrease dependence of transport on fossil fuels. In order to decarbonise the transport sector and promote sustainable mobility, a series of measures are recommended, best described by the holistic approach of Avoid-Shift-Improve which aims to promote i) avoiding or reducing the number of journeys taken, by integrating land-use and transport planning, ii) shifting to more efficient forms of transport, such as public transport, cycling and walking and iii) improving vehicle and fuel technologies for all motorised modes of transport, in order to reduce adverse environmental effects. Thus, investments should be directed to:

Infrastructure for public transport and non motorised transport

New technologies for all classes of vehicles

Cleaner fuels Intelligent Communication and Technologies to improve system efficiency and to substitute conventional transport

Technologies to improve public transport and freight services

Incentives for behaviour change and developing strategies to link land-use planning and transport

Successful examples can be found all over the world, but more are needed. Examples include:

Implementation of Mass Transit and Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) projects. Sustainable transportation solutions need to be found with low capital investments, particularly for regions with considerable financial restraints. Best practices can be found in Latin America, Asia and Africa but also in developed countries

Public bike schemes, safebikeways and cycle paths as well as the integration of bikeways with public transport. There are many successful implementations over the past 5 years such as Paris, Barcelona and Mexico City. There are now 39 public bike schemes in China, including Hangzhou, thought to be the largest in the world, with more than 60,000 bikes.

Demand management policies such as Vehicle Quota Schemes as in Singapore, Shanghai and Beijing, urban tolling as in London and Stockholm and increasing pedestrian and low emission zones as in Berlin and Milan.

Use of new fuel technologies and clean vehicles. The car industry is moving slowly towards new fuel technologies and clean vehicles but they are still too expensive for most of the developing world. However, public transport has proven technology for the use of most alternative fuels – electric propulsion, hybrid systems, CNG, Bio gas, Ethanol, Fuel cell as well as clean diesel which needs to be supported.

Research into cleaner fuels; higher quality of diesel and gasoline (unleaded gasoline, ultra low sulphur diesel and new synthetic diesels), as these are not available to the developing world and leaded fuel is only just being phased out.

Passenger information technologies, integrated fare collection systems and GPS technologies allow both public, private and freight transport to maximize efficiency yet they are expensive for much of the developing world. Particularly in the case of public transport, it has been observed that advanced technology can trigger a modal shift from car driving to public transport and the first BRT system in Mexico City showed a 15% shift away from car driving (among BRT users), resulting in almost 50,000 less car trips per day within a 20km corridor. Internet, teleconference applications, and global communication systems now decrease the need for travel. However, within the foreseeable future, not all activities can be carried out remotely and therefore transport needs to become more efficient and low carbon focussed.

Demographic changes – increasing urbanisation, more people living in the developing than developed world – as well as the road transport growth rates, shows that it is increasingly apparent that transport must be part of sustainable development goals. Recent evaluation of the Millennium Development Goals showed an uneven progress across countries and regions. For example, whereas India and China achieved notable progress in poverty alleviation, sub-Saharan Africa showed adverse progress not only in poverty alleviation but also dramatic increases in traffic accident rates. Likewise, in respect to the seventh –transport oriented- Millennium Development Goal, there was very little progress on environmental protection in relation to reducing transport related CO2 emissions.

The 18th session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, held in May 2010, reported that most developing countries still lack adequate transport infrastructure and services. As a consequence, access to basic services such as health and education, as well as to jobs and income generating opportunities is difficult for the poor, and in particular women, youth and children. The latter jeopardize the eventual achievement of internationally agreed Millennium Development Goals.

### 3 Sustainable low carbon transport and green economy

Rio+20 presents a unique opportunity to envision a green economy with sustainable low carbon transport. The transport sector can make a strong contribution to a green economy and can deliver green job opportunities. Public investments directed towards infrastructure for public transport, non-motorised transport and green transport technologies contribute to the creation of new local jobs and help support local economies. An example arises from the implementation of Bus Rapid Transit projects, where a BRT replaces a traditional bus operation (individual bus owners), employees are offered more secure employment and better conditions in terms of working hours, safety, salary, training and other benefits. Latin America is now in a position to export their knowledge on BRT to others.

Likewise, low carbon transport will create new business opportunities, through public-private partnerships. Increased private sector involvement for the implementation and operation of public transport systems, non-motorised and bike and car share services, park & ride facilities, intermodal interchange hubs, intelligent transportation systems and better freight logistics are just examples.

UNEP's chapter on transport in their recently published a report on Green Economy examines its role in a green economy and identifies strategies to ensure that future investments in the transport sector will be increasingly green.

### 4 Sustainable low carbon transport and poverty eradication

Poverty eradication is one of the top priorities in the current political agenda worldwide, as well as a primary theme of the Rio+20 summit. Poverty alleviation and eradication of hunger has been explicitly addressed by the United Nations through the Millennium Declaration where special attention was given to goals that aim to tackle poverty in developing countries.

The Aichi statement<sup>6</sup> (2005) on environmental sustainable transport reaffirmed the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted in the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and also noted the important contribution of sustainable transport systems towards the realization of the Millennium Development Goals through improving

access to education, employment opportunities and health care. Moreover it recognised the need to develop national and local policies in order to promote social equity through safe and affordable urban transport systems that may alleviate poverty, include gender aspects in urban transport planning and satisfy the basic needs of most vulnerable users such as the children, elderly and disabled.

The Bangkok 2020 Declaration (August 2010) adopted by 22 participating Asian governments of the Fifth Regional Environmentally Sustainable Transport Forum also suggests a set of performance indicators – including indicators of social equity - to measure progress on the implementation of environmentally sustainable transport. Similarly the Bogota Declaration, the Regional Sustainable Transport Forum held in Bogota, Colombia (June 2011) highlights the need to develop and adopt Avoid-Shift-Improve strategies towards sustainable development and offers a working definition of sustainable transport - "the provision of services and infrastructure for the mobility of people and goods needed for economic and social development, and improved quality of life and competitiveness. These services and transport infrastructure provide secure, reliable, economical, efficient, equitable and affordable access to all, while mitigating the local and global negative impacts on health and the environment, in the short, medium and long term, without compromising the development of future generations".

If progress in implementing sustainable development and eradicating poverty has been slow in the past 20 years, it has not been due to a lack of declarations and statements, thus international action as well as the commitment of developed countries to provide financial instruments and technical capacity to developing countries is increasingly urgent.

#### 5 Institutional requirements for sustainable low carbon transport

Robust institutional frameworks are essential in order to facilitate the development and implementation of public policies towards sustainable low carbon transport. Although a large part of transport planning occurs at local or state level, public policies - as well as the availability of financial resources - are usually discussed at national level. Hence, it is important for the Rio+20 summit to propose institutional arrangements that will strengthen sustainable low carbon transport at a national level, but also provide the local governments with institutional and financial instruments that will facilitate their efforts towards sustainable development and green transport.

Greening transport requires key enabling conditions, such as:

Designing appropriate regulation, planning and information provision

Setting the right financial conditions and economic incentives

Ensuring technology transfer and access Strengthening institutions and capacity

Economic incentives and financial stimulus are key issues for developing countries, thus financial patterns should be reformed in order to provide adequate funding for green transport, by investing in technology, capacity building and infrastructure, and also by shifting investments towards sustainable low carbon transport. International agencies and development banks have a particular role to play in strengthening institutional capacity and providing the financial instruments that are required. Rio+20 therefore presents a unique opportunity to increase political will and make the respective commitments.

Transparency and accountability are also key issues to discuss, reaffirming Principle 10 of Rio Declaration which urges for citizen's participation in decision making, access to environmental information and access to juridical and administrative proceedings, aiming to facilitate and encourage public awareness as best instrument to deal with environmental issues. Strengthen the commitment to promote sustainable modes as stated in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.

Recommendations and a call for action for governments at RIO+20 June 2012; we urge:

1. Governments attending Rio+20 to recognise the important links between sustainable transport, greening economies and poverty alleviation.
2. To agree that sustainable, low carbon transport is core to sustainable development goals. The sustainability of transport should be mentioned as a target in any declaration and follow up to the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation.
3. Sustainable transport is embedded within sustainable development goals. A higher level of accountability is needed and enabling frameworks so sustainable, low carbon transport facilitates economic development.

The collection of comparable data and statistics on transport activity is coordinated at international; level (along similar lines to the collect of energy use and consumption).

Eight universal key indicators are suggested:

- i) Share of passengers and freight<sup>7</sup> by mode and average vehicle load factors by mode
- ii) Annual transport fossil fuel consumption by mode and related greenhouse gases
- iii) Vehicle fleet size, average fuel efficiency and total vehicle-km travelled by mode
- iv) Share of household income spent on transport by poorest 20% (urban and rural split)
- v) Share of local and national GDP spent on transport (urban and rural split)
- vi) Proportion of urban roadways with safe walking & cycling facilities
- vii) Proportion of population within 1 km of public transport
- viii) Ratio of traffic deaths amongst wealthiest 20% to poorest 20% of population

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## Triglav Circle

Harmony with Nature: Statement by the Triglav Circle

This paper constitutes the Triglav Circle's input to the compilation document for the Zero draft of Rio +20. The Triglav Circle is a registered NGO, having special consultative status with ECOSOC.

For website see <http://www.triglavcircleonline.org>

Thank you for this opportunity to convey a statement on Harmony with Nature on behalf of the Triglav Circle, which was created in the wake of the World Summit for Social

Development to work on enriching the public discourse on global issues with spiritual and ethical perspectives.

The founding objective of the Circle is to realize the core messages of the Social Summit articulated in the Copenhagen Declaration:

Our societies must respond more effectively to the material and spiritual needs of individuals, their families, and the communities in which they live...

Also:

We are deeply convinced that economic development, social development and environmental protection are interdependent and mutually reinforcing components of sustainable development, which form the framework for our effort to achieve a higher quality of life for all people.

These commitments by governments were part of a text rich in moral affirmations and reflective of a holistic vision of development and social progress. Today, the Triglav Circle seeks to promote an approach to international relations and public policy grounded in moral and spiritual values. It aspires to enrich the discourse on global problems with the accumulated knowledge of scientists, philosophers, artists, religious thinkers and academics. The Circle pursues its objectives not only through regular dialogues, seminars, and research, but also through its special consultative relationship with the United Nations Economic and Social Council, its cooperation with similarly motivated organizations, and the work of individual members in their respective spheres of action.

The UN's initiative to promote harmony with nature is indeed very timely and important to the work of the Circle. Members carefully read the texts prepared by the Secretary General and met to consider their implications. The Circle is grateful to the General Assembly for its Resolutions on Harmony with Nature and applauds the Secretary General for his two excellent reports on this subject. These reports illustrate the broad breadth and depth of the subject. Members feel that it is critical to adopt a holistic approach to healing the wounded environment and to protecting those spaces where harmony between humanity and nature still exists. The well-being of present and future generations depends on living within the limits of Nature. These endeavors require material sacrifices, great humility, and a wide sharing of knowledge obtained not only from the empirical sciences, but also from philosophy and the arts.

#### Political Leaders and Harmony with Nature

Different conceptions of harmony with nature have been reflected in the works of poets, philosophers, sages and artists for millennia, beginning with the drawings of the earliest cave dwellers. In parallel, at first gradually but especially, since the 19th century, economic processes destroying the natural environment have been accelerating despite remedial efforts at the individual, national, and international levels. Among respected political leaders who were alarmed by these trends, were James Madison, the fourth President of the United States; John Stuart Mill, the political philosopher, economist, and parliamentarian; and Vaclav Havel, the former President of the Czechoslovakia. They have addressed environmental questions in terms particularly relevant to the quest for harmony with nature.

In his prophetic speech to the Agricultural Society of Albemarle VA, on May 12, 1818, James Madison, expressed serious concerns about the environmental damage that industrial progress would cause. He anticipated today's major environmental challenges including loss of biodiversity, destruction of the land, and pollution of the atmosphere. His speech contained a persuasive argument for an "ecological" method of agriculture and forewarned about deterioration of the soil and deforestation as consequences of progressive and aggressive agricultural practices. Madison questioned the ethics of reducing the vast wealth of natural resources to the singular purpose of supporting human life. He advocated protecting the rich diversity of life and warned against too much specialization at the expense of other species of plants and animals. He pointed out that each plant needs different types of soils and responds differently to different types of manures.

Beyond his comprehension was the destruction of any species of flora or fauna that did not enter into the economy of humankind. The interconnections among species and the "beings" themselves should be respected, —even where their links and utility were obscure to human thinking and economy. Madison stated:

The Earth contains no less than thirty or forty thousand kinds of plants; no less than six or seven hundreds of birds; nor less than three or four hundred of quadrupeds; to say nothing of the thousand species of fishes. Of reptiles and insects, there are more than can be numbered. ... On comparing this vast profusion and multiplicity of beings with the few grains and grasses, the few herbs and roots, and the few fowls and quadrupeds, which make up the short list adapted to the wants of man, it is difficult to believe that it lies with him so to remodel the work of nature as it would be remodeled, by a destruction not only of an individual, but of entire species; and not only of a few species, but of every species, with the few exceptions which he might spare for his own accommodation.

Although global warming had not been identified as a threat in his time, Madison clearly anticipated the pollution of the atmosphere and the harm this could bring to life on the planet. He stated that:

The atmosphere is not a simple but compound body... The atmosphere in its natural state, and in its ordinary communication with the organized world, comprises various ingredients or modifications of ingredients, derived from the use made of it, by the existing variety of animals and plants... Is it unreasonable to suppose, that if, instead of the actual composition and character of the animal and vegetable creation, to which the atmosphere is now accommodated, such a composition and character if that creation were substituted, as would result from a reduction of the whole to man and a few kinds of animals and plants—is the supposition unreasonable, that the change might essentially affect the aptitude of the atmosphere for the functions required of it? And that so great an innovation might be found, in this respect, not to accord with the order and economy of nature?

In book IV, chapter VI of *Principles of Political Economy* (first published in 1848), John Stuart Mill praised the virtues of nature. He related harmony with nature to development of character, intellect, and wholesome desires. Left alone to meditate among the trees and flowers, in meadows or beside placid lakes, humankind would restore its soul and spirit. It is not good for man to be kept perforce at all times in the presence of his species. A world from which solitude is extirpated is a very poor ideal. Solitude, in the sense of being often alone, is essential to any depth of meditation or of character; and solitude in the presence of natural beauty and grandeur, is the cradle of thoughts and aspirations which are not only good for the individual, but which society could ill do without.

Mill challenged the assumption that economic resources were unlimited and evoked a depressing vision of vast wastelands resulting from the relentless exploitation of the land and elimination of plants and animals unfit for human consumption. To avoid such a future, Mill proposed that the pursuit of industrial arts should serve a greater purpose than material enrichment. Promoting a society as Mill proposed, where reasonable material advances are balanced by progress in the art of living is not on any government agenda today. The success of the modern state is measured by increased economic growth, to the neglect of the natural environment. Perhaps, these circumstances offer some explanation for the apparent dissatisfaction of people around the world. Humankind is in danger of subservience to the exigencies of the market economy and a dominating and narrowing perspective that confuses the purpose of economic growth with the goals of human life.

The reality of modern political economic power, which complicates the quest for harmony between and within societies, as well as between human kind and the natural environment, has much to do with the state to which society has advanced in science and technology. The current paradigm of modernity is an elaborate construction of Promethean man. It is not a construction in consonance with Nature, nor is it in consonance with the nobility and dignity that sages found inherent in the human spirit. It ignores the extravagant social and environmental costs of reducing humanity to a commodity or a cog in a "monetized universe."

So where does this leave society? It leaves it in a strange and unhappy condition portrayed by artists and scholars in a variety of grotesquely depressing ways. Such is the imagery—appropriate also to the post-modern era—that man of letters, Roland Barthes captures in his critique of a classical Dutch painting. For him, the painting evokes a

society where all vestiges of nature and its sacredness have been imprisoned by human intentions. The dominating vision is of humankind and its empire of things: ...man stands now, his feet upon the thousand objects of everyday life, triumphantly surrounded by his functions. Behold him, then, at the pinnacle of history, knowing no other fate than a gradual appropriation of matter. No limits to this humanization, and above all, no horizons: (...) the overloaded boat connects the two shores and thus closes the movement of trees and water by the intention of a human movement, reducing these forces of Nature to the rank of objects and transforming the creation into a facility.

Confronting such a vision of modern society and the reality of environmental destruction, Vaclav Havel raised the following questions:

Is not the essence of the environmental crisis related to the loss of respect for the order of existence in which humankind is not the creator, but a mere component of its mysterious meaning or spirit? (...) Is not the crisis the logical consequence of the perception of the world as a complex of phenomena controlled by certain scientifically established laws and (ignoring) questions on the meaning of existence and (the relevance) of metaphysics? (...)

Absent in the present discourse is meaningful appreciation of the limits to humankind's capacity to learn the larger truths of existence through scientific rationality. Empiricism cannot frame all the questions and provide all the answers. For Havel, only an awakening of the human spirit can help society address the fundamental causes of the current environmental crisis. A prerequisite for any effective environmental policy is a radical change in heart and spirit. Havel writes: "Only humankind understands of its place in the universe will allow the development of new models of behavior, scales of values, and objectives in life and, through these means, to finally bind a new spirit and meaning to specific regulations, treaties, and institutions."

Today, there are many voices echoing, illustrating, and enlarging upon these reflections and urging a vision of nature that reflects its essence as a complex of living and nonliving substances. Nature has intrinsic as well as instrumental value and should be considered not simply a collection of inputs to feed the world's economy. Nature consists of interdependent parts of an integrated ecological system deriving from and existing in an infinite universe. The realization of projects aimed at establishing lasting harmony with nature demands holistic and transcendent thinking.

It would be absurd to fail to recognize the intellectual, ideological and political change that these efforts demand, and equally unfair to minimize the results to be achieved. There is now general recognition that the earth and its ecosystems are fragile and destructible.

Triglav Recommendations:

1. The realization of projects aimed at establishing lasting harmony with nature in consonance with sustainable development requires imaginative, holistic, and transcendent thinking.
2. There is much wisdom to be found in the writings of political thinkers who foresaw the dangers of extensive industrialization and extravagant and aggressive technologies that would bring about abuse of the natural environment.
3. Man's wisdom can never replicate piece by piece, the wonders of Nature. Thus there is need for a re-enchanted vision of nature to inspire policies to respect and restore the environment.

Monopoly of Scientific Thinking

Today, the most valued function of science and technology is to produce the knowledge that informs the most efficient use of natural resources. What is to the physical senses 'scientific' is generally treated as the only practical form of knowledge. Intuition, imagination and philosophical reflection have little practical relevance in this enterprise, which is consuming the natural environment. Notions such as dignity, meaning, and magnanimity are ignored in the search for answers to the most pressing global issues, including the environmental crisis. Sadly as Karl Marx stated: "All our invention and progress seem to result in endowing material forces with intellectual life, and in stultifying human life into a material force."

To establish harmony with nature demands a dramatic shift in the modern instrumental rational, materialist mindset. The pursuit of lifestyles that place high value on intellectual and artistic endeavors and a flourishing natural environment requires rehabilitation of currently neglected philosophical and other metaphysical sources of knowledge. It means actualizing the belief that reality includes a harmonious order of qualities and relationships that are not evident to the physical senses but discernible through the powers of the mind. It means reexamining material evidence and the values streaming from it, in the light of these other essential sources of knowledge. Imagination and intuition will provide balance to scientific objectivity. Idealism will see life freed from what can be described as the drab blur of triteness and endless calculations, or the imprisonment that comes with the appropriation of things.

To this society in awe of its growing capacity to control and reform nature, modern philosopher, Jacques Maritain offered the view of a much grander Reality, over which humankind had very limited control. Philosophers can witness the supreme dignity of thought and point to that which is eternal in nature and humanity. They can stimulate the thirst for pure knowledge of those fundamentals about Nature and humanity itself.

Thus, it should be emphasized that while scientific rationality and the physical sciences are essential to well-being in modern societies, matters of human destiny and fulfillment in harmony with nature are beyond its ambit. This view was held by Albert Einstein who emphasized that scientific thinking and instrumental rationality had strong limitations. He wrote that the whole of science is "nothing more than a refinement of everyday thinking (...) even the concept of the 'real external world' rested exclusively on sense impressions." Einstein also affirmed that science is methodically directed toward finding regulative connections between our sensual experiences—bringing together, by systematic thought, the perceptible phenomena of the world into as thorough going an association as possible. In the immediate, it produces knowledge and indirectly implies means of action. But, such empirical thinking is neither the way to determine the meaning in life, nor to identify goals and values essential to sustainable life-styles, social harmony, and happiness. These can only be discovered through holistic thinking enlightened by the creative spirit.

Triglav Recommendations:

1. It should be emphasized that while scientific rationality and the physical sciences are essential to well-being in modern societies, matters of human destiny and fulfillment in harmony with nature are beyond its ambit. What is to the physical senses 'scientific' is not the only practical form of knowledge. Notions such as dignity, meaning, and magnanimity should not be ignored in the search for answers to the most pressing global issues, including the environmental crisis.
2. Imagination and intuition must balance scientific objectivity in restoring harmony with nature.
3. To establish harmony with nature there must be a dramatic shift in the socio-political mindset. Decision makers must reexamine empirical evidence and the values streaming from it, in the light of the non-empirical but none the less other important sources of knowledge about life.
4. Philosophers should be witnesses to the capacity of the human mind to transcend the mundane passions and place value on what is eternal in humankind. He/she should stimulate the thirst for pure knowledge of those fundamentals about Nature and the nature of humanity itself.

Science and Harmony with Nature

Although an instrumental approach to nature can be blamed in part for catapulting humanity into a global, technological civilization under a regime of domineering materiality, this instrumental mentality does not characterize the whole of scientific thinking about the earth.

Highly respected scientists see the necessity of perceiving the natural environment as a complex and delicate system having its origins in the cosmos. They have made it their life work to try to understand this universe. Humbled by the uncertainties of their scientific theories, they are in awe of their discoveries. Nobel Laureate, Richard Feynman remarked:

This universe has been described by many, but it just goes on, with its edge as unknown as the bottom of the bottomless sea of the other idea—just as mysterious, just as awe inspiring, and just as incomplete as the poetic pictures (of the ancients) that came before. But they see that the imagination of nature is far, far greater than the imagination of man. No one who did not have some inkling of this through observations could ever have imagined such a marvel as nature is.

Physics and higher mathematics reveal many significant ideas concerning the realities of the universe and life. Thus they loosen chains binding human intentions to material circumstances and aspirations. With the assistance of enlightened reason, modern scientists can guide humanity to a more profound sense of purpose. Physicist Brian Greene summarizes this view:

To open our ideas to the true nature of the universe has always been one of physics' primary purposes. It is hard to imagine a more stretching experience than learning, as we have over the last century that the reality we experience is but a glimmer of the reality that is.

The sublimity and order revealed in Nature and the cosmos offer direction in the quest for harmony with nature.

Nearly 100 years have passed, since Einstein made his discoveries. In the meantime, other sophisticated mathematical theories about the Universe have surfaced. Super String Theory and M Theory, an advanced version of String Theory, may successfully merge general relativity and quantum mechanics, and hold out the hope that humankind is closer to understanding the deepest laws of the universe.

According to Greene, string theory holds that there is one fundamental building block of the multidimensional universe; that is the string. The infinite number of particle species simply reflects the different vibration patterns that a string executes, just as a string on a violin or cello can vibrate in many different ways, producing a full range of sounds. Greene writes: Metaphorically, the different notes that can be played by a single species of string would account for all of the different particles that have been detected. At the ultramicroscopic level, the universe would be akin to a string vibrating matter into existence.

A glimpse of reality is perhaps offered in the timelessness of transcending ideas. Aristotle's esteem for the powers of music seems to be shared by certain contemporary scientists discovering the intellectually stimulating qualities of Mozart symphonies. Such discoveries bare out today what Aristotle surmised thousands of years ago when human intelligence had a more instinctive sense of Nature. The human mind is altered by music, perhaps bringing it closer to the never-ending harmonies of the strings and branes of the universe under the baton of a master Consciousness. Such symphonies would surely inform the ultimate Harmony with nature, which links humankind through the ecology of the earth to the cosmos in which it abides.

Astrophysicist and philosopher of science, Owen Gingerich, sees the wonders of the universe in particular the remarkable arrangements of carbon and oxygen nuclear resonance, as a way for making sense of the astonishing cosmic order that the sciences repeatedly reveal and even more so the remarkable evidences of design in the biological realm. In light of the rapidity with which modern society is consuming nature and its resources, Gingerich believes that unless society learns the message of service and sacrificial love that a transcendent belief in the meaning the cosmos conveys, humankind may be doomed as a species.

To neglect a deeper understanding of the systemic workings of the universe is to continue to "wrestle in the dark with an unknown opponent," according to Greene. He also notes that: "Assessing life through everyday experience is like gazing at a Van Gogh masterpiece through a coke bottle." Although physicists have insights into physical reality, they are themselves unable to predict more than a fraction of nature's behavior. The humility that comes with recognizing that humankind's understanding of the world is only a glimmer of reality validates earlier views on the importance of that "glimmer of acquaintance" for society's well-being and human-kind's flourishing. Even glimpses of reality, the awe they inspire and the respect they generate are better than ignorance for the continuity of life and should give reason for living in conformity the nature that envelops all living creatures.

Triglav Recommendation:

1. With the assistance of enlightened reason and imagination, modern science should lead humanity to a sense of purpose that perceives value in wisdom and harmony with nature.

#### Compassion and Purpose in Harmony with Nature

One of the major failures of modernity is the incapacity to recognize that love, selfless work, and creativity are intrinsic to human nature and are the necessary building blocks of a compassionate society. Without love and magnanimity, people lack a positive ethic for confronting the many environmental crises which beset the globalizing world. Fear alone cannot provide an ethical foundation for responsible environmental policy. After a while, arguments based on fear lose credibility and cannot provide an effective motivation for long term responsibility. It is urgent to recognize the roles that compassion, selflessness and generosity have in motivating socially responsible behavior.

Considering general notions of harmony with nature and their moral foundations, British political philosopher, John Locke wrote in his piece entitled, *Conduct of Understanding*, 1754: "We should love our neighbor as ourselves" – is such a fundamental truth for the regulating of human society, that, I think by that alone one might without difficulty determine all cases and doubts in social morality." This statement, from one of the great architects of liberalism, offers direction for building that heretofore ephemeral moral foundation for social justice and harmony with nature.

The concept of "love," as used in Locke's text has the quality of universality. It expresses nobility and compassion. Similar ideas are conveyed in writings of the ancient Greeks, Taoists, Confucians, Islamic scholars, and Buddhists, to mention only the most widely accepted belief systems and philosophies. This common wisdom emphasizes virtuous social behaviors, including a generous response to the needs of ones' fellow human being and other living creatures inhabiting the planet. It conveys the universal "truth" that in seeking harmony in society and with nature, one finds one's own well-being. A society without a strong sense of compassion permeating its ethos will ultimately collapse as its natural surroundings deteriorate.

One of the major challenges today is to find a meaning in human life that is rooted in harmony with nature. This search is not about grand ideologies or social experiments in the name of God. It is "simply" a quest for sense and direction that can inspire human flourishing and life in equilibrium with nature. It is not teleological: it is in the largest sense about "being."

Purpose in just "being," echoes in the harmonies of nature, as revealed in a story of a small bird, told by Giuseppe Sermoni. "The bird, *Cyanosylvia svecica* (blue throat) delivers his most artistic song, objectively the most complex, when relaxed in the depth of its own bush, poetizing to himself." The song changes when the bird seeks to protect its own interests. It becomes a monotonous repetition of string strophes and all the graces and harmonies are lost.

Pondering the message of *Cyanosylvia sveccia*, should not people feel some inclination to seek satisfaction in lifestyles minimally controlled by material needs and drives and maximally concerned with the exercise of their inner song composed by their intellectual and artistic gifts? It may be that these mental exercises actually increase the capacity of the brain for holistic thinking, so that return to old ways of seeing the world would neither be comfortable nor satisfying. Certainly life styles concentrated on the art of living bring at least as much happiness as advertisers are promising in promoting "the services of things" to the privileged and underprivileged alike. Philosophers have been telling this story for centuries and even now and then the modern media delivers this message, perhaps out of genuine sentiment or perhaps out of a general malaise caused by a premonition of imminent environmental catastrophe.

Triglav Recommendations:

1. The international community should take into account the common wisdom that emphasizes virtuous social behaviors including having compassion for the needs of other beings.
2. All humanity would do well to heed the universal "truth" that in seeking harmony in society and with nature, one finds one's own well-being.
3. It must be remembered that a society without a strong sense of appreciation of the need to protect the inherent beauty and purity of the natural world will ultimately collapse.
4. The ultimate meaning and purpose for human life should be inspired by nature, the well spring of all life.

The above text was authored by Barbara Baudot, as Coordinator of the Triglav Circle. This statement does not necessarily reflect the views of all Circle members but is consistent with the ethos of the Circle. Supporting views are given below.

Statements by Individual Members and Friends of the Circle

Harmony with Nature: A Writer's Perspective

The proposed initiative on Harmony with Nature is a sharply focused, intellectually sophisticated, and timely one. In addition to building directly on such landmarks of modern conservation as Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring* (1962) and Aldo Leopold's *A Sand County Almanac* (1949), it resonates with a global literature of nature's inherent value that encompasses the poets of T'ang Dynasty, Japan's Haiku tradition, the writing of Jean-Jacques Rousseau, the English Romantics, and Alfred North Whitehead's synthesis of philosophy and physics. What all these writers and many more affirm is that without a healthy biosphere there is no possibility for human prosperity and happiness. Such an assertion is not an alternative to the economic and political policies that generally and appropriately concern the United Nations. But it is a necessary complement to it.

Especially today, when the grave challenges of climate change and runaway population are being experienced in especially challenging ways by citizens of developing nations, it is crucial to correlate ecological and social health. Many studies have demonstrated the necessity of a full suite of native animals for the continued health of forests and soils. (Leopold's *Thinking like a Mountain*, from *Sand County Almanac*, was one influential statement of this relationship.) Similarly, the protection of waterways and wetlands is indispensable for stable agricultural systems. One of the best ways to promote such protection of nature's fundamental elements is through an attitude of respect and love that is in turn ratified by indigenous traditions around the world. Harmony, in other words, is between the arts, religion, and the sciences, as well as between humanity and what the philosopher David Abram has called 'the more-than-human world.' By this phrase, Abram means not greater than humanity, but instead encompassing people within a much broader community of life.

Many prescient writers, from Teilhard de Chardin to the systems-thinker Donella Meadows, have described this sort of synthetic perspective as a crucial next step in cultural evolution, and one which will support the development of hopeful new social institutions. I share this view, and devoted my 38-year career as a scholar and a professor of Environmental Studies to exploring its ramifications. For the United Nations to commit to the proposed initiative would, I believe, be a bold, appropriate, and highly productive action. It would encourage many vital endeavors in both the industrialized and developing nations of the world.

Statement by John Elder, Stewart Professor of Literature and Environmental Studies Emeritus, Middlebury College; author of *Reading the Mountains of Home* and Editor of the Norton Book of Nature Writing; recipient of Fulbright and Guggenheim Fellowships; and member of the Triglav Circle.

Triglav Recommendations:

1. It should be remembered that without a healthy biosphere there is no possibility for human prosperity and happiness. It is crucial to correlate ecological and social health.
2. One of the best ways to promote such protection of nature's fundamental elements is through an attitude of respect and love that is in turn ratified by indigenous traditions around the world. Harmony, in other words, is between the arts, religion, and the sciences, as well as between humanity and what the philosopher David Abram has called 'the more-than-human world.'

Nature and Culture: The Only Harmony We Know

In 2008 the Icelandic nation was faced with serious economic situation and to many the future looked bleak. All official efforts were obviously put into addressing the financial crisis. However, midst in this grave situation a group of 153 interested people, coming from different sectors of the society established a Nature Fund, the first of its kind in Iceland.

At this significant time in the nations' recent history, it came obvious how important and dear to us, our Natural Heritage is. Intertwined with our Cultural Heritage it shapes us as individuals and moreover makes us the nation we are. The nature and the culture have together created a small nation that further has commitments to the rest of the world, by preserving its own National heritage. The Audlind Nature Fund was established to guard the principal resources of Iceland's nature, to maintain their variety and to protect their sustainability. The principal goal of Audlind is to protect and reclaim Iceland's natural heritage. This goal will be attained by encouraging stewardship of nature, including participation of individuals, societies, corporations, investors, municipal communities and government.

Now that water has been recognized as the world's most valuable natural resource, effort must be put into both its preservation and restoration. Wetlands' important and natural role in water management is crucial in this endeavor. Audlind Nature Fund is already running a wetland restoration program, but Iceland's natural wetlands have been severely diminished; in some areas over 90% of wetlands have already been drained. This will, if continued, place threats to water quality and the health of the natural environment. However with raised awareness and tangible restoration projects this evolution can be turned around. Some successful restoration projects already pay tribute to this attempt.

The Audlind Nature Fund emphasizes working with landowners as well as other NGO's and governmental entities, responsible for land management. This approach is extremely important since natural resources can only be saved for future generations' livelihood and enjoyment, if we that are responsible for nature's present utilization are able to value its current role as the source of both our physical and cultural existence.

Audlind Natural Fund is honored to have one of its initiator and founder, Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, former president of Iceland as its patron. Iceland, October 31st, 2011

Submitted on behalf of Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, [member of the Trigrav Circle]

Salvör Jónsdóttir,

First chair of Audlind Natural Fund

Trigrav Recommendation:

1. Because water has been recognized as the world's most valuable natural resource, efforts must be put into both its preservation and restoration. Wetlands' important and natural role in water management is crucial in this endeavor.

On Educating Children about Nature

Natural funds, conservation lands, parks and nature centers must be vigorously put to use in the education of the world's children. Children should be taught of the magic and the beauty that nature holds for them. This education should begin from the earliest ages of awareness of their surroundings. They are the hope of the future and if they grow up appreciating their natural surroundings through playing in them, discovering life in them and making friends with the different creatures inhabiting these corners of the planet they will likely never allow themselves to give into destructive behaviors in the future.

Nouna Kettaneh, Ph.D.

Physics and Mathematics

Member of the Trigrav Circle

Trigrav Recommendation:

1. Natural funds, conservation lands, parks and nature centers must be vigorously put to use in the education of the world's children. Children should be taught of the magic and the beauty that nature holds for them. This education should begin from the earliest ages of awareness of their surroundings.

On Harmony with Nature

This message is to convey my strong support for the UN's efforts to enhance "harmony with nature", and my hope for substantial advances in the meetings and events to come.

Two observations might be of interest in addressing this massive and complex agenda. First, is that the last century has witnessed an explosion in scientific knowledge and technological innovations. Many, if not most, of these innovations, while of immediate and immense use to the earth's inhabitants, do negatively affect the environment in a serious manner. To overcome this conflict of interests, and advance harmony with nature, equal attention is needed for studies and preventive innovations to address these secondary negative effects.

The second observation is about the "level of solution". Advancing harmony with nature requires actions at all levels—individuals and families, the immediate communities, and national, regional and global organizations. Important for achieving these actions, are international laws and regulations, capabilities for monitoring results, and promoting compliance. No global organization is in a better position to guide these efforts at the governmental levels than the UN.

Finally, the education of current and future generations cannot be emphasized enough. In order to enhance compliance throughout societies of varied cultures and levels of development and geographic characteristics, the population itself must understand and become convinced that these changes are necessary and that the required sacrifices are being made in a fair and equitable manner.

Saad Z. Nagi, Member of the Trigrav Circle

Professor Emeritus of Sociology

The Ohio State University

Former Director of Social Research Center, American University in Cairo

Trigrav Recommendations:

1. The last century has witnessed an explosion in scientific knowledge and technological innovations. Many, if not most, of these innovations, while of immediate and immense use to the earth's inhabitants, have a serious negatively effect on the environment. To overcome this conflict of interests, and advance harmony with nature, equal attention is needed for studies and preventive innovations to address these secondary negative effects.

2. Advancing harmony with nature requires actions at all levels—individuals and families, the immediate communities, and national, regional and global organizations. Important for achieving these actions, are international laws and regulations, capabilities for monitoring results, and promoting compliance.

3. The education of current and future generations cannot be emphasized enough. In order to enhance compliance throughout societies of varied cultures and levels of development and geographic characteristics, the population itself must understand and become convinced that these changes are necessary and that the required sacrifices are being made in a fair and equitable manner.

The Environment and Social Equity

The environmental crisis is hitting the poor much more than the affluent. Knowledge-intensive solutions including technologies are available to restore natural systems, and dramatically reduce pressures on climate and the environment while improving human well-being. A "green economy" is attainable but must be embedded in a holistic concept of sustainability. What we need is a change of lifestyles. A holistic understanding of sustainability includes reinventing the state against financial markets that have become arrogant, and disregard social equity and long term considerations of climate and the environment.

Ernst U. von Weizsaecker

Member of the Trigrav Circle

UNEP International Resource Panel, co-chair

Former Chairman of the Bundestag Environment Committee

Triglav Recommendations:

1. Society must recognize that a holistic understanding of sustainability includes reinventing the state against financial markets that have become arrogant, and disregard social equity and long term considerations of climate and the environment.
2. The world needs a change in life style that demands a well-functioning multi- institutional society, conscious of the need for social equity and respectful of the call for keeping economic activities within the carry capacity of the natural environment.

On Harmony with Nature

An underlying theme of the stimulating discussions over the years at the Triglav Circle have either presupposed or stressed harmony with nature as a precondition for sustainable development. This emphasis has also taken critical note of the degree to which the operationalization of sustainable development has effectively minimized the impact of 'sustainable' by giving priority to 'development' as principally assessed by aggregate rates of growth.

As we move into the 21st century it becomes increasingly evident that the array of challenges emerging from the climate change problematique cannot be adequately addressed unless the concept of sustainability becomes a substantive guideline for development. Such an imperative requires a new understanding of the relationship between the economy and the environment that draws upon an ethos of harmony with nature, as informed by positive and negative learning experiences drawn from a variety of civilizational perspectives.

We in the West have stressed autonomy and the maximization of self-interest often interpreted on the basis of an increasingly dysfunctional reductive and materialist worldview. The Triglav discussions were particularly useful in bringing to bear non-Western understanding of the human interface with nature that more integrally and naturally stress the centrality of harmony as a keystone value and goal.

It is hoped that the Rio +20 discussions will advance public appreciation that without the serious struggle to achieve harmony with nature, which will necessarily involve some difficult reversals of consumerist life style patterns, there will be no sustainable development in the decades ahead, and the more likely reality will be ever more evident as 'unsustainable development' or more accurately development that is unsustainable disclosing itself as de-development that is part of ecological descent into a planetary inferno. Richard Falk

Member of the Triglav Circle

Professor emeritus of International Law, Princeton University,

Author, editor, and/ or co-editor

Triglav Recommendations:

1. The Rio +20 discussions must advance public appreciation that without the serious struggle to achieve harmony with nature, which will necessarily involve some difficult reversals of consumerist life style patterns; there will be no sustainable development in the decades ahead.
2. The world should recognize that development that is unsustainable, disclosing itself as de-development, leads to an ecological descent into a planetary inferno.

Ecological Implications of Confucian Humanism

Confucianism as a spiritual humanism involves four dimensions in its project for human flourishing: self, community, Earth, and Heaven. Self-cultivation is the point of departure for character building which is the primary purpose of Confucian moral education. Education is more than acquisition of knowledge or internationalization of skills. It ought to be a holistic way of learning to be human. Such a learning is defined in Confucian terms as "learning for the sake of the self," "the learning of the heart-mind and nature," or "learning to be a profound person." It is misleading, however, to assume that Confucian learning is a quest for individual happiness or inner spirituality. Rather, Confucian learning, far from being "individualistic," is a communal act.

The self is never an isolated individual but a center of relationships. As the center, the self is independent and autonomous. Its independence and autonomy is predicated on the dignity of the person as an internal value rather than a socially constructed reality. At the same time, the self as relationships is inevitably interconnected with an ever-expanding network of human-relatedness.

Community is never separated from the self. To paraphrase from William James, without the creativity of the centered self, community stagnates and without the sympathetic resonance of the community, true selfhood fades away. Community in Confucian humanism is variously understood as family, village, country, world, and cosmos

Self-realization as a communal act presupposes the personal commitment to harmonizing the family, governance of the state, and world peace. The full realization of personhood entails the authentic possibility of transcending selfishness, nepotism, parochialism, nationalism, and anthropocentrism. The underlying paradoxes are clues for understanding the subtleties of Confucian moral reasoning. An essential task of self-cultivation is to overcome selfishness. The maintenance of harmony in the family requires that we overcome nepotistic attachments at the expense of openness to other relationships. Communal solidarity is predicated on our ability to recognize the meaningful existence of other communities. Patriotism is at odds with chauvinistic nationalism.

Indeed, following the trajectory of this line of thinking further, we must transcend anthropocentrism to enable the self-realization of humanity to fruition.

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Tu Weiming

Chairman of the Board of the Triglav Circle

Professor, Peking University and Harvard University

Triglav Recommendations:

1. Education is more than acquisition of knowledge or internationalization of skills. It ought to be a holistic way of learning to be human.



2. Self-realization as a communal act presupposes personal commitment to harmonizing the family, governance of the state, and world peace. The full realization of personhood entails the authentic possibility of transcending selfishness, nepotism, parochialism, nationalism, and anthropocentrism.

#### Harmony with Nature and Social Progress

When adopting in April 2009 International Mother Earth Day, to be celebrated every year on 22 April, the General Assembly of the United Nations expressed its conviction that "in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social, and environmental needs of present and future generations, it is necessary to promote harmony with nature and the Earth." A few months later, in its resolution entitled Harmony with Nature, the Assembly declared that "humanity can and should live in harmony with nature." And, in December 2010, in its second resolution on this subject, the Assembly stated that "sustainable development is a holistic concept that requires the strengthening of interdisciplinary linkages in the different branches of knowledge."

Harmony, holism, complementarity of different sources of knowledge: such concepts applied by the General Assembly to the protection of the environment and to economic and social progress, are of the utmost importance. They are elements of the nascent political philosophy so clearly required by the problems and opportunities that are inherent to an interdependent and yet conflicted and unjust world.

The search for harmony is the antidote to environmental degradation, economic unbalance and social injustice. Holism is the response to the various forms of dualism - notably Man and Nature, Spirit and Heart, the Spiritual and the Temporal, the Abstract and the Concrete, Reason and Sentiment, "Hard" and "Soft" Values - that have plagued the dominant conception of modernity. Recourse in the public discourse to intuition, poetic and artistic imagination, the teachings of past philosophies and spiritual traditions, would balance the logic of science and the calculations of instrumental rationality. The United Nations, which is both a mirror of the world and a unique force to change the spirit of the time towards a greater wisdom, is a critical institution to debate and contribute to implement such political philosophy.

It is a matter of urgency. Seven billion people cannot hope to prosper, and even to survive, if the various dis-harmonies affecting the world are allowed to continue. And, the present generation has the responsibility to prepare a hospitable world to the nine billion of the year 2050. A greater Harmony with Nature is a matter of survival, and it is also a wonderful project that should and would stimulate and mobilize the creative energies of people around the world. For Harmony with Nature is intimately and unavoidably linked with Harmony among Nations, among Peoples, and with Harmony with the Self. Love and Respect for Nature is Love and Respect for the Other.

As all forms of violence, in thoughts, words and actions, feed each other, all forms of benevolence and altruism, in ideas and deeds, also feed each other. Here and there, throughout the world, women and men of good will, inspired by the search for the common good of humanity, are taking initiatives and working tirelessly for the emergence of a better and more harmonious world. The United Nations ought to give an international and global expression to these efforts. Harmony with Nature and Social Progress for All, are inseparable exigencies of our time. The conference "Rio plus 20", including the working of the implications of the beautiful concept of Harmony with Nature, offers an opportunity that should not be missed.

Jacques Baudot,

Secretary of the Triglav Circle,

former Director of the Budget and Controller of the United Nations, former Director of the Social Development Division, and Coordinator of the United Nations World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, March 1995.

#### Triglav Recommendations:

1. Building upon the General Assembly's acceptance of the concepts of harmony, holism, and complementarity of different branches of knowledge, the UN ought to be a center of reflection and debate on the policy implications of these concepts as they are applied to the protection of the environment and economic and social progress.
2. A greater harmony of humankind with Nature is a matter of survival. But the links between harmony with nature, social and political harmony and harmony with the self are such that actions motivated by the recognition of the precariousness of life on Earth can also be part of a dynamic and joyful global political project. The UN, starting with Rio + 20 is a privileged institution for debating and orchestrating this project.

#### Environnement et Tradition en Afrique de l'Ouest

La gestion de l'environnement a été toujours au centre des préoccupations de tous les empires qui se sont succédé en Afrique de l'ouest. La gestion environnementale était intimement liée à la gestion des ressources humaines elle-même. Nous allons retenir le règne de la dynastie de Soumaoro dans le Mandén qui a particulièrement organisé et structuré la gestion de l'environnement entre 993 après JC et 1235 à la fin de la dynastie.

1. La gestion de la forêt Cette dynastie a institué ce qu'on appelle les forêts sacrées en Afrique de l'ouest pour préserver les plantes d'intérêt médical et aussi en faire des hôpitaux verts où les malades contagieux sont soignés. Ces lieux servaient les de refuge pour les femmes et les enfants en cas de conflit s. A l'époque la coupe des branches d'arbre frais était sévèrement interdit d'où l'obligation respecter cette règle.
2. La gestion de la faune Concernant la protection de la faune, la dynastie de Soumaoro a institué l'organisation de la chasse en interdisant la pratique à tout moment et recommandant dans chaque village un chef chasseur et un chasseur dans chaque famille dont le rôle consistait à apporter la viande de la cuisine. Donc, la société s'était organisée de manière à permettre la reproduction libre des espèces sauvages.
3. La gestion de l'eau La gestion de l'eau a été confiée aux hommes du fleuve qu'on appelle « ba mōkō » en particulier les bozos, les somonos, les sorghos en pays sorai. Ils sont chargés de veiller à la sécurité de la navigation, de l'organisation et l'exploitation de ressources du fleuve et la gestion de la reproduction des poissons par l'observation d'un calendrier de pêche.
4. La gestion du feu de brousse La gestion du feu de brousse était une question d'une extrême importance car il s'agissait de préserver les ressources naturelles de la brousse dont les arbres fruitiers et médicinaux mais aussi la faune. C'est pourquoi, il ya un calendrier de mise à feux des clairière ( fougā). Ceci pour empêcher l'embrasement de toute la savane et la forêt. En 1236, les rois du mandén se sont rassemblés à Kouroukan fougā ( actuelle Kangaba, une préfecture malienne) pour adopter une constitution. Appelé la charte du Mandén, cette constitution a fait adopter à l'unanimité des douze rois présents la préservation de l'environnement. Toutes ces mesures ont été entérinées et validé par la charte de Kouroukan fougā.

Aujourd'hui, toute la population de l'Afrique de l'ouest fonctionne sur ces règles non écrites. Ainsi, la société traditionnelle ouest africaine a procédé à une organisation interne de son harmonie avec la nature .Cependant, les comportements, pratiques, et coutumes liés à cette harmonie subissent une influence du modèle de consommation occidental et d'un relâchement dans la transmission du savoir local et communautaire. A cela il faut ajouter les changements de comportement consécutifs à la pauvreté. Toutes choses qui contribuent à menacer l'équilibre de cette belle harmonie traditionnelle, notamment en milieu rural.

#### Perspectives et Recommandations

Au regard de la menace croissante sur les ressources environnementales en Afrique de l'ouest, notamment dans le sahel, il conviendrait à un niveau concerté (Organisations de la société civile, décideurs politiques, agences de développement, et communautés) d'envisager et mettre en œuvre les mesures suivantes :

- 1) La documentation et la vulgarisation du savoir local dans le domaine de la gestion de l'environnement
- 2) Une accélération de la promotion des énergies renouvelables (le soleil est la denrée la plus accessible et la mieux partagée dans le sahel)
- 3) L'information et l'éducation des communautés rurales sur les réalités et risques de la dégradation rapide de notre écosystème. Ces communautés sont loin, très loin des résultats de recherches et autres informations pertinentes sur le changement climatique

A cet égard, l'initiative de l'animation des centres de ressources communautaires pourrait contribuer à partager les informations élémentaires de base sur les questions de l'environnement

- 3) L'éducation pour le développement durable devrait commencer par formation des enseignants, qui à leur tour prendrons en charge les enfants à l'école
- Conclusion

L'impact du changement climatique est une réalité dans le sahel. Les populations vivent le phénomène et le subissent comme une fatalité, parfois comme une malédiction divine. Elles constatent une rupture progressive de l'harmonie avec la nature sans pouvoir en expliquer les raisons. Il y a un problème réel d'information, de sensibilisation et d'éducation sur la question. Ces dispositions sont relativement faciles à mettre en œuvre dans un milieu où les Hommes ont un respect « religieux » pour la terre d'autant qu'une pensée religieuse ou philosophique suggère que « Dieu créa l'homme à partir de la terre »

Adama N. Diarra

Membre de Triglav Circle

Directeur du Fond de Solidarité

Ancien Ministre de la Jeunesse

Gouvernement du Mali

Commissaire, Croix Rouge Internationale

Triglav Recommendations:

Au regard de la menace croissante sur les ressources environnementales, il conviendrait à un niveau concerté (Organisations de la société civile, décideurs politiques, agences de développement, et communautés) d'envisager et mettre en œuvre les mesures suivantes :

1. La documentation et la vulgarisation du savoir local dans le domaine de la gestion de l'environnement.
2. Une accélération de la promotion des énergies renouvelables.
3. L'information et l'éducation des communautés rurales sur les réalités et risques de la dégradation rapide de notre écosystème. Ces communautés sont loin, très loin des résultats de recherches et autres informations pertinentes sur le changement climatique.
4. A cet égard, l'initiative de l'animation des centres de ressources communautaires pourrait contribuer à partager les informations élémentaires de base sur les questions de l'environnement, l'éducation pour le développement durable devrait commencer par formation des enseignants, qui à leur tour prendrons en charge les enfants à l'école.

Sustainable Development, Non-Consumerism and Happiness

Since the disaster caused by the earthquake and tsunami in Tohoku area, including the near catastrophic accidents in four nuclear furnaces in Fukushima on March 11 2011, Japan has been facing a difficult decision about which of two paths to take for its nation's future. One is to continue the present course of consumerism based on fossil and atomic energy, and the other is the frugal social life based mainly on renewable energy sources which in essence depend on solar energy.

These alternatives are just like the paths described in Rachel Carson's "Silent Spring." One is the continuation of the present path, which appears easier than the other; the un-trodden way of harmony with nature appears to be much more difficult. If we should decide to take the harder way, we should examine not only the perspective that it will guide us to a happier society but also what kind of measures should be taken to persuade people to follow it. Failure in the case of environmental change, because of over indulgence in consumerism can wipe humanity from this planet. We should not take a chance by betting on the easy life, since the magnitude of loss is infinitely large. Elise Boulding wrote "Frugality is one of the most beautiful and joyful words in the English language, and yet one that we are culturally cut off from understanding and enjoying. The consumption society has made us feel that happiness lies in having things, and has failed to teach us the happiness of not having things."

The fundamental importance of a frugal lifestyle in which harmony with nature is the prerequisite for a sustainable society has been expressed by many Asian historical figures. For example:

Ando Shoeki an 18th century Japanese physician and thinker wrote about the importance of harmony with nature in a startling book "Shizen Shineido (The true way of life to live in accordance with nature)(3)". The book contains a story about four meetings held by, animals chaired by a monkey, birds chaired by an eagle, insects chaired by a beetle and fishes chaired by a whale. The conclusion of all four meetings coincided with the same statement that: Among all creatures the manner in which humans live is by far the most out of sync with nature. Only people, among all creatures, use money and many of them enjoy life without individual productive labor (agriculture). People make their own "laws" for the benefit of their own profit, most of which are against the law of nature. In short they concluded that the most harmful creature in the world of living things is without doubt people who live in a manner out of harmony with nature.

A similar way of looking at our way of life was written by a Chinese thinker Wang Chong as early as in 1st century in a book "Lunheng (Balanced Consideration)(4). In which is a sentence stating: We call locust a harmful insect because it devours crops we produce. However, if a locust can talk, it will say that crops are not for people only. Heaven gives crops for every creature so that humankind is a harmful 'insect' for locusts. Since the industrial revolution, people have consistently preferred "development" to the more natural and environmentally sound old fashioned way of life. It must be emphasized that a sustainable economy is an ethical imperative.

If we should decide to take the harder way, we should examine not only the perspective that it will guide us to a happier society but also what kind of measures should be taken to persuade people to follow it.

Hideo Shingu, Ph.D

Member of the Triglav Circle

Professor Emeritus, Kyoto University [Engineering and Energy Use]

Former Dean of the Graduate School of Energy Science at Kyoto University

Representative, Kyoto Energy and Environment Research Association

<http://www.enekan.jp/>

Triglav Recommendations:

1. The world community must recognize the fundamental importance of a frugal lifestyle in which harmony with nature is the prerequisite for a sustainable society.
2. A sustainable economy is an ethical imperative.

#### From the Big Bang to Harmony with Nature

Out of the Big Bang, 13.7 billion years ago, came hydrogen and helium, the elements that power most of the 60,000,000,000 stars in our Milky Way galaxy. But essential atoms for life, oxygen, carbon, and nitrogen, and rarer elements such as phosphorus and iron, formed over billions of years in the fiery cauldrons in the cores of giant stars, spewed into space by gigantic supernova explosions. They formed further generations of stars and planets. Armed with the necessary ingredients for organic chemistry, many became congenial habitats for the contingent evolution of life as manifest in our cosmic home, Earth.

Today seven billion people inhabit our planet. Human beings and domesticated animals make up 90% of the vertebrate mass today, up from 0.1% 10,000 years ago. Nearly 80% of Earth's land surface has been modified by humans. Both air and potable water, which have always seemed freely available, are becoming increasingly precious. Fortunately scientists discovered the man-made cause of the polar zones of ozone depletion before catastrophic consequences followed. Whether the toxins of climate change are heeded remains to be seen.

This is the decade of the exo-planets, the astronomical discovery of planets orbiting thousands of other suns. There must be hundreds of millions of habitable planets in our galaxy, but whether any are inhabited by other sentient beings we may never know. But think on this: how long will our environment remain congenial to thinking beings? If we destroy our habitat within a century, we would have been electronically communicative for scarcely two centuries, a mere whisper in cosmic time. If other civilizations last less than a millennium, our chances of co-existing with other sentient life in the vast sweep of time seem vanishingly small.

The human brain is the most complex object we know in the entire cosmos. We might just be the unique pinnacle of the universe's entire evolutionary process. Let us hope that we have the foresight and moral courage to make the hard choices necessary to preserve our species, our environment, and our heritage for the generations to come. Owen Gingerich

Professor Emeritus of Astronomy and of the History of Science, Harvard University Senior astronomer emeritus at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory. Triglav Recommendations:

1. The world community should ponder how long our environment will remain congenial to thinking beings. If we destroy our habitat within a century, we would have been electronically communicative for scarcely two centuries, a mere whisper in cosmic time.
2. Human beings might just be the unique pinnacle of the universe's entire evolutionary process. Let us hope that we have the foresight and moral courage to make the hard choices necessary to preserve our species, our environment, and our heritage for the generations to come.

#### Harmony with Nature

It is both timely and urgent that the United Nations takes up this subject in the context of preparation for Rio + 20. As stated in the Secretary-General's Report on Harmony with Nature (A/66/302), there is an urgent need for a major shift in values in our societies and in the social, economic and environmental paradigm. Humanity's current domination and exploitation of nature has led to materialistic and consumerist societies that have produced unacceptable and dire consequences on the lives of humanity and all living creatures. Only through reverence for nature can we re-create our ways of life and a world that is more humane and inclusive. The UN provides an excellent and most appropriate forum for governments, the civil society, all other interested and concerned parties and people of good will to come together to raise awareness, share experiences, and discuss this very important topic, which, despite being mentioned in Agenda 21 twenty years ago, has not been taken up until now.

The concept of "harmony with nature" is hardly a new one and in fact forms the basis for both Confucius and Taoist teachings in China (around 500 BC). The focus of these philosophies was on how harmony could be restored and maintained between human life and the life of the universe. Out of this focus came the Confucian moral philosophy of "human heartedness" and correctness, and the Taoist philosophy of simplicity and self-purification. Both philosophers were proponents of the belief that Heaven, Earth and Humanity formed the three legs of the tripod. From these flow all creativity – all species, land, waters and civilization. The teachings of Confucius put the spirit of "the vastness of heaven and the thickness of the earth" into the heart of humanity, thus putting heaven, earth and humanity into a perfect whole. Knowing one's place within the greater world of the forces of nature, having respect, obedience and to be in tacit agreement with all creatures in nature are prerequisites for attaining serenity and harmony within the person, within the family, within the society and ultimately within the nation and beyond.

According to Confucius, the path of harmony lies in developing certain essential qualities that are innate in human nature called "the four virtues" — compassion or benevolence, righteousness, propriety, and wisdom. These are developed using oneself as a measure of one's conduct toward others – "Do not do unto others what you would not want others to do to you," is a famous Confucian saying. In practicing human-heartedness (including, for example, through giving and through the quest for wisdom), we gradually lose the selfishness that invades the spirit, and in becoming less selfish we cast off the false distinctions we once made between people, and between the world of people and the universe at large. Thus, we perceive the essential unity of the universe. In the process, we improve not only ourselves but also our environment. Just as the tree, true to its own nature, spreads and gives shade, and in turn influences its environment.

Since everything in the universe is linked together by a shared origin and a shared spirit or "energy", there exists a natural tendency toward harmony. In nature, everything works together perfectly – that is nature's way. Only people have the ability to stray from human nature as it originally expressed itself. For example, the leaf can do nothing but float and be carried; the sheep follows with no thought.

Harmony with nature is best demonstrated in the art of Chinese calligraphy. It has been said that "Words are the voice of the heart; calligraphy is the painting of the heart". The ancients penned characters as a means of spiritual elevation, for it was considered possible to express the essential spirit of the universe through brushwork. In Chinese thoughts, the act of writing a character is seen as parallel to the universal process of creation, and an embodiment of principles that govern all life. Just as "spirit" or "energy" creates all living things in the universe, the human spirit creates art. One stroke could signify the whole of nature and humanity. Like Taoism which believes that we need only yield - quietly and passively - to our inner law, while simulating our spiritual understanding of all nature, including the human, the art of calligraphy is seen as a matter of letting the true spirit within flow freely, without hindrance. It is the spirit that moves the brush which is guided by the heart. Finally, it is interesting to note that the Chinese character

"harmony" ("Ho") consists of two parts: the character "grain" on the left side and "mouth" on the right side, signifying that "Harmony" is that time when all creatures (not only human beings) will be nourished.

Gloria Kan

Member of the Triglav Circle

Former Chief of Branch in the United Nations

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Triglav Recommendations:

1. Knowing one's place within the greater world of the forces of nature, having respect, obedience and to be in tacit agreement with all creatures in nature are prerequisites for attaining serenity and harmony within the person, within the family, within the society and ultimately within the nation and beyond.
2. Only through reverence for nature can we re-create our ways of life and a world that is more humane and inclusive.
3. All peoples must see that there is an urgent need for a major shift in values in our societies and in the social, economic and environmental paradigm if human well-being is to be sustained.

A Word about the Intrinsic Value of Nature

Intrinsic value refers to the power of nature to inspire. For example John Stuart Mill, saw nature as the cradle of thoughts and ideas. Nature's intrinsic value lies in its reflections of the laws and evolution of the universe, the source of its scientifically unknowable essence. It lifts the sensitive observer to the realm of the infinitude of ideas wherein one feels intuitively in harmony with nature. It empowers the imagination, it offers poetic inspiration, and prods intuitions about unseen but present ideas. It helps the restrained thought to transcend physical impressions to gain transcendent perspectives and thus cleanse and nourish the soul. The intrinsic value of nature perceived and introduced into the political discourse on problems confronting contemporary societies—affluent or destitute—enriches reflections and policy perspectives, reveals higher aspects of humanity and offers fresh ideas for political action.

Acquaintance with and sensitivity to the intrinsic values of nature's creations inform humanity that only a holistic approach to the problems of the environment can restore harmony with nature. Only very limited understanding of natural phenomena, [whether animals, plants, or other living organisms or whether elements of the biosphere, -- the atmosphere, the land or the sea], can be gained by reducing the study of nature to an examination of fragmented parts.

The futility of taking a fragmented approach to nature and environmental problems is well illustrated by the tragic situation of the honey bee presently encountered in many parts of the world. To deal with colony collapse disorder, one has to appreciate the intrinsic nature of the bee, the spirit and the instincts of the hive. The interconnected lives of bees are intrinsic to the hive. Left to nature, there is order and balance in the life of the bee which thrives in symbiosis with other living creatures and forms of life. It has its role in promoting the continuity of plants through the process of pollination, in reward for which it is richly fed by the nutrients produced by their blossoms. Humankind's disregarding of the complex nature and life of the bee and focusing only on keeping the hive alive for its instrumental value may be the underlying cause of the collapse.

In selectively reducing the hive to a mobile pollinating factory for human enterprises, the harmony of the hive has been disturbed, the bees stressed, their instincts all but destroyed, their food poisoned by pesticides or uprooted to make place for monocultures with their short blossoming periods. The "modern" honey bee has a much more limited and unpredictable access to pollens and nectars, than do its wild relatives in other places in the world. When food is scarce their honey combs are injected with corn syrup substitutes of questionable nutritional value. Certainly this syrup lacks the vital natural nutrients to which honey bees in uncontaminated habitats of wild flowers are accustomed.

In the interest of human business, foreign queens are hired to replace those native to the hive. Often their wings are clipped to prevent them from swarming out of the hive as they would have been prodded by instinct to do. Their natural life span of 4 to 5 years has been reduced to an average of two years to insure frequent renewal of the industrialized hive. They have been forced to forego nurturing by newly hatched bees whose first role in life is to feed the eggs and larva of future generations. Drones have been bred and directed to a particular bee, rather than allowed to seek their mates according to the radar of their natural predispositions. Considering all of these unnatural incursions into the life of the hive, it is not surprising that the immune systems of their inhabitants have been vastly weakened.

Ultimately, the stress caused by the imbalances and disharmonies of their unnatural lives may destroy these precious insects. The honey bee is the canary in the "coal mine" of human existence. Humankind must heed its warning. If humankind fails to appreciate the intrinsic value of these sublimely, amazing insects and continues to treat them as mere instruments for material gain and other questionable ends, their collapse may be final. And so millions of years during which the honey bees have served nature and humankind as a source of sustenance and healing potions, with byproducts of inspiration for poetry, music, art and politics will come to a crashing end. As go the bees, so for the song birds, the frogs, the polar bears, and the butterflies to mention a few of the endangered species.

With their loss and that of others similarly fated in the vast and relentless on going destruction of the natural world, humanity will not only be deprived of essential resources but will also lose the ephemeral wonders that inspire art, imagination, and creative thinking.

Barbara Baudot, Ph.D.

Coordinator of the Triglav Circle

Professor of Politics and International Relations

Former Economic officer with the United Nations

Triglav Recommendation:

1. People must consider the intrinsic value of nature and its creatures as vitally important. A holistic approach to imbalances in nature caused by human intervention is essential to slowing destruction and restoring balance.

Holism in Medicine and Nature: Humility Needed

We are living in an era where the health-care profession is characterized by super specialization, such that often patients are endangered iatrogenically. Fixing one part of the body can sometimes damage other parts.

This sobering fact is based on the realization that our knowledge of how our bodies work is fragmentary and still changing rapidly. So-called "Holistic" medicine seeks to

redirect attention to maintaining the health of our body as a whole and even, by extension, the alignment of the individual within his/her social framework (e.g. mental health). Because the number of variables involved is so large and their interactions so poorly understood, the scientific foundations of "holistic" medicine are spectacularly inadequate. Thus there is room for all kinds of practical interventions that include many verging on, or even being, outright charlatanism. The role of placebo effects is clearly large, but the underlying mechanisms are yet to be explored. Thus, our present state of knowledge can only justify a sense of humility with which we confront our ability to control "nature" and its influence on us.

Nelson Kiang

Nelson Y.S. Kiang

Member of the Triglav Circle

Founder and former Director of the Eaton-Peabody Laboratory of Auditory Physiology

Professor Emeritus of Otology and Laryngology at Harvard Medical School

Triglav Recommendation:

1. Whereas fragmentation and specialization have their limits and drawbacks—in medicine as in other endeavors— holism is necessary but extremely complex. Applied to health, or to the relationship between man and nature, holism should be approached with rigor and humility.

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## U.S. Green Building Council

As we move toward the kickoff of the historic Rio+20 conference next year, the U.S. Green Building Council and the Green Building Council Brasil are focused on advancing the inclusion of a framework for sustainable and resilient urban infrastructure and the built environment. As we all work to inform the next global paradigm that will ultimately be forged in Rio, we have prepared the following joint position paper that elaborates on the importance of green, resilient communities and neighborhoods, sustainable and affordable housing, and green schools, with a central message that green building is at the vanguard of a new green economy.

By issuing recommendations to governments around the world who are working to bring to scale sustainable solutions in the areas of urban growth and the built environment, this paper provides a framework for action under the Rio+20 theme "the green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication" that is centered on the following strategies.

### 1. Foster Green Communities and Neighborhoods:

- Revise zoning codes and development ordinances to facilitate high-density and mixed-use development.

- Provide a range of incentives to developers for building green.

- Make public financing conditional on sustainability criteria.

### 2. Achieve Sustainable and Affordable Housing:

- Strengthen residential building codes to include thresholds for energy and water use.

- Integrate green features into government housing programs and funds for affordable housing.

- Work with private lenders to establish a green mortgage program.

- Incentivize homeowners and affordable housing project owners to undertake green retrofits.

### 3. Build Green Schools:

- Identify and implement health, safety, and environmental standards for school buildings.

- Establish a revolving loan fund for green school renovations.

- Implement a green purchasing policy for public schools.

- Integrate schools into broader urban and community planning.

### 4. Pursue Resiliency as part of the Sustainable Built Environment:

- Consider resilient infrastructure and buildings throughout the development process as an adaptation strategy for climate change.

- Pursue sustainability and resiliency strategies together wherever possible as they address equally important dimensions of climate change in urban environments—mitigation and adaptation.

- Invest in resilient, green buildings as a "no regret" strategy, as they prepare vulnerable populations against the long-term uncertainty of climate change while adding health benefits and improving the quality of life to affected individuals in the short-term.

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*Please see full Submission Document.*

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## U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development

The U.S. Partnership for Education for Sustainable Development submits the following statements:

Education for sustainable development is a crucial component for the development of a sustainable and green economy and should be explicitly addressed. Essential outcomes should include:

1) structures to support a multi pronged approach that facilitates international collaboration on shifting our formal educational systems so that students and teachers at all levels of formal education learn how to be systemic thinkers and effective change agent skills to help create a sustainable future,

2) structures and processes to support resource sharing and strategy collaboration to educate the public about our sustainability challenges and possible solutions with an emphasis on two areas: building market demand for sustainable products, processes and policies, and decreasing demand for unsustainable products/processes/policies,

Through our work with over 40 national higher education associations in the U.S., national K-12 networks and business networks (e.g. [www.theSeedCenter.org](http://www.theSeedCenter.org), [www.aashe.org/dans](http://www.aashe.org/dans), [www.aashe.org/heasc](http://www.aashe.org/heasc) and [http://www.uspartnership.org/main/show\\_passage/83](http://www.uspartnership.org/main/show_passage/83) ), we have learned that you cannot build a green economy unless the people working in government, businesses, and non-profits and the larger public understand our joint global green and sustainability challenges and know how to participate in solutions in their roles as family member, worker, consumer, investor and community member. Therefore, education must be addressed.

Education also has a unique and important role to play in generating and supporting the partnerships that will catalyze a green and sustainable economy. Educators can research and identify working models and then share them with potential employers and employees so green businesses and green jobs can grow within a healthier context of sustainable development. With a growing national trend to incorporate education for sustainable development into the over 4000 higher education institutions and as well as into K-12 school systems, the U.S. education community is well positioned to and wants to both learn from others and contribute internationally to the crucial work of education for a sustainable future as a key component that needs to be explicitly addressed. Thank you.

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## Ugandan Farmers Federation (UNFFE)

We farmers from the Ugandan Farmers Federation (UNFFE) wish to propose the following as approaches to revamping agriculture and animal production, and hope you will consider them for inclusion in Greening the Economy with Agriculture. They reflect our inputs into Rio+20.

### A. CROP PRODUCTION

- (i) **Provision of good quality seeds and planting materials.** Support should be extended to the seed companies in developing countries to enable them multiply adequate quantities and quality of seed.
- (ii) **Promotion of fertilizer use in areas with low soil fertility.** There is a need to repackage fertilizers in quantities that suit small holder farmers and are hence affordable.
- (iii) **Enhancing mechanisation, particularly tractorisation.** Individual farmers as well as farmer groups that are eager to procure tractors should get government support to acquire them. This will go a long way in alleviating the labour shortages for land preparation.
- (iv) **Ensuring provision of good quality agro-chemicals.** Governments should intensify the fight against poor quality agro-chemicals by strengthening the inspection services.
- (v) **Promotion of value addition.** Appropriate arrangements be put in place to enable organised farmer groups to access the agro-processing funds designated for the sub-counties. Maize Shellers, Rice Hullers and Cassava Mills should be given priority.
- (vi) **Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.** Special attention needs to be put to mitigating the bad effects of Climate Change and addressing all possible adaptation measures. Water harvesting techniques should be given emphasis and sizeable investment should be put into promoting irrigation. Government should also put up more weather stations, preferably automatic ones, to facilitate dissemination of more reliable weather information to the farmers to enable them plant in time.
- (vii) **Improvement in the marketing system.** Farmers should be encouraged and supported to market collectively, use good storage facilities, and national and regional commodity exchanges. Where necessary, government could consider intervening in the market, particularly whenever there are bumper harvests so that farmers are not discouraged from producing during the following season.

### B. ANIMAL PRODUCTION

- (i) **Provision of high quality livestock breeds.** The need for high quality livestock breeds cannot be overemphasized. Farmers should be assisted to acquire good breeds.
  - (ii) **Provision of livestock feeds and water.** Shortage of livestock feeds, and the quality of the feeds leaves much to be desired. Deliberate efforts should be made to encourage and support livestock feed companies to increase production and stay in the business. There is also need to invest in grass and legume seeds for pasture improvement. Water capture methods are essential, to ensure livestock water.
- Further, emphasis should be put on programmes designed to control invasive weeds that destroy pastures and grazing land. Such invasive weeds include Lantana camara (kapanga) which not only destroys pastures but harbours tsetse flies and is poisonous to the animals.
- (iii) **Animal diseases control.** Farmers' ability to control animal diseases is still limited by hindrances to access drugs such as de-wormers, acaricides and vaccines, particularly the ones for poultry. Some of the drugs are either not readily available within the vicinity of the farmers or they are too expensive. Support should be extended to the local stockists and the Veterinary Staff in the field are facilitated to respond to the farmers needs.

- (iv) **Value addition.** It is necessary to set up chilling and processing facilities. Groups/cooperatives should be encouraged to enable market access with some bargaining power. Further, it is very important that government puts in place strong law enforcement machinery to promote good hygiene during transportation of milk from the farms to the collecting/marketing centres.

### C. FISHERIES

- (i) **Capture Fisheries.** It is important to promote good fishing practices through enforcing the necessary laws and regulations which include the following:
  - a) using the right fishing gear b) using the appropriate fishing boats c) limiting the number of boats allowed to fish on a given Lake d) strengthening the capacity and operation of the Beach Management Units

Possibilities of stocking water bodies such as big swamps and valley dams should be explored.
- (ii) **Fish farming.** This should be promoted and willing farmers should be assisted in digging the ponds. Besides, fish fries (fingerlings) breeding centres should be set up.

## UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA)

### UKELA's proposal for the Rio Conference on Sustainable Development

#### Executive Summary

The UK Environmental Law Association propose that the Rio Conference addresses the following regulatory issues, for the reasons given in this submission:

- I. Achieving consistency in language and terminology related to sustainable development.
- II. Developing a flexible international definition of Sustainable Development to apply universally. However an overly prescription or limited definition of Sustainable Development will hamper the development of law through other channels.
- III. Considering the role of guidance to be used as a mechanism to give effect to duties.
- IV. Considering the extent that regulations should be made consistent to ensure that reporting obligations are published, monitored and reviewed and to ensure consistency in the process, content and quality of information.
- V. Developing mechanisms to ensure that information provided in voluntary and mandatory reports are meaningful. This could probably be addressed through increased auditing requirements and developing the role of regulators in both guidance and enforcement capacities.
- VI. Developing regulation to ensure reporting obligations on local government are publicised, monitored and reviewed.
- VII. Scrutinising the interaction between the role of law and the development of international standards more closely.
- VIII. Giving consideration to an international court for the environment.

#### The UK Environmental Law Association

1. The UK Environmental Law Association aims to make the law work for a better environment and to improve understanding and awareness of environmental law. UKELA's members are involved in the practice, study or formulation of Environmental Law in the UK and the European Union. It attracts both lawyers and non-lawyers and has a broad membership from the private and public sectors.

2. UKELA's current priorities include:

- Informing and actively influencing the broad law and policy debate on climate change including the measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and manage their impacts at the international, EU and domestic level
- Helping deliver more effective and efficient environmental regulation including enforcement at the EU and UK level, not lower standards nor less regulation unless the same or better outcomes will be achieved

3. UKELA works on a UK basis and seeks to ensure that best legislation and practice are achieved across the devolved jurisdictions.

#### Issues

##### 1.1 Terminology

*Proposed outcome:* that the Rio Conference achieves consistency in language and terminology relating to sustainable development.

##### *Reasons*

4. The term 'Sustainable development' was conceived to reconcile tension between environmental and developmental concerns. The term is used globally in policies, strategies and treaties such as UNFCCC. It is often also used interchangeably with the term 'sustainability' although the terms denote different things. 'Sustainability' is used to describe an aspiration for finding a better way for humans to live within our support system. 'Sustainable Development' is the policy manifestation of society's attempt to achieve that goal.

5. The inconsistent and vague use of language is a fundamental issue that needs addressing to provide an agreed outcome on how the goal of sustainable development should be reflected in legal systems. For example, research, standards and policy documents often refer to 'the principle of sustainable development' or 'principles of sustainable development' or the objective of 'sustainable development'. The lack of consistency and precision is probably a reflection of the diverse stakeholders interested in the development of sustainable development.

6. In legal terms a 'principle' is a rule or standard that:

- is undisputed in legal doctrine
- does not need to be proved
- provides a foundation for the development of other laws and regulations.

7. There are generally accepted principles associated with environmental law and policy, such as the precautionary principle and the preventative principle, that are used to underpin environmental laws at all levels. Sustainable development is often cited as one of these. These principles are general guides to action rather than detailed rules. The status of these principles can alter because of changes in policy. For example, as a result of changes in waste policy the proximity principle is no longer a central principle of EC waste management law. Other principles are so well established that there is discussion on their status as binding norms of international law.

##### 1.2 Definitions and the law

*Proposed outcome:* that the Rio Conference:

- achieves consensus on the development of a flexible international definition of Sustainable Development to apply universally. However an overly prescription or limited definition of Sustainable Development will hamper the development of law through other channels.

- considers the role of guidance to be used as a mechanism to give effect to duties

#### Reasons

8. The most commonly referred definition of Sustainable Development is 'Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'. [1]

9. No definition of Sustainable Development is found in primary International, European or UK law. The European Union has used the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive and the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive as means to give effect to the objective of Sustainable Development.

10. Whether 'the law' has played a secondary role in the development of the definition as a global term is an issue that has been raised on many levels. The 'law' can operate on different jurisdictional levels but it is also a term that encompasses:

- the law expressed as a statutory duty/right
- the law embodied in Contract
- the law of Tort

#### Duties and rights

11. Whilst the term 'sustainable development' is used in some UK and Scottish statutes, there is no definition within the statutes.

12. Where Sustainable Development is expressed as a duty in legislation, the statute requires that a particular body or group of public bodies should act in a certain way. Some of the duties are mandatory but vary in their clarity, strength and the extent they are qualified by other provisions. The discretions that are introduced can be formulated in a broad way, or be limited to ensure that the authority acts in a way that constrains or structures the discretion.

13. Conferring rights on parties in the context of Sustainable Development may require a shift in legal boundaries: for example, it might create new causes of action such as a right to challenge development based on the global allocation of natural resources; or confer standing (*locus standi*) on currently unrecognised claimants (e.g. NGOs standing as advocates for future generations). This is not impossible, taking into account intergenerational principles and the growing application of wild law.

#### Contract

14. The use of contract as a body of law governing relations between legal persons is another area where the law concerning the application of the goal of sustainable development may lead to legal development, notwithstanding the lack of a precise definition. Whilst the use of express contract provisions, memorandum of understandings and side letters are means employed to ensure that the economic, environmental and social objectives of sustainable development are incorporated into a contract, enforcement for breach of these terms will depend on how the courts interpret the express terms of the contract. Although the UK courts have not had to provide a judgment on whether sustainable development is an implied term in a contract (necessary for 'business efficacy'), it is not impossible that a court in the future could be asked to provide a judgement on the issue, particularly where the trend is towards business and government developing the objectives of sustainable development and sustainability reporting. For example, it may be an implied term of a contract for the design and build of a new commercial building with a projected lifespan of 30 – 70 years (depending on location) that it is both resilient to the reasonably foreseeable impacts of climate change and 'sustainable'.

#### Tort

15. The question of whether a party has a 'duty of care' owed in relation to sustainable development principles will depend on the nature of the transactions between the parties. Where sustainability is key to a contract (for example in public procurement) there may be room to argue for damages or restitution for unjust enrichment where one party has failed to carry out its services in accordance with what is required.

#### Highlighting the issues

16. One of the reasons that legislation has played a secondary role in the development of the meaning of the term 'sustainable development' is that the law expressed as a statutory duty, had not been a major driver to ensure the achievement of sustainable development. Arguably, the efficient drivers are energy efficiency costs and savings/resource shortages/business reputation.

17. One problem with an imprecise definition is that it is more difficult for the courts to interpret and enforce in a way that is consistent with the legislature's intentions. Where duties are imposed by legislation on an agency including the terms 'sustainability', without an exact definition, this can give rise to issues. For example, Natural Heritage (Scotland) Act 1991 required Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to 'have regard to the desirability of securing that anything done whether by SNH or any other person, in relation to the natural heritage of Scotland is undertaken in a manner that is sustainable. The Act provided no definition of 'sustainable' and consequently SNH had to define the term for its own purposes. Given the need for integrated solutions as a matter of public policy it is not useful for every agency to develop its own definition and approach to sustainable development.

18. On the other hand, the imprecise nature of the term may allow for it to be less static and the provision of ministerial guidance in exercising the 'sustainable development' objective or duty can be a beneficial approach.

19. There is also the issue of enforcement. None of the statutes create criminal or administrative offences in relation to sustainable development.

20. Sections 1.3 – 1.5 give further legal background on the current issues concerning the application of 'sustainable development'.

### 1.3 Principles incorporated into Sustainable Development

21. There are generally accepted principles associated with environmental law and policy, such as the precautionary principle and the preventative principle, that are used to underpin environmental laws at all levels. Sustainable development is often cited as one of these. These principles are general guides to action rather than detailed rules.

22. The concept of sustainable development incorporates the principles of intergenerational equity, the sustainable use of natural resources, equitable use of resources and the principle of integration. Sustainable Development was initially reflected in EU law through the 'integration principle'. The integration principle is set out in Article 11 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union as 'Environmental protection requirements must be integrated into the definition and implementation of the Community policies and activities, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development'.

23. Intergenerational equity is the principle of administering and preserving resources and assets (such as quality and diversity of environment), which do not belong to any



generation but are to be administered and preserved in trust for all future generations.

24. Intergenerational equity is argued to be a key principle underpinning sustainable development, as inequities are a cause of environmental degradation. Poverty deprives people of their ability to exercise choices in an environmentally sound manner.

#### 1.4 The approach of the International Court of Justice and the European Court of Justice

25. In international law, sustainable development as a legal concept has tended to be found in mostly 'soft law' documents such as Agenda 21.

26. In *Gabcikovo-Nagymaros Project* (judgement 25 September 1997, para 140) the International Court of Justice referred to Sustainable Development as a concept which necessitates the reconciliation of economic imperatives with environmental protection, thus enhancing its understanding in international law. There is academic opinion that by invoking the concept of sustainable development, the ICJ indicates that the term has a legal function and both a procedural/temporal aspect. In a separate opinion, Vice President Weeramanthy discussed the role of sustainable development in international law in the context of legal instruments and the historical background, concluding that: 'the principle of sustainable development is ... a part of modern international law by reason not only of its inescapable logical necessity, but also by reason of its wide and general acceptance by the global community'.

27. Before the Lisbon Treaty the 1992 Treaty of the European Union set an objective to 'promote economic and social progress which is balanced and sustainable'. The Lisbon Treaty changed the wording by committing to sustainable development as a concept in its own right (Article 3(3) of the revised version of the Treaty on European Union).

28. There are very few references to Sustainable Development in EU case law. The following cases have dealt with the principles indirectly: *Greece v Council Case 62/88* and the Court of the First Instances judgment in *Artegodan v Commission, Case T-74/00* where it referred to 'the protection of public health, safety and environment is to take precedence over economic reform'. These two examples are by no means exhaustive.

29. In the last decade, there have been increasing developments in the reasoning of the European courts in relation to sustainable development as a concept, and the environmental principles that are said to comprise it (the precautionary principle and polluter pays principle in particular). These legal developments have given a higher profile to these principles in EU law but do not yet form a coherent body of case law, nor do they compel sustainability-focused policy outcomes. Increasingly academic work is being done to analyse and appraise the complex legal changes being brought about by environmental principles in this particular legal jurisdiction (as well as in others), and the analysis is far from straight forward.[2]

#### 1.5 The approach of the UK courts and legislation

30. In the UK 'sustainable development' is appearing more often in UK and Scottish legislation in a variety of legal forms such as duties, objectives and procedural requirements. There is no standard form of a duty. The provisions vary greatly.[3]

31. The English courts have acknowledged 'sustainability' as a material consideration in local planning decisions. A material consideration is capable of being a main issue in planning law decisions and may deserve significant weight.[4] It is often the case that compliance with sustainability provisions occurs after a successful judicial review process. This is a reactive process and does not ensure compliance with provisions at an early stage. It is also a time consuming and costly process.[5]

32. The coalition government's proposed text for a presumption in favour of sustainable development included in the Draft National Planning Policy Framework(DCLG, 24 July 2011) includes an extended definition of the 'Brundtland Definition'. The presumption states: 'There is a presumption in favour of sustainable development at the heart of the planning system, which should be central to the approach taken to both plan making and decision making'. The issue is what this presumption means. Framed that way the presumption appears to promise an easier ride for developers. If there were to be a focus on the global allocation of natural resources to give effect to the concept of 'inter-generational equity' derived from the 'Brundtland definition' then it might impact on development, by limiting developments to give effect to 'sustainability' in a global context,

#### 1.6 The question of mandatory reporting

*Proposed outcomes:*

33. It is proposed that the Rio Conference achieves consensus on:

- the extent that regulations should be made consistent to ensure that reporting obligations are published, monitored and reviewed and to ensure consistency in the process, content and quality of information
- developing mechanisms to ensure that information provided in voluntary and mandatory reports is meaningful. This could probably be addressed through increased auditing requirements and developing the role of regulators in both guidance and enforcement capacities
- developing regulation to ensure reporting obligations on local government are publicised, monitored and reviewed

*Reasons*

34. Companies are using voluntary reporting or are required to produce mandatory reports to demonstrate how they are managing the environmental and social impacts of their operations. In the UK, listed companies are required under the Companies Act 2006, to set out in their business review (using Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)) environmental, employee, social, community and supply chain issues. Although this is a legal requirement there is no statutory reporting standard and no requirement that the information in the enhanced business review is audited. In many cases, research by various companies including government agencies has shown that although voluntary and mandatory reporting has increased there is a lack of meaningful data.

35. Legislation can also be used to ensure reporting obligations on local government are publicised, monitored and reviewed. For example statutes may require Ministers or public bodies to produce a strategy, scheme, plan or report on sustainable development. Although these provisions can be easily complied with the question is how this is monitored and enforced. Judicial review can be used but the process is slow, costly and not the most effective means of enforcement.

#### 1.7 The use of International Standards

*Proposed outcomes*

36. It is proposed that the Rio Conference addresses the need for closer scrutiny of the interaction between the role of law and the development of international standards.

*Reasons*

37. Increasingly international standards are being developed to help organisations address issues like life cycle of products, environmental impact, and social impact (such as

ISO 26000), health and safety and employment issues and implementing sustainability management systems. The International Standards board has recognized the need to produce a guide for all standard writers with guidelines for addressing sustainability issues. As definitions such as 'sustainability' are being developed, the lack of an international agreement on the term will impact on the application of the principle in all standards that refer to the guide.

### 1.8 The issue of international resolution of disputes

#### *Proposed outcome*

38. It is proposed that the Rio Conference considers the case for an international court for the environment.

#### *Reasons*

39. Environmental disputes at a domestic and international level are becoming more frequent. This includes actions on misrepresentations by companies in their CSR policies. Resolving disputes at international level is problematic. Often routes such as arbitration are preferred and very little resort is had to the International Court of Justice. The use of different procedures to determine resolutions also leads to inconsistencies. The appellate division of the World Trade Organization also hears environmental cases. However there is also the issue of a lack of enforcement action.

40. For a further discussion on the international dispute resolution see the submission to the Rio 2012 by the BOND-DEG – UK NGO's joint Rio Narrative

[1] Our Common Future (Brundtland Report ) 1987.

[2] E Scotford, Environmental Principles and the Evolution of Environmental Law (Hart Publishing, forthcoming 2012).

[3] See for example the Greater London Authority Act 1999, the Environment Act 1995, the Water Industry Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003.

[4] See R (Ludlam) v the First Secretary of State, Derbyshire DC [2004] EWHC 99.

[5] Horsham DC v First Secretary of State, Devine Homes plc [2004] EWHC 769.

mso-bi... To better integrate sustainable development policies within the UN system, governments need to support overall integrative mechanisms within the UN system that better align the social, economic and environmental pillars of sustainable development.

- In order to strengthen national governance, other policy instruments can complement regulation if they are carefully designed. But they are not panaceas.
- International economic institutions must advance transitions to a sustainable economy, including by multilaterally harmonized systems that allow for discriminating between products on the basis of production processes, based on multilateral agreement. Global trade and investment regimes must be embedded in a normative context of social, developmental, and environmental values.
- In order to fill regulatory gaps in international sustainability governance, new or strengthened international regulatory frameworks are needed in several areas, including on emerging technologies, water, food, and energy.
- Public-private governance networks and partnerships should be streamlined and strengthened. However, there is still a strong need for effective and decisive governmental action.

(see policy brief on Transforming Governance and Institutions – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

### **New and emerging challenges**

- Concerted, global and immediate action is needed to reduce the risk of fundamentally disrupting the stability of the Earth system, with consequences for global economic and political systems. Actions to enhance the resilience and decrease the vulnerability of human communities are also urgently needed. This must be accompanied by concerted global and enhanced action aimed at bridging the development gap between North and South and eradicating poverty, taking into account a growing world population.
- Specific topical priorities which require urgent action include climate change, food security, water security, energy security, biodiversity loss, disaster risk reduction, and sustainable consumption and production patterns, with an overarching goal of human wellbeing and environmental and economic sustainability.
- Other immediate challenges to be addressed include: ocean acidification, pollution and overfishing; disruption of the nitrogen and phosphorus cycles; global chemical pollution; deforestation; and megacities and urbanization; all of which need action based on the latest science and technology, coordinated targeted observations and research, and improved governance.
- Addressing human health needs and concerns should generally be among the priority actions towards sustainable development and poverty eradication. It should also be central in addressing most if not all new and emerging challenges identified above. The increasing global mobility of people, animals and goods, as well as global warming, is leading to new disease risks in countries and regions where these diseases did not occur before.

(see the series of 9 Rio+20 policy briefs – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

### **Climate change:**

- The immediate priority is to stabilize the global climate at a temperature of no more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels. We must reduce the carbon intensity of the global economy, undertake a massive decarbonisation of the energy sector, and effectively manage Earth's carbon and radiant energy budgets.
- As climate change is already occurring, action is needed by all countries to design and implement strategies to adapt to the consequences of climate change and to limit its socio-economic costs for societies worldwide, with a particular focus on the most vulnerable regions, nations and socio-economic groups. Participation of a broad range of stakeholders will be essential in this undertaking.
- Action is also critical in the domain of science. We must continue to improve our understanding of the climate and Earth system, to refine our predictive tools and reduce uncertainties in projections of future climate and its impacts, particularly at the regional level. Social science research into adaptation and good governance will also be crucial.

**Water security:**

- Water security is vital to all social and economic sectors as well as the natural resource base on which the world depends. But an expanding population, growing economies and poor water management are putting unprecedented pressure on our freshwater resources.
- We simply cannot continue to use water as wastefully as we have in the past; we have to change the way we manage our water resources.
- Scientists and policy makers have a joint responsibility to work together in the development of more sustainable solutions to existing and emerging water problems.
- Water must be given the prominence it deserves on the global agenda
- Human and environmental water needs must be balanced to safeguard biodiversity and ecosystem services. Unavoidable compromises should be mediated by science rather than lobbies.
- Water security has multiple dimensions, including social, humanitarian, economic and ecological. Major decisions on water resource management must be made therefore with broad cross-sectoral input.
- There is a need to improve the availability of data and information, particularly on transboundary water resources and planetary thresholds. We need to evaluate our water needs and prioritize allocations.
- There is a need to introduce and implement strong policy and legal frameworks (i.e. water laws).
- Proper finance mechanisms are required to ensure sustainability of water services, while capacity building is required at all levels.

(see policy brief on Water Security – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

**Food security:**

- The planet needs to feed an estimated 9 billion people by 2050. There will be a need for a knowledge-based focus on enhancing sustainable production and productivity: increasing yields while minimizing environmental footprints.
- Waste reduction at all stages of the food system (post harvest losses, transport, storage) and resolving distribution issues is also essential, as this would provide much of the extra food needed for a growing population.
- A strong foundation of multi-lateral and cooperative mechanisms that work across disciplines, sectors and national boundaries needs to be put in place. Institutions operating effectively at multiple levels will be at the centre of sustainable food systems; these will need to be flexible, promote appropriate use of innovative technologies and policies, and recognize the increasingly important role of non-state actors in enhancing food systems.
- As the greatest proportion of the world's poor are small-scale farmers, agriculture must also be a key focus for poverty eradication.
- Investment is needed in training, knowledge sharing and extension services for farmers at all scales.
- Greater involvement of farmers, including small holders and big agro business, in planning and decision making is needed.
- Research is needed for multiscale, multi-level analyses of the dynamic linkages between food security, environmental concerns and development issues.
- A food systems approach is recommended. This links the activities of producing, processing, retailing and consuming food with the outcomes of these activities for food security and other societal goals, showing how food insecurity arises and also providing a framework for policy development to meet the food security challenge.
- A transition to healthier diets as societies grow richer is needed to reduce both environmental and public health burdens.
- Food trade needs to be enhanced to encourage secure access to nutritious food for the poorest and most vulnerable.
- There is an urgent need to develop technologies and policies that will result in sustainable production practices.
- Above all, there is need for a strong focus on resilience, equity and sustainability.

(see policy brief on Food Security – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

**Biodiversity and ecosystem services:**

- We share this planet with millions of other species and varieties of life, and depend on ecosystems for all our basic needs. While current trends in biodiversity and ecosystem services are sharply and dangerously negative, the right actions, developed and implemented promptly, can restore a biologically rich and ecologically viable planet.
- The multiple values of biodiversity and ecosystem services should be incorporated into policy and management decisions.
- Green economies should be created based on 'inclusive wealth', which includes all forms of capital – natural, social and human as well as financial and manufactured – and in which intergenerational wellbeing increases over time.
- Biodiversity and ecosystem services should be incorporated into water and land-use planning at all scales from local to global, including both protected areas and production landscapes and seascapes.
- Policies and practices should be implemented that reduce inequities in access to the benefits derived from biodiversity and ecosystem services, and ensure that those who bear the cost of their provision are fairly compensated.
- Ecosystem governance and management should be restructured to recognize that ecosystems transcend political boundaries.
- Global governance institutions should be developed that work in partnership with national institutions, local organizations and the private sector, to address global-scale drivers of biodiversity change.
- The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Targets should be implemented at all scales.

- The important contributions played by the planet's forests and oceans should be recognised and terrestrial and marine ecosystems should be linked in policy planning.
- Indigenous peoples and their knowledge should be involved in biodiversity research and in the development of conservation strategies and plans.

(see policy brief on Biodiversity and Ecosystems – [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### ***Energy for all:***

- There is no uniform solution for making low-emissions sustainable energy available globally, including for more than one billion people without access to modern energy services. Decisions regarding the use of any given energy technology must be based upon thorough analyses of technological and economic feasibility, diverse energy needs, as well as analyses of long-term sustainability and compatibility with the goals of climate stability, environmental protection, social equity, and personal health and safety.
- The optimal energy mix for any particular country and sector will depend upon the natural resource base, trade access to energy sources and socio-economic context.
- Efforts to further develop and deploy energy technologies must focus in particular on technologies for energy efficiency and conservation, as well as on advanced renewable energy systems.
- In this context, R&D and investment in renewable and alternative sources of energy should be significantly stepped up; including feed-in-tariffs to incentivise investment in renewable energy.
- There is a need to develop strategies for achieving greater energy efficiency in all sectors, notably the construction and transport sectors.
- In the transportation sector, urgently needed actions include diversification of engine fuels, increased use of low-emissions vehicles, and a strong emphasis on urban mass transit. Enhancing support for R&D in this sector will be essential.

(see policy brief on Energy Sustainability: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

#### ***Disaster risk reduction:***

- The world faces an increasing loss of human lives, livelihoods and economic assets due to natural and human induced disasters. There is an intrinsic relationship between disaster risk reduction, sustainable development and poverty eradication. An urgent priority is to strengthen significantly disaster preparedness using knowledge, innovation and education for effective response at all levels.
- Integrated natural and social sciences research should be developed, including improved methods for predictive multi-risk assessment and socioeconomic cost-benefit analysis of risk reduction action at all levels. The technical and scientific capacity to develop and apply methodologies, studies and models to assess vulnerabilities to and the impacts of hazards should also be strengthened.
- The resilience of nations and communities to disasters should be enhanced through people-centred approaches to the entire disaster risk cycle, including prevention, preparedness and emergency response as well as recovery and rehabilitation.

#### ***Sustainable consumption:***

- Unsustainable consumption patterns in industrialized countries and in some parts of the emerging and developing economies are one of the main factors putting increasing pressure on the planet's social, economic and environmental systems.
- Addressing this problem requires urgent action, and this should be considered throughout efforts to move towards a green economy and sustainable development.
- Practical action, including awareness raising and education, should be underpinned by appropriate knowledge and transdisciplinary research across the multidimensional factors of economics, waste and environment, human behaviour, and lifestyle.
- Communication of clear messages to the public on sustainable consumption and waste reduction will be key, as will clear strategies for public action.

(see policy brief on Human Wellbeing: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)).

These recommendations are taken from work by the worldwide international scientific community for Rio+20, particularly a series of ICSU-UNESCO regional science and technology workshops in the five UN geo-political regions (see: [www.icsu.org/rio20/regional-workshops](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/regional-workshops)) and a series of nine policy briefs prepared specifically for Rio+20 (see: [www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/policy-briefs)) in the context of the Planet Under Pressure science and policy conference (London, 26-29 March 2012). The recommendations also draw on consultations with the constituencies of the scientific and technological community spanning all relevant disciplines in the natural, social, economic, engineering and health sciences, in cooperation with the International Social Science Council (ISSC), the World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO), UNESCO, WMO, UNEP and UNU. For further information and recommendations from a disciplinary perspective see submissions for Rio+20 by ICSU's Scientific Union Members ([www.icsu.org/rio20/icsu-members](http://www.icsu.org/rio20/icsu-members)).

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## United Cities and Local Governments

Text not available.

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## United Earth

Text not available.

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## United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society

The **United Methodist Church – General Board of Church and Society** – an international NGO in consultative status with UN ECOSOC based in New York and Washington, DC, hereby submits its position on a number of issues related to the Rio+20 Conference.

In its Book of Resolutions, The United Methodist Church declares that: "The indivisibility of human rights underscores the understanding that freedom without food is hollow, that justice without jobs is like a clanging cymbal, and that liberty is a sham when people do not have land to inhabit and farm.... Societies become peaceful when the demands of justice are met. Justice becomes not only a dream but a reality when the implements of war give way to implements of peace. Food and jobs, also, are implements of peace. Would that indeed, at the end of the day, no child, no woman, and no one, goes to bed hungry with an empty stomach." (BOR, # 6025)

#### A. Expectations for the Outcome of Rio+20:

- The United Methodist Church affirms human rights as a foundational principle, universal and indivisible in all its aspects – civil, political, economic, social and cultural. The human rights approach to sustainable development is crucial in re-affirming and promoting sustainable development.
- Human rights are founded on human dignity. Human dignity affirms the well-being of every person, enabling and empowering each one to forge their well-being without imperiling the well-being of future generations. Rio+20 must affirm empowerment, equity and justice as fundamental elements of a sustainable future.
- At Rio+20, governments must re-affirm and not renege on already available and legally-binding international human rights instruments, including the Right to Development. Together with the human rights obligations of states, Rio+20 must also be guided by commitments previously made by these states in Rio 20 years ago and in subsequent reviews of the UNCS process.

#### B. The Green Economy:

- Economic justice must be at the foundation of Rio+20's discussion of the economy, including proposals for a green economy. This entails an economy that is just, equitable, and sustainable.
- Economic justice demands that any notion of economic growth must be the result of participatory decision-making – inclusive of all sectors of society, but especially the poor and vulnerable – forging a future that redounds to their well-being and not just based on market conditions that favor the private sector.
- Economic justice demands that control of resources should be in the hands of those who need and depend on them the most. This requires that corporate control of these resources should be regulated fully so as to conform to human rights standards – including those standards that protect sustainable production and consumption.

#### C. Sustainable development goals:

- As it is, the Millennium Development Goals – already dubbed as minimum development goals – are in danger of meeting their targets by 2015. Any new set of goals must not only re-instate the human rights-based approach that was lost in the negotiation of the MDGs, but also must now include clearly-defined mandates for all stakeholders in the achievement of sustainable development. Such mandates must enunciate duties and obligations that are measurable for success or failure.
- Local and national bodies dealing with sustainable development are crucial in realizing global sustainability. National plans must be mandated by Rio+20 so that whatever agreements are forged have both local and global implementing mechanisms.

#### D. Civil society participation

- The determination of sustainable development that meets the needs and capacities of peoples and the earth arises out of truly inclusive, consultative, democratic and participatory processes among all stakeholders. Civil society's role in the implementation of Agenda 21 and agreements that will come out of Rio+20 Conference is crucial and indispensable and must be clearly inscribed in any agreements forged in Rio. It is highly recommended that a consultative body of all stakeholders, including civil society be formed and mandated to support Agenda 21 and Rio+20 agreements.

We offer the above, and our endorsement of the position paper below by the CoNGO Committee on Sustainable Development as our submission for the Rio+20 Conference.

#### CoNGO Committee on Sustainable Development, NY

*Environmental, social and economic development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.*

#### Earth Summit Rio + 20 Discussion Paper Summary and Recommendations for Government

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#### General Background

Twenty years ago, following the first Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Maurice F. Strong, Secretary General of the Summit, said that "the movement to turn the world from its self-consumptive course to one of renewal and sustenance has unmistakably spread." <sup>i</sup> He added, however, that "there is not yet a concerted and decisive response to the magnitude and urgency of the task." As Strong said, "There is still a great deal to do."

Today these words ring true. There is still a great deal to do! An unsustainable and unjust model of development prevails. It commodifies and exhausts Earth's resources and relies heavily on unequal trade liberalization which favors developed countries and transnational corporations over people, healthy ecosystems, and the needs of present and future generations. A growing inequality exists between the wealthy and those who are impoverished by the lack of access to adequate food, water, energy, land, education and health services.

This growing gap in wealth is recognized as one of the root causes of conflict and violence worldwide. As the Johannesburg Summit acknowledged, these "deep fault lines that divide human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and the developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability." <sup>ii</sup> The 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) must reclaim and advance an ethical and inclusive global vision that promotes ecological and social integrity, the global common good, and the well-being of all peoples and Earth. Moreover, in the words of the Earth Charter, Rio+20 must move us to realize our "responsibility to one another, to the greater community of life and to future generations." <sup>iii</sup>

#### Opportunities and Challenges

Mr. Sha Zukang, Secretary General of the upcoming Rio + 20 Conference, said, "Rio + 20 is humanity's chance to commit to a transition to a green economy, to lift people out of poverty. We cannot wait another 20 years." The 1992 Summit's promise to make "environmental protection... an integral part of the development process" has not been fulfilled, and its call to action document, *Agenda 21*, which at the time 178 governments agreed to adopt, is largely forgotten. This document provided a framework for action to be implemented globally, nationally and locally by governments, organizations of the United Nations and major groups in every area in which the activity of humans has a direct impact on the environment. Why this failure when the international community has the technological expertise, a clearer, scientifically-based understanding of Earth as a living system of interdependent, interrelated components of which humans are a part, and the financial resources to explore and implement more sustainable modes of

development? Clearly, there is reluctance to critique present economic and social systems, as well as a lack of political will for action based on such critiques.

The October 2010 Report of the Secretary General, *Harmony With Nature*, "provides an overview of how the life-style of the twenty-first century, through its consumption and production patterns, has severely affected Earth's carrying capacity, and how human behavior has been the result of a fundamental failure to recognize that human beings are an inseparable part of nature, and that we cannot damage it without severely damaging ourselves. ... The philosophy of holism, embodied in the concept of sustainable development, rests on an understanding that all things are interconnected and that nothing occurs in isolation." <sup>iv</sup> Any substantive alteration of one of Earth's components affects the health and vitality of the entire system.

The prevailing economic theory, grounded in limitless expansion and growth, is in contradiction with finite resources. The competition that is a hallmark of the current model has led to ever increasing inequity between the rich and those who are living in poverty, at both global and national levels. Furthermore, at the time of the 1992 Earth Summit, one of Maurice Strong's greatest disappointments was the failure to move firmly enough against the world's industrial-military complex. Since then, the business of war has intensified – destroying human life and well-being, abusing the environment, consuming resources and blocking the United Nations' main agenda of fostering sustainable pathways to peace and security. Therefore, we see the following elements, rooted in an equitable and holistic understanding of the interconnectedness of all of life, as foundational in the deliberations that will take place during Rio+20.

### Green Economy

The limitless growth and production model of development must be abandoned. We support a green economy that reflects an integration of the environmental, social and economic pillars of sustainable development; that places equity of access to green technology, jobs and practices for developing countries over green capitalism, which disproportionately benefits developed countries and transnational corporations. "A green economy results in improved human wellbeing and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities...it can be thought of as one which is low carbon, resource efficient and socially inclusive." <sup>v</sup>

A green economy must recognize the limits of the free market economy, and favor a more locally-based economy; respect the diversity of cultures, and the consequent need to develop "diverse green economies;" while addressing structural change that would genuinely address the eradication of institutional poverty and its accompanying injustices. In addition, in a green economy GDP cannot be the strategic marker of development to the exclusion of all other indicators. It is important to utilize a variety of indicators, including the *Human Development Index* (HDI), based on the premise that "people are the real wealth of a nation." <sup>vi</sup> The HDI, however, does not currently include any environmental measures in its calculations despite an emphasis on the environment in the 2010 *Human Development Report* – "human development, if not sustainable, is not true human development."

### Human Rights and Earth Rights

We firmly advocate a shift from an ethic of exploitation to an ethic of right relationship – an ethic based on the rights of humans and of Earth as essential for individuals, society and ecosystems to flourish. The concept of the rights of nature is also emerging, with the growing awareness of Earth as a living system of interconnected components. <sup>vii</sup> This concept highlights the importance of human beings living in a more balanced and harmonious relationship with nature, as opposed to the prevailing relationship of domination. This planetary vision can lead to a just and sustainable peace.

"Earth rights are human rights; they are not separate rights." <sup>viii</sup> If people do not have access to clean water, food and sanitation; if people are restricted in their prudent use of land in the name of "progress;" if people are victimized by governments and corporations which engage in unbridled extraction, pollution and devastation of land and bodies of water, then human and Earth rights are violated.

**In conclusion, we support the following recommendations that promote an integrated approach to sustainable development:**

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- Enforce the following principles as referred to in Agenda 21:
  - o Apply the Precautionary Principle to ensure that new products and technologies (e.g., genetically modified seeds) do not have destructive or irreversible damage that results in environmental degradation. <sup>ix</sup>
  - o Enforce the Polluters' Pay Principle and apply payment to the adaptation and mitigation needs of developing countries. <sup>x</sup>
  - o Guarantee the representation of local peoples, especially Indigenous Peoples, as active participants in decision-making processes to bring about equitable, fair and just sustainable development. <sup>xi</sup>
- Acknowledge the human right to water and proper sanitation, and hold accountable those corporations which both deplete and pollute the global water supply.
- Sponsor educational programs for citizens on sustainable development and, specifically, on patterns of consumption and production within each country's context.

### GREEN ECONOMY

- Endorse the establishment of the proposed Financial Transaction Tax to contribute to climate adaptation and more equitable economies in developing countries.
- End subsidies for fossil fuels and industrial agriculture in order to move toward the end of fossil fuel dependency; and invest in small farmers and agro-ecology.
- Facilitate the transfer of innovative technology from the developed world to assist the developing world in an approach to development that does not rely on fossil fuels.
- Shift from free trade liberalization to the implementation of fair trade policies.
- Evaluate global military expenditures and reallocate significant resources to sustainable development, green technology, and financing of climate adaptation and mitigation for developing countries.

### GLOBAL INSTITUTIONAL ENVIRONMENT FRAMEWORK

- Support the establishment of an effective international institutional environment framework which calls governments and international corporations to transparency and accountability.
- Include environmental measures in the *Human Development Index*, and encourage the use of a wide range of indicators, beyond GDP and the HDI, to assess development.

<sup>i</sup> UN Conference on Environment and Development, 1992 <sup>ii</sup> Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development 2002 <sup>iii</sup> Earth Charter, 1992 <sup>iv</sup> (A/65/314) <sup>v</sup> UNEP,

Towards a Green Economy: Pathways to Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication, 2010 <sup>vi</sup> United Nations, Human Development Report, 2010 <sup>vii</sup> The Rights of Nature: The Case for a Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth, published by the Council of Canadians, Fundacion Pachamama, and Global Exchange, 2011 <sup>viii</sup> Vandana Shiva <sup>ix</sup> Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Principle 15, 1992 <sup>x</sup> Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Principle 16, 1992 <sup>xi</sup> Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Principles 10 and 22, 1992

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## United States Council for International Business (USCIB)

November 1, 2011 United States Council for International Business: Submission to UN for Rio+20

### Questions:

- 1. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**
- 2. What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**
- 3. What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**
- 4. What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

### USCIB Recommendations:

Governments in Rio next year should :

- Promote greener growth through international cooperation that is truly flexible to national circumstances and priorities and engages the private sector through global markets. International cooperation should balance private and public sector measures, so that companies of all sectors and nationalities assimilate greener metrics and practices as part of their bottom lines.
- Foster cleaner and greener technological innovation and its dissemination and uptake to respond to a wide range of long-term sustainability challenges going forward, including food and energy security, climate change. This requires enabling conditions for greener investment and innovation, including rule of law, sound science and life-cycle informed decision making, intellectual property right protection, open markets and trade, especially for cleaner technologies.
- Enhance substantive, direct, recognized channels of input to international processes for business and operated by business organizations. Rio+20 should explore ways to enhance business engagement in sustainability policy formulation and implementation,

including through public-private sector partnerships. In USCIB's view, simple, business-owned, bottom-up approaches based on business groups and associations will complement existing informal dialogues and approaches, and bring valuable business insight and expertise to the elaboration and implementation of the outcomes of Rio+20.

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Agree on concrete steps to liberalize trade in cleaner technologies: governments at Rio should make concrete progress towards reducing and removing tariffs for cleaner technologies and energy sources, while maintaining flexibility to adjust to evolving scientific knowledge and innovation. Increasing trade and market access should be the objective, so that greening economic activity is an opportunity, rather than a source of tension.

- Redouble efforts to implement existing commitments, including the MDGs, and ensure adequate reporting and verification of progress. Until the international community can make good on previous commitments, measure and report progress towards attainment, and understand how to address gaps in implementation, we believe setting new targets in those areas would be premature. Rio+20 outcomes should further capacity building for governments seeking assistance to develop and implement basic rules that, inter alia, ensure equal opportunities for all citizens and stakeholder groups to participate in relevant governmental processes.
- Underscore strong governance and institutions at the national level as indispensable components of the effective implementation of sustainability and the capability of governments to carry out their commitments and actions. In that context, Rio should increase transparency via building awareness of and improving access to publicly held environmental information. However, such access must take into account public and state security and the need to protect the integrity of decision-making processes, as well as privacy interests of individuals. Sound information stewardship should apply, to ensure that in addition, proprietary information, including certain regulatory data and other confidential business information, must be protected from disclosure, as should information that would undermine the competitiveness of companies.

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Identify priorities for action in the main emerging issues, notably in the areas of food security and energy.

### Strengthening Implementation

- The Rio outcomes should focus on: 1) identifying implementation gaps and the existing obstacles to national implementation of existing commitments and the MDGs; and 2) enhancing the UN system's coordination mechanisms to ensure that adequate and well-deployed international measures and resources assist countries in achieving those goals. Doing so depends on adequate reporting and verification of progress.
- Business supports strengthening the science-policy interface within international institutions, with the full and meaningful participation of developing countries. This must also include channels for credible and robust science from stakeholders, particularly from business and industry. Another key element relates to strengthening links between policy making and financing, to widen and deepen the funding base for effective actions that generate an appropriate return to public and private investments. Governments must approach the challenge of the overall framework of intergovernmental institutions with more deliberate and strategically guided resourcing, as well as more vigilant oversight.

## Greening Economic Growth

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The OECD has said that, "Green growth means fostering economic growth and development, while ensuring that natural assets continue to provide the resources and environmental services on which our wellbeing relies. To do this, it must catalyze investment and innovation, which will underpin sustained growth and give rise to new economic opportunities." Rio should recognize the essential context is sustainable development and a return to economic growth. Greening the economy and growing the economy should be considered as mutually reinforcing and indispensable objectives. Growth will be essential to fund actions, especially as nations seek to recover from financial challenges.

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There will likely be multiple approaches to greening economic activity, and this diversity is a valuable source of solutions and resources. Because of the range of approaches and possibilities, we question whether a single top-down "roadmap" can stimulate the full range of innovation needed. Opportunities exist to improve the environmental performance of existing technologies and systems that are already widely deployed, including those that may not be labelled "green."

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Realizing the full potential of greening growth will depend on international cooperation to pursue economy-wide approaches, and on synergy of international regulatory frameworks and the global marketplace.

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Greener growth should be pursued through:

-International and economy-wide approaches – with flexibility to national circumstances and priorities

-Incenting and supporting innovation, investment and job creation

-Greening all jobs, and the building of capacity and training to contribute and keep pace with innovation

-Encouraging free trade, including through liberalizing trade in and removing barriers to cleaner technologies, in an integrated approach with consideration of upstream inputs and downstream users.

-Emphasizing resource efficiency and life cycle approaches – these are key to "doing more with less," which relates to increasing productivity to answer the needs and aspirations of growing populations while managing and minimizing environmental

impacts.

-Balancing public and private sector measures to pursue greening of commercial activity

-Segueing from the necessity of public support/advocacy to ingrained/internalized approaches that are meaningful to and integrated in company bottom lines.

-Avoiding subsidies, and where they are used, they should be of finite duration, and with the goal of becoming self-sustaining and without need for ongoing external support.

-Incorporating information on both risks and benefits in decision-making.

-Working within existing multilateral trade and environment frameworks and agreements.

-Pursuing flexible policies and assessment processes that are responsive to evolving scientific knowledge, and to experience with new technologies and policy approaches.

### Improving Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Development:

• For U.S. business, this important area has two parts: 1) Improving the institutional framework for sustainable development from the perspective of business, so that it affords opportunities to work in synergy with business contributions to sustainable development and 2) Enhancing the role of business in the institutional frameworks themselves.

• The fight against bribery and other corruptive practices should be a shared top priority for governments, government enterprises and private companies, with a focus on the demand side of corruption. Achieving improved conditions for transparency and integrity in doing business in all countries is of paramount importance for private and public sector actions in support of implementation of Rio 2012 recommendations.

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Strengthening and integrating sustainable development frameworks will require global economic and social institutions to become more responsive to environmental concerns, but will also require more integration of social and economic dimensions by "environmental" institutions.

• A sound and strong foundation for sustainable development in the U.N. system is essential. The U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development has been the primary U.N. institution and should be the starting point for considering where and how to make improvements. CSD should be strengthened, and given the resources necessary to fulfill its mandate, and other changes in existing institutions in the UN system, as well as consideration both of new bodies and sunseting of less effective ones, should also be explored.

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Rio2012 outcomes should take a next step in enhancing and recognizing the substantial role of business to policy design and implementation at the international level. The business community was recognized as one of the “major groups” by Agenda 21, agreed at UNCED in Rio, 1992. This designation represented a validation of the central role that business plays in the pursuit of sustainable development: in compliance with regulation; through the jobs, products, services and return on investment it provides, its interface with the consuming public, and in its corporate responsibility activities. In recent years, discussions in numerous forums have increasingly – whether implicitly or explicitly – touched on the role of business in myriad ways: technology, investment, implementation, job and wealth creation, competitiveness, capacity building, among others. Sustainability and globalization challenges cannot be addressed by governments alone; they require active collaboration between governments and stakeholders, particularly business. While each of the nine major groups brings varied capabilities, networks and structures to the process, from our standpoint, business plays a unique and critical role. For business, we underscore the need to a) distinguish those opportunities where business expertise, for example on technical or financial matters, would be valuable to inform deliberations, analysis or implementation and b) provide substantive channels to contribute those views directly in a timely fashion for governments. In this connection, one size does not fit all. Recognizing diversity also includes diversity within the business community. Substantive, direct, recognized channels of input to international processes for business and operated by business organizations are critical to proper policy design and implementation. There are positive experiences and models on which to build. Business involvement in international policy deliberations predates Rio 2012, and has taken many forms. For example, the International Labour Organization has a tri-partite structure, with employers joining governments and trade union representatives at the table. The OECD created two consultative mechanisms to access business and trade union views and expertise through the Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) and its analogue for trade unions, TUAC. These models and others could serve as templates for enhanced engagement by international policymaking forums with business post 2012.

regulation. USCIB's vision and strength are provided by an active [membership](#) of leading corporations and business organizations, while our unique [global network](#) helps turn the vision into reality.

As sole U.S. affiliate of the [International Chamber of Commerce](#) (ICC), the [International Organization of Employers](#) (IOE), and the [Business and Industry Advisory Committee](#) (BIAC) to the OECD, USCIB presents informed business views and solutions to government leaders and policy makers worldwide. Through ICC, USCIB has participated in Business Action for Sustainable Development 2012 (BASD 2012) and wishes to associate itself with BASD 2012's submission.

USCIB's work on sustainable development is predicated on our conviction that economic growth, innovation and a robust private sector are essential to achieving environmental improvement and better living conditions worldwide. USCIB was active in the U.N. Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED, 1992) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD, 2002), and has regularly attended the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development and U.N. Environment Programme (UNEP).

USCIB's Environment Committee promotes appropriate environmental protection within an open trade and investment system; and advances continuous improvement in technological innovation and environmental management within the context of economic growth as fundamental to sustainable development. USCIB has recently launched the International Business Green Economy Dialogue (IBGED) project. IBGED seeks to provide a clearer understanding of the path forward to building international cooperation to green economic growth. USCIB and its partners are seeking dialogue via educational, outreach and advocacy efforts in international policy deliberations, through a series of meetings to engage the private sector and inform discussions ahead of Rio+20. The IBGED Project also includes the development of a series of peer-reviewed papers written by independent academics to provide specialized perspectives on a range of green economy areas. The 'Green Perspectives' academic papers are to be published in a special edition of Energy Economics contemporaneous with Rio+20.

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## Universidad de Cienfuegos “Carlos Rafael Rodríguez”

Resumen:

El trabajo desplegado por el Centro de Estudios Socioculturales (CESOC) y un equipo multidisciplinario de la Universidad de Cienfuegos, construye una plataforma teórica - metodológica para el despliegue de las acciones en función de la calidad de vida de las familias del ecosistema de montaña. Solo presenta un acercamiento a los resultados alcanzado hasta el momento. Desde las ciencias sociales y otras disciplinas se estudia el desarrollo rural de las familias productoras: el rescate de tradiciones y prácticas deportivas tradicionales a partir de la gestión del conocimiento, el desarrollo sostenible para el macizo montañoso del Escambray y las familias productoras, los jóvenes, el empleo y la diversidad cultural basada en la gestión de proyectos. Los retos de la universidad por subvertir los conflictos actuales que impiden el desarrollo en el ecosistema de montaña nos impone el despliegue de un sistema de trabajo interdisciplinario sustentado en la gestión del conocimiento y la innovación, ofreciendo contribuciones específicas al desarrollo sostenible del ecosistema de montaña. El objetivo del empeño está sustentado sobre las diversas instancias de las facultades, centros de estudio, carreras y departamentos de la universidad. Le corresponde a la universidad asumir este empeño donde el cuestionamiento principal radica en ¿cómo subvertir el decrecimiento económico y el deterioro de las relaciones sociales en el ecosistema de montaña, protegiendo la biodiversidad, desde una racionalidad soportada en la ciencia y la técnica y con la participación de las grandes mayorías?

Introducción:

La base de todo el argumento radica en la caída de la producción cafetalera de manera continua en un 86% en los últimos 25 años. Si se coincide con Marx, (1979) en que los procesos económicos condicionan la vida social, política y espiritual de la sociedad y lo que se refleja en el decrecimiento del principal renglón económico de la montaña. Este puede constituir el termómetro del sistema productivo, lo que ha de entender cuan profundas serán sus implicaciones. Se añaden la paralización de las áreas de desarrollo en las que se construyeron asentamientos poblacionales nuevos y se ampliaron o desarrollaron grandes espacios productivos, lo que llevó a grandes inversiones que hoy se encuentran en deterioro, destrucción y/o abandono. El trabajo de campo ha develado procesos de una variada gama de conflictos entre los pobladores de los asentamientos poblacionales de la zona montañosa que se reflejan en:

Disparo del papel de la economía informal.

Deterioro de relaciones sociales: conflictos diversos.

Conflicto cultural de mucha trascendencia: cultura cafetalera vs. cultural marginal.

Poca relevancia económica social de la familia: crítica situación económica, poca participación, bajos ingresos.

Fuerte impacto migratorio - reducción de la identidad.

Compleja situación en las relaciones intersectoriales.

Merma del liderazgo social productivo de las instituciones y organizaciones.

Agudización del conflicto entre ecosistema y exigencias de los procesos productivos.  
Deterioro de la vida social - cultural comunitaria.  
Sistema de cuencas - sistema de asentamientos poblacionales.  
Bajos ingresos familiares - alto costo de la vida.  
Alto nivel de atención de salud – deterioro del modo y estilos de vida.  
Deterioro de la gestión empresarial.  
Falta de correspondencia entre el desarrollo social y el aporte económico de la zona.

Los estudios sociales que se han desarrollado en los últimos tiempos en la zona permiten demostrar las posibilidades y potencialidades del trabajo comunitarios (Agüero, 1995), la riqueza de un patrimonio cultural, (Agüero, 1999) y las potencialidades de las instituciones educativas (Agüero, 2000) aunque se devela la vitalidad y trascendencia del imperativo del despliegue de una cultura crítica y del capital cultural (Agüero, 2005).

#### Resultados del trabajo interdisciplinario

El imperativo de la Universidad para ofrecer una contribución desde los argumentos planteados corresponde resumir los principales resultados del empeño interdisciplinario. La Facultad de Cultura Física y Deporte realiza un estudio con el fin de contribuir a la calidad de vida de los montañeses desde el rescate de prácticas deportivas tradicionales, la capacitación de los pobladores, el mejoramiento del conocimiento e información, el uso de técnicas participativas y el autodiagnóstico promovido desde las instituciones educativas. Para ello se ha creado una estrategia de trabajo con diferentes tareas a cumplir, integrado por los profesores del departamento de Educación Física de la UCF, y una selección de Especialistas de la zona, profesores y médicos de cada Consejo Popular (Mayarí-Sopapo, San Blas- Sierrita y Crucecita-Nicho), encargados de instruir a los monitores seleccionados dentro de las mismas brigadas de trabajo de recogedores de café o de otras actividades agrícolas y velar por la salud de sus compañeros y estimular las actividades deportivas tradicionales. Los monitores están integrados por 200 estudiantes del politécnico de Mayarí que se materializa hasta la actualidad en : control y toma del pulso en 200 núcleos familiares de todo el territorio de la montaña del Escambray del municipio de Cumanayagua, control de Alcoholismo, del hábito de fumar, Hábitos dietéticos y otros controles como pruebas antropométricas, etc., Lo que nos da la posibilidad de conocer a los campesinos del territorio y ayudar a resolver las patologías adquiridas por las características del territorio y algo a destacar es que todo este proyecto se está haciendo sin gastos monetarios por el motivo de que son actividades que están en su contenido de trabajo. Utilizando las clases de educación física en el centro estudiantil se realizó una superación especializada con los alumnos muestreados en las pruebas anteriores y se comienza con la orientación dirigida a partir de escuela-comunidad y alumno - familia, y rescatar las formas tradicionales de deportes para recolectar datos a 200 núcleos familiares para poder conocer y evaluar el estilo de vida y hábitos dietéticos. Las muestras de los estudiantes permiten evaluar el Índice de Masa Corporal e Índice de Cintura-Cadera que son los más usados para saber si el peso corporal y la relación de algunos de los parámetros pueden influir negativamente en la salud.

Desde la multidisciplinariedad una reflexión hacia las aportaciones desde la Ingeniería Mecánica al desarrollo sostenible enfoca los actores claves en la montaña como la Empresa Agroindustrial Cafetalera "Eladio Machín", la UBPC Sabanita, Finca de Frutales El Nicho y Sistemas Cooperativos [CCS, CPA].

Las áreas de aportaciones desde la ingeniería mecánica se concentran en:

Térmico: permite el estudio de la biomasa y el manejo eficiente del potencial biomásico con el fin de crear cocinas eficientes.

Hidráulico: permite el manejo racional y eficiente de un recurso natural esencial para incentivar el sistema de riesgo y cultivos intensivos.

Energético: garantiza la eficiencia y ahorro en cuanto al desempeño de equipos y control de gastos.

Los principales resultados de estas áreas son:

1. Potencia necesaria para la cocción de los alimentos 7.45 Kw.
2. Potencia emitida hasta gastar toda la leña 11.04 Kw.
3. Aprovechamiento efectivo 67.5 %.
4. Se desaprovecha 32.5 % del combustible.
5. Calor que sede el combustible 13425.36 kJ/kg
6. Calor que absorbido por el alimento 1427.47 kJ/kg.
7. Eficiencia del fogón 10.63 % (Muy Baja)
8. Se evalúa el potencial hidráulico de la finca y se determinan las potencialidades del mismo, se propone el uso de esta fuente de abasto para la generación a baja escala de electricidad con la utilización de la turbina Peltón de la cual se propone el diseño. El agua salida de la turbina se utiliza para uso doméstico y para el riego de las plantaciones.
9. Sobre el potencial hídrico de la zona se determinaron las capacidades del mismo para riego y se propone como debe ser manejado para el uso eficiente.
10. Se propone el uso de tecnologías alternativas como son los arietes hidráulicos para riego.

Las soluciones propuestas tuvieron aceptación en las acciones desarrolladas con los actores claves del entorno montañoso. Hubo un proceso de alta relevancia por los aprendizajes entre los actores implicados que ganaron en conocimientos y aportes a los procesos de desarrollo en relación a las variantes propuestas. Hubo un crecimiento humano, emocional, afectivo entre los investigadores y los actores involucrados en todos los procesos, lo que permitió un acercamiento a experiencias concretas multidisciplinarias de alta relevancia para la práctica productiva. Los 8 estudiantes que participaron en el proceso alcanzaron resultados importantes, y aportes en el fortalecimiento de su desempeño profesional. Se destaca un impacto favorable desde las tres áreas esenciales de la ingeniería mecánica que se han aplicado en el proceso del trabajo con actores claves en el ecosistema de montaña, a partir del proceso de integración multidisciplinaria entre varias ciencias, especialmente las ciencias articuladas a la ingeniería mecánica, las ciencias agrarias y las ciencias sociales. Sin embargo, se impone seguir cultivando las relaciones entre estas ciencias y otras como las económicas.

Dentro de todo el proceso el sector juvenil es el más vulnerable al cambio y sobre todo el que mayor tendencia tiene de abandonar el espacio rural, por beneficios propios que ofrece la política social del país. El trabajo agrícola ofrece una precarización de las relaciones de producción y no brinda satisfacciones materiales ni espirituales a las nuevas generaciones. Mientras que las nuevas tendencias en las reformas de la política económica respecto al agro cubano demuestra que este sector social puede emplearse en la esfera de la agro producción si se potencializa, tal es el caso de la aplicación del decreto ley 259 con la entrega de tierra en usufructo. Las generaciones más jóvenes mostraron motivaciones ante la propuesta y hoy la región cuenta con 887 fincas solicitadas. Esto es un elemento que viene a potencializar el desarrollo de la

producción en el asentamiento, fundamentalmente la producción cafetalera y de cultivos varios. En el caso del grupo juvenil de forma general, optan por los beneficios que le ofrece los otros sectores, fundamentalmente los servicios, sin descartar las alternativas del mercado subterráneo. Los jóvenes de este escenario se caracterizan por insertarse en labores agrícolas con campesinos individuales mientras trabajan en el sector de los servicios o no están empleados. La implementación de las reformas impacta negativamente en el sistema de vida de las nuevas generaciones. La ruptura de la relaciones socio productivas del medio condujo a la materialización de la vida más pragmática, a la búsqueda del dinero con el menor esfuerzo propio y se reproduce una tendencia al trabajo agrícola sin una cultura productiva. Los grupos juveniles tienden a discontinuar los estudios y por tanto, se reubican en esferas laborales de muy poca remuneración económica o terminan emigrando de la región. En el caso de las féminas, interrumpen la superación escolar por otras salidas como el matrimonio; salen del medio familiar para crear sus propias estrategias de sobrevivencia. Esto provoca en la mayoría de los casos la maternidad a edades tempranas. Por estas y otras razones las mujeres se convierten en uno de los grupos más frágiles de proceso. En este sentido las familias productoras de café y el empleo en la esfera productiva precisan de un estudio interdisciplinario. A partir de los cambios sustanciales en cuanto al incremento del precio del café, la desmotivación por el trabajo, el déficit de la fuerza de trabajo y especialmente la calificada estas esferas de producción se encuentran en desequilibrio. Por tanto, el trabajo comunitario está enfocado en tres principios básicos fundamentales:

La participación de los habitantes de la montaña como actores y gestores de los cambios que se proponen en todo el proceso productivo.

Combinar acciones de carácter científico – investigativo, socioculturales y de capacitación.

La naturaleza inter y transdisciplinaria de los estudios que se proponen.

En este sentido es importante emprender acciones concretas a partir de la experiencias, necesidades y con el protagonismo de los pobladores, ya que el deterioro de la producción cafetalera revela una crisis imprescindible de subvertir. Donde los cambios estructurales a partir del fenómeno social de la globalización, la cultura, las transformaciones de las necesidades del productor y con ello de las familias.

Los resultados se encaminan hacia el funcionamiento de un sistema de unidades docentes en la zona de montaña que incluye a la Empresa Municipal Agropecuaria (EMA para elevar el papel de la gestión del conocimiento, concediendo coherencia y sustentabilidad al trabajo de la universidad, Sistematizar el trabajo en comunidades a partir del apoyo a programas de maestría en sociología y estudios socioculturales, Promover acciones interdisciplinarias que permitan aportes relevantes desde la gestión del conocimiento en los servicios sociales, la educación, la cultura y los sistemas productivos de diferentes estructuras, Articular una red de trabajo entre las universidades cubanas que laboran en ecosistema de montaña.

La socialización de genera a través de la participación en eventos científicos estudiantiles y de profesionales, publicaciones en revistas de impacto y esencialmente en la sistematización de la experiencia a través del desarrollo de un Taller acerca de la Universidad en la montaña.

A través de acciones concretas se logra un acercamiento a identificar el sistema contable en estructuras productivas y algunos procesos de implementación de uno nuevo, se establecen normas de calidad para la producción de café, se logran avances en las mediciones para lograr el ahorro en portadores energéticos de la empresa cafetalera. Fortalecer la educación ambiental y mejorar el ambiente sociocultural para el desarrollo sostenible permite evaluar las eficiencias energéticas de las minihidroeléctricas, el potencial energético de los recursos forestales, se evalúa en parte la eficiencia de cocinas en la montaña, Se logra sistematizar la preparación de estudiantes de grado 12 para sus pruebas de ingreso en la educación superior.

A través de estas se obtiene una calidad de vida adecuada de sus habitantes y resultados positivos que repercuten en los renglones socioeconómicos y culturales del municipio Cumanayagua y la Provincia de Cienfuegos. Su socialización está marcada por los diversos trabajos de diplomas de los estudiantes de pregrado, las publicaciones en revistas especializadas y en los eventos y congresos internacionales que se desarrollan; así como la transmisión a través de los canales de comunicación masiva del territorio. Teniendo en cuenta que se proponen los resultados de la primera etapa de investigación presentamos los mismos por las diferentes esferas en las que el trabajo estuvo estructurado. Esto nos permite revelar con mayor claridad los significativos impactos que el proyecto ha tenido en la etapa al introducir sus resultados en los informes de la Empresa Municipal Agropecuaria, en la docencia de la Universidad, tanto en la sede central así como la FUM Cumanayagua.

#### Conclusiones

- El presente resultado está encaminado a incrementar la producción cafetalera de la región, mejorar la gestión de la empresa cafetalera a través de asesorías a productores, caracterizar su entorno, describir el papel de los jóvenes productivos cafetaleros, mejorar el sistema contable, incrementar la calidad del proceso productivo.
- Se tuvo en cuenta la sistematización de resultados para el desarrollo y la interrelación entre la docencia de pre, postgrado y la investigación científica.
- Se promovieron acciones encaminadas a la evaluación, sistematización y transformación de los procesos de producción cafetalera, los programas de ahorro energético y de agua y las cocinas eficientes con fin de posibilitar un incremento en la producción cafetalera de la región.
- Evaluaciones del proyecto de rehabilitación cafetalera en la localidad de Mayarí y Aplicaciones de un procedimiento para la evaluación expost de una Rehabilitación cafetalera en la localidad de Mayarí.
- Se desarrollaron procesos de intervención desde la descripción hasta la capacitación en todas las instancias de trabajo en la montaña.
- Incremento de la participación de estudiantes a partir su trabajo científico curricular y extracurricular, realizando tareas de impacto vinculadas a las acciones principales del proyecto en el territorio.

## Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL FEDERICO VILLARREAL

RECTORADO

A LA CONFERENCIA DE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS SOBRE EL DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE

(Brasil, 2012)

La Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal (UNFV) de Lima-Perú, tiene 48 años de vida institucional, cuenta con 18 facultades y 61 especialidades, aproximadamente 21 000 estudiantes, 2300 docentes y 866 administrativos. La Escuela de Postgrado tiene alrededor de 5800 estudiantes en maestrías y doctorados.

La Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal, en su contribución a la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible a realizarse en el 2012 en el hermano país de Brasil quién brinda su hospitalidad, así mismo saluda al Secretario General de la Conferencia al Dr. Mr. Sha Zukang deseándole éxitos y señala su posición institucional al respecto.

Nos sumamos a través de acciones concretas a la comunidad internacional en la promoción del desarrollo sostenible, nuestra aspiración común y hacemos nuestro el principio 37 de la Declaración de Johannesburgo.

Desde 1997 participamos en los períodos de sesiones de la Comisión sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible y hemos desarrollado un sinnúmero de publicaciones, así como hoy contamos con un portal referido al Desarrollo Sostenible y Armonía con la Naturaleza. En resumen como universidad estamos comprometidos con el desarrollo sostenible y hemos sido impulsores de Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible (EDS) en el Perú (en el anexo 1 presentamos algunos aportes de nuestras acciones en favor del desarrollo sostenible).

Reconocemos los esfuerzos y somos testigos de los esfuerzos de la Organización de las Naciones Unidas en hacer realidad el desarrollo sostenible (Estocolmo 72 – Río + 20....2016/2017). Por ello como parte del sector académico, expresamos nuestro reconocimiento institucional al actual Secretario General de la ONU Dr. Ban Ki-moon por su compromiso y despliegue para orientar a la comunidad internacional a la búsqueda de la paz mundial y del bienestar humano con calidad para todos y por siempre.

Destacamos que su estrategia de sensibilizar y concientizar a la humanidad hacia el desarrollo sostenible, esta dando frutos. Acertadamente la Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible (EDS) es de vital importancia para el logro del desarrollo sostenible y así mismo los informes sobre Armonía con la Naturaleza (A/65/314 y A/66/302) los mismos que denotan en su concepción una profunda dedicación y elevado tecnicismo con visión holística, son hoy utilizados como un referente y sirven de inspiración en los procesos de enseñanza-aprendizaje con el fin de reeligarnos a la Madre Tierra, de reconocer y respetar a todas las formas de vida existentes en nuestro maravilloso y hermoso planeta Tierra. Estos instrumentos deben seguir proveyéndose desde las Naciones Unidas y hacer todos los esfuerzos para que lleguen a todos los hogares y familias del mundo para asegurar una sola visión planetaria de la sostenibilidad.

Observamos por primera vez un proceso mundial más participativo, armonioso y masivo, de carácter ejemplar, único y sostenible, pues organismos, instituciones y ciudadanos tenemos hoy la oportunidad de expresar nuestros sentimientos, necesidades y aspiraciones frente a la gran Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible.

Deseamos que en la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible (Brasil 2012) se tenga en cuenta lo siguiente:

a) En materia de Erradicación de la Pobreza/Poverty Eradication:

- Exhortar a los gobiernos a un mayor compromiso político y nacional respecto a la definición, implementación y ejecución de una Estrategia Nacional de Erradicación de la Pobreza (ENRP) que integre a los tres pilares del desarrollo sostenibles: social, ambiental y económico.
- Que la Estrategia Nacional de Erradicación de la Pobreza tenga objetivos, metas e indicadores comunes para todos los países y se establezcan plazos determinados algo similar a los de la Cumbre del Milenio.
- Asegurar que la ENRP sea en su formulación participativa y consensuada por todos los grupos principales y más allá de ellos.

b) En materia de una Economía Verde/Green Economy:

- Determinar el marco conceptual y fomentar el desarrollo de estadísticas básicas, sobre todo en materia ambiental, que permitan avanzar respecto al trabajo que se viene desarrollando en materia de indicadores de desarrollo sostenible.

c) En materia de una Arquitectura Institucional a favor del Desarrollo Sostenible/Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development:

- Se recomiende a los gobiernos a establecer un Marco Institucional Nacional y Subnacional a favor del Desarrollo Sostenible con lineamientos internacionales claros y precisos. Fundamentalmente reorganizando y/o refortaleciendo a las instituciones públicas existentes y que potencialmente puedan constituirse en palancas eficientes y eficaces para una concertación en pro del desarrollo sostenible.
- Se señale y exhorte a comprender que la gobernanza ambiental y la gobernanza para el desarrollo sostenible se complementan y no se superponen. La gobernanza ambiental debe entenderse como parte y aliado de una gobernanza para el desarrollo sostenible.
- Que en el diseño del Marco Institucional Nacional y Subnacional se asegure la participación de todos los actores interesados.
- Establecer mecanismos nacionales dentro del Marco Institucional a favor del Desarrollo Sostenible para integrar los objetivos y metas de las diversas Conferencias y Foros Mundiales realizados a la fecha y los que se convengan en adelante.

d) En materia de Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible/Education for Sustainable Development (EDS):

- Establecer las bases para un Segundo Decenio de las Naciones Unidas sobre la Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible (DEDS 2014-2025).
- Dar énfasis y encargar a la UNESCO la pronta elaboración de los Indicadores de EDS asegurando para ello una mayor participación de la comunidad internacional.
- Exhortar a los Estados a asegurar inversión pública, privada y provenientes de la cooperación a EDS a fin de impulsar la sensibilización y concientización de todas las personas en desarrollo sostenible.
- Exhortar a un mayor compromiso por parte de las instituciones de educación superior a la promoción del desarrollo sostenible, del desarrollo humano, armonía con la naturaleza y específicamente a liderar cuestiones vinculadas a EDS y al Decenio de las Naciones sobre Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible (DEDS).

e) En materia de Armonía con la Naturaleza/Harmony with Nature:

- Establecer un portal mundial sobre armonía con la naturaleza a fin de globalizar la información y el conocimiento reflexivo y cognitivo que permita que el ser humano se reelige con la Madre Tierra.
- Apoyar al Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas en la preparación de sus informes sobre Armonía con la Naturaleza y tengan carácter de divulgación y difusión oficial al ámbito nacional y subnacional y se constituyan en material educativo.
- Exhortar a la integración con una visión fundamentalmente holística el tema de armonía con la naturaleza en todos los niveles de enseñanza formal, informal y no formal. Además se le vincule y/o articule a todo el proceso de EDS y como actividad importante del DEDS.
- Seguir debatiendo científicamente en los próximos años el tema de Armonía con la Naturaleza y en el que se tenga en cuenta los descubrimientos que hasta hoy se tienen y se generen en el futuro. La ciencia es de vital importancia para la comprensión de una auténtica sostenibilidad planetaria basada en armonía con la naturaleza.

- Se recomienda se vea la posibilidad de generar una Década de las Naciones Unidas sobre Armonía con la Naturaleza (2012-2022)

Esta propuesta fue elaborada en coordinación con los docentes de la facultades de Psicología y de Ingeniería Geográfica, Ambiental y Ecoturismo de la UNFV Dra. Lucía Emperatriz Valdéz Sena y del Dr. Jorge Lescano Sandoval.

En mi condición de Presidente de la Comisión de Orden y Gestión y Rector de la Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal hacemos votos para que la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible a realizarse en el hermano país de Brasil logre sus objetivos y metas trazadas.

En la ciudad de Lima, Perú a los 30 días del mes de octubre de dos mil once. Celebrando los 48 años de vida institucional y en el mes del Señor de los Milagros nos unimos a los manifiestos en pro del desarrollo sostenible nuestra común aspiración humana.

Ing. Freddy Alberto Aponte Guerrero

Presidente Comisión de Orden y Gestión y Rector de la

Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal de Lima-Perú

Anexo 1

Publicaciones:

- Texto. Experiencias Exitosas Peruanas para el Desarrollo Sostenible Hacia la Agenda 21. Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores del Perú. Lima, 1998.
- Texto. Universidad, Ambiente y Desarrollo Sostenible: Hacia una Agenda 21 para la Universidad Peruana. Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal. Lima, 2001-2002
- Texto. Declaración del Milenio. Declaración y Plan de Acción de Johannesburgo.
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- Texto. Conociendo el Pacto Mundial: Responsabilidad Social Empresarial.

Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal. Lima, Septiembre, 2006.

- Texto. Arquitectura de la Gestión del Desarrollo Sostenible en el Perú.,

Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal. Lima 2006.

- Texto. Manual del Desarrollo Sostenible. Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal. Lima, 2007.
- Texto. Responsabilidad Social Universitaria para el Desarrollo Humano Sostenible. Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal. Lima, 2008.
- Texto. Marco Teórico y Conceptual del Desarrollo Sostenible. Informe Brundtland. Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal. Lima, 2009.
- Texto. Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible. Universidad Nacional Agraria de la Selva. Tingo María, Marzo, 2009.
- Texto. Manual del Desarrollo Sostenible. Asamblea Nacional de Rectores. Lima 2009.
- Texto Promoviendo el Desarrollo Sostenible una Visión de Futuro. Lima 2011.
- Texto Una Visión del desarrollo Sostenible a partir de las Resoluciones de las Naciones Unidas. Lima 2011.
- Ensayo sobre Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible. Lima 2011.

Talleres

- Convenio entre la Universidad Nacional Federico Villarreal y UNESCO-Perú para la realización de tres Talleres Regionales sobre Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible en el Perú. Convenio N° 2011/022. Realizados en Julio, Agosto y Septiembre del 2011 en Trujillo, Tacna y Lima con un total de 300 participantes aproximadamente.

Membresías

- Miembros del Comité Universitario sobre Educación para el Desarrollo Sostenible creada por la Asamblea Nacional de Rectores mediante Resolución N° 0903-2011-ANR de fecha 11 agosto 2011
- Portal sobre Desarrollo Sostenible y armonía con la Naturaleza

[www.unfv.edu.pe](http://www.unfv.edu.pe)

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## Université de Sherbrooke

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## University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership

SUBMISSION

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE PROGRAMME FOR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP

INPUT TO THE OUTCOME DOCUMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (RIO+20)

a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document:

The University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership has brought together companies with a global reach to issue a collective call for action from their leaders to the world leaders at the UN Earth Summit in 2012. These business leaders have signed a Leadership Compact that sets out where business will lead in properly valuing and maintaining the Earth's natural capital [1]. It also sets out what it urges the governments of the world to do in order to seize this opportunity for leadership.

The business leaders are speaking with a sense of urgency. In the two decades since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio, the world has failed to respond to the challenge of sustainable development with adequate determination. Specifically we have not addressed risks posed by the loss of natural capital. Vital services under threat range from crop pollination to carbon storage and freshwater provision, from wood production to the renewal of soil fertility and fisheries. The world no longer lives off the dividends of natural 'capital', but off the capital itself.

The challenges we face are complex and critical. To turn the situation around requires immediate action at all levels, by all of us: businesses from all sectors, investors, governments, civil society and citizens. Engaging business and industry through cross-sectoral cooperation is fundamental to the transition to a resource efficient and Green Economy. With this in mind the Leadership Compact, to be launched by the corporates in January 2012, is set out below. We believe that all the elements listed need to be reflected in the Outcome document to ensure that it has the backing of business globally.

#### LEADERSHIP COMPACT: 'COMMITTING TO NATURAL CAPITAL'

##### AS BUSINESS LEADERS WE PLEDGE TO:

1. OPERATE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF NATURAL SYSTEMS. We aim to manage supply sources in order to protect the environment and improve social equity. We will encourage cooperation between those relying on the same ecosystems for their products, services and livelihoods. We commit to good governance, transparency and inclusive decision-making throughout our value chains and to develop ways to ensure that land is used for social and economic development in ways that protect, manage or restore the value of the natural capital for current and future generations.

2. IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS EXTERNALITIES. We will build a deeper understanding of the externalities – the un-costed impacts on people and the environment – associated with the production and consumption of goods and services. We will identify the right value for these externalities and interdependencies both in our direct operations and through our supply networks, and collaborate within and across industries to develop transparent reporting.

We commit to moving beyond demand-driven production to operating within supply constraints. To underpin this move, we will integrate externalities into assessments of business risk and opportunities, and into our decision-making. We will communicate material risks, and our strategic responses, more clearly to investors and society.

3. ENABLE CONSUMERS TO MAKE BETTER-INFORMED CHOICES. We will work with industry bodies, governments and citizens to deepen public debate on how to realign consumption within the limits of natural capital and to eliminate wastage and inefficiency. We will seek a fuller consensus on the key elements of sustainable lifestyles, and will continue to design, manufacture and promote products that can be used more sustainably, and to extract raw materials responsibly.

4. Develop rigorous and realistic targets and plans. We recognise that the commitments above must be transparent, measurable, and scalable across business. We pledge to build on current initiatives to identify appropriate metrics so we can monitor our own performance and report our annual progress (e.g. regarding water, biodiversity, deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions, waste and pollutants). In 2012 we will work together to identify rigorous and realistic targets to promote the protection and efficient use of natural capital, based on these metrics.

By demonstrating leadership we aim to inspire other companies to do likewise. Many of us have already taken significant steps and we call upon governments to provide essential cost and regulatory signals to enable us to go further and more rapidly.

##### WE THEREFORE URGE GOVERNMENTS TO:

A. ESTABLISH A HOLISTIC POLICY FRAMEWORK TO SUSTAIN NATURAL CAPITAL. It is essential that governments introduce policies that encourage companies, investors and regulators to assess natural capital impacts on company value chains, provide incentives for more sustainable products, and support effective collaboration across sectors between those reliant on the same ecosystems. As part of this framework, governments and companies must be required to disclose their environmental impacts. In support of this goal we urge that governments join with leading companies in support of a global convention on corporate reporting, based on principles of transparency, accountability and board responsibility, to develop national regulations that mandate the integration of material sustainability issues into public reporting to key stakeholders, including investors.

Efforts to change purchasing and investment behaviour by business and governments, and to promote innovation, are a key part of this framework. These efforts should include fiscal and tax policy and incentives, and targeted public procurement. Such an approach should aim to encourage investors to reflect the true value of natural capital in their decision-making. Governments and companies must work together more effectively to encourage stronger standards and more sustainable consumer choices. Successful responses to global social concerns, as achieved with Health & Safety, demonstrate that governments can work together to put in place the necessary standards and targeted regulation.

B. WORK WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE. To ensure the most efficient use of natural capital, we encourage national governments to develop plans openly and transparently for the use of natural capital. This process must include all stakeholders, recognising that many citizens derive their livelihoods from natural resources, while lacking formal land use rights.

C. SET A CLEAR GOAL OF 'NO NET LOSS'. Some companies have already adopted the principle of 'no net loss', aiming to replenish natural capital of forests or biodiversity depleted through their operations. Governments should set similar goals for key natural capital assets (e.g. wetlands, forests and coastal habitats). Countries that have exploited natural capital to create wealth should support those struggling with poverty to develop in a way that conserves their natural capital. The Convention on Biological Diversity provides one existing framework for action.

Businesses' bottom line – and that of the entire global economy – is built on products and services provided by ecosystems and other components of natural capital [2]. Companies and governments must signal that the choice between economic development and sustaining natural capital is a false one, and take measures to create a global economy that pursues both goals simultaneously.

As demand for resources such as land, water, agricultural produce, timber and fish continues to grow beyond supply, price volatility will inevitably become more pronounced. The resilience of the Earth's natural systems to absorb shocks and disturbances is being systematically undermined [3]. Effective action now will reduce the risk of social upheaval around the world in the near- and long-term future, exacerbated by resource scarcity and increased volatility in the price of food and other commodities.

We do not have twenty more years to debate what needs be done. We therefore urge you, the governments of the world, to seize the opportunity for action presented by Rio+20 and, with business, respond to the growing challenge of resource scarcity. Delay is not a viable option. We look forward to working with you in preparation for Rio+20 and beyond and hope that, together, we can provide the leadership the Earth needs in this crucial arena, at this crucial time.

b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?

A. ESTABLISH A HOLISTIC POLICY FRAMEWORK TO SUSTAIN NATURAL CAPITAL. It is essential that governments introduce policies that encourage companies, investors and regulators to assess natural capital impacts on company value chains, provide incentives for more sustainable products, and support effective collaboration across sectors between those reliant on the same ecosystems. As part of this framework, governments and companies must be required to disclose their environmental impacts. In support of this goal we urge that governments join with leading companies in support of a global convention on corporate reporting, based on principles of transparency, accountability and board responsibility, to develop national regulations that mandate the integration of material sustainability issues into public reporting to key stakeholders, including investors.

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c) WHAT ARE THE VIEWS ON IMPLEMENTATION AND ON HOW TO CLOSE THE IMPLEMENTATION GAP, WHICH RELEVANT ACTORS ARE ENVISAGED AS BEING INVOLVED (GOVERNMENTS, SPECIFIC MAJOR GROUPS, UN SYSTEM, IFIS, ETC.);

Establish a holistic policy framework to sustain natural capital. It is essential that governments introduce policies that encourage companies, investors and regulators to assess natural capital impacts on company value chains, provide incentives for more sustainable products, and support effective collaboration across sectors between those reliant on the same ecosystems. As part of this framework, governments and companies must be required to disclose their environmental impacts. In support of this goal we urge that governments join with leading companies in support of a global convention on corporate reporting, based on principles of transparency, accountability and board responsibility, to develop national regulations that mandate the integration of material sustainability issues into public reporting to key stakeholders, including investors.

Efforts to change purchasing and investment behaviour by business and governments, and to promote innovation, are a key part of this framework. These efforts should include fiscal and tax policy and incentives, and targeted public procurement. Such an approach should aim to encourage investors to reflect the true value of natural capital in their decision-making.

Governments and companies must work together more effectively to encourage stronger standards and more sustainable consumer choices. Successful responses to global social concerns, as achieved with Health & Safety, demonstrate that governments can work together to put in place the necessary standards and targeted regulation.

d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?

1. OPERATE WITHIN THE LIMITS OF NATURAL SYSTEMS. We aim to manage supply sources in order to protect the environment and improve social equity. We will encourage cooperation between those relying on the same ecosystems for their products, services and livelihoods. We commit to good governance, transparency and inclusive decision-making throughout our value chains and to develop ways to ensure that land is used for social and economic development in ways that protect, manage or restore the value of the natural capital for current and future generations.

2. IDENTIFY AND ADDRESS EXTERNALITIES. We will build a deeper understanding of the externalities – the un-costed impacts on people and the environment – associated with the production and consumption of goods and services. We will identify the right value for these externalities and interdependencies both in our direct operations and through our supply networks, and collaborate within and across industries to develop transparent reporting.

We commit to moving beyond demand-driven production to operating within supply constraints. To underpin this move, we will integrate externalities into assessments of business risk and opportunities, and into our decision-making. We will communicate material risks, and our strategic responses, more clearly to investors and society.

3. ENABLE CONSUMERS TO MAKE BETTER-INFORMED CHOICES. We will work with industry bodies, governments and citizens to deepen public debate on how to realign consumption within the limits of natural capital and to eliminate wastage and inefficiency. We will seek a fuller consensus on the key elements of sustainable lifestyles, and will continue to design, manufacture and promote products that can be used more sustainably, and to extract raw materials responsibly.

4. DEVELOP RIGOROUS AND REALISTIC TARGETS AND PLANS. We recognise that the commitments above must be transparent, measurable, and scalable across business. We pledge to build on current initiatives to identify appropriate metrics so we can monitor our own performance and report our annual progress (e.g. regarding water, biodiversity, deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions, waste and pollutants). In 2012 we will work together to identify rigorous and realistic targets to promote the protection and efficient use of natural capital, based on these metrics.

By demonstrating leadership we aim to inspire other companies to do likewise. Many of us have already taken significant steps and we call upon governments to provide essential cost and regulatory signals to enable us to go further and more rapidly.

e) SPECIFIC ELEMENTS:

a) OBJECTIVE OF THE CONFERENCE: TO SECURE RENEWED POLITICAL COMMITMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, ASSESSING THE PROGRESS TO DATE AND REMAINING GAPS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE MAJOR SUMMITS ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND ADDRESSING NEW AND EMERGING CHALLENGES.

The University of Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership has brought together global companies to issue a collective call for action from their leaders to the world leaders at the UN Earth Summit in 2012. These business leaders have signed a Leadership Compact that sets out where business will lead in properly valuing and maintaining the Earth's natural capital. It also sets out what it urges the governments of the world to do in order to seize this opportunity for leadership.

The business leaders are speaking with a sense of urgency. In the two decades since the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio, the world has failed to respond to the challenge of sustainable development with adequate determination. Specifically we have not addressed risks posed by the loss of natural capital. Vital services under threat range from crop pollination to carbon storage and freshwater provision, from wood production to the renewal of soil fertility and fisheries. The world no longer lives off the dividends of natural 'capital', but off the capital itself.

The challenges we face are complex and critical. To turn the situation around requires immediate action at all levels, by all of us: businesses from all sectors, investors, governments, civil society and citizens. Engaging business and industry through cross-sectoral cooperation is fundamental to the transition to a resource efficient and Green Economy. We believe that all the elements listed in the Leadership Compact on Committing to Natural Capital need to be reflected in the Outcome document to ensure that it has the backing of business globally.

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## University of the Basque Country

International Environmental Law and new sovereignty (Proposal for Rio+20 compilation document) by Dr. Xabier Ezeizabarrena<sup>1</sup> (Phd Law, University of the Basque Country), Abstract

This proposal tries to underline the international general experience on Environmental disputes within the context of Rio+20 process, in particular from the point of view of concerned individuals and NGOs. In this sense there is a need for international alternative settlement of environmental conflicts. However, states and their subdivisions are reluctant to submit themselves to such adjudication, especially in the relationship with individuals and NGOs. Although one may safely state that the international law of the environment is on the road to strengthening the role of non-state actors, there is still a long way to go before access of these actors to international adjudication will be fully recognised. Therefore, there is real need worldwide for an open debate and proposal on an international forum for making available the need for international resolution of environmental disputes. The pending international challenges on Climate Change would find here another reason to push forward in terms of international solidarity and new sovereignty on environmental matters.

### Environmental Rights as a Key Point of the Rule of Law

During the second half of the 20th century we have seen the development, either under international or domestic laws, of certain ethical and political parameters and rules called human rights. The development of human rights law is demonstrated by the establishment of, for instance, the European Court of Human Rights<sup>2</sup> (ECHR) and the provision, in many constitutions, of systems for an effective judicial protection of these rights. The purpose of environmental rights law is to reach certain common legal grounds to achieve a similar international framework of law for sustainable development.

Reality, however, demonstrates otherwise. Subject to a few exceptions, national courts do not assume the existence of the required customary or principles of international environmental law necessary for individuals, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and municipalities to derive claims from their violation.

### Judicial Protection of Environmental Rights

#### Existing mechanisms

The current lack of judicial protection of environmental rights by recourse to national courts is not compensated through the availability of international judicial review. There are various international dispute settlement mechanisms which address environmental issues in specific contexts, such as the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, the Court of Justice of the European Community (CJEC) and the ECHR. In addition, there exists an environmental chamber of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), though it has not often been accessed by governments for a variety of reasons. Furthermore, decisions of the World Trade Organization's (WTO) dispute settlement bodies may also affect environmental matters. The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) is also actively working in this field during the last years.

#### Need for international arbitration and conciliation and efficient enforcement of international environmental law

One of the main tasks of institutionalised arbitration and conciliation of environmental disputes is to protect the rights of peoples to an adequate environment by granting individuals and non-governmental organisations access to justice. Arbitration could also develop a substantive right to a healthy environment based on existing international human rights, principles previously mentioned, as well as statutory law applicable under the relevant conflicts rules. This would comprise prevention, restitution and compensation of environmental harm. The deficit analysis presented above clearly shows that individuals and NGOs are not adequately protected in international environmental disputes. Their role must be strengthened in order to achieve sustainable development.

This proposal argues that there is a need for international enforcement, arbitration and conciliation on environmental international matters. However, the relative success of international courts dealing with environmental issues does not mean that every single petition reaches the final procedural phase misleading, in many cases, the real protection of environmental rights. Therefore, new concepts of sovereignty within a general proposal of international environmental justice should be fostered within the international arena.

#### The path forward

The experience of the enforcement International Environmental Law in general shows that from the point of view of concerned individuals and NGOs, there is a need for an international alternative dispute settlement mechanism to deal with environmental conflicts. However, given their relationship with individuals and NGOs, States and their subdivisions are reluctant to submit themselves to such adjudication. Although one may safely state that the international law of the environment is on the road to strengthening the role of non-state actors, there is still a long way to go before the access of these actors to international adjudication is granted full recognition. In light of its flexible procedure for issuing consultative opinions, its independence and broad scope of legitimacy, there is a clear space to offer an open study and debate on the necessity of an international forum for the international resolution of environmental disputes.

In terms of Human Rights this proposal would become a clear example of an open field within the law for sustainable development which is open for new developments. Once again in this context, international law seems to start assuming a shifting process within the concept of sovereignty. Thereby, the system could take advantage of this sort of procedures whenever the involved parties may assume the voluntary jurisdiction of a real international universal jurisdiction. This challenge is nowadays a key element for the development and real enforcement of the whole principles and rules of sustainable development, even for the direct protection of individuals or collective rights of legal persons. Therefore, we have a pending challenge open towards and within Rio+20 context.



## Vermillion Institute

Vermillion Institute submission

This submission deals primarily with specific strategies for closing the implementation gap and advancing the state of play of the SD agenda.

### I. BACKGROUND:

Last year, UNEP RONA convened a civil society forum in San Francisco, and asked the participants to discuss the very issues about which the Second Preparatory Committee members are now asking for feedback.

Building from the ideas in that consultation, as well as on the discussions of the implementation gaps that the First Preparatory Committee members brought forth, Vermillion wishes now to highlight the following gaps for this submission.

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### II. ADDRESSING THE DRIVERS AND OUTCOMES OF SOME IMPLEMENTATION GAPS

#### -- ON THE NGO SIDE

The drivers of a lack of cooperation and consensus among NGOs are:

Funding from government often comes from specific departments/agencies to solve specific, narrowly defined problems. Therefore narrowly defined NGO projects are seen as having tight fits --- but too often their projects have the applicability and stability of someone standing on stilts. On the other hand, more integrative projects/approaches have a wider base and can accomplish more, but rarely show a tight enough fit to be approved. This is because agencies can find themselves on the wrong side of government auditors for funding projects that are not using most of the money for the originally defined purpose.

Funding from both government agencies and company sponsorships tends to go to easy to describe projects; the more complex and integrative projects that are capable of tackling more difficult problems, are less easily communicated to the public, and less frequently funded. NGOs are therefore less willing to undertake more complex projects, and have fewer resources to cooperate to see them completed.

Government agencies are often willing to share the recognition in their funding. However, except in high-profile settings, companies are generally less willing to share the stage with other companies in funding public-interest projects.

#### SOME OUTCOMES OF THIS GAP

When you fund one org to develop something, sets up a win/lose dynamic for the NGOs. In each of these settings, NGOs succeed in getting funds when they show why they are more deserving. They chip away at each others' credibility, and this does not lend itself to building cooperation or consensus.

From the point of view of the donor, when all their eggs go in just a few baskets, the results of their programs are more vulnerable to external risks, and less likely to deliver for the public interest.

Also due to all these factors, NGOs often choose not to cooperate. The result is more splintering of knowledge over time instead of deepening it. For the SD agenda, it means more and more groups diluting each other instead of deepening the underpinning of their work.

The losing organizations become less cooperative, and more militant --- less inclusive of other views, and more ideological --- in order to get those narrowly defined pots of funding.

#### -- ON THE INDUSTRY SIDE

Some readers will be familiar with the concept of 'Green Muting'. Simply stated, Green Muting is the effect where companies become less willing over time to share their sustainability outcomes and insights publicly, because, on the one hand, if they talk about what they've tried that has worked, external groups may try to show how the company is really just greenwashing, and on the other hand, if they talk about what they've tried that hasn't worked, external groups may use that to show how the company 'just screws things up.'

We need better disclosures to inform research and public policy leading to a sustainable economy, so this effect works at odds with efforts to encourage disclosures.

Vermillion believes the world needs better systems for something like a semi-permeable membrane that will enable companies to disclose their techniques and outcomes in a private setting, to inform research and public policy without risking their reputations due to the disclosures.

### III. SOLUTIONS

#### -- BARRIERS TO BRIDGING THE DIVIDE

In order to help groups connect and cooperate, Vermillion has been working to pilot an Innovators in Economics project --- to help GPI experts connect and cooperate, to challenge each others' ideas in private settings, and build greater depth within their concepts.

In order to help companies better inform public policy Vermillion has been working to pilot an Innovators in Sustainability project --- to help companies discuss what has worked, what hasn't, and what has been in the way, in settings where they aren't at risk for the disclosures.

We also note that both of these major groups do not see the strands that connect their macro (GPI) discussions, and their micro (disclosure) discussions --- and these projects seek to help bridge the gaps between the development of these major groups.

Vermillion sees other such programs, and recommends that they should be strategically funded to help deepen the concepts of sustainable development.

But more can be done.

### IV. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE OUTCOME DOCUMENT

With respect to improving cooperation mechanisms and partnership arrangements, Vermillion recommends that national and regional governments agree to:

1. Fund integrative discussions, and settings where NGOs and multi-stakeholder groups get funding to come together and challenge each others' ideas, on the path to

strengthening the underpinnings of

their ideas and finding consensus where possible.

2. Direct government auditors to give latitude to agencies that fund projects that advance the goals of multiple government agencies at the same time in integrative ways.

3. Through public education campaigns and tax policy, encourage companies to update their community investment policies to set aside 20% of their budgets to fund cooperative NGO projects that are more complex (less easy to describe), and another 20% to go ONLY to projects where the company shares leading sponsor status with at least three companies from other industries.

## Vinyl 2010 Partnership

Vinyl 2010 Partnership input and contribution to the zerodraft for the outcome document of Rio+20 (UN Conference on Sustainable Development)

### 1. Introduction

Vinyl 2010 the 10-year Voluntary Commitment for Sustainable Development of the European PVC industry has been a Partnership registered with the Secretariat of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development since 2004.

The World Summit on Sustainable Development that took place in Johannesburg (2002) served as a catalyst and contributed to shape the work done by Vinyl 2010 in the years to come. Our industry is confident that Rio+20 will provide a clear indication on a shared Roadmap to a Green Economy and secure a renewed political commitment for Sustainable Development.

The European PVC industry welcomes this opportunity to submit input to contribute to the zero-draft for the outcome document of Rio+20. Our input on expectations for the outcomes of Rio+20 is based on the concrete experience of Vinyl 2010 as a UNCSD registered Partnership and on the lessons learned on the ground during the implementation of our 10-year Voluntary Commitment.

Concretely we recommend to:

1. Support and recognise Voluntary Agreements and Public-Private Partnerships as effective tools for a faster transition to a Green Economy.
2. Strengthen the role of the UNCSD Partnerships for Sustainable Development.
3. Support Micro, Small and Medium enterprises in their transition towards a Green Economy.
4. Adopt a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) approach based on sound science for sustainable Green Growth.

#### 1.1. Background: the Vinyl 2010 experience for Sustainable Development

Polyvinyl chloride, or PVC, is one of the most widely used polymers in the world. Due to its very versatile nature, PVC is used extensively in many industries and provides several popular and necessary products in construction, automobiles, electric and IT cabling, smart & credit cards, packaging, fashion & design, medical devices, amongst other things.

PVC has many qualities that meet key sustainability criteria amongst other things it is lightweight and highly durable which contributes to an efficient use of natural resources. However, by the late 1990] these qualities were being eclipsed by concerns over the use of certain additives as well as the lack of recycling options for PVC products once they had reached their end-of-life phase.

Aware of these concerns, in 2000 the European PVC industry took the ground-breaking step of launching the Vinyl 2010 Voluntary Commitment.

This Voluntary Commitment was a 10-year plan aimed at creating a sustainable development framework and improving product stewardship across the life cycle of PVC. Its objective was to minimise the environmental impact of the PVC production, promote the responsible use of additives, support collection and recycling, as well as to encourage social dialogue between all of the industry stakeholders. Vinyl 2010 is the legal entity set up to provide the organisational and financial infrastructure needed to manage and monitor the progress towards the goal set in the Voluntary Commitment. It groups European vinyl resin manufacturers and plastic converters, as well as producers of stabilisers and plasticisers. The four founding members are: the European Council of Vinyl Manufacturers (ECVM), the European Plastics Converters (EuPC), the European Stabiliser Producers Associations (ESPA) and the European Council for Plasticisers and Intermediates (ECPI).

Vinyl 2010 operated through projects covering technology, research, organisation (e.g. recycling schemes) and communication (e.g. on best practice). Total expenditure in waste management projects reached 6.6 million Euro in 2010 alone (more than 57 million Euro were spent in the 10 years). Resource allocation in terms of time and efforts was quite large, too.

Originally signed in March 2000 and covering the EU-15, the Voluntary Commitment has since been expanded as the EU has enlarged to cover all EU-27 countries.

The establishment of an infrastructure for the collection and recycling of PVC in Europe is one of the most significant achievements of Vinyl 2010. Prior to 2000, PVC had been dismissed by many as an unrecyclable material destined to be landfilled. At the time there were virtually no recycling systems in place. Today, thanks to Vinyl 2010, over 260,000 tonnes of post-consumer waste were recycled in 2010 alone.

Other notable achievements include:

- ◆◆ The phasing-out of Cadmium stabilisers from PVC products in the EU-27 by 2007. Lead stabilisers are on track to be fully replaced by 2015.
- ◆◆ On-going research, testing and expert evaluations of PVC plasticisers.
- ◆◆ The establishment of a Research & Development programme on new recycling and recovery technologies.

A decade later, Vinyl 2010 is widely regarded as a leading example of industry self-regulation working in practice and delivering concrete results. All major targets have been met or exceeded, and a new sustainable business model involving the whole PVC value chain has been created.

#### 1.2. VinylPlus: the new 10-year Voluntary Commitment of the European PVC industry

In 2010, as the 10-year programme was reaching the end of its foreseen lifetime, the Vinyl 2010 Board together with the four founding associations decided to move forward

with a new 10-year Voluntary Programme under the name of VinylPlus. The new commitment builds upon the achievements of Vinyl 2010 and the increased awareness of the importance of Sustainable Development and Social Responsibility within the PVC industry.

VinylPlus is even more ambitious than its predecessor in terms of targets and scope. It aims to achieve a quantum leap in recycling rates, technological innovation and stakeholder engagement over the next decade.

The new programme has been developed bottom up in an open process of extensive stakeholder dialogue, including private companies, NGOs, regulators, civil society representatives, and PVC users. VinylPlus is built around addressing five challenges to ensure that PVC contributes to Sustainable Development and a Greener Economy in Europe: achieving the recycling of 800,000 tonnes of PVC and the development of innovative recycling technologies; addressing concerns about organochlorine emissions; ensuring the sustainable use of additives; enhancing energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy and raw materials in PVC production; and promoting sustainability awareness throughout the whole PVC value chain. These challenges are based on The Natural Step System Conditions for a Sustainable Society.

## 2. Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20

The Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development acted as true inspiration for the European PVC industry. The document Contributing to Sustainable Development published by Vinyl 2010 in August 2002, addressed the four key objectives of the Summit: protecting the natural resource base of economic development, notably freshwater, energy and land; integrating environment and poverty eradication; making globalisation sustainable, by redressing imbalances in, and generally improving, living and working conditions; enhancing good governance and participation. This document was aimed at presenting examples of how the PVC industry and its products could make a positive contribution towards the pursuit of the Summits objectives, and how to move forward.

Furthermore the commitment taken by the European PVC industry was, and is, fully in line with the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development which states that the private sector has a duty to contribute to the drive towards sustainability.

Vinyl 2010 approach was therefore further defined, in line with the spirit of the Agenda 21 Chapter 30 Strengthening the role of business and industry, in particular concerning:

◆◆ Social Responsibility The issue of Corporate Social Responsibility is becoming more and more relevant in contemporary society. This is due to the fact that it is clearer in everyday experience at individual, business and societal levels that real, stable and long-term progress requires social sustainability in addition to economic growth. We believe Voluntary Commitments from industry are part of the Corporate Social Responsibility to make effective progress on sustainable development

◆◆ Cradle to grave approach Vinyl 2010 was (to our knowledge) the only Voluntary Commitment involving the entire upstream and downstream chain from raw-material production to post-consumer waste in a single industry

◆◆ SME's contribution Bringing together around 21,000 companies, Vinyl 2010 (and now VinylPlus) is a model for Corporate Governance aimed at Sustainable Development and Durable Consumption because it looks at the entire life cycle of a product and because it actively includes Small and Medium Sized Enterprises.

◆◆ Transparency Vinyl 2010 (and now VinylPlus) closely involves external stakeholders and policy-makers (i.e. Members of the European Parliament and EU Commission Officials). An independent Monitoring Committee has been set up to supervise the implementation of the Voluntary Commitment.

◆◆ EU enlargement The Vinyl 2010 initiative became ever so more significant in the context of an enlarged European Union with 27 Member States. Rigid regulatory approaches were unlikely to be effective in ashort timeframe, as they could not answer market diversities, local financial constraints or consumer's behaviour.

With reference also to the Chapter V of JPOI, Vinyl 2010 was cooperating with the EU new Members and trade unions with the objective of raising health, safety, and environmental standards to higher levels and to harmonise sustainability goals. The aim of Vinyl 2010 was also to obtain a gradual enlargement of the Voluntary Commitment to the new EU Member States.

Vinyl 2010 is now an integral part of the PVC industrys ethos in Europe, setting a series of principles and values enclosed in the concepts of Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development:

◆◆ Voluntary action getting on with tackling the sustainability challenges of PVC in a proactive way.

◆◆ Measurable targets and deadlines.

◆◆ Continuous improvement to always accept that the journey to sustainability requires constant evaluation and learning along the way.

◆◆ Collaboration ways of working together within the industry to find solutions that no single player can implement, and reaching out to a much broader stakeholder group.

◆◆ Transparency opening-up, sharing and recognizing of the gap between where we are now and where we aim to be.

◆◆ Scientific rigour and research make sure that technologies, processes and materials are assessed according to strong credible and scientific sustainability principles.

◆◆ Dialogue create more debate with external contacts and those who have something to say about PVC, and be open to listening and learning from others in a positive and receptive manner.

◆◆ Responsibility no one is going to secure a place for PVC in the sustainable future other than the industry itself.

◆◆ Seeking business prosperity we need businesses successful businesses along the value chain of PVC that means making an acceptable return on investment, and being competitive at the same time as seeking the route to sustainable development.

◆◆ Priority to sustainability innovation research, design and innovation should have no goal other than improving the sustainability potential of PVC including its market competitiveness, as well as openly challenging components, materials and practices that do not make sense in terms of sustainable development.

As it was the case for the Johannesburg Summit, the European PVC industry, now represented in VinylPlus, expects that the outcome of Rio+20 will give a clear indication on a shared Roadmap to Green Economy, setting inspiring principles and frameworks, as well as helping (our) industry to be an active partner in the transition to a global Green Economy. Based on our experience we suggest considering the following aspects:

1. Support and recognise Voluntary Agreements and Public-Private Partnerships as effective tools for a faster transition to a Green Economy.
2. Strengthen the role of the UNCSD Partnerships for Sustainable Development.
3. Support Micro, Small and Medium enterprises in their transition towards a Green Economy.

4. Adopt a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) approach based on sound science for sustainable Green Growth.

In the next sections these four suggestions will be analysed in more details.

#### 2.1. Support and recognise Voluntary Agreements and Public-Private Partnerships as effective tools for a faster transition to a Green Economy

Vinyl 2010 has been a clear success and is a perfect example of industry self-regulation working in practice. It has been a learning-by-doing process, and in a certain way it has helped to revolutionise the PVC value chain in Europe.

The programme has demonstrated that successful industry voluntary agreements can be effective and that, sometimes, self-regulation (without forgetting the role of institutions and decision-makers) can achieve results faster than regulations.

In addition, this proactively voluntary approach and, in our case, the involvement of the entire value-chain, can provide a ready platform for collaboration and dialogue with regulators as well as for the implementation of certain policies within the industry (e.g. REACH, BATs, etc).

The experience of industry's initiatives like the Vinyl 2010 Voluntary Commitment and product stewardship schemes like the Forest Stewardship Council are demonstrable proof that self-regulation can be effective in meeting Sustainable Development goals and in helping the transition towards a Green Economy.

The 2nd Communication on Environmental Agreements of the EU Commission welcomed voluntary commitments as a way to achieve environmental improvements. The comments<sup>6</sup> received from EU MEPs about the achievements of Vinyl 2010 are encouraging and stimulating our industry to work even harder in order to accomplish the new, more ambitious goals set by the VinylPlus commitment.

The key to the success and spreading of such initiatives is that they are recognised by policy-makers and stakeholders as making a real contribution towards Sustainable Development and a Greener Economy.

In the complex, fast changing and interconnected world we live in, Sustainable Development cannot be achieved only by decree. It is very important for a voluntary commitment to be credible and the only way to do so is by including measurable objectives and deadlines, but it is also fundamental to act within an institutional framework which involves regulators and stakeholders.

The European PVC industry is therefore calling on policy-makers to:

- ◆◆ Take account of the achievements of initiatives such as Vinyl 2010.
- ◆◆ Support voluntary agreements when formulating new policies to promote sustainable Green Growth.

#### 2.2. Strengthen the role of the UN CSD Partnerships for Sustainable Development

Partnerships for Sustainable Development (voluntary, multi-stakeholder initiatives aimed at implementing sustainable development) were an important complementary outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD).

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was designated by the WSSD as the focal point for discussion on partnerships that promote Sustainable Development. At its eleventh session in 2003, the Commission stressed that Partnerships in the context of the WSSD process and its follow-up should be developed and implemented in accordance with a set of agreed Criteria & Guidelines.

Since 2004, Vinyl 2010 has been a Partnership registered with the Secretariat of the UN Commission on Sustainable Development.

In our experience, the CSD Partnership programme represents an important and effective tool for advancing the Sustainable Development agenda: not only implementing multi-stakeholders plans for Sustainable Development (as outcome of the WSSD), but also because it can represent a global benchmarking platform. Vinyl 2010 has been participating in the UNCSD Partnerships Fair since 2006 to exchange views on its approach, initiatives, best practices and achievements. Comments and suggestions received have been encouraging and supporting our industry in its efforts towards the achievements of the set targets.

We believe that the potential contribution by Partnerships towards Sustainable Development and Green Growth could be further exploited, not only in terms of implementation mechanism, but also in terms of knowledge, experience, best practices and transferable skills sharing.

Not all Partnerships have the possibility to participate in the Partnerships Fair and there should be more opportunities for interaction and information exchange during the year (e.g. regional events, online Partnerships platforms, etc.). In addition, even if the Partnerships Fair is an official part of the CSD, it is not always recognised as such by many delegates. The Partnerships credibility and contribution to the CSD work might be enhanced by mainstreaming in some form the most relevant outcomes of the Partnerships interactive discussions in the High-level segment and with Major Groups.

Finally, in our participation in the UNCSD Partnerships Fair we have learned that the best contributions to the implementation of multi-stakeholders plans for Sustainable Development and to the sharing of best practices and lessons learned are coming from those Partnerships that have clearly defined measurable targets and deadlines; clear roles and defined leadership (and accountability) for the implementation amongst partners; and a transparent regular reporting system. We recommend to taking these elements into account as part of the Criteria & Guidelines for Partnerships registration for the next decade; stricter criteria, though, should be balanced by stronger recognition of the role, contribution and achievements of the Partnerships, with the objective of strengthening the engagement of business and civil society.

#### 2.3. Support Micro, Small and Medium enterprises in their transition towards a Green Economy

According to the EU Commission's DG Enterprise and Industry, whilst over 99% of all enterprises in Europe are SMEs, 90% of SMEs are actually micro-enterprises with fewer than 10 employees and the average company has just five workers. However, these micro-enterprises account for 53% of all jobs in Europe, so their importance to the European economy is enormous.

Their small size and limited resources mean micro-enterprises face particular problems. Finding the finance to get a new business going, or to grow an existing one is a difficult challenge. The administrative tasks, or red tape, which all firms have to carry out weigh particularly heavily on Europe's micro-enterprises. And finding staff with the right skills, willing to work for a small firm can be a problem, as is ensuring they have the time to update their skills and keep up with developments in the field.

This is also true for the management of environmental issues.

Representing around 21,000 SMEs, Vinyl 2010 and now VinylPlus, believe that trade associations and industry voluntary programmes can play an important role in reaching out to SMEs and helping them in achieving significant environmental targets in their transition toward a Green Economy.

But it is of paramount importance that governments and institutions, and consequently other external stakeholders, recognise the efforts made by the industry. In the case of Vinyl 2010/VinylPlus, for example, the inclusion in the Public Procurement Specifications of the use of recycled materials, such the PVC collected and recycled by several SMEs with the help of Recovinyl8 would support the industry efforts to boost collection and recycling throughout Europe. Incentivising initiatives aimed at improving eco-efficiency of the SMEs, as it happening in the case of the Care+ programme, could support and accelerate the transition towards a Green Economy.

#### 2.4. Adopt a LCA approach based on sound science for sustainable Green Growth

Popular schemes to evaluate and promote green products are often based on environmental labels. Labels should have the role of educating consumers, incentivising eco-design and encouraging environmental responsibility. Existing environmental labels, unfortunately, have been and are often developed as a voluntary pass/fail scheme to label products, based only on partial environmental criteria and political choices.

A few years ago, during an Eco-label hearing at the European Parliament, one of the arguments raised claimed that science should not take precedence over policy-making. This clearly illustrates the viewpoint of a group of stakeholders who reject the very notion of sound science in favour of scaremongering and emotional laden decisions, without even considering the practical damage that such choices could do to our economies and the social contribution that products that would be effected deliver.

The PVC industry therefore endorses LCA approaches as an effective technical and scientific tool to take sustainable choices. This is also in line with the principles of the EU directive on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC). IPPC advocates for life cycle thinking in order to take appropriate actions and avoid shunting the environmental impacts from one phase of the life cycle to another.

LCA can provide a standard methodology based on a common and reliable inventory data and it can be clearly seen how LCA is the only unique instrument to be used as common approach in many different kinds of environmental related issues.

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## Volunteers for Sustainable Development in DR Congo

### Youth Petition Drive for November 1 Submission

October 21, 2011

The following can be copied as is or modified to suit your organization's specific asks. We would like to get thousands of submissions to the UN by November 1 to demonstrate the public's concern for a successful Earth Summit, so get it out far and wide.

Blog: [http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/mdavidson/saving\\_ourselves\\_from\\_the\\_stat.html](http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/mdavidson/saving_ourselves_from_the_stat.html)

Permanent link: <https://secure.nrdconline.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=2511>

Suggested tweets/facebook posts:

- Stand with 3 billion young people around the world: we need true leadership at #EarthSummit 2012 <link>
- Earth is too big to fail! Tell world leaders young people need action NOW #EarthSummit #OWS <link>
- Worried about you and your planet's future? So are 3 billion young people. #EarthSummit <link>
- Young people call for ending over-exploitation and undemocratic stewardship of Earth's resources @ #EarthSummit 2012 #OWS <link>
- Young people need a President For The Planet at #EarthSummit 2012 <link>
- Worried about unemployment, corruption, and huge subsidies to big biz? Demand change @ #EarthSummit 2012 #OWS <link>

### Background

#### Tell the UN that the status quo is unsustainable for our planet's three billion young people

In June 2012, presidents, prime ministers and other world leaders will come to Rio de Janeiro for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. With more than 50,000 participants expected, the event will mark the 20th anniversary of the historic first Earth Summit held there in 1992. The "Rio+20" gathering will set the agenda for the next decade or more for action on critical global challenges.

For the youth of the world, much stands to be gained or lost from the Rio+20 Earth Summit. That's because young people, more than any, understand how they will be affected if world leaders fail to take action on the intertwined environmental and economic pressures they face. There are already plenty of unfulfilled promises in scores of treaties and action plans, and the world's youth are expecting this summit to do much more than just deliver another agenda with lofty goals for the distant future.

As world leaders prepare for Rio+20 they must ensure that young people are a top priority by taking real actions to immediately put us all on a more sustainable path. The Earth Summit is about more than just the planet, it is about our future.

The United Nations is requesting public comments concerning the conference through November 1st.

#### What to do:

Send a message, before the November 1<sup>st</sup>, 5pm EST (2100 GMT) comment deadline, urging the United Nations to ensure that the world's youth will be a top priority at Earth Summit 2012.

#### Contact information:

United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Secretariat Email: [dsd@un.org](mailto:dsd@un.org)

UN-DESA, DC2-2212 2 UN Plaza New York, NY 10017

#### Sample letter

Subject: I stand with the world's young people in calling for a transformative Earth Summit 2012

Dear United Nations,

I am writing in support of three billion young people who are worried about their – and their planet's – future. The current degradation and exploitation of our Earth's resources is simply unsustainable, and world leaders must respond in full measure when they meet next June in Rio de Janeiro.

First, we need all world leaders to recognize the urgency of the current situation. They need to understand and inform their own people about the dangers of not acting to move us toward a green economy and a more sustainable future. Youth are worried about the inequity and corruption that contribute to the overtaxing and mismanagement of critical natural resources and ecosystems and undermine the basis for ensuring decent livelihoods for the next generation. The United Nations should urge presidents and prime ministers from every nation to commit as early as possible to come to Rio and to initiate their preparations for the Earth Summit.

Second, world leaders must deliver more in Rio than another agenda with lofty goals for a distant future. Over the last half-year, young people meeting around the world have called out the weak implementation of scores of existing treaties and action plans adopted at previous summits. These young people are demanding that the next Earth Summit instead generate specific commitments to real actions from governments at all levels, corporations, communities and civil society groups. I agree, and the United Nations should ensure that we are holding everyone accountable for their promises.

Third, governments and corporations need to commit to major new investments in education, employment and empowerment of young people in the transition to a green economy.

We cannot wait another generation for sustainability; the world's young people need their leaders to act now.

Sincerely,

[**Danny MBUYI**, national coordinator **ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEER SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN DR CONGO/AVD**  
RDCONGO, [www.africanewdeal.org](http://www.africanewdeal.org), Goma, DRC, +243 992034976, [mbuyilukusadanny@yahoo.fr](mailto:mbuyilukusadanny@yahoo.fr)]

## Wild Law UK

Submission by Wild Law UK to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

### Introduction

Wild Law UK1 submits the following contributions to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, for inclusion in a compilation document to serve as a basis for the preparation of a zero draft of the outcome document. This submission sets out our views on how to make the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20 Summit) a success. The common belief of those who are part of Wild Law UK is that governance systems, including law, must be rapidly reoriented so that they support, rather than undermine, the long-term health and integrity of the Earth. This approach is known as Earth-centred governance, which recognises that humans are one of the many species making up the amazingly diverse Earth community and seeks to rebalance our relationship with the Earth system.2 Wild Law UK aims to secure rights of nature in law. Wild Law UK consists of more than 100 UK-based legal professionals from the private, public and voluntary sectors and non-lawyers from all walks of life, including students, environmental campaigners, academics, scientists and economists.

### Summary

Rio +20 should urgently:

1. Address the need for Earth-centred governance, and recognise the rights of nature to support, rather than undermine, the long-term health and integrity of the Earth.
2. Re-define sustainable development to embody Earth-centred principles.
3. Endorse and promote the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth3 and secure political commitment to implement this at the national and local levels.
4. Reorient Agenda 21 to incorporate Earth-centred governance principles.
5. Support the proposal for a Declaration of Ecocide.
6. Support the proposal for a Declaration of Planetary Boundaries.

In Section A, Wild Law UK sets out our general views on the objectives of Rio+20, and in Section B on the specific issues which should be addressed at the Conference.

### Section A: Objectives of Rio+20

A.1. To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development A.1.2. The Stockholm Declaration in 1972 recognised 3 elements/ 'pillars' to sustainable development: environment, society and economy. The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future in 1987 defined sustainable development as development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. However, over the years sustainable development has become conflated with unlimited economic growth and does not ensure protection of the environment or social justice. Current approaches to sustainable development fail to recognise that the economy is rooted in and dependant on Earth and should support the whole community of life on Earth and future generations. Earth, our life support system, is a non-negotiable/tradable element of sustainability.

A.1.3 A different approach to sustainable development is needed. As Einstein once said: 'we cannot solve a problem with the same thinking we used when we created [it]'. Wild Law UK believes that for development to be truly sustainable it needs to be founded on Earth-centred principles which promote the long-term health and integrity of the Earth, recognising that Earth has limits within which humans must live, and respecting the inherent rights of all life on Earth of present and future generations. Wild Law UK suggests that a more accurate approach to sustainable development would be seeing it as two pillars, economy and society, rooted in the Earth/ environment and functioning within her limits.

### A.1.4 Earth-centred principles include:

#### a) Earth-centred governance

- Recognises the intrinsic value of nature – as a life support system for all life on Earth, rather than as a "resource" for the sole benefit of humanity.
- Respects the Earth's limits/boundaries and reflects scientific understanding of how ecosystems operate. For example we should adopt a precautionary approach and prevent human activities from causing species extinction, the destruction of ecosystems or the disruption of ecological cycles, including through phenomena such as climate change.
- Respects rights of nature to exist, to habitat and fulfil their role in the community of life, and to restoration from damage.
- Recognises humans are one of many species in the amazingly diverse Earth community.

#### b) Mutually enhancing relationship with nature

- Rebalances the human relationship with the Earth system, from which human wellbeing derives, so that it contributes to the wellbeing of the whole Earth community now and in the future.

#### c) Community ecological governance

- Respects the rights of all species of the Earth community to participate in governance decision-making which affects their life and future. A.1.5 Rio +20 needs to renew political commitment to redefine sustainable development to embody Earth-centred principles. The Rio Summit in 1992 was known as the 'Earth Summit'. Rio+20 should ensure Earth is at the centre of sustainability.

## A.2. Progress to date

A.2.1 Progress is lacking. While it is commendable that previous summits on sustainable development have led to international environmental agreements, for example the Rio Summit 1992 led to the Convention on Biological Diversity and UN Framework on Climate Change, environmental degradation continues to increase. Numerous assessments confirm that present and future generations are facing unprecedented, multiple and connected ecological, social and economic crises. There are threats of mass extinction of biodiversity (many in the scientific community believe that we have already entered the sixth mass extinction caused by human activity), mass deforestation and loss of habitats, climate change, peak oil, increased food insecurity, increased poverty and breakdown of communities.

A.2.2 Our current relationship with nature is one-sided, but this cannot be sustained. If we continue with this human-centred approach/unlimited economic growth, the Earth will reach a tipping point beyond which ecosystems and Earth's life support systems will collapse. Without the natural world we cannot survive. Without recognising the intrinsic value and rights of the Earth and all life, we are in severe danger of irreparably damaging our own life support system.

A.2.3 A critical gap in implementing outcomes of the major summits is a lack of recognition of Earth-centred principles.

## A.3. New and emerging challenges

A.3.1 Rio +20 should address the alarming reality that we have exceeded the safe operating space (boundaries) for three of nine planetary systems (climate change, biodiversity loss and excess nitrogen and phosphorus production).<sup>6</sup> Such human activities are damaging Earth and undermining the conditions of life for present and future generations. Wild Law UK believes Governments and society need to address this urgent challenge if we are to pass on a viable and flourishing future to the generations to come.

A.3.2 Rio +20 should also address the growing challenge of human-centred governance, and lack of recognition of the rights of nature. Current governance is failing to prevent the cumulative degradation of the natural world. The root cause is disconnection from the Earth and human-centred thinking embedded in laws and sustainable development policies, which even in their most protective environmental form, treat nature as a "resource" for the sole benefit of humanity. A recent example of this is the UK's Natural Environment White Paper which values nature purely for 'environmental services' for the benefit of humans. Laws and policies recognise the rights of fictitious corporations but not the inherent rights of nature, which is alive. As such, protection of nature is often subsumed to the perceived greater "[human] public interest" in economic growth. Such anthropocentrism is out of step with science, and leads to a dangerously unbalanced relationship between humans and the rest of the community of life on Earth.

## Section B: Specific issues which should be urgently addressed at Rio

B.1. Rio +20 should redefine sustainable development to embody Earth-centred principles.

B.1.1 These principles are set out in detail in A.1.4 above.

B.2. Rio +20 should adopt the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth<sup>7</sup> and encourage implementation mechanisms at national and local levels.

B.2.1 Following the failure of Copenhagen Summit, the Bolivian Government organised an alternative conference for communities, NGOs, lawyers, academics, scientists and governments from around the world, in Cochabamba, Bolivia, coinciding with Mother Earth Day on April 22nd 2010. Around 35,000 people participated from 140 countries and they adopted a Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth which recognizes Earth as a living being with rights to life, to continue her vital cycles and processes (free from human disruptions), and to restoration from destructive human activities.

B.2.2 Wild Law UK believes that the time has come to recognise the rights of nature in law.

B.3. Rio +20 should avoid:

- renewing political commitment to a human-centred definition of sustainable development which prioritises unlimited economic growth and short-term individual gain, over interests of the whole community of life on Earth, of present and future generations.
- focussing on the green economy, rather than on overarching governance systems, of which the economy is one element. Growing the economy must not be seen as an end in itself. The purpose of governance should be to promote the wellbeing of the whole community of life on Earth.
- defining a 'green economy' as unlimited economic growth, without regard to Earth-centred principles, particularly the Earth's limits and planetary boundaries.

B.4. Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

B.4.1 There is a lack of clarity on the definition of green economy. Wild Law UK believes a green economy should be based on Earth-centred principles, as explained above, for the benefit of the whole community of life on Earth.

B.4.2 As Article 7 of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth states: 'The rights of each being are limited by the rights of other beings and any conflict between their rights must be resolved in a way that maintains the integrity, balance and health of Mother Earth.' Further States should promote economic systems that are in harmony with Mother Earth and consistent with the rights of nature.<sup>8</sup> Earth-centred governance seeks to rebalance our relationship with the Earth system from destructive to mutually enhancing for the benefit of the whole Earth community.

B.5. The institutional frameworks (at international, regional, national and local levels) required

B.5.1 Sustainable development is more than a green economy. Institutional frameworks are necessary at all levels to deliver Earth-centred governance, not just a green economy, for the benefit of present and future generations of all species (not just humans). Any institutional framework should be guided and aligned with the Earth-centred principles explained above, and promote a significant shift in personal and societal values and behaviour towards nature. Earth-centred governance and limits must underpin all our decisions.

B.5.2 Inspiration for institutional frameworks can be drawn from the proposed Ombudsman for Mother Earth in Bolivia.<sup>9</sup> Also the Green Ombudsman for future generations in Hungary, appointed in 2007 to uphold the peoples' Constitutional right to a healthy environment. The Commissioner is entrusted with broad powers to investigate complaints including environmental issues, advocate on sustainability issues and also widen the knowledge base through research projects.

B.5.3 People also have an important role to play in implementing sustainable development. Rio established Agenda 21 as a blueprint for sustainable development and this set out the importance of local actions. The World Charter for Nature, a legally binding document adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1982, calls for humans to be guided by a moral code of action including respect and protection of nature. The Earth Charter, a United Nations initiative developed by global civil society and launched

as a people's charter in 2000 by the Earth Charter Commission, "seeks to inspire in all peoples a sense of global interdependence and shared responsibility for the well-being of the human family, the greater community of life, and future generations". The Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth says that 'every human being is responsible for respecting, protecting and living in harmony with Mother Earth'.<sup>11</sup> Public participation and leadership in decision-making is critical to ensure a more sustainable future for all. Wild Law UK acknowledges that in order to secure such a radical change we need to transform hearts and minds, creating a shift in personal and cultural world views, values and ethics. Some examples of best practice for local governance includes the Transition Town movement (which aims to build the resilience of local communities to cope with the twin challenges of peak oil and climate change), Community Ecological Governance and the Council of Elders in many indigenous communities.

B.5.4 A transition from human to Earth-centred governance is urgently needed. Inspiring legal precedents include the Ecuadorian Constitution – which was the first Constitution in the world to recognise the legally enforceable rights of nature. In a recent case in Ecuador, the Provincial court of Loja granted an injunction against the Provincial Government of Loja to stop dumping excavation material into the Vilcabamba river, because it violated the constitutional rights of the river to exist and maintain its vital cycles, structure, functions, and evolutionary processes. There are also dozens of local ordinances (laws) in the United States which acknowledge the legal rights of natural communities and ecosystems to 'exist and flourish', which recognise self-governance of communities and which deny the personhood of corporations engaging in ecologically and socially destructive activities.

B.6. The objectives and roles the UK Government should assume in the run-up to and at the Conference

- support and implement the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Mother Earth
- raise awareness of the need for Earth-centred governance
- promote a shift in personal and societal values and behaviour to recognise the rights of nature
- promote economic systems which comply with Earth-centred principles and define green economy within Earth's limits for the benefit of present and future generations
- facilitate public participation in Rio +20
- show leadership in the EU by implementing Earth-centred governance.

B.7. Ideal outcomes from Rio+20

B.7.1 Re-framing of sustainable development to embody Earth-centred governance principles.

B.7.2 Adoption of the Universal Declaration for Rights of Mother Earth<sup>16</sup> by the United Nations and implemented at the national level.

B.7.2.1 This Declaration could be enforced by:

- an international environmental court such as the proposed International Court for the Environment<sup>17</sup>, which advocates wider access to environmental justice.
- adoption of domestic laws which recognise and protect the rights of nature, e.g. the Bolivian Law of Mother Earth and the Ecuadorian Constitution.
- recognising the rights of individuals and civil society groups to enforce the rights of nature, e.g., by widening interpretation of the provisions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Aarhus Convention).
- creating institutional mechanisms to promote and advocate the rights of nature such as Bolivia's proposal for an ombudsman for Mother Earth, or a Commission for Nature's Rights, similar to the Equality and Human Rights Commission in the U.K.
- Respecting the provisions of the World Charter and Earth Charter which set out duties and responsibilities for the respect and protection of Earth and the 'greater community of life and future generations'.

B.7.3 Re-orientation of Agenda 21 to incorporate Earth-centred governance principles – as an 'Agenda for the Earth Community'.

B.7.4 Adoption of the proposed Crime of Ecocide<sup>19</sup>, with Ecocide to mean 'the extensive destruction, damage to or loss of ecosystem(s) of a given territory, whether by human agency or by other causes, to such an extent that peaceful enjoyment by the inhabitants of that territory has been severely diminished.' This could be enforced by an international court.

B.7.5 Support the proposal for a Declaration of Planetary Boundaries<sup>20</sup> which recognises and respects the necessary Earth-system processes which sustain all life, and promotes responsibility for safeguarding these processes from serious or irreversible damage. A Planetary Boundary Institution could promote the principles of the Declaration.

B.7.6 Support the social movement for Earth-centred governance. There is a growing movement of communities, organisations, lawyers, policy makers and academics advocating for the rights of nature and living in harmony with nature. There are strong advocates in the UK, U.S., Australia, Africa, South America and Asia, including Wild Law UK, Gaia Foundation, Global Alliance for Rights of Nature, African Biodiversity Network<sup>23</sup>, Centre for Earth Jurisprudence and many more. Connections with other like-minded advocates should be supported. For real change to occur, an holistic approach and practice of Earth-centred governance and respect of rights of nature is necessary by other stakeholders including the wider public, Government, and business.

B.8 The potential risks to the ideal outcomes being achieved. These include:

- a persistent presumption of the status quo for unlimited economic growth over Earth-centred governance
- lack of support from member States, particularly in implementation and enforcement
- lack of financial support to promote Earth-centred governance.

These obstacles can be overcome if there is political commitment to addressing the root causes of continued environmental degradation.

Wild Law UK, 27 October 2011

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## Women

### Women's Major Group Summary

#### Input to "Zero Draft" Outcome Document

#### UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)

1 November 2011

Women's Major Group Submission, UNCSD Rio+20, 1 November 2011



The Global Women's Major Group submission is submitted in response to the request for input by the Secretariat for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. It has been developed by over 50 organizations worldwide to reflect the diversity of women's perspectives. This summary comprises the global Women's Major Group submission. A longer Women's Major Group compilation document (working document) for Rio+20 is annexed. The Women's submissions are available at the UNCSD website [www.uncsd2012.org](http://www.uncsd2012.org) under 'Major Groups–Women', along with regional Women's Major Group statements from Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

## SUMMARY

### Introduction

Throughout the world women are key actors in maintaining the sustaining livelihoods and welfare of their families and communities, and in making a transition to a more equitable and sustainable world. Our economy is linked to and depends on a healthy planet. It also depends on women's economic contributions, both formal and informal.

### Women's Vision for Rio+20: an Equitable and Sustainable World

Social equity, gender equality and environmental justice must form the heart of sustainable development, and of the outcomes of the Rio+20 UN conference in 2012. Twenty years after the first Rio conference, great social and economic inequities still remain. These inequities especially affect women and children, who make up the majority of those living in poverty.

Measures to ensure equity, equality, social and environmental justice need to be prioritized, as these are the cornerstones for achieving sustainable development globally. These measures should promote:

**Ø Gender equality in all spheres of our societies:** education, employment, ownership and control over resources, access to justice, political representation, institutional decision-making, care giving and household and community management. A world where women can fully deploy their potential in all spheres of our societies, meaning without gender-based violence, where women share in land ownership and financial resources, where women and girls are equally represented in all areas and in which women's sexual and reproductive rights are assured.

**Ø Respect for human rights and social justice:** building societies based on respect for human rights of all people, ensuring social protection, sustainable livelihoods and environmental security, and fair distribution of the earth's natural and economic resources. A world where economic, social and environmental rights for women and men are fully respected.

**Ø Environmental conservation and protection of human health:** creating societies which function within the earth's ability to support life and human livelihoods, preventing

disruptive climatic changes as well as pollution and contamination of ecosystems and human settlements. A world where women's livelihoods are not irreversibly harmed by environmentally destructive economic activities.

### 1. Renewing Commitments to Sustainable Development and Gender Equality

*(this section refers to point 4.a. of the Rio+20 guidelines for submissions)*

Women worldwide have been working towards recognition of the gender dimensions of sustainable development by the United Nations. The Women's Action Agenda 21 was developed in 1991 by women from all regions in the world, and aimed to influence the outcomes of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro (UNCED, or the "Earth Summit"). It contained an outline for a healthy and peaceful planet, and formed an important basis for introducing gender equality in the official UNCED outcomes. It criticized existing economic thinking and development models and practices that were deemed unjust, inequitable and unsustainable.

In response to women's efforts and advocacy, Principle 20 of the Rio Declaration (1992) recognizes that: *"Women have a vital role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development."* Chapter 24 of Agenda 21 "Global Action for Women towards Sustainable Development" contains 11 different commitments with specific recommendations to strengthen the role of women in sustainable development and to eliminate all obstacles to their equal and beneficial participation, particularly in decision making activities.

Other important global agreements that underline the importance of gender equality and sustainable development include the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Beijing Platform for Action, the Cairo Program of Action and the Millennium Development Goals.

We call on governments to renew their commitments to these agreements and support their commitments through action and direct financing to support gender equitable sustainable development.

We recommend that the Rio+20 Outcome Document include a set of 'Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs) that complement existing agreements, including specific crosscutting goals, targets and indicators on gender equality in all spheres of society.

### 2. Views on 'Green Economy' in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication

*(this section refers to point 4.b. of the Rio+20 guidelines for submissions)*

We are critical about the use of the term 'Green Economy'. We are concerned it is too often separated from the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication. We are concerned it will be used and misused to green-wash existing unsustainable economic practices that lead to inequities and infringe on the rights of effected peoples and future generations, because it does not fundamentally and adequately question and transform the current economic paradigm.

In particular, the current economic system:

**Harms women and the environment:** while the wealthy consume more and more natural resources and are responsible for increasing levels of environmental damage, those living in poverty are suffering from degradation of their agricultural land, forests, water supplies and biodiversity, and of alteration of weather cycles due to climatic changes.

**Is inequitable and unsustainable:** social and economic inequities are inherent in the present economic system and are increasing in many countries both in the North and the South; with especially adverse consequences for women and children.

**Uses performance indicators that are socially and environmentally blind:** our (failing) economies are currently managed so as to achieve and celebrate growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and do not promote human and environmental welfare.

Most governments state that their objectives are progress and development, yet at the same time use economic tools which do not help attain these objectives, but instead have lead to concentration of wealth and increased inequities. Governments at Rio+20 should renew support for the objectives of equitable and sustainable development, and should commit to choosing the right economic tools. In a sustainable development framework, the economy has to fulfil social progress taking into account environmental limits.

We support the transformation from the current economic system to a sustainable and equitable economic system that ensures gender equality, human rights and environmental justice and supports sustainable livelihoods and poverty eradication.

#### **Recommendations regarding 'Green Economy' in the context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication**

Ø Use the term '**Sustainable and Equitable Economy**' instead of 'Green Economy'

Ø Principles of a Sustainable and Equitable Economy:

<sup>EN</sup> Promotion of social equity, gender equality and intergenerational equity

<sup>EN</sup> Democracy, transparency and justice

<sup>EN</sup> Application of the precautionary principle

<sup>EN</sup> Ethical values, such as respect for nature, spirituality, culture, harmony, solidarity, community, caring and sharing

<sup>EN</sup> Global responsibility for the global common goods

<sup>EN</sup> Environmental sustainability

<sup>EN</sup> Common but differentiated responsibilities

Ø Sustainable and Equitable Economies have economic policies aiming at:

<sup>EN</sup> Poverty eradication and gender equality: with fairer distribution of resources and rights, and assurance of human security of all

<sup>EN</sup> Ending violence against women through legislation, support services for women, affordable access to justice for women, and information about rights and norms

<sup>EN</sup> Prioritizing peace promotion and conflict prevention

<sup>EN</sup> Preventing toxic and radioactive harm on women's and children's health, and ensuring safe waste reduction, reuse and recycling policies

<sup>EN</sup> Providing women, adolescents and girls universal access to sexual and reproductive health

<sup>EN</sup> Sustainable agriculture, food security and food sovereignty and recognition of women's role in food production

<sup>EN</sup> Assuring access to clean, efficient and safe energy and technologies for all, especially for women

<sup>EN</sup> Safe water and sanitation for all, particularly for poor rural and urban women and girls

<sup>EN</sup> Conserving biodiversity, women's access to natural resources and respect of their environmental rights

<sup>EN</sup> Necessary and equitable measures for mitigation of and adaptation to climate change

<sup>EN</sup> Measures against land grabbing – protecting women's (continued) access to (communal) land and commons

<sup>EN</sup> Phasing out GMO's as women in many countries are the majority of the 'seedkeepers'

Ø Measure and operationalize progress through:

<sup>EN</sup> Policies that recognize and promote women's economic contributions

<sup>EN</sup> Indicators that go beyond the 'GDP' (Gross Domestic Product), including indicators to show gender impacts

<sup>EN</sup> Financial sector re-regulation and reform, encouraging long-term perspectives

<sup>EN</sup> Fiscal sector reform, including new taxation to redistribute wealth, such as a financial transaction tax, and taxing of non-renewable and unsustainable resource exploitation

<sup>EN</sup> Investments in women's leadership, education, skills and entrepreneurship

<sup>EN</sup> Investments in health care, child-care and social protection floor

### **3. Views on an 'Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development'**

*(this section refers to point 4.c. of the Rio+20 guidelines for submissions)*









Rio+20 offers a platform for much-needed fundamental reform of international governance to ensure sustainable and equitable development within the carrying capacity of the planet.

Our existing institutional and governance structures have proved inadequate to meet our rising sustainable development challenges. Our core policy formulation, economic thinking and motivations remain firmly detached from our broader sustainability concerns. Since our electoral cycles and business models of reporting increasingly define our decision-making, short-term gains take precedence over future and long-term interests.

With women comprising a small percentage of those in decision-making positions of government, parliament and private enterprises, women remain disconnected from the core of policy-making. Without true representation of their needs, women are left without a voice, or a legitimate means in which to question or present their concerns

Many institutions that regulate and manage programs and projects are not gender sensitive. These institutions need to change and demonstrate internal practices of gender equality.

**Important pillars for governance of sustainable development (global, regional, local) include:**

-  Rio Principle 10 (right to information and participation), and conventions that cover all countries
-  Rio Principle 20, ensuring the full participation of women (for example, through quotas, and changing governance culture)
-  Valuing the unrecognized contributions of women and of the environment to sustainable development
-  Financing of sustainable development that respects the right of free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples, and the rights of communities
-  Gender criteria of financial mechanisms for sustainable development
-  Recognition that women can capacitate "sustainable economies" with their knowledge systems and hitherto undervalued "care economy" contributions
-  Protection of women's indigenous and traditional knowledge systems from appropriation and exploitation by big business
-  Acceleration of progress towards gender equality in all areas of governance, the judiciary and the economy

**Recommendations regarding 'Institutional framework for Sustainable Development'**

- Ø Governance of sustainable development should be placed at the highest level of the UN, reporting directly to the UN General Assembly, with accountability mechanisms that include specific gender indicators
- Ø Gender mainstreaming within the entire sustainable development governance structure, based on the CEDAW, the Beijing Platform for Action, Agenda 21 and the Millennium Development Goals, including: collection and use of gender analysis and sex-disaggregated data; improved institutional gender capacity; consultation with networks of gender experts; partnering with women's organizations; and user-friendly involvement mechanisms that will enable grassroots women to participate in global, national and local dialogues
- Ø Strengthened international environmental governance, including adequate public and predictable resources for a reformed United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), enabled to assure capacity building at national level and coherence of the MEAs
- Ø Safeguarding environmental, social conditions for the benefit of present and future generations through national and international ombudspersons for future generations as independent institutions with legal powers<sup>1</sup> and funds for future generations
- Ø A strengthened and adequately financed UN Women, to guide and implement flagship programmes on strengthening women's role in sustainable development, and coordination between all UN agencies on gender and sustainable development
- Ø Strengthening of effective and balanced civil society participation
- Ø Reform international finance, economic and trade organisations, to assure priority for equitable social development and environmental protection, and prevent a commodification of natural resources

1 As supported by the Major Groups: Workers and Trade Unions, and Youth

**4. Views on the 'Objective of the Conference' including 'Emerging Issues'**

*(this section refers to point 4.a. of the Rio+20 guidelines for submissions)*

The Rio+20 agenda includes setting priorities for work on "Emerging Issues". Women's priority and sectoral issues, including some identified among the UNEP Foresight 21 Challenges for the 21st Century List, include:

**Ø Food security and food sovereignty: Women's voice over agriculture and biodiversity**

Women produce much of the world's food. They need secure land tenure and resource rights to ensure their productivity. Their traditional knowledge about seeds, farming skills and livestock management needs to be recognized. Given that women constitute more than 50% of those who "go to bed hungry every night" (World Disasters Report on Hunger), food security systems need to address issues of equitable distribution of food, and need to address reasons behind crop failures, collapsing fish stocks and food price increases, including large-scale industrial bio-energy production. A review of the unfair legal framework for intellectual property in this field is needed to defend food security and food sovereignty, especially for women. Effective measures should be adopted at the global level to prevent speculation in the food market and maintain sustainable fishing practices both near shore and on the high seas. To increase the social and environmental resilience of communities and prevent loss of agricultural biodiversity, women's production needs to be supported, including through improved access to education, resources and markets. To defend food security and food sovereignty, their rights to choose what to plant, eat and sell, must also be ensured.

**Ø Rush for Land: Women's land rights and ownership tenure, and prevention of land grabbing**

Women's land rights need to be ensured. Women farmers and indigenous peoples are currently losing their territories, resources and livelihoods in the grabbing of land by governments, local and foreign investors, including for large-scale bioenergy production. This results in increased poverty and lack of food security and food sovereignty. The increasing influence of corporations and other economic actors over environmental policies is also leading to privatization of common lands. Women are among the main victims of this trend, as they are deprived of access to resources that are of essential importance to their livelihoods and communities. These practices should be halted and community and indigenous rights should be respected, protected and strengthened. In consultation with women's groups, plans need to be put in place at all levels to ensure that land purchases do not threaten and compromise the livelihood of rural women.

**Ø Halt privatization and commodification of the commons: Women most affected**

The increasing influence of corporations and other strong economic actors over environmental policies is leading to tendency to privatize and commodify the commons<sup>2</sup> - formerly ruled by community rules and accessible to them - including water, genetic resources, and Indigenous territories and community conserved areas. Women are amongst the main victims of this trend, as they are deprived of access to resources that are of essential importance to their families. The privatization of the commons should be halted and Indigenous and community rights should be respected, protected and strengthened.

2 Rules, Games, and Common-Pool Resources; Ostrom, Elinor et al. Editors, Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Press, 1994

3 [1] Proposal of the women major group, UNEP regional statement 2011/2012, see [http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/59/Documents/Bonn\\_Consultations\\_2011](http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/59/Documents/Bonn_Consultations_2011)

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#### **Ø Women and children's greater harm from radiation: Need for phasing out of nuclear**

Women and children are at significantly greater risk of suffering and dying from radiation-induced cancer than a man exposed to the same dose of ionizing radiation, and are not protected accordingly by current regulation. There is no "safe" dose of radiation. We take a firm position against nuclear energy as one of the solutions to the energy crisis. It is neither clean nor sustainable, as many nuclear disasters have already so painfully pointed out. States must take decisive positions from immediate decommissioning to phasing out, and take the path of promoting the use of renewable energy. A legally binding mechanism to address the cost of decommissioning and clean up of nuclear power-plants, nuclear waste and uranium mines should be committed to at Rio+20. Redress and clean-up should be financed according to the polluter-pays principle. The entire nuclear cycle is threat to our generation and to that of our children. A UN rapporteur on uranium and nuclear risks should be agreed on<sup>3</sup>.

#### **Ø Promotion of clean renewable energy technologies and phasing out of unsustainable energy**

Close to 2.4 billion people in developing countries still depend almost entirely on traditional biomass fuels (wood, charcoal, dung and agricultural residues). It is mostly women who are tasked with collecting and managing these fuels, which limits their time and opportunities for education and income-generating activities. Investments in access to modern energy are needed for improved livelihoods, education, health services, water and sanitation, education, and transportation. Women need increased access to cleaner, more efficient energy sources and technologies for household use and productive activities, as well as training and education for business development - including designing, producing, marketing and managing new energy products and services. Unsustainable energy sources such as nuclear, shale gas, tar sands and coal continue to be expanded and subsidised. Governments should agree in Rio to eliminate direct and indirect subsidies to unsustainable energy supply – currently estimated at 7-9 billion Euro annually – and instead to create

incentives and a fair legal environment for renewable energy and women's access to these resources.

#### **Ø Strengthen gender priority in Climate Change policies**

Climatic changes are already causing major problems in many regions of the world, and women bear the harshest impacts of the current climate crisis. Due to gender roles and inequalities, climate changes have particularly adverse impacts on women's livelihoods and work burdens, and also reinforce gender discrimination and the feminization of poverty. Women have valuable experience, knowledge and ideas about climate change mitigation, adaptation, resilience and disaster risk management, and are important actors in the promotion of sustainable consumption. Women's decision-making power and participation in the development and implementation of climate change policies, mechanisms and funding must be increased to ensure they are gender-responsive. Women also need access to environmental rights, climate change funding, and sustainable technologies.

#### **Ø Women and migration**

Due to unsustainable activities and climate change, many regions are experiencing land degradation, desertification, water insecurity and scarcity, sea level rise, droughts/floods, land grabs, changing disease vectors and deforestation. Economic and ecological displacement and migration are expected to increase as a result of this resource instability, both rural to urban and cross-border. In Asia, women make up the majority affected. A sustainable development agenda must address the social costs of this migration by addressing conditions of women's economic deprivation and environmental degradation, as well as by establishing policies to assist the migrants, particularly women and children, and improve their legal status.

#### **Ø Women and children at risk: Need for new approaches to minimizing risks of novel technologies and chemicals**

Women are greatly concerned by the technological solutions offered to climate change, including geo-engineering, many of which are motivated by profit. Women are also very concerned by the rising volume of chemical production of many toxic chemicals and chemicals yet to be adequately tested for safety, and the wide-scale deployment of new technologies such as nano-technology in consumer products without necessary health information. Women and children are at specific risk from diseases associated with toxic chemicals - including many cancers, infertility, metabolic disorders, and learning and developmental disabilities – which are likely to increase in incidence and severity. We seek from our governments a commitment to the rapid reduction and elimination of toxic substances and highly hazardous pesticides and fertilizers, while steadily phasing-in non-chemical pesticide management approaches. Rio+20 outcomes should include participatory and transparent mechanisms for assessing these technologies, using the precautionary principle and a gender perspective to examine, among others, dangers to women's reproductive health, multiplication of their already many burdens and other impacts.

#### **Ø New challenges to water availability: Burden for women**

Approximately one billion people live without access to clean water, and over 2 billion lack basic sanitation. In many developing countries, it is women and girls who are often most affected by lack of water, as they are primarily responsible for obtaining and transporting water for daily use. Water scarcity is compounded by climatic changes, and increasing due to chemical – amongst others from shale gas fracking – and biological pollution. This is a serious threat to the health of women and their babies and families, and it adds to the women's burden of water provision. Given the importance of protecting the health of future generations and the health of women who are more vulnerable to toxic chemicals during pregnancy, access to clean water for women and their families must be ensured and pollution of water halted at every level. In line with the UN resolution of 2010, we consider water as a basic human right, and as such it must be treated as a common good. Its treatment, distribution and management must be under public control, including mechanism of

social control and community administration. Due to their major role in water provision and administration, women must be the leadership of water management decisions.

### **5. Views on Rio+20 Outcomes**

*(this section refers to point 3.a. of the Rio+20 guidelines for submissions)*

We call on governments to recognize that sustainable development is built on a healthy environment as the foundation of all human well-being and that economic development must serve human and cultural development and take place within the carrying capacity of the planet. Economic instruments should aim at incorporation of externalities, equitable redistribution of wealth and equality between women and men.

#### **Ø Sustainable and equitable economies**

**Commit to gender-sensitive development of binding international and national measures**, in particular:

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to develop binding policies that ensure healthy and sustainable livelihoods for women, in particular through halting use of unsustainable, radioactive and harmful substances and technologies

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to assure a Social Protection Floor for all women as a fundamental human right, thus effectively reducing poverty and allowing women to fully participate in

sustainable development

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to end violence against women through legislation, support services for women, affordable access to justice for women, and information about rights and norms

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to assure access to clean, efficient and safe energy, water and sanitation for all, especially for women

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to assure women's access to natural resources, measures against land grabbing, access to and protection of commons, and respect of women's environmental rights

#### Ø Governance of sustainable development

**Commit to gender-sensitive development of binding international and national measures, in particular:**

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to strengthen international governance of environment and to bring global sustainable development governance to the highest level of the UN, whilst assuring gender targets and policies for the new structures

<sup>EN</sup> Agree on binding measures for the protection of women's indigenous and traditional knowledge systems from appropriation and exploitation by corporations (strong regulation of corporate power which effectively protects the most vulnerable in times of globalization)

<sup>EN</sup> Agree on the development of agreements that guarantee global access to timely information, relevant public participation, affordable access to justice, liability and redress mechanisms

<sup>EN</sup> Agree on creating specific windows and incentives to increase women's role and access to assets and finance in the area of sustainable development

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to create an independent technology assessment organisation with the mandate to assess, control and, where necessary, limit use of technologies before widespread use, based on the precautionary principle

<sup>EN</sup> Agree to create global mechanisms for the protection of the global commons, including clean up of harmful pollution such as from uranium mining, and a mechanism for its implementation

<sup>EN</sup> Global and national institutions to protect the rights of future generations<sup>4</sup>

4 As supported by the Major Groups: Workers and Trade Unions, and Youth

#### Ø Commit to targets and indicators for women's engagement

The Outcome Document should include specific targets and indicators to support and promote women's engagement as key actors in sustainable development and to measure government progress on recommended actions. These could be incorporated into Sustainable Development Goals or could stand alone.

#### Ø Include gender equality goals in Sustainable Development Goals

A proposal has been presented by member states for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), which governments in Rio can agree to develop up to 2015, to follow up the Millennium Development Goals.

The Women's Major Group supports the idea of SDGs, however, regrets that the proposal does not yet include any specific gender related goals, unlike the MDGs which contain several.

A set of Sustainable Development Goals should be adopted that includes specific crosscutting goals on gender equality in all spheres of society, in particular these could aim to:

<sup>EN</sup> Secure women's greater access and control over assets, land tenure, inputs and natural resources including traditional common lands;

<sup>EN</sup> Promote women's access to services and technologies needed for water, energy, agricultural production, family care, household management and business enterprises;

<sup>EN</sup> Provide comprehensive social protection measures, especially for women;

<sup>EN</sup> Provide safe health care facilities, including for sexual and reproductive health;

<sup>EN</sup> Enable women and men to combine their jobs with childcare;

<sup>EN</sup> Support investments in women's economic, social and political empowerment, including through new financing and credit facilities accessible to women;

<sup>EN</sup> Support for traditional knowledge systems and management practices;

<sup>EN</sup> Determine specific targets for women with regard to technology training, business management skills and extension services;

<sup>EN</sup> Promote women's participation in government and business leadership, with targets of at least 40% women;

<sup>EN</sup> Strengthen women's organizations/self help groups, entrepreneurs and networks to enable them to negotiate the terms of their engagement with sustainable development projects; and








































<sup>EN</sup> Develop in-house capacities for gender mainstreaming within implementing agencies and local partners.

**The world stands at a crossroads**, and the future of our planet Earth and its human communities lays in (y)our hands. United in our diversity we, women from all regions in the world, call on our governments and other stakeholders to renew the commitments on equitable and sustainable development made at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. We commit ourselves to contribute to a peaceful and healthy planet, in which human rights are well respected and women's voices are well-represented. We urge you to act in the spirit of global solidarity, trust, environmental and social care, and incorporate our recommendations into Rio+20 decisions.

#### WOMEN's MAJOR GROUP, Rio+20

This document has been developed by the Women's Rio+20 Steering Committee, including the following:

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-  Adéquations; France (Yveline Nicolas)
-  ADPDH - Association pour le développement et de la promotion des droits humains; Mauritania (Hawa Sidibe)
-  AMIHAN - National Federation of Peasant Women; Philippines
-  APROMAC – Environmental Protection Association; Brazil
-  APWLD - Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development;Thailand
-  AWNGD – Asian Women Network on Gender and Development/Helena Benitez Global Forum
-  Asociación Civil Red Ambiental; Argentina
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-  Earth Care Africa; Zimbabwe
-  Earth Day Network; USA
-  Eco-Accord; Russia
-  EDEN - Environmental center for Development Education and Networking center; Albania
-  Egypt Women Major Group Representative; Egypt
-  ENERGIA -International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy
-  FEIM - Foundation for Studies and Research on Women; Argentina
-  Feminist Task Force (FTF) of the Global Call to Action against Poverty
-  Gender and Water Alliance; Netherlands
-  GFC - Global Forest Coalition; Netherlands, Paraguay
-  Global Women Scholars Network, Colorado State University; USA (Gillian Bowser)
-  Greens Movement of Georgia/Friends of the Earth; Georgia
-  Groupe de contact Genre et développement soutenable; France
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-  Ilitha Labantu; South Africa
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-  International Planned Parenthood Federation; Western Hemisphere Region
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 TOXISPHERA – Environmental Health Association; Brazil

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 WEDO - Women's Environment and Development Organization

 WOCAN Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and NRM; USA, India

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## **ANNEX**

to the Women Major Group Submission for the Zero-draft Document

### **Women's Global Rio+20 Compilation**

#### **Position Statement**

#### **UN Conference on Sustainable Development**

Working Document

Version 1. November 2011

This is a compilation of the Women's Major Group Rio+20 position statements based on input from the March 2011 Women's Major Group Position Paper, women's statements presented at the Bonn UNDPI conference, the UNEP global Rio+20 consultation in Bonn and the Regional Rio+20 preparatory meetings in Santiago de Chile, Seoul, Cairo and Addis Ababa. This is a working document in continued progress. A globally developed summary of this document has been submitted as the Women's Major Group submission for the zero-draft document for Rio+20. This compilation document is an annex.

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#### **1. Introduction**

##### **1.1. Women's and Nature's invisible contribution – Bedrock of our Economies**

- Ø Women and the Environment are the bedrock of our economies and modern societies
- Ø Both women and the environment make an invisible contribution which is currently not valued and not measured
- Ø Women's livelihoods depend on a healthy planet and access to natural resources
- Ø The dominant monetary economy is linked to and depends on a healthy planet, and on both women's visible and women's invisible economic contributions
- Ø Most governments state that their objectives are progress and development, but at the same time use the wrong economic tools, which at best focus on GDP growth and at worst on making a minority rich.
- Ø It is time not just to state again the right objectives, but also to choose the right tools
- Ø In a sustainable development framework, the economy has to fulfil social progress taking into account environmental limits.
- Ø To reach Sustainable Development, it is time to move from the current economic system to one that embraces the 'Care Economy' – and from there, ultimately to sustainable and equitable economies based on gender equality.**

## 1.2. Women are key actors in the transition to a more equitable and sustainable world

Throughout the world, women are providing basic necessities for their families - food, water, fuel, homes and health care - and also caring for others, building communities and running businesses. They are forest stewards, farmers, land managers, community leaders, researchers, political leaders, technology designers, and entrepreneurs.

Ø On the positive side, all but 6 countries in the World have ratified the Convention on Elimination of all Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and the last country not to allow women to vote has decided to do so in a few years time. Much progress has been achieved throughout the world, as many countries have developed policies and laws in place that reduce discrimination against women. But great challenge remain in the implementation of these policies and in the behavioural changes required within households, communities and institutions to promote gender equality. Thus, in many countries women's knowledge, skills and contributions remain largely unrecognized and undervalued. All studies show that eliminating gender inequalities are good for countries

Ø World Bank: investing in women is best investment in development of their communities<sup>5</sup> and World gender inequality brings economic costs

Ø FAO: by eliminating gender discrimination in agriculture, food production would raise by 20% worldwide<sup>6</sup>

<sup>5</sup> World Bank - World Development Report 2012, Gender Equality and Development <http://econ.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTRESEARCH/EXTWDRS/EXTWDR2012/0,,contentMDK:22851055~menuPK:7778074~pagePK:7778278~piPK:7778320~theSitePK:7778063,00.html>

<sup>6</sup> add reference Food and Agriculture Organisation

## 1.3. Recalling key outcomes of Rio 1992 on Women's role and Gender equality

We recall Rio Declaration Principle 20 which says: *'Women have a vital role in environmental management and development. Their full participation is therefore essential to achieve sustainable development.'*

We recall Agenda 21 Chapter 24 "Global Action for Women towards Sustainable Development" which underlines the role that women play in sustainable development, and distinguished 11

commitments with specific recommendations to strengthen the role of women in sustainable and beneficial development. The chapter contains specific recommendations to strengthen the role of women in sustainable development and to eliminate all obstacles to their equal and beneficial participation, particularly in decision making activities relating to promoting environmentally sound management and sustainable development.

As well as 145 other references throughout the Agenda 21 text, in 33 of its 40 chapters, which underline the importance of women in sustainable development.

## 1.4. Recalling the Women's Action Agenda 21

The Women's Action Agenda 21, an outline for a healthy and peaceful planet, aimed to influence the outcomes of UNCED. It formed an important basis for introducing gender equality in the official UNCED outcomes, including Agenda 21, the Rio Conventions and the Rio Declaration.

*The Women's Action Agenda for a Healthy Planet*, WAA21, was a critical reflection of women's collaboration on environment and sustainable development.

The WAA21 starts with a common vision on the interaction between the life-giving capacity of the Earth and women's shared concerns about the health of the planet, social inequalities and the systems and values that cause such problems. Strong impetus is put on human rights, and the need for recognition of women as powerful forces of change, as catalysts and initiators of environmental action.

***"We, women of many nations, cultures and creeds, of different colours and classes, have come together to voice our concern for the health of our living planet and all its interdependent life forms. As long as Nature and women are abused by a so-called "free market" ideology and wrong concepts of "economic growth," there can be no environmental security"***<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> From: Preamble, WAA21 (Source: <http://www.iisd.org/women/action21.htm>)

WAA21 identified eleven urgent Action Areas, and specific recommendations were presented for each of these areas: Democratic Rights, Diversity and Solidarity; Code of Environmental Ethics and Accountability; Women, Militarism and Environment; Foreign Debt and Trade; Women, Poverty, Land Rights, Food Security and Credit; Women's Rights, Population Policies and Health; Biodiversity and Biotechnology; Nuclear Power and Alternative Energy; Science and Technology Transfer; Women's Consumer Power; and: Information and Education.

WAA21 criticized ongoing economic thinking and the official UNCED positions on sustainable development. It reflected a strong criticism of the existing models and practices of development that were deemed unjust, inequitable and unsustainable. The WAA21 text formed the basis for women's mobilization and efforts to influence the UNCED negotiations.

## 2. Women's Vision for Rio+20: an Equitable and Sustainable World

### Key elements of women's common vision

Twenty years after the first Rio conference, great inequities remain. Social and economic inequities are especially hard on women and children as they form the majority of the world's poor.

We agree to prioritize measures to assure equity, equality, social and environmental justice as they are cornerstones for achieving sustainable development globally.

**2.1. Gender equality in all spheres of societies:** education, employment, ownership and control over resources, access to justice, political representation, institutional decision-making, care giving and household management

Ø World where women can fully deploy their potential in all spheres of our societies

Ø World without gender-based violence - at home, in the workplace, in society

Ø World where women no longer own less than 1% of land and wealth, but share in land ownership and equally access financial resources

Ø World where women and girls are equally represented (50%) in education, job markets and political office

Ø World in which women sexual and reproductive rights are assured

Ø World where no economic activity is connected to violence, including rape

**2.2. Human rights and Social justice;** societies based on respect for human rights of all people and equitable management, ensuring livelihoods through safe and decent food, fuel, shelter, and health care, and a fair distribution of the earth's natural resources.

Ø A world where the human rights of all women and men are fully respected, including the human rights of Indigenous Peoples and other ethnic groups.

Ø A world where economic, social and environmental rights of women and men are fully respected

Ø World where poverty of women and men is eradicated.

Ø A world where all women and men share equally the limited environmental resources.

Ø World where women and men enjoy social protection.

Ø A world where men and women are equally taking care of their families, communities and environment

Ø A world where different systems of knowledge and experience are respected and can cooperate on equal footing

Ø World where products we consume no longer are based on exploitation and contamination of workers, including women and children, and consumers are informed about the social and environmental impacts of products

Ø World in which public and private enterprises are held liable for current and future damage and redress is assured for communities, including women

Ø World where products are produced in a fair manner, assuring decent pay and social security

Ø A world where the reproductive and sexual rights of women and men are fully respected

Ø A world where women have equal rights and implementable opportunities for information, participation, and access to justice

**2.3. Environmental conservation and protection of human health;** societies which function within the earth's ability to support life and human livelihoods, preventing disruptive climate change and pollution and contamination of ecosystems.

Ø World where women's livelihoods are not irreversibly destroyed by environmentally destructive economic activities

Ø World where basic needs and services are fulfilled, a world more focused in providing services (such as transport) and less in producing goods (as producing cars)

Ø World in which women do no longer need to fear from exposing their children to long-term health damage from harmful substances in their bodies during pregnancy and breastfeeding

Ø World in which free and prior informed consent of indigenous women and peoples over their natural resources is enforced

8 unsustainable economic activities, which surpass the earth's carrying capacity and cause long term contamination (toxic, radioactive) and disruption (ecosystems, climate)

Ø World in which prices include all externalities for damage and full insurance for risks

Ø World that provides incentives for zero-waste, life cycle approach, low-carbon and resource efficient, production that enhance and restore the natural environment, while also providing livelihoods, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for women as well as men

### 3. Caring, Green and Inclusive Sustainable Economies

#### Views on the Rio+20 theme of a 'green' economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication'

Based on the lessons from the financial and food crisis there is a need to clarify the hierarchy of the 3 components of sustainable development – environmental, social and economic. The "economic development" pillar - and its instruments of private and public regulation of finance - must serve human development, based on fiscal mechanisms and equitable redistribution of wealth including the goal of equality between women and men.

The backbone of all policies and strategies for sustainable development must be formed by the human rights approach. Policy decision should be preceded by an analysis of possible negative consequences on human rights and in terms of gender equality in relation to environmental rights. This analysis should include values for domestic work, the caring for others and the planet and informal labor provided mostly by women.

#### 3.1. Current damage to women and environment of our economic systems

While the wealthy consume more and more natural resources and are responsible for increasing levels of environmental damage, people living in poverty are suffering from degradation of their agricultural land, forests, water supplies and biodiversity, and alteration of natural weather cycles due to climate change.

### 3.1.1. Current economy system: inequitable and unsustainable

While the wealthy consume more and more natural resources and are responsible for increasing levels of environmental damage, the poor are suffering from degradation of their agricultural land, forests, water supplies and biodiversity, and alteration of natural weather cycles due to climate change. Social and economic inequities are especially hard on women and children as they form the majority of the world's poor.

Ø too much funding goes to perverse subsidies for unsustainable and speculative activities<sup>9</sup>

Ø almost all countries (with a few exceptions) are growing more unequal, inequality is growing in the North and the South.

Ø too little funding goes to human capital development and social equity, too little reaches women

Ø in times of GDP reduction, austerity measures are often a greater burden on women than on men<sup>10</sup>

Ø current prices do not include externalities and future costs

Ø current economic decision making is too short term, long term benefits are not valued

Ø Military budgets and tax spending for bailing out banks take away necessary funding for social development and environmental protection.

<sup>9</sup> an estimated 700 – 900 billion USD of subsidies go to support fossil and nuclear energy annually, see UNEP report towards green economy 2011, some 1 billion USD per day (!) goes to subsidies for unsustainable agriculture (bad for public health, bees, ecosystems, soil, biodiversity).

<sup>10</sup> a 2011 study by the UK trade unions show that 70% of the austerity measures are a greater burden on women than men

### 3.1.2. Gender Blind – current economic indicators

Ø Our economies are currently managed so as to achieve growth of the GDP – Gross Domestic Product.

Ø We have seen growth which lead to increasing inequity, growth which depleted the natural resource base of the economy itself, growth which did not benefit women, even jobless growth.

Ø We do not want growth without equity, not even 'green' growth.

### 3.1.3. Poverty Eradication that benefits women

Ø The majority of the poor are women.<sup>11</sup>

Ø The agenda for the Rio+20 UNCS D will address the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and **poverty eradication**.

Ø Poverty eradication depends more on fairer distribution of resources and rights for the poor, than on GDP growth.

Ø Poverty reduction also happens without GDP growth, through improving the environment, as most poor depend on natural resources for livelihoods – forests and fisheries are an example.

Ø Women from low income communities are unable to participate in a "greener" economy if they have to spent most of their time for the "care economy"<sup>12</sup>

Ø Basic livelihoods for women need to be assured, including access to basic services so as to allow their participation in society including in the economy

<sup>11</sup> The UN estimates that approximately 70% of the 1.3 billion people living on less than one dollar a day are women, and these figures are rising with current food, fuel and financial crises.

<sup>12</sup> e.g. gathering fuel, water, assuring food, and caring for children, ill and disabled

### 3.1.4. Preventing toxic and radioactive harm on women's and children's health

Ø Women and their families are suffering health damage from contamination by harmful substances and radiation, even at very low doses. This damage also has a significant negative impact on sustainable and social development and poverty eradication.

Ø During pregnancy women unknowingly pass radioactive and persistent harmful chemicals on towards their children, and these to their children, with a risk of long-term, irreversible damage to the body and the brain

Ø Halting irreversible damage should be a priority area for Rio+20, in particular irreversible long term damage by radiation and by persistent, bio-accumulative, carcinogenic, mutagenic, repro-toxic and hormone disruption chemicals

### 3.1.5. Agriculture, women and rural development

Ø Women own only 1 % of the land, but 59%-80% of women are employed in the agricultural sector.

Ø Women in agriculture earn much less than men due to gender discrimination, changing this would increase food production by 20% according to FAO

Ø Increasing control by large corporations of the food chain is leading to the spread of industrial monocultures of crops such as soybean, oil-palm and eucalyptus, the proliferation of genetically modified products, privatization and patenting of life as well as commercial contracts for the sale of carbon dioxide and other so-called "environmental services"

Ø Food versus Fuel: the agro-fuel plantations cause land grabbing and other violations of the rights of indigenous peoples and communities and are one of the root causes of the current food crisis and effect in a dramatic way the lives of women and their families.

Ø Agro-toxics used in intensive agriculture, including agrofuels or monocultures of trees, pollute the earth and the health of women

Ø Agricultural biodiversity is being lost, and with it we are loosing women's traditional knowledge of seeds and productive skills, leading to a dramatic degradation of women's social and environmental resilience.

### 3.1.6. Energy - lack of access for women to safe sources

Ø Close to 2.4 billion people in developing countries still depend entirely on traditional biomass fuels which are detrimental for the environment and health

Ø Over 2 million people, mostly women and children as they spend most time indoors, suffer from respiratory diseases caused by biomass burning

Ø It is often women who are tasked with collecting and managing biomass fuel supplies such as firewood, dung and agricultural residues, leaving less time for productive activities.

Ø In many countries, energy prices are subsidized; eliminating subsidies on fossil fuel would harm the poor most if not replaced by social security systems

### 3.1.7. Nuclear energy – women and children at greatest risk

Ø Women and children are at significantly greater risk of suffering and dying from radiation-induced cancer than a man exposed to the same dose of ionizing radiation (National Academy Press, USA)<sup>13</sup>.

Ø „Radiation kills men—but it kills significantly **more** women. Both cancer incidence and death are 50% higher for women“<sup>14</sup>

Ø Regulation of radiation and nuclear activity ignores the disproportionately greater harm to both women and children<sup>15</sup>.

Ø Radiation harm includes not only cancer and leukemia, but reduced immunity and also reduced fertility, increases in other diseases including heart disease, birth defects including heart defects, other mutations

Ø Radioactive contamination of pregnant women in Chelyabinsk, Russia, have shown mutations of chromosomes, being transmitted into the 3rd and 4th generation of children<sup>16</sup>.

Ø Victims of nuclear energy will never be compensated for, as the nuclear industry pays artificially low insurance costs<sup>17</sup>, which means the tax-payer and future generations pay both economically as with their health.

Ø Nuclear energy is highly subsidised, the price of nuclear energy does not include the irreversible and long term damage caused throughout the nuclear fuel cycle<sup>18</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation (BEIR) VII, Phase 2 report, "Health Risks from Exposure to Low Levels of Ionizing Radiation," published by the National Academy Press in 2006, Washington, DC.

<sup>14</sup> Mary Olson, NIRS Briefing Paper October 2011 - [www.nirs.org/radiation/radhealth/radiationwomen.pdf](http://www.nirs.org/radiation/radhealth/radiationwomen.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> The background for some recommendations include calculations of the different radiation effects on women and children but the final, "allowable" doses to the public do not incorporate this information.

<sup>16</sup> Tomsk research quoted in WECF factsheet on nuclear industry and health: [www.wecf.eu/english/publications/index.php](http://www.wecf.eu/english/publications/index.php)

<sup>17</sup> For nuclear power plants in New York state, the insurance would amount to some 6 billion USD each year, which is higher than the cost of construction of the plant (Professor Bell).

<sup>18</sup> Communities in countries with uranium mines, risk irreversible pollution of groundwater aquifers with radio-nuclides, and long term health damage. Developing countries and countries in transition do not have the funds to properly clean-up uranium mining tailing, nor decommission nuclear powerplants

### 3.1.8 Climate Change, natural disaster preparedness and women

<sup>19</sup> Slow-onset and sudden climatic changes already cause major problems in many regions of the world.

<sup>20</sup> Due to gender inequalities, discrimination and the feminization of poverty, women and girls are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, which destroy women's and girls' livelihoods and increase women's and girls' work burdens.

<sup>21</sup> Natural disasters reinforce, perpetuate and increase gender inequality, making bad situations worse for women.

<sup>22</sup> Women and men experience different vulnerabilities and cope with natural disasters differently;

therefore, an increase in the magnitude and frequency of natural disasters will have different implications for men and women.

<sup>23</sup> On the other hand, women have valuable experiences, knowledge and ideas about climate change adaptation, resilience and disaster risk management, and are important actors in the promotion of sustainable consumption.

<sup>24</sup> However, women's decision-making power and participation in development and implementation of climate change policies, mechanisms and funding are very limited.

### 3.1.9. Women lack access to safe water and sanitation

Ø Up to 2,2 billion people live without access to clean water (1 billion) or basic sanitation (2,2 billion).

Ø In many developing countries, it is women and girls who are often most affected by lack of water, as they are primarily responsible for obtaining and transporting water for daily use.

Ø Women and girls may travel many miles and spend much of their time securing essential water supplies

Ø Their task becomes more difficult as rivers and lakes become polluted and ecosystems degraded, and as their access routes are sometimes cut off (via fencing or threats) by large-scale land acquisition for industry or other private developments.

Ø Lack of safe water and sanitation limits women's development possibilities. This starts with girls' school attendance, which decreases when there is no access to safe sanitation, thus limiting their ability to get an education.

Ø Increasing access to safe water and sanitation for children is the most effective manner to reduce mortality of girls (World Bank)

### 3.1.10. Biodiversity decline negatively impact on women

Ø The degradation and destruction of forests, grasslands, coastal areas and other ecosystems is having a particularly strong negative impact on women, as they often depend on the wood, medicinal plants, wild fruits, seafood and other food and energy sources these ecosystems provide.

Ø Women and their traditional knowledge systems play a very important role in the management of Indigenous territories and community conserved areas and other community-based initiatives to conserve and restore ecosystems. This role, and these initiatives, should be recognized, protected against outside economic interference, and strengthened.

### **3.1.11 Oceans fisheries and women's health and food security**

Ø Ocean acidification threatens marine resources with unknown consequences for fisheries that are critical sources for household nutrition for poor women in coastal zones.

Ø Unsustainable fisheries practices can lead to declines of global fish stocks including those used by indigenous people in coastal areas.

Ø Harmful man-made pollution such as Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and mercury in oceans have spread due to increasing water temperatures, and enter into the fish and seafood, and eventually humans<sup>19</sup>.

<sup>19</sup> The 2010 UNEP Report on "Climate Change and POPs" found that increasing water temperatures make POPs and other hazardous substances, such as methylmercury, more volatile and more mobile. Other recent studies have shown that these are being taken up by fish and seafood, and eventually humans through their diet. A WHO report to the negotiation to create a global instrument on mercury, with the objective of protecting human health and the environment by reducing mercury releases noted that in subsistence fishing populations, between 1.5/1000 and 17/1000 children showed cognitive impacts because of their exposure to methylmercury, an organic compound of mercury. A further impact on revenue from oceanic fisheries is that hazardous toxic substances reduce the reproductivity of fish, and so future food security as well as significant revenue for fishing nations is at risk. These are significant impacts on communities which have few choices for dietary protein and they indicate that greater global effort is needed to stop releases of harmful toxic substances into the

environment.

Ø Sustainable aquaculture can be a source of protein and household income. The role of women in these industries is limited despite their potential for food security.

### **3.2. Rio+20 Recommendations for "Sustainable and Equitable Economies" Referring to Rio+20 Agenda point "Green Economies in the framework of poverty eradication and sustainable development"**

Social equity and environmental justice must remain at the heart of sustainable development, and the outcomes of the Rio+20 UN conference in 2012.

We support the transformation from the current economic system to a sustainable and equitable economic system which ensures gender equality, human rights and environmental justice and supports sustainable livelihoods and poverty eradication.

#### **3.2.1. Principles of Sustainable and Equitable Economies**

##### **3.2.1.1. Sustainable and equitable economies promote social equity, gender equality and intergenerational equity**

Ø should

o Be based on a human rights approach

o Function within the limits of the planet

o Ensure a fair distribution of limited resources between men and women

o Ensure a fair distribution of limited resources among all countries and social groups

o Ensure equity within one generation and with future generations

o Ensure a fair transition for those effected by the change to sustainable and equitable economies

##### **3.2.1.2. Sustainable and equitable economies must be based on the precautionary principle**

Ø If there is indication of potential harm to the health of humans and the planet, binding measures must be taken, before harm is done

Ø Independent technology assessment before widespread use

Ø Polluters should be held liable for historic, current and future damage and costs

Ø Policy indicators must change, to well reflect the value of our environment and wellbeing the future

Ø Global funds can assure investments in protecting the environment for future generations

Ø Children, women and indigenous peoples in particular, should have to right to obtain redress for current and future damage

##### **3.2.1.3. Sustainable and equitable economies must be based on democracy, transparency and justice**

Ø Assure

o timely access to information

o effective public participation

o democratic decision making

o affordable access to justice

Ø All private and public companies report on their social and economic impact, – including gender impact – if not voluntary, then through legally binding regulations

Ø Legally binding regulations for Corporate Social Responsibility reporting should ensure that "green-washing" is eliminated.

#### 3.2.1.4. Sustainable and equitable economies must be based on ethical values and global responsibility

Ø Values for respect for nature, spirituality, culture, harmony, solidarity, community, caring and sharing

Ø Value of the global common goods

Ø Sharing worldwide whilst aiming for individual and societal wellbeing within the context of 'buen vivir<sup>20</sup>' (good living)

Ø Sharing means a more equitable distribution: eradicating poverty and changing and reducing excessive consumption patterns, in two direction, contraction and convergence policies. The need for eliminating not only not only extreme poverty, but also extreme wealth, in order to remain within the caring capacity of the planet


Ø Due value to and responsibility for common goods as an ongoing ethical, social and legal challenge for the local, national and international communities in charge of guarding these commons


<sup>20</sup> Term comes from the constitution of Ecuador, and used in the Regional Rio+20 Statement from Latin America and Caribbean

#### 3.2.2. Measuring and operationalizing sustainable and equitable development


##### 3.2.2.1. Policies should recognize and promote women's economic contributions


Profound policy and legislative changes are needed, that:


 secure women's property rights, land tenure, and control over natural resources, taking into account the need to prevent the further privatization of the commons;


 protect women's access to common lands

 promote women's access to services and technologies needed for water, energy, agricultural production, family care, household management and business enterprises;

 provide safe health care facilities, including for sexual and reproductive health;

 enable women - and men - to have access to childcare facilities at their places of employment? combine their jobs with childcare;

 support investments in women's economic empowerment; and

 promote women's participation in government and business leadership.

##### 3.2.2.2. Beyond GDP

Ø Although "green GDP" and " green Dow Jones indexes" exist, and are a step in the right direction, they are not widely used

Ø Gender equality, environmental impact and social indicators should be added to GDP as a basis for economic policy decisions (good examples include Gini coefficient, Gross National Happiness and "Buen Vivir" a.o.)

Ø Indicators to show gender impacts should be added: countries should commit to using them and reporting on them as part of Rio+20 implementation

##### 3.2.2.3. Financial sector reform – encouraging long term perspectives

Ø The financial sector needs further re-regulating, to assure that its supports moving towards sustainable and equitable development,

Ø Private financial institutions should not be allowed to speculate against sovereign states

Ø Long-term benefits should be worth more than short term benefits

Ø Financial institutions should support local sustainable development, and the "solidarity economy" (Ecuador)

Ø Countries should agree in Rio+20 to implement tested measures such as the financial transaction tax (India, Brazil) to increase long term perspective in financial investments and generate revenue for sustainable and equitable development

Ø Funds for sustainable and equitable development should ensure specific funds for access by women, in particularly women in indigenous peoples and local communities

Ø Countries should agree in Rio+20 to allocate 50% of GEF funds to local level funding, and to increase GEF micro-finance activities

##### 3.2.2.3. Fiscal sector reform – redistribution of wealth

Ø Redistribution of wealth is the only way to poverty eradication and improving women's global situation

Ø New taxation is needed to fairly distribute economic and environmental wealth in our societies. Last decades taxation has become cantered in the "efficient allocation" of capital and less progressive and less likely to address increasing inequality.

Ø Efforts should be made to fight tax havens and tax evasion.

Ø Making more funds available for poverty reduction, countries should agree in Rio+20 to start phasing out perverse subsidies, whilst continuing support for the poor

Ø Available funds should be reallocated, in particular to a "basic global women's income", to bring the poor out of deprivation<sup>21</sup>

Ø Best practices by countries which are taxing non-renewable and unsustainable resource exploitation to invest clean up and future sustainable activities should be agreed on as a model by countries in Rio+20

Ø In an economy where externalities are not included in the price of products, responsible consumption and production is more costly, hence consumers and producers which take responsible decisions should be given incentives included fiscal

Ø Proven flanking measures including mandatory substitution of harmful substances and practices, feed-in tariffs a.o. should be adopted by countries in Rio+20

Ø 21 effective examples include a.o. Brazilian Bolsa Familia, where social funds were geared at the women in the households, bringing almost 50 million people out of deprivation

#### 3.2.2.4. Investing in women's education, skills and entrepreneurship

For women to be catalysts for sustainable development, women need to be freed from economic, legal and political constraints that limit their ability to own land, control rights to natural resources, obtain necessary training, access information, raise financing and acquire relevant technology.

Ø Support spread of women-friendly technologies - ones that can free up women's time, reduce their drudgery, and expand their economic, social and political opportunities.

Ø Support women's education and training in technical and entrepreneurial skills

Ø Support anti-discrimination labour laws, equal pay, family friendly mandates, women right to organize and targeted schemes for accessing "non- traditional" jobs for women

Ø Support specific funding windows for women to invest in productive assets and communication means

Ø Set policy targets for women's access to technology, funding, resources, information

#### 3.2.2.5. Investing in the health care, child-care, and social security nets

Ø Social Protection is a fundamental human right, one of the best instruments for poverty reduction and a motor of development, it is a useful mechanism to ensure that countries grow with equity and social cohesion and it is a key component of gender equality. Establishing a social protection floor is key for sustainable development. A Social Protection Floor must include as a minimum child benefits, health care, income security for the elderly and the disabled, parental leave protection, benefits for the unemployed, and affordable, quality essential public services

Ø Women must have access to reproductive health care and family planning resources in order to be able to participate in productive activities.

Ø Countries should agree in Rio+20 on policies that guarantee child care, health care and social support programs specifically for female household members. Gender equitable childcare solutions are needed.

#### 3.2.2.6. Ending violence against women

Women are still living in gruesome conditions—facing violence both inside and outside their homes, dealing with the same inadequate services and critical economic disparities. Most of these women are dependent on their male counterparts as providers. More than 510 million women are abused by their partners during their lifetime<sup>22</sup>. Witnesses of violence have poorer health, and are more likely to perpetrate or suffer violence. In all countries, women who change their matrimonial statues (divorce, widowhood) loose out economically. Eliminating violence against women is fundamental for sustainable development, allowing women to fully participate in societies. Policies to eliminate violence against women need to:

22 World Bank World Development Report 2012 Gender Equality and Development

☞ Expanding support services for women victims of violence

☞ Strengthening and enforcing legislation to protect women from violence and prosecute the perpetrator

☞ Strengthening legislation which protects women from economic regression after divorce

☞ Making access to justice affordable and accessible for women, also in rural and remote areas

☞ Inform women and girls on their rights in school and via media

☞ Raise awareness with men and women on the inacceptability of violence against women to shift norms

#### 3.2.2.7 Peace, women and sustainable development

Ø Peace is an important precondition for sustainable and equitable development. The absence of peace – reflected in internal and international conflicts – puts an enormous burden on local communities, human and natural resources.

Ø During times of conflict violence against women increases and there are many competing claims on natural resources that often become scarcer or polluted, adversely affecting women's productive and reproductive roles.

Ø Military expenditures have increased from \$ 1,204 billion in 2006, to \$ 1,630 billion or 2.6% of global GDP in 2010 (SIPRI Yearbook, 2010). Militarization is absorbing financial and human resources, as well as natural resources.

We recommend to:

☞ Include peace promotion and conflict prevention on the Rio+20 agenda.

☞ Strengthen adherence to international law, in particular the agreed provisions of treaties on arms control, on human rights and on humanitarian law.

☞ Reallocate funds from military budgets to human needs and sustainable development.

☞ Implement Security Council Resolution 1325, which assures women's equal participation in conflict prevention and resolution, peace-keeping and peace-building, and promote women's contributions to fostering a culture of peace.

### 3.2.3. Sector Specific Recommendations

#### 3.2.3.1. Energy access for women

Ø Policies and actions to enlist women as active agents in development based on cleaner and more efficient energy systems and technologies

Ø Investments in women as energy managers and entrepreneurs to simultaneously address the multiple challenges of poverty eradication, gender equality, environmental conservation,



and climate change threats.

Ø Removal of constraints limiting the ability of women to take advantage of business opportunities offered by new energy options, including legal barriers that limit their property rights, land tenure, and access to credit.

#### 3.2.3.2. Nuclear phase-out – women's priority

<sup>EN</sup> The increased harm from ionizing radiation to women is not fully understood, therefore the Principle of Precaution dictates that protective action must be taken once a potential harm is identified.

<sup>EN</sup> Women's right to know about the health risk from ionizing radiation which they are exposed to and how to protect themselves from this harm, should be implemented

<sup>EN</sup> Women should have equal protection under the law, and regulation should be strengthened to protect those most at risk from ionizing radiation: women and children

<sup>EN</sup> There is no "safe" dose of radiation to anyone of either gender, or any age; a global phase-out of nuclear energy is the only acceptable path to take.

#### 3.2.3.4. Climate mitigation – gender equitable

<sup>EN</sup> Ensure that gender is mainstreamed in UNFCCC and national climate change policy processes and institutions.

<sup>EN</sup> Guarantee women's full and equal participation in climate change decision-making at global, national and local level.

<sup>EN</sup> Secure women's environmental rights (including their land entitlement) under REDD and other climate change mechanisms.

<sup>EN</sup> Ensure that all climate change funding mechanisms are gender-responsive, including the Global Climate Fund

<sup>EN</sup> Guarantee women's access to climate change funding, training/education and sustainable technologies.

#### 3.2.3.4. Climate adaptation and natural disaster preparedness

<sup>EN</sup> Implement a gender analysis and gender mainstreaming in coordination with all Ministries responsible for disaster risk reduction, climate change, poverty reduction and women/gender machineries;

<sup>EN</sup> Ensure women and men's equal access to natural hazard early warning systems;

<sup>EN</sup> Develop and produce statistics desegregated by sex on impact of disasters, carry out gender-sensitive vulnerability, risk and capacity assessments and develop gender-sensitive indicators to monitor and measure progress;

<sup>EN</sup> Increase awareness of the public and media on the gender sensitive vulnerabilities and capacities in disasters and gender specific needs and concerns in disaster risk reduction and management;

<sup>EN</sup> Support gender-sensitive financial risk-sharing mechanisms, including risk insurance and reinsurance;

<sup>EN</sup> Increase women's participation in disaster relief coordination and secure equal access to disaster relief assistance between men and women;

<sup>EN</sup> Guarantee trainings with gender perspective for preparedness and readiness with respect to risk management, mitigation and adaptation, including planning and resource management for programs and projects to this effect.

<sup>EN</sup> Take steps to guarantee early and timely alert processes for the prevention and mitigation of risks.

#### 3.2.3.5. Safe waste reduction, reuse and recycling

<sup>EN</sup> Create legally binding measures to exclude harmful waste from the waste stream

<sup>EN</sup> Promote reduction of waste, reuse of waste and finally recycling – phase out dumping, landfilling

and incineration

<sup>EN</sup> Provide incentives and build capacity for women leadership and decision making in safe waste management

#### 3.2.3.6. Measures against land grabbing – protecting women access to land

Women farmers and indigenous peoples are currently losing their territories, resources and livelihoods in the grabbing of land by governments, local and foreign investors, including for large scale bioenergy production. This results in increased in poverty and lack of food security and food sovereignty. The increasing influence of corporations and other economic actors over environmental policies is also leading to privatization of common lands. Women are among the main victims of this trend, as they are deprived of access to resources that are of essential importance to their livelihoods and communities. 23

23 For instance in Tanzania, Agrisol Energy and Pharos Global Agriculture are seeking a land deal which when successful will cause the displacement of 162,000 refugees most of whom are women. This will lead to a turnover of 800,000 acres of land to the American Company.

#### 3.2.3.7. Assuring women's access to safe water and sanitation

A number of countries have introduced legislation that prohibits privatization of water sources, provides incentives for efficient water use, and supports public investments in water supply and sanitation services. Some countries have also introduced targets (including quotas) for women in water management and control organizations, which has had a beneficial impact on quality of services and cost recovery. In 2010, the UN General Assembly recognized a human right to water and sanitation and proposed criteria for its implementation.

<sup>EN</sup> Environmental protection policies and enforcement of water protection measures are needed, and women and other stakeholders should participate in their development and implementation.

<sup>EN</sup> Sustainable and affordable technologies and management of water and sanitation need to be accessible to women.

<sup>EN</sup> Integrated water management is needed that democratizes control over basic water supplies and sanitation services. Privatization of water resources - in particular of water

sources, rivers and lakes - can have a disproportionately damaging impact on women who have less economic power and access to income from formal employment.

<sup>84</sup> Dedicated funding programs are needed to ensure that women and girls obtain safe water and sanitation at homes, schools and other public places, as well as the adoption of legislation which protects water sources as public goods.

### 3.3.Regional perspectives

In addition to the common positions presented, specific regional perspectives and priorities on this theme are presented below.

#### 3.3.1.Latin American Caribbean (LAC)

Ø Women of Latin America and the Caribbean are concerned about the use of the concept of "green economy". They believe that the use of this terminology carries the risk that economic actors, even internationally, dominate and determine the policies of sustainable development.

Ø Indigenous Peoples women are also concerned about the use of the concept of green economy and the institutional framework endorsed. Developing countries are being forced to follow a proposal that has not been clearly defined, and no one knows how it will work. On governance issues, they consider that spaces for a broad and inclusive participation are still lacking .

Ø The economic element of sustainable development should embrace the elements and values that underpin the recognition of the rights of Mother Earth and good living. These along with the theme of human rights should guide the way with optimism to the next meeting in Rio plus 20.

Ø The women in the LAC region are clear that a vision focused on sustainable development cannot focus solely on an economic agenda, but it must deepen agendas addressing the social, cultural, and environmental policies that have been implemented since the last meeting in Rio in 1992.

Ø They raise a clear front against 'dollarization' of life, and assure their willingness to work to make the real change that leads to address issues that we are urgent to change the paradigm of development on our planet including a priority gender considerations.

In the LAC region, women believe that to achieve sustainable development the world must necessarily pass through the elimination of all gaps of gender discrimination still facing Latin America and the Caribbean, and it is urgent to think about a comprehensive approach to development where the contribution of women in the region, is recognized, valued and positioned in the proper place.

#### 3.3.2.West-Asia

##### On Rio+20 agenda point "Green Economy and poverty eradication"

<sup>84</sup> Implementation of the CEDAW convention as the basis for a Green Economy any Sustainable Development

<sup>84</sup> Integration of Gender issues in the Monitoring & Evaluation indicators to assure social justice of fair distribution of wealth.

##### On agriculture and rural development

<sup>84</sup> There is a strong need to establish social associations, networks, co-operatives and syndicate as an institutional way of protection and creating pressure groups to help rural and farming communities stand for their own rights identity and to improve farmers'

<sup>84</sup> The right to access data and information to help rural and farming communities to take better decisions, in particular affordable access to spatial data as well as crop, climatic and other types of data which are currently often only available to corporations.

<sup>84</sup> Appropriate technology (economical, social, culture and environmental) should be available and capacity building should be supported, to assure the sector contributes to Green Economy and Sustainable Development.

#### 3.3.3.Asia

We, the Women's Major Group representatives at the Asia Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for Rio+20 call on governments to reaffirm their commitments to Agenda 21 and the Beijing Platform for Action, and fulfill their obligations to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

We also call on governments to respect recent international agreements including the 2009 UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development where the causes and effects of the global economic, food and ecological crises were discussed and urgent measures adopted to achieve a less volatile macroeconomic environment for sustainable development, including making economic policies compatible with human rights obligations.

On the road to Rio+20, we invoke the principles enshrined in these instruments – especially non-discrimination and substantive equality and their linkages to gender, economic and ecological justice. We assert the need for a radical change in mind-set necessary to steer humanity off the course of repeated crises and self-destruction.

Governments in the Asia Pacific region must recognize that gender is cross cutting in development processes and that gender equality is vital to the achievement of sustainable development.

##### On Rio+20 agenda point "Green Economy and poverty eradication"

We wish to reframe the "green economy" as "sustainable economies". We reject current economic models pursued in the name of efficiency and economic growth, but are in fact driven by profit and

greed, and have resulted in unprecedented levels of poverty, inequality and food insecurity that disproportionately affect women. Instead we are working to realize "sustainable economies" that are gender just and enable long-term social and well-being outcomes for present and future generations, especially marginalized groups such as indigenous, ethnic and sexual minority groups.

As women comprise half the world's population and also count among the poorest, a "sustainable economy" must recognize women's paid and un(der)paid contributions to economic production, must generate sustainable livelihoods by which women can realize the full enjoyment of their human rights, including sexual and reproductive rights, and prevent all forms of discrimination and violence in women's exercise of their economic rights and co-stewardship of the earth's resources. Central to this is women's unmediated right to access, own, control and benefit from productive resources and assets, which includes land, water, seeds, energy sources, livestock, financial resources, public subsidies and appropriate technologies

## Women, agriculture and rural sustainable development

Women farmers must be recognized as co-managers of community resource bases and co-decision-makers in determining the use of natural resources and the distribution of benefits arising from them. They must be assured of capacity development in bio-diverse ecological agriculture including humane sustainable livestock and fisheries production, necessary rural infrastructure, appropriate technologies and marketing skills for their economic autonomy. We further seek from our governments a commitment to the rapid reduction and elimination of toxic substances and highly hazardous pesticides and fertilizers, while steadily phasing-in non-chemical approaches.

There is much to learn from gender-responsive good practices on agro-ecology and sustainable natural resource use and management that strive for balance and synergy between humans and nature. It must also be recognized that woman can capacitate "sustainable economies", with their indigenous and traditional knowledge systems which should be protected from appropriation and exploitation by big business.

## Women and distressed migration

Distressed migration is a phenomenon across many countries in our region, with women comprising the bulk of those who migrate from rural to urban areas and from developing to developed countries. Governments must address the huge social costs resulting from distressed migration by addressing women's economic deprivation and environmental degradation.

## Women, corporate-driven technologies and climate change

As marginalized and excluded groups, women bear the harshest impacts of the current climate crisis, including increased ecological and economic displacement. States must address the gender-differentiated impacts of climate change while ensuring greater and more meaningful participation of women in the climate deliberations and outcomes, and in adaptation and mitigation strategies.

Women are greatly concerned by corporate driven technological solutions to climate change that are harmful to the planet and people. Such technologies must be subject to rigorous, transparent and participatory assessments including the implications on women's and children's health and well being.

## Energy and nuclear industry

We take a firm position against nuclear energy as one of the 'solutions' to the energy crisis. It is neither clean nor sustainable, as many nuclear disasters have already so painfully pointed out. States must immediately phase out nuclear energy and seek fresh and up-scaled financial resources to shift the world to green (renewable) energy, which will benefit all of humankind.

### 3.3.4.Africa

On behalf of the Women Major Group we wish to state that the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) 2002, reaffirmed sustainable development's central role in the international agenda. The Johannesburg plan of implementation (JPOI) adopted at the WSSD contains commitments and targets that member states agreed to pursue in order to foster sustainable development at all levels.

A truly sustainable 'green economy' would involve economic development that takes place within the limits of nature, and ensures a fair distribution of resources among all countries and social groups - as well as between women and men. Social equity and environmental justice must remain at the heart of sustainable development, and the outcomes of the Rio+20 UN conference in 2012. Environmental conservation is critical for maintaining the earth's ability to continue to support life, and human livelihoods. As countries confront the challenges of providing food, energy, shelter, health care and employment for growing populations, governments must find ways to preserve vital ecosystems and limit the disruptions of climate change, and to manage the world's natural resources in an equitable manner, with an emphasis on human rights, gender equality, and environmental justice.

We the WMG in Africa call on governments to reaffirm their commitment on the following:

### 1. GREEN ECONOMY

#### a) Access to water and sanitation

**Water and sanitation are essential for women's economic development.** A large number of the world's people live without access to clean water or basic sanitation. Due to gender roles, it is women and girls who are often most affected by lack of water, as in many countries they are primarily responsible for obtaining and transporting water for daily use. Women and girls travel many kilometres and spend much of their time securing essential water supplies, and their task becomes more difficult as rivers and lakes become polluted and ecosystems degraded. Lack of safe water and sanitation limits women's development possibilities. Privatization of water resources - in particular of water sources, rivers and lakes - can have a disproportionately damaging impact on women who have less economic power and access to income from formal employment.

**We call for environmental protection policies and enforcement of water protection measures, and women should participate in their development and implementation. We also call for dedicated funding programs to ensure that women and girls obtain safe water and sanitation at homes, schools and other public places.**

#### b) Transportation

Access to affordable transport is limited for women in Africa. Changing demographic and land-use patterns have made the distance to fields, water and fuel wood sources greater, increasing travel times to these sources. Transport planning tends to underestimate the economic and social value of women's time, as well as the economic benefits.

**We call on governments to accelerate investment in affordable means of transport and involve women in transport planning and implementation.**

#### c) Land – Agriculture, food security and food sovereignty

Property rights for women are still not recognised and respected. Women need secure land, property and resource rights. In many countries, women produce close to 80% of the food, but own only 1% of the land. The significance of the livestock sector and its socio-economic importance to African women cannot be over emphasized.

**We call upon governments to expedite implementation of the Land Policy Initiative of the AU, specifically women's access and ownership to land.**

#### d) Access to Energy

**Green energy policies must incorporate a gender perspective.** According to the African Development Bank, most of the 2.5 billion people using traditional biomass for household energy live in Africa. African women play a major role in the collection and management of biomass fuel such as fuelwood, dung and agricultural residues for

household use. Access to modern energy in rural and poor urban areas leads to improved health services, clean water and sanitation, better education, efficient transportation and a more profitable informal sector. All of these directly benefit women. Gender-equitable energy policies, legislation and investments could effectively boost women's opportunities for economic and social empowerment and their ability to contribute to the green economy.

**We call upon Africa Governments to implement programmes that directly support women's access to affordable off-grid energy technologies as well as connection to grid.**

#### **e) Access to health services Institutional Framework**

AIDS/HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases have a devastating effect on women in Africa. There is lack of access to proper medical facilities for women in rural and poor urban areas. This is compounded by conflicting social, economic, cultural and political factors.

**We call on governments to invest in more functional health facilities in rural and poor urban communities, educate and train women on health issues that affect them, especially maternal mortality.**

#### **f) Governance, Peace and Security**

Violent conflict in Africa over natural resources and political power has had adverse effects on women's health and sustainable livelihoods.

**We call upon Africa Governments to guarantee and uphold good governance and democratic processes that ensure peace and security.**

### **POVERTY REDUCTION**

The UN estimates that approximately 70% of the 1.3 billion people living on less than one dollar a day are women. The situation is worsening due to the current environmental and climatic changes resulting in food crisis, flooding, famine etc, in Africa.

**We call on governments to provide incentives for low-carbon economies that enhance and restore the natural environment, thus providing new green livelihoods, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for women in the context of sustainable development and poverty reduction.**

**We also call on governments and development partners to ensure that policy formulations and foreign investment are based on the bottom – up approach involving all critical**

**stakeholders, especially women.**

In the development of the 10YFP the Women Major Group on behalf of the Major Groups will want to offer the following:

Incorporate a gender perspective in SCP projects and policies

Ø Address differing women's SCP needs and priorities in the North and South

Ø Analyse obstacles to, and opportunities for, scaling up SCP initiatives to benefit women especially grassroots women,

Ø Provide education for girls, vocational and technological training for women, and adult literacy programmes, as part of every intervention

Ø Acknowledge and incorporate women's traditional knowledge and their contribution to green economies.

#### **Poverty, MDGs and sustainable development (proposed by Alice Odingo)**

In Africa, the attainment of the MDGs is still a challenge. A majority of the population are still poor, with the majority being women. The continent is far from sustainability, as droughts, famine and climate change take precedence, leaving very little in the welfare of the majority of the people of Africa, while the little resources that exists are affected by conflict and are still held in the hands of a few individuals. The African continent is further ravaged by conflict, which create insecurity for not only women and girls, but all the victims.

Ø Green Economy would require gender disaggregated data on the achievement of the MDGs and sustainable development in Africa, with measurable indices for the success and proposals to deal with the challenges.

Ø Green economy would require special efforts to redistribute resources to the poor, particularly, the women and girls to remove inequity, while also encouraging sustainable consumption and production.

Ø Green economy would call for improvement in governance, to promote peace and security for women in Africa, while also ensuring gender balance in conflict resolution teams.

#### **3.3.5.Europe UNECE (to come after 2 of December, regional premeeting in Geneva)**

### **4. Governance of Sustainable Development**

#### **Women's views on the Rio+20 theme of an institutional framework for sustainable development**

To assure global sustainable and equitable development, fundamental reform of International Environmental Governance and a new framework for governance of sustainable development are needed.

Our existing institutional and governance structures have proved inadequate to meet our rising sustainable development challenges. Our core policy formulation, economic thinking and motivations remain firmly detached from our broader sustainability concerns. Monitoring and enforcement of agreed sustainable development strategies at all governance levels are weak and many central sectors and policies operate entirely without a broader sustainability overview.

Since our electoral cycles and business models of reporting increasingly define our decision-making, short term gains take precedence over future and long term interests. Meanwhile, women appear disconnected from the core of policy-making. Without true representation of their needs, women are left without a voice, or a legitimate means in which to question or present their concerns.

Governments lack the mechanisms to facilitate accountability, access and monitoring of all sustainability policy decisions and their effective implementation.

#### **4.1. Stronger Institutional framework for Sustainable Development at Global Level**

#### 4.1.1. Shifting the priorities from the Economic to the Social and Environmental areas

Ø Reform international finance, economic and trade organisations, to assure priority for equitable social development and environmental protection, and preventing a commodification of natural resources.

#### 4.1.2. International Environmental Governance needs to be strengthened

Ø Strengthened international environmental governance, including adequate public and predictable resources for a reformed United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
Capacity building programmes for national level should be increased

Ø Contribution to increased coherence of MEAs should be extended

#### 4.1.3. Governance of Sustainable Development should be placed at the highest level of the UN

Ø Governance of Sustainable Development should report directly to the UN General Assembly

Ø Including accountability mechanisms, that include specific gender indicators.

#### 4.1.4. Gender mainstreaming of the Sustainable development structure

o organizational assessment to gauge current levels of awareness, knowledge and skills in gender and gender analysis methods within implementing agencies and local partners

o Use of gender analysis and sex-disaggregated data to better understand women's roles, perceptions, needs and gender issues related to SD

o hire full time gender staff to lead gender activities, develop action plans for gender integration, etc.

o provide training in gender and organizational change, gender analysis to staff at senior and other levels

o engage with existing Gender Working Groups and Gender Focal Points within local partner organizations and governments (these exist in many government departments but are usually have weak capacities and are not linked to women's empowerment or gender advocates)

o build links to networks of gender experts

o build capacities and support women and men champions and Gender Focal Points within partner organizations to:

§ lead processes of change within their organizations

§ communicate with women's groups and mixed groups about gender issues within sustainable development initiatives

§ provide technical assistance and backstopping for Sustainable Development activities

Ø New Key Gender Institutional Structures should be agreed upon to ensure sustainable development:

o Localize already existing institutions by partnering with women's organisations working on the grass-root level

o Involve in dialogues with women of every level to contribute in developing new institutional structures that will be available and accessible

o Have user-friendly involvement mechanism that will enable grass-root women to participate in global, national and local platforms

o New Institutional Structures should adopt a tailor-made approach to serve and address the unique needs and challenges of women

#### 4.1.5. Create global instruments to protect rights of Future Generations

Additional global instruments to protect rights of Future Generations can include

o Legal institutions to protect the rights of future generations, e.g. an ombudsperson for Future generations<sup>24</sup> as independent institutions with legal powers<sup>25</sup>

o Funds to pay for future costs, e.g. 'Redemption Fund'<sup>26</sup>

<sup>24</sup> Hungary has such an institution

<sup>25</sup> As supported by the Major Groups: Workers and Trade Unions, and Youth

<sup>26</sup> The concept for the 'redemption fund' was presented at the G20 in France, national funds already exist, e.g. in Norway

<sup>27</sup> Used in the Convention for Biological Diversity, CBD

<sup>28</sup> The majority of nations affiliated with the UN have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). This Convention entered into force on September 3, 1981 and has been ratified by 186 countries. CEDAW compels state parties to take positive action to prevent discrimination towards women across all sectors including in sustainable development. CEDAW ensures the full and effective participation of women in decision making processes in an equal manner to men. The principles of CEDAW are increasingly finding their way into national constitutions, laws, and other policy frameworks. The Convention has been also called upon to help resolve cases involving discrimination against women in courts around the world. CEDAW focuses on elimination of discrimination against women (Articles 2), visibility of women in national statistics (Article 2), equality between men and women before laws and in courts (Article 15), promoting participation of women in political and public life and decision making (Article 7 and 8), equal rights between men and women, also in employment and pay (Article 11), gender equality in access and rights to bank loans, mortgages, and other forms of financial credit (Article 13), and ensuring equality of men and women in education and training (Article 10). Furthermore, CEDAW strengthens provisions for rural women, recognizing their rights to participate in government programs, employment, training, and financing (Article 14).

#### 4.1.6. UN Women should be strengthened and adequately financed

UN Women should be strengthened and adequately financed to provide guidance and implement flagship programmes on strengthening women's role in Sustainable Development

and coordination between all UN agencies on gender programs related to Sustainable Development

#### 4.1.7. Strengthening of effective and balanced civil society participation

- o Financing effective and balanced civil society participation
- o Capacity building for effective public participation of women
- o Rotation and democratic principles should be applied
- o Strengthen collaboration between major groups for example through Vienna+ model<sup>27</sup>

### 4.2. Pillars of Governance of Sustainable Development (global, national, local)

#### 4.2.1. Rio Principle 10: Right to public participation, Right to information, Right to justice, for example through

- o Global or regional convention on Rio Principle 10

#### 4.2.2. Rio Principle 20: full participation of women, for example through

- o Quota for women in all levels of governance
- o Changing governance cultures

#### 4.2.3. Implementation of the Convention to End All Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) to assure gender equality<sup>28</sup>

#### 4.2.4. Safeguard environmental social conditions for the benefit of present and future generations

§ Establish national Ombudspersons, Commissioners or Guardians for Future Generations, as independent institutions with legal powers and duties *to ensure long term goals are taken into account, to challenge existing governance structures and participatory processes and to better deal with concerns from all citizens.*

#### 4.2.5. Valuing the unrecognized contributions of women and the environment to sustainable development

- o Gender indicators for "real" cost and contributions

#### 4.2.6. Criteria for financing of sustainable development

- o Funding mechanisms that respects the right of free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous Peoples, and the rights of communities which are impacted by the financial flows

- o timely information, effective participation, and redress mechanisms

#### 4.2.5. Gender considerations of financial mechanisms for Sustainable Development

- o Assure that global funding reaches women at the local level, in particular countries should commit that 50% of Global Environment Funding should be earmarked for local level implementation, assuring access for community and women's organisations

- o Recognition that women can capacitate "sustainable economies" with their knowledge systems and hitherto undervalued "care economy" economy contributions

- o Protection of women's indigenous and traditional knowledge systems from appropriation and exploitation by big business.

- o Accelerate progress towards gender equality in all areas of governance, the judiciary and the economy

### 4.3. Regional perspectives

#### 4.3.1. Latin America and the Caribbean

The women of Latin America and the Caribbean, are clear that the road to Rio 20 is just beginning, it requires enormous work and effort to make participation of women a fundamental element which permits to practice full and effective participation of women in all processes and areas of development and conservation.

They want to integrate a region that is diverse, more equal and equitable. They are clear of the enormous challenge as a region to achieve respect for human rights of women: sexual and reproductive rights, rights to live a life free from violence and femicide, rights to sustainable development means among others: the right to water, land and natural resources, the right to health and food sovereignty, right to education, science and technology, and finally, the recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples and their traditional knowledge.

LAC Women consider the following statements important for action:

Consider sustainable development as a holistic concept that values equally the social, economic and environmental as well as equity and equal opportunities, access to justice, information and participation of people.

Understand that sustainable development is a central objective the good life of human beings and as such States need to recognize that to achieve this goal they should eliminate all forms of discrimination against women.

They specifically propose:

1.-An evaluation of the implementation of the Rio Principles, Agenda XXI, this time using clear indicators that show evidence of gender differentiation and fairness in general. This assessment should be the basis for discussion in Rio ... what has been accomplished?, What has not been met and why? What is the role of financial institutions and private banks? Why has it been so difficult to finance and implement sustainable development where the woman is a party?

2.-Ensure access to land, sea and control over natural resources, education, information and access to environmental justice principles and provide social security, reproductive health care and food sovereignty of life of women. Aiming for healthy integration of women in a world in balance with nature, which requires adequate funding.

3.- The commitment to recognize, respect, value and position the knowledge of women and especially the traditional knowledge of indigenous women. Rate urgently,

traditional knowledge on the issues of adaptation, mitigation and biodiversity conservation of indigenous women have always been implemented and to promote and strengthen their role as change agents, promoting the good life of indigenous peoples.

#### 4.3.2. Arab region

<sup>[9]</sup> A striking observation is that the “Arab Spring” has resulted in a withdrawal of women activities from the public life. Therefore, institutional tools are needed to support women participation on all levels, up to the highest decision making levels, including on emerging issues such as Green Economy and Sustainable Development.

<sup>[9]</sup> Developed countries should take their environmental commitments seriously if we want to have peace on Earth

#### 4.3.3. Asia and Pacific region

We expect nothing less from Rio+20 than a commitment to promoting sustainable development and gender equality in ways that go beyond the limited “add women and stir” approach, and which genuinely recognize women’s co-leadership and co-stewardship. Toward this end we call for sex disaggregated data and gender budgets to assure equitable resource allocation.

We further insist on the full realization of the Rio Principles including the precautionary principle, common but differentiated responsibilities, polluter pays, and Principle 10 on access to information and justice. We, the Women’s Major Group call on all our governments to take action now.

#### 4.3.4. African region

### INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The global environmental governance has not effectively implemented the Rio principles for sustainable development, and the Johannesburg Plan of Action.

**We call on governments to put in place a coordinating mechanism and parallel institutions at the regional and national level for sustainable development which defend women’s rights and interests.**

#### 4.3.5. European/UNECE region (after Dec 1)

### 5. Women’s priorities for Rio+20 agenda point “Emerging Issues”

The Rio+20 agenda includes setting priorities for work on “Emerging Issues”. Women’s priority issues, including some identified among the UNEP Foresight 21 Challenges for the 21st Century List include:

#### 5.1.1. Women and Children’s greater harm from radiation – need for phasing out of nuclear

Ø The entire nuclear cycle is threat to our generation and to that of our children, is that of nuclear industry.

Ø We take a firm position against nuclear energy as one of the solutions to the energy crisis. It is neither clean nor sustainable, as many nuclear disasters have already so painfully pointed out.

Ø Based on the UNEP foresight report, we call on governments to start developing legally binding mechanisms to address the cost of decommissioning and clean up of nuclear power-plants, nuclear waste and uranium mines.

Ø We are calling UN to develop a global strategy to address the risks that nuclear energy and the whole uranium cycle, such as mining and waste disposal, pose to global environment and human lives and health, and decide on an effective and quick global government response.

Ø We need to establish the institutional framework and the financial means to document, monitor and assess the environmental damages and risks of Nuclear and Uranium Technologies. Such an institution shall make comprehensive use of all parties concerned and their diverse types of knowledge and experience.

Ø A legally binding mechanism to address the cost of decommissioning and clean up of nuclear power-plants, nuclear waste and uranium mines should be committed to at Rio+20.

Ø Redress and clean-up should be financed according to the polluter-pays-principle, amongst others by mining industry.

Ø A UN rapporteur on uranium and nuclear risks should be agreed on29.

29 [1] Proposal of the women major group, UNEP regional statement 2011/2012, see [http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/59/Documents/Bonn\\_Consultations\\_2011/bonn\\_outcomes/Sept\\_2\\_2011/11\\_9\\_30\\_UNEP\\_Regional\\_MGS\\_Statement\\_Europe\\_2\\_Sept.pdf](http://www.unep.org/civil-society/Portals/59/Documents/Bonn_Consultations_2011/bonn_outcomes/Sept_2_2011/11_9_30_UNEP_Regional_MGS_Statement_Europe_2_Sept.pdf)

#### 5.1.2. Women and children at risk - need for new approaches to minimizing risks of novel technologies and chemicals

Ø Women are greatly concerned by the technological solutions offered to climate change, including geo-engineering, many of which are clearly motivated by profit.

Ø The health of women and their families may be threatened by the current regulatory incapacity of government entities to prevent the release of new technologies and chemicals before safety is adequately assessed. Without full safety review, based on health standards, of technologies and chemicals, women and children’s health may be compromised.

Ø Previous history of premature use of many toxic chemicals, specifically POPs chemicals, has led to both compromised health and difficult remediation problems. Learning from this history of regulatory failure, only recently addressed by the Stockholm Convention, governments must implement precautionary measures regarding new technologies and chemicals.

Ø Women are also very concerned by the rising volume of chemical production of many toxic chemicals and chemicals yet to be adequately tested for safety, and the wide-scale deployment of new technologies such as nano-technology in consumer products without necessary health information.

Ø Women and children are at specific risk from diseases associated with toxic chemicals - including many cancers, infertility, metabolic disorders, and learning and developmental disabilities – which are likely to increase in incidence and severity.

Ø The rising volume of chemical production of many toxic chemicals and chemicals yet to be adequately tested for safety may require some form of adaptation, requiring enhancement of health facilities necessary for those diseases associated with toxic chemicals and therefore likely to increase in incidence and severity.

Ø Such diseases include many cancers, infertility, metabolic disorders, and learning and developmental disabilities. Given a potential increase in learning disabilities and cognitive decline associated with toxic chemicals, adaptation may require a greater number of special education schools, special job training and care centers. Surely prevention is preferable.

Ø We seek from our governments a commitment to the rapid reduction and elimination of toxic substances and highly hazardous pesticides and fertilizers, while steadily phasing-in non-chemical pesticide management approaches. Rio+20 outcomes should include participatory and transparent mechanisms for assessing these technologies, using the precautionary principle and a gender perspective to examine, among others, dangers to women's reproductive health, multiplication of their already many burdens and other impacts.

### 5.1.3. Food security needs food sovereignty

Ø Women produce much of the world's food. They need secure land, property and resource rights to ensure their productivity. Their traditional knowledge about seeds, farming skills, and livestock management needs to be recognized.

Ø Given that women constitute more than 50% of those who "go to bed hungry every night" (World Disasters Report on Hunger), food security systems need to address issues of equitable distribution of food, and need to address reasons behind crop failures, collapsing fish stocks and food price increases, including large-scale industrial bio-energy production.

Ø A review of the unfair legal framework for intellectual property in this field is needed to defend food security and food sovereignty, especially for women.

Ø Effective measures should be adopted at the global level to prevent speculation in the food market and maintain sustainable fishing practices both near shore and on the high seas.

Ø To increase the social and environmental resilience of communities and prevent loss of agricultural biodiversity, women's production needs to be supported, including through improved access to education, resources and markets.

Ø To defend food security and food sovereignty, their rights to choose what to plant, eat and sell, must also be ensured.

Ø Subsidies and other support measures for agro-fuels have significantly added to the recent food price hikes and have already been responsible for the death of thousands of people due to hunger and malnutrition. All subsidies and other support measures to large-scale industrial bio-energy production should be immediately withdrawn.

Ø Patents in the field of food and agriculture have contributed to the control of these sectors by large corporations. A review of the unfair legal framework for intellectual property in this field is needed to defend food security and food sovereignty, especially of women.

### 5.1.4. Rush for Land: women's land rights and ownership tenure, and prevention of land grabbing

Ø Women's land rights need to be ensured. Women farmers and indigenous peoples are currently losing their territories, resources and livelihoods in the grabbing of land by governments, local and foreign investors, including for large scale bioenergy production. This results in increased in poverty and lack of food security and food sovereignty.

Ø The increasing influence of corporations and other economic actors over environmental policies is also leading to privatization of common lands.

Ø Given that investors concerned with food and resource shortages likely to emerge due to climate change, arable land is being purchased in developing countries by foreign investors and by local elites<sup>30</sup>. Women farmers and Indigenous Peoples, including in particular mobile Indigenous peoples, are currently losing their territories, resources and livelihoods in this rush for land, resulting in poverty increase and lack of food security and food sovereignty.

Ø Women are among the main victims of this trend, as they are deprived of access to resources that are of essential importance to their livelihoods and communities. These practices should be halted and community and indigenous rights should be respected, protected and strengthened.

Ø In consultation with women's groups plans need to be put in place at all levels, to ensure that land purchases do not threaten and compromise the livelihood of rural women.

30 Borras et al. 2011.

### 5.1.5. Women and Migration

Ø Due to unsustainable activities and climate change, many regions are experiencing land degradation, desertification, water insecurity and scarcity, sea level rise, droughts/floods, land grabs, changing disease vectors and deforestation.

Ø Economic and ecological displacement and migration are expected to increase as a result of this resource instability, both rural to urban and cross-border.

Ø In Asia, the women make up the majority affected. A sustainable development agenda must address the social costs of this migration by addressing conditions of women's economic deprivation and environmental degradation, as well as by establishing policies to assist the migrants, particularly women and children, and improve their legal status.

### 5.1.6. New challenges to water availability – burden for women

Ø Approximately one billion people live without access to clean water, and over 2 billion lack basic sanitation. In many developing countries, it is women and girls who are often most affected by lack of water, as they are primarily responsible for obtaining and transporting water for daily use.

Ø Water scarcity is further compounded by the pollution of existing sources by environmental chemicals dumping and by "fracking" techniques used to extract gas and oil from the earth. Chemical pollution of water is a serious threat to the health of women and their families, who often have no means to purify chemically polluted water.

Ø Accepted science indicates that low levels of exposure to toxic chemicals during pregnancy can harm the developing fetus, in ways that compromise health later in life. Cancers, diabetes, learning disabilities, immune system dysfunction, and birth defects are among the health outcomes associated with gestational exposures in laboratory and human studies.

Ø Given the importance of protecting the health of future generations and the health of women who are often more vulnerable to toxic chemicals during pregnancy, access to clean water for women and their families must be ensured and chemical pollution of water halted at every level.

Ø In line with the UN resolution of 2010, we consider water as a basic human right and as such it must be treated as a common good. Its treatment, distribution and



management must be under public control, including mechanism of social control and community administration. Due to their major role in water provision and administration, women must be the leadership of water management decisions.

#### 5.1.7 Privatization and commodification of the commons

Ø The increasing influence of corporations and other strong economic actors over environmental policies is leading to tendency to privatize and commodify the commons<sup>31</sup>, - formerly ruled by community rules and accessible to them, - including water, genetic resources, the climate, and Indigenous territories and community conserved areas. Women are amongst the main victims of this trend, as they are deprived of access to resources that are of essential importance to their families. The privatization of the commons should be halted and Indigenous and community rights should be respected, protected and strengthened.

31 Rules, Games, and Common-Pool Resources; Ostrom, Elinor et al. Editors, Ann Arbor, University of Michigan Press, 1994

#### 5.1.8. Promotion of clean renewable energy technologies and phasing out of unsustainable energy

Ø Close to 2.4 billion people in developing countries still depend almost entirely on traditional biomass fuels (wood, charcoal, dung and agricultural residues. It is mostly women who are tasked with collecting and managing these fuels, which limits their time and opportunities for education and income-generating activities.

Ø Investments in access to modern energy are needed for improved livelihoods, education, health services, water and sanitation, education, and transportation. Women need increased access to cleaner, more efficient energy sources and technologies for household use and productive activities, as well as training and education for business development - including designing, producing, marketing and managing new energy products and services.

Ø Unsustainable energy sources such as nuclear, shale gas, tar sands and coal continue to be expanded and subsidised. Governments should agree in Rio to eliminate direct and indirect subsidies to unsustainable energy supply – currently estimated at 7-9 billion Euro annually – and instead to create incentives and a fair legal environment for renewable energy and women's access to these resources.

#### 5.1.9. Strengthen gender priority in Climate Change policies

Ø Climatic changes are already causing major problems in many regions of the world, and women bear the harshest impacts of the current climate crisis. Due to gender roles and inequalities, climate changes have particularly adverse impacts on women's livelihoods and work burdens, and also reinforce gender discrimination and the feminization of poverty.

Ø Women have valuable experience, knowledge and ideas about climate change mitigation, adaptation, resilience and disaster risk management, and are important actors in the promotion of sustainable consumption.

Ø Women's decision-making power and participation in the development and implementation of climate change policies, mechanisms and funding must be increased to ensure they are gender-responsive. Women also need access to environmental rights, climate change funding, and sustainable technologies.

### 6. Recommendations for Rio+20 Outcome document

We call on governments to recognize that sustainable development is built on a healthy environment as the foundation of all human well-being and that economic development must serve human and cultural development and take place within the carrying capacity of the planet. Economic instruments should aim at incorporation of externalities, equitable redistribution of wealth and equality between women and men.

#### We call on governments to:

##### 6.1. Sustainable and equitable economies: Commit to gender-sensitive development of binding international and national measures , in particular

Ø Agree to develop binding policies which assure healthy and sustainable livelihoods for women, in particular through halting use of unsustainable, radioactive and harmful substances and technologies

Ø Agree to assure a Social Protection Floor for all women as a fundamental human right, thus effectively reducing poverty and allowing women to fully participate in sustainable development

Ø Agree to end violence against women through legislation, support services for women, affordable access to justice for women, and information about rights and norms

Ø Agree to assure access to clean, efficient and safe energy, water and sanitation for all, especially for women.

Ø Agree to assure women's access to natural resources, measures against land grabbing, access to and protection of commons, and respect of women's environmental rights.

##### 6.2. Governance of sustainable development: Commit to gender-sensitive development of binding international and national measures, in particular

Ø Agreement to strengthen international governance of environment and to bring global sustainable development governance to the highest level of the UN, whilst assuring gender targets and policies for the new structures.

Ø Agree on binding measures for the protection of women's indigenous and traditional knowledge systems from appropriation and exploitation by corporations (strong regulation of corporate power which effectively protects the most vulnerable in times of globalization)

Ø Agree on the development of international agreements, which guarantee global access to timely information, relevant public participation, affordable access to justice, liability and redress mechanisms.

Ø Agree on creating specific windows and incentives to increase women's role and access to assets and finance in the area of sustainable development.

Ø Agreement for the creation of an independent technology assessment organisation with the mandate to assess, control and where necessary limit use of technologies before widespread use, based on the precautionary principle

Ø Agreement to create global mechanisms for the protection of the global commons, including clean up of harmful pollution such as from uranium mining, and a mechanism for its implementation

Ø Global and national institutions to protect the rights of future generations<sup>32</sup>

32 As supported by the Major Groups: Workers and Trade Unions, and Youth

### 6.3. Commit to targets and indicators for women's engagement

The Outcome Document should include specific targets and indicators to support and promote women's engagement as key actors in sustainable development and to measure government progress on recommended actions. These could be incorporated into Sustainable Development Goals or could stand alone.

### 6.4. Proposal to include gender equality goals in Sustainable Development Goals

A proposal has been presented by member states for **Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)**, which governments in Rio can agree to develop up to 2015, to follow up the Millennium Development Goals.

The Women major group supports the idea of SDGs, however, regrets that the proposal does not include as yet any specific gender related goals, unlike the MDGs which contain several.

A set of Sustainable Development Goals should be adopted that includes specific crosscutting goals on gender equality in all spheres of society, in particular these could aim to:

- Ø Secure women's greater access and control over assets, land tenure, inputs and natural resources including traditional common lands;
- Ø Promote women's access to services and technologies needed for water, energy, agricultural production, family care, household management and business enterprises;
- Ø Provide comprehensive social protection measures, especially for women;
- Ø Provide safe health care facilities, including for sexual and reproductive health;
- Ø Enable women and men to combine their jobs with childcare;
- Ø Support investments in women's economic, social and political empowerment, including through new financing and credit facilities accessible to women;
- Ø Support for traditional knowledge systems and management practices;
- Ø Determine specific targets for women with regard to technology training, business management skills and extension services;
- Ø Promote women's participation in government and business leadership, with targets of at least 40% women;
- Ø Strengthen women's organizations/self help groups, entrepreneurs and networks to enable them to negotiate the terms of their engagement with sustainable development projects and;
- Ø Develop in-house capacities for gender mainstreaming within implementing agencies and local partners.
- Ø Address organizational strengthening needs within organisations engaged in sustainable development: develop in-house capacities for gender mainstreaming within implementing agencies and local partners.

**The world stands at a cross-roads**, and the future of our planet Earth and its human communities lays in (y)our hands. United in our diversity we, women from all regions in the world, call on our governments and other stakeholders to re-new the commitments on equitable and sustainable development made at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. We commit ourselves to contribute to a peaceful and healthy planet, in which human rights are well respected and women's voices are well-represented. We request that you act in the spirit of global solidarity, trust, environmental and social care, and take our recommendations well to heart.

**Responsible for the compilation:** Sascha Gabizon, WECF

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## Women Deliver

Submission to the Compilation Document in preparation of the Zero Draft Outcome Document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Women Deliver is a global advocacy organization bringing together voices from around the world to call for action against maternal death. The health of girls and women is a cross-cutting issue, and particularly relates to sustainable development goals. A sustainable planet requires all of its inhabitants to commit to a green lifestyle. For that to occur, there must be recognition that girls and women are those most affected by air pollution, unclean or scarce water, and are the demographic predominantly working in tourism and on small farms. Therefore, their health and empowerment is a key component of any effort to promote sustainable development. Their needs must be addressed and they must be actively involved in ongoing and future efforts.

Our key recommendations are as follows:

- Include girls and women as primary stakeholders, consultants and decision-makers in developing sustainable programs and policies.
- o The agricultural sector uses 70% of all water worldwide, and the majority of smallholder farms (especially in Africa) are women-owned. Women need information on and access to sustainable irrigation. By fostering greater access to capital through microfinance, women farmers can then invest in sustainable tools and technologies.
- o Women constitute 60-70% of the labor force of the tourism industry, one of the primary drivers of the growth for the world economy. There are tremendous opportunities in developing tourism to be more sustainable by regulating energy and GHG emissions, water consumption, waste management, protection of biological diversity and cultural heritages. By engaging women as agents of change, we can realize success in this arena.
- Improve girls and women's access to fresh water and safe drinking water.
- o Girls and women are the primary family members tasked with fetching water for their household. Improving access to drinking water cuts down on the time spent obtaining it, which then frees up girls and women's schedules to care for their families and work for additional income. Also, improving access cuts down on the distance girls and women need to walk alone and often in dark, remote areas which puts them at risk for sexual assault.

- o There are existing solutions out there, such as the Lifestraw developed by Vestergaard Frandsen, which provides point-of-use water treatment in the home. We need to share experiences and lessons learned on these types of life-saving solutions, and also cultivate the development of new innovations. • Promote the use of clean household fuels.
- o Smoke exposure from traditional cookstoves and household fires cause 1.3 million premature deaths annually. As women and children are inside the home for most of the day, they are most affected by toxic fumes which can lead to emphysema, lung cancer, cardiovascular disease and cataracts, as well as low birth weight for infants born to mothers exposed to these fuels.
- o Relying on biomass for cooking and other household needs places a heavy burden on the environment and depletes natural resources. Furthermore, it requires girls and women to spend many hours a day collecting firewood which both drains their hours for income generation and also places them at risk of violence.
- o The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves is a public-private partnership calling for 100 million homes to be provided with clean and efficient stoves and fuels by 2020. By utilizing gas, liquid, solar or processed solid fuel, this solution promotes sustainability, enables girls and women to spend less time preparing and cooking food, and increases girls' and women's health and well-being throughout the life-cycle.

## Women Environmental Programme

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE NIGERIAN MAJOR GROUPS ON RIO + 20 AT A ONE DAY WORKSHOP HELD ON THE 6TH SEPTEMBER 2011, BOLTON WHITE HOTEL, ABUJA, NIGERIA

### 1.0 BACKGROUND TO THE WORKSHOP

The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD) is being organized in pursuance of General Assembly Resolution 64/236 (A/RES/64/236). The Conference will take place in Brazil on 4-6 June 2012 to mark the 20th anniversary of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), in Rio de Janeiro, and the 10th anniversary of the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg.

In order to ensure high quality inputs to the Conference, the Second Committee of the General Assembly called for efficient and effective preparations at the local, national, regional and international levels by Governments and the United Nations system and encouraged the active participation of all major groups at all stages of the preparatory process.

Against this background, Women Environmental Programme in Partnership with Clean Energy and Safe Environment Initiative, International Center for Energy, Environment and Development, Friends of the Earth, Nigeria/Environmental Rights Action and the Nigerian Climate Action Network organized a One Day National Consultative Workshop of the Nigeria Major Groups at Bolton White Hotel, Abuja on the 6th of September, 2011. The consultative workshop aimed at creating awareness and soliciting inputs and contributions for inclusion in a compilation document of the Nigerian government serving as basis for the preparation of zero draft of the conference outcome document.

The workshop drew over 70 participants from across the major groups which consisted of business and industry, children and youth, farmers, civil society organizations, farmers, local authorities, indigenous people, women, the scientific and technological community and trade unions, government representatives, international non-governmental organizations, donor agencies and the diplomatic missions in Nigeria.

### 2.0 TECHNICAL AND PLENARY SESSIONS

The workshop plenary sessions, covered a broad spectrum of issues related to Rio+20, with presentations made by renowned and professionals on different thematic areas such as; Achieving Sustainable Development in Nigeria Rio+20 years by Ambassador AdamuEmozozo, Director with the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Green economy and environmental governance, the Nigerian perspective's- Professor ChinedumNwajuba, Synergies between the Rio conventions: Assessing Implementation-HuziMshelia, Climate Change and the success of Rio+20- Mr. NnimmoBassey, New and Emerging issues- the Energy Crisis- Mr. EwaEleri and Gender Perspectives in the Green Economy and the Poverty Eradication in Nigeria by Ms. Lesley Agams.

During the plenary, participants deliberated and took stock of the alarming state of the environment, poverty and inequalities that exist in Nigeria and expressed its disappointment with the widely perceived failure of Nigerian government to live up to the commitments taken at the 1992 Rio Conference. They also noted the new and emerging threats to the environment and people, such as the global warming, energy crisis, threatening food security, water and sanitation, technological innovation as "green economy" which could cause irreparable damage to nature and human health, as well as create new sources of poverty and inequalities.

Participants noted that the concept of green economy is characterized by widespread inequalities and which are viewed as inefficient, unsustainable and inequitable with economic policies that advance rather than promote the concept of sustainable development and therefore agreed that there is the need for the concept of the green economy to be properly understood based on our national circumstances, so that it does not cause dislocation or shock to the national economy.

One of the major outcomes of the Nigerian Major Groups recommendation is that the concept of "green economy" should not replace "sustainable development" and advocated for social equity, economic sufficiency as a framework within which to pursue more sustainable production and consumption patterns.

On the institutional framework, the group noted the failure of global environmental governance to push ideals of the original Rio for sustainable development. The group advocated a coordinating mechanism and parallel institutions at the national level, empowered to pursue system-wide policy coherence, accountable and truly participatory decision-making processes. In this regard, they called for a clear coordinated framework of United Nations agencies are strengthened with the Commission on Sustainable development elevated to a status of a Council with decision making mandate where United Nations Environment Programme is transformed into a specialized institution for the environment

Some of the other recommendations include;

#### Global Level

1. Participants argued that creating a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication will need to be built through the bottom up approach, responding to national and local priorities and challenges and therefore called on government to ensure that policy formulations are based on the use of bottom – up approach involving all critical stakeholders especially women and youths as well as community participation.
2. The UN estimates that approximately 70% of the 1.3 billion people living on less than one dollar a day are women, and these figures are rising with current environmental and climatic changes resulting into food crisis, flooding, famine etc in Africa. We need an economy that provides incentives for zero-waste, low-carbon economies that enhance and restore the natural environment, thus providing new green livelihoods, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for women as well as men.

3. Food and Agriculture: Push for ecological, non-chemical the implementation of the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) report and demand for follow-up process to ensure a rethink of the model of industrial agriculture. This will involve policy work up to and beyond Rio+20. The IAASTD clearly showed that genetic engineering will not occupy a significant niche in feeding the world in the years to come and that effort should be focused on enabling small scale family farming. This is a clear way for securing livelihoods in Nigeria and indeed Africa where the majority of our people are small-scale farmers, fishermen or pastoralists.

4. Gender sensitive policies can best be achieved through gender mainstreaming; an approach which ensures that concerns and needs of both men and women are considered in all planning and policy-making is critical. Therefore, government's officials and staff members need targeted training and capacity building to raise their awareness of gender disparities and discrimination against women.

#### Regional Level

5. The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) is revitalized, implemented and monitored with actionable indicators so as to ensure effective vertical and horizontal linkages, as well as effectiveness implementation on NEPAD's Principles, Programme of Action, Priorities and desired Outcome Country Level.

#### Government of Nigeria

6. Nigeria is naturally endowed with human and natural resources, there is ample evidence that small businesses, with its resources and capabilities, can play a vital role in helping achieve the goals related to sustained economic growth in an environmentally and socially responsible manner, and therefore call on government to create an enabling environment (energy, security etc.), where small scale businesses can thrive.

7. The private sector can play a key role in achieving the goals of sustainable development, especially in poverty reduction. Most of the people in Nigeria work in the private sector, either as self-employed, small entrepreneurs, farmers, small and medium size enterprises, employees of larger corporation etc. They generate employment, goods, food and most of the items and services that people use every day. The participants therefore call on government to create an enabling environment for the private sector to be engaged to fill the implementation gaps that have limited achievements of the goals of sustainable development and to address the new and emerging challenges.

8. The Nigerian participation in Rio +20 is critical as a leader and largest country on the African continent, therefore the workshop participants called on the Nigerian government to make its positions available to the major groups so that inputs can be made to enrich it.

9. The nine major groups needs to have a more and better coordinated networking, advocacy and sensitization mechanisms involving governments and other stakeholders in the preparation for Rio +20 and implementation of the outcomes of Rio conference is imperative and therefore called for the establishment of a national coordinating council comprising of all the major groups and government representatives.

10. The participants called on the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Dr. Jonathan Ebele Goodluck for the signing into law the National Climate Change Commission bill.

11. The need for government, ministries, department and agencies (MDAs) to create an enabling environment framework that are critical to effective and successful implementation of sustainability policies and conventions at national level.

12. The participation and involvement of youths, the disabled, aged, physically challenge in environmental policies/ decision making issues, participation and financing of these category of persons to programs and events.

13. The government of Nigeria should make adequate budgetary provision for the major group's participation at the Rio + 20 and the implementation of its outcome.

#### Signed for and on behalf of the Nigerian Major Groups

1. Priscilla M Achakpa- Women Environmental Programme
2. Huzi Mshelia – Clean Energy and Safe Environment Initiative
3. Ewa Eleri- International Center for Energy, Environment and Development/Nigerian Climate Action Network
4. Nnimmo Bassey- Friends of the Earth, Nigeria/Environmental Rights Action

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## Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing

Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) is a global research-policy network that seeks to improve the status of the working poor, especially women, in the informal economy. It does so by highlighting the size, composition, characteristics, and contribution of the informal economy through improved statistics and research; by helping to strengthen membership-based organizations of informal workers; and by promoting policy dialogues and processes that include representatives of informal worker organizations.

#### WIEGO's Contribution to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Employment – more precisely, “decent work” – is a key pathway to poverty reduction. Most of the world's poor, especially in developing countries, are working. There are 630 million working poor, of whom the majority are women (ILO 2009). They cannot work their way out of poverty because the vast majority earn their living in the informal economy, where average earnings are low and costs and risks are high.

Workers who are informally employed are an integral component of cities around the world. They work as construction workers, domestic workers, waste pickers, home-based workers and street vendors. Informal employment is particularly significant in developing countries, where it comprises one half to three quarters of non-agricultural employment: specifically, 48 per cent in North Africa; 51 per cent in Latin America; 65 per cent in Asia; and 72 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa. If South Africa is excluded, the share of informal employment in non-agricultural employment rises to 78 per cent in sub-Saharan Africa. If comparable data were available for other countries in South Asia in addition to India, the regional average for Asia would likely be much higher. If informal employment in agriculture is included, as is done in some countries, the proportion of informal employment greatly increases: from 83 per cent of non-agricultural employment to 93 per cent of total employment in India; from 55 to 62 per cent in Mexico; and from 28 to 34 per cent in South Africa.

Principle 5 from the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development states: “eradicating poverty is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development”.

Rio+20 Conference in 2012 provides an opportunity to advance global efforts towards securing economic rights for informal workers, particularly women, and to address the

root causes of low incomes and high risks in the informal economy, such as:

- lack of productive resources and economic opportunities
- lack of economic rights – as workers and producers
- lack of social protection
- lack of organization and representation

Today, after 19 years since the Earth Summit, the informally employed face new or intensified threats such as the far-reaching impacts of the global economic recession on the livelihoods of the working poor, the rapid pace of urbanization and the regulatory policies that exclude the working poor and undermine their livelihood. This troubling context requires renewed creativity, energy and information sharing.

We therefore propose that outcomes focus on

- Address poverty and gender inequality
- Promote social economic inclusion of informal workers
- Include informal workers and their organizations in policy dialogue discussions.
- Strengthen the voice and organized leadership of informal workers
- Sensitize policy makers to the fact that the vast majority of those living in poverty/extreme poverty in their countries are actually working poor, and, as such, have special needs to reduce exposure to risks, while at the same time creating potential to overcome poverty by advocating for policy and practice change that can improve their lives.
- Create spaces for dialogue, exchange and mutual learning among policy makers and informal economy actors to foster more responsive policies for the working poor.

WIEGO believes that all policy and process discussions regarding eradicating poverty and promoting sustainable development must include worker representatives themselves, specifically informal workers who make up the majority of workers in developing countries. Informal workers and their organizations must be included in solutions for eradicating poverty and improving livelihoods if the implementation of those solutions are meant to be successful.

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## Workers and Trade Unions

Text not available.

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## Workinggroup on Great Transformation

Monetary reform for a sustainable monetary system

For Rio+20 Compilation Document

A sustainable economic system needs a sustainable monetary system. The current monetary system is based on the fractional reserve system and is not sustainable at all. A monetary reform is needed.

Regarding our monetary system there is an increasing number of independent experts coming to basically the same conclusions<sup>1</sup>:

Most of the countries in the world face problems of worsening distribution of wealth and growing mountains of debt. These phenomena are not primarily the result of economic misbehavior but the result of the design of our monetary and financial system, which is not sustainable.

Any finance and monetary system that allows to gain money without activities in the real economy is not sustainable. It leads to growing differences in distribution of wealth and demolishes the societal system in regular intervals.

There is also a growing number of proposals for the monetary reform, including the following:

US Congressman Kucinich's Monetary Reform Bill <sup>2</sup>

Towards A Twenty-First Century Banking and Monetary System <sup>3</sup>

Münchener Modell <sup>4</sup>

Monetative<sup>5</sup> – Geldschöpfung in öffentliche Hand

Without addressing the question on monetary reform there is no way to establish a sustainable economic system. Therefore we suggest that the issue of monetary reform should explicitly discussed in the Rio+20 preparatory process. The Rio+20 document should include concrete proposals on how to tackle the monetary reform.

Workinggroup on the Great Transformation -

Arbeitsgruppe Grosse Transformation in der Initiative Zivilgesellschaft

[www.zivilgesellschaft.at](http://www.zivilgesellschaft.at)

2011-11-01

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## World Animal Net

Joint submission by World Animal Net and 109 partner-organisations to the compilation document in preparation of the zero draft of the Rio+20 outcome document

Expectations for the outcome of Rio+20:

Together with 109 partner-organizations from more than 50 countries from all UN regions, World Animal Net believes that by focusing on the theme of a Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the Rio+20 Summit will provide a key opportunity to address how we treat animals, be they wild, companion, working or farm animals or more generally animals in disasters. We believe that the welfare of animals needs to be considered within policies that affect them and particularly the welfare of livestock used for farming, as their welfare is directly affected by human activities.

Therefore, World Animal Net and 109 partner-organizations would like to recommend the Rio+20 outcome document's considerations include specific commitments on global agriculture systems and food supply chains that will allow achieving global food security while preserving ecosystems and ensuring human and animal welfare. The outcome document must recognize the benefits of humane and sustainable livestock production.

To integrate the three pillars of sustainable development, World Animal Net and its partner-organisations recommend the following measures:

1. Develop policies for humane and sustainable food supplies IGOs, national governments and food supply industries urgently need to develop policies for sustainable and humane food supply chains. For livestock production to have a reduced impact on climate change and to be sustainable, it must be biologically based, socially just and humane. To achieve this, animal welfare needs to be included in all future discussions on agriculture, land use and climate change.
2. Manage unsustainable demand for farm animal products and support producers in transition National governments and IGOs need to develop mechanisms to deal with the current acceleration in meat and dairy production, notably in grain feeding and intensive production methods that are not ecologically sustainable. Both the proposals for Sustainable Development Goals (Colombia, Guatemala) and the Millennium Consumption Goals (prof. Munasinghe) would provide excellent ways to ground commitment for this and establish clear, measurable targets for changing food consumption patterns. Implementing an ambitious 10YFP on SCP that prioritizes sustainable and humane food production and consumption would also be highly desirable..
3. Research and development to support humane and sustainable agriculture Research is urgently needed to support farmers in developing livestock systems, breeds, feeding and management to ensure humane and sustainable animal production. Research is also required to determine effective policies for addressing meat consumption.
4. Phase out subsidies and investment for unsustainable, inhumane systems Financial support for industrial livestock production methods, such as unseen subsidies for externalized costs, should be ended. Economic mechanisms to support humane, sustainable livestock production (for example grants and research funding) should be prioritized.

Comments on the Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication

About a billion of the world's poorest people depend on animals for food, income, transport, social status, and financial security.

With a view to achieve a Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication - and more specifically to achieve sustainable development in agriculture and food production - the Rio+20 outcome document's considerations on the future of food and farming must recognize the benefits of humane livestock systems . Ensuring the welfare and responsible use of animals is an effective tool to help achieve sustainable development through environmental protection, poverty alleviation and enhanced wellbeing:

1) Environmental sustainability – Humane animal production systems reduce environmental damage Livestock production's is well recognized as a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions . It is also a highly polluting sector – including phosphorus, nitrogen and pesticide contamination of water - and is a main cause of deforestation (for pasture and the growing of feeds).

Higher welfare animal production systems often require fewer inputs of grain feed, fuel and water. Pasture based systems utilise land otherwise unfit for production. They also keep animals at stocking densities that reduce the risk of major pollution and use breeds often more robust and resilient to environmental challenges. Pasture and mixed farm systems also have benefits such as such as biodiversity preservation and carbon sequestration in well-maintained grazing systems.

2) Economic sustainability - Good animal health and welfare can reduce costs and raise profits for producers Good animal health and welfare can reduce costs and raise profits for producers. For example, in dairy production, investing in increased cow longevity and fertility will help to achieve better returns in the form of milk and calves during the animal's lifetime. Due care for the welfare of animals during handling and transport can limit bruising and levels of stress, preventing financial losses from poor meat quality and unnecessary damage to carcasses at the slaughterhouse. The perceived quality of high welfare products also often attracts a premium from consumers.

3) Social sustainability 'Human beings have an important role in protecting one another and other forms of life, in particular animals.' Safeguarding animal welfare of livestock forms an important part of this social responsibility.

Call for action:

- Develop policies for humane and sustainable food supplies
- Manage unsustainable demand for farm animal products and support producers in transition
- Phase out subsidies and investment for unsustainable, inhumane livestock systems

Institutional framework for sustainable development

Vulnerable groups need adequate representation in policy making processes. This is especially critical for the voiceless, for example future generations and animals.

Call for action:

Establish an ombudsperson system to defend the interests of future generations and animals.

Sincerely,

Wim de Kok

President World Animal Net

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World Association of Former United Nations Internes and Fellows (WAFUNIF)

## INPUTS FOR COMPILATION DOCUMENT

THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 4-6 June 2012: Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

By

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CONSULTATIVE STATUS: SPECIALCATEGORYWITH **ECOSOC** ,ANDGENERAL CATEGORY WITH **UNCTAD** , ASSOCIATIONWITH **UNDP**

### I. EXPECTATIONS FOR THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE

#### A. Concrete Proposals

##### 1. Intactness of the Earth

a. Lithosphere

b. Hydrosphere

c. Atmosphere

##### 2. Resources of the Earth

a. Living Resources

b. Non-Living Resources

c. Conservation of Resources

d. Preservation of Resources

e. Protection of Resources

f. Exploitation of Resources

g. Uses of Resources

i. Constructive Uses

ii. Destructive Uses

##### 3. Civilizational Demands

#### B. Comments on Existing Proposals

##### 1. Initiatives

##### 2. Green Economy Roadmap

##### 3. Framework for Action

##### 4. Sustainable Development Goals

##### 5. Revitalized Global Partnership

#### C. Implementational Views

##### 1. Closing Implementational Gaps

a. Conscious

b. Unconscious

##### 2. Relevant Actors

a. Public Sector

b. Private Sector

c. Civil Society

d. Organizations

- e. Institutions
- f. Groups
- g. Individuals
- D. Implementational Methodologies
- 1. Content of Priorities
- a. Specific
- b. General
- 2. Framework of Timings
- a. Short-Term
- b. Medium-Term
- c. Long-Term
- 3. Cooperative Mechanisms
- a. With Common Interests
- b. With Diverse Interests
- 4. Partnership Arrangements
- a. Comprehensive
- b. Partial
- 5. Other Tools
- II. Specific Elements
- A. Conference Objectives
- 1. Securing Reviewed Commitment
- 2. Assessment of Progress
- 3. Remaining Implementational Gaps
- 4. Addressing Emerging Challenges
- 5. Sectoral Priorities
- a. Energy
- b. Food
- c. Agriculture
- d. Forests
- e. Technology
- f. Water
- g. Oceans
- h. Urbanization
- i. Production
- j. Consumption
- k. Biodiversity
- I. Climate Change
- m. Natural Disasters
- B. Green Economy
- 1. Definition]
- 2. Potential
- 3. Experience
- 4. Successes



5. Opportunities

6. Challenges

7. Elements of Agreement

C. Poverty Eradication

1. Definition

2. Potential

3. Experience

4. Successes

5. Opportunities

6. Challenges

7. Elements of Agreement

D. Institutional Framework

1. Individual Pillars

a. International

i. Priorities

ii. Proposals

b. Regional

i. Priorities

ii. Proposals

c. National

i. Priorities

ii. Proposals

d. Local

i. Priorities

ii. Proposals

2. Integration of Pillars

i. International Level

ii. Regional level

iii. National level

iv. Local Level

E. Proposals for Refinement

1. Green Economy

2. Poverty Eradication

3. Institutional Framework

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EXPECTATIONS FOR THE OUTCOME OF THE CONFERENCE

CONCRETE PROPOSALS Intactness of the Earth

The Earth being a very fragile planet in its composition, delicately balanced in all its parts (viz., lithosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere), any scheme of sustainable development to be successful has to flow from the realization of this fundamental fact.

In destabilizing the structure of the planet or disturbing its titanic plates by violent activities, one cannot expect to simultaneously subscribe to the requirements of sustainable development. Similarly, by inflicting injuries to the lithosphere by such acts as gas emission, soil erosion, land slide, desertification, and deforestation cannot be conducive to the precepts of sustainable development. Likewise, senseless exploitation and ruthless destruction of Earth's resources cannot go hand in hand with the demands of sustainable conduct. In the same vein, subjecting the land mass of the Earth to suffocating pollution and toxification cannot be treated as a tolerable activity for a sustainable economy.

Similar degenerative activities in hydrosphere (viz., oceans, seas, lakes, ponds, rivers, glaciers) violate the premises of sustainable life. If pollution beyond the natural

absorptive capacity and exploitation of marine resources (living and non-living) above replenishment capacity cannot be regarded as sustainable. Therefore, promulgation of effective checks is necessary to stem the tide against the sustainability standards, so that a conducive future could be ensured.

Degenerative perpetrations are also increasingly rampant in the atmosphere (even beyond in outer space). Overloading the atmosphere with carbon dioxide and other toxic gasses is having harmful effects over weather, setting in motion consequences equally injurious to life on the Earth, emission of other gasses is punching holes in ozone layer, with hazardous consequences to health among others.

It is thus expected that Rio+20 will proceed with the fundamental premise that only with a healthy Earth can emerge a sound sustainable development plan. With these bases, a comprehensive program has to evolve with the recognition that the planet's resources (both living and non-living) have limits, demanding accordingly their sensible treatment. They need their proper conservation, preservation, and protection. They too have their rights and therefore, as parts of civilizational desiderata, they need proper handling on all counts.

#### Comments on Existing Proposals

The Agenda 21, Rio Conventions, Johannesburg Plan, and the Millennium Declaration have all been important steps as they touched upon important questions (e.g., biodiversity, desertification, climate change), thereby helping to define the parameters of Sustainable Development goals and to build a global sustainable agenda. The momentum so generated gave rise to many other constructive initiatives (e.g., Green Economy Roadmap) and produced pressure for creation of implementational devices (e.g., Framework for Action, Global Partnership).

These initiatives ushered in visible spectrum of socio-economic progress worldwide. As such, numerous projects of development may be proudly mentioned to testify this claim of advancement.

Yet, the progress has been sporadic and uneven, far below the expected measure. Therefore, the underlain conditions of dissatisfaction and insecurity have remained, encompassing most of the sectors across the board (e.g., water, food, energy, biodiversity, climate).

Such circumstances have posed many challenges, which have necessarily to be seriously addressed. Not only the remaining issues are there, having not been fully resolved, but also emerging problems have further added to difficulties.

#### Implementational Views

Among these, one critical aspect is that of implementation of what had been solemnly agreed upon. Many gaps have been left consciously or unconsciously. While the plans of action, programs of timing, roadmaps of procedure are in existence, they have not been wholly or partially acted upon.

Therefore there is a need of concerted endeavors on the part of all relevant actors (e.g., public sector, private sector, civil society, organizations, institutions, groups, individuals), on all levels (viz., local, national, regional, international, global).

#### Implementational Methodologies

In order to pursue the professed goals, with implementational elements in sight, there is the necessity of incorporating due methodologies. In order to systemize the entire gamut of means, firstly the context of priorities of tasks has to be decided, so that specific issues demanding urgent attention may be taken up immediately. Then, the general questions could be taken up, at their turn. Also, the framework of timing is equally important, so that all problems could be attended to properly. A simple issue may not be allowed to degenerate in the waiting, while a complex problem may have sufficient time to muster concerted support, whereas the middle ones may be settled in due course. Accordingly, all tasks must be sorted out diligently as short-term, medium-term, and long-term, in view of their importance and urgency.

It is at this juncture that the cooperative mechanisms as parts of essential methodologies have to be sought. They may be developed with agencies of common interest, which naturally are the most conducive, with prospects of intense and sustained relationships. But, even with those of diverse leanings, casual ties could still be possible in areas of some degree of mutuality. The essential feature is that any available measure of cooperation (short or long, incidental or sustained) should be welcomed.

Beyond these, there could be likelihood of partnerships, for reciprocal gains in defined spheres of pursuit. It may be comprehensive in the sense of coverage of all or most areas of concern. Or, it may be partial, dealing with a select facet or several chosen facilities. In both ways, they are gainful.

Besides, there are certain advocacy groups, voluntary services, special facilities, and honorary offers, whose capacities could profitably be deployed.

#### SPECIFIC ELEMENTS Conference Objectives

In the wake of only partial success and many failures, with numerous impending dilemmas and crises, it has been a bold and wise step to hold another Conference on the same theme. It will provide opportunities to utilize the experiences gained during the interim period, both to avoid pitfalls and fill the gaps, while meeting challenges and resisting temptations.

The international community, consisted of all stakeholders, is therefore returning to Rio with renewed vigor to objectively: i) assess the progress made during the intervening years; ii) fill up the remaining implementational voids; iii) build institutional stamina to address emerging challenges; iv) formulate action oriented policies; v) produce workable development agenda for the coming decades; vi) mobilize financial and technological resources; and vii) capture conducive opportunities.

With the obtainment of political commitment for such a program, focusing on green economy and poverty eradication as its *leit motif*, it has laid down its plan for sectoral development priorities. This consists, among other things, such factors as: energy, food, agriculture, forests, technology, water, oceans, urbanization, production, consumption, biodiversity, climate change, and natural disasters.

#### Green Economy

The concept of Green Economy, if friendly to the Earth and natural forces, may be considered as a positive move. Embracing most of the sectors of life on the planet, it must be considered as having great potential to promote the elements of developmental sustainability. Otherwise, it will invite futility and dejection. Here, the lessons learnt from past successes as well as from failures must provide light to chart a correct course, both for seizing opportunities and meeting challenges. Accordingly, the elements of agreements have to be universal in their nature to encompass all facets of the problem and global in scope to cover all areas of the world, in a harmonious way.

#### Poverty Eradication

Poverty Eradication, even though an important goal, it can hardly be treated as a pillar of the sustainable development scheme. As a symptom rather than an independent issue in itself, it should have been considered as a sector within the context of green economy, as broadly defined. Even if brought in as one of the main independent pillar, it ought to be considered in realistic terms, so that its intrinsic significance is not eclipsed. It is within this context that its potentialities have to be assessed in view of past

triumphs, as well as defaults, in order to profit from professed fortunes and deal with imminent dilemmas, to provide proper elements to be included in anticipated agreements.

#### Institutional Framework

Sustainable development being a global problem, to tackle it adequately, naturally demands a global response. However, since no such machinery presently exists, the closest approach could be involvement of all stakeholders (viz., national governments, international organizations, private sector, civil society, interest groups, individuals) on all levels (international, regional, national, local).

As a catalyst, the United Nations can play the key role by bringing the national governments together and generating a climate of binding commitments, thereby opening the road for global standards.

With the promulgation of legal norms, appropriate institutional framework will follow, both by design and by practice. A broadly based tripartite structure could initially be established with open channels from the top tier (international) through the middle rungs (regional, national) to the bottom one (local). With their respective responsibilities at their designated stations, they will be coordinated according to their interests and commitments, always linked together by the common cause of a better future for all.

With the underlain devotion and constant practice, the urge for integration of all functional levels into a single administrative authority will tend to increase in time, finally to be merged into a compact body of all pursuances.

#### Proposals for Refinement

Refinement of all its facets of the sustainable development scheme will come from three elements: i) conceptual soundness; ii) functional reality; and iii) growth potential.

As for the green economy, while its concept is sound, its functional reality rests on the will of sovereign states. For a successful passage, it has to be broadly based and functionally viable to serve the largest interests, while able to cut through the resisting impediments.

As regards to the premise of poverty eradication, it is difficult for it to stand alone as a main independent pillar of the sustainable development scheme, because essentially it is a dependent component of other interacting factors. Its refinement therefore depends either on making it a part of a larger phenomenon or broadening it separately as an independent entity.

Concerning the institutional framework, its refinement includes its functional efficacy on all organizational levels, with reliable coordination among them. With the aid of international organizations and cooperation with regional entities as well a national sovereigns and local authorities, it will apt to present itself as a viable structure, capable of taking the current load while having the capacity of constant improvement for future responsibilities.

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## World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

Contribution to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Submitted by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development

The World Business Council for Sustainable

Development (WBCSD) is a partner in the Business

Action for Sustainable Development co coalition (BASD 2012). This submission complements and supports the submission of BASD 2012 to the Conference on Sustainable Development.

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) has been an active and constructive participant in sustainable development efforts at the international level since the first Rio Summit in 1992. We are pleased to provide this submittal as our initial contribution to submittal the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), and as a complement to the submission from the BASD 2012 coalition and the Business & Industry Major Gr Group.

The mission of the WBCSD is to provide business leadership as a catalyst for change toward sustainable development, and to support the business license to operate, innovate and grow in a world increasingly shaped by sustainable development issues. Through our participation in the Rio+20 process, we hope to stimulate action which reflects the urgency and the complexity of the challenges we are facing.

In 2010 we published the Vision 2050 a discussion paper which explored what a pathway 2050, would look like that would allow the world to reach t vision of "9 billion people liv the living well, and within the limits of the planet". The pathway proposed 9 key elements, and for each a measure ". of success:

People's Values - Sustainability embedded in all products and services & lifestyles

Human Development - Billions of people lifted out of poverty

Economy - Cost of carbon, water and other ecosystem services internalized

Agriculture - Agricultural output doubled through improved land and water productivity

Forests - Deforestation halted, carbon stocks in planted forests doubled from 2010 eforestation

, Energy and Power - C 2 emissions reduced by 50% worldwide (based on 2005 level) CO

Buildings - All new buildings use zero net energy

Mobility - Near universal access to reliable and low carbon mobility, infrastructure & information

Materials - Four-to-tenfold improvement in the eco-efficiency of resources and materials tenfold from 2000.

Making these changes – and more – will enable us to consume just over one planet's worth of ecological resources in 2050, as opposed to the 2.3 planets we will be using if we continue on the business-as-usual path we are on today.

WBCSD strongly believe that the world already has the knowledge, science, technologies, skills and financial resources needed to achieve Vision 2050 but the foundations for much of what is required will need to be laid at speed and scale in the next decade. At the same time, the map is far from complete. There are still many significant questions to be answered about governance, global frameworks for commerce, roles and responsibilities, and risks. Nevertheless, these can be answered in time for progress to be made.

In Rio in 1992, we saw a dramatic change in awareness of sustainable development issues. It is our hope that from Rio in 2012, we will see a dramatic change in the pace of

efforts to address sustainable development issue.

About this submittal

This submittal, as a complement to the BASD 2012 coalition's submittal, addresses specific topic areas which WBCSD has identified as priority areas for Rio+20. A more complete catalog of our efforts related to sustainable development can be found at [www.wbcds.org](http://www.wbcds.org). It is our hope that these components will be useful in the development of the Zero Draft of the Rio+20 outcome document.

About the WBCSD

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development is a CEO-led organization of forward-thinking companies that galvanizes the global business community to create a sustainable future for business, society and the environment. Together with its members, the council applies its respected thought leadership and effective advocacy to generate constructive solutions and take shared action. Leveraging its strong relationships with stakeholders as the leading advocate for business, the council helps drive debate and policy change in favor of sustainable development solutions.

The WBCSD provides a forum for its 200 member companies - who represent all business sectors, all continents and a combined revenue of more than \$7 trillion - to share best practices on sustainable development issues and to develop innovative tools that change the status quo. The Council also benefits from a network of 60 national and regional business councils and partner organizations, a majority of which are based in developing countries.

Disclaimer

This submission is released in the name of the WBCSD. Like other WBCSD publications, it is the result of a collaborative effort by members of the secretariat and executives from several member companies. A wide range of members reviewed drafts, thereby ensuring that the submission broadly represents the majority view of the WBCSD membership. It does not mean, however, that every member company agrees with every word.

**[UNDESA/DSD: Pleade download the original document to read the full submission]**

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## World Coal Association

The World Coal Association was founded in 1985 and has been working on behalf of the global coal industry for the past 25 years. WCA's members comprise the world's major international coal producers and stakeholders. The WCA provides a voice for coal in international environment and energy forums. The World Coal Association has Category II Consultative Status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and Consultative Status with the UN Industrial Development Organisation. WCA is also an admitted observer organisation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Key points

Access to energy is essential to achieving sustainable development and green economic growth. Efforts to address sustainable development must be supported by international targets on energy access.

Access to modern energy sources is key to sustainable economic and social development

According to the International Energy Agency, coal is expected to provide more than half of the grid-based energy needed to provide electricity to the 1.3 billion globally who currently lack access to it.

As nations develop they seek secure, reliable and affordable sources of energy to strengthen and build their economies – coal is a logical choice in many of these countries because it is widely available, safe, reliable and relatively low cost.

The world faces a huge challenge in meeting the future energy needs of developed and developing countries. All available sources of energy will be needed to meet this challenge.

If the world is to meet global emissions reduction targets while meeting the ever-growing demand for energy, then advanced coal technologies – such as high efficiency low emissions power generation and carbon capture and storage must be supported by governments and other international institutions.

In addition to its energy benefits, coal contributes to economies and communities through responsible mining and supporting industrial processes such as steel production and is therefore a key component of sustainable development.

The challenge of energy poverty

The International Energy Agency recently highlighted that there are currently 1.3 billion people worldwide who lack access to electricity (with approximately 85 percent of those in rural areas). The IEA also identifies that without additional dedicated policies to address energy poverty, by 2030 this number will only reduce to 1.2 billion. The IEA also states in its WEO2010 report that to achieve universal modern energy access by 2030 would require an average annual investment of \$36 billion between 2010 and 2030.

Given all of this, achievement of the Millennium Development Goals is unlikely to be possible without addressing the significant challenges posed by the world's energy poverty situation.

Yet an obvious absence from the Millennium Development Goals is any specific goal designed to address energy poverty.

Energy and climate – integrated priorities

The world faces significant challenges in facilitating sustainable development and poverty alleviation in the developing world. Energy plays a key role meeting these challenges. However an effective response to the legitimate aims of energy security and economic development, including poverty alleviation, must also integrate with global action on climate and environmental concerns.

These issues are inextricably linked. The world's least developed countries need access to low cost energy, but they are also the most vulnerable to the impacts of policies aimed at reducing anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.

As both developed and developing economies continue to grow, the demand for energy will only increase. Secure, affordable and sustainable sources of energy are key to addressing the challenge of energy security and poverty alleviation whilst also reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Significantly reducing poverty in developing economies is a necessary first step to reducing greenhouse gases.

Absent this first step, developing economies will not have the capacity to focus their attention on reducing their greenhouse gas emissions. Ensuring secure, affordable and sustainable energy requires a diverse energy mix and coal is a key part of that mix. It is both an essential energy resource for electricity generation and a vital raw material for industrial production eg. steel, chemicals and cement. Coal is vital for long-term sustainable development and can be used in a manner consistent with GHG reduction goals. International action on energy and development

As economies develop and grow they look for reliable, affordable sources of electricity. Energy also plays a central role in sustainable economic and social development, yet the Millennium Development Goals fail to include energy access as a key target.

The outcome document of the Rio+20 summit must include a commitment to address the world's significant energy poverty challenges.

Many countries have access to indigenous coal resources and use those supplies to fuel their energy needs. These countries must be supported to use their natural resources consistent with global climate objectives. The IEA says that coal is expected to provide more than half of the grid-based energy needed to provide electricity to the 1.4 billion globally who currently lack access to it.

In order to meet joint sustainable development and greenhouse gas reduction goals, governments and the international community should support action that:

includes a target of universal access to modern energy by 2030 as part of the Millennium Development Goals to promote eradication of poverty through access to affordable, reliable sources of energy, including coal, which support provision of employment, health care and education.

recognising that different countries will meet their energy needs from different sources, promote the deployment of the cleanest and most efficient coal technology available – including advanced high efficiency, low emission coal-fired power generation and in suitable environments, alternative coal technologies such as underground coal gasification and coal bed methane utilisation.

facilitates the development of CCS technology because according to all credible scenarios rapid and large-scale deployment of CCS in both developed and developing countries is necessary to limit the global temperature rise to less than two degrees. These priorities can be met by:

The various international development banks providing loans for the deployment of CCS and advanced coal-fired power generation where coal is identified as an efficient means of electricity generation in developing countries. These institutions must also support development of power grids to deliver electricity where it is needed.

Joint action by aid donors and recipients in recognising where energy needs are a key challenge to development and where supporting the deployment of CCS and advanced coal-fired power generation can contribute to the achievement of development objectives.

Financing CCS and advanced coal-fired power generation through the various climate financing mechanisms. Coal's role in society In addition to the important role it plays in meeting the world's energy needs, the production and utilisation of coal makes a significant contribution to society.

Across the globe many communities benefit from being centres of coal mining. They benefit from the jobs, royalties, infrastructure and other improvements that mining brings; while responsible mining companies, such as those who form the World Coal Association, see mine safety as critical and strive to ensure zero-harm as the key priority for their operations.

Coal also forms a key component of many industrial processes and is a key part of almost 70 percent of the world's steel production. Steel is a fundamental material for modern life. The manufacture of steels ultimately delivers the goods and services that growing economies demand – healthcare, telecommunications, improved agricultural practices, better transport networks, clean water and access to reliable and affordable energy. Steel is a vital building block for development – facilitating economic growth and poverty alleviation

## Conclusion

The World Coal Association urges the international community to recognise the essential role energy plays in supporting economic and social development. The international community is also urged to recognise that all sources of energy, including coal, will play a role in achieving energy access targets. Policy frameworks and financial support must be put in place to support the development of advanced coal technologies and CCS alongside other clean energy solutions if the world is to meet development and environmental challenges.

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## World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation

### THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES – THE LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION

Joint Submission for the Compilation Document for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Conference)

1 November 2011

The World Council of Churches and the Lutheran World Federation submit these inputs and contributions for inclusion in the compilation document for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20 Conference). Both the WCC and the LWF are non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council.

General Content a): What are the expectation for the outcome of Rio+20, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?

In the churches' perspective, justice must be the basic criterion of applied ethics in all decisions concerning the measures to promote sustainable development and to cope with climate change. Although climate change is a global issue affecting all peoples and nations, those who are and will increasingly be affected by negative climate change consequences are the vulnerable communities who have contributed the least to global emissions. These include women and children, indigenous peoples, poorest communities, people with disabilities and inhabitants of coastal low lying areas.

Vulnerable communities and states are also much more dependent on natural resources for their subsistence and do not have the means to mitigate emissions and to adapt to climate change. Their survival is at risk, and justice requires that the nations most responsible historically for the adverse ecological conditions should take the greatest responsibility towards the adaptation of these vulnerable communities and nations.

Accordingly, we strongly urge that the Outcome document include a preamble that highlights ethical principles that can be shared by people who are religious and non-religious. Some suggested wording:

Promises of unlimited economic growth, fueled especially by carbon consumption, are jeopardizing the planet's future and the future of life as we have known it—especially the lives and lands of those who are the most vulnerable in the world. Climate change is accelerating, as made evident through increasingly severe and frequent storms, rising seas and devastating droughts. It also contributes to more severe food shortages, the increased spread of diseases, conflicts over scarce land and water, and the forced migration of people.

Who dies first as a result of climate change? This is an everyday reality for the millions of victims of droughts or storms. Death as a result of climate warming is not a natural disaster, since climate warming is caused by human activity.

The question is thus not who dies first due to fate, but whom do we sacrifice first because of what we do or fail to do? Do we sacrifice the populations of the small islands whose land disappears? The children in the slums of the megacities who suffer from hunger because of high food prices? Older people in industrialized countries who are infected by new diseases due to climate change? The victims of storms or broken dams? (These questions posed by Christoph Stueckelberger in *God, Creation and Climate Change: Spiritual and Ethical Perspectives* – LWF Studies, July 2009, p. 47.)

We must begin to live sustainably—in such a way as not to detract from the potential quality of life of future generations.

General Content b): What are the comments on existing proposals?

There should be specific and measurable goals. One positive example would be the Sustainable Development Goals proposed by the Governments of Colombia and Guatemala.

General Content c): What are the views on implementation and how to close the implementation gap?

A binding outcome treaty would be desirable. There should be economic incentives for behavior that promotes sustainable development and that mitigates climate change, and economic disincentives for behavior that does not.

General Content d): What specific cooperation mechanisms are envisaged?

No specific comments.

Specific Content a): Objective of the Conference

The Conference should lift up human rights mechanisms as major instruments to hold governments and the private sector accountable. A clearly integrated human rights framework would include the right to development, the right to food, the right to clean water and sanitation, the right to housing, the right to medical care, the right to education, and so forth.

Specific Content b): Green Economy

The Conference should reflect the ethical insights that a green and just economy has to be measured according to the well-being of all and not just a few. In particular, this time-honored ethical measure should be applied: what is the situation of the poor and most vulnerable, especially women and children.

Going toward a green economy must mean that externalities are included in the price of products (e.g., by taxes or other means). Policies should be made from the perspective of small-holder farmers and small businesses (as opposed to the perspective of powerful large corporations).

In particular, a less wasteful and more efficient use of natural resources, including water, is vitally important. The question, however, is how to ensure control over and access to these resources for those sections of society who are less "competitive" (e.g., as small farmers compete with large corporations over user rights for water) and who have limited access to the finance and technology required to, for example, make more efficient use of water resources.

Specific Content c): Institutional framework for sustainable development.

A rights-based approach is necessary as an accountability mechanism.

Specific Content d): Any proposals for refinement of the two themes.

No proposals.

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## World Educators for Sustainable Societies

[www.tratadodeeducacaoambiental.net](http://www.tratadodeeducacaoambiental.net)

2nd Journey on International Environmental Education

### OPEN LETTER FROM EDUCATORS

for a just and happy world!

Rio +20 in the transition to Sustainable Societies.

We, educators from all over the world, now when our Planet once again brings forth the major issues that were addressed in Rio 92, we reaffirm our adherence to the principles and values expressed in planetarian documents such as Treaty on Environmental Education for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility, the Earth Charter, the Charter of Human Responsibilities, the Rio Declaration, among others. (1)

But it is not enough just to reaffirm! Plethora of theoretical references enlighten us, its the principles, values, policies and action plans proposed in the cited documents must truly out of paper, despite of the "development", that has kept 80% of humanity apart of the minimum conditions of life in Culture of Peace, with environmental and social justice. (2)

It is unacceptable that we still have wars, spending on weapons, a billion hungry and miserable, lack of clean water and sanitation for huge portions of humanity. It is

unacceptable violation of human rights (gender diversity, ethnic, generational, social and geographical conditions), the loss of species diversity, culture, language and genetics, greedy gains, urban violence and all forms of discrimination and projects of oppressive power. (3).

The human manifestations in several countries for the overthrow of dictators of all kinds are indicators of the need for new proposals for organization of 7 billion humans. It is evident that governance and governability of the planet must be in the hands of local communities in which there must be the overall responsibility for the common good of humans and non humans and all natural systems and life support. (4)

We need to learn and practice other ways of making public policy from the communities, and State policies require to be committed to quality of life. Therefore, it is urgent to strengthen the processes educators committed to human emancipation and political participation in building sustainable societies, where every human community feel committed, active and included in the sharing of wealth and abundance of life on our planet. (5)

The carrying capacity of Mother Earth is nearing its limit, due to the mode of occupation, production and consumption irresponsible of capitalism, which has become the global economical model, and now also features the Green Economy speech. For us, whatever concepts or terms used, the essential is that the socioenvironmental vision is always ahead. Building Sustainable Societies in Global Responsibility is based on the values of life to which the economy must serve. (6)

Sustainable Societies are made of environmentally educated citizens in their communities, where they decide for themselves and from their own needs what it means Green Economy, Sustainability, Sustainable Development, Climate Change and many other concepts that can be moved away of their original meaning or motivation - which is the transition for another world possible - , being co-opted o coined to serve the hegemonic liberal rationality. Each community can see and feel beyond words and semantics, while maintaining its course towards the planetary union, tracing its own history. (7)

Retake and to appropriate locally of these concepts under the force of the Planetary Identity empower learning communities, from the practice of dialogue, the sense of belonging and manifestations that are necessary to Well Being and individual and collective happiness. In these practices the essence of the spiritual dimension emerges as a radical practice of ethical valorization of life, respectful care to all living things, connecting hearts and minds through love. It is a process that empowers the individual to the practice of dialogue with oneself, with others, with the planetary community as a whole, restoring a sense of citizenship and overcoming the separation between society and nature. (8)

It must then ask: where is the role of Education for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility? The answer in the XXI century can be only one: in the center. In the center of daily life, of education management, policy management, economic and environmental management. Thus, environmental education is consolidated into another world, with environmental and social justice, ensuring the development of an effective participatory democracy that can assure the social, cultural and spiritual development of communities, as well as its social control. (9)

We want to establish and strengthen local and planetary action plans, which focuses an education able to unravel the structures of class and power between people, nations and institutions that currently exist on our planet Earth. (10)

Educating ourselves for Sustainable Societies means situate ourselves in relation to the current global system, to reshape our presence in the world, leaving the comfortable position of neutrality. Because education is always based on values, there will never be neutrality in education, whether formal, non-formal, informal, face or distance learning. (11)

Educators from all over the world agree that the way to real sustainability can be done by various currents or tracks which are based on values and principles that link to sustainability. Transformative Learning, Ecoliteracy, Popular Environmental Education, Ecopedagogy, Gaia Education, Environmental Educ-Action are some of them. All these currents have in common to bring contributions to the construction of new models of society, and all remind us of the need to develop knowledge, awareness, attitudes and skills necessary to participate in the construction of these new models, integrating them into our way of being, of producing, of consuming and belonging. (12)

More than ever we claim for an education able to arouse admiration and respect for the complexity of life support, with the utopia to build sustainable societies through the ethic of care to protect the bio and socialdiversity. In making this educational process, the transdisciplinarity intrinsic to socio-environmental education leads to interaction between the various areas of science and technology and the different manifestations of popular and traditional knowledge. This allows the integration of existing knowledge and production of new knowledge and new social and environmental actions while carrying out the Dialogue between Wisdom and Care as High Technology in the Education for Sustainable Societies and Global Responsibility.

**[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to read the full submission]**

## World Farmers Organisation

Agriculture's Contribution to the Green Economy Proposed Outcomes from the Rio +20 Summit

Rio +20 Summit

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the first Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, a high level session will be convened "to secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges." – General Assembly resolution.

The focus of the Conference includes:

 a green economy in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development

 and the institutional framework for sustainable development.

The implementation gap on sustainable development commitments is the primary point of discussion for the Earth Summit. The green economy should be part of the means to

implement overarching sustainable development commitments made at the original Earth Summit and in Johannesburg.

We believe the Summit could further policy coherence on food security, drawing on the CSD-17 findings and the work of the High Level Task Force on Food Security.

#### Role of Farmers

Farmers represent one-third of the world's population and one-half of its poor. As the planet's primary ecosystem managers, farmers' activity depends on a sound environment. They are best placed to ensure sustainable development thereby contributing to a green economy. Farmers provide multiple goods and services to society, such as production of food, non-food products such as renewable energies, delivery of ecosystem services and land stewardship to protect and enhance biodiversity. They also play a key role for rural development and rural employment. Thus, the farming sector contributes to economic growth and to reducing poverty and hunger in developing countries, while still being an important part of the economy in industrialised countries.

Farmers are at the core of the green economy as there are significant synergies between poverty alleviation and sustainable farming. Farmers' organizations want to be a key partner in all levels of discussion.

#### What is the Green Economy

Though it is notoriously difficult to reach an agreed definition of a green economy, broadly it is aligned with the goals of sustainable development: social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The green economy recognizes that protecting and conserving environmental resources can be a significant driver for the economic growth.

#### What are the primary goals for Agriculture in the Context of the Green Economy?

- 1) Produce more with less by finding ways to meet global requirements for food while minimizing the need to encroach forests, jungles, and other eco-systems and maximising the efficiency of production.
- 2) To use a knowledge-based approach of best practices that sustains production and minimizes the negative impacts of farming activities on the environment.
- 3) Develop new approaches to reward farmers for adopting practices decisions that protect and/or enhance the provision of goods and services from functioning ecosystems that also foster sustainability and address poverty by enabling smallholder farmers to break the subsistence cycle.
- 4) Reduce poverty since farmers represent one half of the world's poor and despite high profile promises, woefully few resources have truly begun to flow to help farmers break the poverty cycle.

**[UNDESA/DSD: Pleade download the original document to read the full submission]**

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## World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO)

### 1. General considerations

Rio+20 is a crucial opportunity for governments to recognize, enhance and map out the vital relationship between Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation, and Policy-making, within a multi and trans-disciplinary framework.

Rio+20 should be a fundamental milestone in the implementation of a new social contract for science, engineering, technology and innovation, with the inclusion of all society, particularly women, vulnerable communities and indigenous peoples. Subjects like food and water security, climate change, energy, urban and human well-being, disasters, ecosystems and biodiversity, sustainable consumption and production need to be revisited.

### 2. Green Economy

Green Economy is being defined by attributes. There is a need for a guiding framework or principles for implementing the green economy.

Green Economy has to respect and operate within the natural limits of the planet.

Expectations and proposals within a Green Economy framework were clustered in terms of Infrastructure, Natural Disasters, and Knowledge and Technology Development, and are presented in the following sections.

#### 2.1. Infrastructure

New and emerging challenges that will require special attention in building or adapting infrastructure are related to:

- Reversing the rate of terrestrial, freshwater and marine biodiversity loss;
- Managing hazardous wastes in all habitats (e.g. urban, industrial and agriculture areas located in temperate, subtropical and tropical areas) through the development of complete eco-toxicological approaches;
- Developing climate change mitigation and adaptation capacities, recognizing that richer nations have greater responsibility in mitigation while developing nations will require greater efforts in adaptation;
- Building resilience to floods, tsunamis, volcanoes, and other natural risks, as well as related human displacements, in the framework of climate change;
- Developing a systematic approach to urbanization, as current rates of urbanization constitute a major environmental and social challenge, and
- Developing clean energy sources and sustainable agriculture.

The use of any given technology requires a thorough analysis of the technological, economical, and environmental feasibility for implementing scientifically sound and efficiently engineered solutions.



A systemic approach to urbanization should be developed, such as land use and territorial planning, including urban and peri-urban planning, based on continuous dialogue among all the stakeholders of society.

Regarding energy options, some of the technologies needed are not yet economically viable. In particular we have not yet learned to harness the abundant solar energy at a competitive cost, although costs are coming down fast. In addition, building the necessary infrastructure to bring large scale renewable electricity from places with high yields (areas with high solar exposure or strong winds) to the places with high consumption requires huge investments and long lead times, as well as development of mechanisms to encourage infrastructure investment.

In addition to an increased share of renewable energy in the world's energy mix, energy efficiency measures will help reduce the energy intensity of national economies and, therefore, slow down the increase of primary energy demand.

End-use efficiency, power-plant efficiency, biomass, biofuels, nuclear and carbon capture and storage need to contribute. Hydro and wind power are suited to be deployed for the long term. Energy storage technologies – e.g. pumped hydro and compressed air storage, batteries for transportation – are key to the management of intermittent renewable energy sources. These are either mature technologies or are making big strides, while geothermal power ("hot dry rock") still awaits the "proof-of-concept". Carbon capture and storage (CCS) is being developed and demonstrated at large scale. Today, wind and concentrated solar thermal power are close to being cost competitive in developed countries or in regions where other energy sources are in short supply.

Research is needed to define the extreme loadings for which engineered facilities should be designed, operated and maintained. Historical records, which have been the bases for engineering decisions, can no longer be considered to define the environments our facilities will face in the future.

## 2.2. Natural Disasters

Measures for prevention, reduction and mitigation should concentrate on preventing the occurrence of disasters or minimizing disaster impacts. In the case of man-made disasters, it is critical to eliminate the human cause through public safety measures, capacity building and training, and safety systems, to avoid recurrence of the disaster, or to minimize its impact without extension beyond the affected region.

For the reason that disasters are social phenomena, both structural and non-structural measures should be applied in an integrated manner, using a social, comprehensive, and multi-disciplinary approach. Specifically, early recovery in the affected areas and societies is essential and sound reconstruction is a must to prevent disaster recurrence.

From the aspects of project appraisal, most governments, international financial institutions and private sector entities use cost benefit analysis which, however, is inappropriate to take account factors of disaster risk management projects, especially because disaster risk management projects require prolonged terms. Private sector entities also bear social responsibilities toward prevention, reduction and mitigation of disasters. It is particularly recommended to develop other project appraisal methods than the conventional cost benefit analysis.

## 2.3. Knowledge and Technology Development

To develop science and technology which would support sustainable development objectives new paradigms and renewed efforts need to be taken to:

- Improve multi and trans-disciplinary collaboration and knowledge-sharing between the natural sciences, exact sciences, engineering and technology communities;
- Design new and redesign existing institutions, research and training programmes, and funding mechanisms to support multi and trans-disciplinary research in all fields of the natural, exact, engineering and social sciences;
- Close the gap of human resources for science, engineering and technology, with a focus on women and gender issues and the inclusion of the underprivileged, and disadvantaged minorities;
- Emphasize the modelling of complex systems, particularly in regional, national and local contexts, and the assessment of the social and environmental impacts of new technologies and research developments;
- Give high priority to multi and trans-disciplinary research, focusing on sustainable development issues such as clean energy and energy efficiency, sustainable food production, the structure of human settlements, and ecosystems and biodiversity.

Scientific and Technological Communities advice should be unbiased, independent, focused and based on scientific knowledge, engineering criteria and technological state-of-the-art. This advice is particularly relevant for risk management, early warning and monitoring systems for new and emerging challenges, natural disasters and extreme events.

The activity of the Professional Engineer within the STC Major Group is mainly built on providing governments, decision makers and civil society with the elements to understand what is feasible to achieve conditions for sustainable development, and this is been done on the basis of

- actual scientific knowledge and the limitations imposed by the laws of Nature,
- the technologies we currently possess, and
- the potential of success of technologies that are under development.

## 3. Institutional Framework

An umbrella organisation to lead on Sustainable Development should include organisations which have great influence over investments. UNEP has an environmental bias that will not allow it to strengthen the whole agenda of sustainable development.

The experience accumulated by the UN Department responsible for the Secretariat of CSD (Department of Economic and Social Affairs – DESA) constitutes a good source of manpower and expertise for the creation of an independent Agency to deal with Sustainable Development.

An adequate regional governance structure for science, engineering, technology and innovation could be established by:

- building partnerships with all major regional and global players;
- developing and implementing instruments for regional R&D co-operation;
- incorporating information systems to support decision-making, including repositories of science, engineering, technology and innovation policy information for social inclusion;

- facilitating the establishment of problem-oriented networks for targeted research activities towards sustainable development;
- contributing to the development of sustainable development indicators, including social, technical, engineering, exact and natural science dimensions.

A feasibility assessment should be conducted for establishing regional systems, based on existing institutions, to study the science-policy interface aiming at analysing successful and unsuccessful practices; identifying the relationship between science, engineering, technology, and innovation and development, and allowing policy to be more evidence-based.

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## World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)

Text not available.

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## World Future Council

World Future Council contribution to Rio+20 Outcomes

Theme II, Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development  
Ombudspersons for Future Generations:

Tackling Sustainability Implementation Gaps  
October 2011

### Rationale

In 1992 world leaders and civil society met in Rio de Janeiro, concerned and keen to address how human development and environmental protection continues in a harmonious way. They acknowledged that planet Earth is not only a resource, but the home for a wealth of biodiversity, ecosystems and natural cycles, upon which our security and wellbeing depend. They saw that the policies we had in place risked destroying the means for providing healthy and fulfilling lives for future generations:

"We borrow environmental capital from future generations with no intention or prospect of repaying... We act as we do because we can get away with it: future generations do not vote; they have no political or financial power; they cannot challenge our decisions." World Commission Sustainable Development Report Our Common Future, 1987 A farsighted declaration with principles and recommendations for sustainable development and intergenerational equity was formulated for all countries of the world. Twenty years on and despite numerous international processes and agreements, unsustainable trends continue at an alarming rate and scale. The multiple crises in food, fuel, ecosystem destruction and economic instability are the visible symptoms, rapidly closing down the preconditions for fulfilling lives in the future, even for those economically wealthy today, let alone the marginalised and impoverished.

The future generations that the Brundtland Commission was concerned about are now 23 years old. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) speaks of them as a "lost generation" because of record numbers in youth unemployment (13% globally). Even in the most developed countries, child poverty has reached 30% (UK), and over 25% of children in the US lived off food stamps in 2010, double the percentage of adults. Most countries face rapidly increasing wealth inequality in their societies (the Gini coefficient in China has moved from 0.3 to 0.5). In some cases we have reached the highest inequality levels on record (US). In a world of 60 trillion USD of global GDP, around 1 billion people live in chronic hunger. Meanwhile, the planetary boundaries within which humanity can safely operate have been reached or overshoot – with a clear rising tendency.

### Analysis

Our existing institutional and governance structures have proved inadequate to meet our rising sustainable development challenges. Our core policy formulation, economic thinking and motivations remain consistently detached from our broader sustainability concerns. Monitoring and enforcement of agreed sustainable development strategies at all governance levels are weak and many central sectors and policies operate entirely without a broader sustainability overview. Since electoral cycles and business models of reporting increasingly define decision-making, short term gains take precedence over future and long term interests. Meanwhile, citizens and civil society appear disconnected from the core of policy-making. Without full representation of their needs, citizens are left without an adequate voice, or a legitimate means by which to question or present their concerns. We lack adequate mechanisms to facilitate accountability, access and monitoring of all sustainability policy decisions and their effective implementation.

Considerable evidence demonstrates that as long as sustainable development remains separated from core policy formulation and economic thinking, and as long as gaps in implementation are not secured, sustainability challenges will not be met.

"Relevant lessons for sustainable development include recommendations to build on existing institutions; promote collaboration, coherence, efficiency and effectiveness in partnerships; and ensure meaningful and equitable public access to international forums related to sustainable development by adapting and structuring their processes and mechanisms in a way that they promote transparency and facilitate the participation of those groups that might not have the means for participation without encouragement and support." Synthesis Report, UN Secretary General, 2011

"...governance accountability can be strengthened when stakeholders gain better access to information and decision-making, for example through special rights enshrined in agreements, charters and codes, and stronger participation in councils that govern resources, or in commissions that hear complaints. International environmental, developmental and economic institutions must adopt such novel accountability mechanisms more widely." The Earth System Governance Project Policy Brief, Sept 2011  
Proposal Recalling the two themes of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development: a Green Economy in the Context of Sustainable Development and Poverty Eradication and the Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development:

We call for the establishment of Ombudspersons for Future Generations at national and international levels as a concrete proposal for the conference, under the Institutional Framework for Sustainable

### Development (IFSD) theme.

This institution is designed to safeguard economic, environmental and social conditions for the benefit of current and future generations by undertaking their institutional representation in all areas of policymaking. The institution provides the necessary checks and balances to help overcome the structural short-term orientation of our democratic institutions and brings the sustainable development agenda to the heart of governments and policy-making. The Ombudsperson (which could take the shape of a

Parliamentary Commissioner, Guardian or Auditor depending how it fits best into each nation's governance structure) facilitates coherence between the separate pillars of government, to overcome single issue thinking, and holds government departments and private actors accountable if they do not deliver on sustainable development goals.

[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to read the full submission]

## World Population Program, IIASA

Convinced by the need to integrate the three pillars of sustainable development (economic development, social development, and environmental protection), IIASA (with funding from the United Nations Population Fund) brought together more than twenty population and development experts to discuss how population factors promote or impede sustainable development. The experts, including Indian-born economist, Sir Partha DasGupta, Chinese demographer, Dr Peng Xizhe, and former Chief Scientific Adviser to UK Government, Sir David King, conclude with five broad actions that they recommend to the Rio+20, United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development.

Following are their conclusions and recommendations:

Demographic Challenges for Sustainable Development

The Laxenburg Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development

Statement of a Global Expert Panel (October 2011)

"Human beings are at the centre of concern for sustainable development. This was the view expressed in the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which we reaffirm. Therefore, consideration of the changing numbers, characteristics, and distributions of human beings on the planet must be at the core of any serious analysis of challenges and opportunities for sustainable development.

Any analysis of sustainable development must recognize the differences among people in terms of their impacts on the environment and their vulnerabilities to risk, which depend on their age, gender, location, and other socioeconomic characteristics. New evidence indicates that human capital, enhanced through education and health (including reproductive health), can make a substantial difference in people's contributions to sustainable development and their capacity to adapt to environmental change.

Only by accounting for and addressing demographic factors will it be possible to achieve sustainable development. Investments in human capital should be emphasized alongside other measures to promote sustainable development, a "green economy", and adaptation to environmental change.

The current demographic divide

Over the last half century, world population has more than doubled, from 3 billion in 1960 to 7 billion today. Because of the young age structure in low- and middle-income countries, continuing population growth in the coming decades is a virtual certainty, even in the unlikely event that birth rates fall precipitously in these countries. Consequently, the world's population will very likely be between 8 and 11 billion by 2050, depending primarily on the speed of future fertility decline. But this population growth will not occur evenly across the globe.

Indeed, traditional demographic groupings have broken down. While the population of sub-Saharan Africa is likely to increase by a factor of three to five over the course of this century, Eastern Europe is already on a declining trajectory. China, due to its very rapid recent fertility decline, is likely to reach a peak population in 10-20 years and then enter an era of population decline. Along with China and other developing countries with low fertility, the industrialized countries face the challenges of population aging and changing living arrangements, including the adjustments that need to be made to social security and health care systems. Meanwhile, life expectancies are on the rise in most countries, even those worst hit by HIV/AIDS. Mortality decline is a long-term trend that research indicates will likely continue, both in countries where people now live the longest and in those where life expectancy is much shorter. Levels of mobility, urbanization, and education also differ substantially among and within regions, adding significant dimensions to the demographic divide.

Nearly all of the world's population growth will occur in the cities and towns of today's poor countries, primarily because of rural-to-urban migration combined with high national population growth. Meanwhile, the populations of many low-fertility countries will be declining. The demographic divide between rapidly growing urban populations in poor countries and slow growth or decline in industrialized countries is historically unprecedented.

These demographic differences fundamentally affect people's contribution to environmental burdens, their ability to participate in sustainable development, and their adaptability to a changing environment. Different demographic challenges require differentiated responses. The developmental challenges are by far the most significant where population growth and poverty are the highest, education is the lowest, and vulnerabilities to environmental change are the greatest. Negative impacts on the environment tend to be the most significant where people's material consumption levels are at their highest.

Demographic factors in the transition to a green economy

Efforts to meet the legitimate needs and aspirations of rapidly growing populations in developing countries and to reduce poverty will entail higher consumption and production; if inappropriately managed, these efforts will further increase pressure on the natural environment. As well as increasing carbon emissions through fossil fuel combustion with current technologies, population growth also often contributes to depletion and degradation of essential life-support systems, including deforestation, depletion of aquatic resources, air pollution, loss of biodiversity, and degradation of agricultural lands. It is important to reduce such negative impacts on the environment and the global climate in order to derive multiple benefits for local as well as global sustainable development.

Fertility decline in high-fertility countries, by slowing population growth, makes many environmental problems easier to solve and development easier to achieve. Some of these benefits operate through the changing age structure that declining fertility induces. If the number of children relative to the working-age population is reduced, the demographic dependency ratio falls, creating an opportunity to increase investments in health, education, infrastructure, and environmental protection. It has been shown empirically that this demographic bonus, if properly utilized, can help propel countries out of poverty. Research in the last decade suggests that education increases people's life opportunities in general, greatly contributes to technological and social innovation, and creates the mental flexibility required for a rapid transition to a green economy. This applies to both low- and high-income countries. Hence, the enhancement of human capital from early childhood to old age through formal and informal education and life-long learning is now known to be a decisive policy priority.

The majority of the world's population now lives in urban areas, and urbanization is certain to continue. As recent research has affirmed, urbanization often improves people's economic productivity and their access to education, health, and other services. However, urban population growth also presents challenges for urban planning and good governance: challenges that are especially acute in environmentally fragile locations. For the African and Asian countries where urban growth is most rapid,

reducing vulnerability will require the urban transition to be achieved without the creation of undue environmental hazards or social inequality.

Investing in the tide of global youth

A striking demographic challenge is the rapidly increasing tide of young people entering the labor markets of developing countries with high aspirations but limited opportunities to find productive employment. Globally, there are 1.2 billion young men and women aged 15–24, the typical age for entering the labor market. And there are many more young people to come. In sub-Saharan Africa alone, the population aged 15–24 will likely increase from its current level of 170 million to 360 million by mid-century. With youth unemployment rates already high, assuring proper education and creating jobs for those hundreds of millions of young people are top priorities.

If not given the chance for a decent life, these masses of young people without much hope for the future can pose a serious threat to social and political stability. But if they are provided with education and appropriate jobs, the young possess enormous potential for innovation, including the ability to adopt new technologies that accelerate economic progress and speed up the transition to a green economy. With a long life ahead of them, young people are likely to have genuine interest in sustainability because they themselves would experience the repercussions of unsustainable trends.

Ages 15–24 are when people marry and begin to have children. Increasing education and employment will have a predictably major impact on fertility decline through postponed marriage and childbearing, thereby reducing future population growth in the developing world. Hence, ensuring appropriate investment in young people—which must begin in early childhood when the seeds of future development are planted—must be an essential component of broader policy packages to promote global sustainable development.

Differential vulnerability of people must shape appropriate policy

Environmental degradation and climate change do not affect all countries and all geographic regions in the same way. Vulnerability also varies significantly among people living in the same region, according to their socioeconomic circumstances. Even within a household, effects can differ importantly according to age and gender. Policies to reduce vulnerability must therefore focus on the most vulnerable segments of the population within countries and regions. Region-specific or even urban/rural-specific policies alone no longer suffice. Ignoring the more particular demographic dimensions of vulnerability will misdirect the focus of policy and dilute its impacts.

The spatial distribution of populations among regions, between village and city, and across cities is a significant dimension of sustainable development. Migration within and between countries has always been an integral part of the human response to changing economic, social, and environmental conditions. This pattern is likely to continue, not only due to increased economic opportunities facilitated by improved information and transport systems and globalization of production and labor markets, but also exacerbated by population displacement and relocation due to environmental degradation and civil conflict.

The principal demographic factors that increase vulnerability are poverty, poor health, low levels of education, gender inequality, declining family support for the elderly, and unfavorable geographic location. Populations with these characteristics also often lack a political voice, putting them at even greater risk. Within these populations, women and children are usually the poorest and least empowered. Vulnerability is reduced and adaptive capacity enhanced where there is investment in poor people's human capital, particularly their education, and most particularly the education of girls and women, whose importance in these adoptive and adaptive processes is now known to be especially great. Policies that do not include features focused on these people will likely not succeed.

Five action implications for sustainable development

- 1) Recognize that the numbers, characteristics, and behaviors of people are at the heart of sustainable development challenges and of their solutions.
- 2) Identify subpopulations that contribute most to environmental degradation and those that are most vulnerable to its consequences. In poor countries especially, these subpopulations are readily identifiable according to age, gender, level of education, place of residence, and standard of living.
- 3) Devise sustainable development policies to treat these subpopulations differently and appropriately, according to their demographic and behavioral characteristics.
- 4) Facilitate the inevitable trend of increasing urbanization in ways that ensure that environmental hazards and vulnerabilities are under control.
- 5) Invest in human capital—people's education and health, including reproductive health—to slow population growth, accelerate the transition to green technologies, and improve people's adaptive capacity to environmental change.

This expert panel convened at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) in Vienna on September 30–October 1, 2011. Panel members, all of whom attest to this statement, are:

Wolfgang Lutz and William Butz (Coordinators), World Population Program (IIASA) and Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital Marcia Castro, Department of Global Health and Population, Harvard School of Public Health

Partha DasGupta, Faculty of Economics, Cambridge University Paul Demeny, Population Council Isaac Ehrlich, Faculty of Economics, State University of New York

Silvia Giorguli, Center for Demographic, Urban and Environmental Studies, El Colegio de México Demissie Habte, Ethiopian Academy of Sciences

Adrian C Hayes, Australian Demographic and Social Research Institute, Australian National University

Leiwen Jiang, Integrated Assessment Modeling Group, National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR), Boulder, Colorado

David King, Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford Detlef Kotte, Division of Globalization and Development Strategies, United Nations Conference on Trade & Development (UNCTAD)

Martin Lees, Club of Rome Paulina Makinwa-Adebusoye, Nigerian Institute of Social and Economic Research Gordon McGranahan, Human Settlements Group, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)

Vinod Mishra, Policy Section, United Nations Population Division (UNPD)

Mark Montgomery, Faculty of Economics, State University of New York-Stony Brook

Keywan Riahi, Energy Program, IIASA and Graz University of Technology, Austria

Sergei Scherbov, World Population Program (IIASA) and Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital

Peng Xizhe, School of Social Development and Public Policy, Fudan University

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## World Resources Forum

### General Content

#### **a) What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, and what are the concrete proposals in this regard, including views on a possible structure of the Outcome document?**

The Davos World Resources Forum calls on governments, businesses and civil society to take immediate action to double the current level of resource productivity by 2020 and reach at least a fivefold increase by 2050. This recommendation is not only directed towards governments, business and civil society, but also serves as a commitment to ourselves in our capacity as individuals and the most valuable resources of the planet.

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#### **b) What are the comments, if any, on existing proposals: e.g., a green economy roadmap, framework for action, sustainable development goals, a revitalized global partnership for sustainable development, or others?**

There is an urgent need to take effective steps towards achieving a resource-efficient, climate-resilient Green Economy. A true sense of urgency that is magnified by numerous crises (financial, food, climate change) should be translated into concrete actions. Economies are locked in unsustainable consumption and production behaviour. Radical change in developed countries as well as leapfrogging in developing countries is needed. For developing countries, resource efficiency is essential for the eradication of poverty.

For developing countries, technology transfer, access to resource-efficient technologies and financial support for making the transition is necessary, as well as effective governance, resource-efficient infrastructure and education. Higher prices of resources provide an opportunity for commodity-exporting developing countries to address those critical challenges. Using these resources in an unsustainable way could pose risks to social stability and environmental sustainability. In addition, security, social and economic challenges relating to natural resources in fragile states were identified as an emerging issue. Unfair international trade rules need to be firmly addressed.

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#### **c) What are the views on implementation and on how to close the implementation gap, which relevant actors are envisaged as being involved (Governments, specific Major Groups, UN system, IFIs, etc.);**

Data and indicators should be improved, since one cannot manage what one cannot measure. Overconsumption of the rich needs to be addressed and basic needs of the poor satisfied. Concrete roadmaps should be established, with clear plans for implementing financial and legal instruments. Individuals, particularly the poor and vulnerable, need to be empowered to take action.

Youth need to be equally involved in the discussions about the future of our natural resources. Intergenerational dialogue such as that which took place at this World Resources Forum (WRF) should be encouraged. Youth, and in particular young women in developing countries, should be empowered to be part of the solution.

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#### **d) What specific cooperation mechanisms, partnership arrangements or other implementation tools are envisaged and what is the relevant time frame for the proposed decisions to be reached and actions to be implemented?**

An ethical framework for consumption (addressing both environmental and social impacts) should be part of a new global plan on resource efficiency. It has to be recognised that not everything that can be counted counts and not everything that counts can be counted. Values, emotions, mind-sets, and underlying driving forces for consumption, such as status, need to be taken into account as well.

### Specific Elements

#### **a) Objective of the Conference: To secure renewed political commitment for sustainable development, assessing the progress to date and remaining gaps in the implementation of the outcomes of the major summits on sustainable development and addressing new and emerging challenges.**

Housing, sanitation, mobility and food are key sectors. Critical metals require urgent attention due to their potential for essential sustainable technologies and products. International governance structures for resource efficiency, including for minerals and metals, need to be strengthened.

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#### **b) Green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication: views regarding how green economy can be a means to achieve sustainable development in its three dimensions, and poverty eradication; what is its potential added value; experience to date, including what has worked and how to build upon success, what are the challenges and opportunities and how to address the challenges and seize opportunities, and possible elements of an agreement in outcome document on a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication**

New paradigms and ways of thinking are needed, since one cannot solve the problems with the same kind of thinking one used when creating such problems, and 'business as usual' is not an option. Improvements of resource efficiency by a factor 2, 5, 10 or even 50 are possible. More research to underpin these targets is needed, but at the same time, immediate action to move towards these goals is urgent.

Circular economy approaches require not only technical but also institutional changes and social innovation. Eco-design and upgrading products and production processes and product service systems will boost a transition to a green economy and strengthen the competitiveness of industries concerned.

The Green Economy can only be accomplished through the measurement of performance and transparency as well as through partnerships between governments and businesses, and businesses and civil society. Governments also need to create a framework for innovation.

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#### **c) Institutional framework for sustainable development: Priorities and proposals for strengthening individual pillars of sustainable development, as well as those for strengthening integration of the three pillars, at multiple levels; local, national, regional and international.**

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#### **d) Any proposals for refinement of the two themes. Recall that Resolution 64/236 describes the focus of the Conference: "The focus of the Conference will**

**include the following themes to be discussed and refined during the preparatory process: a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication and the institutional framework for sustainable development".**

1. More than 400 participants from over 40 countries and international organisations attended the World Resources Forum 2011 in Davos, Switzerland, from 19-21 September 2011, and exchanged their views and perspectives on best practices, policy options and research on natural resource management and promoting and implementing a Green Economy.
2. They called upon the hosting Government of Switzerland and others to inform the Rio +20 process of the outcomes of the Forum and agreed to review the progress of implementation at the next WRF to be held in China, 14-17 October, 2012, hosted by the Government of China.
3. They agreed on the following key recommendations and identified next steps for all stakeholders. The vision of Davos
4. There is an urgent need to take effective steps towards achieving a resource-efficient, climate-resilient Green Economy. A true sense of urgency that is magnified by numerous crises (financial, food, climate change) should be translated into concrete actions.
5. Economies are locked in unsustainable consumption and production behaviour. Radical change in developed countries as well as leapfrogging in developing countries is needed. For developing countries, resource efficiency is essential for the eradication of poverty.
6. For developing countries, technology transfer, access to resource-efficient technologies and financial support for making the transition is necessary, as well as effective governance, resource-efficient infrastructure and education. Higher prices of resources provide an opportunity for commodity-exporting developing countries to address those critical challenges. Using these resources in an unsustainable way could pose risks to social stability and environmental sustainability. In addition, security, social and economic challenges relating to natural resources in fragile states were identified as an emerging issue. Unfair international trade rules need to be firmly addressed.
7. Data and indicators should be improved, since one cannot manage what one cannot measure. Overconsumption of the rich needs to be addressed and basic needs of the poor satisfied. Concrete roadmaps should be established, with clear plans for implementing financial and legal instruments. Individuals, particularly the poor and vulnerable, need to be empowered to take action. An ethical framework for consumption (addressing both environmental and social impacts) should be part of a new global plan on resource efficiency.
8. Housing, sanitation, mobility and food are key sectors. Critical metals require urgent attention due to their potential for essential sustainable technologies and products. International governance structures for resource efficiency, including for minerals and metals, need to be strengthened. Establishing a green resource-efficient circular economy
9. Resource productivity is expected to become a key driver for economic development in the next decades. Key instruments for developing resource-efficient economies include establishing clear indicators and goals, as well as taxing resources and pollution instead of taxing labour. Ecological, water and carbon footprints are emerging concepts that can also encourage transparency towards the consumer.
10. New paradigms and ways of thinking are needed, since one cannot solve the problems with the same kind of thinking one used when creating such problems, and 'business as usual' is not an option. Improvements of resource efficiency by a factor 2, 5, 10 or even 50 are possible. More research to underpin these targets is needed, but at the same time, immediate action to move towards these goals is urgent.
11. Circular economy approaches require not only technical but also institutional changes and social innovation. Eco-design and upgrading products and production processes and product service systems will boost a transition to a green economy and strengthen the competitiveness of industries concerned.
12. The Green Economy can only be accomplished through the measurement of performance and transparency as well as through partnerships between governments and businesses, and businesses and civil society. Governments also need to create a framework for innovation.
13. At the same time, it has to be recognised that not everything that can be counted counts and not everything that counts can be counted. Values, emotions, mind-sets, and underlying driving forces for consumption, such as status, need to be taken into account as well.
14. Youths need to be equally involved in the discussions about the future of our natural resources. Intergenerational dialogue such as that which took place at this WRF should be encouraged. Youths, and in particular young women in developing countries, should be empowered to be part of the solution.
15. It was felt that although change is underway, the implementation of activities should be accelerated with the greatest sense of urgency, and increasing demand for change should be transformed into action.
16. Considering all of the above, the Davos World Resources Forum calls on governments, businesses and

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## World Resources Institute

Text not available.

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## World Rural Forum

PROPUESTA DEL FRM AL DOCUMENTO DE COMPILACIÓN RIO+20

### Introducción

La Conferencia Rio +20 busca renovar el compromiso de los líderes mundiales en favor del Desarrollo Sostenible. Los contenidos de la conferencia van a pivotar en torno a dos temas, la economía verde en el contexto del desarrollo sostenible y la erradicación de la pobreza, y el marco institucional para el desarrollo sostenible.

La organización para el desarrollo Foro Rural Mundial (FRM), cuyo campo de actuación es el desarrollo rural solidario basado en la defensa y promoción de la Agricultura Familiar-AF- lanzó en el año 2008 una campaña internacional que tenía como objetivo solicitar a la ONU la Declaración de un Año Internacional de la Agricultura Familiar. Una campaña que fue cobrando legitimidad en forma de más de 365 adhesiones formales de organizaciones agrarias, sociedad civil y gobiernos de más de 60 países de todo el mundo

A fecha de hoy, 31 de octubre de 2011, estamos ante la inminente Declaración, por parte de la Asamblea General de Naciones Unidas, del año 2014 como Año Internacional

de la Agricultura Familiar.

En este sentido, el FRM considera que la Cumbre Rio+20 puede suponer una gran oportunidad para lograr el máximo reconocimiento de la AF en el marco legislativo y político mundial en los próximos años.

1.- La Agricultura en la Cumbre de Johannesburgo. "La agricultura desempeña un papel fundamental para garantizar las necesidades de una población mundial creciente y está de forma inextricable ligada a la erradicación de la pobreza, especialmente en los países en desarrollo. Es crucial realzar el papel de la mujer a todos los niveles y en todos los aspectos del Desarrollo Rural. La agricultura sostenible y el desarrollo rural son esenciales para la implementación de una aproximación integrada orientada a aumentar la producción de alimentos y mejorar la seguridad y sanidad alimentaria de forma medioambientalmente sostenible." Este es el punto número 40 recogido en la Declaración de la Cumbre de Johannesburgo.

En este sentido y de cara a identificar pautas, la FAO desarrolla un programa llamado GEA (Greening Economy with Agriculture), en español: Reverdecer la economía con la agricultura. <http://www.fao.org/rio20/fao-rio-20/gea/es/>

La FAO afirma que no puede existir una economía verde sin agricultura, en tanto que la agricultura utiliza el 60 % de los ecosistemas mundiales y proporciona medios de subsistencia al 40 % de la población mundial actual.

2.- Economía Verde y Agricultura Familiar La Agricultura como sector productivo es importante para la Economía Verde y la Economía Verde lo es a la Agricultura de la misma manera.

Esta relación es tanto más clara si nos centramos en el modelo de Agricultura Familiar-AF- que el Foro Rural Mundial defiende y promueve junto con 365 organizaciones agrarias y de desarrollo de más de 60 países en 5 continentes.

Cuando se habla de Economía Verde se hace con la convicción de que ésta representa una forma adecuada para abordar los grandes retos actuales, como son la erradicación de la pobreza, la degradación medioambiental, así como el desarrollo económico y la generación de empleo. En todos estos aspectos existe una fuerte vinculación con la Agricultura Familiar.

La Agricultura Familiar es un modelo productivo basado en el vínculo que existe entre una familia y la parcela de tierra, a menudo pequeña o mediana, que trabaja para obtener su renta principal, de forma sostenible y respetuosa con el medioambiente. Cuando se habla de AF se asumen conceptos como autosuficiencia y "auto-resiliencia", que hacen clara alusión a su capacidad para adaptarse con eficacia a los cambios medioambientales y económicos.

La Agricultura Familiar representa un sector de valor estratégico debido a su función económica, social y ambiental que son los tres componentes del desarrollo sostenible.

En la actualidad hay 1.500 millones de hombres y mujeres agricultores trabajando en 404 millones explotaciones de pequeño tamaño de menos de 2 hectáreas (IAASTD 2009), 410 millones recolectando las cosechas ocultas de los bosques y sabanas (ETC 2009), entre 100 y 200 millones son pastores (Convention on Biological Diversity 2010), 100 millones son pescadores artesanales (Kura et al. 2004); y 370 millones pertenecen a comunidades indígenas (IFAD 2009) de los que la gran mayoría están vinculados a la agricultura. Además, 800 millones de personas cultivan huertos urbanos (World Watch Institute 2007). Estos datos dejan patentes la importancia y la presencia de la AF en el mundo.

Los hombres y mujeres dedicados a la agricultura familiar producen el 70% de los alimentos del mundo. La Agricultura Familiar es la base de la producción sostenible de alimentos con el objetivo final de alcanzar la seguridad y la soberanía alimentarias, de la gestión sostenible de la tierra y de su biodiversidad, así como de la preservación de la importante herencia sociocultural de las comunidades rurales y de las naciones.

Atendiendo a los tres pilares del Desarrollo Sostenible, la AF es clave para: Atendiendo a la descripción de estas dos prácticas económico-productivas podemos concluir en que efectivamente hay una conexión entre AF y EV, la producción sostenible de alimentos y erradicación e la pobreza.

El FRM considera que la AF encaja perfectamente en un marco que favorezca la Economía Verde en tanto que nos enfrentamos a:

- Una población mundial en constante aumento y con cambios importantes en sus pautas alimenticias
- La creciente escasez de recursos naturales (tierra y agua), reducción de biodiversidad, de fertilidad, etc.
- Las consecuencias del Cambio Climático. La AF ha de adaptarse al CC y también representa una vía para mitigar las consecuencias del mismo.

Para afrontar de forma exitosa este futuro inmediato se precisa una mejora importante tanto en la mayor eficiencia en el uso de los recursos como en los niveles de productividad. El FRM cree firmemente que la AF es una herramienta clave a desarrollar en esta línea. Al igual que no hay recetas únicas para la Agricultura Familiar tampoco las hay para promover la economía verde. Por ello es crucial el diagnóstico y el diseño de políticas y planes a nivel nacional, atendiendo a las especificidades propias. No todos los países y regiones están en el mismo punto de desarrollo de sus modelos de AF y tampoco en capacidad de desarrollar su economía verde al mismo nivel. Esta Conferencia de Rio+20 puede sentar las bases de un compromiso global y nacional de apoyo claro a la Agricultura Familiar en el marco de actuación de la Economía Verde.

### 3.- Demandas del Foro Rural Mundial- FRM a Rio +20

El documento final de Rio+20 ha de recoger la importancia de la Agricultura Familiar, en clave de Economía Verde, como la alternativa más viable para erradicar el hambre y la pobreza en el mundo de forma sostenible.

En este sentido este documento del FRM, recoge algunas de las demandas que, en defensa y promoción de la AF, se propusieron en la Conferencia Mundial de Agricultura Familiar, celebrada en Bilbao (España) entre los días 5 y 7 de octubre 2011. (\*Declaración Final adjunta).

Dicha Conferencia ha representado un hito muy importante en el del marco de la Campaña Mundial en favor de la declaración, en 2011, por la 66 Asamblea General de Naciones Unidas de 2014 como Año Internacional de la Agricultura Familiar-AIAF. Este acontecimiento puede representar una etapa muy importante para promover, de forma concertada, los objetivos de Rio + 20 en cuanto a la Agricultura Verde.

Llamada a los gobiernos para promover y defender la Agricultura Familiar.

1) Garantizar el acceso y el control de los agricultores familiares sobre los recursos naturales, principalmente tierra, agua, bosques y semillas. Garantizar el derecho a la tierra de las mujeres y hombres agricultores familiares, pastores, y pueblos indígenas, el derecho a los recursos pesqueros de las comunidades pesqueras artesanales, y el derecho a empleos dignos y salarios justos para los trabajadores agrícolas. Los bosques, las tierras y las semillas no son mercancías, son espacios de vida y componentes clave para la vida. Continuar con las reformas agrarias y proteger a los agricultores familiares contra el acaparamiento de tierras. Asegurar el reconocimiento legal de los derechos de propiedad de la comunidad. Fortalecer los procesos de registro de la propiedad de la tierra con la activa participación de las organizaciones de agricultores

familiares.

2) Promover enfoques agroecológicos sostenibles por y con los agricultores familiares. Invertir junto con los agricultores familiares en sistemas, tecnologías y prácticas de modelos de agricultura sostenibles, agro-ecológicos, respetuosos con el medio ambiente, que aseguren la gestión adecuada de los recursos naturales (tierra, suelo, bosques, agua), la sostenibilidad del medio ambiente y la biodiversidad, la resiliencia climática, un amplio uso de los recursos locales y de la sabiduría local, y el control de los agricultores sobre sus propias semillas. 3

3) Garantizar el acceso y mayor poder de mercado de los agricultores familiares Proveer un ambiente apropiado para que los agricultores familiares puedan producir y comercializar productos de forma conjunta a lo largo de todas las líneas de productos básicos y apoyar la creación de valor añadido en sus explotaciones. Invertir en el fortalecimiento de las capacidades de los agricultores familiares y sus organizaciones para mejorar su interacción con los mercados locales, nacionales y regionales. Apoyar la generación de valor añadido de los productos procedentes de la agricultura familiar con el fin de crear empleo y mejorar los ingresos. A nivel macroeconómico, realizar un análisis crítico de la OMC (Ronda Doha) y los Tratados de Libre Comercio, mientras se impulsa la reforma y la integración de los mercados regionales que protegen a los agricultores familiares contra los efectos de la volatilidad de los precios. Garantizar que los productos agrícolas y alimenticios no son objeto de especulación.

4) Promover el empoderamiento de la mujer y la equidad de género. Reconocer a las mujeres como conductoras y agentes de cambio de la agricultura. Incorporar el género en los aspectos clave de las investigaciones agrícolas participativas, en el diseño de políticas, en su ejecución, en el seguimiento y las evaluaciones. Eliminar la discriminación de género en las legislaciones nacionales (especialmente en cuanto a la tenencia de tierras y el ganado, acceso a los recursos y derechos contractuales) y asegurar que las leyes específicas se ponen en práctica. Facilitar la participación de las mujeres en todas las iniciativas de toma de decisiones a través de las cuotas obligatorias, al menos el 40%, capacitación en liderazgo, intercambio de información y visibilidad. Proporcionar fondos para créditos sensibles al género, sistemas de ahorro, servicios de transporte y de salud que apoyen a las mujeres agricultoras. Aumentar el número de mujeres agentes de extensión y formar a los hombres agentes de extensión para ser más sensibles a temas de género. Inversiones dirigidas a mejorar el conocimiento, la formación y la innovación con respecto a la producción sostenible y la conservación

5) Fortalecer las organizaciones de mujeres y hombres agricultores familiares. Reconocer a las organizaciones de agricultores como socios principales en la toma de decisiones y en la prestación de servicios agrarios mediante la creación de espacios institucionalizados de participación, incentivos para que las y los agricultores puedan administrar sus asociaciones y cooperativas de manera independiente y creíble, ya sea según criterios geográficos y de líneas de productos,, mediante la concesión de subvenciones, donaciones , préstamos o proyectos de cooperación a través de sus organizaciones.

6) Promover la agricultura entre los jóvenes. Desarrollar políticas y ofrecer programas que hagan de la agricultura un reto, una carrera/vocación significativa, más atractiva, rentable y de confianza para la juventud, a través de la aplicación de tecnologías modernas y adecuadas para generar valor añadido y basadas en las TICs, inspirándoles a nuevas innovaciones en la agricultura. Todo esto teniendo en cuenta la juventud urbana, que también tienen que encontrar ese significado para establecer el vínculo necesario entre la agricultura rural y peri-urbanas.

4.- Conclusión Los años venideros van a estar caracterizados por fuertes oscilaciones en el precio de las materias primas y de la energía, por una población mundial en importante aumento (se estima que para el año 2030 el 60% de la población mundial viva en áreas urbanas), y unos recursos naturales productivos (tierra y agua sobre todo) fuertemente mermados.

Como hemos tratado de reflejar en párrafos anteriores, la Economía Verde que promueven los gobiernos precisa de la AF como expresión de la Agricultura Verde, en tanto que ésta es pilar fundamental en la economía local de muchas regiones, implicando a más de 1500 millones de personas en el mundo. Asimismo es la piedra angular sobre la que se asienta la Seguridad Alimentaria de un porcentaje muy elevado de la población mundial, al producir el 70% de los alimentos. Y por último podemos mencionar con igual relieve la larga lista de bienes y servicios públicos que su actividad proporciona a la sociedad en general.

En este contexto nuestro compromiso y el de los gobiernos de todo el mundo es el de garantizar el suministro de alimentos sanos y suficientes obtenidos sin menoscabar la sostenibilidad del planeta. Desde el FRM, en representación de las 365 organizaciones adheridas a la Campaña en favor del AIAF, hacemos un llamamiento para que durante la Conferencia de Rio+20 la Agricultura Familiar ocupe una parte importante de las discusiones políticas, valorando la conveniencia de potenciar el Año Internacional de la Agricultura Familiar 2014, como una gran oportunidad de hacer avanzar de forma operativa la Agricultura Verde en tanto que componente esencial de la Economía Verde.

[Final Declaration](#)

## World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA)

Submission from the World Society for the Protection of Animals International to the compilation document in preparation of the Rio+20 zero draft

### 1. General – about WSPA International

The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) is an international organisation which has been working to promote animal welfare for more than 25 years. Working on the ground with communities, owners and local partners, WSPA is active in over 50 countries. It has consultative status at the Council of Europe and the United Nations and collaborates with national governments, the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Organisation for Animal Health. WSPA is also the world leader in animal-focused disaster response and risk reduction working with partner organisations, governments, humanitarian groups and international agencies. With 30 years of experience, we are often the only animal organisation able to access disaster-struck regions.i

### 2. What are the expectations for the outcome of Rio+20, including views on the Outcome document?

Rio+20 outcomes must recognise the role and impact of animal agriculture and result in specific and ambitious commitments on livestock systems and humane and sustainable agriculture. Specific commitments need to be made at Rio+20 on global agriculture systems and food supply to achieve global food security without jeopardizing ecosystems and compromising human and animal health and welfare. Food and agriculture are key sectoral priorities but need to be at the heart of all relevant UN policy and work programmes post Rio+20 given their importance and the rapid changes taking place in the food system.ii We support proposals for a detailed framework for action with targets, financing and we propose the following elements which should be incorporated. We also submit proposals on the Green Economy, Emerging issues and Institutional Framework.

### 3. Actions to be implemented and concrete proposals

WSPA makes five recommendations and asks that these be included in the outcome document: Recognize the positive role livestock and animal welfare can have in achieving sustainable agriculture and incorporate specific and regionally-sensitive policies and measures which ensure that global food production is both humane and sustainable.



Promote and support - through investment in research and development - humane, integrated livestock farming systems to ensure farmers' livelihoods and the climate resiliency of rural communities; Phase out subsidies and public investment for unsustainable, intensive farming systems while providing support for farmers rearing livestock humanely and sustainably;

Recognize the importance of livestock in economic development and the role farm animals play in helping to lift people out of poverty and build sustainable livelihoods in developing countries. Recognise and address the challenge of unsustainable demand for farm animal products Concrete proposals - more detailed measures in a Framework for Action could include: shifting subsidies away from industrial systems toward more humane, sustainable systems of animal agriculture that protect animal welfare and the environment;

fiscal measures which internalize environmental and social costs; publicly funded research into breeds and production systems that deliver better animal welfare and environmental and economic outcomes;

farmer advice, education and assistance, and promotion of good agricultural practice, especially for small farmers; technology transfer and development aid based on higher welfare systems, including through the promotion and sharing of best agricultural practices;

encouragement of sustainable and humane diets through education and measures which affect behaviour change including labelling and marketing schemes to promote welfare friendly food; strengthen legislation, e.g. environmental and animal welfare legislation and effective monitoring and enforcement of existing welfare legislation;

promotion and implementation of investment policies that support good animal welfare; ensure that businesses adopt and implement social responsibility policies across the board, based on ISO26000 (which includes respect for animal welfare) public procurement (e.g. for schools, hospitals) where applicable to source humane and sustainable meat and dairy meals.

#### 4. The green economy theme- why farming & livestock are key

Livestock are central to the Green Economy – global and regional recognition and action is required both to support humane and sustainable animal agriculture which protects livelihoods and the environment and to end unsustainable forms of production and consumption There is huge potential but currently limited understanding of the opportunities presented by humane sustainable farming systems, or the impact of animal agriculture on the Green Economy - from backyard systems to large scale industrial production.

Whilst it is often poorly recognised, the livestock sector employs around 1.3 billion people and about a billion of the world's poorest people depend on animals for food, income, transport, social status, and security. Livestock products also form a significant part of the global diet.

Rates of livestock production and consumption are increasing rapidly and currently this growth is based mainly on industrial systems. This transformation can reduce smaller scale producer viability as well as put an unacceptable strain on natural resources. Traditional mixed family farms are often squeezed out as formal markets, based on industrialised systems, gain hold. Evidence suggests that as the industrial livestock sector develops, small-scale producers are squeezed out.

A recent report comparing pasture and intensive dairy systems in the UK illustrates that, in some cases, the economic viability of higher welfare systems can be superior to industrial systems. v Yet too often governments support large scale industrial farming, assuming misguidedly that it is always better for jobs and local economies. Implementing humane and sustainable livestock farming practices will provide the opportunity to ensure that jobs and livelihoods as well as nutrition, especially in developing countries and rural areas, are safeguarded and improved. This means Rio+20 outcomes should commit to:

ensuring that all food production that involves livestock is ultimately based on high welfare, sustainable systems globally; guarantee that farmers have sufficient reward (in the market place or via public support) for producing high welfare and sustainable livestock produce;

engaging consumers in the processes of change, in terms of what and how much they buy and consume. The ongoing discussions on sustainable consumption and production must focus on ensuring we can meet the challenges of changing global consumption patterns and that food and feed distribution is more equitable. Better animal welfare in farm systems can support sustainable food production: Higher welfare animal production systems often require fewer inputs of grain feed, fuel and water. Pasture based systems can utilise land otherwise unfit for production.

They also keep animals at stocking densities that reduce the risk of major pollution and disease spread, and use breeds often more robust and resilient to environmental challenges than breeds chosen primarily for high yield. Other benefits compared to industrial systems include better nutrient cycling, enhancing product quality and therefore profits and consequent enhanced food security and resilience against shocks.vi Pasture and mixed farm systems can have multiple benefits – such as enhanced biodiversity and landscape, nutrient cycling, and carbon sequestration in well maintained grazing systems.

#### 5. Emerging issues

##### a. Improving food security and public health

The industrial production of livestock, which is heavily reliant on imported grain and protein, combined with unsustainable levels of consumption of animal proteins in industrialised countries are important drivers of global food insecurity and ill health. Rio+20 must ensure investment in more humane and sustainable farming systems - which can secure livelihood and nutrition needs in developing countries whilst reducing the global demands for grain and proteins in industrial animal farming in developed countries.

Hunger is not a result of lack of food availability but rather the inequitable distribution of food – there are as many people suffering from obesity as malnutrition. Despite producing enough food today to feed the global population, we still have nearly 1 billion people hungry. Billions of tonnes of food are also wasted each year in supply chains and by consumers. Public health problems associated with livestock production include food borne disease, and overconsumption of unhealthy levels of animal products. In addition, the routine use of antibiotics in industrial animal production facilitates the rapid proliferation of antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria. Humane farming methods can be commercially viable, environmentally resilient and can feed the world. Taking environmental and socio-economic factors into account, innovative, moderate-scale, agro-ecologicalvii and humane farming is far more productive than highly industrialised farming and can achieve more diverse outputs of crops and meat from the same amount of land.

Ensuring developing country farmers can achieve good levels of production using these methods will require international investment, support and collaboration.

Feeding a growing world population will also mean achieving changes in consumption patterns – with less but higher standard meat and dairy in western diets – as well as tackling waste.

##### b. Climate change mitigation and adaption

Global livestock production has major climate impacts. But further intensification and industrialisation – which will create greater environmental harm and exacerbate animal welfare problems - is not the solution. Rio+20 outcomes need to recognise that humane, sustainable farming systems can enhance climate mitigation and farmer resilience against climate related pressure and shocks. Farmers also need support in adapting to new climatic conditions. Livestock production is well recognised as a major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions.<sup>x</sup> While some analyses of the climate impact of farm systems have led to propositions that further intensifying animal agriculture is a solution, these assessments often fail to account fully for emissions such as those from land use change associated with imported feed, and the potential for carbon capture (sequestration) in permanent pasture, extensive systems. Such analyses also often ignore the most disturbing waste in industrial scale animal production systems, for example where offspring considered unsuitable for production are born simply to be killed at birth, as in egg laying chickens or some dairy systems.

It is not justifiable to push for ever further intensification of dairy, pigs and poultry to tackle greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) emissions, as these highly industrialised systems are often already disastrous for animal welfare. Expanding large scale industrial production would exacerbate this trend while fuelling increases in production, in demand and an overall increase in sector impacts on greenhouse gas emissions. Left unchecked, by 2050, animal production is predicted to account for 70% of the sustainable level of all global GHG emissions.

Measures to mitigate climate emissions in livestock could include technical and management options, such as alternative feeds and breeds. These must be based on high animal welfare standards and must be accompanied by the integration of livestock into broader environmental services and addressing sustainability in consumption. Impact assessment should include animal welfare, land use, pollution, public health, rural economies and poverty effects. Careful attention to and support for adaption by livestock producers, with adequate financing, will be vital. <sup>xiii</sup> Climate change will have far-reaching consequences for dairy and meat production especially in vulnerable parts of the world. The impact of climate change can heighten the vulnerability of livestock systems and reinforce existing factors that are affecting production systems such as drought.

Breeds suited to the environment locally and which fit into a more humane production system often can be more robust and resilient than industrially produced breeds.

There is a strong connection between climate adaptation and disaster management for livestock, such as seen recently in the current crisis in the Horn of Africa where livestock have such a central role in lives and livelihoods. WSPA is involved in disaster management programmes around the world and animals must be included as part of disaster preparedness.

#### c. Tackling biodiversity damage

Producing feed for livestock is one of the largest drivers of global biodiversity and natural systems damage. Rio outcomes need to promote integrated crop and livestock systems which ensure animal welfare, reduce the need for high levels of cereal and protein feeds and which are based on agro-ecological methods. Grazing and feed crop production for livestock is the largest human use of land. Industrial animal agriculture production relies on imported grain and protein production, much more so than robust extensive higher welfare farming. Conversion of biodiverse-rich ecosystems such as rainforest and savannah to produce feed for industrial pig and poultry farming is not sustainable. Many low input, extensive systems, while having land requirements, need few or no feed imports and are often located in areas unsuitable for production of food crops e.g. uplands. There are sectors where higher welfare systems do need feed as well as land (such as free-range poultry), and this brings the issue of consumption levels to the fore which needs to be addressed. Land use and land use change is one of the greatest causes of biodiversity loss – yet such biodiversity is necessary for balance of the world's ecosystems and for diverse human benefits.

#### 6. Institutional frameworks for Sustainable Development

Rio+20 needs to result in a strong commitment to policies and financial mechanisms which incorporate specific and regionally-sensitive measures to achieve sustainable animal agriculture that respects animals, people, and the planet. The process must be inclusive and respect the needs of those with no voice, including sentient animals.<sup>xv</sup> A detailed framework for action is needed with short term goals (by 2014) on promoting best practice, challenging the trend for more industrialised production and setting research, development and investment programmes in place which prioritises humane, sustainable animal agriculture that respects animals, people, and the planet. In the medium and longer term, policies at national and international level to tackle production, supply chains and consumption will be required.

A new approach to implementing this framework is needed which involves stakeholders in farming, sustainability initiatives and animal welfare experts. Involvement of major finance, global farming and food corporations is insufficient to ensure good programme or policy design. Such players will be needed and can be valuable to pursue good practice on a large scale but a far wider range of voices are needed to design effective humane sustainable solutions for sustainable development.

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## World Team Now

World Team Now would like to have an extension to contribute the ideas and hopefully allow more time for public comment. We are committed to gaining global policy for renewable energy and that is enforceable and continues on the frame of the Kyoto Protocol.

Here are some other initial thoughts but we request more to time to address:

The 1992 Rio Summit was fundamental in making the linkages between social issues, Environmental protection and economic prosperity. We are concerned with how humanity lives in better balance with our resources. We call for a binding agreement to inspire national government's energy policy.

-The UN should be more vigorous in delivering water purification technology to those populations that lack safe drinking water. Consider that solar water purification technology has made great advances in recent years.

-The UN should broker agreements with the major oil producing and mining companies to deal equably with those Nations where oil drilling and mining for gold and other precious metals is anticipated. In addition, they should employ sustainable technology and practices that do not leave polluted water and wastelands behind.

\_The UN could play a stronger role in dispelling the objection that addressing climate change is a drag on economies by sponsoring on the ground programs to demonstrate otherwise -- both in poor and rich settings.

For instance, how about sponsoring EV charging infrastructure on the Pan American Highway to provide EV charging from Alaska to Ushuaia, Argentina, and other

Next year, June 4th hopefully we all will be back in Rio+20 for the United Nations<sup>i</sup> Earth Summit 2012 to continue what was started many years ago . What is a „life call“ for transformation within many of us being stewards of our earth may finally become important enough to motivate our world leaders to agree on strong global policy that supports our collective environment, for humanity, and our future.

It was a life changing significant journey for many of us who attended The Earth Summit/Global Forum in Rio De Janeiro, in 1992. I wish I could capture the energy in this room and bottle it,<sup>j</sup> said Olivia Newton-John at a press conference. It further ignited a collective spark that fueled the fire inside of many activists, leaders indeed, all of us

who made it to Rio, and continued on the environmental path!

We all laugh at the acronym UNCED, thinking much is un-said but there were significant achievements to come out of Rio with Agenda 21, The Climate Change Treaty which gave way to the Climate Convention (UN Framework Convention on Climate Change - UNFCCC). This was where the Biodiversity and Desertification Conventions got legs. There was the Rio Declaration, for more on the history of the Earth Summit, click [here](#).

During this year long road to Rio+20 World Team Now will be focused on renewable energy and policy, with on the ground projects to demonstrate what is possible. To read about some coverage of recent renewable energy projects click [here](#). Or be inspired by Googles solar energy goal to go viral, and make solar affordable for us all. The scientists are our real heroes, and most are behind the scenes quietly doing their research without the eyes of the world on them. Several of the organization partners in the campaign Tck, Tck, Tck including World Team Now, believe in 100% reliance on renewable energy in the future. What once seemed impossible, like putting a man on the moon, becomes possible with bold declarations and commitment to execution.

World Team Now will also share some of the original video, stories and information from Rio 1992 when Suzanne Maxx wore multiple hats; a speaker, a performer, activist, journalist, and videographer for Jerry Brown (who was then running for President of the USA). In the footage, we follow a VIP entourage that included many people deeply respected. Our goal is to encourage all to participate now and wear the hat of being a citizen of our world committed to living in better balance with our resources.

If all of us, the people of the world push for global political will to drive towards united commitment, transformation can happen. On the eve of World Environment Day this is an invitation to join World Team Now virtually; from the past into our future, as we invite all to be present in whatever way possible next year at the reunion in Rio.

Related Blog posts:

- <http://teamworld12.wordpress.com/2010/12/14/cop16-a-step/>
- <http://teamworld12.wordpress.com/2010/12/14/cop16-a-step/>
- <http://teamworld12.wordpress.com/2010/11/25/solar-eagle-takes-flight/>
- <http://teamworld12.wordpress.com/2011/06/04/rio20-more-than-reunion/>

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## World Vision International

### World Vision International

#### Input for the Compilation Document for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

##### *Prioritising the health of children for sustainable development*

##### **Preamble**

As a child-focused development organisation, World Vision is concerned that environmental trends – including ecosystem degradation, unsustainable agricultural practices, excessive harvesting of natural resources, pollution and now climate change – pose increasing health risks to the world's poorest and most vulnerable children. Around three million children under five die each year from diseases (such as acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea and malaria) due to a number of largely preventable environment-related causes. The effects of environmental risk factors are exacerbated by existing adverse social and economic conditions, including poverty, conflict, urbanisation and undernutrition.

While political commitment to addressing climate change and environmental degradation has risen in recent years, there remains a disconnect in the dialogue and strategies to deal with both environment and development issues. The health of the world's poorest children continues to be severely compromised by 'siloed' approaches to aspects of sustainable development. A specific focus on children is largely missing from current discourse on the environment, climate change, and sustainable development.

We need a sustainable development framework which is truly concerned with integrating protection of the environment; the management and conservation of natural resources; and social development, with the health and wellbeing of today and tomorrow's children at its centre.

We also need to move beyond aggregated global goals for tackling poverty, recognising that vast differences exist between countries, and between populations: for example, those living in poverty in middle income countries, and those in fragile states. National level goals and targeted approaches to sustainable development are urgently needed, tailored to such distinct contexts.

World Vision is particularly concerned about the effects of unsustainable practices on two of the largest contributors to child mortality – undernutrition and acute respiratory infections – and calls for a greater understanding of the links between these conditions, the natural environment, and sustainable development.

World Vision believes that two sectoral themes should be prioritised in the outcomes of Rio+20, with specific goals that should be launched and endorsed in the outcome document:

- § Sustainable agriculture and better outcomes for child nutrition
- § Household energy practices and better outcomes for child respiratory diseases

This submission outlines general recommendations for the outcomes of Rio+20, followed by specific recommendations in these two priority areas.

##### **General recommendations on outcomes for Rio+20**

##### ***World Vision urges member States to:***

- § Address the link between *health and sustainable development* at Rio+20 in 2012 by:
  - o Highlighting the health implications of unsustainable development practices for current and future generations of children;
  - o Accelerating the development of an action plan for sustainable development which prioritises the health of children and emphasises intergenerational equity;
- § Increase *political will and ambition* to tackle the challenges of environmental degradation, climate change, chronic poverty, and child mortality simultaneously;

§ Ensure that *fairness and equity* are at the heart of a sustainable development framework, based on the principle of ‘common but differentiated responsibilities’;

§ Promote *local action and participation* of communities, including children, and ensure *accountability* to the poorest and most vulnerable people across the planning, assessment implementation and evaluation cycle;

§ Acknowledge that all policies for sustainable development affect the health of children and communities, and prioritise *cross-sectoral governance and policy coherence* across relevant ministries at the international, regional and national levels;

§ Reaffirm *internationally agreed development goals*, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and commence a dialogue to move towards a post-MDG 2015 framework which brings together the environment and development agendas: and

§ Commit to the *development of national goals and targets*, recognising, for example, that increasing numbers of people living in poverty are emerging in two distinct contexts – fragile states and middle income countries.

#### **Priority areas in the green economy**

Sustainable agriculture and access to clean, household energy for cooking and cleaning are areas where the pillars of sustainable development can be successfully integrated. These two areas hold a central place in both development and environmental agendas and are crucial to children enjoying good health.

The food, energy, climate and environmental health crises must be tackled together, not as separate problems – pursuing separate solutions to these crises ignores their interrelationships, and fails to take advantage of possible synergies. Tackled in an integrated manner, these thematic areas would be the litmus test for what a new sustainable development paradigm could achieve.

#### **Sustainable agriculture and child nutrition**

Over a third of all child deaths each year – approximately two and a half million – are caused by the underlying factor of undernutrition.

Despite increases in global agricultural productivity, efforts to reach global targets on reducing hunger and undernutrition are not being met: current agricultural practices and infrastructure are

unsustainable and inequitable, and nutritious food is not getting to those who need it – often, not even to those who grow it. Food production and distribution, together with inadequate food utilisation at the household level (e.g. unsafe food preparation and handling, poor food choices, lack of access to clean water and sanitation), are failing to provide good nutrition for the world’s poorest children.

Climate change, which contributes to food instability, presents a greater urgency to find ways to more sustainably produce and distribute food – agriculture is part of the climate problem as well as the solution.

World Vision welcomes UNEP’s *Towards A Green Economy* report, which highlights agriculture as a major element in reorienting the way we manage the planet towards a sustainable future. We must consider how agriculture can intentionally and reliably ensure that the poorest children on the planet will have access to nutritious food.

Many organisations and governments are working on improving agriculture, land and water management practices to enhance world food supplies and increase food security for the world’s poor. However, the health and nutrition sector is poorly linked to many of these emerging policies and practices.

#### **Recognising that:**

§ There are inherent linkages between child undernutrition and health in the world’s poorest communities, food and nutrition insecurity, unsustainable agricultural and water use practices, degraded natural environments, and climate change;

§ The health and nutrition sector is poorly linked to many of the emerging policies and practices for agriculture and food production;

§ Neither conventional nor traditional agricultural approaches on their own can meet the challenges of our changing climate and current injustices; and

§ A decisive shift is needed to reorient agriculture and land use policies towards a new and common standard – of focusing on productive, sustainable and resilient agriculture while placing children’s nutrition at the centre of our efforts;

#### **World Vision calls on member States to:**

§ Make concrete commitments at Rio+20 for individual and collective actions towards sustainable agriculture and food security initiatives that are sensitive to nutrition and climate issues;

§ Include child nutrition as a headline indicator for global goals on sustainable agriculture and food security negotiated at Rio+20;

§ Incorporate child nutrition indicators in monitoring and reporting provisions around sustainable agriculture, food security and poverty reduction strategies and processes;

§ Prioritise investments in agricultural adaptation to climate change in developing countries, allocating USD 7 billion a year for this purpose, and exploring the possibility of climate-related funding; and

§ Support investments in ecological restoration, and facilitate the development of markets that value the regulatory services provided by ecosystems.

#### **At the national, sub-national and local levels, governments, development agencies and programme managers should prioritise:**

##### **Integrated strategies and targets for child nutrition:**

§ Support the Framework for Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) and support country scale-up of efforts to reduce undernutrition;<sup>1</sup> and

§ Ensure that agriculture policies, programmes and development assistance support country-led strategies that include improved child nutrition as a key objective.

<sup>1</sup> The SUN calls for action on both direct nutrition interventions and integrating nutrition objectives in other key development sectors, particularly agriculture and food security.

##### **Support for small-scale farmers:**

§ Support small-scale farmers to combine productivity and conservation objectives (such as measures to improve soil fertility and soil carbon, measures to reduce soil

degradation, and diversification of farming activities).

**Participatory agriculture-nutrition initiatives:**

§ Promote participatory and gender-sensitive initiatives such as access to microcredit, especially for women farmers, recognition of land titles and female ownership, and community-based nutrition education programmes.

**Clean household energy and child health**

Worldwide today, approximately 1.3 billion people have no access to electricity. Almost 2.7 billion people are fully dependent on burning traditional solid fuels such as wood, dung, crop residues and coal to meet energy needs, but these forms of biomass are inefficient, unsafe and often non-renewable. These materials are typically burnt in simple cooking stoves with very incomplete combustion. Consequently, women and young children are exposed to high levels of indoor air pollution every day.

Children are becoming ill and dying as a result of the indoor air pollution created from using inefficient stoves. Approximately 57 per cent of deaths from indoor air pollution are due to acute respiratory tract infections (including pneumonia) in children under 5 years. Acute respiratory infections are the single most important cause of mortality in children, accounting for around 2 million deaths annually.

Inefficient and unsustainable household energy practices for cooking and heating also have serious implications for the environment, including local and regional air pollution, and local deforestation and land degradation where households are reliant on wood.

Expanding access to more efficient cooking stoves could help to prevent an estimated 2 million deaths annually from child pneumonia and adult chronic lung disease that are directly attributable to indoor burning of solid fuels.

Yet few countries have set targets for reducing the share of the population relying on traditional biomass for energy needs. Of 140 developing countries, 68 have established targets for access to electricity, but only 17 countries have targets for access to modern fuels. Access to clean cooking

facilities has received significantly less government attention than electricity access, notwithstanding the significance of exposure to indoor air pollution, the increased risk of acute respiratory infections in children, and other health, environmental, and economic implications. Financing for cooking stove projects has been limited.

World Vision welcomes the recent estimates in the World Energy Outlook 2011 of investment required for household energy access. We also welcome the fact that Energy for Sustainable Development has been identified as a key issue by the Preparatory Committee for Rio+20, and the designation by the United Nations of 2012 as the *International Year of Sustainable Energy for All*. The international community needs to capitalise on this momentum at Rio+20.

**Recognising that:**

§ Access to modern energy services<sup>2</sup> is fundamental for human development, from alleviating poverty, to promoting economic development, gender equality, food security, and health;

§ Children are becoming ill and dying as a result of the indoor air pollution created from using traditional biomass and coal in inefficient stoves for cooking and heating;

§ Modern household energy facilities such as fuel-efficient stoves for cooking and heating can cut child deaths by reducing exposure to indoor air pollution;

§ Despite the negative health and environmental consequences associated with energy practices and fuel use in developing countries, clean, efficient and affordable energy access for poor households has received little attention;

§ Improved health outcomes for children are not currently a particular focus of energy investment decisions, and health and environmental impacts are not always considered in the energy models of donors and companies;

2 Modern energy services are defined here as those which are reliable, affordable, sustainable and from low-greenhouse gas-emitting sources

**World Vision calls on member States to:**

**Make commitments to energy access and child health:**

§ Adopt a clear statement that recognises the link between energy access and the MDGs, and demonstrates that modern energy access for the poorest and most vulnerable communities is a political priority where policies and funding will be reoriented accordingly. This commitment should prioritise the reduction of indoor air pollution and prevention of childhood respiratory infections as a key outcome.

**Commit to developing national targets and indicators:**

§ Leaders of developing countries should commit to setting interim national goals, targets and indicators for scaling up access to household energy facilities, to reach the global goal of universal access by 2030;

§ For countries with high dependence on traditional biomass, specific goals for access to fuel-efficient cooking stoves, with targets for improved health outcomes for women and children, should be set as part of national development and poverty reduction strategies; and

§ Goals, targets and indicators should be outlined by 2015 and reported on annually thereafter.

**Prioritise community level capacity development and participation:**

§ National governments should involve affected communities in the planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation of fuel-efficient stoves projects.

**Ensure policies target the poorest and most vulnerable:**

§ National energy policies and plans should target the poorest and most vulnerable children and communities in developing countries. For example, funding should not focus solely on large-scale electricity infrastructure to the detriment of small-scale projects that will have a greater chance of reaching the poorest households and contributing to better local health outcomes.

**Scale-up public funding for energy access and clean cooking facilities:**

§ The donor community should urgently mobilise additional investment to provide universal access to clean cooking stoves by 2030, estimated at \$74 billion, and \$17 billion for biomass cooking stoves (\$0.8 billion per year). The bulk of financing for fuel-efficient stoves should come from multilateral and bilateral sources, to assist the poorest

countries and communities with start-up costs where adequate commercial return is not initially offered; and

§ Donor governments should commit to making these funds available through the emerging Green Fund at the 17th Conference of Parties in Durban in December 2011.

#### Process considerations of the outcome document

##### *The outcome document of the UNCSD should:*

§ Be a politically-binding document that recommit governments to achieve sustainable development;

§ Adopt global goals and targets in the areas identified (agriculture and household energy);

§ Establish a roadmap for working out the detail for the development and implementation of goals and targets at regional and national levels;

§ Outline a pathway for the advancement of a post-MDG 2015 framework, which ensures the full participation of affected communities, recognising the differences between contexts such as middle income countries and fragile states, with consideration given to the development of Sustainable Development Goals.

*Comments and questions should be directed to Kirsty Nowlan at [kirsty\\_nowlan@wvi.org](mailto:kirsty_nowlan@wvi.org)*

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## World Water Council

Contribution of the World Water Council to the Zero Draft of the Rio+20 Outcome Document

### IT'S ALL ABOUT WATER

The World Water Council, as was expressed earlier to the Secretary General of the United Nations, considers the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to be a political gathering of the highest importance in achieving sustainable world development and stands ready to contribute to all the relevant processes by mobilizing its entire means available. The Council, as the highest level non-governmental entity in water matters, is well positioned through its vast core membership, encompassing technical and scientific organisations, the public and private sectors, as well as development and donor agencies, in addition to ministries, local authorities, and intergovernmental and United Nations bodies, to contribute to the Rio+20 process in an effective manner, in particular as related to the underlying necessity of water's central role in achieving sustainable development in an interdisciplinary way.

The idea of establishing the World Water Council was born during the International Conference on Water and Environment, organized by the UN system and held in Dublin in 1992 as a contribution to UNCED, with a view towards mobilizing all stakeholders involved in water issues, as a means of solving the emerging water challenges. Ever since its inception, the Council has shaped the global water debate by, inter alia, organizing the series of World Water Fora, the next of which will be held in March 2012 in Marseille, France. This 6th World Water Forum defines itself both as a forum of solutions and as a mechanism to elevate water matters to the level of the Rio+20 process and beyond.

Water connects and does not divide. This is equally true at different scales, whether one talks about transboundary watersheds and aquifers or about the connection between natural and social cycles in general. Water binds them together. Indeed, it is water that cuts through and connects all the Millennium Development Goals, as well as all the impacts of climate variability in addition to many other global drivers. It is, therefore, water that must be given sufficient attention whenever seriously discussing any of the above goals or drivers, whether it be at the political or technical level. Because of this interconnectedness, it is water that is the principal vector for global change impacts and through which promising response strategies could be established in an adaptive manner.

When it comes to the major drivers, of which population change is the most significant, along with its derivatives of land-use change, urbanization and migration, water scarcity will increase, together with an increase in extreme hydrological conditions. Humanity, therefore, will need more storage space to have buffer capacities against the vagaries of extreme flows, whether to face excess water brought by floods or droughts caused by increased aridity. More reservoirs are required for sustainable demand management for populations in flux. Of course, in this process, all the unwanted social and environmental consequences must also be mitigated. Intelligent technology that is respectful of nature offers solutions to do so. Likewise, we need to invest more in the cleanest, most significant renewable energy source: water power. This shows precisely how closely water and energy issues must be linked in the future. Also, river navigation is to be enhanced to curb greenhouse gas emissions of mass transportation.

Water is indeed the engine of sustainable development not only from an environmental point of view but also in examining global challenges from a social point of view. As related to public health, for example, 80% of diseases are water-born or water-related. Half of the hospital beds in the world are occupied by patients with ailments due to the lack of good-quality water. Appropriate sanitation is the key to changing this deplorable situation. Water supply and sanitation, therefore, contribute to a green economy by increasing productivity related to a decrease in water-related illness and by reducing the pollution load on river basins and aquifers. They create jobs and income for unskilled workers, thus reducing poverty in less developed countries. Most importantly, adequate sanitation improves public health by significantly reducing infant mortality. A \$1 investment in sanitation yields a \$7 cost reduction in public health expenses.

Water is at a turning point in its long history. The time of easy water is definitively over. The delicate balance between freshwater supply and its demand for all uses must evolve due to the global changes that affect the planet. Each country, each city, each community must consume less and manage better.

We are at the dawn of the establishment, everywhere in the world, of demand regulation policies. These policies must indeed guarantee respect in a concrete way for the right to water, as defined by the United Nations General Assembly. They must be supported by three pillars that guarantee equitable and sustainable management of this rarified resource: financing, governance, knowledge.

There is no way to break the vicious circles of poverty unless we invest in water and sanitation. Investments are badly needed in every sphere: political, financial, and educational, as well as in building capacities for the benefit of developing countries. This is a main concern for the Council. The Council stands ready to contribute to this process by mobilizing all its areas of expertise and by working together with everybody to make Rio+20 a truly historical event.

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## World Youth Alliance

Submission by the World Youth Alliance for the Rio+20 compilation document

For more detailed information about the World Youth Alliance and our position on the relationship between the dignity of the human person and global sustainability, please

visit <http://www.wya.net> or contact Elyssa Koren, Director of Advocacy, at [elyssa@wya.net](mailto:elyssa@wya.net).

The World Youth Alliance, a global coalition of young people committed to promoting the dignity of the person, stresses that the following principles should be included in the Rio+20 consensus document:

- Each human person is a precious and vital resource, capable of answering the challenges societies face with innovation and invention.
- The inherent dignity of the human person lies at the root of the goal of promoting sustainable development practices.
- Education is a foundational element of development.
- Poverty eradication takes place at an individual level, by educating and investing in persons, and enabling their creativity and natural capacities to develop and flourish.
- The role of women in achieving sustainable development is critical because they are at the center of social and economic life in their communities.
- Maternal health occupies a special place in our efforts to achieve sustainable development.
- The desire of women and men to found a family must be considered by States in their creation of policies on sustainable development and women's health.
- The entry point for resolving resource scarcity challenges is the infinite potential for innovation and advancement that resides in the human person.
- The right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion is essential in protecting human participation in sustainable development.

#### Expectations for the outcome of Rio + 20

1. Each human person is a precious and vital resource, capable of answering the challenges societies face with innovation and invention. In accordance with Principle 1 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, the World Youth Alliance affirms that "human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development". It is the intrinsic worth of the human person that provides the basis on which to found policies and laws that create conditions under which human beings can flourish. Without such a foundation, human dignity becomes secondary to the protection of the environment and development. Instead, human dignity is the reason for the pursuit of a sustainable world and the foundation of human rights.<sup>1</sup> This fundamental relationship between human dignity and the protection of the environment must be emphasized in the Rio +20 process.

2. The inherent dignity of the human person lies at the root of the goal of promoting sustainable development practices. The recognition of this dignity is the basis for authentic development. Authentic sustainable development is understood as taking place at all levels of society, thereby creating a social, political and economic environment that allows persons to reach their full potential. It is thus the dignity of each individual person and the value of human capital as a whole that comprise our greatest resource, and recognition of this should be at the core of all efforts for sustainability. The Rio +20 outcome document ultimately should reflect this emphasis on the integral link between the dignity of the human person and sustainable development.

#### Human capital at the root of sustainable development

3. At its very essence, global sustainability is about a world that puts people at the center and uses its economy to serve their interest. The World Youth Alliance recognizes that energy, food, land and water scarcity is a growing challenge for countries at all levels of development, and we place great value on our natural environment as a source of both physical sustenance and immeasurable beauty to be cared for with responsible stewardship. It is imperative that a response to these challenges be predicated on authentic sustainable development, which holds the human person at its center and directs human potential towards improvements in society. Such integral development will ensure the fulfillment of basic needs, and achieve advancements in every sector of society so that each person will be able to live in a manner commensurate with his or her inherent dignity.

4. Education is a foundational element of development. The goal of education must be to help people recognize their dignity and equip them with the necessary tools to exercise their potential. When members of a population are aware of how their education contributes to development, they will be more able to fulfill their responsibility in society.

5. With the human person at the center of development, poverty eradication becomes an important goal of efforts to create a sustainable world. As noted by Principle 5 of the Rio Declaration, "All States and all people shall cooperate in the essential task of eradicating poverty as an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in order to decrease the disparities in standards of living and better meet the needs of the majority of the people of the world". Poverty eradication takes place at an individual level, by educating and investing in persons, and enabling their creativity and natural capacities to develop and flourish. It requires whole communities to work together for the common good. Poverty eradication requires strong families who take seriously their duties and responsibilities in caring for their members and building intergenerational solidarity.

#### Gender equality and sustainable development

6. The World Youth Alliance recognizes that the role of women in achieving sustainable development is critical. As mothers, providers of food and caretakers of children, the elderly, and the sick, women are at the center of social and economic life in their communities. Empowerment of women brings about reduced family poverty, increased health and reduced child mortality.

7. As such, maternal and women's health occupy a special place in our efforts to achieve sustainable development; they are fundamental for the education and economic advancement of women and girls. Health education that is life-affirming, person-centered, and evidence-based equips women with the tools to know their bodies, which empowers them and contributes to their overall health.

8. However, the issue of women's health must not be addressed solely within the framework of the provision of family planning services. The desire of women and men to found a family must be considered by States in their creation of policies on sustainable development and women's health. Because the world's greatest resource is the human person, sustainable development should focus not on slowing population growth but on utilizing the potential of people.

#### The value of technology and innovation

9. The entry point for resolving the challenge of resource scarcity is the infinite potential for innovation and advancement that resides in the human person. The creativity of the human person is the primary catalyst for development. Human creativity generates new ideas and alternatives for growth and sustainability. It is by empowering all people to take part in a global sustainable economy that we can begin to address the challenges of population expansion. The World Youth Alliance affirms Principle 9 of the Rio Declaration, which notes that "States should cooperate to strengthen endogenous capacity-building for sustainable development by improving scientific understanding through exchanges of scientific and technological knowledge, and by enhancing the development, adaptation, diffusion and transfer of technologies, including new and innovative technologies". The central focus of a human dignity-centered approach to achieving sustainable development should lie in harnessing the capacity and innate ingenuity of the human person to maximize technological advancements for the good of society.

Recommendations by the World Youth Alliance for the Rio+20 compilation document The World Youth Alliance specifically urges the Rio+20 process to incorporate the following paragraphs:

1. Principle 1 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, which states that “human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development,” recognizes that human dignity is the reason for the pursuit of a sustainable world and the foundation of human rights. Authentic sustainable development is understood as taking place at all levels of society, thus creating social, political and economic conditions that enable social and economic growth. The principle of subsidiarity affirms the importance of local input and solutions to development, and prioritizes the inclusion of these voices as the first and necessary step of sustainable development.

#### The right to health

2. The right to health is an essential component of sustainable development. Ensuring that individuals have access to health services directly contributes to poverty eradication and economic growth. Health services refers to basic health care, which includes access to clean water, sanitation, and basic nutrition. Maternal health care

3. Developing areas in most regions of the world are furthest from achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Currently, MDG 5, on maternal health, is the least achieved MDG. The provision of basic maternal health care is critical to protect the lives of women and mothers and must be the focus in attaining the MDG and sustainable development. Recognizing that health of women enables protection of vulnerable children and in particular increases livelihood and educational opportunities for girls, maternal health is essential for sustainable development. Statistics show that maternal morbidity is highest in the rural areas of developing countries. Only one-third of rural women receive the recommended prenatal care and only two-thirds receive prenatal care at least once. Furthermore, there are disparities between urban and rural women: urban women are twice as likely to receive professional care at childbirth than are rural women. In particular, sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Asia and Oceania have the lowest attendance by skilled personnel and the highest maternal mortality.

4. For sustainable development, women must have access to maternal health care, including prenatal and post-natal health care and emergency obstetric care. The most important step in improving women's reproductive health is increasing the number of skilled birth attendants, who are trained in treating obstetric fistula, hemorrhaging, high blood pressure and infection, the primary causes of maternal mortality. The UNFPA states that three-fourths of all maternal deaths could be averted by the presence of skilled birth attendants.<sup>10</sup> Furthermore, better infrastructure, more hospitals and cleaner health care facilities will reduce maternal mortality.

#### Women and girls

5. Acknowledging the skewed ratio of births of male children to births of female children and the preference for male children over females in some cultures, gender equality is an essential component of sustainable development. The role of girls, who are at the center of social and economic life in their communities, must be protected if a society is to achieve economic growth and sustainable development.

#### Freedom of thought, conscience and religion

6. Protection of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, as affirmed in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, is necessary to achieving sustainable development. This right reflects that humans are born with dignity and conscience. It enables individuals to move forward within their professional and community obligations while being assured of protections for their beliefs and conscience.

7. In particular, given the importance of health care and maternal health care for women in the attempt to develop a sustainable world, the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion is critical for health-care providers. It enables them to feel comfortable in providing care for people within their communities and allows for increased participation in the provision of a fundamental need.

8. Furthermore, recognizing the centrality of education to a sustainable world, the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion must extend to educators. Contributions of people of faith to the field of education have been of paramount importance, and these educators must be guaranteed protection of their beliefs so that they can continue to care for and instruct the next generations of global citizens.

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## WSPA Netherlands

### Joint Stakeholder Policy Statement on Sustainable and Humane Agriculture

#### Inputs for the Rio+20 compilation document

By focusing on the theme of a Green Economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication, the Rio+20 Summit will provide a key opportunity to set the world on a new global course for agriculture and food production. Such a change of direction is vital for our food production systems to become humane and sustainable.

Farmed animals play a vital role in our lives, whether we rely on them for food, revenue or to help balance our ecosystems. Ensuring the welfare and responsible use of these animals can be an effective tool to help achieve sustainable development, deliver poverty alleviation and enhance wellbeing. It is central to tackling specific environmental issues including climate change, water pollution and scarcity and food security.

The intensification of industrialized farming and agriculture systems is not the solution to these issues for such systems can be highly detrimental to human and animal welfare and their rapid growth has contributed to an overall increase in direct and indirect greenhouse gas emissions. Other negative environmental and social impacts of the industrialized production of agricultural commodities can include rural decline and biodiversity loss.


Therefore, to achieve sustainable and humane food production and ensure a successful transition to a green economy, and in view of the links that exist between agriculture, food security and environmental issues, the signatories to this statement call on member states and other relevant stakeholders to commit to policies which:


- 1) Recognize the positive role animal welfare can have in achieving sustainable agriculture and incorporate specific and regionally-sensitive measures which ensure that global food production is humane;
- 2) Promote and support humane, integrated livestock farming systems to ensure farmers' livelihoods and the climate resiliency of rural communities;
- 3) Phase out subsidies and public investment for unsustainable, intensive farming systems while providing support for farmers rearing livestock humanely and sustainably;
- 4) Recognize the importance of livestock in economic development and the role farm animals play in helping to lift people out of poverty and build sustainable livelihoods in developing countries.





## WWF International

sustaining human well-being and economic activity; actively invest in their conservation and enhancement to avoid a devastating and irreversible global crisis;


 **Go beyond GDP:** Develop a new standard indicator to measure environmental performance alongside GDP and use it, along with human development indices, to provide a more accurate reading of the state of our economies and to incite preservation of the natural environment and more equitable development;

 **Full-cost accounting:** Devise rules whereby the full environmental costs of production and consumption are internalised into accounting models in order to address the causes rather than simply the symptoms of environmental loss;

 **Transparent certification schemes:** Expand, support and standardise certification schemes that are multi-stakeholder and science-based to move toward sustainable consumption and production;

 **Set up an investment vehicle to facilitate the transition to and implementation of green economies through upfront funding for leapfrogging technologies, technology cooperation, and retrofitting programmes, notably using innovative finance.**

### Institutional Frameworks for Sustainable Development

 **Integration of the three pillars of sustainable development:** WWF supports the creation of a Sustainable Development Council to coordinate, consolidate, advance and ensure the crosssectoral integration of sustainable development at the highest level of decision-making;

 **Strengthen the environmental pillar by upgrading UNEP to a Specialised Agency with a mandate to support and ensure compliance of all MEAs;**

 **Better embed sustainable development criteria in existing International Financial Institutions in order to promote genuinely sustainable investments.**


### 1. INTRODUCTION


WWF's Living Planet Report shows that humanity is already using fifty percent more natural resources than the earth can regenerate in a year. Furthermore, high income regions use five times the amount of natural resources than those of the lowest income countries. We are living beyond the Earth's means and are distributing these unsustainable proceeds inequitably: the poorest countries and communities bear a disproportionate share of the negative effects of the growing global demand for resources while industrialised nations enjoy most of the benefits. Future generations will face resource scarcities and environmental degradation not of their making that will increasingly lead to conflict and insecurity. The growing number of urban poor that will live in tomorrow's cities adds additional urgency to finding sustainable and equitable development paths.


The UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) 2012 presents world leaders with a stark choice: they can tinker around the edges of global development as we know it today or they can lift our ambitions by delivering a new, internationally agreed vision for development that catalyses fundamental changes in our economies towards more social and economic equity and environmental sustainability where humans live in harmony with nature. This vision will require deliberate choices and targeted public and private investment not just to decouple development from increased natural resource use, but to actively preserve, enhance, and effectively manage the world's natural resource base and the ecosystem services on which human wellbeing depends.


It will also require purposeful investment development that enhances the capacity of the poor to move out of poverty and fulfil their rights and needs for access to resources, financial assets, energy, water, food, housing, health, and education.


Solutions towards sustainable economies should be founded on a number of key principles:

 **Managing natural capital in equitable ways by rewarding those who provide ecosystem services and protect biodiversity;**

 **Setting up appropriate frameworks to achieve food, water and energy security for a growing global population and ensure that consumption patterns and production systems are within planetary boundaries;**

 **Providing economic incentives to foster environmentally and socially responsible development, notably through full cost accounting and an indicator that goes beyond GDP;**

 **Fostering effective governance built on inclusive processes and broad participation and with international and regional cooperation among governments and between the public and private sectors and civil society;**

 **Investing in human and natural capital, especially in developing countries and rural communities and promoting reform to secure equitable access to natural resources and sustainable use.**

**[UNDESA/DSD: Please download the original document to read the full submission]**

## Yachay Wasi

Text not available.

## Ye Ethiopia Wiyen Mahber Be Alem

**“YEW MBA”**

**Ye EthiopiaWiyen Mahber Be Alem**

**Ethiopian World Federation**

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**CSD Rio + 20 Compilation Submission**

**“Policy In Action”**

**Directives, Recommendations, Implementations**

Date: November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011

To: UN Commission on Sustainable Development Rio + 20

From: Ye EthiopiaWiyen Mahber Be Alem “Ethiopian World Federation”

United Nations Economic Social Non Governmental Organization

Re: UN CSD Rio + 20 Compilation Submission of Political and other International, National, Sovereign and self Governing Actors Commitment Implementation Initiation

Ye EthiopiaWiyen Mahber Be Alem “Ethiopian World Federation”, is offering the following knowledge base commitment directives for interconnected, inter-related, indispensable responsible solutions that will assist in fulfilling previous, present and future gap commitments made on behalf of International, National, Sovereign, Self Governing and other representing bodies as policy avocation and lobbying *Transformational Implementation Initiative Directives*.

The following *Transformational Implementation Initiative Directives* are endorsed and supported by the Ye EthiopiaWiyen Mahber Be Alem “Ethiopian World Federation” International Executive Council, Subsidiaries, Sovereigns, Members, Partners, Supporters, Advocates, Lobbyist, Grass Roots Community Leaders, Families and Human Rights Learning AD HOC UNIT International Representatives.

#### ***I. Section One***

##### ***UN CSD Rio + 20 “Earth Day”***

##### ***Political and Other Actors Commitments:***

- Ecological Sustainable Cities
- Economic – Social Sustainability
- Temhert ‘Education’ Access and Development
- Human Affect Learning International Relations, Diplomacy and Peace Maker Training and Learning
- Indigenous Farming, Agriculture Sustainability
- Historical, Tarik Preservation of Original Ones languages, Culture, Traditions, Genealogy, Antiquities, Artifacts, Burial Grounds, Natural Resources, Regalia, Water Bodies and Farming/Agriculture Techniques, Records and all other Life Sustaining Sustenance.
- Indigenous Peoples Right To Regional and International Nationality and Sovereignty.
- Medical Accessibility and Wellness through traditional and modern holistic healing methods
- Protection of the Afro Original Ones and Indigenous Woman’s Divine Right to Maternal Reproduction, Prenatal Care and Learning, Post Natal Care and Learning and Holistic Birthing Health and Wellness.
- Full Redemption through Reparations & Repatriation
- Afro Ones Family Reciprocity and Redemption Training, Learning and Workshops (with a special focus on Women and Children - Social and Economic Development and Family Reconciliation Training and Learning for Sons, Husbands and Fathers).
- The Divine Right Sovereign Right for Safe and Secure Afro Ones Nations, Communities and Borders.
- Full Accessibility and Development of International Afro Ones Media and Technology with a special focus on technology training and learning.
- Afro Ones Full Accessibility and Sustainable Development of their Sovereign Land, Water, Air and Inner/Outer Universal Space Travel, Astro Science and Technology Training and Learning.
- Afro Ones Original Peoples Environmental and Human Protection Declarations
- Diaspora and Intercontinental funding entrusted for full accessible, participation of Afro Ones attendance meetings, trainings, seminars, forums and learning.

· Ye EthiopiaWiyen Mahber Be Alem “Ethiopian World Federation” made full Organizing Partner as the International Representing Civil Society NGO within the Indigenous Peoples Major Group on behalf of Afro Ones within the Continent of Africa and throughout the Diaspora.

· Build, develop and establish sustainable, innovative infrastructures within Africa and throughout the Diaspora that support Afro Ones Mother Earth and Human Sustainability.

- Build, develop and establish sustainable Model Cities that sustain the culture and traditions of the community for balanced living and in order to remove Afro Ones from non sustainable living in refuge camps, slums, ghettos, project living and street homelessness.
- Clean, safe, accessible potable water.
- Clean, safe, accessible sustainable sanitation facilities.
- Development and establishment of Afro Ones safe, non abusive security units that protect their communities, nations and borders through honorable and respectful methods, training and initiation.

· Adopt the Human Affect Data, Statistics, Logistic Model for Afro Ones wholesome, accurate, non invasive protective analysis for secure, accessible, safe distribution of funding and sustainable resources.

- Ongoing inclusive conferences, forums, trainings, workshops and learning that discuss and develop responsible solutions that secure Afro borders, lands, nations, waters, mountains, animal life, organisms, elements and humanity.
- Secure, Safe, Sovereign Financial Units and International Sovereign Trusts that are monitored and protected by Afro Ones for their full Interest.
- Respectful, Responsible inclusive, inter related, indispensable discussions, negotiations, avocation, lobbying for active implementation of commitment agreements between political and other representing actors.
- Hospital, holistic centers, dental and health units that are accessible, affordable and respectful of both medicinal and traditional healing methods.
- Adoption of Human Affect International United Nations Instruments, Treaty and Policy Training and Learning.
- Economic Sustainability training and Learning.
- Build, develop and implement sustainable energy infrastructure.

We thank you for your support and prepare for further intervention.

**Note: See Full "Policy In Action" CSD Rio + 20 Compilation Submission Below**

#### ***I. Section Two***

Re: UN CSD Rio + 20 "International Earth Day"

Compilation Submission

Human Affect "Policy In Action"

Implementation Initiative Directive

Policy in Action

"Human Affect" AD HOC UNIT:

Human Rights Learning Through Art, Athletics and Science

International Artistic Advocacy

Human Rights Learning and Implementation Initiative

Foundational Ethics and Principles

Universal Declaration of Human Rights Articles 1 and 27

Article 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 27

Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Purpose

Human Affect AD HOC UNIT: Purpose surrounds supporting and assisting in promoting and healing mother earth and humanity through creative transformational methods.

Human Affect AD HOC UNIT advocates within the:

1. "Development of public information activities in the field of human rights learning, Indigenous Peoples, Climate Change, Millennium Development Goals and the United Nations Charter on Peace and Security, all which supports the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights", resolution 6/10 entitled "United Nations declaration on human rights education and training", and resolution 6/24 entitled "World Program for Human Rights Education".

2. *Acknowledging* that Civil Society Non Governmental Organizations play an important role at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and protection of

Human Rights and Sovereign Rights through education and learning.

3. The sixtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 2008 is a suitable occasion for the United Nations to increase its efforts to promote a human rights culture worldwide through education and learning.

4. Every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

5. Human rights learning should contribute to the fulfillment of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as a way of life for people everywhere.

6. Public information activities in the field of human rights.

7. Awareness and implementation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, International CSD Climate Change

Declaration and other Sustainable Development Declarations, Millennium Development Goals and the United Nations Charter on Peace and Security.

## Theatre

Human Affect "The Play" International Initiative is the...

Human Affect AD HOC UNIT: "Policy in Action" implementation initiative that utilizes "Human Rights Learning Through Art, Athletics and Science", originated, written, developed and initiated by Sandra "Akiwa Gizzel" Nelson, the International Executive Administrative President for "Ye Ethiopia Wiyen Mahber Be Alem" aka: Ethiopian World Federation, United Nations ECOSOC NGO,

fictional setting based on stories which emulate Human Rights Concerns that echo around throughout the planet within all continents and nations.

The stories which encompass *Human Affect "Policy in Action"* speak on Human Rights Concerns in the areas of...

1. Domestic Abuse, Violence Against Women
2. Economic, Social and Ecological Sustainability,
3. Racism, Tolerance
4. Human Trafficking of Young Boys and Girls for the Sex Trade and Human Trafficking of Indigenous population for Sustainable Development of Developed and Developing Countries.
5. Refugee Children in Combat, Refugee Human Displacement
6. Homelessness, Eradication of Poverty
7. HIV/AIDS and other Disease
8. Climate Change and other Disasters
9. Indigenous People, Original Ones Sovereign Rights
10. Women's Birth Health and Safe, Fresh, Healthy, Clean Potable water for sustainable living, sanitation and hygiene.

Human Rights Learning Through the Art of Theatre carries several components that are essential tools which can be utilized in correcting many social, economic, ecological and environmental challenges affecting mother earth and the international human population.

## Policy In Action

Human Rights Learning Through Art, Athletics and Science:

Human Rights are rights inherent to all human beings, whatever ones nationality, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, language, or any other status. We are all equally entitled to our human rights without discrimination. These civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights are all interrelated, interdependent and indivisible.

The International Theatrical Advocacy Initiative titled, "Human Affect", touches on the basic criteria of all nine core international human rights treaties.

Human Rights Learning Through the Arts and Athletics is an excellent way to promote human rights, promote policy, support international human rights treaties, mechanism, United Nations instruments, Initiatives, years and decades while offering alternative learning for all.

Through the Creative Written Word whether based on fiction or non-fiction, offenses of the ones Human Rights can be expressed in a safe, non-aggressive environment in the form of poetry, pros, plays, scripts, children's books, novels, etc. Taking the reader on a journey alone or with others that may be listening, watching or reading along.

From a written work, which is catered for an individual, group, child, adult which encompasses ones culture and tradition, much introspective, thought, reasoning and transformation can occur.

Human Rights concerns performed in any Theatrical style not only brings communities together to enjoy live performance but also takes the audience on a journey giving them insight into the meaning of Human Rights, Human Rights Violation and Resolutions that can take place within any family, community, town, City or Country. Within the storyline the audience is offered a safe place where the nature of their personal and/or communal environment is opened up and explored without threat or harm while always leaving a place for enjoyment, learning, discussion and exploration.

Music, may it be classical, jazz, hip-hop, pop, indigenous, rock, etc., can ignite, in its sound and rhythm memories, emotions, experiences and/or encounters, whether challenging or engaging, that reflect on a situation for healing and, or can promote international unity through creative learning.

Dance, as an artistic medium, motivates body movement and function which offers instant release of emotional stress and distress that is held inside the body. Movement gives way to self expressive and human balance through the release harmful energy making way for peaceful, reconciliation and self gratification that easily transfers into open dialogue as an immediate resource for responsible solutions.

As a spectator or artist of the visual arts a persons experience is recorded on canvas, paper, cement, wood, etc. to be displayed for the journey of the onlooker. One painting or drawing can invoke continual discovery and change for long periods of time for generational learning and understanding.

All creative artistic genres offer individuals, communities, nations and peoples the opportunity to develop their own Human Rights Learning Through the Art, Athletics and Science *International Advocacy Initiatives* that can assist in helping families, groups, children and adults, of any age, race, gender and or nationality in developing inclusive environments of expression for correction while healing offenses with little outside intervention.

Human Rights Learning Through Art, Athletics and Science also offer economical, social, ecological and environmental sustainability through artistic methods such gardening, pottery, sewing, cooking, yoga, meditation and more.

These general artistic forms, when organized for economic sustainability, offer community development and continuity without the burden of large budgets and distressful planning.

The people involved are partaking in their own training and learning structures that supported within a safe environment, of their making.

By placing corrective methods in the grassroots community leader authorities will discover the simplicity in resolving issues that lead to sustainable outcomes, healthy expression, reasonable solutions and responsible resolutions.

Ones, with in the boundaries of their own making, while being guided through respectful, expert mediation, will find the they are able to agree upon simple solutions that are humanly sustainable. By utilizing the Human Affect arts, athletics and science model "Policy in Action" that initiates and promotes simple, peaceful, learning activities that ones of any age, race, nationality and financial status can participate within.

Mother earth and human sustainability then become coherent possibilities that accessible and transparent for all.

Human Rights Learning Through Art, Athletics and Science - *Policy in Action*, is a basic learning format that upholds the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in all its character while easily balancing policy, treaties, initiatives for a communities social development and as an essential foundation for Human Rights Learning.

By utilizing Human Rights Learning Through Art, Athletics and Science - *Policy in Action* communities work together through creative mediation methods to assist expert actors finding responsible solutions that secure ongoing sustainable resolutions. Art that crosses boundaries awakes the complacent, less privileged, oppressed, abused and threatened to a Universe of vast cultures and traditions which peacefully generates a energy filled with possibility, hope and transformation.

See some active, supportive "Human Affect" AD HOC UNIT: Art, Athletics and Science International Implementation, Human Rights transformational Learning "Policy in Action" initiatives below:

Mediation Responsible Solutions and Awareness Films

Media Transformational Infomercials

Peace Makers Transformational Life Coach Training and Learning Certificate and Degree Courses

International United Nations NGO Youth Internship

Healing Bloom Urban Gardening Peace Cities Initiative

Yoga 4 Peace and Reconciliation CSD Rio + 20 Earth Day Initiative

Indigenous Peoples Peace Festival "Mother Earth and Human Reconciliation"

"Human Affect" AD HOC UNIT: Human Rights Learning Through Art, Athletics and Science "Policy in Action" Play is cohesively balanced to ignite immediate transformation through live, artistic, theatrical expression.

Human Affect is a collection of ten (10) Original, Theatrical, Poetic Vignettes. These ten (10) stories give light to human rights and the offenses which happen to everyday people throughout the planet mother earth. The ten (10) poetic vignettes are performed live with original songs and creative dances/movement by professional actors that have completed the "Human Affect" Transformational Life Coach Training, the Human Affect Peace Maker Training and the International relations and diplomacy training.

Human Affect Ten (10) Poetic Vignette Human Rights Policy Description(s):

Domestic Violence

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, in human or degrading treatment or punishment. (Article 5)

Economic, Social Sustainability

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care, and the right to security in the event of sickness, disability, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control. (Article 25, Section 1)

Human Trafficking

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms. (Article 3)

Racism

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status. Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international

status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty. (Article 2)

Refugees

No one may be compelled to belong to an association. (Article 20, Section 2)

Homelessness

Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property. Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favorable conditions of work and to protection against un-employment everyone who works has the right to just and favorable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection. (Article 17), (Article 23 – Sections 1 and 3)

HIV/AIDS and Other Diseases

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of life. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honor and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks on his property. (Article 3), (Article 12)

Climate Changes and Other Disasters

1. Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. 2. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.

1. Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others. 2. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property. (Article 13, Section 1 and 2), (Article 17 – Section 1, Section 2)

#### Indigenous Peoples and Sovereignty

Everyone has the right to a nationality. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his nationality nor denied the right to change his nationality. The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State. (Article 2) (Article 15) (Article 16, Section 3)

#### Safe Birth Health and Water Human Rights

Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children shall enjoy the same social protection. (Article 25, Section 2)

#### III. Section Three

#### UN CSD Rio + 20 "International Earth Day"

#### "Human Affect: Policy in Action"

#### Implementation Initiative Recommendations

#### Major Group: Farmers

#### Human Affect 10 Policy in Action Issues: Comparative Compilation

#### Domestic Abuse/Violence Against Women

Domestic Abuse in rural farm area is associated with an uncertain future relating to the decline of the family farm and lack of alternate rural employment, especially full-time jobs.

#### Economic Social Ecological Sustainability

Land for the farmers: Many small farmers are poor and some are becoming poorer. A main reason is unequal land distribution, where small farmers have little land security or access and lose a large part of their income to landowners. Land reform is urgently required and landless farmers are fighting for their rights. But the landowners in most countries have political clout and are resisting change.

#### Racial/Tolerance

Agriculture acknowledges in 1999 decades of widespread discrimination against indigenous peoples were denied federal assistance loans without legitimate grounds. Although some were approved payment, but received funds after harvesting season, was left struggling to pay off accumulated interest resulting from loss of property.

#### Human Trafficking of Young Girls and Boys for the Sex Trade

Human Trafficking is approximately 75-80% is for sex. Young girls and boys are lured with false promises of high-paying farm work. Most trafficking into the commercial sex trade involves young adults.

#### Child Soldiers in Combat

Recruitment of child soldiers by non-governmental armed groups poses a significant problem for prevention because international human rights law does not bind these armed groups; they are not state actors. The three popular self-employment models that are used in reintegration programs in Central Africa are animal rearing crop farming and small trade or kiosk ownership...If a child is not literate or not numerate, keeping track of stock, dealing with supplies and managing financial flows can be considered almost impossible.

#### Homelessness/Poverty

In Cannabis Tens of millions are sick and dying, the displaced, the hungry, homeless and hurting humanity who need better secured agriculture and good cash crops, pastures, grains. This would greatly increase agricultural investments which would level the playing field for farmers and people in Africa.

#### HIV/AIDS and other Diseases

HIV/AIDS affects agriculture both directly and indirectly at the household level, changing supplies of labor, assets, and pattern of farming and other activities; as well as affecting communities as a whole and the wider economy; and some of the changes come back to affect farming households.

#### Climate Change and other Disasters

Among proposed changes: more widespread adoption of so-called no-till farming, a practice that involves leaving un-harvested crop stalks and other plant matter behind in the field undisturbed by plows and other soil-agitating instruments. "

#### Indigenous Issues/Genealogy

Some indigenous peoples also plant small gardens using a sustainable method called shifting cultivation as a farming technique. Clear small area of land and burn, next plant seedlings, later soil is too poor for crops to grow, and then it's moved to nearby un-cleared area to farm. Shifting cultivations is still practiced by indigenous peoples who have access to a lot of land.

#### Women's Birth Health/Child Health/Water as a Human Right

Investigations concerning babies with birth defects were seven times more likely to be born to women exposed to chemicals used in gardens and fields, compared to women who were involved in dipping livestock used to prevent ticks. Findings suggest alternate farming methods and elimination of reuse of pesticide containers as a preventive measure. Agriculture in Africa is one of the most important income generating activities and the fifth biggest employer in the country. South Africa is one of the major users of pesticides in the continent.

#### Major Group: Children and Youth

## Human Affect 10 Policy in Action Issues: Comparative Compilation

### Domestic Abuse/violence against women

Afro American children and youths are subject to more domestic abuse due to low income which is contributed the economy not producing jobs, thereby causing mental distress and tension in the family unit. Frustrations are directed to the children and youths because the inability to meet the demands and concerns dealing with food, clothing and shelter. The children and youths are the ones who are generally taking the brunt of this domestic abuse which can lead to emotional, mental and social damage that can affect development and growth. These overwhelming issues cause children to lose ability to feel empathy for others, or feel socially isolated unable to make friends due to social discomfort or confusion over what is acceptable.

### Economic-Social Ecological Sustainability

Educating children on how to save Mother Earth by recycling, reuse, and rethinking their actions in the area of waste, water and Biodiversity to save the planet that will ensure sustainable measures to ensure and promote the preservation of natural resources and conservation.

### Racism/Tolerance

Afro-Indigenous children are faced with racism at an early age. Racial guidelines are set in place to separate the races based on gender and ethnicity. Employment and the educational institutions discriminate based on student quotas of students attending their schools. Afro Indigenous children faced with this racism suffer mental and emotional distresses

### Human Trafficking of Young Girls and Boys for Sex Trade

Since the Portuguese dominated the transatlantic slave trade. Human Trafficking has not changed much over the centuries. Human Trafficking of young girls start at the age of 5-18 years of age and sex trade of young boys are also on the rise in the United States. Young girls and boys are forced into the sex trade by paying for their services The children are tricked into thinking that they will be honest wages for honest services rendered, but later find out they are slaves to Human Trafficking.

### Child Soldiers in Combat

In DRC child soldiers are abducted and forced to join the combat zones. Boys and girls are sexually abused, Most child soldiers are between the ages of 15 and 18 years, but some are as young as seven, and some under 15 years of age.

Children are more vulnerable and not independent decision makers, also they are easy to train and to brutalize and force into a very violent life style.

### Homelessness/Poverty

Homelessness and poverty is prevalent in many African communities. Street has become the way of life for impoverish children. Their unstable lifestyles, lack of medical care and inadequate living conditions increase young people's chronic illnesses. Often times leading to unprotected sex which is contributed to the HIV/AIDS. Homeless must find ways to eat, some scavenge or fine exploitative work. Many homeless children are enticed by adults and older youths into selling drugs, stealing and prostitution.

### HIV/AIDS and other Diseases

In Somalia and Senegal HIV is prevalent in these regions indicating HIV rates and number of people dying varies greatly between African countries. The vast majority of children infected with HIV during pregnancy, childbirth or breastfeeding result from their mother being infected with the virus. Educating mothers with preventive measures and awareness will result in a positive solution.

### Climate Changes & other Disaster

Educating young people in matters of the environment conservation focusing on issues related to climate change. raise the visibility of environmental conservation through awareness by using cultural activities targeting young people from all regions. Also further encouraging involvement exchanging of ideas and experiences. Providing the youths with a sustainable networks within Africa to engage young people in fulfilling missions in environmental conservations .

### Women's Birth Health/Child Health/Water as a Huma Right

Women who are at risk of babies dying at the age 5 due to the lack of water in the diet, affect the birth rate of babies born to mothers lacking the key component which is water. Also HIV/AIDS is the second factor of babies born with low birth rates and deformity. There is a lack of awareness to women positive with HIV/AIDS have a 25-45% chance to pass the disease on to their unborn child.

## Major Group: Business and Industry

### Human Affect 10 Policy in Action Issues: Comparative Compilation Issues

#### Domestic Abuse/Violence Against Women

The Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) reported that African-American women experienced domestic violence at a rate 35% higher than Caucasian women. These problems are resulting from lack of financial independence, frustration and education. Domestic Abuse/Violence affects mental, emotional and major health and social issues.

Businesses and Industries are faced with absenteeism, and lack of productivity.

#### Economic-Social Ecological Sustainability

Environmental concerns for business activities aroused in the latter part of the 20th century with evidence of chemical pollution and a variety of industrial accidents opposition of indigenous peoples to logging and mining operation and the discovery of human impact on global systems such as the ozone layer and the climate changes.

#### Racial/Tolerance

Business and Industries affects racial tolerance continues to be a clear trend in American society, it is still a major factor concerning employment, housing, education and health care. Low income is one of the contributing factors concerning these issues in the Afro Indigenous community.

#### Human Trafficking of young girls and boys for the sex trade

One of today's biggest human rights crises is the, food international trafficking of girls and boys into sex slavery. This generally happens when businesses and industries continue to outsource their product for low-cost labor. Human, trafficking generates profit since freedom of choice and economic gain are the heart of productivity. Victims are typically very young, most ranging in age from eight to 18 years old. Some are as young as four or five years old

#### Child soldiers in combat

As of July 2011 new reports indicate children continue to serve as child soldiers in some of the Central African Republics armed groups. Many children living in the CAR are still vulnerable to being recruited into armed groups operating in parts of the country.

#### Homelessness/Poverty

Homelessness and Poverty is the lack of permanent housing resulting from extreme poverty and unsafe unstable living environments. Employment and low wages are the common denominator for those with little to no education. The staggering statistics of the Afro indigenous peoples are being reported and most are at risk for losing their jobs and unfortunately are the ones that will be the most affected.

#### HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS were brought in to the Afro-Indigenous communities by European homosexuals that passed this disease onto the Afro-Indigenous men that were bi-sexual in nature and later transmitted the disease to their female partners. Prior to 1980 there were other diseases prevalent in the indigenous communities which if contracted had medical cures.

HIV/AIDS dramatically affect business and industries by setting back economic and social progress, adding costs depleting skills with absenteeism accounting for much of company costs.

#### Climate Change and other Disasters

Clean energy is one of the major solutions and valuable keys that will unlock and ensure sustainable use of our natural resources. Shareholders and stockholders are demanding businesses and industries to demonstrate effective practices by incorporating these tools. It is important for business and industry commit to innovative solutions that will benefit our economy and sustainable development.

#### Indigenous Issues/Genealogy

Business and industries concerns for Afro indigenous peoples should be focused on Human Rights and Civil Rights, Economic and Social issues, Discrimination of race, gender, employment and reasonable health insurance availability for all workers. They have a responsibility to respect all human rights and engage in human rights at all levels.

#### Women's Birth Health/Child Health/Water as a Human Right

It is essential that there are Women's birthing centers available for those that are located in areas heavily populated by indigenous peoples that are unemployed, to assist teen pregnancies, displaced pregnant women. Birth centers health that help encourage and build self esteem , Business and Industry insurance policies that reflect low-cost visits to Women's Birth Health Facilities.

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#### **Major Group: Workers and Trade Unions**

#### **Human Affect 10 Policy in Action Issues: Comparative Compilation Issues**

#### **Domestic Abuse/Violence Against Women**

Trade Union are saying "NO" to Domestic Violence by reinforcing Union Policies and actions to stop Violence Against Women in cooperation with the Global Union Federation. They have incorporated plans, initiatives and actions to place these concerns as priority, by wiping out Violence against Women in homes, societies and workplaces, in order for women to have equal opportunities to be functional in their work and life.

#### **Economic, Social and Ecological Sustainability**

Trade Union Actions to Promote Environmentally Sustainable Development they are vital in facilitating the achievement of sustainable development due to their experience in addressing industrial change, the high priority they gave towards protection of the working environment in regards to domestic violence and related natural environment and their promotion of socially responsible and economic development..

#### **Racism/Tolerance**

Millions of workers around the country is suffering with discrimination based on color, cultural differences and ethic and national origin. Trade Unions must wholeheartedly take up the rights to defending and protecting the rights of those people affected by directly or indirect racism, and must adopt a specific clear direct and determined approach to fighting racism.

#### **Human Trafficking of Young Girls and Boys for Sex Trade/Trafficking of Indigenous Population for Sustainable Developed and Undeveloped and Developing Countries**

Human Trafficking is prevalent throughout the developed and undeveloped and developing countries of the Indigenous Population and Diaspora. Young boys and girls are forced to serve as sex slaves. Young girls are the most crucial their perpetrators. Trade Unions priority should be is to set in place Partnerships/Endorsements with Coalition Enforcements and Political Actors to eradicate Human Trafficking in these countries.

#### **Refugee Children in Combat/Refugee Human Displacement**

Recognizing child labor as a violation of children's and workers' rights, trade unions are joining with families and community organizations to combat child labor, to move children out of work and into school, and to support core labor standards which will promote, strong unions that will protect against child labor, improve conditions through effective unions, children are much less likely to have to work, to build alliances with unions in other countries and union and community organization.

Overcrowded refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia are receiving some 3000 new displaced refugees every day families flee from famine stricken and war torn areas. In the Horn of Africa food and water is that is used to support millions are disappearing rapidly, which causes those that are strong enough to travel on foot hundreds of miles to make it to the refugee center seeking food and aid. Over 800.00 Somalians, Ethiopians, Eritreas and Kenyans are malnourished and die at an early age.

#### **Homelessness, Eradication of Poverty**

Last year in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe the leaders attacked the leaders of the local farm workers union and they were forced to scatter. The International Labor Organization was one of the largest trade union in the agricultural sector, but due to the government takeover of the farmland and reallocation of Zimbabwe farms mostly owned by white people, Zimbabwe fell into a deep recession and the farms were taken over by squatters, which caused farmers workers to be displaced, loose homes, property, income and access to vital services after the farms where they worked were invaded and new owners terminated all contracts of previous workers. Union officials continue to flee the country and workers find themselves evicted and destitute.

#### **HIV/AIDS and Other Diseases**



Trade unions are educating workers about the prevention of HIV/AIDS, and its devastating effects. Pamphlets are widely distributed amongst all workers and are encouraged to attend workshops and open discussion in the classroom. Also a survey was conducted on affiliated trade union in Africa to identify trade unions which are particularly affected by the virus and highlight priorities for action. Zimbabwe is developing a project which focuses on training women as educators and counselors on HIV/AIDS to reach as wide a community as possible to spread general awareness about the virus.

#### Children/Youth

Trade unions are engaging with community workers to initiate training with children and young people. Also by putting emphasis on educating them on hazardous environment that aims to improve engagement of workers and trade unions in the development and implementation of Child Welfare and Social networks.

#### Climate Change

Trade unions have been involved in this issue for some years. They have organized a conference of workers on the issues of the environment how to prevent poisoning of the atmosphere and raised the issue of the environment and global warming and how to implement the "Green" economy, reduce carbon emissions. They will end up believing and getting involved in this cause for one simple reason. As the climate changes and as resources dry up the nature of work and employment will change across the planet.

**Women Birth Health/health** Women with birth complications premature babies, sick children, accident victims and people dependent on antiretroviral medication have literally been caught in the crossfire between strikers and government some have already died while others will die as the result. What can Trade Unions do to help to facilitate and ensure proper measure are take in the areas to educate Afro Indigenous women of the Disapora with Birth Health Issues

The union can help its members in at least three ways:

1. The union can protect workers from HIV infection by improving health and safety at work
2. The union can protect workers with HIV infection or AIDS
3. The union can provide support for workers and their families who have HIV infection or AIDS and may become too sick to work

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## Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network

Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network Input to the Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development Compilation Document

The Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network (YP-CDN) believes that investment in youth is a cornerstone of sustainable development and represents a new opportunity for massive gains in health and development across all incomes. There is clear opportunity to influence behaviors, consumption patterns and lifestyles, the ability to transform youth into powerful advocates and build from the bottom-up the next generation of inspired regional, national and global leaders for development. It is this investment in human capacity, in people, that will sustain our future. As the next generation, a small part of the 3 billion youth under age 25 globally, we kindly offer our commitment, passion and energy towards realizing a strong sustainable development agenda.

Representing over 400 emerging leaders, students, youth and young professionals in over 40 countries, we developed a Youth Manifesto on non-communicable diseases (NCDs) for the United Nations High-Level Meeting on NCDs that took place September 2011 (attached) [1]. There are fundamental links among the world's leading killers and drivers of ill-health, the core risk factors (tobacco, poor diets, inadequate physical activity and harmful alcohol use) and sustainable development. We wish to generalize these recommendations in this instance.

To this end, the compilation draft should forcefully acknowledge that unhealthy consumption and lifestyles threatens sustainable development. Critically, nutrition shifts and demands for meat, fatty foods and palm oils, global mobility shifts away from walking/bicycling and towards more use of cars (as examples) threaten environmental sustainability and severely undercut health gains made in the past century. Reducing tobacco use, increasing physical activity and increasing fruit and vegetable availability would pay health and development dividends across all countries and must be on the path towards sustainable development [2].

As the next generation, we view the UN GA High Level Meeting on NCDs, the Rio World Conference on Social Determinants of Health, and the Rio +20 Meeting on Sustainable Development as critically linked. They feed into a shared health, development and environmental sustainability platform. Here, in light of these meetings on social, economic and environmental determinants, we focus our comments on the poverty eradication theme for the compilation document:

First, we assert that NCDs are a development issue. NCDs impact the social, economic and environmental pillars of development. There is a fundamental connection between burgeoning NCDs and the failure/difficulty of reaching traditional Millennium Development Goal (MDG) targets [3]. Integration of targets on NCDs, including tobacco control, into the core development agenda is a concrete first step. The recent High-Level Meeting on NCDs brought NCDs to the global agenda, but now is the time to successfully integrate the issues and relevant health indicators into the sustainable development agenda. The cost of inaction on NCDs by 2030 (\$47 trillion) represents lost lives, livelihoods and a stolen future for the next generation which we represent [4]. Health must feature prominently on the sustainable development agenda as we can no longer afford to ignore NCDs.

Governments, civil society organizations, development agencies, and the global public health community at large should expand the next round of development targets beyond MDG-specific targets to a combination of human and economic development goals that explicitly address primordial, primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and the treatment of NCDs.

Second, we call for transformative, transdisciplinary education to foster the development of people who can successfully develop, implement and evaluate the interventions across sectors and disciplines. We call on public and private academic institutions to encourage interdisciplinary education of the public health workforce. Governments should invest in health professional education at the primary, secondary, undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate level, stressing: 1) intellectual capital, 2) communication skills, and 3) cross-disciplinary networks [5,6].

Third, we call on governments and development agencies to actively seek input from young people on global development issues to harness their energy, creativity and

leadership. We seek to ensure that the voices of young people, inclusive of students and young professionals, are meaningfully included in high-level negotiations and processes. This includes investments in youth leadership for global, regional and national processes and the inclusion of specific time-bound outcomes related to young people and NCDs in global health policy. Youth inclusion ensures not only representation from a key population, but sustainability as the youth leaders of today will be the adult leaders of tomorrow.

Fourth, we call for new commitments to enable universal and equitable access to NCD-related medicines, vaccines, diagnostic and health technologies that successfully balance the right to health against that of trade interests. In particular, we call on equitable access to medicines at affordable prices and for policy makers to make full use of the flexibilities embodied in the TRIPS Agreement and confirmed by the 2001 Doha Declaration, to "protect public health and, in particular, to promote access to medicines for all" without any restrictions on the scope of diseases. Additionally, we support the full implementation of the WHO Global Strategy and Plan of Action on Public Health, Innovation and Intellectual Property, as committed by governments in the Rio Declaration on Social Determinants of Health.

Fifth, we call on policy makers to assert the rights of the child and conceptualize health across the life-course. There is increasing evidence that NCDs that may manifest during adulthood are impacted by critical events and exposures during childhood, infancy, and in utero. In addition, children are increasingly affected by NCDs in the first instance. Although NCDs affect many young people, most prevention measures are not targeted towards youth. It is young people who will bear the brunt of the economic, social and emotional burden of NCDs throughout their lives. Here, governments and international research and funding bodies should direct more funds to translation trials that can add externally valid evidence to support extensive implementation of science-based findings into real-life settings.

[1] Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network. Youth Manifesto on Non-Communicable Diseases. Global Heart. 6(4): 201-10.

[2] Yasmin von Schirnding and Derek Yach, World Health Organization. Unhealthy consumption threatens sustainable development. Rev Saúde Pública 2002;36(4):379-82  
[3] Stuckler D, Basu S, McKee M (2010) Drivers of Inequality in Millennium

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the University Community to Respond to 21st Century Global Public Health Needs", Global Heart Journal, 2011; 6(4), 183-90. [6]. Huffman MD, Siegel KR, Kishore SP, Bitton A. "Regarding the Prevention of Global Chronic Disease: Academic Public Health's New Frontier", Am J Public Health, Oct 2011;doi:10.2105/AJPH.2011.30040

The Young Professionals Chronic Disease Network (YP-CDN; www.yppchronic.org) is a global network promoting research, policy and advocacy work on non-communicable diseases (NCDs). It capitalizes on the energy, innovative thinking, and courage of young people to challenge the status quo. The YP-CDN participates in the local and global knowledge economy using social media to create virtual platforms for sharing knowledge and ideas. Members are students and budding experts in their fields -public health professionals, doctors, sociologists, anthropologists, philosophers, nutritionists and architects.

In 18 months, YP-CDN has expanded from a small group of 12 medical and public health students to a vast network of 230 people of many disciplines spanning more than 30 countries across 6 continents. On the one hand we have set into motion a grassroots social movement to address the escalating burden of NCDs. By connecting and empowering young people and communities at the global level we give them a voice at the political negotiating table. On the other hand we inform evidence-based policy-making through the development of technical reports, peer reviewed articles, and policy position statements. We held our first meeting at the Harvard Endemic NCD Conference on March 2-3, 2011; over 50 individuals were in attendance from around the world. The photo above profiles the new community.

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Governments, civil society organizations, development agencies, and the global public health community at large should re-frame NCDs as a barrier to development by explicitly including NCDs as a target for "technical assistance, capacity building, program implementation, impact assessment of development projects, funding, and other activities," as recommended by the Institute of Medicine.

o Governments, civil society organizations, development agencies, and the global public health community at large should expand the next round of development targets beyond MDG-specific targets to a combination of human and economic development goals that explicitly address primordial, primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention and the treatment of NCDs.

o Governments should include NCDs and NCD risk factor data collection across all age groups to understand the current burden of NCDs and long-term effects of NCDs and to provide more reliable future projections of the NCD burden.

o Governments should implement programmes that tackle the social determinants of NCDs with particular reference to the following: access to information, lifestyle choices, therapies, and financing.

o Governments should engage local, regional, national, and global communities in health-related priority setting, ensuring fair representation from all stakeholders, including civil society.

o All stakeholders should engage with the private sector in reducing the amount of salt, sugar, and saturated fat content in the food supply and should eliminate trans fats intake, with an emphasis on minimizing price shocks that disproportionately harm poor populations.

o Governments should implement the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in its entirety to reduce global tobacco consumption by 30% in 10 years. Special commissions should be instituted to target informal sector tobacco consumption practices.

o Governments should include "health across the lifespan" as a central pillar of all policies ("health in all policies") to enhance the conditions and health system in which people are born, grow, live work, and age.

o Governments, civil society organizations, development agencies, and the global public health community at large should strengthen maternal and child health programs to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates by 75% as a means to assert women and children's health rights.

o Governments and private sector actors should implement recommendations from the WHO policy document, "Set of Recommendations on the Marketing of Foods and Non-Alcoholic Beverages to Children"

- o Governments and development agencies should actively seek input from young professionals on global development issues to harness their energy, creativity and leadership.
- o Governments should invest in health professional education at the primary, secondary, undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate level, stressing: 1) intellectual capital, 2) communication skills, and 3) cross-disciplinary networks.
- o Educational institutions should build leadership capacity in young professionals by developing and implementing cross-disciplinary and trans-national leadership programs that address NCDs.
- o The WHO and civil society should improve the affordability and availability of global level internships, scholarships and other training opportunities for young people, particularly for trainees from LMICs.

#### 5. Enable global access to essential drugs and health technologies

- o Governments should mandate generic substitution of medicines and utilize compulsory licenses to reduce the cost of managing chronic diseases by expanding global financing bodies like The Global Fund and UNITAID for the provision of essential NCD medicines and diagnostics.
  - o The WHO should swiftly enable pre-qualification for the 34 NCD medicines in the WHO Primary Essential Medicines for NCDs (PEN).
  - o Government ministries should support local supply chain management through increased accountability and incentives
  - o The WHO should survey the availability and financial cost of diagnosis and treatment of NCDs, including catastrophic health spending, among WHO member states and work with the World Bank and others to develop financial safety nets for populations in need.
  - o Augment and align global health funding from donor agencies, member countries and private industry with areas of greatest public health gains, as measured through estimated age-adjusted death rates and DALYs.
  - o Governments should identify regional-and country-level secondary economic gains or losses from interventions that impact NCDs, including interventions outside the health system, in order to achieve a "health in all policies" policy as done in Finland.
  - o Governments should introduce NCD Action plans at the ministerial level including NCDs as a line-item in national budgets but also taking care to integrate NCD prevention and control into current priorities.
  - o Governments and international research and funding bodies should direct more funds to translation trials that can add externally valid evidence to support extensive implementation of science-based findings into real-life settings.
- Governments, civil society, development agencies and global public health organizations should:
- o Empower and engage communities, particularly youth, to promote equitable access to education and leadership.
  - o Incorporate the voice of the empowered community in decision-making.
  - o Work to increase local communities' awareness of risk factors for NCDs and their long term effects, thereby enabling individuals to take control of their own health and amplifying the positive effects of societal changes on health.

1. Promoting the view that these diseases should not be viewed solely as "the fault" of the individual, but that NCDs are societal problems that require societal solutions. We will lobby our specific governments, promoting NCD awareness on university campuses around the world to this end.
2. Contributing to the development of a vision of a future society rooted in a social determinants of health approach and to work towards integrating the multitude of global agendas, including climate change and sanitation.
3. Performing research to create new knowledge realize health gains across the life course, including how they relate to the rights of the child, and to share current research with governments to accelerate progress.
4. Lobbying our individual academic institutions to introduce lectures on the global burden of disease, social determinants of health, and the relation of NCDs to development priorities and leveraging interdisciplinary training opportunities to tackle the complexities of real-world implementation.
5. Monitoring the WHO Essential Medicines List (EML) concept including adding NCD medicines to the EML, ensuring their listing in national EMLs; monitoring whether medicines make it to shelf and partner with grassroots organizations to prevent drug stock-outs.
6. Encouraging synergies and fostering dialogue between public health (clinical-and population-based) and related disciplines, such as urban planning or agriculture, as well as actively recruiting alternative, non-medical sources of revenue in partnership with our peers who work in these disciplines.
7. Contributing to the development of a highly skilled movement through peer-to-peer support and capitalize upon opportunities offered by seniors in the field to develop intellectual capital, influence, and cross-disciplinary networks. We will continue to use virtual communities (web 2.0 technologies) to produce a dynamic and barrier-breaking health movement.

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## Yves Rocher

### YVES ROCHER CONTRIBUTION TO RIO+20 – OCTOBER 2011

Yves Rocher has been developing expertise in Botanical Beauty for 50 years. The brand's roots are in La Gacilly, a small rural village in French Brittany. Its founder Mr. Yves Rocher created his business there in order to stem rural flight. In his capacity as an entrepreneur and an elected official, Mr. Yves Rocher refused to practice land consolidation, a widespread intense farming practice at the time, encouraged handicrafts and the handicrafts industry, and set up Yves Rocher's three Breton production sites—each of which has received Quality, Security and Environment certifications (ISO 9001, OHSAS 18001, and ISO 14001)—and two of which are also certified bird garden sanctuaries of the French League for Bird Protection ("LPO").

Mr. Yves Rocher also set up an organic farm that produces flowers used in the brand's various products, and created a botanical garden open to the public. Mr. Yves Rocher

has turned La Gacilly into a dynamic and lively town that combines a modern economy, crafts, and the promotion of nature. The brand that carries his name has grown to become a leading European cosmetics company, distributing over 300 million products annually in 80 countries.

Within the scope of preparing for the Rio+20 Summit, Yves Rocher offers to share its concrete experience. Sustainable Development integration at La Gacilly, but also at a larger scale, requires a continuous improvement approach and highlights two key themes that could be shared at the Rio+20

Summit:

- An analysis of the interactions with the biosphere at the local level and beyond, and the implementation of levers for action which enable more sustainable interactions;
- A deep understanding of the issues involved in and the conditions for sustainable development via research and mediation.

#### FROM INTERDEPENDENCE TO BIODIVERSITY

Developing tools that convey the biodiversity interdependence of organisations The founding example of La Gacilly is a demonstration of how Yves Rocher has sought to integrate itself in its human and environmental ecosystem, in line with the mission defined by its founder. The Brand has developed and expanded well beyond Brittany, but its business mission has remained constant. To this end, it must conduct an analysis on its interactions with its ecosystem and with the myriad of ecosystem services that it depends on (air and water purification, and the provision of raw materials for example).

Yves Rocher's business is intrinsically dependent on biodiversity. At the level of La Gacilly, these links are rather tangible, due to the way its ecosystem operates. When applied to a larger scale, exhaustive knowledge of these links becomes a radically different kind of challenge. Current economic systems reflect these interactions with biodiversity very imperfectly. At the organisational level, tools such as the Business and Biodiversity Interdependence Indicator (BBII) from Orée, and the Ecosystem Services Review (ESR) of the World Resources Institute, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, and the Meridian Institute address these issues.

<sup>[8]</sup> The development of tools to analyse interdependency to biodiversity, their adaptation to the specificities of the business, as well as their dissemination, are a valuable achievement for economic actors in particular.

Developing levers for action that incorporate biodiversity interdependence Knowledge of the interactions with biodiversity is a prerequisite for inventing new sustainable levers for action. Take plant sourcing for example. Before using plant-based raw material, resource availability and integration in the local environmental and socio-economic balance must be assessed. Beyond environmental impact management, botanical sourcing can also be used as a tool to foster biodiversity conservation and sustainable development in a broader sense, in accordance with the founding principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Yves Rocher field experience can contribute to demonstrate that this is possible.

Yves Rocher builds on its local experience in socio-economic and environmental integration in La Gacilly. In terms of sourcing, it encourages the use of plants that it cultivates in La Gacilly, even if their resale price is above market price. Yves Rocher would like to continue to keep this plant production local because of the intangible value that it generates locally. Yves Rocher strives to apply this philosophy to others areas of activity, particularly in plant supply systems in distant locations. Each new supply system must thus be adapted to the specific context (cultural, environmental, industrial etc.), and built via a symbiotic approach.

Experimenting is essential (the root of the word "experiment" literally means to "pass through" a trial and to learn lessons from it). The construction of the supply system of the essential oil of saro (*Cinnamosma fragrans*), a Madagascan shrub, is a poignant example. Villagers harvest saro leaves and distil them to produce the essential oil. In addition to providing an incentive for ecosystem conservation, there are a whole host of benefits—saro cultivation and replanting trials, instructor financing, and most importantly, support for economic development. So that local producers can become economically and technically selfsufficient,

Yves Rocher paid for the still used to distil the essential oil. It also transferred know-how and test results so that local producers can easily sell the essential oil to other firms. This type of scheme rethinks the supply system, and allows its actors to better know each other. It is based on a human network (in Madagascar for example, these network players include Yves Rocher, the NGO MATE, Malagasy SMEs and harvesters). Sustainable sourcing strengthens the relationship between stakeholders, building bridges between these stakeholders who share common interests and who can then combine their strengths in a shared project. Beyond a basic strategy to secure the supply system upstream by strengthening it, this sustainable approach creates extended value for cosmetics products and above all creates meaning. This is not only about plants, but also about humans. The effort to incorporate biodiversity interdependence in plant sourcing is henceforth part and parcel of the Botanical Beauty concept. This effort is reflected in plant selection, and in establishing supply system relationships and the operational tools that are meant to encourage more long-term use of the plants by including them in a diversity of products.

<sup>[9]</sup> Once the interdependent biodiversity relationship is recognised, new levers for sustainable action can be planned. The example of plant sourcing shows that it is possible to reconcile the concerns of consumers and producers of plant raw materials, all while contributing to sustainable biodiversity management. In line with the principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity, levers for action can be developed to combine biodiversity promotion and conservation. Their wider application, particularly within the framework of applying the Nagoya Protocol, could be facilitated by sharing concrete field experiences, and via more interaction among the involved stakeholders (indigenous and local communities, NGOs, firms, and administrations for example).

#### GRASPING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN ALL ITS COMPLEXITY

Encouraging interdisciplinarity in research Sustainable development requires consideration of the environmental, economic and social spheres as a whole and of their interconnections in particular. Research on this requires heterogeneous expertise (chemistry, ecology, climatology, economics . . .) whose segmentation is now being offset by a more interdisciplinary and transversal approach. As a concrete example, his multi- and inter-disciplinary model from the plant to the skin has demonstrated its advantages for innovation at the level of Yves Rocher research and development.


<sup>[10]</sup> So that each actor can fully understand how it can become part of and contribute to the sustainable development goal, it is vitally important to increase the interdisciplinary nature of research.

Increasing collaboration between public research and business Collaboration between business and research—notably public research—could also be supported, by expanding research and innovation networks for example. One of the goals would be to strengthen coordination between fundamental and applied research. Businesses can provide their operational and field knowledge, which is often developed in various countries, and also share their lessons learned through interaction with several stakeholders. In France, the National Foundation for Biodiversity Research is also opening new horizons through involving business, associations, public institutions, local authorities, natural area administrators, and elected officials—all as key actors in biodiversity.

<sup>[11]</sup> Collaboration between business and public research could act as a tool to link up research by strengthening operational and concrete sustainable development logic on the field.


Increase the importance granted to human and social sciences Sustainable development research goes beyond a strictly scientific framework, and encompasses the

concerns and stakes of a new multiplicity of stakeholders. The perception of sustainable development is diffracted amongst its actors (including various elements of civil society, non-governmental organisations, administrations, and companies.) It is crucial to go beyond strictly scientific and analytical concerns, and to integrate social and human dimensions that address their concerns and their perception of the issues.

 Enriching reflection on sustainable development could involve granting more importance to human and social sciences, as well as multiplying the interfaces between the sciences, civil societies, and policies.

Strengthen sustainable development mediation

The appropriation of sustainable development issues and also the awareness of responsibility for the causes and the consequences of individual and collective actions, especially consequences that are delayed and that are observed in a different location are two key issues. Yves Rocher can share its experience linked with the role of mediator with its clients it is able to and must play, to heighten their awareness of sustainability issues. This green mediation involves each of the products sold annually but also events for the general public such citizen mobilisation. As part of the Plant for the Planet programme, the Yves Rocher Foundation — Institut de France launched an international viral campaign in July 2011. This programme is embodied by a tribe of planters, and aims to mobilise as many people as possible ahead of the Rio+20 Summit.

 Faced with the complexity of sustainable development issues, mediation must be strengthened to clarify sustainable development issues to both inform and educate the public.

## Zoi Environment Network

### From Rio 1992 to 2012 and beyond: Sustainable Mountain Development

#### Central Asia

Last updated: 1 November 2011

This report is an illustrated overview of the trends and challenges in sustainable mountain development in Central Asia since 1992. It highlights selected achievements and lessons learned, and identifies opportunities for further progress. The information comes from interviews with key actors, from official and scientific sources and from media accounts. While the report strives to maintain high research standards, it presents the scientific and technical material in a manner accessible to lay readers.

The Swiss Development Cooperation has provided support for the process of identifying trends, developments, lessons and opportunities in the Central Asia mountains and in other mountain regions.

The views expressed in this document are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the partner organizations and governments.

This report was prepared by the University of Central Asia (head office in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan) and Zoi Environment Network (Switzerland) with assistance and advice from: the Kyrgyz State Agency on Environmental Protection and Forestry, the Tajik Committee on Environmental Protection, CAMP Alatoo, CAMP Kuhiston, the Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities, The Aga Khan Mountain Societies Development Support Programme, the Regional Mountain Centre, the National Centre on Mountain Regions Development, the Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Reduction, the Osh Aarhus Environmental Information Centre, Issyk-Kul State University and the Central-Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences. Colleagues at the Consortium for Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion and at Bern University provided useful comments.

Numerous site visits, regional consultations in Bishkek and Karakol and online discussions helped shape this report. A preliminary version was presented at the Lucerne World Mountain Conference (10-12 October 2011, Switzerland) where the experience and insights of colleagues in other mountain regions of the world informed this final report.

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## Executive summary

For the five countries of Central Asia – the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan – the sustainable development movement launched in Rio in 1992 has played out in the context of the 1991 collapse of the Soviet Union. The transition from a planned to a market economy and from totalitarianism to democracy and independence was a rocky period of geopolitical changes that coincided with rapid technological development and globalization and a growing awareness of environmental changes related to climate, biodiversity and land degradation. Regional tensions and conflicts gave rise to new security requirements. New demographic and labour market realities and changes in the ownership and control of natural resources created shifting social dynamics.

This report analyses the region's progress in sustainable mountain development over the past 20 years, and examines how the forces and trends affecting Central Asia create both challenges and opportunities for the new countries and their people. The Lucerne World Mountain Conference in October 2011 issued a call for action for the protection of water supplies, the reduction of poverty and the unlocking of the economic potential of the mountains of the world. A summary of how Central Asia is performing against the Lucerne call for action follows:

- Compared to other mountain regions, Central Asia lacks experience in mountain governance, but the 2002 Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, which concluded with the formation of the Bishkek Mountain Platform, marks a turning point, and provides a strong basis for further improvements.
- In the energy, mining and tourism sectors, the challenges regarding the equitable sharing of benefits are substantial, but so too are the opportunities, and numerous efforts are underway to unlock the economic potential for the benefit of all the affected parties.
- The decentralization that has occurred as part of the transition to independence has increasingly involved mountain people in the decision-making that affects their lives and communities. The region has experienced an impressive growth in the number of Village Organizations and Civil Society Organizations whose participation has influenced countless decisions.
- In many instances of transboundary or highland–lowland tensions, the political will to resolve mutual problems is missing, but international aid organizations such as the Aga Khan Foundation and regional institutions such as the Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development are working on capacity-building and on the generation and exchange of knowledge, expertise and innovation in mountain development.
- Organic agriculture and small hydropower offer promising avenues for private sector investment in sustainable development in Central Asia, and the region's strategic location is a built-in incentive for private investment in trade and public investment in the transport infrastructure. Commitments to mountain development may change with the political winds, and mountain advocates may find more consistent public support for their concerns by working to integrate mountain issues into the Rio conventions and the associated country plans and programmes.
- All of the Central Asia countries recognize the vulnerability of their mountain ecosystems, but the protection of these ecosystems could benefit from linking the strategies for mountain development with other, broader agreements on trade, economic development, conflict resolution and resource management.
- The Global Environment Facility supports the preparation of reports and plans related to the Rio conventions, and funds projects from the local to the regional level in Central Asia. The mountains could benefit from more explicit inclusion in other development projects, and the countries of the region may want to consider debt exchange – a mechanism that redirects debt repayments to sustainable mountain development.

With more than 90 per cent of their national territories considered as mountainous, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are mountain countries, while Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan – with much smaller mountainous regions – are countries with mountains. The mountain regions of these latter three countries are no less important, but this report necessarily devotes more space to the main Central Asian mountain regions, which lie in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

## Findings, observations and recommendations

**Findings:** The findings of this report fall within four broad categories – people; infrastructure; ecosystems; and institutions, governance and knowledge. The effects of the forces and trends at work have been both positive and negative, sometimes both at the same time, and progress in the mountains of Central Asia can be characterized as a series of forward and backward steps.

### People in the mountains (one step forward, two steps back)

- Border security concerns have constrained the movement of goods and people, especially the nomadic people and those living in or traveling around mountain enclaves.
- Public expenditures on education and health are less than one quarter of the previous (Soviet) levels. The official literacy rate is high, but the declining quality of education in mountain countries is becoming an obstacle to sustainable development. Child mortality rates are falling, but the risk of malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and other diseases remains high.
- The rules on ownership rights have relaxed across the region, and a free and competitive market system has evolved, but corruption marred the transition.
- Tajikistan's animal husbandry and food production exceed 1991 levels, and honey production has substantially increased. Kyrgyzstan's food production has increased, but its animal husbandry lags behind previous levels.
- Large-scale hydroelectric projects are a drain on national resources, a source of international tensions and a cause of resentment among the local communities that may share the costs, but may never share the benefits.
- A reluctance on the part of governments and mining companies to share profits equitably, and a lack of transparency in decisions, have led to discontent among groups in the mountains.
- Civil war and armed conflict wracked the mountainous regions of Tajikistan for the entire decade of the 1990s. In Kyrgyzstan, violence widened the ethnic and geographic

divides.

- Women have become heads of households as a result of the labour migration of men. In rural areas they are highly vulnerable to crop failures, heatwaves and natural disasters.

#### **Infrastructure in the mountains (two steps forward, one step back)**

- The expansion of the road system has increased the accessibility to remote mountain areas. The increase in the number of people who have cars has improved mobility and connectivity.
- The use of the Internet in mountain countries has grown substantially. Online education and distance learning are increasingly available options.
- Information technologies in the banking sector have lowered the costs and increased the efficiency of labour remittances.
- The quality of hydrometeorological stations and equipment have declined sharply.
- Kyrgyzstan enacted economic reforms and allowed access to geologic information to promote development in the mining sector. Tajikistan lags behind.
- Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are working to develop their large hydropower potential, less than 10 per cent of which is used.
- Tourism offers a promising source of alternative livelihoods. Central Asian countries have an opportunity to further develop winter and cultural tourism.

#### **Mountain ecosystems (one step forward, two steps back)**

- The increased use of cars has increased the risks to previously unreachable mountain ecosystems.
- Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have the lowest greenhouse gas emissions in Central Asia.
- In the last 50–60 years, between 15 per cent and 35 per cent of the Tien Shan and Pamirs glaciers have melted.
- The use of woody biomass and dried dung as major sources of energy, combined with forest cuttings and the widespread collection of slow-growing shrubs have diminished mountain biodiversity.
- Fires and pest attacks on mountain forests due to limited controls and hot, dry weather conditions have destroyed and damaged significant forested areas, especially in Kazakhstan.
- Lake Issyk-Kul fisheries have declined to negligible levels, and previously abundant endemic fish species have become endangered.
- The enrichment of agricultural biodiversity resulting from the efforts of Soviet agronomists is threatened by the pressures to compete in global markets, and the genetic diversity of the local food base is at risk.
- The growth in rainfed crop cultivation in the mountain areas has increased soil erosion on steep slopes.
- Overgrazing and the collection of bush exposes the mountain territories to a high risk of desertification.
- Protected areas have doubled in size over the past 20 years, and include buffer zones, corridors and national parks, but underfunding and inexperience limit the effectiveness of the protection.

#### **Institutions, governance, knowledge (one step forward, one step back)**

- "Electronic government" systems promote more efficient and decentralized governance, and increase public access to government information and services.
- Mountain countries and provinces are providing better media access, establishing small local data bases and issuing environmental reports online, thus expanding the opportunities for participation in governance.
- Kyrgyzstan passed new laws on decentralization and the use of natural resources and energy. The process reached the village level with the establishment of democratically elected Pasture Committees.
- Mountain-focused NGOs advocate for open processes of policy formulation and act to bridge any gaps between new legislation and strategies and the realities in mountain communities.
- In Kyrgyzstan, enforcement efforts could not keep up with the rapid pace of the new legislation passed to respond to evolving local needs and ambitions.
- Tajikistan continues to rely on a command-and-control approach to governing. The legislative process is less transparent and less inclusive.
- The 2002 Bishkek Global Mountain Summit generated momentum for regional cooperation on mountain issues, but the impetus has diminished and the cooperation has been inconsistent.
- The potential for local conflict over pasture and water use has increased, but the support of NGOs and improvements in governance have reduced anxieties.

**Observations:** The establishment of a green economy and the further pursuit of good governance are relevant and necessary steps for successful sustainable mountain development in Central Asia. The greening of the energy, agriculture, forestry, tourism and water sectors will not only provide environmental safeguards, but also give the countries a competitive advantage economically and promote the equitable distribution of social benefits. The continuing improvement in the efficiency and effectiveness of institutions will aid in the development of a green economy and in the progress towards good government.

**Recommendations:** The Central Asia mountain report team recommends the exploration of two ideas that have been a part of discussions of sustainable mountain development in Central Asia:

- The creation of a mountain countries group under the auspices of the United Nations
- The exchange of external debt for an equivalent investment in sustainable development.



## Part 1: Setting the stage

The Preamble to Agenda 21, the comprehensive programme for global action on sustainable development adopted by the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, begins with a simple statement: "Humanity stands at a defining moment in history." The same might have been said in a different context the previous year when the Soviet Union collapsed. For the people of Central Asia, the transition to independence has coincided with the global sustainable development movement, and as the new countries of Central Asia have increasingly engaged with the wider world, the ideas of sustainable development have helped shape progress in the region.

Diverse mountain ranges described by the early Persians as the "Roof of the World" and by the Chinese as the "Heavenly Mountains" have always played a pivotal role in this vast area comprising five countries – the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan. Agenda 21 recognizes the mountain environment as nothing less than "vitaly necessary for the survival of mankind." In 2002, the halfway point between Rio and Rio+20, the International Year of Mountains culminated with the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The Bishkek Summit coincided with an economic upturn in Central Asia, and marks an important moment in sustainable mountain development in the region.

This report concentrates on sustainable mountain development in Central Asia over the past 20 years, considers the influence of the transition to independence, identifies some of the challenges and opportunities and presents selected case studies of mountain projects designed to meet the challenges and take advantage of the opportunities.

### 1.1 Mountain ecosystem goods and services

The mountains of Central Asia provide an astonishing array of essential ecosystem goods and services that serve not only the mountain inhabitants but also those in the lowlands and people around the globe. These goods and services, which fall into three broad categories – provisioning, regulating and cultural – include forest products and land for food production; watershed protection; habitat for flora and fauna of local and global significance; the regulation of natural hazards and climate; natural areas for leisure and recreational activities; and perhaps most important of all, the storage and release of water. In the Regional Sustainable Development Strategy of Central Asia (2008), the governments officially acknowledge the role of mountains as "water towers" and storehouses of biodiversity.

Almost 90 per cent of the population of Central Asia relies on water that falls in the mountains where it is stored in glaciers and snow before making its way downstream to population centres. Densely populated valleys and oases of the vast drylands of Central Asia depend on mountain water transported by numerous rivers and streams, especially the Syr Darya River, which arises in the Tien Shan Mountains, and the Amu Darya, which arises in the Pamirs. Each flows more than 2 000 kilometres to empty into the Aral Sea. Other major regional rivers originating in the mountains are the Ili, Chu, Talas and Saryjaz.

Overall, Tajikistan holds 40 per cent, and Kyrgyzstan 30 per cent, of the water resources serving the five Central Asia countries. These water resources also serve China and Russia. Uzbekistan, with the largest population in the region, is the biggest water consumer, in large part because of an economy based on irrigated agriculture. With 90 per cent of their water resources coming from mountains located outside their country borders, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, are highly vulnerable to water shortages, especially the downstream communities. Global warming is slowly decimating mountain glaciers, affecting snow reserves and at the same time increasing the water requirements of basic agricultural crops. A relatively large Zeravshan glacier in Tajikistan – a source of water for half a million hectares of irrigated lands and densely populated ancient oases of Samarkand and Bukhara in Uzbekistan – retreated by 2.5 kilometres between 1927 and 2009. A projected reduction in the Amu Darya river runoff – the expected effect of climate change in the Pamirs over the next 20 to 40 years – can only make matters worse.

Mountain regions are crucial to the maintenance of the natural and agricultural global biodiversity. The vertical distribution of natural species by elevation results in a wide range of species and ecosystems spread over a relatively small surface area. Endemic species find homes in isolated islands of mountain habitat with characteristics conducive to unique life forms and varieties. Central Asia is home to more than half of the world's 150 wild tulip species, many of which grow only in the mountains. Similarly, the number of crops that either originated or further diversified in Central Asia mountains is impressive. The region is famous for harbouring genetic resources of the wild species of several domesticated plants and animals such as wheat, apples, almonds, walnuts and pistachios, as well as horses, goats and yaks.

The Central Asia mountains host at least 20 distinct ecosystems and 4 500–5 500 species of vascular plants, almost one quarter of which are unique (endemic) to the region. At lower altitudes and in the foothills, dryland ecosystems prevail. At higher altitudes, grasslands, shrubs and forests are widespread. Meadows and tundra-like ecosystems are found on high mountain plateaus. Globally endangered species resident in the mountains include the snow leopard (with more than half of global population) and the Marco Polo sheep. The numbers of these species have declined, however, as a result of poaching, hunting and the depletion of the food base. The high biodiversity richness and endemism of flora and fauna of the mountains of Central Asia is exemplified by the fact that the number of vascular plant species found in the Pamir-Alai or the Tien Shan Mountains is four times higher than that of the nearby lowland Karakum Desert, which has twice the area.

Mountain forests and shrublands in Central Asia cover almost five million hectares, including 2.5 million hectares of coniferous forests, and more than 350 000 hectares of globally significant fruit-and-nut forests comprising walnuts, almonds, pears, apples, cherries and pistachios.

Mountain forests provide invaluable watershed protection and erosion control, and contribute to the regulation of water resources by decreasing or smoothing runoff – with a corresponding decrease in erosion – and by retaining groundwater. They also provide mountain people with a rich source of the fuel wood essential to the heating of living spaces, the cooking of food and the purification of drinking water, and with timber and other forest products such as wild fruits, nuts and medicinal plants for subsistence or trade. A relic species of Tien Shan spruce forms a unique and spectacular forest belt in the Tien Shan Mountains. Juniper woodlands of the Gissar and Pamir-Alai Mountains may be 1 000 years old.

In addition to reducing erosion, mountain forests also protect communities and transport infrastructure from natural hazards by preventing, or reducing the impact of, such events as landslides, flash floods and avalanches. And while mountains are vulnerable to the effects of climate change, they also play an important role in modulating the climate across wide areas, and are important reservoirs for the storage of carbon.

For residents of the largest Central Asian cities – Tashkent, Almaty, Bishkek, Dushanbe and Ashgabat – mountains provide fresh air and the breezes that disperse urban air pollution. Mountains and their refreshing lakes and white-water streams are among the most popular weekend destinations for urban residents. In addition to picnics, hiking or skiing in beautiful unspoiled highlands, the key mountain attractions include geothermal sources and spas, kumis horse milk therapy and the sampling of diverse mountain honeys, local herbal teas and traditional products.

Mountains provide a profound sense of place, a source of inspiration and a rich cultural heritage. The degree of cultural diversity varies among the mountain regions of the world. In a manner reminiscent of Switzerland, people in isolated mountain areas of Central Asia, especially in the Pamirs, differ significantly from those in the main valleys, and communities tend to develop distinctive cultural identities and languages. In the Soviet period, however, mountain minorities were integrated with the "mainland" and partly lost their specificity. Before the era of industrialization and urbanization, spirituality was also common in mountain communities of Central Asia, where people regarded the mountains as living forces and sources of power or symbols of the sacred.

The rich and diverse cultures of Central Asia and the strong sense of place in the mountains attract visitors from around the world, and tourism offers an additional income source for mountain communities.

The challenges to the continuing capacity of mountain environments to deliver their ecosystem goods and services come from natural hazards and disasters, from climate change and its effects on mountain ecosystems and from the competing uses of the resources. The management of risks entails the balancing of interests – highland and lowland; agricultural and industrial; local, national and regional; and economic, educational and cultural.

The main drivers of change in the extent and quality of Central Asian mountain ecosystems and their services since the 1950s have been population growth (and associated increasing consumption of natural resources and energy); agricultural developments; changes in land use; industrialization (and associated ecosystem fragmentation, over-exploitation and pollution); and, increasingly, the effects of global warming. During the last two decades, a continuation or augmentation of these drivers in combination with political, economic and social changes has rendered development unsustainable in some areas. At the same time, new opportunities and initiatives for sound natural resource management and conservation have developed and counter-balanced some of the negative trends.

## 1.2 Key characteristics of the Central Asian mountains

The landscape of Central Asia is characterized by dramatic peaks, high mountain plateaus, deep valleys, massive glaciers, steppes and vast desert plains. Two of Asia's major mountain ranges – the Pamirs in Tajikistan and the Tien Shan in Kyrgyzstan – make those countries the most mountainous in the region, with an average elevation of about 3 000 metres above sea level, peaks exceeding 7 000 metres and more than 90 per cent of their national territories considered as mountainous. In addition to being more mountainous, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are less developed and less economically advanced than the other three Central Asian countries. At the same time, these countries often label their mountain territories as the Alps or the Switzerland of Central Asia.

Mountain ecosystems also cover parts of Eastern Kazakhstan (Kazakh uplands, Djungar Alatau, Tarbagatai and Altai), south-east Uzbekistan (Western Tien Shan and Gissar) and Turkmenistan (Kopet-Dag and Kugitang), and extend into Afghanistan (Hindu Kush) and China (Eastern Tien Shan and Pamir). Mountains comprise 20 per cent of the area of Uzbekistan, 10 per cent of Kazakhstan and 5 per cent of Turkmenistan, but the natural resource programmes in these countries nevertheless tend to highlight the role of mountains in specific geographic areas, and to focus on mountain biodiversity treasures. Overall, mountains cover 800 000 square kilometres or 20 per cent of the total area of Central Asia.

The Tien Shan Mountains, one of the most extensive mountain systems of Central Asia, cover all of Kyrgyzstan and extend into Kazakhstan and the Chinese province of Xinjiang. The highest peak of the Tien Shan is Jengish Chokusu, or Victory Peak, which stands at 7 439 metres. In south-eastern Kazakhstan, the picturesque Djungar Alatau Mountains, together with the Tien Shan, form a 400 kilometre-long natural border with China.

The 300 kilometre-long and 170 kilometre-wide Ferghana Valley separates the Tien Shan from the Pamir Mountains, and extends into Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. It is the most densely populated and ethnically diverse region of Central Asia, with an average population density of 350 persons per square kilometre. Some districts exceed 1 000 persons per square kilometre, and in 2010 the total population in the valley and nearby mountains exceeded 12 million.

The Pamir Mountains join the Tien Shan in Kyrgyzstan in the north and the Hindu Kush Mountains in Afghanistan and Pakistan in the south, and contain some of world's highest peaks including the Conger, which rises to 7 719 metres in China, and Somoni Peak, at 7 495 metres in central Tajikistan. The Eastern Pamir are dominated by high plateaus (above 3 000 metres) and host nomadic populations of Kyrgyz origin, while the Western Pamir are carved by rapid mountain rivers, with deep valleys, spectacular gorges and traditional settlements nestled on alluvial fans. Eighteen distinct ethnic groups are known to occupy this culturally diverse region, and the 200 000 people living there depend largely on subsistence farming and international aid.

Glaciers cover 4 per cent of Kyrgyzstan and 6 per cent of Tajikistan. They are also present in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. In total they cover an area of 12 000–14 000 square kilometres within Central Asia and about 20 000 square kilometres if the glaciers within China's territory are included. The glaciers contain frozen water reserves of about 1 000 cubic kilometres – the equivalent of 10 years of water flowing down the Amu Darya and Syr Darya Rivers. Melt water from snow, glaciers and permafrost supplies about 80 per cent of the total river runoff in Central Asia. Glaciers are crucial to the agricultural economy of the region. They produce water in the hottest and driest period of the year and compensate for low precipitation.

The Tien Shan and the Pamirs feature contrasting climates from harsh and dry in the interior and in the eastern corners (below zero annual surface temperatures; 150–300 millimetres average annual precipitation, mainly in summer) to more humid and temperate in the western parts (1 000–1 500 millimetres average annual precipitation, mainly in winter and spring). Many high mountains consist of barren ground, glaciers and other environments inhospitable to humans, but home to wild animals such as the Marco Polo sheep and the snow leopard. Mountains with more favorable climatic conditions possess fine grasslands and forests.

Kazakh uplands stretch for more than 1 000 kilometres from west to east and feature numerous hills and mountains up to 1 500 metres above sea level. Several rivers of central Kazakhstan, including the Ishim, Nura, Sarysu, Silety and others, originate here. Numerous salty and freshwater lakes dot the uplands.

The Kopet-Dag, also known as the Turkmen-Khorasan Mountain Range, run along the border of Turkmenistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, a region characterized by foothills, dry and sandy slopes, mountain plateaus and steep ravines. The highest Kopet-Dag peak in Turkmenistan stands southwest of the capital, Ashgabat, at 2 940 meters. The country's highest elevation is 3 137 metres in the Kugitang range. Turkmen mountains are famous for their deep and spectacular caves and dinosaur footprints.

Arable lands occupy less than 0.5 per cent of the total area in the Tajik Pamirs, and pastures another 12.0 per cent. In the Tien Shan Mountains of Kyrgyzstan, the proportion of pastures and arable lands is higher. Only half of Kyrgyzstan's land area and less than one third of Tajikistan's land area is suitable for agriculture, mainly for grazing. Croplands and gardens occupy less than 7 and 5 per cent of their land areas, respectively. Other lands are considered not suitable for agriculture due to harsh climate, poor soils, the predominance of rocks and glaciers. Nevertheless, a majority of the mountain communities of Central Asia practice agriculture – principally cultivating cereals and vegetables, gardening, collecting forest products and extensive livestock grazing on a wide range of pastures. Tourism, mining and trade form important economic sectors that have been gathering momentum in the mountain regions over the past 20 years. Infrastructure development has likewise experienced growth. All of these activities contribute to the revival of the ancient Silk Road in the modern age of globalization.

## 1.3 Trends in the Central Asia mountain regions over the past 20 years

To the people of the Central Asian mountain communities, the array of forces affecting their lives must seem at times as diverse and powerful as the mountains themselves. As a result of geopolitical forces, five new countries faced the transition to independence and national governance and all that that implies. The 20-year transition period coincided with a period of rapid technological development and globalization and a growing awareness of global environmental changes related to climate, biodiversity and land degradation. New requirements for security arose out of international and regional conflicts over governance, ethnic differences and resources. Socio-economic forces added to the mix as new demographic and labour market realities emerged, and changes in the ownership and control of land and other vital natural resources took effect. And all of this played out in the context of the environmental degradation and the limited capacity to respond that were the legacies of the former Soviet Union.

All of the changes resulting from these forces affect mountain communities. And everything, it seems, is connected. One example can demonstrate the point: Global climate change affects glaciers, precipitation patterns and the timing of snowmelt. The water resource consequences may entail disruptions in allocations and affect multiple users. This situation raises the issues of resource distribution and ownership, and poses challenges to governance and, in some cases, international relations. Water resource

allocation decisions have implications for individual livelihoods and economic development in such sectors as tourism, energy production and agriculture. Competing demands may exacerbate urban–rural conflicts or conflicts over scarce natural resources.

The following subsections identify the trends at work in Central Asia, and make links among them. But as the climate change example shows, the connections are numerous, and any attempt to exhaust the possible permutations would be futile. Some of these trends will likely continue or intensify while others may fade. The effects of the trends are both positive and negative, sometimes both at the same time, and progress in the mountains can be characterized as a series of forward and backward steps. Policymakers and stakeholders can decide for themselves the lessons to take from the events of the past 20 years as they try to adjust to the driving forces in order to maximize the benefits for mountain communities.

Arguably, the mountain communities of Central Asia are more sensitive to social, political and environmental changes than are lowland communities, and while they remain marginalized and remote, their self-reliance and resilience may help them seize the opportunities that changes bring. By becoming more proactive and communicating their views widely, and by learning from each other, mountain communities may be able to ride the wave of change to a more stable, prosperous and sustainable future.

## Geopolitical Changes

### 1.3.1 Independence and the transition to national governance

Situated between the Russian Federation, Iran, Afghanistan and China, Central Asia was a unified area under the Soviet Union with a common heritage in terms of language (Russian in combination with national languages), culture, education and infrastructure, and with unified energy, water, agricultural and industrial systems and road connections.

Following the disintegration of the Soviet Union in 1991, all the former Soviet Republics of Central Asia declared their national independence, thus ushering in a new political era characterized by diverse systems of national governance, inherited and emerging economic development bases and differing strategic visions. The task of political and economic transformation fell mostly on the same authorities who had been Communist party leaders and members. In 2011, all the Central Asian nations celebrated 20 years of national independence – a shared historical milestone. At the same time, they continue to develop at very different speeds along increasingly different paths.

Prior to 1992 the newly independent Central Asian nations had no experience with democratic governance or market economies. The energy-rich and industrialized countries – Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan – enjoyed large capital inflows into energy and industrial projects and invested new profits in the housing sector and infrastructure development, especially the expansion and rebuilding of the capital cities of Astana, Tashkent and Ashgabat.

The withdrawal of Soviet support hit remote mountain communities in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan particularly hard, and a downward development spiral continued from 1991 into the late 1990s. For most of the 1990s, turbulent changes rocked the densely populated areas and spread to the mountain villages of Central Asia where economic collapse and the loss of job opportunities followed the end of orders and subsidies from the Soviet government. Gross national products fell in just five years by almost 50 per cent, and the new states were unable to maintain funding for such priority needs as education, health and pensions. Only after 15 years of recovery have the economies approached their 1991–1992 levels, but the countries' total external debt has increased. By end of 2011, the external public debt exceeded US\$ 2.7 billion in Kyrgyzstan and US\$ 2.2 billion in Tajikistan. The peak of the public debt servicing is forecast for 2015–2020 when in addition to the interest on loans the countries will have to repay the principle.

Financial dependency on Moscow has been steadily declining, but Russia still plays an important role in the economies of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan both directly – through the provision of loans and funding for infrastructure and industrial projects – and indirectly through opening its markets for labour migrants and traditional agricultural products (wool, cotton, fruits and vegetables). Under the Soviet agricultural system, orders from central authorities determined agricultural specialties and crop patterns. After a period of disruption that included undernourishment in mountain villages, a new system of self-management took root, and in the last 5–10 years the mountain farmers have become more self-reliant. The Kyrgyz and Tajik economies have been growing over the last 10 years as a result of increased agricultural production, expansion of services and trade, favourable world markets for gold and aluminum and soaring remittances from labour migrants abroad. Reducing dependency on the state, catalysing initiative and promoting an entrepreneurial spirit entailed a major change in the mentality for both people and institutions.

A period of regional and global cooperation followed the post-Soviet era with Central Asian governments demonstrating a general willingness to cultivate closer relationships between each other and with their regional neighbours and global players. Participation in the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), the Eurasian Economic Community (EurAsEC), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the International Foundation for Saving the Aral Sea (IFAS) are some examples of this wider cooperation, as is the progress toward World Trade Organization (WTO) membership. In Central Asia only Kyrgyzstan is a WTO member, joining in 1998. Through the initiative of Kyrgyzstan, the UN declared the International Year of Mountains in 2002 and supported the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit in 2002, and through the initiative of Tajikistan, the International Year Freshwater in 2003.

Uzbekistan, of all the Central Asian States, has retained a system of central planning and management most like the Soviet style. Strong political and economic control is still a dominant characteristic of the country, and the Uzbek government is striving to increase levels of international trade and aiming to become the regional leader in terms of population and agricultural and industrial production capacity, much like in the Soviet era.

Kazakhstan has similar aspirations. A country rich in oil, gas and mineral reserves, Kazakhstan has experienced an influx of foreign investment leading to a rapid rise in wealth that has brought both challenges and new opportunities. As the bridge between Europe and Asia, Kazakhstan is also working hard to raise the standing and prestige of the country on the international stage by chairing the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in 2010, and by hosting events such as the 2011 Asian Winter Games, the 2010 Asia-Pacific and the 2011 Pan-European Environmental Conferences and other high-level business and political meetings. Kazakhstan has recently put forward a "Green Bridge" environmental initiative which will be featured at the Rio Summit in 2012. In addition, the ambitious strategic development plan, "Kazakhstan 2020", sets major economic and social targets for the country.

Turkmenistan's abundant hydrocarbon resources are fuelling the country's rapid economic growth and the modernization of its economy, particularly in the textile, food and construction industries. The state controls strategic farming sectors such as cotton and wheat production, but private farmers grow most of the fruits and vegetables, and manage the livestock. The government provides free electricity, natural gas, water and subsidies for many services and consumer products, but political and media freedoms and civil society participation in decision-making in Turkmenistan are tightly regulated.

Following the breakup of the Soviet Union all of the countries in Central Asia experienced a period of upheaval in the transition to market economies, but Kyrgyzstan is the only one to experience three periods of major political change: the demise of the government of President Askar Akaev in 2005; the demise of the government of President Kurmanbek Bakiev in 2010; and the establishment of a parliamentary democracy with the President having fewer powers than the Prime Minister and the National Parliament. Arguably, the demand for change that fuelled the "tulip revolutions" in Kyrgyzstan started in the Naryn and Talas mountains, where the people saw a role for themselves in decision-making at the individual, village and country levels. The open spirit that exists in the mountains provided an environment where the people felt free to express their ideas for reform, and the small population and its remoteness from urban centres meant that central government exerted little influence on mountain affairs. The rapid economic changes, including growing energy tariffs without adequate social safeguards for the impoverished mountain areas, and the widespread corruption of the central and provincial authorities further fuelled the uprising. The benefits of political reform in Kyrgyzstan have come at a cost – dozens of lives were lost, and in the absence of

political stability, mountain initiatives languished and investors looked for opportunities in countries with more stable regimes.

At present, some observers point out that Kyrgyzstan is more democratically advanced ("liberal") and decentralized than its neighbours. Political parties play a role in the parliament and government, and local and provincial authorities have the autonomy necessary to conduct their own affairs. Government ministries are required to consult with public advisory councils, which include representatives of youth, non-governmental organizations, well-known experts, citizens and representatives from the private sector. These councils provide information to the ministries regarding government services and their participation may improve efficiency and increase accountability. Under the new system and the governing legislation, mountain communities can assert their preference that taxes raised on mining operations directly benefit, at least in part, the local communities.

Strict and effective enforcement of the central government prerogatives was a hallmark of the Soviet system, but the transition to independence came with an exodus from the new Central Asian republics of the European settlers (Russian, Ukrainians, Germans and others) who had managed the enforcement bureaucracy and chiefly guided industrialization. This loss of experienced managers and engineers led to some initial problems with both enforcement and engineering skills, but as new national managers and specialists gained experience, the situation began to stabilize. In Kyrgyzstan, the shortage of skills and money combined with major political shakeups meant that enforcement efforts could not keep up with the rapid pace of the new legislation passed to respond to evolving local needs and ambitions. One effect of this diminished enforcement capacity was that authorities, businesses and communities had difficulty keeping up with all the changes. As part of their expanding role, NGOs now initiate legislation and actively encourage enforcement of environmental laws on such matters as pastures, mining, forests, energy efficiency and environmental audits, among others.

Tajikistan, in contrast, continues to rely on a system with an authoritarian approach to governing. The legislative process is less transparent and less inclusive, and has no practical mechanism for accepting feedback. Decentralization and self-governance in Tajikistan is not as advanced as in Kyrgyzstan, but stronger control and less diverse legislation make enforcement easier to manage.

The village councils that existed in the early 1990s were inherited from the Soviet era. With little experience in strategic management, these councils found their responsibilities in the new political and economic realities to be challenging. As the decade progressed, the village organizations evolved into stronger, though still informal, bodies for local decision-making on routine and strategic matters, and for planning village development. By the turn of the century, village organizations had demonstrated their efficiency and effectiveness, and were becoming well established, especially in the Pamir Mountains of Tajikistan. They are now self-reliant and independent, and enjoy widespread support as they face the challenge of maintaining and improving the management skills necessary to respond to the rapidly changing world around them.

### 1.3.2 New international borders

The revision of national boundaries following the emergence of the independent states of Central Asia created new international border entry points, and the opening up of airspace increased the scope for international flights and international tourism. The visually apparent definition of borders became a top priority after independence, and with the new political landscape came more border restrictions – customs, immigration and security checkpoints. Security concerns led to an increase in defensive or fortified installations such as fences, trenches and even areas with land mines. These developments have constrained the movement of goods and people, especially the nomadic mountain people who have traditionally moved both vertically and horizontally through the mountains of the region.

The creation of new borders has also altered the ownership status of previously shared pastures, forests and watersheds. Moreover, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan have given up parts of their mountain territories to China to settle border disputes, much to the consternation of the affected communities. As a result, some mountain dwellers have had to relocate – some to lowland areas – and settle in new conditions that do not meet their previous standards. Negotiations over some areas still in dispute continue.

In some cases the new borders have resulted in increased travel time. Prior to independence, if the direct route between travelers' points of origin and their destinations crossed the borders of Soviet republics, the travelers could pass as if no border existed. Now, where international crossings are restricted, the same trips may entail long detours to avoid the borders. For poorer mountain countries and communities this change is more than an inconvenience. The new routes require expensive improvements in the existing road system or the construction of the new roads and tunnels, an economic burden the countries can ill afford. The longer distances simultaneously add to travel time and expense and reduce efficiency.

The increase in the number of borders has created a competitive disadvantage for the mountain countries in terms of international trade in perishable goods. Each border crossing entails customs clearances, adding time in transit, and the additional time – to say nothing of the costs – is particularly a problem in the export of fresh food where time is of the essence. The mountain countries are more affected because they face more border crossings to get their produce to foreign markets. Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan share borders with China, and could avoid the multiple border problem with exports to the Chinese, but China is not recipient of Central Asian produce.

Mountain enclaves – essentially islands of one country inside another – first appeared on maps in the Soviet period, and existed only on paper. No one paid any attention to these borders, but they persist as a Soviet legacy, and are making an already difficult life harder. With the advent of border fences and land mines, these isolated communities have become even more isolated. The restricted access also affects movement in the surrounding country as travel within national boundaries now entails detours around the mountain enclaves.

One of the most problematic regions is the Ferghana Valley shared by Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, where people historically traded broadly across borders. With the new restrictions, opportunities for local trade and labour markets have significantly declined, while at the same time corruption has flourished due to a growing shadow economy and illegal trade. Additionally, episodes of shelling of civilians by the border guards caused a wave of local public indignation.

Physical borders – fences and trenches, for example – restrict the movements of migratory animals, and may adversely affect the populations of some species as their migration patterns are disrupted. Conversely, where there are no physical borders, stock from one country may follow old grazing patterns that take them across the new borders into another country where they may be appropriated never to return to their owners. In places where border control is strict, the formerly common economic space, including agricultural land, is now divided, and one of the benefits has been the reduced pressure on pastures that no longer receive stock from what is now another country. In addition, many watersheds once held in common have become international, and what was once a matter for one country has become much more administratively complicated.

After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia continued for some time to protect the border with Afghanistan with the same level of guards and military presence as before, but gradually reduced its presence and military assistance. The richer lowland countries with gentle landscapes have been able to maintain a reasonably high level of border security, but the rugged mountainous landscape and limited financial and military resources of Tajikistan have meant that border protection between the Tajik Pamirs and the Afghan Hindu Kush remains a continuing challenge. Inadequate control in the mountain regions of the Tajik–Afghan border has led to increased security risks including the intrusion of armed troops and the trafficking in drugs. Joint efforts by the Afghan International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and the Collective Security Treaty Organization have improved border security, but drug trafficking remains a destabilizing force in the mountain territories.

These challenges to border security notwithstanding, Tajikistan and Afghanistan can celebrate the development of friendship bridges between the two countries. These new bridges encourage the exchange of goods and services, and benefit both sides.

As part of its sensitivity to border issues with China and Afghanistan, the Soviet Union restricted movement near the borders in the mountain territories. After independence, Kyrgyzstan lifted the restrictions, but they remain in force in Tajikistan where outside businesses and travelers need special permission to operate in the Pamir Mountains and non-local individuals need special access permits to travel there. This policy is a constraint on commerce.

### 1.3.3 Political and economic influences

The transition to independence entailed the shift from one player – the Soviet Union – to a multitude of players, among them: five new states; numerous NGOs and advocacy groups; bilateral and multilateral aid institutions; community groups; and vastly expanding numbers of businesses and farms. The participation of all these new players altered the dynamics of development.

Russia is a long-standing partner of the mountain countries of Central Asia. The main areas of cooperation cover peace-keeping and border security, trade and energy. Russia receives most of the labour migrants from Central Asia's mountain areas, and is the main export destination for their agricultural products. Russia supplies Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan with technology, fuel, wood and investment in hydropower projects, and provides soft loans.

China's rise on the global stage and its dominance in international trade has changed the patterns of business and trade in Central Asia. Foreign investment and infrastructure development projects increasingly come not from the West or from Russia, but from China, and political relations are changing in the region in concert with economic ties and trade. Among the technologies China now provides to the region are those related to mining, manufacturing, agriculture, power production and construction, and Chinese nationals are found among the mining communities and trade bazaars in the mountains. Some Chinese food exports now compete with specialized mountain products, and the lower cost and out-of-season availability of the Chinese products place mountain growers at a disadvantage. As an importer, China receives gold, raw materials and fossil fuels from the Central Asian countries.

The Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) and Switzerland have been the main sources of aid for the mountain communities of Central Asia from the beginning of the transition to independence up to the present, and although both sources have reduced their humanitarian aid from previous levels, they continue to provide follow-up assistance. The AKDN provided aid across a range of functions, and concentrated on mountain farmers in Tajikistan where they still provide food assistance and guidance on reforms. (See section 2.6 for more information on the work of the Aga Khan in Central Asia.) Switzerland divided its attention equally between Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan offering country-to-country aid on security, peace-building, disaster risk reduction, sustainable agriculture and forestry and economic development. Both players have also been proactive in mountain education, health and research. Switzerland provided initial support to the Central Asian Mountain Partnership (CAMP), which over the last decade has influenced and promoted the exchange of local and national mountain development good practices.

The European Union, the United States, Japan, Turkey, Iran and other individual countries have provided bilateral aid in the form of targeted interventions, and the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the World Bank (WB), the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations have provided multilateral assistance for economic and social reforms at all levels, and for natural resource management in the mountains. The multilateral aid has contributed to the development of policies and institutions through sustainable development and sectoral strategies for agriculture, water and energy. The ADB specifically assisted in the development of national and regional sustainable mountain development strategies and a regional environmental action plan in the early 2000s.

The regional organizations that deal with environmental issues in Central Asia – the International Foundation for Saving the Aral Sea, for example – form the basis for continuing regional cooperation on sustainable development. (Section 1.5 discusses institutions and governance in the region, and Part 2 includes numerous case studies involving the new players in the region.)

Global Environmental Changes, Globalization and Technology

### 1.3.4 The effects of climate change

Weather records confirm that the surface temperatures in Central Asia are rising. In the mountains of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, temperatures have increased by 0.3°C–1.2°C in the last 50–70 years, depending on the location. Almost everywhere, climate warming in winter is more pronounced than in other seasons. A slight increase in precipitation has occurred in the mountains of Uzbekistan, the northern Tien Shan and the Western Pamir. In contrast, the central parts of the Tien Shan and the Eastern Pamir have experienced decreases in precipitation.

Under likely climate change scenarios for Central Asia, average temperatures are expected to increase by 1°C–3°C by 2050, and, if the global greenhouse gas emissions are unmitigated, could rise by 3°C–6°C by the end of the century. Scientists also project that climate change will reduce precipitation in the southern parts of Central Asia. The precise local impact these weather changes may have, especially in the mountains, is unknown.

The health effects of climate change can be serious. Climate warming and heat stress contribute to cardiovascular disease, increased risk of malaria outbreaks and intestinal infections (typhoid, salmonellosis, dysentery, helminthiasis) due to heavy rainfall combined with inappropriate communal water supply and sanitation.

As independence altered the political landscape, global warming is changing the physical landscape, and the points of reference that define some borders in mountain regions are on the move. In the Alps, for example, retreating glaciers, melting permafrost and the resulting landslides are changing the mountain morphology. Some of the glacial ridges that were used as border-defining reference points have moved, and Swiss and Italian officials are working to redefine their border. Central Asia can expect similar changes throughout its mountain border regions.

Central Asian mountain dwellers and hikers have already reported visible changes in frequently visited glaciers. Many mountain paths that were reliable 30 years ago have disappeared or changed beyond recognition. The surface of many glaciers has thinned and their ice bodies are increasingly covered with lakes and debris. Numerous low-altitude glaciers smaller than 0.5 square kilometres have totally melted. Today's rate of glacier loss in Central Asia is 0.5–1.0 per cent per year, and in the last 50–60 years, between 15 per cent and 35 per cent of the Tien Shan and Pamir glaciers have melted, depending on location, size and elevation. This trend is comparable to ice reduction in the European Alps, the Caucasus and the Himalayas, and these trends are confirmed by the professional glaciological and meteorological monitoring.

The degradation of the large Fedchenko glacier in central Tajikistan provides more vivid evidence of climate warming. The glacier, which exceeds 70 kilometres in length and two kilometres in width, shrank by one kilometre in length during the twentieth century, and substantially thinned. In Kazakhstan, the surface and the ice volume of the Tyuyksu glacier, which is the only remaining reference site in Central Asia reporting to the World Glacial Monitoring Service, shrank by more than 30 per cent in the last 50 years, receded by one kilometre and lost more than 40 million cubic metres of ice. This glacier is one of the main sources of water for Almaty, the largest city of Kazakhstan.

Petrov Glacier in the north Akshirak massif of central Kyrgyzstan, where the country's main gold mine, Kumtor, is located, shrank by almost two kilometres in the past 50 years. A large glacial lake with a surface area of four square kilometres and water volume of 60 million cubic metres has formed on top of its terminal moraine and is spreading steadily. Glacial dam stability, lake levels and permafrost thawing all increase the risk of flooding and its impacts on downstream infrastructure in the upper Naryn.

The mountain snow cover that plays a critical role in the water cycle and in the existence of glaciers is also slowly disappearing. Over the past 20 years, the seasonal snow-covered area of the Tien Shan has decreased by as much as 15 per cent. In summer, rain instead of snow appears more often in the mountains, even at high

elevations. Since snow melt and rainfall are the two main sources of water runoff from the mountains of Central Asia, these climate change effects will largely determine the availability of water.

The World Bank has recently given the highest vulnerability rank to the two mountain countries of Central Asia – Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan – among 28 nations of Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. This ranking is based on current climate variability and the potential impacts on natural disasters (droughts, floods) that exacerbate sustainable development challenges in the areas of poverty and food security, infrastructure, energy and agriculture. Moreover, the high level of male labour migration makes women in rural areas highly vulnerable to shocks from crop failures, heatwaves and natural disasters. A consideration of this situation led to Tajikistan's selection for participation in the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience. (See section 2.3.1 for details.)

In scenarios of strong climate warming and lack of precipitation, water resources in the main rivers would fall by 15– 40 per cent. With less fresh water and land suitable for agricultural use, people will have to move to places where they can survive. Droughts and crop failures will push inhabitants of the rainfed mountain areas and pastures towards cities and irrigated oases. Water is a key resource for both agricultural production and electricity generation in the region, and competition for the control of this vital resource is likely to increase as river flows decline.

As mountain countries, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan will probably have enough water for their own needs but may not be able to meet demand in their role as regional water towers. Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as downstream states with extensive irrigated agriculture and high dependence on external water supplies, may suffer the most from a water deficit. In the longer term, regional water resources are under threat. In the next two to four decades the water flow in the Amu Darya and Zeravshan may be reduced by 10–15 per cent and in the Syr Darya by 5 per cent.

The good news is that in spite of reductions in glacier size and volume, the flows of Central Asia rivers have not yet changed significantly. In selected river basins, the intensified glacier and permafrost melting has even increased the discharge of some rivers, while runoff from glacier-free river basins has dropped slightly. Some experts suggest that rock glaciers and high-altitude permafrost contain amounts of frozen water comparable to the ice in mountain glaciers and therefore can compensate for the adverse effects of climate change. But the current trend towards low-water years, as water levels are reaching extreme minimums, is worrying. Such a situation occurred in the Amu Darya basin in 2000, 2001 and 2008. The severe 2000–2001 drought in southern Central Asia may provide a glimpse of the future. During that drought Tajikistan and Afghanistan experienced a failure in rainfed crops and pasture productivity, while water shortages affected the lower reaches of the Amu Darya far from the mountains, especially Karakalpakstan in Uzbekistan. In 2008, hydrological drought and extreme cold in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, combined with the vulnerability of the energy sector, rising food prices and lower access to remittances, created a serious food and energy crisis. Damages amounted to about US\$ 250 million in Tajikistan alone. In the context of changing climate and drought impacts, mountain countries are pursuing expansion of large and small water storage facilities.

Climate change is increasingly becoming a factor defining the future conditions of mountain ecosystems and adds to ongoing environmental pressures on sensitive habitats, flora and fauna. Vegetation succession can be observed at many alpine sites that were covered by glaciers until recently. Droughts, a more arid climate and the reduction of water flow in the rivers all affect aquatic and tugai floodplain forest ecosystems. The areas annually affected by locusts (mostly in southern parts of Central Asia) significantly increased. Pest attacks in southern Tajikistan in 2003– 2005 halved the cotton harvest in the hardest-hit districts. Climate change has amplified the risks of forest fires and the spread of forest diseases, and scientists warn that the mountain forests of Kazakhstan will be exposed to significant fire risks in dry years due to the impacts of heatwaves. The past 15 years featured particularly high numbers of, and large mountain areas affected by, forest fires.

Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have the lowest greenhouse gas emissions in Central Asia (1–2 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per person per year), mostly because hydropower is their main energy source and they produce and consume only small amounts of fossil fuel. In addition, after the Soviet Union disintegrated in 1991, both countries experienced significant economic and industrial decline and an energy crisis. Their total greenhouse emissions in 2005 were reduced to 33–40 per cent of their peak emissions in 1990–1991. Mountain forests and tree plantations in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan collectively absorb more than 1.5 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> annually, about 10–15 per cent of the country's total CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. The capital cities and densely populated valleys contribute most of the emissions in these countries. In contrast, energy-rich Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan have reasonably high greenhouse emissions per capita (12–14 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per person per year), high total emissions and a lower carbon absorption share.

### 1.3.5 Natural disasters

Climate change could amplify the risk of floods, mudflows and landslides in the mountains, including glacier-related hazards. There has been a series of glacial outburst floods in the mountains of Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan, making it even more urgent to monitor these hazards. With the melting of glaciers, glacial lakes appear every summer in the mountains. Some of them grow significantly and, if contained by unstable moraines, they occasionally burst and release large amounts of water in destructive flash floods, sometimes with serious impacts on life and property.

Almost 1 000 glacial lakes exist in the mountains of Central Asia. Annually, dozens of potentially risky glacial lakes appear in the mountainous areas above Almaty, Bishkek and Tashkent cities, around Lake Issyk-Kul and the densely populated Ferghana Valley, and in the narrow Pamir-Alai valleys. Experts suggest that climate change is likely to increase this number. There have already been deadly floods in the past 15 years, including in the Shahmardan (Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, 1998), Dasht (Tajikistan, 2002) and Issyk-Kul (2008) valleys.

Some large mountain lakes, such as Tajikistan's Lake Sarez, which formed in 1911 as the result of a rock slide in the central Pamir mountains, represent a serious risk. Situated at an elevation of 3 000 metres, the lake is over 60 kilometres long, almost 500 metres deep and contains 17 cubic kilometres of water. A new rockslide into the lake could form a high wave, and depending on its volume, the season and the location of the slide, this wave could cause a destructive flood. The water level in the lake is likely to grow due to intensified glacier and permafrost melt caused by climate warming. Lake Sarez has received high international attention, and a sophisticated monitoring and early warning system has been installed with support from Switzerland and the World Bank.

In Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, average annual economic losses from natural disasters reach 1.0–1.5 per cent of GDP (equivalent to US\$ 25–30 million). Estimates foresee that in some years the impact will reach 5 per cent of GDP. A recent assessment of Kazakhstan's climate vulnerability indicates that areas most at risk from climate change and natural disasters are the mountains and adjacent lowland provinces. Mountain regions in Central Asia experience recurrent and devastating earthquakes: Almaty city in 1910, Ashgabat city in 1948, Tashkent city in 1966, and numerous high mountain villages of Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have all suffered major loss of life and damage to property. Earthquakes cause the largest number of deaths from natural disasters in Central Asia, followed by floods and landslides, while recent droughts affected the largest number of people, causing substantial economic losses and food insecurity. Agronomic practices are often inappropriate for sustainable land management and drought resilience in mountains, and the lack of agricultural advisory services and adequate meteorological forecasts for the mountain areas hamper their development potential.

The mountains of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan around the Ferghana Valley served the Soviet Union as important sources of uranium ore, mercury, antimony and other metals. The legacy of past mining operations remains in hazardous waste sites that are often located in weather-sensitive, flood-prone locations near towns and along rivers and drainage zones. Pollutant spills and natural disasters in this and other mountain areas could affect a population far beyond the people living in the vicinity, and could lead to profound transboundary effects.

The next decade or two offer a window of opportunity to ensure that mountain development become more resilient and less vulnerable to climate change. This effort will

require improvements in water resource management and land use, as well as in biodiversity protection, and will benefit from improvements in addressing environmental pollution, and a strengthening of interstate cooperation on disaster forecasting and mitigation. Most climate change and natural disaster effects have transboundary dimensions, and regional cooperation among the responsible state agencies, the civil and scientific community and international humanitarian organizations is essential to the development of an effective response. Disasters pose a serious obstacle for sustainable development and could tighten the existing social and economic constraints. The reduction of vulnerability is a key element of the sustainable development process.

### 1.3.6 Dwindling biodiversity

With the abrupt end of the Soviet era, the people in the Kyrgyz and Tajik mountains faced sudden poverty and the risk of famine, and responded by hunting wild animals for meat and trophies. The increase in hunting placed a corresponding increase in the pressures on wildlife. The cessation of Soviet supplies of solid and liquid fuels to the Tien Shan and Pamir Mountain communities had similar consequences – woody biomass and dried dung became major sources of energy for cooking and heating, and the widespread collection of slow-growing shrubs, such as artemisia and teresken (*Ceratoides papposa*), as well as forest cuttings throughout the 1990s and into the early 2000s have diminished mountain land cover and biodiversity. Fires and pest attacks on mountain forests due to limited controls and hot, dry weather conditions destroyed and damaged significant forested areas, especially in Kazakhstan.

Many grasslands have been affected by the overgrazing of 20 years ago. During the economic transition, the number of livestock initially declined, and herding practices centred around settlements. This development led to overuse of so-called winter and autumn pastures in the low mountains near populated areas as the regular fodder supply was no longer available or affordable to most households. At the same time, the conditions of summer pastures in the high mountains improved, but the growth of unpalatable grasses and shrubs increased. Currently, throughout the region animal stock is increasing. But the new pasture legislation and regulations developed in Kyrgyzstan that combine a scientific approach (carrying capacity of pastures) with economic tools (pasture use tickets) and community participation pave the way for more sustainable approaches in livestock herding.

A notable exception to the general decline in livestock populations was the dramatic increase in the numbers of goats, and the extensive grazing of goats added significantly to the grazing pressures already spreading to mountain forests. In combination with the other unsustainable forest uses – illegal cutting for fuel or sale and forest clearing in floodplains by mining projects – these pressures resulted in the near extinction of medicinal and rare plants and animals important both locally and globally. The development of sustainable forestry practices over the last decade has turned the tide, and the collection of medicinal plants and non-timber forest products is now better organized. Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan protect most of their mountain forests and prohibit timber felling, and Kyrgyzstan gives communities responsibilities and incentives to take care of fruit and nut forests. (Section 2.2.4 provides more detailed information.)

The condition of the ecosystems of the mountain lakes in Kyrgyzstan is alarming. Lake Issyk-Kul, with a surface area of 6 236 square kilometers the region's largest mountain lake, is among those threatened by overfishing and alien species. Just four to five decades ago, Issyk-Kul was a flourishing fishing ground and the country's most popular holiday destination. In the last decade, however, fisheries declined to negligible levels, and the government banned all fishing here in 2003. In spite of this, thousands of illegal fishing nets are detected annually. Endemic fish species previously abundant in the lake have now become endangered. Issyk-Kul is on the Ramsar Convention's list of globally significant wetlands and forms the core of a biosphere reserve. The restoration of the lake's ecosystem depends in large part on the restocking of the lake with juvenile endemic fish from hatcheries and on tighter control of illegal fishing.

In the Soviet era, professional agronomists assisted mountain farmers in the selection, development and maintenance of agricultural species – both animal and vegetable – adapted for the local mountain environment. The enrichment of agricultural biodiversity resulting from these efforts is now threatened by the pressures to compete in global markets, and the genetic diversity of the local food base is at risk. Because the arable land is so limited, the promise of higher production and maximum output led to the replacement of old species with new ones, and some of the old local varieties are disappearing or being underused. An untested new variety may be vulnerable to a crop disease that could wipe it out, and the unavailability or loss of the old variety leaves the farmer with limited options.

Each new variety requires maintenance, and some new varieties work out and some do not. In the absence of rigorous maintenance, the risks and uncertainties are growing. In addition, some crop varieties new to the mountains may require chemical fertilizers to thrive in the environment, adding environmental pressures and production costs and reducing profits.

In the Kyrgyzstan stock sector, which benefited from the special attention of the Soviets, some sheep species have disappeared in the switch from wool to meat production over the last 10–20 years. On the other hand, milk-and meat-producing cattle have been replaced by breeds better adapted to mountain conditions. In the 1980s, in an effort to crack down on the problem of alcoholism, and at the initiative of the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, many vines and some gardens were eliminated in Kyrgyzstan. Plantations in Tajikistan also suffered. The echo of that campaign still reverberates today.

Alien species and genetically modified organisms (GMOs) are threats to biodiversity everywhere, but mountain environments, in view of the narrow range of habitats, are particularly vulnerable. The introduction of alien species is a risk associated with the increasing accessibility of roads, higher levels of trade and globalization, and farmers may introduce GMOs unintentionally or in the interests of higher production. In neither case do mountain communities have the capacity to manage the situation or to detect the problems that may ensue. Habitats may change in response to the introduction of alien species or GMOs, to new grazing patterns or crop selections and even to new ownership, and any of these changes to habitats affects biodiversity.

The region is taking a strong positive step with participation in the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity 10-year strategic Aichi plan for enhanced cooperation on biodiversity and benefit-sharing. The plan aims to preserve natural areas and to protect endangered species.

### 1.3.7 Land degradation

Concerns over food security promoted the growth in rainfed crop cultivation in the mountain areas, especially in Tajikistan. This cultivation often increased soil erosion on steep slopes. Overgrazing near mountain villages across Kyrgyzstan and the collection of teresken bush for fuel in the Eastern Pamirs exposed these mountain territories to a high risk of desertification. Soil compaction, reduction of vegetative cover and increased erosion of mountain slopes also contribute to higher sediment formation and silt loading of the rivers with implications for the useful life and effectiveness of the reservoirs and irrigation canals and the operation of hydroelectric turbines.

### 1.3.8 Roads, rails and international trade

The expansion of the road system through the improvement of national roads and the addition of new international roads has increased the accessibility to remote mountain areas. This new accessibility has brought both additional pressures from visitors and from business development, and new income opportunities in terms of tourism and hospitality and the trade of native products. The increase in the number of people who have cars has improved mobility and connectivity, but has also brought increased risks to previously unreachable mountain ecosystems, and the additional traffic has contributed to environmental noise and air pollution. Moreover, traffic accidents on the roads of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan result in 500–2 000 deaths per year and in numerous injuries.

Better construction technology has produced less expensive and more reliable roads as well as new tunnels that provide mountain communities with year-round access and that reduce commuting time – in some cases by as much as half. These improvements mean that mountain communities can now rely on outside suppliers even in winter. It is

a dramatic improvement, considering that only 15–20 years ago Tajikistan was separated into three isolated parts in the winter due to lack of year-round roads and to difficult alternative routes. Most of this new expansion is sponsored by Chinese investment or the Asian Development Bank, and managed by Chinese companies. In Kyrgyzstan, the main roads are rapidly improving, but marginal and remote mountain districts – such as the Chatkal Valley – remain isolated. Local communities hope that with the mining boom in the area, infrastructure and the valley's accessibility will gradually improve.

In Tajikistan, a new road from the capital, Dushanbe, to the northern province of Sogd has caused controversy. Fifty kilometres of this nationally important road are already rebuilt to international standards, and plans call for a total of 300 kilometres, but the development of the road occurred without regard to local concerns. The tolls on the road are prohibitive for locals, and there is no alternative route. Despite the recent change to differentiated scales for the different types of road users, dissatisfaction among the locals remains high, and further progress may be stymied.

Air access in the mountains was better in the Soviet era when fuel was cheaper and small aircraft were in service. The infrastructure for this air service is still available, but it is no longer a cost-effective way to travel or transport goods. An exception to this trend is the Issyk-Kul airport, which Kyrgyzstan recently completed to serve the international tourism that is growing in importance.

Mountain countries are also seeking the development of rail systems both for transport independence and for international trade. Transit countries – those between two destinations – stand to benefit from China's growing role in the region. Both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan are discussing the possibilities of rail connections with China, but controversies have arisen. One option is for the countries to finance the developments with loans that may strain national budgets. The cost of a 270-kilometre railroad from the Chinese border through Kyrgyzstan to Uzbekistan is estimated at US\$ two billion. A second option is for the governments to give up mineral deposits to China in exchange for rail (and road) investments. Here the controversies are whether the exchange can be of equal value and whether the local communities involved would prefer to retain the land for traditional purposes.

Another controversy is over the dimension of the rails – whether to follow the Chinese (and Western European) standard or the Soviet standard already in place in Central Asia. This matter is currently subject to expert discussions and lively public debate. The resolution of this issue will in all likelihood also determine who provides the equipment and maintenance for the new system. If these issues are not enough of a challenge, there is the technical challenge that the mountains in this region are moving at a rate of several centimetres per year. The implications for rail and tunnel construction and maintenance are apparent.

The Central Asian mountain countries seeking to develop international trade by expanding roads and rails may find support for their rationale in the Swiss experience. Switzerland has built tunnels and improved roads largely for the benefit of international trade.

In Kyrgyzstan, the opening of roads to China, in combination with attractive local conditions with regard to labour, taxes, customs, trade regulations and connectivity, led to the development about 20 years ago of the Dordoi market near Bishkek. Currently the largest market in Central Asia, Dordoi covers 100 hectares, and offers 10 000 containers with 40 000 trading outlets. The local employment generated by the market is hard to estimate, but probably exceeds 50 000 jobs. The current total turnover surpasses US\$ 330 million per month, or US\$ 4 billion per year. In the suburbs of the southern Kyrgyz ancient trading city of Osh, the second largest market, Kara-Suu, has 10 000 trading outlets and turnover of US\$ 0.8–1.0 billion per year. Before the global financial crisis of 2008, the annual turnover of the Kyrgyz bazaars reached US\$ 7 billion per year. Almost anything that is used by individuals is traded here – from cheap Chinese-made clothing and electronics to cars and name-brand products. Markets in Kyrgyzstan are not just major shopping and employment centres, but also the main transit points through which goods from China move to Kazakhstan, Russia, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. This re-export is one of the largest economic activities of Kyrgyzstan and in recent years imports from China to Kyrgyzstan climbed to US\$ 5–9 billion per year, exceeding the country GDP.

By 2020 China could become the largest economy in the world. Rapid growth in wealth and consumption in neighboring countries such as Russia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan could further opportunities for trade, transit and labour for the mountain countries. By taking advantage of this trend and offering competitive, environmentally friendly food, original textile products, rapid and reliable logistical services, skilled and low-cost human resources and by sharing valuable mountain ecosystems goods and services, they have good prospects for channeling their development in sustainable way.

The success of the Dordoi market and the rise in international trade have boosted the textile industry in Kyrgyzstan. The industry now employs some 300 000 workers, mostly women, in the production of clothing, carpets and other traditional products.

International trade has played an important role in Kyrgyz agriculture as well. In one notable development, approximately 15 years ago in the Talas Valley, Turkish interests identified the possibilities for producing beans of good quality in an environmentally sensitive way. Now the entire valley specializes in bean production (70 000 tonnes in 2010), and trade has expanded to Russia, Kazakhstan and other countries. Beans are a nitrogen-fixing crop so the ecological concerns regarding monoculture are less a factor with beans than with other crops, but there are economic vulnerabilities. Currently the economic benefits are substantial, but the risks of crop or market failures are more severe when a region relies on only one crop. Similarly, Tajikistan has recently initiated the substantial expansion of orchards, mainly in mountain areas, to diversify and increase the potential of its agricultural sector to supply growing markets in Russia and across the region.

### 1.3.9 The expansion of mobile communications and information technologies

The Central Asian region is experiencing a significant upward trend in the availability and affordability of communication technology such as mobile telephones and Internet access. The use of the Internet in mountain countries has grown substantially over the past decade and many highland hotels, other tourist-related businesses and farmers are now able to advertise their products and services and conduct business online. Online education and distance learning are also becoming popular and increasingly available options, and consumers can now order mountain eco-produce online. The introduction of information technologies in the banking sector has lowered the costs and increased the efficiency of labour remittances, which now pass through banks rather than being transferred through friends. The growing capacity of "electronic government" systems allows broader, faster and more efficient and decentralized state governance, as well as increased public access to key government information and services.

This same communication technology is benefiting the mountain environment as blogging and social media raise awareness about environmental issues, and the sophisticated technology helps a new generation develop a better understanding of ecosystem degradation and environmental protection measures. The more advanced technology and the use of mobile communications for scientific observations are also improving the study of weather patterns and the prediction of natural disasters. Mobile communication technology allows for the more cost-efficient and rapid collection of climate and weather conditions, and improves the prospects for effective early warnings. Mountain weather stations increasingly use mobile networks to transmit data and exchange information.

Mountain communities are also improving the communication of public information by providing better media access for news reporting, and by establishing small local data bases of special information of interest to certain users. More data on mountains are available on Websites, and there is an increasing trend among mountain provinces to issue regular environmental reports online. These developments are all steps toward the greater decentralization of information availability, and are expanding the opportunities for public participation in decision-making and governance.

The mass media are expanding their environmental coverage, and are increasingly looking for topics with a local connection. This development coincides with the Central Asian Festival of Ecological Journalism, an annual event designed to raise public awareness of environmental protection and the rational use of natural resources, and to promote the development of ecological journalism in the region. The festival sponsors competitions, and publishes the entries online.



The use of geographic information systems enables the production and updating of maps regarding a range of environmental pressures, but much of the excellent data compiled in the Soviet era are not yet digitized. Botanical, soil and archeology information remains paper-based, and only the basic geologic and meteorological data are digitized. In addition, many scientists fail to disclose their data, in spite of the availability of outlets for dissemination, and intentionally or not, provide no access or references.

### 1.3.10 New opportunities in tourism

Tourism is not currently a large part of the GDP of any Central Asian country, but given the remoteness of mountain communities and the limitations of mountain agricultural production, tourism offers a promising source of alternative livelihoods for local operators and related businesses. In addition to developing winter tourism, Central Asian countries have an opportunity to further develop cultural tourism, particularly in the summer months. Kyrgyzstan, which generated US\$ 500 million in the tourism sector in 2010, is currently working on this prospect, while Tajikistan may be underestimating the potential. As Central Asia becomes increasingly accessible to outsiders, international tourists may show more interest in learning about the various mountain cultures by visiting the places where those cultures exist.

In the Soviet era, hot springs in and around mountain areas of Central Asia were popular year-round destinations for vacationers and those seeking the healing powers of the waters. Now privately managed, many of these resorts have fallen into decline, and are not as widely known or as popular as they once were. With proper development and management, the hot springs could return to their previous popularity as major mountain attractions and bring economic and social benefits to the local communities. The springs also provide an opportunity for the bottling of mineral water.

Over the past decade, mountain trekking associations, through experience exchanges with trekkers from other mountain regions, have helped develop mountain trails and have sponsored annual mountain cleanups. These associations also offer courses on mountain safety, and hold Alpinads – climbing and orienteering events intended to improve the skills of trekkers and to instill respect for the mountains.

Shortly after independence, Kyrgyzstan recognized the potential of tourism, and established a ministry of tourism to exploit those possibilities. The increase in privatization has gradually reduced the original role of the ministry, but Central Asian countries would do well to explore new roles for government in the promotion of tourism in the new economy. In many western countries, governments regulate the tourism industry and promote it for the benefits that accrue to the nation as well as to the local communities and operators who host the tourists.

The Central Asian mountains have long been famous for summer tourism, but until recently the potential for winter tourism had been underutilized, a situation that started to change with the 2011 Asian Winter Olympics, recently held in Kazakhstan, and with new developments in Kyrgyzstan. Hosting a Winter Olympics comes with a major investment in facilities and infrastructure that endures long after the games are over, and Kazakhstan now has venues and systems that can support the development of a winter tourism industry. Kok-Zhaiyau, a new ski resort being built near Almaty city, for example, will be the largest winter mountain resort in Central Asia. The Swiss experience shows that mountain sports development can bring risks of ecological damage, and can mean a change of livelihoods for local residents. But the economic benefits can be significant, and Central Asia is well situated to explore the possibilities for attracting local, national and international tourists.

Uzbekistan has always had more capacity than its neighbours to manage tourism, and its historical role as the hub for cultural and mountain tourism in Central Asia continues to this day. This dominant role is sometimes resented by the mountain people and tourist firms of the destination countries. With the independent countries now managing their own economies, the mountain communities of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan want control of their own tourism. The new opportunities in the region provide Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan the chance to compete with Uzbekistan, and to cooperate on the development of Silk Road tourism ventures. The Chatkal, Alai and Turkestan Mountains in south-western Kyrgyzstan and the Fann and Gissar Mountains in western Tajikistan have numerous cultural and historical sites and are among the promising regions for cooperative ventures with Uzbekistan.

### 1.3.11 The gold rush and other mountain mining developments

Kazakhstan is the regional leader in minerals production and processing, while Uzbekistan is the world's ninth largest gold producer, but most of their mining projects are located in remote desert areas. In the mountains, the development of the mining sector has been significant over the past decade, particularly in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. At the end of the Soviet era and into the 1990s, there was almost no gold mining in either country, and little state or international interest. With gold prices reaching record levels over the past 20 years, however, both local and global investors have become interested in developing even low-grade deposits. Now, mining and metallurgy industries are the major cash sources for national budgets, contributing up to 50 per cent of the national export earnings in Tajikistan (aluminum and gold) and up to 30 per cent in Kyrgyzstan (mainly gold from the Kumtor mine).

Kyrgyzstan, which foresaw the mining and energy sectors as having significant development potential, moved to create conditions favourable to mining operators by enacting economic reforms and by allowing access to geological information. Currently almost all of its territory is licensed for mining activities. Tajikistan, in contrast, continues to consider its geological information confidential, as in the Soviet era, and its legislation and the ease of doing business currently lags behind Kyrgyzstan's. As a result, Tajikistan has attracted fewer investors, and where Kyrgyzstan's mining sector has advanced, Tajikistan's remains stagnant. The World Bank is assisting both countries in reducing barriers in mining sector.

The influx of new mining technologies and the launch of new projects have given rise to both opportunities and difficulties for governments and local communities. A reluctance on the part of governments and mining companies to share gold-mining profits equitably and a lack of transparency in decisions have led to feelings of discontent among poor and vulnerable groups in the mountains. Indeed, the benefit-sharing arrangement between mining projects, central government and local communities remains a lingering cause of resentment. The conflict between the use of land for traditional pasture and grazing, nature conservation and for mining activities is also a source of friction in Kyrgyzstan.

The experience of the Kumtor gold mine in Issyk-Kul Province in western Kyrgyzstan has influenced all the developments that followed. In 1997, with the support of Canadian investment, operations started at the Kumtor mine, which now produces 90 per cent of Kyrgyzstan's gold, about 15–20 tonnes per year. Kumtor tax payments contribute substantially to the national budget, and the mine provides significant employment opportunities to communities throughout the area. In addition, Kumtor sponsors local social development programmes such as schools, kindergartens and summer camps, and has introduced a local development fund that is increasingly considered as a model by other mining companies.

Kumtor maintains high safety standards, but a transport accident resulted in a spill of cyanide into a local river. The toxic material dispersed quickly causing some environmental damage, but the psychological perception was significant and long-lasting. The accident galvanized local resistance to mining whether or not cyanide would be used in operations, especially in areas with no mining history. The abandoned Soviet mining legacies across the country stand as stark reminders of possible grim scenarios not to be repeated. Mining operators now encounter local opposition wherever they go, and find that environmental impact statements and the necessary permissions do not overcome the hostility and distrust they face.

The central government's failure to understand local demands and its slow response to adjust its mining regulations complicate the situation. The mining sector is important nationally, and the central government has been the main beneficiary of the taxes from mining operations. The locals want a fair share, and because they view the mining operators as more capable than the central government they increasingly seek more benefits from the companies. Rather than step into the breach to negotiate with the parties, the central government has essentially left the mining operators and the locals to their own devices.

Local resistance and dissatisfaction continue to grow as mining operators fail to communicate their environmental protection strategies with local communities, and then fail to meet the obligations they do make. The companies that operate the mines change frequently, and the commitments of one company may no longer be honoured by the next. Broken promises, inequalities in salaries, dubious local staff hiring procedures and potential environmental damage have hardened local opposition, and the central government continues to ignore the discrepancies between its plan for the mining sector and the reality that has ensued. Fortunately, NGOs have been quick to see the problems and have initiated dialogues between operators and locals, in particular in the Chatkal and Naryn regions.

Regulations on mining are sometimes contradictory to environmental protection priorities: mining is allowed in river beds and sometimes even in the buffer or main zones of protected nature areas. Local communities oppose mining developments in or near nature reserves and along rivers and springs where ecosystem damage caused by industrial operations could have negative implications. Residents fear their valleys will become polluted and people will stop buying their vegetables and other agricultural products. Some companies have extensively developed alluvial deposits in sensitive ecosystems that provide clean water, and geological prospecting has affected high mountain pastures. But in a number of situations, local elites have taken advantage of the situation through speculations on environmental grounds that seem whipped up with the goal of extracting a bigger share of future profits or of taking over and reselling the mining license. The tension between local environmental interests and the mining sector mirror the experience in Western countries in previous decades. The stakes are high: if political stability and consensus on social-environmental issues in the Kyrgyz mining sector are achieved, the country's gold production could double within the next few years.

Tajikistan has had a less favourable business climate than Kyrgyzstan, but the Tajik government, with the assistance of international organizations, is currently working on reforms that may lead to a mining boom in the future. Tajikistan has been famous for silver mining from ancient times, and a recent geological audit suggests that it has probably one of the largest silver reserves in world. The government has officially announced a request for international tenders for the development of these deposits. Chinese investments and technology will support recently announced plans of Tajikistan to develop its own alumina mining and to expand cement production capacities.

Of the international developers active in the mining sector in the Central Asian mountains, the Russian and Kazakh mining companies have enjoyed the most success, especially at the community level, largely because language barriers and limited integration into the local context have blocked the progress of Western and Chinese companies. The Kyrgyz experience may be instructive as Tajikistan moves forward with development in the mining sector.

Kyrgyzstan has taken the lead in promoting an international initiative on transparency in extractive industries, and is working to involve as many mining companies as possible. The transparency initiative requires financial disclosure that shows how mining activities benefit governments. The initiative does not, however, require disclosure of how the activities may or may not benefit local communities.

In both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the environmental problems associated with the increase in mining and related activities are offset to some extent by the declines in all other industrial sectors. While the increase in mining increases potential threats to the environment, the reduction in industry reduces other threats.

Kyrgyzstan still operates a mercury mine from the Soviet era, and while the operation is inefficient and mercury has a high local and global environmental impact, the mine is important to the local economy. The United Nations Environment Programme is currently working on a mercury convention that would limit mercury production, and the international community is looking for opportunities to help Kyrgyzstan phase out its mercury mining without damaging local communities socially or economically. The replacement of mercury mining with gold extraction or preprocessing is considered an environmentally acceptable and socially responsible alternative to the continuation of primary mercury production, and high gold prices may help Kyrgyzstan make the transition.

Finally, both mountain countries have experienced a boom in small-scale mining for placer gold, particularly in Kyrgyzstan. Artisanal miners are a heterogeneous group of men aged from 16 to 60+ years, and their reasons for mining are varied. For some, mining was and still is the main source of cash income. Gold helped them to survive in the turbulent economic transition period of 1992–2000. For others it is an income supplement in winter months when agricultural activities are limited. In any case, artisanal gold mining is beyond the control of central and local authorities and the increasing degree of labour mechanization and the use of mercury for fine gold extraction are growing threats to the mountain environment.

### 1.3.12 Tapping the vast potential of energy resources

Over the past 20 years, national energy resources in Central Asia have attracted international investors. Oil, gas, uranium and hydropower are proving to be lucrative sources of economic development. In light of this growing trend, the mountain countries in the region have become both locations and transit routes for energy resources, mainly electricity. Years of intense exploitation of uranium, however, has had a detrimental impact on the mountain environments and economies of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources is therefore important consideration for the region.

Both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have large hydropower potential, and both countries are working on policies and strategies to develop that potential on all scales. International organizations including the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank have demonstrated much more interest in the energy sector than in mining, and are active in promoting markets for energy generation and transfer. Energy-hungry neighbours, China, Pakistan, India and Afghanistan, are also interested in the prospect of benefiting from the development of Central Asia hydropower through the Central Asia-South Asia Electricity Trade and Transmission (CASA-1000) or other projects. Currently, Tajikistan has about 5 000 MW of installed hydropower capacity and Kyrgyzstan has 2 700 MW, less than 10 per cent of their technically feasible hydropower potential. Russia, China and Iran are interested in investments in the hydropower sector. Planned and ongoing projects aim to further expand hydropower capacity on the rivers with existing power cascades, chiefly on the Vakhsh in Tajikistan and on the Naryn in Kyrgyzstan. Additional plans and projects contemplate development on non-modified major rivers such as the Panj, Zeravshan and Obihingou in Tajikistan and the Suusamy and Saryjaz in Kyrgyzstan.

In view of the growing national energy demand, the mountain countries of Central Asian have chosen to increase their power generation capacities using both renewable (mainly hydropower) and non-renewable energy sources such as coal, deposits of which are accessible and affordable in mountain countries. Coal-fired plants would serve as a short-term solution to overcome energy deficits and increase energy security. The emerging trend towards increasing use of coal for power generation and in cement production and other industries is a concern, however, since this use adds to the national carbon footprint and causes local air pollution.

Frequent country-wide shortages of fossil fuels, chiefly gasoline, diesel and natural gas, which are imported from Russia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan, are pushing the mountain countries to seek alternatives. Moreover, fuel prices in the Central Asian mountain countries are very high and constrain local business profits. Kyrgyzstan sees biofuel plantations and home-grown fuel production as a solution. The country's biofuel strategy foresees the initiation of biofuel crops in 2012. Currently, populations in the mountains often uses dry biomass (wood and dung) to meet local energy needs.

Like in the mining sector, the development of the energy sector is rife with controversy and competing interests – upstream and down, local and international. The Rogun Dam on the Vakhsh River in southern Tajikistan is a case in point. Slated to rise more than 300 metres high, the Rogun Dam is a source of tension between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. To facilitate the development of the project and to attract international investors, the World Bank is providing assistance in the technical, economic and socio-environmental assessments. In the absence of international investors, Tajikistan sought to develop the project as a state-owned venture financed out of the national budget and through shares that it obliged its people to purchase.

The focus on large-scale projects has left governments and the international development banks vulnerable to criticism. The massive projects are a drain on national resources, a source of international tensions and a cause of resentment among the local communities that may share the costs, but may never share the benefits. Small

projects with local beneficiaries do not enjoy the economic and other incentives of the large projects, and rely on individuals, NGOs and donors for sponsorship. The high potential of hydropower overshadows the potential of the geothermal, wind and solar energy that could also increase the provision of energy at the local level.

Corruption is rife in the largely state-owned energy sector, and, especially in Kyrgyzstan where hydropower is a state monopoly, there is no information available on who buys power nor on how much they pay for it. Illegal connections to the grid are common, and the industrial sector enjoys privileges while some communities have no service. For the past 20 years, the system has operated without transparency and without consultation of NGOs or citizens, but in July 2010, Kyrgyzstan launched an initiative on transparency in the energy sector to ensure the public participation in decision-making and the accountability of energy companies.

#### Security and Tensions

##### 1.3.13 Conflict and the need for hard security measures

The mountain countries of Central Asia have not enjoyed the same level of prosperity and stability as their lowland neighbours, and the highland regions thus tend to be more susceptible to discontent and violence. Civil war, armed conflict and insecurity wracked the mountainous regions of Tajikistan for the entire decade of the 1990s. In Kyrgyzstan, violence in densely populated northern and southern areas widened the ethnic (Kyrgyz–Uzbek) and geographic (north–south) divides.

As soon as it became independent, Tajikistan plunged into a civil war that resulted in the deaths of over 50 000 people. An agreement brokered by Russia and the United Nations brought peace, but sporadic violence and recurring insecurity continued until as late as 2010. The country has undergone a slow and sometimes painful process of reunification and reconstruction. Tajikistan has not yet recovered from the civil war's impacts on the economy, infrastructure and families, and poverty remains widespread. The Tajik President has suggested that the civil war damage and the loss of opportunities for the national economy could be as high as US\$ 10 billion.

Kyrgyzstan witnessed violent Kyrgyz–Uzbek inter-ethnic clashes in its southern Osh province as early as 1989, and in 1999 armed groups again entered the southern area of the country (now the Batken province). Resentment at widespread poverty, nepotism and ethnic divisions between north and south occasionally erupt in violence, and the country's first two post-Soviet presidents were swept from power by popular discontent. Economic damage from the events of April and June 2010 in Kyrgyzstan exceeded US\$ 70 million, excluding impacts on investment and the business environment.

Conflict and insurgency in mountainous areas are much more difficult to combat than those in the flat land and desert countries of Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan, all of which are also more prosperous. Rugged mountain terrain provides effective hideouts for fighters thus making combat more challenging.

Warfare in mountainous countries has had not only a serious social and economic impact, but also an environmental one. Conflicts in the mountains have directly affected progress on the implementation of Agenda 21. The 1999 treacherous invasion of armed groups into the Batken region of Kyrgyzstan, for example, destroyed the globally significant and unique Abramov Glacier monitoring station. The Uzbek national hydrometeorological service – Uzhydromet – had been operating this strategically located station on the border between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan for over 30 years. Similarly, security concerns stemming from the conflict in Afghanistan have limited access to the Panj/Amu Darya River, which forms the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan, and have precluded water monitoring and flood warnings on this major international river of Central Asia. Civil conflict in Tajikistan has virtually devastated populations of endangered animals in the Romit strict nature reserve and valley in central Tajikistan and has adversely affected the Beshai Palangon (also known as Tigrovaya Balka) strict nature reserve.

Drug trafficking and the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan also raise continuing security concerns. The United States and her allies have long expressed concern about the possibility of infiltration between Afghanistan and the Central Asian states, and border control – particularly for the mountain countries – remains an important issue. Both the United States and Russia have established military presences in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and what happens in Afghanistan will certainly have implications for Central Asia and mountain development.

Frictions and conflicts have weakened the mountain countries of Central Asia. Unity, rule of law, justice and a national consensus on how to proceed would strengthen these nations and substantially contribute to sustainable mountain development.

The Chinese province of Xinjiang, as the main physical connection between China and Central Asia, is an area of economic and political importance, and ongoing conflicts there may impede progress towards better relations between the Central Asian countries and China. Xinjiang refugees seeking protection in Central Asia have prompted stricter border security.

Finally, one remarkable achievement in the past 20 years in the field of global security is Kazakhstan's decision to give up its nuclear arsenal (the world's fourth largest) left by the Soviet Union, and to close the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site permanently. The more than 450 underground, surface and airborne nuclear tests conducted here over several decades led to adverse effects on the environment and human health. Following a resolution on a nuclear-weaponfree Central Asia, Kazakhstan is now promoting a Universal Declaration of a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World at the UN.

##### 1.3.14 A new era in highland–lowland relations

As the independence era has unfolded and new political realities have set in, interstate tensions and diverging priorities over the use of water resources have started to dominate the political, economic and environmental agenda in the region. The last decade in particular has been characterized by an increase in disputes over water usage, particularly in countries dependent on agriculture. A lack of political will and the absence of any effective mediation mechanisms have only exacerbated the problem. Tensions between the highland countries of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and the lowland countries of Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan have largely been generated by disparities in levels of prosperity and stability, energy accessibility and different priorities for water usage.

Water for irrigation is crucial to the agricultural communities in the lowland countries. The mountain countries, in contrast, often face significant electricity and fuel shortages, especially during the winter period, and therefore require water reserves for power generation. In line with population growth, energy demands have grown substantially over the past 20 years. Finding the balance between large-scale energy generation, such as hydropower, and water provision for large-scale agriculture is proving very difficult and politically sensitive. As the demand for energy and food continues to grow, tensions surrounding water may escalate.

Part of the conflict relates to the timing of the release of water: lowland agriculture needs water in the summer and fall, and the mountain countries need the water for power generation primarily in the winter. The retention of water through the summer and the larger release of water in the winter have resulted in flooding on the Syr Darya River.

The Soviet-era agreements and structures related to water allocation and supply for agriculture have generally stayed in place across the region, but the barter system of energy-for-water exchanges is no longer in effect. This has meant that mountain countries, which have limited fossil fuel resources, are now exploring alternative ways to meet their energy requirements. The development of the hydropower sector in upstream states is a leading example of this shift towards energy self-sufficiency but has been met with concern by the lowland countries fearful of the impact on their own water supplies needed for agriculture. An increase in mining operations in mountain watersheds, largely in response to international demand for the region's gold and other mineral reserves, is also contributing to the growing friction between the highlands and the lowlands.

Facilitating cooperation between the concerned parties is an important element of resolving disputes of water usage. The ongoing cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and

Kazakhstan over the Chu-Talas River Basin, assisted by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Development Programme is an encouraging example of modern cooperation.

But despite these welcome efforts to reduce tensions in the region, the agriculture-water-energy nexus is poorly managed and has the potential to escalate into further conflict or economic blockage to stop the energy development projects of the mountain countries. International organizations such as the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank and the United Nations are among a number of external parties that have been involved in facilitating dialogue between the governments of the highland and lowland countries. But progress has been limited, not only due to a lingering lack of trust and political will, but also due to practical problems such as lack of the modern technology necessary for progress in the agricultural and energy sectors.

The emergence of China as a dominant regional player and a major water and energy consumer is also altering the political, economic and environmental landscape of the Central Asian region. Similarly, earlier agreements on water allocations during the Soviet period did not consider Afghanistan, whose interests in the basin have only recently begun to gain prominence.

### 1.3.15 Soft security for stability and conflict avoidance

The term “soft security”, as used here, describes the non-military factors that support stability and help avoid conflict. In Central Asia, particularly in the remote and largely impoverished mountain communities, the principle soft security factors relate to energy and food security.

The tangible and detrimental impact of conflict on both mountain populations and the surrounding environment highlights the urgent need for more sustainable development of highland communities. By minimizing the root causes of discontent and insecurity – such as poverty, the unequal distribution of land and water, unaffordable food and energy and the lack of job opportunities and basic education – the risk of conflict can be lessened and the chances of sustainable development of mountain environments and the well-being of mountain communities can be increased. The potential for local conflict over pasture and water use in border and densely populated regions has increased throughout the last decade. The support of NGOs and improvements in governance have recently reduced anxieties.

Herding is the main livelihood for Kyrgyz mountain dwellers. The access to Kyrgyz pastures by the herders from neighbouring Uzbekistan and Tajikistan was formerly regulated by local arrangements, but Kyrgyz legislation introduced in 2009 calls for agreement between the countries at the central level. In spite of the new opportunities, the introduction of the new pasture law has increased tensions over pasture use in near-border regions, especially around enclaves in the Batken Province of southern Kyrgyzstan.

While the demand for affordable energy has increased with population growth, the withdrawal of support from Moscow has left the region with an outdated and limited energy infrastructure. This in turn has led to a hike in energy prices with the result that, for poor communities in Central Asia’s mountain regions, electricity and fuel supplies are prohibitively expensive. Energy appears to be more affordable in Kyrgyzstan than in Tajikistan. Most rural families in Tajikistan, especially the mountain regions, seem to spend three quarters of their income on food and energy. Local initiatives have given rise to a number of generators (solar heat, biogas) and small-scale hydropower supply facilities, but the state generally still holds a monopoly on national power resources, and most communities do not have reliable and affordable access to energy. In Tajikistan, one million people spend much of the winter without electricity and nearly half of all households rely on firewood and dung for winter heating. In Kyrgyzstan, households have responded to the growing energy deficit by significantly increasing coal consumption.

The sad irony is that in spite of the huge hydropower potential, the populations of both mountain countries experience – especially in winter – energy deficits and recurrent electricity cut-offs that negatively affect businesses, well-being, health and education.

The rising cost of fuel is also influencing the rising price of food in the highlands. Since Soviet times, the Central Asian mountain nations have relied on imports of food products, particularly non-mountain products such as sugar, flour and cereals. Now, with higher fuel costs, such staple goods are more expensive, and mountain populations are at risk of malnutrition and related health issues. In Tajikistan, an increase in the proportion of bread consumption corresponded with the persistence of malnutrition, and neither Tajikistan nor Kyrgyzstan has yet achieved food sufficiency. The importance of the links between food security and energy security has led the United Nations and other international aid organizations to adopt a compound crisis analysis that considers food and energy as related problems that require integrated solutions.

## Social Dynamics

### 1.3.16 Natural resource ownership, management approaches and property rights

As part of the transition from collective farming to a market economy, Central Asian governments launched a land redistribution process that resulted in agricultural lands passing into a quasi-private ownership or long-term private rental. This privatization turned the management of formerly collective farms over to individuals, villages or groups, and the number of farming units skyrocketed. The corruption of local officials, however, marred the transition as those in power sought the best land for themselves, or sold favour to those seeking land of their own. Although the state retains official ownership, private management systems such as long-term individual leasing are now widespread.

For the states, the fragmentation into many smaller farms represented a challenge to their management capacity. Kyrgyzstan left decisions on what to grow to the farmers while Tajikistan took a more prescriptive approach. Even so, mountain farmers in Tajikistan, far from the centre of government, enjoy a high degree of freedom. The challenge for farmers was deciding what, and how much, to grow. With self-determination came personal considerations about food security and whether to cultivate for cash or for the flour that families needed to make their own bread since the state no longer provided it. These changes in the structure of agriculture conspired to constrict the options for crop rotation. Fragmentation and smaller farm size, climate, elevation, terrain and the imperatives for cash or flour all implied some limits on a farmer’s latitude regarding crop selection.

Rural dwellers in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan (70 per cent of the total population) rely substantially on their own agriculture production for food and income. Animal husbandry, which has historically played a more important economic role in Kyrgyzstan than in Tajikistan, has declined as a share of agricultural production in both countries. Wool production has suffered the highest percentage declines. In recent years, however, livestock production has increased steadily in both countries. In 2010, Tajikistan’s animal husbandry (meat production, eggs, milk) and food production exceeded 1991 levels, while Kyrgyzstan’s food production increased, its but animal husbandry still lags behind previous levels. Honey production in Tajikistan substantially increased over the same period, and reached Kyrgyzstan’s level of 2 500–3 000 tonnes per year. In contrast, Kyrgyzstan honey production declined.

During the initial transition period, 1 500 Soviet collective farms in Tajikistan were transformed into more than 37 000 individual farms, while 500 Soviet collective farms in Kyrgyzstan were transformed to more than 70 000 individual farming units and 700 agricultural associations and cooperatives. Currently, the number of private farming units exceeds 350 000 in Kyrgyzstan, and 50 000 in Tajikistan.

Prior to the Soviet era, the mountain communities of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan practiced primarily subsistence-based agriculture – livestock production in the Kyrgyz Tien Shan, and a mixture of crop cultivation, gardening and livestock breeding in the Tajik Pamirs – with some trade between home-based agriculturalists and nomadic pastoralists. During the Soviet period the agricultural sector was transformed from a household-level system to a centrally planned large-scale production system. Over the last 20 years,

the agricultural sector has reverted to household-level agriculture, but with more reliance on trade than in the pre-Soviet period.

With the change in land ownership, the income gap widened between those who acquired sufficient land for stock management and domestic animals and those who did not. The disruption of state-provided agricultural services, the rise in the number of smallholder herding and the lack of self-organization limited mobility and, subsequently, led to the breakdown of the transhumance system. People without enough land and a few animals could not manage their herds, and could not replace the winter fodder provided by the Soviets. Eventually many families lost their animals. The Soviets had provided economic and agricultural management services, and with independence farmers were responsible for their own management, animal disease control, winter fodder and access to markets. After 20 years many farmers now have the necessary business skills, but the income gap persists.

The state continues to manage some mountain hunting areas, and collects license fees and taxes, but the trend is toward private ownership and management. The well-run private hunting reserves that are careful to prevent illegal hunting maintain the highest wildlife levels. The corrupt private reserves, in contrast, pursue aggressive short-term goals with no attempt to balance hunting with the numbers of animals. As a result, these reserves enjoy a short-term financial gain at the cost of dramatically reduced animal populations.

With license fees that run from US\$ 10 000 to US\$ 15 000, the potential for local income from international trophy hunting is significant. Tajikistan has established a revenue sharing scheme with locals, but Kyrgyzstan, which has a low regard for international hunting, has not.

The introduction of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) changed the approach to water management over the past 20 years. The previous approach relied on administrative principles and political boundaries; the integrated approach relies on hydrographic boundaries. The IWRM method has already enjoyed success in small basins, and in the Ferghana Valley, IWRM demonstrates how to manage resources more effectively with fewer disputes. On the Zeravshan River between Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, however, the two countries are independently implementing IWRM, but have not connected the two systems partly because political relations between the two countries remain complicated.

### 1.3.17 Demographics, poverty and labour migration

Over the past 50 to 60 years, population growth and an increase in life expectancy have led to dramatic demographic changes in the mountain regions of Central Asia. The population in Tajikistan, for example, increased from 2.1 million in 1960 to 7.5 million by 2011 (including 1.6 million since 1990). In Kyrgyzstan, the population increased from 2.2 million in 1960 to 4.4 million in 1990, and then to 5.3 million by 2011. Overall, the total population of Central Asia increased from 24.4 million in 1960 to over 60 million in 2011. In Tajikistan the average age is 22 years; in Kyrgyzstan, 27 years; and in Kazakhstan, 30 years.

As small, mountain, poor, geographically isolated and landlocked countries with predominantly agricultural economies and rural populations, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are more impoverished and less industrially developed than their neighbours. These Central Asian republics had benefited from substantial budgetary support and the economic power and common markets of the Soviet Union, and Soviet policies had led to a high level of social and economic development and strategic support for the populations of Central Asia, particularly those in the remote mountain areas, in terms of security, jobs, food and fodder provision and energy supplies. The withdrawal of subsidies and the interruption of traditional trading links and markets led to rapid increases in unemployment and poverty, and dispelled illusions of an easy path to new and better lives. Poverty rates reached 60–80 per cent in both countries, and affected all remote mountain provinces. Over the last two decades, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have remained Central Asia's poorest nations, though recent poverty rates declined to 40–50 per cent.

Labour income and social transfers (pensions and aid) remain important income sources for households in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and income from the sale of foodstuffs and local produce accounts for a similar share. The role of remittances has increased dramatically over the last decade and has become the major source of income as well as the safety net for most households. The construction and urban service sectors in Russia and Kazakhstan are major sources of employment for labour migrants coming from Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

Unemployment and subsequent urban migration have changed the social fabric of many mountain communities. The Soviet withdrawal led to a major deficit of jobs, and many men from mountain communities now travel to capital cities or to Russia or Kazakhstan to find work. This drain of young and middle-aged men from traditional mountain communities has had an impact on family structures and placed an additional burden on women, who increasingly take the lead in households, while village elders take on the roles usually played by younger men. In some poverty-stricken areas, women who are heads of households have also joined the labour migration. Civil unrest, political instability and ethnic issues have also contributed to the emigration of skilled workers from the Central Asian region generally. According to official data and expert estimates, more than one million residents of Tajikistan and 500 000 residents of Kyrgyzstan now work and live abroad.

Tajikistan now has more than 800 000 men working in Russia alone, and the evidence suggests that the temporary migration of one individual can lead to the permanent migration of entire families. Remittances sent home by migrants constitute a large financial inflow to their home countries and often exceed the amount offered in international aid. The value of remittances to Tajikistan officially reported by banks in 2010 exceeded US\$ 2.5 billion, an amount equal to one half of the national budget. In Kyrgyzstan, the value of remittances is lower than in Tajikistan, but still significant – US\$ 1.0 billion.

Real incomes of households in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan grew rapidly over the past decade, leading to an equivalent growth in private consumption, and a nearly 50 per cent reduction in poverty. These trends are largely attributable to the gradual increase in transfers from labour migrants. While ten years ago remittances accounted for 5–10 per cent of GDP in both Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, by 2010–2011 the proportion stood at more than 30–40 per cent of GDP. In 2008, Tajikistan topped the world with remittances as a proportion of GDP at over 50 per cent.

Remittances maintain national economies and are key factors for economic and social stability. The growing importance of remittances as a source of foreign exchange is reflected in the fact that cumulatively they have outpaced foreign direct investment and official development assistance over the past 10 years. The officially reported figures on remittances no doubt underestimate their full scale, since remittances through informal channels are not counted in the financial statistics. Excessive dependence on remittances, on the other hand, has economic and social drawbacks. The national economies of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are ever more dependent on the economic and labour conditions in the countries receiving migrants. The effects of the 2008–2010 global economic crisis on Russia and Kazakhstan have already negatively affected the flow of remittances. The disruptions to family and village life lead to increases in the number of divorces and other personal problems. Labour migrants abroad are sometimes subject to exploitation and abuse – most of them work illegally, do not speak Russian, have no awareness of labour regulations and have low qualifications. Russia's plans for tightening immigration policies on temporary labourers could force many migrants, especially those with limited command of the Russian language and the lack of basic skills and vocational education, to return home.

### 1.3.18 Urbanization

The urban populations in the mountain countries of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in the Soviet era were a small percentage of the total populations. After independence, Kyrgyzstan experienced a movement of people from poverty areas in the mountains to urban centres, but new residential construction did not keep pace with the influx of new residents, and the resulting informal settlements exacerbated the existing urban problems. Bishkek is surrounded by these informal and unregulated settlements that developed chaotically and without regard to seismic hazards, and the city now faces the questions of how to integrate the settlements safely into the city structure and how to provide infrastructure and services.

Within its borders, Tajikistan experienced a migration in the opposite direction: from lowlands and urban areas back to the mountains. During the 1950s and the 1970s, the Soviets orchestrated two periods of resettlement from the mountains to the lowlands for the purposes of land development and cotton cultivation. Some of the migration was forced, and some voluntary, but in any case, whole mountain communities were abandoned for many years. At the time of independence, about half of these migrants from the resettlement programme went back to their old villages. Civil war in the 1990s and the availability of energy resources for heating were additional factors encouraging people to return to the mountains.

The Tajikistan rural population has grown over the past 20 years, but some of the same problems experienced by Kyrgyzstan are present – urban construction has not kept pace with population increases, and although privatization has led to higher quality in some expensive developments, most builders opt for cheaper solutions of lower quality. Until recent years, most new construction failed to meet minimum standards of earthquake resistance and energy efficiency. The energy-intensive construction sector offers huge opportunities for improvements in efficiencies. Waste management is another problem – smaller communities lack waste management systems, and larger ones, such as the capital cities, may have the systems but do not have proper landfill facilities.

Urban services have dramatically changed in the past 20 years. In the 1990s, most of the urban housing stock was taken over by city residents, and semi-private services and homeowners' associations have largely replaced the Soviet-era state municipal management and maintenance companies. Urban service providers in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, however, often operate below cost-recovery levels, and revenues from tariffs cannot cover the costs of upgrading the deteriorating urban infrastructure. Water losses in degraded urban pipelines are rather high, and many urban wastewater treatment facilities are not functioning properly (especially for biological treatment) and generally perform less effectively than two decades ago. Urban water consumption has generally declined mainly due to changes in the industrial and economic profiles of urban areas, and partly due to the introduction of individual water meters. (Urban drinking and industrial water systems were often connected, so a decline in industrial operations has resulted in reduced water consumption.)

Two decades ago, industrial air pollution was one of the major urban environmental issues. Nowadays, air pollution associated with road traffic density is one of the major factors undermining air quality, and traffic congestion is limiting the mobility of urban residents and commuters. This is particularly evident in Almaty city in the foothills of the Zailiisky Alatau Mountains. With a population of more than 1.4 million, Almaty is the largest urban agglomeration in Kazakhstan. Pollution from traffic is exaggerated by specific meteorological conditions such as mountain–valley winds and temperature inversions in autumn and winter. The introduction of city metro, bus priority lanes and the enforcement of better fuel standards are some of the ongoing response measures in Almaty.

### 1.3.19 Education and health: Investing in human capital

The health implications of mountain-to-lowland migration and vice versa are subject to research that was started by the Soviets and that continues today. The findings demonstrate that long-time lowland residents who move to the mountains have diminished performance. The same outcome follows when the move is in the other direction. The adaptation period is long, and the migration may shorten longevity. At very high elevations – 3 000 metres or higher – life expectancy is 48 years (Murgab district in Tajikistan's Eastern Pamir) compared to 70 years at lower elevations.

The decline in Soviet support for mountain communities has affected not only the economy and opportunities for employment, but also the levels of basic education and healthcare. Literacy and the education of children living in rural and isolated mountain communities were Soviet priorities, but the withdrawal of funding from Moscow has left many of the newly independent states of Central Asia with insufficient funds to maintain the same levels of education. Public expenditures on education and health are less than one quarter of the Soviet levels. As a percentage of GDP, current spending on health and education (3–4 per cent) is also considered very low. The abandonment or privatization of the traditional summer mountain camps for children has further limited the access of poorer children from rural areas to educational and health restoration opportunities. Many rural mountain schools are without an adequate number of teachers (due to low salaries and lack of teachers), and the number of doctors per resident and the number of hospital beds have declined by half. In healthcare, in particular, the remoteness of mountain communities only exacerbates the problems associated with inadequate staff and facilities.

The official literacy rate is high (98 per cent) and is comparable to advanced economies. Indeed, the population is a relatively well-educated, which is the admirable heritage of the Soviet era. But increasingly, mountain countries face the crucial situation when the declining quality of education becomes an obstacle for sustainable development. The numbers of students and universities have increased three-to five-fold in the last twenty years, but the quality of graduate and post-graduate teaching, especially in natural sciences and engineering, has deteriorated.

The competitiveness of countries in today's high-tech and globalized world is dependent on investment in human capital. Resource management skills, a sense of responsibility and knowledge of and respect for mountain ecosystems are key factors for success in pursuing a sustainable mountain development agenda.

Kyrgyzstan has taken active steps to join the Bologna Process to adjust its higher education to international standards, but vocational education and professional development courses still lag behind the realistic needs. Tajikistan is planning major reforms in basic education by introducing a 12-year study cycle with options for specialist courses and certified technical training. Issyk-Kul State University in Kyrgyzstan and Khorog State University in Tajikistan historically lead in mountain-focused higher education, and the International University of Kyrgyzstan has created the UNESCO Chair on sustainable mountain development. The University of Central Asia is now working to increase the focus on mountains, and organizations such as the Aga Khan Foundation are providing assistance to mountain societies to develop both traditional and modern knowledge. (See section 2.5.2 for more detailed information.)

As industrial and agricultural practices have changed, the environmental health risks from the associated pollution have decreased, but the growth of populations in mountain valleys has come with increased risks from biological pollution. The majority of these populations take their water from open sources, and are thus exposed to microbial and bacterial contamination. Inadequate wastewater-processing facilities increase the risks, and natural disasters such as mudslides and earthquakes can introduce even more contamination into water sources and thereby increase the risk of water-borne disease outbreaks.

Child mortality rates are generally falling, but in the high-mountain city of Naryn, the rate is twice that of Bishkek. The risk of malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS and other dangerous diseases remains high, and increases with poor living standards, increased migration and inadequate preventive measures and health services. Tajikistan is the only country in the world where polio is on the rise. About 450 confirmed cases have been reported in 2010 in the country, compared to 900 cases worldwide. Kyrgyzstan faces health risks from epizootics (such as brucellosis, foot-and-mouth disease and anthrax) in the southern mountain areas, and domestic animals are sometimes poisoned by grazing on land polluted in the Soviet era.

### 1.3.20 Religion, culture, ethnicity and traditional knowledge

The Tien Shan nomadic communities have deep roots in Tengriism, an ancient religion that incorporates elements of shamanism and animism, and that focuses on living in harmony with nature. Sulaiman-Too Sacred Mountain in Osh, Kyrgyzstan, is a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage site. The scenic mountain oasis of Ulytau, situated among the arid grasslands in the geographic centre of Kazakhstan, and its Auliye-Tau Sacred Mountain, comprise an ancient Kazakh shrine, which is covered with beautiful legends and rock engravings. Mountain areas of Central Asia have numerous mazars, which are among the distinguished pilgrimage sites in the region.

Houses in the Tajik Pamirs have distinctive architectural elements combining pre-Islamic and Islamic traditions and values. Made of stone and mud, these houses have main

living rooms with columns that are named after saints, and that symbolize faith, peace, purity, friendship, love, loyalty and protection. In contrast, the nomadic populations in the Kyrgyz Tien Shan often live in traditional yurts – easy to assemble and transport houses with wooden (willow) structures, wool coverings and colourful carpets. The dome of the Kyrgyz yurt is displayed on the Kyrgyz national flag. While yurts are widely used across Kyrgyzstan and in other parts of Central Asia by pastoral communities, the majority of the rural population live in modern houses. Because the Tajik Pamir dwellers raise more crops than livestock, they eat mainly vegetables, legumes and foodstuffs such as bread and noodles made from wheat flour. The diet of the Kyrgyz Tien Shan dwellers has a high proportion of meat and horse milk. Changes during the economic transition affected nutrition and led to a considerable reduction in food variety. Consumption of meat products, fruits and vegetables generally declined, while consumption of bread, potato and dairy products increased.

Independence saw the rise of Islam in Central Asia, particularly in Tajikistan and the mountain regions where the roots of the religion go deep. Differences in belief regarding whether government should be secular or theocratic have been a source of civil conflict and difficult relations between countries. Extreme Islamic groups across Central Asia have used the mountains as hiding places. In Uzbekistan, where government repression has led to opposition to the regime, extremists have resorted to hiding in Tajikistan from which they launch attacks into Uzbekistan. This situation has strained relations between the countries.

From the beginning of the transition to independence, His Highness the Aga Khan, the forty-ninth hereditary Imam of the Ismaili Muslims, has been active in supporting development in the Tajik Pamirs. In the tradition of service in international affairs, the Aga Khan has provided development assistance to Tajikistan through the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and the Aga Khan Development Network. (See section 2.6 for a description of the activities and accomplishments of the AKF Mountain Societies Development Support Programme.)

The rise of Islam in the region corresponds with a fall in pork production and consumption, as well as with a decrease in the hunting of wild boars in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. As a result, the wild boar population has increased. The consumption of alcohol also appears to be falling, but no reliable statistics are available to confirm this impression.

Since independence, the Central Asian states have begun to reassert their identities, drawing upon the indigenous cultures that had often been overlooked during the previous era. Families have always been an important part of social networks in the region, and with the end of Soviet support have taken a major role in supporting children and the elderly. The role of families is often underestimated, but is crucial in a culture where social security is a private responsibility.

The lack of resources has led mountain communities to resume traditional practices or to adapt modern ideas to the resources available. Energy shortages have limited the opportunities for food-processing, for example, and the mechanical solutions are too expensive, so some mountain communities have tried to re-establish water mills. In the Soviet era, there was no demand for the animal hides and wood-carving products traditionally made in the mountains, and the skills in those traditional crafts significantly diminished. Now, however, with the new market opportunities and the growth of tourism in the region, the traditional mountain crafts are experiencing a resurgence, and some communities are specializing in traditional crafts.

Traditional music of enormous diversity has long been an integral part of life in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, and with independence only became more important and more diverse. These countries' music incorporates a range of instruments from the simple and traditional to the electronic, and shows little influence from western sources. The Aga Khan supports the further development and dissemination of music traditions through programmes at the University of Central Asia.

The recently deceased Kyrgyz writer and philosopher, Chingiz Aitmatov, was a Central Asian cultural hero whose work was translated into more than 150 languages. His evocative descriptions of the mountain environment and his advocacy for mountain ecosystem conservation brought attention to the issue, and his career demonstrates how one man can influence an entire region through his cultural contributions.

After independence, the exodus of Russians and Europeans from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan changed the proportions of the countries' populations in terms of national ethnicity: with fewer outsiders, higher percentages of the populations are Kyrgyz or Tajik. A related factor – place of origin as distinct from ethnicity – affects personal lives and politics throughout the region. North–south and east–west differences are quite pronounced in Tajikistan but geographic divisions are also important in Kyrgyzstan. The exploitation of these place-of-origin differences can lead to political and social unrest and conflict. The increasing number of Chinese workers in both countries may create antipathy among residents due to labor competition, wage inequalities and cultural differences.

Russian remains the international language of Central Asia, and in Kyrgyzstan – where the links to Russian investments are historically stronger – the Russian language remains well known in both metropolitan and rural areas. Russian was common in Tajikistan 20 years ago, but now, because of the stronger national identity and legislative requirements regarding national language, Russian is fading away. But Russia is the main receiving country for Tajik migrants, and Russian is the language of regional meetings, and Russian language skills are therefore still important to many people in Tajikistan. At the same time, the Chinese language is becoming more popular among students and traders who plan to develop business links or participate in China-supported mining and energy projects in Central Asia.

#### 1.4 Soviet environmental legacies and emerging conditions

The trends discussed in the previous section all have a bearing on the environmental, economic and social conditions in Central Asia, as do the environmental legacies left by the Soviets. This section is not an exhaustive assessment of those legacies, but rather a consideration of the more visible and pressing concerns of public and private interest. The institutional and governance aspects of sustainable mountain development, discussed in the next section, fit within the context of the trends and the legacies.

Abandoned mines, hazardous industrial waste sites and mine tailings – mostly legacies of the Soviet period – continue to be a major environmental concern for the mountain countries of Central Asia. Although their reserves are not large in modern terms, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan were among the pioneers in developing the uranium mining sector. When the Soviets left, they simply abandoned the mines and tailings with no remediation. These hazardous sites remain obstacles to sustainable development, environmental protection and population security in the region. Abandoned and active mining sites and metallurgy industries cause environmental problems in the Altai Mountains of Kazakhstan and in the Irtysh River basin, where the country's mining sector was born in the eighteenth century.

The cost of remediation is prohibitive for the countries, and in the absence of legislation or financial resources to undertake the task, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan have no remediation plans in place, but are looking to international partners for assistance. Abandoned mining sites pose as much or more danger to neighbours in the event of a flood or other mine failure, and regional cooperation is one prospective solution. As the owner of the legacy, Russia is participating in negotiations and may commit to helping resolve the problems.

In Kyrgyzstan, abandoned uranium tailings are a national priority both politically and environmentally, but because of the scale of the problem the resources needed are overwhelming, and no progress has been made. Continued efforts at cooperation with Russia and the other Central Asian countries is a promising path, as is the prospect of private sector involvement. Private firms may be interested in reopening some mines or in re-mining some tailings.

The independence era has seen a dramatic reduction in water pollution as a result of changes in industrial practices and the ending of some industrial and mining operations. In Kyrgyzstan, for example, the production of animal skins no longer employs the toxic chemicals that killed almost all the fish in some areas, and fish stocks in rivers are slowly recovering as a result of the changes in business operations and land use. Similarly, the water quality in Lake Issyk-Kul is improving as a result of reductions in fertilizer use because the agricultural runoff no longer carries away high levels of chemical residues. Currently, illegal fishing, overfishing and invasive species are the main threats to the Lake Issyk-Kul ecosystem.

Another positive environmental development in the independence era is the expansion of protected areas in the mountains – a doubling in the size of the total area protected in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan – and the application of particular types of protection, such as buffer zones and corridors, to local circumstances. Currently, all the countries of Central Asia protect their mountain ecosystems relatively well through regulations and the maintenance of protected areas. Where the Soviets maintained strict nature reserves that excluded visitors, the new states – underfunded and with less experience – are developing national parks, a new concept in the region, and one in keeping with the spirit of Rio and the Aichi targets. They are also creating reserves for special purposes such as watershed protection, forestry or regulated hunting without necessarily restricting access for recreation or other compatible uses.

Over the past decade, the border mountain regions have seen the development of joint parks and other protected areas. In the Altai Mountains, Russia and Kazakhstan cooperate on forest fire and wildlife protection and on ecotourism, and in the Western Tien Shan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan maintain a joint park that is nominated for UNESCO World Heritage designation. Afghanistan, Tajikistan, China and Pakistan are working on plans for a project in the Wakhan Corridor.

In the Soviet era, the state owned the forests and managed the planting programmes, and used afforestation primarily for river bank and slope protection. Now, individual planting programmes are investments in the economic and environmental future and are targeted to a range of specific applications – visual amenity benefits, timber or fuel, for example. Forest managers assist in the natural regeneration of forests, and, on the premise that the community cares more than the central government, communities are now managing local nut forests.

In some ways, water protection in the Soviet era was better, particularly in the exclusion of riparian areas from any other uses. Now, the absence of controls and the diversity of land uses have meant less protection. Water resources have become more vulnerable to physical use and damage, and the associated ecosystem services have diminished.

In agronomy, the results of the transition to independence are mixed. The Soviets took an advanced scientific approach to plant development and species selection, but their introduction of species was inadequate and they often ignored traditional practices. Now the botanical gardens and fruit and nut forests, which had been restricted, are open to public use, but the overall scientific effort has been reduced dramatically. A combination of the best aspects of each approach would improve the situation.

### 1.5 Institutions and governance in sustainable mountain development

The period of glasnost and perestroika started by Mikhail Gorbachev near the end of Soviet era raised public awareness about the environment and led to the strengthening of environmental institutions and legislation. After independence Central Asian governments were quick to develop national action plans, programmes and strategies on environmental protection in general, as well as on specific environmental issues such as climate change, desertification, biodiversity, persistent organic pollutants and others. All the countries of Central Asia are signatories to the three Rio Conventions: the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity and the UN Convention on Combating Desertification. In addition, numerous multilateral and regional environmental agreements have been signed or ratified. The countries have taken different development paths, and their strategies and approaches to sustainable mountain ecosystem management have developed differently.

The key regional player in water and environmental cooperation is the International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea, an organization that deals with environmental and socio-economic challenges of the Aral Sea basin through its Aral Sea Basin Programme. Funded by international donors and by the Central Asia states, the Programme works on climate change, natural disasters in the mountains and watershed protection, among numerous other issues. Some ongoing projects in the mountains not directly linked to the Programme are contributing to its implementation.

The Interstate Commission for Sustainable Development (ICSD) was established in 1993 to assess regional environmental conditions and to coordinate the planning and implementation of environmental and sustainable development programmes. In 2008, the ICSD supported the initiative of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to establish the Regional Mountain Centre of Central Asia (RMCCA) with headquarters in Bishkek. The RMCCA promotes cooperation in the Central Asia region for mountain ecosystems conservation and the sustainable use of natural resources, and works to improve the socio-economic conditions in mountain areas by providing policy support and by promoting cooperation with other mountain regions. The Regional Environmental Centre of Central Asia (RECCA) is implementing the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) project with Swiss support in the tourist and agricultural areas in the mountains of Issyk-Kul Province of Kyrgyzstan.

Kyrgyzstan began to attract the attention of the international community to mountain development in 1998, and successfully advocated for the UN declaration of the International Year of Mountains in 2002, which culminated with the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit. The Summit concluded with the formation of the Bishkek Mountain Platform, and reinforced the International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions (known as the "Mountain Partnership"). The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations offer to host the Secretariat was welcomed, and since its establishment, the Mountain Partnership Secretariat has been advocating for an integrated approach to sustainable development in the world's mountain regions. In 1998, Kyrgyzstan established the National Centre for Mountain Regions Development (NCMRD), which is responsible for coordination and formulation of national policy on mountains. In 2003, the International Information and Education Centre for mountain states was established under the NCMRD. The Kyrgyz Agency for Rural Investments has played a major role in supporting rural infrastructure and business initiatives in the mountain villages across the country.

Tajikistan focused its attention on regional freshwater resources and glaciers, and conducted numerous regional and national activities highlighting the importance and crucial role of Central Asia mountains as water towers. Kazakhstan has recently established the Regional Centre on Glaciology under UNESCO auspices to promote the exchange of scientific knowledge and popular information about conditions of mountain glaciers across the region, and also established the Regional Centre for Disaster Response and Risk Reduction.

The high level of poverty together with the growing vulnerability of the ecosystems affected by the unsustainable use of natural resources by local communities demanded urgent interventions. In 2000 the Government of Switzerland launched the Central Asian Mountain Partnership (CAMP) initiative in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan with an aim to promote sustainable mountain development. In a shift from waiting to acting, civil society started to participate in the development process. In 2002, at the initiative of civil society and NGOs, and with support of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the new programme was launched as an association of rural communities that would exchange information, knowledge and experience to foster participation in solving common local problems. In 2003, the Alliance of Central Asian mountain communities (AGOCA) was formally created and registered in Kyrgyzstan. The overall goal of the organization is to assist in the sustainable development of Central Asian mountain regions and thereby contribute to the improvement of local living standards.

Mountain-focused NGOs involve various levels of stakeholders from central governments to village institutions and the general public. They often communicate "mountain voices", advocate for interactive and open processes of policy formulation and act to bridge any gaps between new legislation and strategies and the realities in mountain communities. Another category of civil society organizations – mountain associations – are working with young people and hikers to promote mountain environmental knowledge, to clean up garbage and to cultivate responsible outdoor traditions. Finally, private and public foundations such as the Aga Khan Development Network have contributed to integrated mountain development.

The Regional Environmental Action Plan (REAP) approved in 2001 by all Central Asian states treats mountain ecosystems as regional environmental priorities. The Framework Convention on Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development of Central Asia, adopted in November 2006, is aiming to strengthen regional environmental cooperation in five priority areas: air pollution, water pollution, land degradation, waste management and mountain ecosystem degradation. Kyrgyzstan,



Tajikistan and Turkmenistan have signed the Convention. The Central Asian Sub-Regional Strategy for Sustainable Development, drafted in 2007–2008, is now being considered by the countries. In general, however, the progress on the implementation of all these regional agreements has been rather slow.

National strategies, programmes and action plans on biodiversity, land management, climate change, natural disasters and the environment all mention the role of mountain regions, but often do not include adequate and realistic financial provisions. They also underestimate the implementation capacities at the local level and the cross-border importance of mountain ecosystems and services. The Global Environment Facility has recently supported national exercises on improving the linkages between finance mechanisms and regional capacity-building and the action plans associated with the Rio conventions. Mountain development would benefit from an elaboration of more specific actions, from sufficient resourcing of these actions and from synergies with development projects in tourism, trade and commerce, roads and agriculture. New opportunities in climate change and renewable energy finance, support for watershed protection, and biodiversity benefit sharing and PES are among the emerging funding prospects.

With the launch of a mountain partnership in Central Asia, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan prepared national sustainable mountain development strategies and a regional strategy, but the shortage of resources over the last decade resulted in poor implementation, especially at the local level. Environmental institutions or scientific groups often designed and implemented these strategies, while the key stakeholders in agriculture, water, energy and others remained preoccupied with their own development priorities. Most economic, social and environmental development strategies in the years of independence focused on densely populated, industrial or agricultural regions, and failed to consider the specific circumstances of the mountain communities. The growing number of obligations under multilateral environmental agreements and national legislation were not matched by an increase in institutional capacity and financing priorities. The deterioration of management and enforcement capacities at both the central and local levels further constrained implementation. Stakeholder responses to new mining, water, forestry and pasture programmes and strategies varied from support to strong opposition.

New laws at the beginning of 2000 moved Kyrgyzstan toward a decentralized government with specific attention devoted to mountain areas. The Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on mountain territories was approved in 2002, and the Kyrgyz Government Decree on state support to the population living and working in high-altitude areas, in 2007. These laws provide salary and pension increments, as well as financial support for mountain schools, hospitals and infrastructure improvements. Kyrgyzstan leads Central Asia in developing decentralized governance, and offers new opportunities through legislation on the use of natural resources in such key sectors as pastures and forests.

## 1.6 Monitoring and research

Environmental monitoring and research provide an essential base for sustainable mountain development. The collection and analysis of hydrometeorological observations enable the weather and climate forecasting that benefits farmers and that supports disaster risk reduction. The monitoring of glaciers and permafrost tracks the progression of climate change, and helps scientists predict the downstream implications of a changing mountain environment. Research and conservation related to biodiversity and land resources help ensure the continuing provision of valuable ecosystem services. And geologic and seismic research encourage the development of mineral resources and lessen the potential impacts of natural disasters.

Much of the baseline information for current environmental research in the mountains comes from an ironic source – the search for Bigfoot. Rampant speculation in the 1960s regarding the existence of Bigfoot led scientists, under the guidance of K. Stanukovich, to advocate successfully for an expedition of discovery in the Pamirs. The ensuing research uncovered no credible evidence of the elusive Bigfoot, but it did establish a significant base of knowledge related to botany and physical geography, and considerably advanced environmental knowledge in the region.

### 1.6.1 Hydrometeorology

During the Soviet era, meteorological monitoring received extensive support from the state and was an important aspect of environmental planning across Central Asia. The Soviet hydrometeorological service was strategically important, but its high level of staffing and funding were beyond the means of the new countries, and over the past 20 years, the quality of the stations and the equipment has declined sharply, and the vast majority of former monitoring sites are in a state of neglect. This is due in part to the failure of the newly independent states to recognize the importance of meteorological forecasting and data and to ensure that environmental monitoring remained a priority on the national agenda. The high costs of maintaining and servicing weather monitoring stations, particularly in mountain countries, also contributed to the decline in investment in meteorological services.

Over the past decade, attitudes and perceptions have started to change in this regard, with both governments and international donors such as the World Bank, the United States Agency for International Development and the Swiss Development Cooperation recognizing the benefits of having reliable weather forecasting systems in place across the region. The role and impact of the weather on agriculture, notably crop production, is one aspect that has captured the attention of many governments in Central Asia. Equipped during Soviet times to monitor the surrounding vegetation and land, the meteorological stations proved extremely useful for the forecasting of summer grass growth and the conditions of pastures for grazing. The benefits of this agricultural meteorology are once again being recognized, and investment in the necessary infrastructure should be encouraged. Seasonal weather forecasting – the prediction of weather patterns for the coming months – is a particular challenge and requires further improvement.

The replacement of manual monitoring with modern technology and the corresponding reduction in the reliance on human labour are other important trends in meteorological observation in the region. These developments permit more efficient and consistent monitoring of weather conditions in remote and inhospitable mountain areas, but local institutions have often greeted the introduction of new technologies with hostility and distrust. This situation is changing and automatic weather stations are being integrated into daily operations. The monitoring equipment provided by donors is often specific to the country of origin, and requires specialized training as the technology varies across the region. A more coordinated approach by donors is needed in this regard.

### 1.6.2 Ice, snow and permafrost

During the Soviet era, the high mountains of Central Asia were home to 12 major glacier monitoring sites, two of which – in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan – were of global importance. Most of these stations ceased operation in the post-Soviet period, and only the major glacier observation site in Kazakhstan at Tuyksu glacier remains active, albeit in an outdated and underfunded state.

Glaciers have, however, become a hot political topic over the past few years, with heads of national governments and donors increasingly highlighting the melting of glaciers as a consequence and indicator of climate change. Central Asia's glaciers, some of which are the largest in the Eurasia, are also proving to be popular tourist attractions, putting glaciers and their protection back on the national agenda.

All of the Central Asia countries with glaciers (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) are in the process of compiling glacier inventories through a combination of field research and satellite imagery. Given that the last such assessment was done in the 1970s, this is a timely development. Since 2008, international donors have established two new monitoring sites – one near Bishkek at Adegyne glacier and the other on Enylchek, the largest glacier in Kyrgyzstan. These new multi-purpose sites are equipped to measure not just glacier activity, but also weather patterns, mountain lakes and even the movement of tectonic plates.

The methodology and approach to glacier monitoring has changed significantly since the end of Soviet rule, bringing both benefits and drawbacks for the region. On the plus side, there is now a greater involvement of local scientists in glacier monitoring activities, as opposed to the dominant involvement of experts from the central institutions in

Moscow or Tashkent. On the downside, the growing autonomy of countries within Central Asia has led to a diverse array of glacier monitoring and assessment methodologies and a subsequent lack of regional coordination and compatibility. In an attempt to overcome this problem, the long-standing glacier monitoring center in Kazakhstan, in collaboration with UNESCO, is starting to hold regional glacier-focused conferences to encourage better regional coordination. Kazakhstan and UNESCO have recently established a regional glacier centre in Almaty.

In response to the increasing impacts of climate change, a number of global researchers are heading to Central Asia to undertake ice-drilling and glacier measurement activities, a practice the Soviet authorities never extensively pursued. With the use of advanced technology, many scientific researchers are now able to drill down to depths of 1 000 metres and are developing a deeper understanding of the impact of climate change on the region's glaciers. High levels of competition between the various glacier research groups is, however, a persistent problem. The concealment of glacier data and the limited exchange of information can result in a repetition of activities and be detrimental to the development of effective measures. Moreover, deliberate attempts to ensure glacier monitoring activities are kept confidential can provoke feelings of resentment and hostility within local communities and among experts. In one instance, local glacier experts and scientists only found out that international researchers were ice-drilling in their area a year after the operation had begun.

In the Soviet period, snow researchers placed gauges in the mountains, and using helicopters, calculated highly accurate measurements of water equivalency from annual snowfall. With the withdrawal of Soviet support, these procedures proved to be too expensive to continue. Recent attempts to replace the earlier programme with satellite observations are promising, but the new approach needs more testing, and a 20-year gap in observations remains. Soviet-era meteorological stations with a focus on snow research are still in service, and continue to take manual measurements and to provide avalanche risk analysis and warnings crucial to local decision-making. Researchers have made initial efforts to automate the system of snow measurements, but the new methods are unproven.

Kazakhstan operates a special laboratory for permafrost drilling and a research site with a dozen thermometric wells up to 300 metres deep, and advises important economic sectors of their findings. This laboratory does not have the same capacity as in the Soviet period, but it delivers useful information. It conducted permafrost research at several sites in the central regions of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in the 1970s and 1980s. A renewed focus on permafrost research can assist in the development of mining and roads, rails and other infrastructure.

### 1.6.3 Biodiversity and land resources

In Central Asia, mountain biodiversity conservation is carried out in three key ways – through the upkeep of botanical gardens, animal reserves and nurseries; in specialized wild nature conservation sites; and through monitoring stations in mountain regions and nature parks and reserves. These efforts are usually funded by both national institutions and through international projects and bilateral cooperation channels. The Pamir botanical garden near the Tajik town of Khorog is one of the highest botanical gardens in the world (at an elevation of 2 000 metres), and is now a popular tourist destination. Diminished funding and local capacity, however, have resulted in a decline in the maintenance levels of many of the region's botanical gardens and natural parks. Similarly, small mountain research centres have virtually disappeared over the past 20 years, mainly as a result of privatization or poor budget management.

Nature parks have generally been retained and protected throughout the independence era, with many flora and fauna conservation programmes being carried out by scientific and public institutions across the region. While this is a welcome development, these programmes are becoming outdated and should be reassessed to account for modern trends and challenges such as climate change and an increase in invasive species. Inventories of mountain forest areas should also be carried out in a more systematic way, especially given that forest protection also directly benefits lowland areas. Kyrgyzstan, with the help of the Swiss government, is the only Central Asian country to have completed an up-to-date inventory of mountain forests, and offers hope that other countries will do the same. On the positive side, heightened global awareness and interest in the region's snow leopard and other endangered species has led to an increase in state and donor funding for biodiversity conservation.

Local authorities are starting to take more control over what was a poorly monitored and unregulated system of land use and conservation. In the immediate aftermath of independence, a chaotic period of illegal land grabbing ensued, and the central authorities were unable to determine how the land was used. Over the past five years, governments and donors have begun to pay more attention to ensuring that land is used sustainably and to investing in systems to monitor soil erosion and the quality of crop production. Up-to-date soil inventories do not exist in the region, but steps to improve this system are welcome, despite the slow level of progress so far.

Since 2000, a new focus on biodiversity research employs sophisticated techniques to link species population numbers across borders. The results of this research are used to regulate hunting and to improve biodiversity protection in the region. In addition to this effort, the World Wildlife Fund is promoting the development of maps of ecological networks and migration corridors, and is working to establish buffer zones to limit disturbances from human activity.

Finally, governments in Central Asia are looking to follow the lead of the United Kingdom and other countries in formally evaluating the monetary value of national ecosystems and their benefits. This kind of assessment will help in determining how much should be invested in nature protection initiatives and may encourage further funding. If mountain regions can prove both the value and critical importance of their existence, downstream countries may also be encouraged to invest in highland areas. These activities are in line with the Nagoya Protocol and are beneficial in ensuring that the genetic resources of countries are valued, recognized and invested in accordingly.

### 1.6.4 Geological survey and seismology

State-funded geological research during the Soviet era identified deposits of various precious minerals in significant quantities across Central Asia. Under Soviet rule, however, only a small number of mining facilities, notably in Kyrgyzstan, were given the green light to exploit the sites. In Kyrgyzstan the private sector is now taking over geological research and developing the country's mining sector. The nature of the private geological research is proving to be more detailed than in Soviet times and more oriented towards attracting global interest to Kyrgyzstan's mining sector. In contrast, Tajikistan – despite being on the path to a market economy and democratic reforms – remains reluctant to encourage private or foreign investment in the country's mining sector, and its geological research remains under-developed and lacking capacity. Kyrgyzstan provided its skilled labour force with incentives to stay in the geological research sector, but many skilled workers from Tajikistan have left the country in search of better pay and working conditions.

The infrastructure, resources and facilities needed for seismic research have largely remained in place in both Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. But although the equipment and technology has undergone a degree of modernization, routine testing at the local level has become less frequent, and the results of seismic research remain disconnected from practical implications for community facilities such as housing. Business development plans still need to take into account the potential consequences of seismic activity. (See section 2.5.1 for recent developments in seismic research in the region.)

The governments of Central Asia are increasingly better equipped to manage emergency situations. In the wake of the devastating tsunami that struck Japan in March 2011, however, and the nuclear crisis which ensued at the Fukushima nuclear plant, Central Asian countries need to review the security of their industrial facilities. Given that the region is at particular risk from flash flooding and landslides, measures to prevent accidents involving industrial facilities such as mines (and tailings), dams and power plants should be put in place.

### 1.6.5 Other mountain research

The Soviets conducted high-level research in fundamental physics in the mountains of Central Asia. This research, which focused on high-energy particles in cosmic rays,

was suspended in 1991, but Russian and other international interest in the work has given rise to the possibility of restarting the research by renewing the existing facilities and installing new equipment. The Soviets also employed high-elevation telescopes in Central Asia observatories, and these facilities are still in use for satellite tracking, navigation and orientation, and for astronomy.

The research started by the Soviets on the health effects associated with life at high elevations has expanded to include international scientists who participate with Central Asian colleagues on joint efforts, the results of which are now more widely shared in the scientific community.

## **Part 2: Case studies: Progress, changes and lessons learned**

The problems constraining sustainable mountain development are formidable, among them: environmental challenges and poor natural resource management; limited infrastructure and local development opportunities; poor economic performance and governance inefficiencies; poverty; and the erosion of education. The demand and the will to tackle these problems are on the rise and are genuine. Some demands have roots in the previous high standards and levels of education, security, energy and food sufficiency.

Over the past 20 years the Central Asian mountains have benefited from numerous sustainable development projects and initiatives. The sponsors and participants have included governments, international organizations, NGOs – both global and local – and educational and scientific institutions. This part of the report presents excerpts from case studies on selected sustainable development projects in the region. The cases are a selection of stories outlining the progress, challenges and lessons learned on the path towards sustainable mountain development in Central Asia. Individual cases demonstrate how the environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability connect and overlap, and taken together the cases show the progress made in the mountains in this critical period of adjustment. The case study projects typically relate to one or more of the trends discussed in Part 1.

### **2.1 Networks**

Three of the case study projects demonstrate the benefits of networking among groups working on mountain sustainable development – the Central Asian Mountain Partnership network, the Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities experience exchange and the Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development in Central Asia.

#### **2.1.1 The Central Asian Mountain Partnership network**

The Central Asian Mountain Partnership (CAMP) focuses on institutional development for civil society organizations:

Started with action-oriented research and baseline studies in three Central Asian countries, CAMP consisted of small-scale projects on natural resource management; livelihood and village development; community mobilization; and the introduction of participatory mechanisms. This initial work was undertaken jointly with the Centre for Development and Environment supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation. This project became especially relevant in the wake of the year 2002, which was declared the International Year of Mountains by the United Nations. At that time Central Asian states received a rare opportunity to attract the world's attention to the problems of rural people living in mountain areas.

The network aimed at promoting sustainable development in the mountainous regions of Central Asia, and soon spun off successor organizations – CAMP Alatau in Kyrgyzstan, CAMP Kuhiston in Tajikistan and CAMP Consulting in Kazakhstan, all part of the CAMP network. These newly established agencies faced the immediate challenge of strengthening their own capacity and securing institutional stability.

Civil society in Central Asia has developed significantly since 1991. A more open and enabling environment, and the urgent need to plug gaps in social services left by the withdrawal of state support, have led to the mushrooming of civil society organizations (CSOs). In Tajikistan, for example, by 2011 the number of CSOs exceeded 2 000, up from 150 operating in the mid-1990s. In Kyrgyzstan, the number of civil society organizations exceeds 8 000. Governments accept the role and contribution of CSOs to democratic transformation and socioeconomic development.

The institutional growth for the CAMP agencies took place in parallel with the formation and growth of local institutions supported under the programme: the Territorial Public Self-governance bodies (TPSBs) at the village level, and the Alliance of Mountain Communities of Central Asia and the Mountain Villages Partnership and Development Foundation at the regional level. Thanks to successful partnerships, the geographical focus of projects has been expanded and sustainability ensured. The projects on energy efficiency, pasture management and local risk management have been implemented in all three countries. As the CAMP agencies evolved in different specializations, some difficulties in cooperation arose. Currently, CAMP Consulting in Kazakhstan focuses on felt products, CAMP Kuhiston in Tajikistan is strong in disaster management and CAMP Alatau in

Kyrgyzstan focuses on pastures and mountain development in general.

The main outcome of the CAMP network effort is seen in the local capacity-building for integrated management of the natural resource base. Capacity-building efforts including the well-known training modules such as "Learning for Sustainability -L4S" helped to introduce participatory management and partnership principles, thus empowering local communities and fostering a new generation of local leadership and community-based institutions safeguarding environmental sustainability in conjunction with economic profit.

The L4S module is based on the approach developed by the Centre for Development and Environment of Bern University and adapted for local conditions by CAMP Alatau. This approach promotes group learning on priority topics related to sustainable development: sustainable pasture management, water resources management, integrated local risk management, energy efficiency, conflict over natural resources and others.

The programme mobilized local communities to take ownership of their own destinies instead of maintaining a passive, anticipatory position. As the CAMP network interventions are guided by the integrated and holistic approach to local development, many of initiatives have been replicated and scaled up by others.

Eleven years of institutional sustenance also demonstrates the growth in terms of local capacity and leadership. The geographic focus for the CAMP projects and programmes and their high degree of relevance and responsiveness to local needs have been built on strong linkages with mountain communities. The annual CAMP forum networking events provide opportunities for sharing experiences and fostering dialogue between the concerned stakeholders and the general public. The 2004 CAMP forum focused on "Social mobilization and village development"; in 2005, "The role of local self-governance in sustainable development"; in 2006, "Strategies for sustainable energy use in villages"; in 2007, "Cooperation with state structures at the local community level"; in 2008, "Mountain communities and business – dialogue and cooperation"; in 2009, "Labour migration – facing challenges and opportunities"; in 2010, "Central Asian mountain communities and climate change – call to action"; and in 2011, "Mountain Green product – challenges and opportunities for mountain communities of Central Asia". About 100 participants attended each forum. These forums bring forward the voices of mountain communities to the national and regional levels and show the importance of working together for a common goal.

#### **2.1.2 Experience exchange: The Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities**

The Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities (AGOCA) was founded in 2003 with the overall goal of assisting in the sustainable development in the Central Asian

mountains. The AGOCA approach to its goal entails training and the exchange of information and experiences:

At the foundation of the Alliance, 10 pilot villages were selected from three countries – Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan – to develop the AGOCA mission. The main expectations of the communities was that AGOCA provide updated mountain-related information to its members as well as regular exchange-of-experience visits among the villages and countries. Today, AGOCA is active in 40 villages.

Since 2003 AGOCA has carried out practical and theoretical workshops and training in such areas as:

- Solar cabinets for cooking
- Processing of dairy products at home
- Willow-twining
- Wool processing
- Microfinance
- Energy efficiency

To date, more than 2 500 villagers have participated in AGOCA training and have acquired skills and knowledge that enhance their capacity and increase their opportunities. From 2003 to 2009, twice-annual national meetings in the three countries focused on the exchange of communities' experiences and discussions of realized projects and plans for the coming year. Members who attend the exchange-of-experience visits pay only their transportation costs one way, while AGOCA covers the other way and the hosts provide meals and lodging.

The annual AGOCA Conference, rotated among the member countries, serves as a general assembly meeting of AGOCA members and Territorial Public Self-governance bodies, and is the Alliance's main decision-making body. Thanks to AGOCA training, the leaders of the TPSs have won a high degree of respect in their communities: four have become deputies in local self-governments and two have become heads of their villages.

The publishing of White Books – collections of successfully realized AGOCA projects in Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Kazakhstan – was a significant achievement. With the aim of broader dissemination of good practices among our villages and abroad, the White Books were published from 2004 to 2007 in five languages: Kyrgyz, Tajik, Kazakh, Russian and English. Once a year AGOCA also publishes its own magazine in the five AGOCA languages. Distributed through AGOCA members and partner organizations to all the countries of Central Asia, AGOCA magazine covers projects from planning to implementation, and includes recommendations and lessons learned.

In 2011, AGOCA founded the Kyrgyz language newspaper Ayil Demi (Spirit of the Village) with a circulation of 5 000. The newspaper covers the development issues of mountain communities in Kyrgyzstan and provides a platform to express their needs, thoughts and good practices.

### **2.1.3 The Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development in Central Asia**

The Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development in Central Asia (ICSD) was established in 1994 and coordinates and manages regional cooperation in environmental protection and sustainable development in Central Asia. The Commission consists of representatives from environmental ministries and agencies, and ministries of economy and science. A similar Commission dealing with water issues is composed of representatives of water ministries. The Commission allows participation of civil society organizations as observers and cooperates with the youth environmental network of Central Asia:

The Sustainable Development Commission was instrumental in developing the Regional Environmental Action Plan (2001), which targets air pollution, water resources, land degradation, mountain ecosystems and waste management. Over the last decade, the Commission produced themed reports on emerging environmental and development issues such as renewable energy, sound chemicals management, atmospheric brown cloud and stability of mountain lakes, and provided inputs to the Global Environment Outlooks 4 and 5. In 2009, the ICSD produced a draft regional strategy on adaptation to climate change. The initiative "Green Bridge", which aims to promote the partnership among Europe, Asia and the Pacific, was also facilitated and supported by the Commission.

The Commission has provided substantial inputs to the development of the "Framework Convention on Environmental Protection for Sustainable Development of Central Asia", which was endorsed in 2006. Prolonged procedures in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, however, have prevented this Convention from coming into effect. In 2007–2008, the Commission formulated a "Sub-Regional Strategy on Sustainable Development of Central Asia", which is pending approval. Both documents highlight the role of mountain areas as regionally important providers of ecosystem goods and services.

The ICSD supported the initiative of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan to establish the Regional Mountain Centre of Central Asia in Bishkek in 2007. This initiative promotes cooperation for mountain ecosystems conservation, sustainable use and improved socio-economic conditions of the mountain people. The significant continuous dependency of the Commission's activities on external funding, however, created financial vulnerability. Currently, new funding mechanisms are being discussed.

## **2.2 Food, biodiversity and land management**

The first case in this group of four is a kitchen garden project from Kyrgyzstan. The next two cases consider pasture management in the mountains. The first pasture project, also located in Kyrgyzstan, takes a community-based natural resources management approach, and works at the watershed level. The second is a cross-border collaboration between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on regional cooperation for sustainable resource management. The final case in this group is a Kyrgyz–Swiss collaboration in sustainable forestry.

### **2.2.1 Kyrgyz high-altitude kitchen gardens**

The Kyrgyzstan Mountain Societies Development Support Programme (MSDSP KG) used a multi-input area development approach in a kitchen gardens project that combined market development, natural resource management and health promotion:

The kitchen garden project links with Village Health Committees (VHCs) – independent institutions comprised of volunteers elected by the villagers and headed by a medical professionals – and works within a challenging context where villagers commonly express disbelief in the potential for vegetable cultivation in high-altitude mountain areas. Kyrgyzstan's high mountain communities have low population densities and limited market access. District center markets generally operate only once a week, and due to high transportation costs, vegetable prices are at least three times higher than in urban areas.

In 2005, an initial baseline survey of health conditions in the Alai and Chon-Alai districts of Kyrgyzstan revealed that the vast majority of health problems suffered by women and children were related to nutrient deficiencies and malnutrition. The survey demonstrated an apparent need for improved access to nutrient-rich diets to mitigate anemia especially among mountain-dwelling mothers and children.

In 2006, the MSDSP KG Health Programme launched a project to address the poor nutritional status of women and children by introducing kitchen gardens in the high-altitude communities (2 000–3 100 m) of the Alai and Chon-Alai, areas that have not traditionally grown vegetables. The introduction of vegetable cultivation is encouraged through direct training and the provision of instructional booklets, high quality seeds (tomatoes, carrots, sweet peppers, red beets and cabbage), and materials to build greenhouses. The overall objective of the project was to improve access to fresh vegetables in high-altitude communities. The project has established 310 kitchen gardens in 28 villages in the Alai and Chon-Alai districts, or in 35 per cent of the villages.

The outcomes included:

- An improved nutritional status among women and children resulting from reduced susceptibility to vitamin and mineral deficiencies
- A paradigm shift changing the perceptions of high-mountain communities about the possibility of growing vegetables in high-altitude climates
- Alternative income-generating opportunities for poor, remote mountain-dwelling households.

The kitchen gardens were initiated with a very small pilot sampling of households – just six groups (two in the Alai, four in the Chon-Alai) of less than 60 households. The present number of 310 kitchen gardening households was achieved incrementally, and specifically based on best practices as assessed annually. This methodology was a key factor in the project's success. An overall assessment of the project brings to light the successful combination of environmentally sound technologies, including climate-and altitude-appropriate techniques, which proved to coalesce for a net benefit: improved health status, improved soil quality and income generation.

Village Health Committees disseminated information and played a strong organizational role in the project from the very beginning. Their main responsibilities included disseminating information on the prevention of common diseases, assisting with immunizations, monitoring of proper nutrition and adherence to standards of sanitation and hygiene through mass campaigns and public meetings. Kitchen gardeners have since become more independent and need less support from VHCs. The Training and Extension System (TES) Centre and Osh Rural Advisory Service conducted training on making compost, conserving vegetables and preparing fresh salads and juices to obtain the maximum nutritional benefit from harvested vegetables. The TES Centre also helped develop a manual with this critical gardening information and the measures to avoid bacterial contamination (particularly botulism) during the process of canning vegetables. Local government, including Aiyl Okmutus (AOs) and village organizations, assisted in collecting information and identifying candidates for participation. The Kyrgyz Republic Ministry of Agriculture, through its district agricultural departments, benefits from the increased production in their districts in line with their mandate.

On average, each kitchen gardener generated US\$ 280 in additional income from selling vegetables. Of more than 20 kitchen gardeners interviewed, half produce enough vegetables (cabbage, tomatoes, carrots) to be able to sell a part of their harvest. In contrast to the land-use practices of typical households, this crop diversification strategy promotes the use of crop rotation, which prevents the degradation of soil quality, excessive erosion, insect and disease problems and phytotoxic effects. According to 2008 government data, potatoes were cultivated on three thousand hectares of land in the Alai and Chon-Alai districts. Almost every kitchen gardener participating in the project attested to growing solely potatoes before the intervention. Therefore, the crop diversification and rotation practices promoted food security and sustainable land use of high-mountain arable lands.

Most of the kitchen gardeners were able to preserve vegetables for the winter period from vegetables they had grown. On average, each household preserved 30–50 liters of vegetables. Socially, this improved their community standing and ability to meet the demands of holidays and receiving guests. Both the seasonally fresh vegetables and preserved vegetables contributed to the improved health status of project participants. Of the participants surveyed, 56 per cent reported improvements in health, especially in the health of women and children.

Overall, the change in attitudes was the most difficult objective to attain, and the most significant outcome of this project. Kitchen gardeners – and their many neighbours who witnessed the successful growing of vegetables

– now believe that vegetables can be grown in high-altitude mountain communities. The successes of the kitchen gardens of 310 project-sponsored households affected the attitudes and beliefs of over 9 000 households in 28 villages.

The project had no negative environmental effects, but there is the potential for future damages to soil content and pasture quality if crop rotation practices are not maintained. In order to ensure their maintenance, MSDSP KG plans to increase the capacity of local governments and district agricultural departments to serve as advocates of this environmentally sound approach.

As the success of the kitchen gardens reduced the demand for valley produce, the negative economic effects of the project fell on those businesses who earn money transporting vegetables weekly from valleys to the mountain regions. The negative social effects were limited to a lifestyle adjustment. Traditional Kyrgyz mountain communities sustained themselves primarily on livestock. Many semi-nomadic communities travel to summer pastures at high altitudes and have been doing so for generations. Vegetable cultivation requires close care and interferes with the semi-nomadic lifestyle traditionally practiced in the region.

In 2011, the kitchen gardens were studied to analyze the results of the kitchen garden initiatives, to identify the challenges faced by the beneficiaries and to discover opportunities for marketing vegetables.

Access to high-quality and climate-appropriate vegetable seeds and pest control remains one of the main challenges for project participants. There is a need to develop small seed shops locally because many kitchen gardeners from remote areas of the Chon-Alai reported travelling 300 kilometres to Osh city to locate seed vendors. Despite the relatively low concentration of pests at high altitudes, farmers are still challenged by the unavailability of insecticides and herbicides locally for their high-altitude farming practices.

Additional marketing skills are needed for kitchen gardeners who intend to increase vegetable production and serve their villages as well as neighboring ones. For instance, farmers from Jekendi and Karamyk villages of the Chon-Alai can make a wider variety of vegetables available to communities in the Kashka-Suu subdistrict, which is more than 2 800 metres above sea level, and where growing vegetables such as tomatoes and sweet peppers is difficult and arable land is limited.

The project subsidized 70 per cent of the total cost for each villager interested in starting a kitchen garden and the villager was expected to pay back 30 per cent to the project to be shared between the Village Organization and the VHC. But repayment rarely occurred on time, leaving these stakeholders empty-handed. Currently, this poor mechanism for the collection and disbursement of seed costs undermines the relationship and trust between kitchen gardeners and stakeholders. The VHCs are supposed to collect and manage the funds, but gardeners are resistant to pay because they do not have a clear understanding of the intended use of the money. Village Health Committees – and local governments, for that matter – lack the transparency needed to operate such a system. The system needs to be reevaluated and remedied.

The initiative could be expanded to other villages where communities traditionally have not grown vegetables. Further plans are being developed to organize exchange visits to other high-altitude farming environments where market approaches have been successfully integrated – in China, for example. Additionally, project evaluations suggest that kitchen gardeners would greatly benefit from improved links to input supply chains.

Additionally, the project will seek to expand the involvement of stakeholders in multiple stages of implementation. Specifically, the AOs and district agricultural departments need further training so they can play a more active role as a resource and work towards institutionalizing the healthy development of their citizens. Local government members can be invited to kitchen garden training and learn to facilitate the promotion of access to high-quality inputs.

### 2.2.2 Sustainable pasture management

One of the organizations in the Central Asian Mountain Partnership network is CAMP Alatau, an NGO that promotes sustainable development in the mountains of Kyrgyzstan. The importance of livestock grazing for mountain livelihoods and the degraded conditions of Kyrgyz pasture land prompted CAMP Alatau to initiate a project on sustainable pasture management at the watershed level:

The project covered an area of 200 000 hectares of pasture land in the watersheds of the Zhergetal and On-Archa Rivers in the mountainous Naryn region of Kyrgyzstan. Villages from five ayil okrugs (rural administrative districts) participated in the initiative. The ayil okrugs and the number of residents in each are as follows: Zhergetal (5 420); Minbulak (5 123); Onarcha (3 138); Kazankuigan (1 130); and Emgekchil (3 025).

The collaboration between CAMP Alatau and local pasture users started with awareness-raising workshops conducted for local communities. These training sessions helped to identify the village activists with whom CAMP Alatau continued to work, building their capacity as members of "pioneer" pasture committees well before the 2009 Pasture Law that gave locals the right to manage and utilize pasture resources at their own discretion. The collaboration also involved local authorities, as well as pasture departments at the village and district levels. The field office in the Naryn region maintained vertical liaison with all local stakeholders. A network of local pasture committees and microfinance agencies was created to disseminate sustainable pasture management tools developed by CAMP, and to encourage replication in other regions. Initial investments were made in repairing the pasture infrastructure and in increasing winter feed production. Learning for Sustainability (L4S) modules were developed for local community training, and field offices were set up to work with the communities of CAMP pilot villages.

The goal of CAMP's sustainable pasture management effort was to improve resource management practices through participatory and community-based processes. Addressing pasture management in all its complexity enables herders – the primary user groups – to make well-informed decisions on herd size and pasture resource management. The objectives were to enable herders to join the efforts for collective actions on the maintenance of pasture infrastructure; to improve their capacity for assessment, planning and monitoring; and to achieve the sustainable use of the common resources. Reaching these objectives would improve the productivity and profitability of the livestock sector and thereby reduce poverty.

Initial investments were made in repairing the pasture infrastructure and in increasing winter feed production. In each pilot village a micro-credit agency was established to support sustainable pasture management initiatives. This is an ongoing process, not an easy one given the difficulties of crippled infrastructure, destroyed extension services and livelihood challenges. Mobilizing herders for the co-management of resources was one of the project's biggest challenges. It took time to convince the herders of the need to change grazing practices, and to provide training in the skills necessary to maintain pasture resources and to manage herd size and quality. Prior to the 2009 Pasture Law, local institutions had no authority to manage pasture resources, and the institutional split among local, district and regional authorities often created more challenges regarding land tenure and land use in near-village, intensive and remote pastures.

As the resource base for the livestock sector is better managed, the benefits can be seen in improved environmental quality for pastures and in more areas restored. The reduced pressure on grazing land resulting from the introduction of improved breeds, together with a flexible pasture management system, improved the environmental quality of pastures and enabled the restoration of more areas. The monitoring data that pasture users were trained to collect can be used as indicators for the environmental outputs in succeeding years. The yields in terms of economic profits are visible when the herds are better managed through focusing on herd quality. Timely pasture rotation results in better fattening of the herd, thus producing more profits and a preferred quality of meat from open range grazing in high mountain pastures.

In addition to reduced poverty and increased food security, the social aspects of the project are evident in the decentralization process that reached the village level with the establishment of democratically elected Pasture Committees. In the pilot area three Pasture Committees were established and the project supported the development of local pasture management plans that include activities for pasture infrastructure improvement, including bridges and access roads to remote pastures.

One outcome of the new Kyrgyz pasture law is that with 450 legally empowered pasture committees ("Jayet Committees") nationwide, local representatives better present and promote the long-term interests of the community, while numerous intermediary institutions and bureaucracies are eliminated. Another feature is the application of the market user fee-based mechanisms that would be fully retained at the local level and reinvested into the conservation of pastures. The size of user fees varies and is set by the local community depending on the needs for sustainable use and conservation of pastures. The financial capacity available from fees rose from nine million Kyrgyz soms (US\$ 200 000) in 2008 to 33 million soms (US\$ 730 000) in 2010. In pilot villages covered by CAMP Alatau, the fee collection rates reach 80–90 per cent.

A heightened sense of community and sense of responsibility for the stewardship and ownership of resources is apparent when herders and community members sit together to coordinate their moves to summer pastures, repair bridges by mobilizing their own resources or develop and implement pasture use plans. The project's participatory and inclusive processes of negotiation, reporting and accountability contributed to local community empowerment and capacity improvement at all levels. Ulan Bakaev, 36, from Zhergetal village described his experience this way:

"The CAMP Alatau project changed my life and helped to improve the well-being of my family. A few years ago I used to be one of the village jobless trouble-makers, spending days in pottering around the village and drinking. Driven by poverty and desperately seeking for the ways to support my wife and kids, I even decided to go to Russia for earnings... But then CAMP Alatau launched their project in our ayil okrug, and I joined those folks who attended their training and became actively involved in the project activities... Now I am a member of the local Pasture Committee, I am respected by my community, they even put forward my name in the elections for the village head last year... The knowledge and skills gained in the CAMP Alatau project helped me to improve my farming management skills and earn more money. I've got skills on artificial insemination and improve not only my livestock quality, but provide services to other villagers..."

### 2.2.3 Pamir-Alai Land Management and regional cooperation in mountainous countries

A transboundary initiative of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, the Pamir-Alai Land Management (PALM) project is funded by the Global Environment Facility and numerous national and international partners. The project considers the link between poverty and land degradation, and seeks to restore, sustain and enhance the mountain ecosystems to the benefit of the economic and social well-being of the rural communities:

The project area focuses on the Pamir Mountains in Tajikistan and the Pamir-Alai Mountain ranges in Kyrgyzstan. The region is highly diverse. It contains within its borders a great variety of climatic, topographic and ecological conditions, leading to different forms of land use and to livelihood systems based on natural resources. The area can be divided into three broad subregions differentiated on the basis of topographic, climatic and socio-cultural and land-use differences.

Given that all land resources are legally the property of the state, the lack of clarity regarding private user rights for individual farm plots, together with de facto common property resources (e.g., pastures, wildlife, woodlands), encourage short-term resource exploitation rather than long-term conservation. The results include a lack of stewardship, a deterrent to invest in conservation and disputes over occupancy and resource use rights within and between local communities and local and central

government authorities. Due to the uncertainties of climate and the fluctuations in distant and local markets, local communities require secure resource rights and long-term security of land tenure and occupancy rights if they are to adopt sustainable land management practices and assume responsibility for ecosystem protection.

Several trainings, seminars and round-tables on a broad range of topics covering sustainable land management, including the FAO Land Assessment in Dry Areas (LADA) methodology were conducted in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. At present, this methodology is increasingly used by pasture committees.

The issue of pasture rotation is extremely important. A successful pasture rotation programme would allow animals to graze on remote pastures for longer periods of the year and could contribute to remediating the land degradation due to overgrazing close to the villages while at the same time increasing the quality of the livestock.

In combination with pasture management, work is needed to restore the degraded land. Most urgent is the recovery and re-establishment of shrubby vegetation and forests. This has long-term positive effects on the sustainable supply of fuel wood, on regeneration of biodiversity and wildlife and on carbon sequestration in the region.

As part of the PALM project, targeted communities in the Alai Mountains in Kyrgyzstan and in the Pamir Mountains in Tajikistan are developing their own land-use plans and implementing specific micro-projects incorporating sustainable land management. Beyond the local level, PALM supports the strategic and policy environment for sustainable land management on a regional scale. The strategy and action plan for the entire project area (endorsed in 2011) covers four priorities:

- Improving biodiversity and forest management
- Increasing the efficiency of farming
- Improving the sustainable use of mountain pastures and increasing the productivity of livestock
- Reducing risks from natural disasters.

The strategy and action plan is supported by a memorandum of understanding signed by central environmental authorities of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and by the administrations of the Osh Province in Kyrgyzstan and the Mountain Badakhshan Autonomous Province and the Jergetal district in Tajikistan.

In parallel, research and advisory agencies are working with local communities on targeted approaches – such as introducing improved fodder cropping and improved goat husbandry; an analysis of the value chain of local products from the Pamir Alai region; promoting community-based protection areas and wildlife protection; and the mapping of local small-scale hydropower potential and natural disaster hazards and land use risks in the area

– as well as on assessing global and regional price trends and the demand for wool, berries and medicinal plants.

Local experts consider that the experience gained in the PALM project implementation is worth demonstrating in other mountain areas of Central Asia and beyond. One mechanism for knowledge exchange is the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT), which already features selected PALM lessons.

Jamoats in Tajikistan and aйл okmots in Kyrgyzstan, are distinct administrative, legal and political entities at the lowest level of local government. Each of these subdistrict units contains 2–6 settlements that, while forming separate communities, usually have some common social ties based on ethnicity, geographic location and ecosystem resource use.

Each jamoat/aйл okmotu community land-use plan and sustainable land management strategy includes a portfolio of micro-projects for those agreed priority component activities that require external investment funding. To be eligible for financial support, a micro-project must be one with a need identified through the community land-use planning process. To date, more than US\$ 200 000 were provided as grants for co-financing of micro-projects. The projects' implementation must also be expected to make a positive contribution to reducing poverty while restoring, sustaining and enhancing the productive capacity and protective functions of the ecosystem resources of the High Pamir and Pamir Alai Mountains. The concept of environmentally sensitive tourism is worth pursuing as a potential future income-generator.

#### **2.2.4 Community-based forestry**

The Kyrgyz–Swiss Forestry Support programme (KIRFOR) was launched in 1995 to develop and maintain forest sector reform in Kyrgyzstan with a focus on productive and sustainable forest management. The main participants were the State Agency for Environment and Forestry, the National Forest Institute, the State Agency for Local Self Governance, aйл okmotu and forest enterprises. Funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, the KIRFOR programme was implemented by Interooperation – a leading Swiss non-profit organization – and by the Swiss Foundation for Development and International Cooperation (SDC):

The problems resulting from human impact on the forests of Kyrgyzstan prompted the adoption of urgent measures to implement a comprehensive policy of multilateral cooperation in the sustainable development of forests. The goals included the improvement of the quality of life, the strengthening of local economies and the conservation of natural resources.

From the outset, institutional reform was a priority. The KIRFOR programme began at the field level with the

reform of forestry practices then extended to the national level and included an intersectoral approach.

The basic approach to the development of national forest policy in Kyrgyzstan is a working partnership involving stakeholders from state agencies, forest management, science, local communities, the private sector and civil society in a "bottom-up" approach. The development of the forestry sector of Kyrgyzstan was viewed as a constant process of reform through the optimization of control systems, the improvement of relationships and the introduction of modern technologies, all coupled with capacity-building.

The current national forest policy in Kyrgyzstan provides a systematic examination of the problems of the forest based on three elements: "Forest-Man-State". "Forest" includes the imperative of stability of forest resources and biodiversity. "Man" in forest policy reflects the need to involve local communities and the private sector in forest management, and to account for their influence and interests in forest management.

The role of "State" in the forestry sector is changing with the course of social development. Under the provisions of national forest policy, the state reserves the controlling and regulating function and passes the production functions of forest management to local communities and the private sector. Together these three elements are intended to create a sustainable forest management system that preserves and increases forests while contributing to socio-economic development.

The need to develop new approaches for forest resources is due to the real environmental situation and the dynamics of socio-economic development. The main threat to the stability of forest ecosystems has come from the growing pressure on local populations forced to make use of natural resources in their lives. Prohibitions on forest use have only created conflict. Today, the centralized system of forest management, due to lack of resources, cannot fully ensure the sustainability of forest development. Therefore, a sustainable forest management community is the most promising management option for forest conservation and renewal.

After studying traditional forest management schemes, Kyrgyzstan introduced community forest management, an experimental approach that engaged community groups and

local authorities to manage forests. The development of cooperation between the forestry sector and ayil okmotu has created a framework for information sharing, planning and decision-making.

A positive result of the efforts in the development of a new national forest policy for Kyrgyzstan was a package of documents designed to create the conditions necessary for the preservation, growth and sustainable use of forests, and in sustainable forest sector development:

- The concept of sustainable development of forestry until 2025, approved by the government in 2004
- The National Forest Programme 2005–2010, approved by the government in 2004
- The National Action Plan for Forestry 2006–2010, approved by the government in 2006
- A new plan for 2011–2015, pending approval by the government
- An Action Plan to strengthen law enforcement and governance in the forestry sector, approved by the government in 2009.

Despite the success of the KIRFOR programme in walnut and fruit forests, implementation of sustainable forest management is far from complete. The remaining challenges include involving local populations in the participatory management of other types of forests, particularly juniper, spruce and riverside forests. Building upon the experience gained from the KIRFOR programme, the Kyrgyz authorities, with support from donors (the Japan International Cooperation Agency and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), are developing joint forest management models that should allow forest enterprises, ayil okmotu and local communities to plan and implement decisions together.

### 2.3 Climate change and natural disasters

Two case studies focus on the related issues of climate change and natural disasters. The first is a pilot study on climate resilience, and the second is a tree-planting project designed to stabilize mountain slopes.

#### 2.3.1 Climate change: Pilot Program for Climate Resilience in Tajikistan

The Centre for Climate Change and Disaster Reduction, a local NGO in Tajikistan, addresses the issues of climate change adaptation and natural disaster risk reduction in mountain regions. Oxfam GB in Tajikistan funded and facilitated this study:

The Strategic Climate Fund provided Pilot Program for Climate Resilience (PPCR) funding for eight recipient countries (Bangladesh, Bolivia, Cambodia, Mozambique, Nepal, Tajikistan, Yemen and Zambia) and two regions (the Caribbean and Pacific). The criteria for participation in the PPCR included the level of vulnerability to climate change hazards and risks, country preparedness to move towards climate resilient development plans and country distribution across regions and types of hazards. The participation of Tajikistan as a landlocked mountain country in the PPCR is justified by its high vulnerability and low adaptive capacity to cope with the current climate variability that will likely exacerbate existing development challenges. In Tajikistan the PPCR is coordinated by the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

This study analyses the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience in Tajikistan. The goal of the PPCR is to help countries adopt a climate-resilient development path that is consistent with national poverty reduction and sustainable development goals. The main objectives of the study were to identify lessons learned and to make recommendations for channeling climate change adaptation funds in the context of Tajikistan. The study was based on interviews and focus group discussions with a wide range of stakeholders. Participants included representatives of government institutions, international and local NGOs, academia, bilateral and multilateral donors and civil society.

The key outcomes of the PPCR are the development of the Strategic Program for Climate Resilience (SPCR) and the approval from the Climate Investment Fund of a US\$ 50 million grant for a 3–5 year period. The project areas set to receive SPCR funding include:

- Capacity-building for climate resilience
- Improving weather, climate and hydrological service delivery
- Improving climate science and modelling
- Enhancing climate resilience in the energy sector
- Developing sustainable agriculture and land management
- Building climate resilience in the Panj River basin.

With the exception of the last item, the list specifies no geographic area for any of the projects. The region

would benefit from an equitable distribution of funds across both programmatic and geographic areas.

The critical lessons learned and recommendations of the Pilot Program for Climate Resilience in Tajikistan include:

- PPCR-funded projects should address the needs of those most vulnerable to climate change and contribute to the sustainable development of the country
- The Government of Tajikistan should be the primary actor in designing, implementing and channeling resources for national climate change adaptation strategies
- Civil society and communities should be guaranteed meaningful participation throughout the process of planning and implementing climate funding
- Capacity-building should accompany climate funding
- Climate funding processes should be transparent and accountable to the people of Tajikistan
- Country-level ownership of adaptation finance is required
- Gender equality and women's participation should be central to climate funding
- National climate funding approaches should be informed by existing models.

The PPCR process faced high expectations from a wide range of interested parties and could not hope to meet all of them. The PPCR could have provided, and still should



provide, a real opportunity to pilot ways of reaching those most impacted by climate change in ways that could radically improve their quality of life.

The results of the study were published as a report (in English, Russian and Tajik) and presented to the public and relevant stakeholders in order to address the gaps and lessons learned in the first phase of the PPCR. The report is available online at: <http://www.oxfam.org/en/policy/climate-change-investment-resilience-tajikistan>.

### 2.3.2 The stabilization of hazardous mountain slopes through planting fruit trees

Camp Kuhiston took an integrated approach linking disaster risk management in mountains with the planting of appropriate fruit tree species to improve land productivity in the Nurobod district:

In the Nurobod district of central Tajikistan, numerous tributaries flowing from the high mountains have cut deep gorges into the soft loess soils, and during the spring snow melt there is a risk of floods, landslides and

mudflows that threaten mountain communities. In the spring of 2010, the single local road that links the 26 villages in the area to the main road to the capital Dushanbe was blocked for 41 days due to a mudslide.

CAMP Kuhiston catalysed donor support and facilitated disaster risk management training and tree planting to stabilize hazardous mountain slopes around the villages. Initially, the local government showed limited interest, but when the practical interventions started, it became more interested and supportive. The Tajik Horticulture Institute developed a tree planting plan, selected saplings, conducted training and monitored tree development. This was complemented by soil sampling by the Tajik Soil Institute. The head of the village initiated a local community action day known as a khashar to erect a wire fence and to plant the saplings in accordance with the plan.

The project targeted about 300 community members, who increased their natural disaster management skills and who participated in local risk assessments, the formulation of mitigation measures and emergency response. A total of 2 000 fruit trees (peach, apple, quince, walnut, pear, cherry and apricot) were planted in seven communities. The trees will stabilize the soil cover, improve the soil structure and increase the nutrient content of the soil. As the trees have grown and become established, the risk of natural hazardous such as floods and mudslides has decreased. Up to 100 people received training on fruit tree planting and on soil and water conservation measures. The newly planted peach trees suffered in the heavy spring rains, and their growth was not as rapid as first hoped. But they survived and will most likely produce fruit in several years. This case study was documented in the World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies database.

Over-exploitation of natural resources is one of the unsustainable activities leading to increased risk of natural disasters. Shahtuti Bolo village burns almost 12 metric tonnes of dry wood per year, and the average annual fuel bill is US\$ 350 per household, both amounts typical for the Nurobod district. To supplement the planting of the fruit trees, a campaign on energy efficiency measures is under way to reduce the amount of biomass burned by households. This is achieved by improvements in outdoor cooking stoves, by introducing energy efficient indoor stoves and through better thermal insulation and the installation of solar water heaters.

### 2.4 Community-based tourism

The prospects for tourism in Central Asia have improved since independence, and Kyrgyzstan in particular has worked to develop the sector. Ecotourism and cultural community-based tourism, generally regarded as sustainable development activities, offer significant opportunities at the national and local levels. Community-based tourism is the practice of providing tourism services that utilize local accommodation, food, music, crafts and traditions. The experience of Bokonbaevo village, Issyk-Kul Province, Kyrgyzstan, demonstrates some of the possibilities:

Based on the idea that ecotourism ensures the protection and careful use of natural resources and benefits the local population, and in light of the importance of tourism in general, the Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities provided training to its members on "Sustainable Use of Natural Resources: Techniques for Receiving Tourists". More than 150 participants from seven villages attended the training sessions. The training covered topics of hospitality; service orientation; language courses for local guides; food and beverage service; and environmental safeguarding practices. The communities were supported in their marketing and public outreach activities. Later, standards and classifications for guest houses were introduced. As a result, most of villages initiated ecotourism products and one of those villages is Bokonbaevo.

This initiative was launched with the aim of reviving forgotten kinds of tourism and introducing visitors to the national customs, games, horse-riding and life in traditional Kyrgyz yurts.

The social and cultural aspects of Bokonbaevo tourism activities foster preservation of traditional culture, knowledge and skills. Overall, up to one fourth of the total village population of 12 000 is involved in activities associated with tourism, including homestay, cultural sightseeing, trekking, horse-riding, ecological food products and handicrafts. In addition, the "One village-One product" project contributed to the quality improvement and competitiveness of local products in this and other villages around Lake Issyk-Kul.

The Bokonbaevo community-based tourism (CBT) association, in cooperation with local self-government bodies, organizes annual events with such themes as:

- Promotion of traditional embroidery such as saima and shyrdak
- Demonstration of Kyrgyz horses
- Southern Lake Issyk-Kul beach clean-up.

Community-based tourism differs from commercial tourism in the way income is generated and distributed: all the income remains in the villages where the CBT members decide themselves how to distribute it. By creating demand in tour products and locally produced goods and services, tourism has many positive direct and indirect economic outcomes on local livelihood and rural poverty alleviation. The jobs that were previously available only to skilled non-locals employed by commercial tourism companies based in the capital city are now filled by local residents. Guides, interpreters, cooks and chefs, drivers and managers all come from the local community. This promotes social balance, justice and inclusiveness for local communities.

Environmental considerations for minimizing the adverse impacts from tourism include programmes on waste management. As the ecosystem services and goods are exploited for profit generation, the local communities invest 5–20 per cent of the income in environmental conservation. The use of renewable energy in guest houses and other services helps to raise awareness at the household and small business levels and to reduce the carbon footprint of the local tourism sector. An energy efficiency programme run by CAMP Alatau installed 100 energy-efficient stoves, and improved thermal insulation for 30 houses in Bokonbaevo village.

Community-based tourism services can be easily booked centrally through the Bishkek coordination office or via CBT in villages across Kyrgyzstan. The CBT Bokonbaevo earns more than US\$ 10 000 per summer season, but the cold off season for tourism (lasting for 8–9 months) is problematic. In this context, the village is looking forward for cooperation with tourism service providers in the skiing sector.

## 2.5 Science and education

The last two case studies concern developments in the areas of science and education. The Central Asia Cross-Border Natural Disaster Prevention (CASCADE) project focuses on capacity-building in the area of disaster risk reduction, specifically earthquake risk reduction. The University of Central Asia is a multi-campus regional institution with ambitions to become a global leader in higher education.

### 2.5.1 Earthquake risk reduction: The CASCADE project

Initiated by the German Foreign Office in 2008, CASCADE is implemented by the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ)—Helmholtz Centre in Potsdam and the Central-Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences (CAIAG):

The representatives of Central Asian agencies involved in disaster risk management, among them decision-makers from ministries responsible for emergency response and leading seismologists from Germany and Central Asia, met together to confirm their readiness to join efforts in earthquake risk reduction in Central Asia, to establish the platform for political and scientific cooperation and to implement the coordinate concept of seismological monitoring in Central Asia.

The project objective was to strengthen international and regional cooperation in disaster prevention and risk management in order to minimize the consequences of earthquakes. One part of the project concentrated on science and one part on capacity-building.

The scientific component included:

- Installation of a cross-border seismic network
- Seismic microzonation
- Assessment of building vulnerability.

Experts from GFZ, CAIAG and the national institutes of seismology in five countries established the Central Asian Real Time Monitoring System. Six seismic stations, located in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, operate within this network, and the last seismic station is scheduled to be installed in Uzbekistan in the fall of 2011. The main feature of this network is real-time data flow. A seismoComp3 system was installed in the data centres of each partner allowing local scientists to receive, analyse and archive the continuous data streaming from different countries in Central Asia.

The CASCADE project devoted strong efforts to collecting data about the seismic vulnerability of the building stock in the different countries, and worked with local partners on the harmonization of the vulnerability classification, converting, as a first step, the original local classification to a common scale. The information will be exploited in future collaborations to improve the development of seismic risk scenarios for Central Asia.

In developed countries, earthquake risk reduction strategies are not centred as much on forecasting as on earthquake-resistant construction. Scientists and regulators use seismic microzonation to develop building codes that contemplate the specific seismic characteristics of an earthquake-prone area in defining the specific construction requirements. Microzonation is basically site-specific risk analysis that considers the geophysical qualities of a given area in order to understand the potential consequences of an earthquake. The project's seismic microzonation of Bishkek, for example, allows analysts to quantify the expected differences in earthquake hazards within the city based on local site effects. The Bishkek experience highlights the need for similar studies in the main cities of Central Asia, especially in light of population growth and urbanization.

The project did not focus on technology alone. Capacity-building and awareness-raising activities targeted scientists and engineers as well as decision-makers, regional planning authorities, educators, civil society representatives and the mass media. Central Asian scientists were trained in the use of modern seismological equipment, in the newest technologies for data processing and analysis and on advanced techniques for estimating site effects in urban areas. Overall, the capacity-building effort trained more than 200 persons.

### 2.5.2 The University of Central Asia: One university, three campuses

Founded in 2000 to promote Central Asian social and economic development, the University of Central Asia (UCA) is a secular and private institution established by the International Treaty and Charter signed by the Presidents of Tajikistan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Kazakhstan, and by His Highness the Aga Khan:

UCA aims to achieve its education and development goals through three schools (a Graduate School of Development, an undergraduate School of Arts and Sciences and a School of Professional and Continuing Education), a Research Program (including the Mountain Societies Research Centre and the Institute for Public Policy and Public Administration), a Central Asian Faculty Development Program and a Humanities Program. The University also aims to develop and maintain itself in a manner that benefits the social and economic development of nearby communities and the region as a whole.

UCA is located in and designed to serve the mountain regions of Central Asia. The University will have residential campuses in Tekeli (Kazakhstan), Naryn (Kyrgyz Republic) and Khorog (Tajikistan). The UCA School of Professional and Continuing Education has learning facilities in these locations as well as in the region's capital cities and other locations, including Northeast Afghanistan.

As one of more than a dozen institutions within the larger Aga Khan Development Network, UCA connects directly with mountain societies through AKDN agencies such as the Aga Khan Foundation and the Mountain Societies Development Support Program in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan and the Rural Support Program in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The University collaborates with a wide range of government agencies and departments. Existing professional development programs are currently supported by more than 40 memorandums of understanding with its three Founding States. Critical to UCA's programs are its relationships with universities in Europe, North America and elsewhere in Asia. Also, UCA is the host of the Central Asia regional hub of the Mountain Partnership and Mountain Forum as well as the Swiss-based National Centre for Competence in Research North–South.

Certain UCA programs are currently operational, while others, including the undergraduate and graduate programs, are in the planning stages. The University is currently supporting 30 Central Asian Faculty Development scholars to pursue post-graduate studies at international partner universities. These scholars will return to UCA to serve as faculty. These scholars are part of a program to help UCA achieve its aim of having 80 per cent of its faculty be from the region and to hold doctoral degrees earned at universities meeting international standards. At the School of Professional and Continuing Education, more than 34 000 learners have participated in internationally benchmarked non-degree programmes such as accounting; information technology; applied languages; entrepreneurship and microfinance; tourism; public administration; and technical and vocational education. Some graduates are envisioned to serve as support staff for the university in the future. In 2010, 154 trained instructors at 35 universities in the region were using the Aga Khan Humanities Program (AKHP) curriculum and were reaching 7 500 learners. The AKHP curriculum was developed to provide education that promotes principles of pluralism, ethics, democratic values and social justice. The University employs 400 full-time staff (more than 95 per cent Central Asian) and is creating jobs in rural communities in an era of labour migration and urbanization. The University also trains and temporarily employs 400–450 staff annually in activities associated with the construction of the university campuses. The number of construction staff is expected to increase dramatically with the initiation of major

construction of the three campuses in 2012.

Several key factors have enabled UCA's early achievements and have laid the foundation for long-term success. First, the Aga Khan and the Aga Khan Development Network have made a long-term commitment to establish UCA not as a project, but as a permanent institution. University planners have the benefit of knowing that UCA will receive financial and technical support in the early years to establish its financial footing. Second, UCA is nested within AKDN and benefits from the Network's extensive experience in the Central Asia region. Third, the concept of UCA was developed over a number of years by leading international and regional intellectuals, practitioners and other resource people. This in-depth analysis of the need for and role of UCA established a solid conceptual foundation for the university. Fourth, while making the commitments from the international treaty operational has sometimes proven challenging, the existence of the treaty represents the high-level political commitment necessary to achieve the grand ambitions of UCA. Finally, the regional presence of UCA with its three campuses is a unique characteristic that has been attractive to international educational institutions and funders that want to expand their reach to the region through dealing with only one institution.

## 2.6 Integrated approach to mountain development

Since 1992 the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) and the Aga Khan Development Network have worked in mountain communities in many regions of Tajikistan. Collaborating with individual agencies in such areas as economic development, education, cultural revitalization, health care and financial services, the AKDN seeks to build institutions and programmes that respond to the challenges and opportunities of social, economic and cultural growth in Tajikistan. The Mountain Societies Development Support Programme (MSDSP), sponsored by the AKF, works in several areas in rural development – natural resource management, community development, enterprise development, engineering and policy and evaluation. The programme targets a population of more than 730 000 people:

Since 1998, MSDSP has been working with local community-based organizations to strengthen their capacity to identify, prioritize and realize their development agendas. The programme supports communities to establish their own community-based groups and provides them with institutional support in the form of training, capacity-building and community development funds. At the local level, these organizations are called village organizations (VOs). To date, MSDSP has supported over 1 150 VOs with more than 100 000 active village members, half of them women.

Since 1997, MSDSP has supported the construction or rehabilitation of 400 water and sanitation projects, 864 irrigation projects, 270 road and bridge projects, 280 health facilities, 158 schools and 28 mini hydropower projects. Alongside every project, the MSDSP enables community-based organizations and local governments to ensure their maintenance over the long term through special interest groups, such as Water User Associations and similar units.

The Aga Khan Development Network established the First MicroFinanceBank of Tajikistan (FMFB) in 2003, the first fully licensed commercial bank in the country to have a principal focus on micro-credit lending. One of the most important products that FMFB offers is a group loan, aimed at the poorer segments of Tajik population who have difficulty providing collateral to the Bank. Based on the principle of group solidarity, the loan is given to a group of 3–10 individuals and repayment becomes a collective responsibility; each member effectively guarantees the repayment of the other members. Group loans are often offered to women, usually for small business start-up costs or small-scale agricultural production.

A core MSDSP strategic direction is to increase rural incomes and employment by strengthening the private sector through micro-and small-enterprises, business services and capital.

Agricultural processing and tourism are among strategic areas for local business development.

The Aga Khan Development Network sponsors opportunities for local market development and cultural exchange along the Tajik-Afghan border. Providing communities on both sides of the border with access to opportunity increases the potential for income generation and improved livelihoods. Cross-border activities began in 2006 at Darvaz then expanded into other areas to promote local markets and the exchange of ideas.

The Aga Khan Community Health Project works to empower community members and community-based organizations to address their own healthcare needs. Since its inception, the Project has trained over 500 community health promoters.

The Nursing Development Project aims to improve the education of nurses in Tajikistan. In partnership with the World Health Organization, the project has developed and implemented a new four-year nursing curriculum in all medical colleges of Tajikistan. Teachers from nursing institutions throughout the country are now trained in an expanded range of disciplines including sociology, psychology, nursing management, family health, communication, health promotion and safe motherhood.

In 2001, the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development (AKFED) launched the Indigo mobile telephony company in Tajikistan as part of an effort to improve service and spur competition in the country's mobile services industry. In March 2010, the company announced the change of its brand to Tcell. Today, Tcell is the largest mobile operator in Tajikistan by revenue, with annual figures in excess of US\$ 110 million, and by subscriber base, with a 35.5 per cent market share in 2010 (over two million subscribers). It has become an exemplar in the country for its corporate practices and customer service.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 and civil war, Tajikistan's electrical infrastructure was in need of significant investment. Among the most affected areas was the Mountain Badakhshan Autonomous Province, where economic and human development was stifled during the cold winter months as a result of a lack of electricity for heating and the consequent closure of schools, health centres and businesses. Many of the region's 220 000 residents resorted to wood fuel for their heating and cooking needs during the winter, resulting in the decimation of local forests. The AKFED, in partnership with the International Finance Corporation, formed the PamirEnergy Company in 2002 to address the situation. Over US\$ 30 million has since been invested by the company to repair the electrical infrastructure of the province and to expand hydroelectric capacity. In the wake of these efforts, almost 90 per cent of the region's inhabitants now have access to electricity while tariff subsidies have ensured that even the poorest households are able to access power.

## 2.7 Lessons learned

Making generalizations from any case study is a risky proposition. By their nature case studies are specific to a particular time and place, and the degree to which the experience is transferrable to any other time and place is subject to the comparability of the circumstances. A project such as the Kyrgyz kitchen gardens, for example, may not work in neighbouring Tajikistan much less in Morocco or Panama. On the other hand, conditions may be sufficiently similar that a kitchen garden project would succeed in these other countries. The point to remember is that the people in the other places are in the best position to decide whether such a project would work, and whether some adjustments for local conditions might be necessary. The replication of successes is an inherent goal of pilot projects. The highest value of the cases presented here is in the potential transfer of knowledge to others in a similar situation.

The literature on sustainable mountain development is rich with advice on practices that have proven effective over time and across space. Extensive research and field experience have led to a broad agreement on the important considerations for successful sustainable development. Professionals in the field are likely to advocate for:

- A decentralized approach that provides local participants with a share in decision-making

- A capacity-building function that assists participants to acquire the tools and knowledge necessary to succeed
- The broad participation of civil society, NGOs and decision-makers at all levels
- A strong and effective process for incorporating the views of stakeholders
- The inclusion of all relevant sectors
- A process that honours traditional knowledge
- A multidisciplinary and geographically focused approach
- A balance among the three components (environmental, economic and social) of sustainable development.

Conforming to this guidance may not guarantee a project's success, but the failure to conform may increase the likelihood of failure. Where there is no tradition of local participation in civic affairs, adherence to the best sustainable development practices may be more difficult, but the experience of the Central Asian mountain projects reported here suggests that the effort to overcome the barriers to broad participation is rewarded by the success of the projects.

The capacity-building component of sustainable development can include a wide range of activities – from workshops on the processes to be followed to training on the specific tasks necessary to implement a project to institution-building. The CASCADE earthquake risk reduction project, for example, applied a highly sophisticated analysis of seismic data to the development of an appropriate building code. The capacity-building component of the project focused on helping scientists, engineers and decision-makers understand the seismological equipment and technology used in the analysis. The project succeeded in training 200 people, a significant increase in the knowledge base needed to develop earthquake building code. In the meantime, however, rapid urbanization in Bishkek ran ahead of the seismic study, and the informal and unregulated settlements that sprang up must now be integrated into the city structure. The Bishkek experience indicates the importance of having the necessary institutions in place as part of the context for sustainable development – the success of the seismic project now depends on the development of the institutional capacity to regulate the construction of new buildings and the retrofitting of existing buildings.

Two of the networking case studies provide the kind of modest lessons learned that connect directly to the experience gained from the projects. The CAMP study found that the introduction of participatory and partnership principles to replace the centralized command system required the development of new systems; that consolidating the efforts for more coordinated and cohesive interventions required the strengthening of institutional capacity at all levels; and that institutional development required investment in human potential and local capacity-building. The AGOCA experience exchange found that neglectful and careless selection of training participants leads to a reduction in the percentage of participants who benefit from the project. This finding led to the strengthening of the selection process.

The CAMP Alatau pasture management project also derived lessons directly from their work. In this case the findings have implications for the science, financial requirements, scale and policy considerations for pasture management. The study finds that the complexity of sustainable pasture management requires a holistic, multidisciplinary and integrated approach; that policy level interventions and practical implementation of the work needs to be supported with the allocation of sufficient financial resources; and that future sustainable pasture management interventions should be undertaken at the watershed scale to address the upstream and downstream and transboundary aspects of mountain massifs that span two or more countries. The CAMP Alatau project concludes that raising awareness and promoting the concept of payment for ecosystem services is of the utmost importance.

The analysis of mountain development in Central Asia beyond the case studies also shows that:

- Political stability and conflict avoidance are the key factors for sustainable mountain development.
- Personal safety, food and energy security, decent jobs, health and education, and poverty alleviation are the key priorities for people in the Central Asia mountains. If these basic necessities are not addressed and balanced, sustainable mountain development and environmental protection cannot be ensured.
- Good governance, corruption prevention, transparency and participation in decision-making in the main economic and social sectors are paramount to success of development projects in the mountains.
- Communication of easily understandable, reliable information is crucial for public understanding, support and motivation to act responsibly.
- The absence of well-defined property and management rights and responsibilities puts constraints on, and adds uncertainties to, sustainable mountain development.
- Heavy reliance on subsidies (as in the Soviet period), natural resource extraction and use without benefit sharing (as in the energy and mining sectors) and continuing reliance on substantial external donor inputs may lead to unsustainable mountain development patterns that could hit hard in times of abrupt change.
- Affordable microfinance, successful demonstration projects and new knowledge often lead to self-reliance.
- The valuation of mountain ecosystem services and the provision for ecosystem carrying capacity, including the regulation and mitigation of man-made pressures, are essential to mountain development and benefit sharing.
- Legislation and programmes on mountain development are essential, and need to be supported by efficient institutions and resources.
- The lack of willingness to cooperate and the tensions between upstream and downstream countries (mainly on region's delicate and politicized water issues) impede regional cooperation.

### Part 3: Opportunities and the prospects for a green economy

The trends enumerated in Part 1 have influenced, and continue to influence, the development of the new Central Asian countries – for better or for worse. The countries may seem at times to be at the mercy of the geopolitical, socio-economic and global forces at work, but the trends associated with these forces provide an array of opportunities as diverse and profound as the forces themselves. The governments, communities and people who take advantage of the opportunities afforded by the trends stand to benefit for years to come. This part of the report offers suggestions on where the best opportunities may lie and on how the people of Central Asia might seize them to their advantage.

#### 3.1 Opportunities associated with the trends

The transition to independence required the new countries to establish their own governments and economies without their former reliance on the Soviets for administration, planning and finance. The end of dependence on the Soviet state paved the way for self-reliance at both the state and individual levels. With greater exposure to the international community and more responsibility for their own destinies, the new countries are learning to tackle their own problems. The progress in responding to the

depletion of mountain resources, for example, is an area where the advice and assistance of the international community over the last 20 years has helped develop the knowledge and skills necessary for the task, and has created the opportunity for continuing success at the state, local and individual levels.

### 3.1.1 Independence and governance

As the countries have developed their own legislation and the corresponding enforcement regimes, they have replaced the former centralized and subsidized system. Continuing this work, and strengthening what now exists on the basis of their own resources, will help the countries establish the rule of law. At both the national and local levels there are opportunities to develop governance that leads to greater stability, prosperity and sustainability.

Even today, almost twenty years after the Rio 1992 Summit, which highlighted the importance of mountain ecosystems in Agenda 21, the national development strategies in key socio-economic sectors do not fully consider mountain ecosystem services and sometimes lack consistency with national environmental and sustainable development strategies. By truly incorporating environmental and sustainable development considerations into their national strategies, the countries can seize the opportunity for better coordination and efficiency among their planning efforts, and can realize the synergy that comes with the participation of all the relevant players.

Legislation and programmes that target mountain territories are already in place in Central Asia, but they need to be enriched by international practices and strengthened to support sustainable development. The consolidation of efforts and the creation of a mountain countries group under the United Nations could help to define and promote common interests and exchange good practices.

Another initiative, initially proposed by Kyrgyzstan in 2005 and being increasingly pursued by the Kyrgyz government since then, is the exchange of external debt for sustainable development. The idea behind this mechanism is that the lender would agree to convert debt repayments into support for sustainable development projects. A similar system was successful in Latin American countries, and Kyrgyzstan is hoping to replicate that success.

### 3.1.2 New borders and mobility

At the beginning of independence, the Central Asian countries placed a high priority on the definition of the new international borders and the development of new border controls. In the mountains, where the terrain is complex and travel is difficult, the new border controls have worsened the situation by further restricting the movement of goods and people. The establishment of travel corridors that easily accommodate the movement of goods and people would enable commerce to the benefit of the states and to the people who live near the borders. All the Central Asian countries would stand to gain from the improvement of travel corridors, and the situation is ripe for international cooperation in the development of mutually beneficial solutions.

### 3.1.3 Sub-national cooperation

The political and economic assistance to Central Asia has come in the form of multilateral and bilateral aid from a variety of sources. While traditional cooperation across borders is normally a bilateral endeavour between countries, there are an increasing number of sub-national efforts occurring at city and regional levels. These efforts offer the opportunity to explore more fully the benefits of experience exchanges and direct cooperation on mutual concerns. International organizations with specific expertise, through better coordination of their work, could build on this experience with programmes that provide assistance at the community, rather than at the national level, and that link lowland benefits to mountain projects and vice versa.

### 3.1.4 Climate change

Climate change and natural disasters require responses at a national level, but there are also opportunities for regional cooperation across Central Asia. Currently the countries of the region conduct their own research and devise their own climate change policies and disaster risk reduction strategies. A lessening of the political barriers among the countries could encourage collaboration and the exchange of knowledge that could lead to a more effective regional response to climate change and natural disasters in the lowlands as well as in the mountains. While the mountain communities do not contribute significantly to greenhouse gas emissions, the mountain regions will benefit from any progress on mitigating climate change. The mountains have a vast potential for carbon storage through afforestation projects, and sustainable land use practices to enhance this potential will benefit the entire region.

Mountains are complex environments with complex climates, and the response to the effects of climate change requires a greater effort to consider the specific mountain conditions. Flatland approaches may not apply, and targeted research and interventions are necessary for an effective response. The lowlands are affected by climate change in the mountains, and the lowland countries are well advised to account for mountain ecosystems in their planning. Mountain environments are particularly sensitive to climate change, and are often the first place where the effects are visible – in shrinking glaciers, for example. This sensitivity and visibility create the opportunity to increase awareness of climate change in the mountains, and to build support for an effective local, national and regional response.

The total GHG emissions in Central Asia are projected to grow in the coming decade in almost all scenarios reported by the countries. From the perspective of mitigating global climate change this is an unfortunate development and more could be done to increase energy efficiency, promote the use of renewable energy sources and efficient stoves and increase resilience to climate change through adaptation.

### 3.1.5 Natural disasters

Disaster risk reduction strategies need to contemplate the links between natural and industrial hazards both within and between countries. Where existing resources are inefficiently spent, there are opportunities for greater cooperation among the ministries and institutions that have responsibility for seismic and flood monitoring, industrial risk analysis and disaster relief.

### 3.1.6 Biodiversity management and conservation

The expansion of protected areas in the independence era, including cross-border natural parks and biosphere reserves, has created a foundation for further protection of the region's rich biodiversity. Special reserves for watershed protection or forestry afford the opportunity for stronger measures to protect native flora and fauna, especially in the mountains.

The mountains are a warehouse of genetic resources related to agriculture, and as such offer an opportunity for further promotion and research. Governments can provide incentives, such as discounts or local produce promotions, to farmers to maintain local varieties alongside other crops, and international organizations may be able to influence the direction of mountain agriculture and to help improve local varieties and breeds. The mountains would also benefit from the more careful control of invasive species and genetically modified organisms, along with more biofriendly methods of crop production.

The number of domestic animals already exceeds the high levels attained during the Soviet era, and this agricultural achievement should be viewed not only from an economic angle but also in the context of the Soviet experience – the serious land degradation that occurred then may occur again. Now, however, local innovative practices and sustainable pasture management may accommodate the greater number of stock without the degradation of the land resulting from overgrazing.

### 3.1.7 Land degradation

Excess irrigation leads to land degradation in addition to water losses in the agricultural sector, and the irrigation systems in Central Asia need to adjust to modern standards. Similarly, the expansion of rainfed agriculture on steep mountain slopes needs to be monitored, and crop rotation needs to be encouraged to prevent land degradation from water and wind. Governments and local communities can work to create favourable conditions, and the more rational use of water for irrigation can benefit the entire region.

### **3.1.8 Geographic isolation, roads and trade**

The development of roads and rails throughout Central Asia, while a boon to trade and commerce, may have negative environmental implications that deserve careful consideration. The mountain countries, surrounded as they are by big players and big consumers, are strategically positioned to create rail links, the development of which would benefit their economies and raise their regional importance. Similar benefits would accrue if the countries become energy hubs and develop their power infrastructure. The mountain countries could also pass legislation to make themselves more competitive in encouraging the regional trade that helps their economies. The international community, including the United Nations, could assist mountain countries in tackling the economic effects of geographic isolation and high shipment costs.

### **3.1.9 Information technology**

The expansion of mobile communications and information technologies has already benefited the region in numerous ways. Mountain businesses can further this progress by increasing their use of the Internet for advertising, and communities can communicate the trade and tourism opportunities in their areas. As remote mountain areas link to the rest of the world, they can develop educational and professional opportunities, promote ecosystem awareness, contribute to environmental knowledge and communicate their concerns.

### **3.1.10 Tourism**

The tourism sector in Central Asia has expanded in the independence era, and governments now have a chance to provide incentives to broaden the opportunities for a community-based tourism that relies on a traditional style of modest accommodations and quality service. Winter tourism that focuses on activities other than skiing (with its high capital and operating costs) could help mountain communities by providing seasonal employment at the time of year it is most needed.

### **3.1.11 Mining**

The resolution of the continuing controversies in the mining sector requires creativity and perseverance. Governments need to ensure that the local concerns are aired and respected in order to reduce the tensions that are currently preventing mining operations. In addition, governments need to bring artisanal mining practices into compliance with modern standards by ensuring that competent authorities provide the necessary monitoring and oversight. In their efforts to clean up the abandoned mines and tailings left over from the Soviet era, governments would be wise to seek opportunities to develop economically viable ways to rehabilitate the sites through partnerships with potentially affected countries, international organizations and private enterprise.

### **3.1.12 Energy**

The huge potential of hydropower in the mountain countries provides the opportunity to combine progress on the goals of energy security, climate resiliency and economic development. Investments in large projects need to consider the environmental and downstream effects. By balancing local, national and international interests in energy development, the countries can secure power for their own people, and sell power to their neighbours.

Modernization of the power system may require higher tariffs, but governments should take account of income levels, especially for those living in the mountains, in devising a fair tariff system.

In the development of biofuel production programmes, governments should learn from the experiences of others, balance the requirements of both the economy and the environment in determining the crops to use and recognize the environmental challenges in deciding how much biofuel to develop.

### **3.1.13 Security**

The cooperation on intelligence exchange and border controls currently in place in Central Asia forms a solid foundation on which to build a stronger system that is adequate to the actual threats. All the participants will benefit from better security arrangements, especially in the mountains where potential hideouts are plentiful. At the national level, a dialogue between ethnic and religious groups may help build the trust necessary to achieve internal security, maintain stability and reduce the potential for conflict.

Tensions between the highland and lowland countries often centre on the issues of energy accessibility and water usage, and are evident in the absence of trust in the economic and environmental assessments of power and water projects. Comprehensive and transparent assessments may help, but absent the political will to change, a breakthrough is unlikely. All of the regional players need to recognize the role of mountain ecosystems with respect to water resources in Central Asia, and to cooperate on the investment in, and maintenance of, mountain ecosystem services.

Food, energy and water security are crucial to the maintenance of stability in the mountains and the neighbouring regions. In light of their marginal existence and the scarcity of resources, mountain communities may need the support of outsiders to provide these essential elements of soft security.

### **3.1.14 Resource ownership and property rights**

As resource ownership in Central Asia has slowly moved from state to private hands, the increase in efficiency has been apparent in such areas as tourism, mining and agriculture. But property rights are not yet well respected, and legal uncertainties undermine the sense of responsibility that normally follows from ownership. In addition, there are growing inequities between rich and poor. Governments need to establish fair resource distribution policies and encourage the efficiencies and responsibilities that come with property ownership.

### **3.1.15 Migration**

The remittances that come from labour migrants have become a crucial source of income for families, and the Central Asia governments need to recognize the situation with new policies that establish the legal framework and official services that migrants and their families need. The prospect that unskilled workers may no longer be welcome in recipient countries suggests that governments need to invest in education and language skills, and to work collaboratively with international partners. In recognition of the changing status of women as heads of household, the governments also need to consider labour regulations and other approaches that help lift the burden on women.

### **3.1.16 Education and health**

As educational opportunities have increased in the independence era, the quality of education has declined, and realistic literacy rates are falling. Reversing this trend requires a greater investment in human capital, more innovation and an increase in the number of teachers. That Central Asian universities are now specializing in mountain development issues is an encouraging trend. Higher education institutions have an additional opportunity to focus on the preparation of the next generation of managers in tourism, mining and infrastructure, all of which demonstrate promising growth potential.

In health, many trends are similarly encouraging – decreasing child mortality and greater access to safe drinking water, among others. These advances in public health are a good base for the development of stronger environmental health protection. The complex changes in the mountain environment require more attention to the associated environmental health risks.

### 3.1.17 Traditions and modernity

The mix of traditional skills and modern practices represents a flourishing trend in mountain trade and services, and governments and other active players should encourage the conditions that enable the trend to grow and spread to other regions. The production of authentic, high quality products should be a source of pride in the countries where they are made. The ongoing reanalysis of history and culture and traditions should continue to support this revitalization and celebration of mountain culture.

## 3.2 Towards a green economy

Given their low-carbon profile and the high proportion of hydropower in their energy use, the mountain countries of Central Asia are well positioned for a transition to a low-carbon, resource-efficient and socially inclusive green economy. Rural electrification experienced a step back in the last 20 years as energy production capacities have not been adequate to meet growing energy demands. The development of community-scale hydro, biomass, wind and solar facilities, together with the improvement of energy efficiency in the housing sector, could help improve the accessibility and reliability of energy supplies. Booming businesses – in tourism and agro-processing, for example – may also invest in small renewable energy systems to make their businesses climate friendly. Reducing the energy losses in energy infrastructure is another area that promises significant advances.

The economies and populations of the mountain countries rely on agriculture, biodiversity and forest products, and increasingly on mineral extraction, transport and trade. Green economy initiatives in these sectors can provide significant benefits.

### 3.2.1 Agriculture, water and land use

The agricultural sector employs nearly half of the total population in the Central Asian mountain countries, and a green economy offers significant opportunities to diversify the sector through the expansion of organic crops and environmentally sound grazing practices. The global and regional markets for organic food and other high-quality and environmentally friendly mountain goods (wool, fibre, wild forest products) are growing, but only a small fraction of agricultural production in Central Asia is currently certified and labeled as organic. There is a great potential to reduce pollution and to increase yields and local benefits through the introduction of biological pest controls, crop rotation and diversification, all of which will ultimately reduce soil erosion and biodiversity loss, and enhance the quality of life and food security of mountain dwellers. "One village—one product" schemes and improving market access for local producers promise broader opportunities for local agricultural products and handicrafts. Fish stocks in mountain lakes

– heavily depressed by over-exploitation – need to be restored and managed sustainably.

Central Asian agriculture is infamous for its inefficient use of water. Growing population and food demands increase pressure on water resources, while climate change is adding to an already difficult situation. Investing in more efficient water use and improved sanitation is not only cost-effective but also necessary to avoid conflicts and water-related diseases and epidemics. One of the responses to growing water scarcity is the building of dams. But dams require massive investments and could have negative environmental consequences. Small-scale water management solutions should be promoted. Principles for the pricing of resources and services provided by mountain areas to lowland and downstream regions, and mechanisms for the allocation of a fair share of the benefits to mountain communities, should be established, tested and introduced in practice.

### 3.2.2 New thinking, new technologies, new skills

Trade liberalization can facilitate consumer access to clean technologies at lower costs. Access to affordable renewable energy technologies and energy efficient products produced in China and better construction materials could help reduce energy consumption, for example.

The transition to a green economy requires changes in strategies and the application of new technologies and management approaches. These changes require new skills, expertise and ways of thinking often lacking in existing institutions. The successful application of new policies and technologies and the facilitation of coordinated actions require a strengthening of the capacities of local and national institutions, and the reinforcement of the role of the private sector and the civil society.

## 3.3 Institutions and governance

The Central Asia governments do not maintain a consistent, well advanced policy focus on mountains, and while the countries recognize the vulnerability of their mountain ecosystems, the protection of these ecosystems could benefit from a linking of the strategies for mountain development to the Rio conventions and to other, broader agreements on trade, economic development, conflict resolution and resource management. The integration of sustainable mountain development into the Rio strategies, programmes and plans would help ensure political attention for mountain concerns, and help establish financial security for the funding of mountain projects.

Following the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, the role of civil society in sustainable mountain development expanded significantly, and numerous NGOs interested in mountain issues opened an era of regional cooperation. These organizations developed their own areas of expertise and sought their own niches, and as their specialization increased, the cooperation among groups seemed to diminish. The Mountain Societies Development Support Programme, which works throughout Central Asia, takes an integrated approach to sustainable mountain development, and provides a model that other organizations can follow to renew their regional cooperation.

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## Acronyms and abbreviations

ADB: Asian Development Bank AGOCA: Alliance of Central Asian Mountain Communities AKDN: Aga Khan Development Network AKF: Aga Khan Foundation AKFED: Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development AKHP: Aga Khan Humanities Program AO: Ayl Okmutu (village government/municipal executive in Kyrgyzstan) CAIAG: Central-Asian Institute for Applied Geosciences CAMP: Central Asian Mountain Partnership CAREC: Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation CASCADE: Central Asia Cross-Border Natural Disaster Prevention CBO: community-based organization CHP: Community Health Promoter CSO: civil society organization EDU: Enterprise Development Unit EurAsEC: Eurasian Economic Community FAO: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations FMFB: First MicroFinanceBank of Tajikistan GBAO: Mountain Badakhshan Autonomous Province GDP: gross domestic product GFZ: German Research Centre for Geosciences GMOs: genetically modified organisms ICSD: Interstate Commission on Sustainable Development IFAS: International Foundation for Saving the Aral Sea ISAF: Afghan International Security Assistance Force KIRFOR: Kyrgyz-Swiss Forestry Support programme MSDSP: Mountain Societies Development Support Programme NGO: non-governmental organization OSCE: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe PALM: Pamir-Alai Land Management PPCR: Pilot Program for Climate Resilience RMCCA: Regional Mountain Centre of Central Asia SCO: Shanghai Cooperation Organization SUDVO: Social Union for the Development of Village Organizations TES: Training and Extension System TPS: Territorial Public Self-governance body UCA: University of Central Asia UNDP: United Nations Development Programme UNECE: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization USAID: United States Agency for International Development VHC: Village Health Committee VO: Village Organization WTO (World Trade Organization)

## Glossary

Aiyl Okmutu: village government / communal executive in Kyrgyzstan Ayil okrug: rural municipality in Kyrgyzstan Jamoat: rural municipality in Tajikistan

Mazar: holy place marked by a landmark such as a spring, a stone or a tree; or a burial place

Sustainable Mountain Development

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## Zukunftszentrum Tirol

Input for the Rio+20 Compilation Document, 2011-11-01

Envisioning the Great Transformation in an Integral Perspective

Many of the preparatory discussions and documents for Rio+20 fail in painting the big picture:

In order to reach sustainability we need to envision and organize nothing less than the third Great Transformation of our economic system on a global scale.

The term Great Transformation was coined by the Austro-Hungarian political economist Karl Polanyi in 1944 to describe fundamental changes of an economic and societal system as a whole. The first Great Transformation has been the Neolithic Revolution, the second one the Industrial Revolution.

The societal changes which are ahead can't be overestimated. To be able to coordinate efforts towards sustainability we need to have a common understanding of what is needed now: the third Great Transformation towards an economic system which operates within the planetary limits.

A new Civil Contract for a Great Transformation

In May 2011 the German Advisory Council on Global Change WBGU published its flagship report: World in Transition – Civil Contract for Sustainability.

We support the general view presented by the Advisory Council WBGU and suggest framing the Rio+20 discussions accordingly. We need to envision and organize the Great Transformation.

Integral Theory as a common all-inclusive framework

To understand and coordinate the different approaches of different stakeholders we need to have a common all-inclusive framework. We suggest using the Integral Theory<sup>2</sup> for that purpose. The usefulness of an integral approach has already been proven within various UN-activities.

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